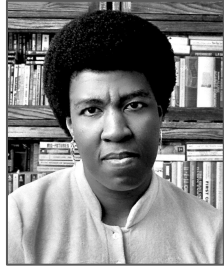


### 1. Pasadena Buddhist Temple

A longtime center of the Japanese American community – located in a neighborhood that once had a significant Japanese American population.



### 2. Octavia Butler Middle School

Washington STEAM was recently renamed for Pasadena science fiction author Octavia E. Butler.



### 3. John Pashgian Home

A member of the first Armenian family in Pasadena and founder of Pashgian Brothers Rug store, John Pashgian had this mansion built that now houses the Grandview Foundation.



### 4. AlkebuLan Cultural Center

A center for African American culture and heritage.



### 5. Hahamongna Watershed Park

The park provides a glimpse into a time when the Hahamongna tribe of the Tongva people lived off the land and were stewards of the upper Arroyo Seco.



### 6. Jackie and Mack Robinson's Childhood Home @ 121 Pepper St. / Kings Villages

This project was conceived to change the demographics of Northwest Pasadena, and when the original 1958 scheme failed, it was converted to low income housing shortly after completion in 1968 that had a harmful ripple effect on surrounding neighborhoods.



### 7. Parsons/10 W. Walnut

Monuments document the history of the minority groups who were displaced to build Parsons headquarters in the early 1970s and now is the site of Pasadena's largest real estate development.

### 8. Armenian Genocide Memorial

Dedicated in 2015, this monumental sculpture pays tribute to the 1.5 million Armenians killed by the Ottoman Turks between 1915 and 1923.

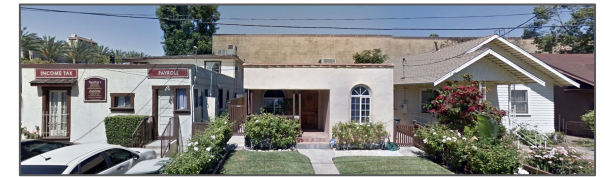


### 9. Bellefontaine Nursery

Founded by the Uchida family in 1939, this is the last remaining Japanese American owned nursery in Pasadena. The Uchida Family was sent to the Gila River, Arizona internment camp during WWII. Lincoln Nursery has changed hands from a German family (1903-1923), to a Japanese family (1923-2003), to a Mexican American family.

### 10. Concordia Court

Considered to be one of the last remnants of Pasadena's south side Mexican American neighborhood.



### 11. Mijares Mexican Restaurant

Founded in 1920 by Jesusita Mijares as a small tortilla and tamale factory, Mijares is now Pasadena's oldest Mexican restaurant. After it was destroyed in a 1978 arson fire, it was rebuilt in 1984.

### 12. Octavia Butler's Childhood Home

918 N. Marengo Avenue in Garfield Heights is the childhood home of acclaimed author Octavia Butler.



## TOUR GUIDES

**Alma Stokes:** Long time teacher, member of multiple congregations, and volunteer extraordinaire.

**Brian Biery:** A 3<sup>rd</sup> generation Pasadena resident who consults, teaches, volunteers in social justice and advocacy.

**Danny Parker:** Pasadena native, GHNA Board member, and high volume talker.

## TOUR SPEAKERS

**Virginia Carmelo:** Paternally descended from Gabrielino/Tongva and Digueno / Kumeyaay tribes; former Tribal Chairperson of the Gabrielino/Tongva Nation; studied indigenous dance and the Tongva language.

**Danny Donabedian:** GHNA former board member, leader and volunteer in Armenian community.

**Rev. Gregory Gibbs:** Minister, Pasadena Buddhist Temple.

**Roberta H. Martinez:** Author, historian, writer, and activist in the local Latino community.

**Bryan Takeda:** Japanese American leader who promotes culture, goodwill, and history.

## PASADENA TRANSFORMATIVE EVENTS

**School Desegregation.** A district court ordered the Pasadena Unified School District (PUSD) to desegregate its schools. PUSD reluctantly complied by implementing district wide busing in September 1970. It should be noted that despite the quite vocal opposition at the time to busing, busing existed in PUSD prior to busing for desegregation. Busing for desegregation triggered a “white flight” that shifted the demographics of PUSD and was a major factor in Pasadena becoming a politically “blue” area. PUSD demographics October 1969: White – 58.3%; Black – 30.0%; Spanish Surname – 8.2%; Asian – 2.7%; Native American and Other – 0.8%. PUSD demographics October 1972: White – 46.8%; Black – 38.3%; Spanish Surname – 11.0%; Asian – 2.8%; Native American and Other – 1.1%.

**Freeways (and Redevelopment) -** The completion of the 210 and 710 (stub) freeways in Pasadena in 1975 permanently changed the landscape of the city in direct and indirect ways. The freeways displaced thousands of residents, brought increased traffic, and ushered higher density housing that was primarily located south of Orange Grove and north of California Blvd. The freeways cut off neighborhoods and created a symbolic and substantive dividing line between largely minority neighborhoods north of the 210 freeway (and west of Hill Avenue) and mostly White neighborhoods south of the 210 freeway. Additionally, the routing of the 210 and 710 freeways was part of an overall scheme to change/reverse the demographic shifts in Pasadena. Kings Villages, Parsons, the expansion of Ambassador College (on both sides of the 710 freeway stub), and the Orange Village Townhomes were also part of that scheme hatched in the late 1950s.



## HISTORIC PASADENA BUS TOUR #2, May 21, 2022

A mosaic of many people and many perspectives, today Garfield Heights celebrates itself, its neighbors, and its history. These celebrations take many forms, but always remain rooted in goodwill, camaraderie, and the ability to learn from one another. That spirit inspires and guides today's tour.

A somber backdrop, COVID-19 has provided a tragic and disruptive reminder that we are all in this together. One person having COVID-19 is not merely misfortune for that person; that case puts everyone in contact with that person at risk. In the midst of the initial COVID-19 shutdown, Garfield Heights rose to the occasion by making masks together on Zoom, held chalk drawing contests, held meetings via Zoom, and held Sunday “make some noise” sessions in support of frontline workers. As Garfield Heights continues to demonstrate, in good and bad times, as a community, we are stronger together; as humans, we are better together. Together begins with understanding each other and each other's respective histories, triumphs, struggles and challenges – particularly those not well known or well chronicled.

Today's tour is an opportunity to learn more about each other and often neglected or untold histories. With that knowledge, hopefully we can all translate *knowing* better into *doing* better and *being* better.

~ Danny Parker, Garfield Heights Neighborhood Association Board member

