

THE 100THTM

SEEDS OF ALOHA

A FEATURE DOCUMENTARY

Press Kit



SONS & DAUGHTERS
442ND REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM



442ND RCT
LEGACY CENTER



ID8
IDEAS FOR GOODTM

100thfilm.org | [@globalalohaorg](https://twitter.com/globalalohaorg) | GlobalAloha.org | ID8.org

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PEARL HARBOR
AVIATION MUSEUM



Amid the chaos of World War II, Americans of Japanese ancestry from Hawai‘i fought for a country that questioned their loyalty—carrying the spirit of aloha across the battlefields of Europe and planting seeds that would grow for generations.



SHORT SYNOPSIS

THE 100TH, Seeds of Aloha retraces the extraordinary journey of Hawai'i's Americans of Japanese ancestry who served in the **100th Infantry Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat Team and 522nd Field Artillery Battalion**. Their loyalty questioned after Pearl Harbor, they fought across Italy, France and Germany, becoming part of one of the most decorated units in U.S. military history.

But their story did not end with the war. Known in Europe as “**The Hawaiians**,” these soldiers carried the spirit of aloha through battle, planting seeds of friendship and humanity that still connect families and communities today. Returning home, veterans became educators, business and community leaders, judges and elected officials, fought discrimination, aided former enemies and helped transform Hawai'i.

More than 80 years later, the film asks: **What survives war?** Their battles ended long ago, but the seeds they planted are still growing.

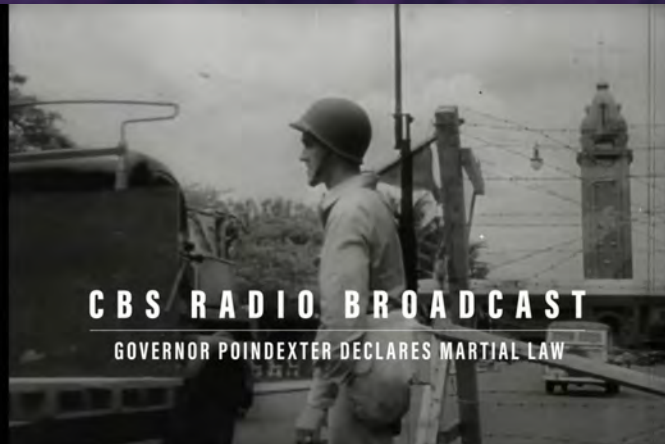




THE EXTRAORDINARY CONTRADICTION

A country can fall short of its ideals while its people still choose to embody them.

- **America fought tyranny abroad** while confronting racism, prejudice and incarceration at home.
- **Their loyalty was questioned**, yet Americans of Japanese ancestry chose to serve their country with extraordinary courage and sacrifice.
- **They weren't trying to prove they were Americans.** As veterans remind us, they already knew they were Americans.
- **After the war, they kept serving**—helping expand opportunity, fight discrimination and make America's ideals more real.



SEN. SPARK MATSUNAGA
CAPT, 100TH INF BN





A GLOBAL EPIC

From Pearl Harbor to the battlefields of Europe—retracing a journey of war, sacrifice and aloha.

USA: Pearl Harbor, HI • Camp McCoy, WI • Camp Shelby, MS

ITALY: Salerno • Volturno • Monte Cassino • Anzio • Belvedere • Gothic Line

FRANCE: Bruyères • Biffontaine • L'Escarene

GERMANY: Mertingen • Dachau





GROUND ZERO: MAPPING THE JOURNEY

At Pearl Harbor, descendants gathered around a massive map tracing the 100th/442nd's journey across Europe.

Families placed medallions where loved ones fought, fell and shared aloha, while veterans' organizations helped reconcile the journey, dates and history represented on the map.

The map became the backdrop for 27 interviews and a recurring visual theme throughout the film—connecting individual stories to an epic journey and enduring legacy.

6,000SF MAP • 1,200+ PARTICIPANTS • 4 COUNTRIES





EUROPE PRODUCTION: A 2,000 MILE JOURNEY

The filmmakers retraced the soldiers' footsteps across Europe—returning to battlefields, liberated towns and communities where their legacy still lives.

Along the way, they met historians, descendants and local families preserving stories and friendships born more than 80 years ago.

**4 COUNTRIES • 40+ INTERVIEWS • 2,000+ MILES •
18 ORIGINAL SONGS**



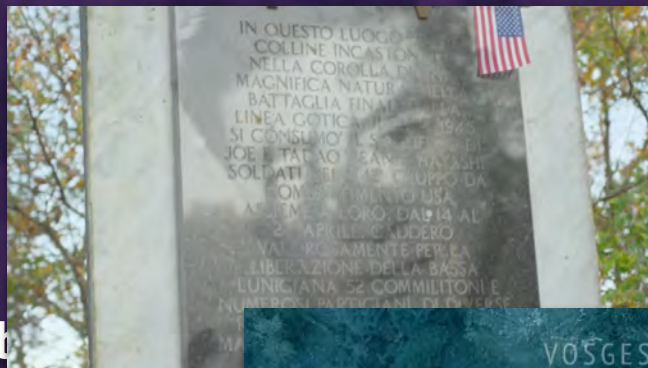


THE PURPLE HEART BATTALION / GO FOR BROKE

Questioned at home. Tested in battle. Remembered for extraordinary courage.

- **PURPLE HEART BATTALION** – 100th nicknamed after high casualties in Italy.
- **GO FOR BROKE** – 442nd's motto came to define the combined 100th/442nd.
- **LOST BATTALION** – Suffered tremendous casualties rescuing 211 Texas soldiers.
- **HIGH VALOR** – 100th/442nd, one of the most decorated units in U.S. military history.
- **INTO GERMANY** – 522nd aided survivors of Dachau camp system and death marches.

They fought for a country that questioned their loyalty—and left a record that could not be questioned.



THE 100TH

SEEDS OF ALOHA

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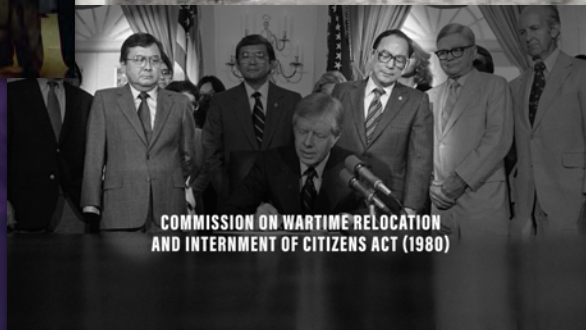
The war ended. What they carried with them did not.

- **CARRIED ALOHA IN WAR:** Courage • Loyalty • Humility • Service • Care for others
- **PLANTED SEEDS THROUGH ACTIONS:** Liberated communities • Friendships • Christmas for children • Human connections
- **CULTIVATED ALOHA FOR 80+ YEARS:** Okinawa relief • Business • Public service • Equality • Community leadership

Their battles ended long ago. The seeds they planted are still growing.



Anita Korenaga, as a young girl, is shown in a photo her oldest brother, Shinyei Nakamine, took of her as she waved goodbye while he rode a train carrying Hawaii





WHAT SURVIVES WAR?

Courage

Friendship

Service

Sacrifice

Human connection

And—across generations—Aloha



MICHEL PIERRAT

CARED FOR MONUMENT 70 YEARS





FILMMAKER / DIRECTOR

Steve Sue is a Hawai'i filmmaker, designer and social entrepreneur, and Chair of nonprofit **ID8 / Global Aloha**.

Born and raised in Oakland, CA, he is Chinese American and a descendant of immigrants who passed through Angel Island.

A UCLA Design graduate with a JD from UC Berkeley, Steve produced and wrote the award-winning ***SHAKA, A Story of Aloha***.

THE 100TH, Seeds of Aloha marks his directorial debut.

"The vets were right."



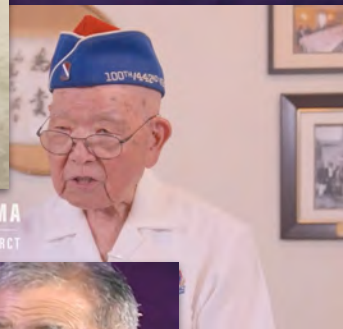


FILMMAKER'S VISION

“They did not go to war to prove they were Americans. They already knew they were Americans.”

I set out to understand what drove these men to extraordinary courage—and discovered a story far larger than war. They carried the spirit of aloha into battle, planted it through their actions, and spent the next 80 years cultivating those seeds through service.

Their story asks what survives war—and what we do when our country falls short of its ideals.





CREATIVE TEAM

A collaborative team brings history to life
through image, story, music and animation.

Steve Sue: Exec Producer, Producer, Writer, Director

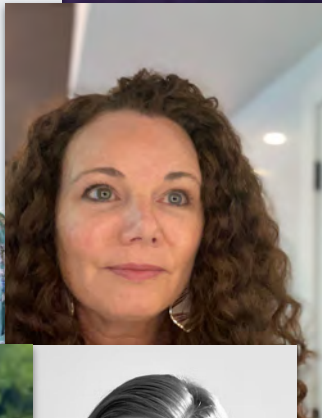
Alexander Bocchieri: Cinematographer, Co-Producer, Co-Editor

Deborah Miller: Editor

Harold Payne & David Kopatz: Music Directors, Composers

Karen Brizendine: Animator

18 original songs. Four countries. One shared vision.





18 ORIGINAL SONGS

Composed across Europe. Inspired by the journey.

Music Directors **Harold Payne** and **David Kopatz** composed 18 original songs during production in Italy, France and Germany—turning the people, places and stories encountered along the way into the film's musical voice.

Featuring additional vocalists **Frances Quinlan** and **Brian Yamamoto**

HEAR THE MUSIC: 100thfilm.org/songs





PART OF THE ALOHA FILM SERIES

Stories exploring how the spirit of aloha
can help people and communities flourish.

[SHAKA, A Story of Aloha](#) (Released 2024)

[THE 100TH, Seeds of Aloha](#) (2027)

['ONO, Foods of Aloha](#) (In development)

The Aloha Film Series is part of [Global Aloha](#), an ID8 movement sharing and activating the spirit of aloha through film, education, community programs and action.

FILMS THAT INSPIRE • STORIES THAT CONNECT • ALOHA IN ACTION





TECHNICAL / FILM SPECS

Genre: Feature Documentary

RunTime: 97 min 45 sec

Produced by: ID8 501(c)(3) Nonprofit, Hawai'i, USA

Release Year: 2027

Languages: English/Italian/French

Primary Language: English

Closed Captions: English

Subtitles: Italian, French, German, Japanese

Aspect ratio: 16:9

Resolution: UHD 4K

Sound format: Stereo

Available Formats: DCP, ProRes upon request

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PRESS & MEDIA RESOURCES

Trailer: <https://vimeo.com/1097138538/4eca0b8c2d>

Official Stills: <https://100thfilm.org/free-use/>

Key Art/Poster: <https://100thfilm.org/free-use/>

Director Headshot: <https://100thfilm.org/team/>

Filmmaker Bios: <https://100thfilm.org/team/>

Full Synopsis: <https://100thfilm.org/logline/>

Credits: <https://100thfilm.org/team/>

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