

Special Lecture for Seminar HIST4040 “Nations and Nationalism in East Asia”

Dr. Gideon Fujiwara

Guest Speaker:

Dr. Sharalyn Orbaugh

(Department of Asian Studies
& Institute for Gender, Race,
Sexuality and Social Justice,
University of British Columbia)

Thursday, November 1, 2018

Location: AH-100

Time: 3:05 - 4:20 p.m.

Everyone is welcome.

Light Refreshments

This event is generously co-sponsored by: Institute for Child and Youth Studies, Women Scholars' Speaker Series, the History Department, and Asian Studies.



Using Popular Culture to Make Children into Soldiers: Propaganda *Kamishibai* in WWII Japan



David Earhart rightly argues that Japanese children were mobilized to a degree greater than those of any other combatant nation in World War Two. An examination of the visual and textual elements of propaganda *kamishibai* plays aimed at young children, created between 1938 and 1945, reveals the wartime roles envisioned for girls and boys, and the ways those roles changed as the war intensified. The Japanese indoctrination of children, like that of adults, was never monolithic or complete, but the concern of this presentation is to explore the intentions and strategies of the people charged with turning Japan's children into soldiers, on the homefront or the battlefield.

Sharalyn Orbaugh is a Professor of Modern Japanese Literature and Popular Culture at the University of British Columbia. Recent publications include “Play, Education, or Indoctrination? *Kamishibai* in 1930s Japan” (forthcoming in *Mechademia*) and *Propaganda Performed: Kamishibai in Japan's Fifteen Year War* (Brill, 2015).

