



PRESS RELEASE

**Historical Fiction, *Courageous Footsteps: A WWII Novel*
Published by Outskirts Press
2016 WINNER IN PACIFIC RIM BOOK FESTIVAL**

Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941 turns fifteen-year-old Yasu Sakamoto's young life into a devastating nightmare. Anti-Japanese threats appear everywhere—in store windows, painted across buildings and in her school. Within weeks under the constant watch of armed guards, her family is imprisoned in a camp in eastern California. Behind barbed wire fences, Yasu and her older brother Haro struggle to accept the overcrowded living conditions and hardships. As time passes, the constant confinement, strict camp regulations and humiliation force them into courageous choices that will change their lives forever.

Released June 25, 2015 – Denver, CO, and Afton, MN –Dettmann's book, *Courageous Footsteps A WWII Novel*, was awarded winner in the 2016 Pacific Rim Book Festival in the young adult fiction category. Thoroughly researched and exquisitely written, Diane's debut novel pulls the reader into the daily lives of the middle-class Sakamoto family. Sequel: *Yasu's Quest A Tale of Freedom* coming summer 2016.

“Diane Dettmann has created a heart-wrenching masterpiece in her latest work, *Courageous Footsteps: A WWII Novel*. In it, she tackles the topics of inequity, bigotry, and intolerance. While written for and receiving honors as young-adult fiction, this work is suitable for a general audience as well.” --Beth Virtanen, PhD, Finlandia University and Founder of the Finnish North American Literature Association

“Dettmann very effectively melds her extensive research with an intensely human story.”
--Historical Novel Society

“Diane Dettmann has a talent for boldly facing difficult topics that are often overlooked in popular literature. This book embraces the grim realities of World War II internment camps in the US through character development that draws the reader into the pain, joy and hardships of the characters.” —Jennifer Robison, an avid reader

An engaging and thought provoking read for teens and adult readers. Appropriate for high school book groups. Sequel, *Yasu's Quest: A Tale of Triumph* Coming Summer 2016!

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Kindle \$5.99

Genre: Historical Fiction

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DIANE DETTMANN is the author of *Courageous Footsteps: A WWII Novel* and *Twenty-Eight Snow Angels A Widow's Story of Love, Loss and Renewal*. She is also the co-author of *Miriam Daughter of Finnish Immigrants* and a contributing author for the national Women's Voices for Change organization in New York City. She has presented her writing at various local venues and at conferences in Finland and Canada.

For more information or to contact the Diane Dettmann visit her website at <http://www.outskirtspress.com/footsteps>.



