



Joyce Liang (SFSU 2024)

TARO YASHIMA

(IWAMATSU Atsushi)

Japanese American

Author and Illustrator

CALDECOTT Honor Books (1956, 1959, 1967)

Born: September 21, 1908 (Kagoshima, Japan)

Died: June 30, 1994 (Glendale, California)

An opponent of Japanese militarism, Taro left for America in 1939 with his wife to avoid the draft in Japan. He then joined the US Army in World War II and worked as an artist for the US government. Taro was inspired to write and illustrate picture books when he was bedridden with ulcers and began telling stories to his daughter. Taro wrote and illustrated three Caldecott Honor Books: *Crow Boy* (1955), *Umbrella* (1958), and *Seashore Story* (1967).