

SPECIAL ISSUE: 2012 JACL Scholarship Winners

THE NATIONAL NEWSPAPER OF THE JACL



PACIFIC CITIZEN

Page 8

DUE 'ALLEGIANCE'

**The new musical play creates
a buzz within the Japanese
American community.**

2012 NATIONAL JACL SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

This year's National JACL Scholarship Program has come to a close. In this special issue, the JACL is pleased to award a total of \$61,000 to the 25 most-deserving applicants in their respective categories.

With so many well-qualified students, the future of the JACL is in good hands.

This year, the student applicants were asked to address the following statement: "One young person remarked, 'Our generation believes in civil rights, but don't feel we need to join a civil rights organization like the JACL.'"

As you read their responses on the following pages, I believe you will be enlightened, impressed and inspired.

On behalf of the national JACL, I would like to thank former Membership Coordinator Phil Ozaki for his continued promotion of the program. A very big thank you to Patty Wada, who dedicated a significant amount of time organizing the scholarship accounts, fielding questions from applicants and ensuring the qualifications of each award winner was met. This year was challenging given the number of well-qualified applicants. As always, our goal is to reward as many of our scholars and future leaders as possible.

I also want to thank the Portland and Salt Lake City chapters for serving as the 2012 national selection committees. Our appreciation to Portland JACL committee members Setsy Sadamoto Larouche (chair), Sandy Tashima and Chip Larouche and to the Salt Lake City JACL committee members Paul Fisk (chair), Hena John-Fisk, Dr. Jeanette Misaka, Dr. Cassandra Van Buren, Jen Ungvichian, PJ Nakamura, Keith Cormier and Yo Azuma. A great number of hours are dedicated to the National Scholarship Program

by our chapters, selection committee members and national staff to ensure the program's success. We congratulate our 2012 student scholars and wish them well.

In 2013, I'm excited to announce the foundation of a new relationship with Meiji Gakuin University in Japan. This is an opportunity for one qualified student to be awarded a four-year, full-tuition paid education.

Our scholarship program continues to be successful. We will soon begin the 2013 application process to recognize the next group of outstanding student leaders. As we wrap up the 2012 scholarships, please join me in congratulating all of our award recipients.

JASON CHANG

NATIONAL VICE PRESIDENT
PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

SPECIAL
SCHOLARSHIP
SECTION BEGINS ON
PAGE 4

JACL Eastern District Council Congratulates all the National Scholarship Winners

*Special Best Wishes to
Alethea K. Endo (Philadelphia)
Jean Shiraki (Washington, DC)
Hilary Nakano (Mimeta Fellow) and
Kristy L. Ishii, Takashi &
Yuri Moriuchi Scholarship Recipient*

New England, New York, Philadelphia, Seabrook, Southeast, Washington, D.C.

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Letter From an EDITOR

INTO THE NEXT STAGE:

A FORMER EDITOR'S RETURN TO A TROUBLED PACIFIC CITIZEN

By George Toshio Johnston

The last few months have been unusually difficult for *Pacific Citizen*. In a confluence of staff attrition that occurred for a variety of reasons, this newspaper lost its executive editor, assistant editor and business manager within a number of weeks.

Without exaggeration, the situation was dire. Producing a newspaper, even under the best of circumstances, is still labor-intensive and time-consuming. Doing it without an experienced, seasoned staff is disastrous at best, impossible at worst.

It was under these circumstances that I was contacted by a couple of *P.C.* editorial board members — new board chair Carol Kawamoto and former editorial board chair Gil Asakawa — following July's JACL national convention in Seattle to see if I might be able to help *P.C.* in its time of need to serve as interim editor.

Longtime *P.C.* readers might remember seeing my name in this paper's masthead and in bylines when I was assistant editor and then acting editor, circa 1987-90. Those who also subscribe to Los Angeles-based Japanese American community newspaper *Rafu Shimpo* might recognize my name from the media column I've been writing there for the past 20 years.

More recently, I helped launch a Japanese American community news website (*NikkeiNation.net*), which was launched to try a new, all-digital tack in providing news for this community that has seen the aforementioned *Rafu Shimpo* try to avoid the fates of San Francisco's two Japanese American daily newspapers, which both met their demise in recent years.

I suppose I was approached for those reasons. After leaving *P.C.*, I stayed the course of a journalism career that saw me work for mainstream newspapers that had nothing whatsoever to do with Japanese American or Asian American news coverage. As I did this work, however, I kept a foot in community journalism, writing for the *Rafu*, co-founding Media Action Network for Asian Americans, serving as editor of the long-defunct Asian American pop-culture pub *Yolk Magazine* and producing an award-winning short-form documentary on the 100th Battalion/442nd Regimental Combat Team and, of course, starting *NikkeiNation.net*.

All of that likely would not have happened, however, without having worked for *P.C.* nearly a generation ago. Even though I was a journalism major, the on-the-job experience I gained at *P.C.* — including reporting, copy editing, page layout, photography, managing contributors, making deadlines, dealing with internal politics and so on — would serve me long after I left.

It's safe to say that without *P.C.*, my career trajectory would be quite different. In a sense, I was obliged to help *P.C.*, so when asked, I agreed. (On a personal level, perhaps that sense of obligation was attributable to my Japanese side. On a professional level, however, I have to admit I didn't say yes without asking for monetary compensation.)

So, despite this paper having been without two key editorial employees, subscribers have been receiving issues of *P.C.* Although I helped that happen, I must acknowledge the work of *P.C.* staff reporter Nalea J. Ko. She stepped into the breach and, unasked for, performed tasks beyond her normal duties as a reporter. I hope that she is remembered and appreciated for this after all the dust of the past few months settles.

See JOHNSTON >> on page 16

This & That

By David H. Kawamoto

I want to thank all of JACL for the honor and privilege of being your national president during the last biennium. Now that JACL has elected a new president, I'd like to share one of the reasons I chose not to run for re-election. During the last biennium, I informed the JACL National Board that I did not intend to run for re-election and encouraged each of them to consider running for national president. I did this knowing that if none of them ran for president, I would run for a second term of office. However, our VP for Membership David Lin approached me and expressed his interest in serving as national president. I was pleased with the willingness of such a qualified person to serve the JACL. So, I readily gave David my full support and endorsement. With David's experience on the JACL board and his work with several other community organizations, I knew he was an excellent candidate. I did not openly share this story earlier because the national presidency became a contested race, and I truly appreciated Jeff Yoshioka's willingness to serve. Congratulations to David Lin, and thank you Jeff for all that you do.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all of the national JACL board members for their considerable efforts and inform our membership about their hard work.

Under David Lin's leadership, JACL realized an increase in its membership numbers. I know David also took time to personally contact many individuals and got them to increase the level of their JACL membership.

As vice president for general operations, Gail Sueki heads our personnel committee. She did a phenomenal job in our search for a new executive director. She screened every application and was part of the group that interviewed all of the finalists. She did this work in addition to other personnel matters and her regular duties with JACL's annual conventions.

I can't begin to thank Larry Oda enough for his willingness to fill our opening for secretary/treasurer. Considering JACL's financial challenges, this position is easily the busiest job on our board. Larry provided the necessary financial information for the board and also did great work at our regular finance committee meetings. Taking on such a time-consuming job, Larry really went above and beyond. He is a great JACler!

See KAWAMOTO >> on page 16



IT'S A STEREOTYPE, BUT EDUCATION MATTERS

By Gil Asakawa



I was a model minority stereotype when I was a kid. I strived to get straight A's, though I didn't always make it and had to settle for the occasional

B's — and yes, my parents were pissed.

I remember when I received a scholarship at the Japanese American Community Graduation Banquet: I received the one and only Benihana scholarship given in Denver, in 1975, and I received my certificate and check from Bill Hosokawa, editor of the *Denver Post* and longtime *Pacific Citizen* columnist.

Getting good grades was important to me, and not just because my Tiger parents insisted on it. Good grades — a sense of scholarship — simply gave me more choices in life than if I didn't get good grades. As it happens, I didn't attend college because of my academics. I went to art school and graduated with a B.F.A. in painting, just about the most useless degree ever.

But even after college, when I did an about-face and dropped art for a career in journalism, I found that my foundation in scholarship led to more and better choices in life. My first job after school was in a paint store, matching paint colors (good: I used my art school education!). But after a year, I fell into a

gig writing art reviews (still using my art school education) and music reviews, which ultimately led to a full-time job as music editor of a weekly alternative newspaper.

Being a rock critic was a dream job. I received free music in the mail, went to countless concerts, and wrote freelance articles for magazines like *Rolling Stone*. I knew I could do it because I love music, and I felt like I was an expert — a scholar — of pop culture and pop music. Later, I became entertainment editor at a daily newspaper in Colorado Springs.

Then, the Internet happened, and I transferred my passion for music into a passion for technology and digital media.

I've worked online media jobs for 16 years, and I'm still excited by what I do. I look forward to learning new things and keeping up with the crazily evolving news industry. I pride myself on being an expert — on my scholarship in this field.

As for changing careers and reinventing myself from music to technology, I didn't sweat it. I knew I had the skills to do these jobs, and I went for it. That's the freedom of choice you can have if you apply yourself academically. You become nimble and a lifelong learner. You evolve with the times and grow into new positions.

Don't get me wrong — I think an extreme emphasis on academics is not always healthy, nor is it always required for a satisfying and successful career. For the record, I think Tiger moms and Lion dads reflect a bad side of Asian American values.

But in my case, I'm glad I got good grades as a kid and that I loved to read and write. It has led me on a path to exactly where I am, which is exactly where I wanna be.

Congrats to every JACL student scholar!

Gil Asakawa blogs at www.nikkeiview.com and is a former *Pacific Citizen* Editorial Board Chair, as well as author of "Being Japanese American" (Stone Bridge Press 2004).

National JACL Scholarship Winners

2012 ESSAY TOPIC



This year's *JACL* scholarship recipients were asked to respond to the following statement:

“One young person remarked, ‘Our generation believes in civil rights, but don’t feel we need to join a civil rights organization like the JACL.’”

Freshman Scholarship Winners



KATHRYN E. CUNNINGHAM

Seattle JACL

**Paul & Katherine Ohtaki
Memorial Scholarship
Whitworth University**

“While youth are idealistic and passionate, they also have incredibly limited perspectives, and I wonder if that is the reason they do not feel obligated to join civil rights organizations. The more open society is that created us has also neutralized us into a sort of belief that the world is better, that change has happened and that the world we live in will continue to be a good one. What this generation lacks is a sense of urgency. Why did I join the Seattle JACL’s board? I really, truly believe in JACL’s mission — assuring civil liberties for people of all ethnic backgrounds and using Japanese American history to teach a much deeper message of understanding. Even though I don’t see the hatred in my daily life, I do see the positive effects of the work of organizations like the JACL, and I want to be a part of that positive change.”



APRIL K. DENNISON

Twin Cities JACL

**Shigeki ‘Shake’ Ushio
Memorial Scholarship
University of Minnesota, Morris**

“I realize how disconnected my peers and I are from the suffering of oppression. We have not had to endure an internment camp, slavery or war at home. Again and again in class we are shocked when fundamental human rights are abridged. We scoff at the oppressors and are comforted by the fact that it won’t happen to us. But the thing is, it could happen to us. If we don’t realize how precious these civil liberties are and work to protect them, we could easily lose them. This is why joining a civil rights organization like JACL is so critical. History does not have to repeat itself. We have been privileged enough to live in a society that has made tremendous gains in civil liberties, and we can continue these strides. Yes, America has not been perfect. The internment camps were a heinous crime, but it can be a lesson for future generations. We have such a promising opportunity, so let us seize the day!”



ALETHEA K. ENDO

Philadelphia JACL

**Patricia & Gail Ishimoto Memorial Scholarship
Yale University**

“In my family’s history, at the internment camps in Amache, Colo., and Poston, Ariz., the voices of 25,000 Japanese Americans were not heard. It was the American Friends Service Committee, a Quaker organization working for social justice, that came to hear the voices of my grandparents and their parents and took action. After the relocation, my grandparents settled in Philadelphia with the aid of the AFSC. Some may say that there is no need for a civil rights organization such as the JACL. Some may say that a civil rights organization such as the JACL represents only Japanese Americans, a group reflecting only a small population of the United States. I disagree. The purpose of civil rights organizations such as the JACL is to speak with a strong institutional voice. As I learned in my Quaker education, a voice only comes from being oneself and living by one’s own beliefs. The JACL has a particular history stemming from racial injustice done to Japanese Americans. It is from this experience that the JACL has learned how to be a civil rights organization that not only helps the voice of its members but also of others, too.”

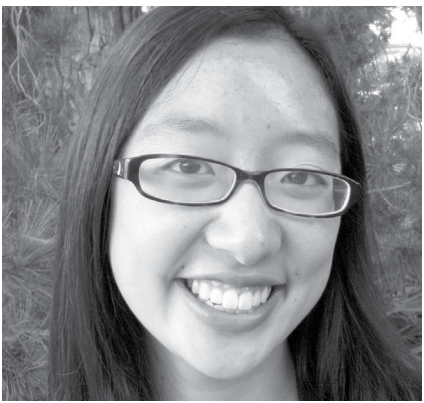
**KRISTY L. ISHII**

Salinas Valley JACL

**Mr. & Mrs. Takashi Moriuchi Scholarship
University of California, Los Angeles**

‘No particular incident sparked my enthusiasm for JACL as much as the earthquake and tsunami that hit Japan in 2011. The day before the tsunami hit, a teacher at my high school had shown a clip from the movie ‘The Cove.’ The documentary sheds light on fisherman in Taiji, Japan, who hunt dolphins. When reports about the tsunami reached America, Facebook blew up with enraged comments. Not only were there comments made about the dolphin

slaughtering, but there also were statements portraying the notion that the Japanese people deserved this disaster as payback for the attack at Pearl Harbor. My goal over the past years as president of the (Salinas) Jr. JACL has been to spread awareness about the Japanese culture and the injustices of the internment camp experience and misunderstandings that still pervade society. The greater our knowledge increases, the more our ignorance unfolds. JACL provides a gateway for students like myself to help diminish ignorance among people of every age within my community. There will always be a need for civil rights organizations because ‘misunderstanding arising from ignorance breeds fear, and fear remains the greatest enemy of peace’ (Lester B. Pearson).”

**KRISTI M. LIN**

San Diego JACL

**Mas & Majiu Uyesugi Memorial Scholarship
University of California, Davis**

‘The diverse beliefs of my generation as well as today’s multi-ethnic environment has led many youth to question the need to join JACL and other civil rights organizations. Many believe that discrimination and racism are no longer much of an issue and that civil rights organizations are something of the past. I was shocked when my teacher explained that the toxic waste from mining operations is often dumped next to low-income and minority com-

munities. I was happy to find out that JACL is working for Environmental Justice because no group should disproportionately bear the burden of environmental hazards. Unfortunately, hate crimes and instances of injustice also still exist in the United States today. I applaud the work that JACL is doing to help struggling Vietnamese fisherman in the Gulf Coast and JACL’s efforts against Arizona’s SB 1070 (immigration) law. JACL and other civil rights organizations have inspired me by showing that when people come together, change is possible.”

***Congratulations ...***

... to all the scholarship recipients AND applicants. Your accomplishments are considerable and admirable. Your successful efforts reflect well on you, your families and your communities. Best wishes in all your future endeavors.

CAROL KAWAMOTO AND DAVID KAWAMOTO

(P.C. Editorial Board Chair) (Immediate Past National President)

CONGRATULATIONS KATIE!**RECIPIENT OF THE
PAUL & KATHERINE
OHTAKI
SCHOLARSHIP**

Seattle



**Congratulations
APRIL,
we're proud
of you! ~**

**Love,
Mom & Dad****Kristy,****Omedetou ...****We're so proud of you!****Love,****Jiichan and Baachan**

Kristy,

May all your dreams stay big...
Best of luck to you at UCLA!

Love,

Dad, Mom and Brian

Kristy,

Heartiest Congratulations! May
God's love and blessing follow
you throughout your LIFE.

With Deepest Affection,

Grandma Kazi Hori Ishii

**The San
Diego
JACL
Chapter
would
like to...**

**Congratulate
KRISTI LIN,
the recipient
of the Mas &
Majiu Uyesugi
Memorial
Scholarship**

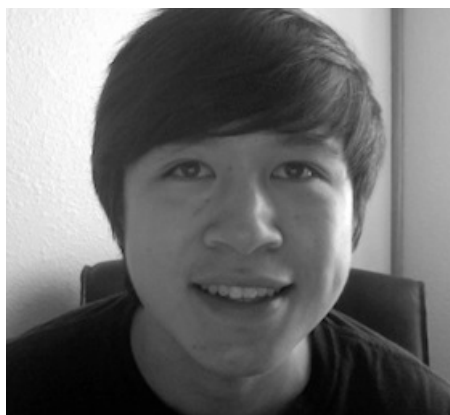
Freshman Scholarship Winners



EDEN TOWNSHIP JACL

Congratulates its scholarship recipient,

Holden L. Parks



HOLDEN L. PARKS

Eden Township JACL
**Henry & Chiyo Kuwahara Memorial
Scholarship**
Swarthmore College

“The problem is that civil rights are not entirely guaranteed. No, it is relatively simple for civil rights to be threatened or taken away, even by one’s own government, the same entity meant to protect it. Nazi Germany is an obvious example. Also prominent is the U.S., where a simple executive order robbed Japanese American citizens of their homes and livelihoods. And now, we’re given a contemporary example — a significant portion of California’s population is banned from legal marriage. Civil rights are anything but constant or consistent. The purpose of a civil rights organization is to prevent that crucial step, to fight the above-described history from ever happening again. But when the results of that vote affect you as Prop 8 affected gay couples that wished to get married, then you must have someone to fight for you. Civil rights are not handed out; they are earned and guarded with vigilance. When a threat comes to take these rights away, a civil rights organization is there to protect against that very threat.”



ROSS SEEMAN

Portland JACL
**Paul & Katherine Ohtaki Memorial
Scholarship**
Pepperdine University

“Joining an organization such as JACL is the key to spreading a positive message and making an impact. Now, in my final year with Unite People (youth group of the Portland JACL chapter) and with the responsibility of being its co-president, I wanted to complete a project that would extend into the adult chapter of JACL and be seen by future members of UP. I have been a driving force in the documentary that UP is creating, which targets the controversy prevalent between the terms ‘internment camp’ and ‘concentration camp.’ Without the jumpstart of JACL, I would have merely had an opinion on civil rights issues; but being a member has allowed me to express my thoughts to those around me. By joining JACL, I have been sculpted into a more knowledgeable individual with a much stronger affinity for volunteering.”



KAYLENE Y. YAMADA

Wasatch Front North JACL
Hanayagi Rokumie Memorial Cultural Scholarship
University of Utah

“Today, society puts an emphasis on the individual and receiving the rights each person deserves as an individual. The root of all current events in the news right now is the fight to express or suppress the rights of the people — whether it is gay rights, education, religion, abortion. Many of my friends say that they care about these issues, but they all just talk, and there is no action. I believe that there is no action taking place because students feel like there isn’t an opportunity for them to share their ideas and make their ideas heard. Organizations like the JACL provide a chance to have their ideas heard and then have the opportunity to make a difference. My generation believes in civil rights and knows that there are too many injustices, but we never join an organization like the JACL because we are negligent in putting ideas into the open.”

Believing is only the Beginning!

“Tinkerbell”

Congratulations

Kaylene Yamada

We will always believe in YOU!
Love, Mom & Dad

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Undergraduate Scholarship Winners



MATTHEW IRITANI

Mile Hi JACL

Shigeru 'Shig' Nakahira Memorial Scholarship University of Denver

'My grandfather is less able to attend community functions due to his rheumatoid arthritis, but he is still remembered by his friends, and I am remembered because of him. In the Japanese American community, one's heritage is paramount. My last name, Iritani, means 'seed from the

valley,' a reference to my family's lineage as farmers. As Dan's grandson, every day I strive to uphold the family name of hard work and not live down my ancestor's sacrifices. Volunteering in the Japanese American community has helped me realize that part of understanding my life is understanding the laborious days that defined my grandparent's lives — whether it be participating in the Japanese American Community Graduation Program for three years as a junior escort, delivering the senior response speech or reading the honor roll of graduates, serving food at the Sakura Matsuri Cherry Blossom Festival, washing down tables at the Simpson Church food bazaar fundraiser for three years, taking my grandfather to JACL socials or interviewing Japanese American leaders for class papers. I appreciate my involvement in the community."



JOHN KANEMOTO

Florin JACL

Henry & Chiyo Kuwahara Memorial Scholarship California State University, Sacramento

'To talk about general American society, we must talk about its youth. Simply put, the society of today is the youth of the past, and the society of the future is the youth of today. Nonetheless, today's stereotypical image of youth is that they are lazy, have the most advanced technology and will never do as much physical labor as did their American ancestors. Thus, they do not have an internal drive to make a difference within the world. Close-minded and selfish, the youth of today are commonly portrayed as not willing to step into the limelight and take a stand for social justice. Yet, I argue from the educator's perspective that the youth of today do not know how to engage in the civil rights battle. They are so overwhelmed at an incredibly early age with educational and emotional responsibilities that they cannot possibly begin to imagine taking the extra time to make a stand. Additionally, our nation's adolescents are comfortable with being stagnant in a society that has already gone through numerous decades of civil rights work. Hence, they hope the adults will continue to catalyze change."



KEVIN MORI

Selanoco JACL

Railroad & Mineworkers Memorial Scholarship University of California, Irvine

'Empathy is a key characteristic of organizations like JACL that advocate on behalf of other communities. For example, after 9/11, JACL advocated for the civil rights of Muslim Americans. More recently, JACL took a stand against Trayvon Martin's killing and the failings of law enforcement. The legacy of the Japanese internment during World War II allows JACL and its members to empathize with the bigotry and prejudice faced by other communities. Youth who empathize with the experiences of other communities are more likely to see the value of organizations like JACL and get involved. Educating our youth through programs such as ethnic studies, conferences and trainings allows the development of a more critical view of the world and an understanding of the importance of coalitions and mass support. I learned the importance of coalition building during my first year of college after attending the Students of Color Conference. Through various workshops and speakers, I gained a better understanding of my identity, how I connect to other communities and ways we support each other and work together. Through education, youth can learn the value of coalitions and their strength relative to individual action."

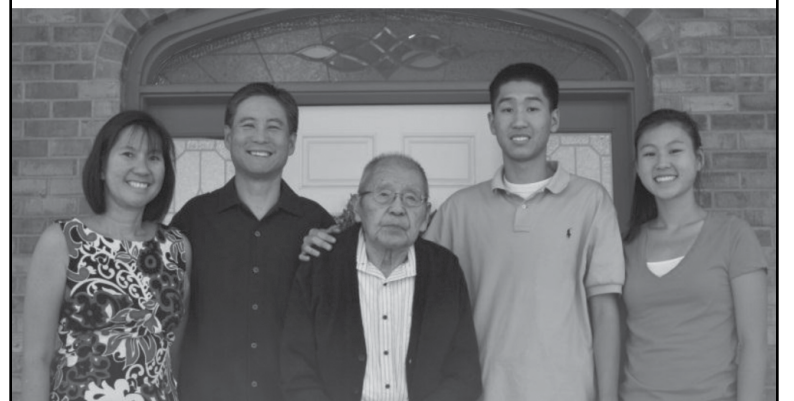
CONGRATULATIONS NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARDEES FROM IDC

KAYLENE YAMADA, Wasatch North Chapter, Ogden, UT, recipient of the Hanayagi Rokumie Memorial Cultural Scholarship

MATTHEW IRITANI, Mile High Chapter, Denver, CO, recipient of the Shigeru Nakahira Memorial Scholarship

CHRISTIAN HEIMBURGER, Mile High Chapter, Denver, CO, recipient of the Rev. H. John Yamashita Memorial Scholarship

Congratulations Matthew!



From Three Generations of Iritani's

SELANCO JACL CONGRATULATES •KEVIN MORI•

on receiving a **National JACL Scholarship**

Celebrating its 83rd anniversary this year, the *Pacific Citizen* is **DON'T MISS OUT!** an award-winning Asian Pacific American semi-monthly news magazine. As the only national award-winning Asian American news magazine, we're a trusted connection to an affluent and active community. Action-packed themed issues are part of a popular tradition. entertainment, sports, and late-breaking stories.

The *Pacific Citizen* (P.C.) is a national Asian American newspaper published by the Japanese American Citizens League. Established in 1929, this semi-monthly publication serves as a source of information to a national AA readership.

PACIFIC CITIZEN www.pacificcitizen.org

See SCHOLARSHIP >> on page 10

DUE 'ALLEGIANCE'

With ambitions to open on Broadway, the play 'Allegiance: A New American Musical' has created a buzz within the Japanese American community.

By Nalea J. Ko
Reporter

The controversy surrounding the Japanese American internment play "Allegiance: A New American Musical" continues to stir debate, weeks after its world premiere at San Diego's Old Globe Theatre. Even before the musical's Sept. 19 premiere, the pre-opening portrayal of JACL and its former National Secretary Mike Masaoka was met with criticism. Others in the Japanese American community criticized the play's dramatization of life at the Heart Mountain Relocation Center, located in Wyoming.

But the play's creators say "Allegiance" portrays a divisive period of time for the Japanese American community, which is bound to draw differing opinions.

"The Japanese American community was completely fractured, and the extraordinary story of the young men and women who went from behind those barbed wire fences and fought for this country plays a major part," said Japanese American actor George Takei in an interview with the *Pacific Citizen* earlier this year.

Equally as heroic, Takei said, were the Nisei Resisters of Conscience who said, "Yes, I'm an American and I will fight for this country, but I will not go as an internee from behind these barbed wire fences."

After the bombing of Pearl Harbor in 1941, Takei's family was unjustly incarcerated at Rohwer War Relocation Center in Arkansas and later Tule Lake in California. Some 120,000 people of Japanese descent were incarcerated in the United States. "Allegiance" chronicles the diverse and turbulent experiences Takei and the greater Japanese American community faced during World War II.

The play follows fictional character Sam Kimura, played by Takei in the later years and Telly Leung is the younger years, who is incarcerated at Heart Mountain with his family.

While there, Kimura joins the national civil rights organization JACL and is mentored by Masaoka (played by Paolo Montalbán). These two characters in the play beckon the Japanese American community to be patriotic and loyal.

The Kimura family is quickly divided, much like the Japanese American community at the time, when the father, Tatsuo (Paul Nakauchi), answers "no" on the infamous loyalty questionnaire. Those who answered "no" to questions No. 27 and 28, which focused on swearing allegiance to the United States and serving in the armed forces or those who resisted the draft in their own way, became known as the "No-No Boys" or the Resisters of Conscience.

In the play, Kimura's sister, Kei (played by Lea Salonga), and her romantic interest, Frankie (Michael K. Lee), lead the resisters at the camp.

Some community members have concerns with the play's portrayal of Frankie, a character inspired by real-life Heart Mountain resister Frank Emi.





The character of Frankie, played by Michael K. Lee (pictured with Lea Salonga as Kei Kimura), is inspired by real-life Heart Mountain resister Frank Emi.



(From left) Lea Salonga, Telly Leung, George Takei and Paul Nakauchi star in the new musical play "Allegiance" at the Old Globe in San Diego.

"The Frankie character, who leads the draft resistance, is seen running in the dark of night and hiding as guard dogs — guard dogs! — are barking in the distance. A white nurse offers him a place to hide," says Frank Abe, director of the 2001 film "Conscience and the Constitution." "It's a key plot point that leads to a central tragedy. And it's pure fantasy.

"The resisters didn't need to be hidden from the SS as if this were "The Diary of Anne Frank,"" Abe continues.

The idea for "Allegiance" came when composer Jay Kuo and producer Lorenzo Thione met Takei and his husband, Brad, at an off-Broadway production. The group struck up a conversation about Takei's experience in camp. That conversation, Thione says, inspired "Allegiance."

"The message we leave to the audience is that no matter how long it's gone, no matter how much time has passed, when we are given the opportunity to look at the past, [we must] learn from it and move forward with a second chance for reconciliation," Thione says.

The theater was packed on opening night, according to Thione. Among the crowd were JACL National Director Priscilla Ouchida and VP of Public Affairs Craig Tomiyoshi.

Following the world premiere of "Allegiance," JACL released a statement on its website addressing the depiction of Mike Masaoka, saying "incarceration created deep psychological wounds" (*see sidebar*).

Many Resisters of Conscience and their supporters have taken issue with JACL's positions and policies regarding draft resistance during WWII.

"Under Mike's leadership, JACL leaders advised the War Relocation Authority on how to modify Japanese American behavior inside the camps to create 'Better Americans' and offered guidance on how to identify and segregate what he called 'agitators and troublemakers,'" Abe says.

To recognize the Resisters of Conscience, JACL passed a resolution at its 2000 national convention to offer "an apology for not acknowledging the resisters' stand."

"Allegiance" is inspired by these real-life events. The original script that was performed during pre-opening productions ignited a firestorm of criticism from within the Japanese American community.

second act. It didn't."

Since its pre-opening night performances, the "Allegiance" script has been augmented. But changes made to the script were not made, creators say, to appease any one side of the community.

"We never made any changes that were specifically in response to any criticisms, feedback or otherwise requests from either side of this debate within the Japanese-American community," Thione says. "We have no intention to shy away from the controversial aspects of the story we're telling, and once again, we think that the fact that people feel strongly about this will create an opportunity for the story to live on."

JACL was not the only organization to voice its concerns with "Allegiance." Japanese American Veterans Assn. President Gerald Yamada, in an open letter, says the play's pre-opening script "pits those who volunteered to serve in the 442nd Regimental Combat Team against the 'resisters' (aka 'No-No Boys' and draft resisters)."

Creators of "Allegiance" say the play will continue to be developed. Its final version will, they ultimately hope, be shown on Broadway within a season or two.

Aside from their dreams to take "Allegiance" to Broadway, the play's creators hope the production spurs an open dialogue about the Japanese American experience during WWII.

"Telling the specific story without the JACL or Mike Masaoka mentioned would've been impossible," Thione says. "So, we felt it was important to not shy away from it, for the sake of avoiding controversy, especially when that controversy is fodder for the national dialogue that can do nothing but bring the story back to the public consciousness of America."

For more information about "Allegiance: A New American Musical," visit www.allegiancemusical.com.

JACL's Statement on 'Allegiance'

Editor's note: The following is an excerpt.

JACL commends the producers and writers of "Allegiance," a new American musical that premiered on Sept. 19, for promoting an increased awareness and interest in the Japanese American experience during World War II.

The fictional story is roughly aligned with the treatment of Japanese Americans following the bombing of Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941. Much like the 110,000 Americans and immigrants that were incarcerated by the United States government, the characters experience many of the emotional issues faced by the Japanese community after their forced removal from the West Coast and confinement in detention centers. The government's actions caused deep divisions in the community. As the confinement of the community lengthened with no access to due process, there was heated disagreement on the best response to the injustices perpetrated by the government.

The incarceration created deep psychological wounds that sadly, still persist today. Although veterans and resisters are represented in the musical by fictional characters, it is unfortunate that writers have used Mike Masaoka's name to represent those who promoted Ameriyanism, and portray them in a negative light.

"Allegiance" portrays the experiences of a single family at Heart Mountain and focuses on one perspective of JACL and Mike Masaoka. Concerns

remain that the musical pieces together different elements of Masaoka's contributions during the period and lacks the historical context to give audiences a broader sense of the external role of the government, press, politicians, military advisers and others.

"Allegiance" is a reminder that Japanese Americans exhibited many forms of patriotism during World War II. There were patriots who volunteered and served in the U.S. armed forces with extraordinary courage and honor. There were patriots who challenged the government to provide the due process and civil rights promised every American. There were patriots who supported and contributed to the war effort that defeated the Axis powers. These Americans demonstrated loyalty in their own personal way. It is time to embrace the difficult choices each individual made to be a better American, and create a better America.

The lesson of World War II is a difficult pill for many Americans to swallow. JACL, as a national advocacy organization, has worked to ensure the lesson is not lost. JACL shares the conviction that is central to "Allegiance"—that the circumvention of constitutional rights should never be repeated again.

We encourage audiences that have seen "Allegiance" or those who are interested in learning more about the Japanese American experience during WWII to read or view some of the excellent books, documentaries and other materials that have been produced.

For more information, visit JACL's website at www.jacl.org.

Mas Hashimoto of Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL was invited with wife, Marcia, to a preview of the play in San Jose, Calif.

"We were shocked and offended at the portrayal of Mike Masaoka. The original script described Mike as a buffoon, a sleazy, unsavory character, a con artist, and that the National JACL leadership had 'sold out' the Japanese and Japanese American community," Hashimoto says. "We decided to walk out at intermission, but George Takei asked us to stay, saying that it was going to get better in the

SCHOLARSHIP >> Continued from page 7

Undergraduate Scholarship Winners

Congratulations

to the

Berkeley Chapter
National JACL scholarship recipients

Michael Murata

Recipient of the Saburo Kido Memorial Scholarship (Undergraduate)

Hillary Nakano

Recipient of the Grace Andow Memorial Scholarship (Law)

Jeffrey Yamashita

Recipient of the Minoru Yasui Memorial Scholarship (Graduate)



B E R K E L E Y

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MICHAEL MURATA

Berkeley JACL
Saburo Kido Memorial
Scholarship
University of California,
Berkeley

‘Youth are concerned with civil rights. As a student on the University of California at Berkeley campus for the past three years, I have witnessed the passion of youth organizing for civil rights. The Berkeley

campus has had a long history of protesting violations of civil liberties, and though the magnitude of these protests have not reached the same levels as those of the Free Speech Movement and Third World Liberation Front, the belief in civil rights persists. Issues such as immigration, education and health care affect these students, and there is a desire to speak out, whether it is through protests such as the recent Occupy movement, civil rights-oriented campus organizations or other community organizations. I am the student coordinator for an organization known as the Asian American and Pacific Islander Health Research Group, which is comprised of students and community professionals. Although AAPIHRG is primarily a health-oriented group, I have developed an understanding that for the AAPI community, health care and civil rights are linked and that the fight for equal access to health care is just one battle in the fight for civil liberties in this supposed free society.’



RACHEL SEEMAN

Portland JACL
Nobuko R. Kodama Fong
Memorial Scholarship
Stanford University

‘As the single uniting voice of Japanese Americans both present and past, the Japanese American Citizens League is dedicated to protecting the values of equality and social justice. While the issues being encompassed in civil rights are constantly expanding, the

goal and mission of the JACL remains the same. Efforts to fortify the JACL’s influence on policymakers to create change are not possible without the active involvement of its youth. As a youth member of the JACL, I fully realize my responsibilities and opportunities within this organization. We are at a point in our history where the involvement of youth in the JACL is important for the progression of the organization and for the continued prevention of racism and bigotry in our country. I understand that many individuals feel as though the JACL is not relevant to their lives; however, if they become involved and educated about the JACL, they will realize that it serves as a launching pad for their role as a community leader, activist and role model. In order for the JACL to advance in the future, adaptations must be made to further include youth in the organization.’



Congratulations
Michael Murata
2012 National JACL Scholarship

Love,
Dad, Mom & Eric



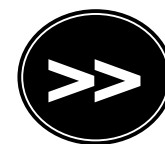
ALEXANDRA WONG

Chicago JACL
Alice Yuriko Endo Memorial Scholarship
Northwestern University

‘In some ways, it seems that students such as myself cannot make a large impact because the significant areas of civil rights, specifically for AAPIs, have been ‘solved,’ or at least put into law. High-impact issues faced by generations preceding ours have quieted. What are left are smaller-scale injustices that we need to address on a case-by-case level. AAPIs still experience offensive stereotypes and demeaning interactions (microaggressions) based on skewed perceptions, and in a way,

that these negative slights are embedded in a person’s beliefs and are often brushed off escalates their seriousness. While civil rights organizations may not necessarily be driving forward new laws, it is imperative that they focus upon minimizing discriminatory perceptions of people such as AAPIs. This is why it is important to join a civil rights organization such as the JACL, even if youth do not believe there is much to change or that they can do anything about it. Personally, I have come to realize that not everyone sees the world as I do — everyone deserves to be treated the same regardless of their race, beliefs and so on — and that discrimination, hate and injustices still exist.’

Graduate Scholarship Winners



CHRISTIAN HEIMBURGER

Mile Hi JACL

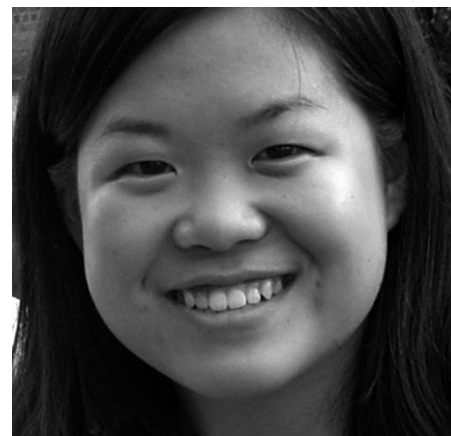
Rev. H. John Yamashita Memorial Scholarship
University of Colorado, Boulder



CHRISTINA LEE

San Fernando Valley JACL

Henry & Chiyo Kuwahara Memorial Scholarship
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign



TAKAKO MINO

Chicago JACL

Magoichi & Shizuko Kato Memorial Scholarship
Claremont Graduate University

“The troubling legacy of discrimination against Japanese Americans — culminating in their wholesale removal and confinement during World War II — should compel all Americans, of every generation and ethnic background, to vigilantly work to protect individual freedom. That legacy should remind us that when one group’s freedom is endangered, the integrity of the nation as a whole is vulnerable. My generation cannot take freedom for granted, nor can it afford to ignore the poignant lessons of the past. Although 70 years have passed since the removal and confinement of the Japanese American community, the significance of this episode has not diminished. It has never been more important that this story be told and retold. If Sept. 11 and the subsequent Global War on Terror have taught us anything, it is that the same fears, anxieties and prejudices that consumed many Americans during World War II have an uncanny way of resurfacing when our safety and security are threatened. Protecting freedom is the responsibility of all Americans, in every circumstance and in every generation.”

“I learned the importance of promoting civil rights through my personal and professional experiences. As an intern in college with the K. W. Lee Center for Leadership (in Los Angeles), I was first exposed to how local history impacts contemporary issues. For example, we learned about the social inequalities that impacted the 1992 Los Angeles uprisings and how they have continued to affect socioeconomic and racial disparities in Los Angeles Koreatown to this day. Later, I directed the same internship and am now a board member for the center. I also served as a research consultant with the Koreatown Youth and Community Center in Los Angeles, which conducted a survey of youth alcohol access in Koreatown. We found that young people could easily purchase alcohol at liquor stores, which is evidence of lenient law enforcement’s negative impact on urban youth health. By examining how policies are implemented differently in urban areas, I understood that where people live affects the disparate level of social services that communities could access.”



JEAN SHIRAKI

Washington, D.C., JACL

Chiyoko & Thomas Shimazaki Scholarship
Touro College of Osteopathic Medicine,
New York

“I do agree that many young people don’t have a strong motivation to join a civil rights organization. It’s difficult to explain why this is, but I believe one major reason is that the younger generation has not experienced a major civil rights event. We sit on the shoulders of the civil rights pioneers that struggled through the major wrongs done in the past, and in a sense, the youth take it for granted — particularly in the Japanese American community. I feel that

the younger generations take their civil rights for granted because they are disconnected to the internment experience and the discrimination that their grandparents or great-grandparents might have faced. Unless youth are educated on the wrongs and what steps it took to bring some reconciliation to the Japanese American community, I feel that they will remain a little ignorant. I really do hope that more youth will be educated and therefore motivated to be greatly involved in civil rights. For my own personal career in medicine, working at JACL has given me a more holistic perspective of health care in our country; it also has allowed me to see how health policy serves as a blueprint to how medicine is carried out. Now, I am more passionate to advocate and work with community health centers and underserved communities to ensure that health care is seen as a right and not a privilege.”

“I consider it my duty to maintain the democratic standards for which this nation lives,” wrote Gordon Hirabayashi, who, at the age of 24, was imprisoned for defying a World War II curfew law for people of Japanese descent along the West Coast. While this courageous civil rights activist deeply felt that it was his personal responsibility to stand up against injustices to the Japanese American community, many Japanese American youth today do not identify closely with their collective ethnic identity. Our generation believes in civil rights and understands their importance in maintaining a free and just society. But most of us do not believe in the necessity of participating in civil rights organizations like the Japanese American Citizens League because we do not see the importance and the impact of these organizations’ efforts. Furthermore, some choose other means of promoting civil rights because they think that these organizations divide people with their narrow interpretation of societal issues. Since most of us contemporary youth have not had to struggle for our civil rights and often take these rights for granted, we do not see how the work of civil rights organizations relates to our lives. We generally do believe in equal civil rights for all American citizens such as the freedom of speech and the right to vote, and we show our outrage when we are denied these rights because of discrimination.”

PACIFIC CITIZEN EXECUTIVE EDITOR POSITION

Founded in 1929, the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) is the oldest and largest Asian American civil rights organization in the United States. The JACL monitors and responds to the issues that enhance or threaten the civil and human rights of all Americans and implements strategies to effect positive social change, particularly to the Asian Pacific American community.

We are seeking an Executive Editor for the JACL’s official publication, the *Pacific Citizen*. The Executive Editor serves as editor/general manager and is responsible for all aspects of its production and distribution. The successful candidate will possess the leadership skills necessary to oversee all aspects of operations. He/she will have a strong personal commitment to our mission and an understanding of the issues coming out of the mission, will be a social entrepreneur and will have a proven record of success in leadership with responsibility for strategic thinking and planning, budgeting and fiscal management, fund raising and administration.

Applicants should have:

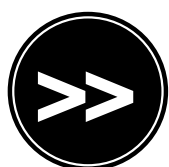
- Four years of college education and graduation from an accredited school of journalism
- A minimum of two years (five years preferred) of progressively increasing responsibility in editing and managing a newspaper
- Knowledge, experience and proficiency with computerized production equipment including computers and layout and photo editing software
- Knowledge of and experience with the Asian Pacific American community (preferred)
- Must possess a valid driver’s license. Some travel is required including evenings and weekends
- Be physically able to perform job duties as determined by the pre-employment physical examination.

Submission deadline is Monday, Oct. 22, 2012

Interested candidates should submit their resume, application, cover letter and salary requirements to:

Pacific Citizen Editorial Board Chair
Email: pcboardchair@jacl.org
Pacific Citizen
250 E. 1st Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

The JACL is an EOE.



Graduate Scholarship Winners



KATHERINE SOE

Diablo Valley JACL

**Kenji Kajiwaru Memorial Scholarship
Creighton University School of Medicine**

“Our civil rights make up one of the defining pillars of this country’s foundation, as well as comprise a key component of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Respect for them has sparked passionate debates throughout the generations, most recently in today’s young people. Yet, despite the many civil rights organizations addressing these issues, relatively few youth join. Raised in a Japanese American and Chinese American family, I recognize the importance of bridging cultural divides. This issue grew strikingly apparent when I interviewed Japanese American internment

victims for a history project. I soon learned that minority discriminatory issues arise from collisions between politics, economics and racial prejudice, and that cultural isolation and trampling of one’s civil rights can be our worst national enemy. Promptly and proudly joining the JACL, my knowledge and perspective expanded. But why did my peers not follow suit, even with their own identifying group? With a myriad of organizations vying for young people’s attention and energy, choices are largely driven by time, incentives and visibility.”



JEFFREY YAMASHITA

Berkeley JACL

**Minoru Yasui Memorial Scholarship
University of California, Berkeley**

“I understand, acknowledge and respect the sacrifices of past JACL members in their fight for citizenship rights and equality. I honor my family members who served in the 100th/442nd Regimental Combat Team and my uncle, Bruce I. Yamashita, who successfully sued the Marines on grounds of racial discrimination by following in their footsteps in challenging oppression and inequality. However, it was not a singular actor that brought about these changes to our social and political landscape in the United States. It was a collective of people who felt a deep passion and

desire to change the United States to reflect its foundational democratic values. It was a group of people that would not stand idle watching injustices negatively hurt aggrieved communities. The JACL does not only represent a civil rights organization but also an institution that is as strong as the unity of its members. During World War II, it was the sacrifices of the entire 100th/442nd that helped facilitate the notion that Japanese Americans were capable of U.S. citizenship rights. It was not just one soldier but a united group of men who believed in fighting against injustices. Now, it is my generation’s responsibility to assume the ranks of the JACL and continue the fight for justice and equality that three generations before me have been committed to uphold.”



Diablo Valley JACL congratulates

Katie Soe

National JACL Scholarship Winner

National JACL Scholarships
For more information on the 2013 JACL scholarship application process, contact JACL headquarters:
1765 Sutter St.
San Francisco, CA 94115
or call (415) 921-5225



Law



HILLARY NAKANO

Berkeley JACL

**Grace Andow Memorial Scholarship
University of San Francisco School of Law**

“Civil rights issues have always stirred something deep inside of me. Stories of injustice

and subsequent success — such as the Fred Korematsu case — without fail, give me goose bumps. It started as a small flicker deep inside that slowly developed as I became more educated on the injustices of history; it continued to grow with the stories of underdogs prevailing; and then it became a fireball that has ignited a full-blown passion for civil rights. No matter how hard I try, this feeling of inequality and unfairness surrounds my perspective on the world. Racism, sexism and a myriad of other social issues continue to plague us even today. While I can’t save the world, I have high ambitions of graduating from law school and becoming a civil rights advocate for those without a loud voice — specifically, Asian Americans. I believe in civil rights, probably more than the average generational-peer. I believe in civil rights so strongly, I am dedicating my life to fight for it. I used to think that it wasn’t important to join a civil rights organization, but through my working experience at the JACL, I’ve since found that the benefits more than outweigh the costs.”



STACI YAMASHITA-IIDA

South Bay JACL

**Thomas T. Hayashi Memorial Scholarship
Southwestern School of Law**

“Following the Redress Movement, my grandma was notified of the reparations she

would receive as compensation for her time at Gila River. When she went to the bank to collect her funds, the friendly, young hakujin teller asked her, ‘Wow, ma’am, this sure is a lot of money. What’s it for?’ To which my grandma responded, ‘Why, it’s because of the camps they put us in during the war.’ Confused, the young man politely inquired further: ‘Camps? Did they lock you up or something?’ ‘Yes,’ my grandma answered, ‘for three years.’ The teller was shocked and guiltily apologized: ‘Gee, ma’am, I’m so sorry. I just didn’t know.’ When my grandma told me that story, there wasn’t an ounce of anger in her voice. She was merely amused at the fact that something that had defined her life was so unknown to another person. My grandma is a strong woman whose outlook on life was not jaded by the adversity she faced during the war. This is the one quality she has constantly tried to instill in me. As the years pass, the survivors of World War II slowly decline in number. It is our duty as their grandchildren to remember their stories and make sure those horrible occurrences are never repeated.”

>> Performing Arts



RACHELLE CLARK

Orange County JACL

Aiko Susanna Tashiro Hiratsuka Memorial Scholarship

University of California, Irvine

‘My generation believes in civil rights. We are considerate and open-minded to differences, and this tolerance is not limited to race and religion. We are also tolerant of individuals with disabilities and a different sexual orientation. In my parents’ generation, children with disabilities were placed in institutions; today with mainstreaming, disabled students are in classrooms, in the work force and even taking roles in television and

film. We are also tolerant of individuals with different sexual preferences and gender identities. To be gay or lesbian does not carry the stigma it once did. Laws are being rewritten for their civil rights. The United States has given my generation the opportunity to observe and interact with individuals of different races, religions, abilities and gender preference. These opportunities have helped develop acceptance. This education coupled with an upbringing that promoted the development of a moral compass provided my generation, the ‘Millennials,’ the foundation for civil rights without the need to call it civil rights. For us, it was just the right thing to do.”

>> Creative Arts



MARISSA KITAZAWA

South Bay JACL

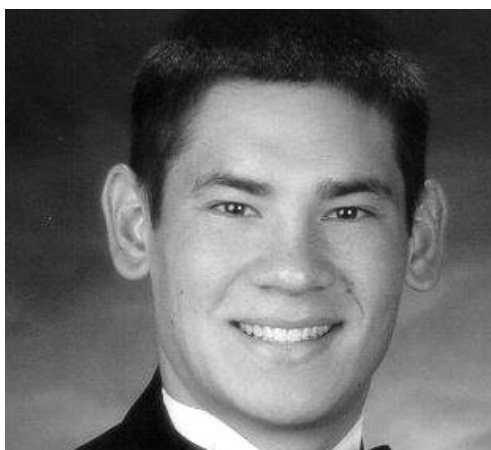
Henry & Chiyo Kuwahara Creative Arts Scholarship

University of California, Santa Cruz

‘Today more than ever, citizenship is a privilege. With the dwindling number of Japanese American incarcerated still alive today, it has become more important than ever to preserve and share their stories. We must continue to educate the future generations so no other group will ever be marginalized again based on their race or religion. Our civil rights are still in danger of being lost. The most valuable lesson I have learned from my grandfather is

this: ‘In seconds your property, rights and freedom can be taken away from you, however, your education and what you know belongs completely to you.’ Education is an extremely powerful tool. It is crucial that we understand and know the Japanese American legacy, but more importantly, it is all about the action we take afterward. Informed by the history of the Japanese American experience, we must continue to teach and inform people about the importance of our civil rights and communicate clearly to all how supporting organizations like JACL goes toward aiding our efforts.”

>> Student Aid



CHRISTOPHER HYDE

San Jose JACL

Abe & Esther Hagiwara Student Aid Scholarship

University of California, San Diego

‘It may seem that social activism is not something my generation is interested in. Although we believe in the principles of civil rights, its relevance has not been made apparent to us in our daily lives. What JACL and other civil rights organizations must do is find a way to make our domestic struggles relevant to my generation. While preserving the memories of the internment camps (to which

my family was sent) and honoring members of the 100th Infantry Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat Team and Military Intelligence Service are important components of JACL’s mission, unless young people have a direct connection to these events, they will not be drawn into the fight. Although my mother and grandmother shared the historical and social significance of these aspects of my heritage, I am the exception. Few of my Japanese friends feel a connection to our history. JACL has done an excellent job in continuing the battle to protect civil liberties. By engaging and empowering youth with new tools to make its issues relevant, JACL may be able to expand its membership and perhaps redefine what it means to be a member.” ■

2012 Scholarship Winners



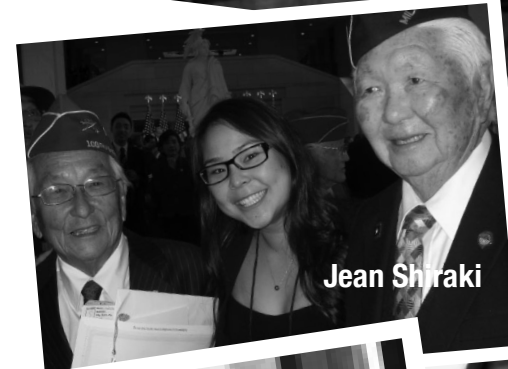
Rachelle Clark



Kristy L. Ishii



Matthew Iritani



Jean Shiraki



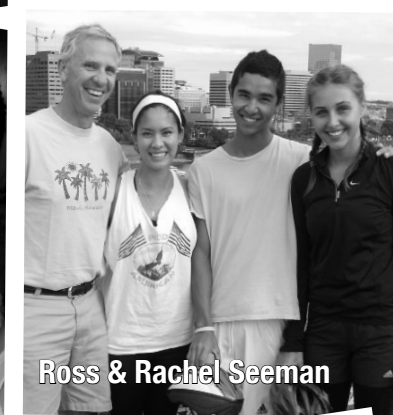
Christian Heimburger



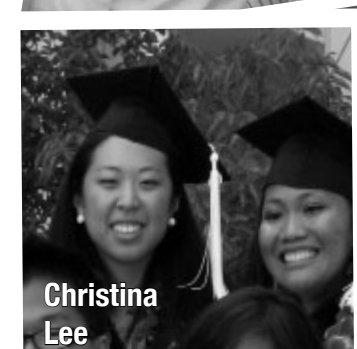
Kristi M. Lin



John Kanemoto



Ross & Rachel Seeman



Christina Lee



Marissa Kitazawa

A NATIONAL GUIDE TO NOTABLE COMMUNITY EVENTS*



CALENDAR

Art Institute of Chicago's Japanese Print Collection Exhibit CHICAGO, IL

Thru Nov. 4

**Art Institute of Chicago
111 S. Michigan Ave.**

The exhibit "Formation of the Japanese Print Collection: Frank Lloyd Wright and the Prairie School" brings together Japanese prints purchased from Wright's collection, photos of a 1908 exhibit and drawings from his studio.

Info: Call 312/443-3600 or visit www.artic.edu

>>EAST

Asian American Justice Center's 16th Annual American Courage Awards

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Oct. 18, 6:30 p.m.

**Capital Hilton
1001 16th St., NW**

The Asian American Justice Center's American Courage Awards recognizes individuals, companies and organizations of merit. The event features the presentation of the American Courage Award, the Distinguished Award and the Bridge Builder Award.

Info: Visit www.apalc.org

Asian American Women in Leadership 2012 Conference BOSTON, MA

Nov. 3, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

**Paresky Conference Center,
Simmons College
300 The Fenway**

The Asian American Women in Leadership Conference is a one-day event focused on developing leadership skills. The conference aims to increase awareness on the challenges Asian American women face in their careers and at home.

Info: Visit <http://girlsaspire.org/2012conference/about.html>

A Community Briefing on Tule Lake Pilgrimage BOSTON, MA

Nov. 13, 6-9 p.m.

**Tufts Medical Center,
Wolff Auditorium
800 Washington Center**

Members of Genki Spark will present a report on their experiences during the recent four-day pilgrimage to Tule Lake in California.

Info: Visit www.thegenkispark.org

An Evening With Jake Shimabukuro NEW YORK, NY

Nov. 30, 8 p.m.

New York University's

Skirball Center

60 Washington Square South

Join ukulele player Jake Shimabukuro for an evening of music. Tickets are free for NYU students, but must be reserved with a \$10 deposit.

Info: Email apa.institute@nyu.edu or call 212/998-4941

>>PNW

Densho Teacher Training Workshops SEATTLE, WA

Nov. 15, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

**Wing Luke Museum of the Asian American Experience
719 S. King St.**

Densho workshop co-facilitators Tom Ikeda and Janet Hayakawa will teach participants how to access and use primary source materials to develop analysis and reasoning skills. This workshop is for qualified educators and preservice teachers only. Teachers who complete the workshop, create a lesson plan and complete a post-workshop survey will receive a \$100 stipend.

Info: Call 206/623-5124

>>NCWNP

Florin JACL's 31st Annual Scholarship/Youth Dinner and Free Bingo Night FLORIN, CA

Oct. 13, 5 p.m. (Bingo at 7 p.m.)

Buddhist Church of Florin

7235 Pritchard Road

Cost: \$12/General admission;

\$6; Children 4 to 12

The Florin JACL's Scholarship/Youth Dinner is expected to draw about 200 people. There

will be a dozen Japanese topplings available for Nikkei hot dogs, musubi and cupcakes. The event also includes a raffle drawing, a pumpkin game and a senbei contest.

Info: Visit www.florinjacl.com or email florinjacl@hotmail.com

San Francisco JACL Kenko No Hi Health Fair SAN FRANCISCO, CA

Oct. 20, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

**Christ United Presbyterian Church
1700 Sutter St.**

The health fair will offer free flu shots, blood pressure tests, dental exams and other free health screenings.

Info: Email sjjacl@yahoo.com

The Japanese American Museum of San Jose's Winter Boutique SAN JOSE, CA

Nov. 10

**San Jose Buddhist Church
640 N. Fifth St.**

The Japanese American Museum of San Jose's Winter Boutique will feature items from Japanese American artists and craftsmen.

Info: Call 408/294-3138 or email mail@jamsj.org

Asian Pacific Community Counseling's Dragon Multicultural Faire SACRAMENTO, CA

Nov. 11, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

**Riverside Elks Lodge No. 6
6446 Riverside Blvd.**

The Asian Pacific Community Counseling's (APCC) annual Dragon Multicultural Arts and Crafts Faire will feature local and Hawaiian artists' wares such as T-shirts, quilts, artwork and more. All the proceeds benefit APCC.

Info: Call 916/383-6783

Contra Costa JACL Food Demonstration EL CERRITO, CA

Nov. 17, 1-3:30 p.m.

**East Bay Free Methodist Church
5395 Potrero Ave.**

The Contra Costa JACL Food Demo will be led by Yoko Olsgaard and her dad.

Info: Call 510/232-5410 or visit www.ebfmc.org

>>PSW

Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii's Second Saturday Courtyard Bazaar HONOLULU, HI

Oct. 13, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

**Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii, Teruya Courtyard
2454 S. Beretania St.**

The Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii's Second Saturday Courtyard Bazaar will feature "Book of the Month" author Eileen Wacker, who authored the Fujimini Island books.

Info: Call 808/945-7633 Ext. 39 or visit www.jcch.com

Halloween Sogetsu Ikebana Workshop for Beginners LOS ANGELES, CA

Oct. 20, 1 p.m.

**Japanese American National Museum
100 N. Central Ave.**

The workshop, which will be led by Mikiko Ideno, will introduce participants to basic techniques involved with Ikebana.

Info: Call 213/625-0414 or visit www.janm.org

West Los Angeles JACL's Aki Matsuri Boutique LOS ANGELES, CA

Oct. 21, 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m.

**Venice Japanese Community Center
12448 Braddock Dr.**

This free boutique will feature clothing, jewelry, quilted gift items, stationery, Japanese CDs and books, art and more.

Info: Jean 323/980-8225

San Diego Community Fall Festival Bazaar SAN DIEGO, CA

Oct. 28, 12-4 p.m.

**Pioneer Ocean View United Church of Christ
2550 Fairfield St.**

This event will feature Japanese cultural entertainment, kids games, a bounce house, bake sale, produce market and Japanese food.

Info: Call 619/276-4881 or visit pioneeroceanviewucc.com

Dedication Ceremony for Frances Hashimoto Plaza LOS ANGELES, CA

Nov. 15, 10 a.m.

E. Second St. and Azusa St.

Councilmembers Jan Perry and Jose Huizar will be in attendance at the dedication ceremony in honor of Frances K. Hashimoto-Friedman. Hashimoto-Friedman has devoted her life to the betterment of Little Tokyo by carrying on her family's traditions at Mikaway Pastries.

Info: Call 818/203-2779 or email hashimoto_plaza@yahoo.com

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• In Memoriam •

Asao, Nancy Michiko, 86, San Gabriel, CA; Aug. 29; a memorial was held on Sept. 11 at Kubota Nikkei Mortuary with Rev. Shu-ichi Kurai from Sozenji Buddhist Temple officiating; she is survived by her children, Sharon Keiko, Duane Masaharu (Shirley), and Kerry Chiemi Asao; granddaughters, Marci, Trisha and Alyssa Asao; brother, Tom Kato; brother-in-law, Tokuji Yoshihashi; sister-in-law, Kazuko Asao; also survived by many nieces, nephews, and other relatives.

Fujimoto, Calvin, 87, Henderson, Nev.; Aug. 24; he is survived by his children, Sheryl (Dr. Lawrence) Tanaka, Bruce (Francis) Fujimoto, and Calvin S. Fujimoto; also survived by many nieces, nephews, and other relatives; 8 gc; 5 ggc.

Hatanaka, Isao "Jim," 76, Torrance, CA; Sept. 16; a veteran who is survived by his wife, Tomiye Hatanaka; brother, Masakazu (Reiko) Hatanaka; sisters-in-law, Toy Hatanaka, Anna Taka, Hanako Kishiyama, Tsuyeko Shishido; brothers-in-law, Yoshio (Kay) Shishido and Kei Wada; also survived by many nieces, nephews, and other relatives.

Ikkanda, John Tadashi, 91, Los Angeles, CA; Sept. 9; he is survived by his wife, Jo Ann Haruko Ikkanda; daughters, Christine Lynn (Merle "Sugar") Konishi and Janice Ikkanda-Trost; grandchildren, Kevin Konishi, Kammi (Kellen) Abe, John and Bobby Trost; great-grandchildren, Raedon, Kaiya, and Amaya Trost; siblings, Tom (Dorothy) Ikkanda; brothers-in-law, Tak (Rinko), Steve (Amiko), and Jimmy Kiriya; sister-in-law, Iku Kiriya; nephews, William and Todd Kiriya; also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Kuwahara, Hiroyuki Hank, 87,



Torrance, CA; Aug. 29; a family gathering was held on Sept. 5 at Fukui Mortuary Chapel in The Garden; he is survived by his beloved wife, Sadako Kuwahara; children, Hiroko Koike, Sanae (Sachio) Muramoto, Michiyo (Norio) Kaneko and Megumi Takahashi; grandchildren, Takayuki Koike, Joyce Koike, Shirley Muramoto, Gary Muramoto, Shuhei Kaneko, Takuya Kaneko, Emi Kaneko, Eddy Takahashi, Megan Takahashi, Sean Takahashi and Georgie Takahashi; and sur-

vived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Kuwahara, Mary Kasumi, 66,



Gardena, CA; Aug. 29; she is survived by her husband, Toshio Kuwahara; daughters, Tiffany (Steve) Shew and Nicki (Jon) Suzuki; mother, Margaret Fumiye Yamashita; sister, Sally (Dennis) Kira; granddaughter, Stella Suzuki; many nieces, nephews, other relatives and pets.

Mayeda, Akimi, 86, Los Angeles,



CA; Sept. 3; she is survived by her husband, James Mayeda; children, Charles (Sue) Mayeda, Ann (Mark) Schaefer from Port Washington, NY, Amy (Reggie) Thibodeaux, and Lynn Foxx; grandchildren, Jeffrey and Lauren Mayeda, Amy, James, and Eric Schaefer, Clay and Cameron Thibodeaux; also survived by other relatives.

Minami, Sally Sachiko, 72, Los



Angeles, CA; Aug. 31; beloved mother of Michael Minami and Christine (Allen) Morimoto; grandmother of Camryn and Jordyn Morimoto; sister of Shigeru (Kazuko) Honda; aunt of David (Yolanda), Michael (Maria) and Steven (Cathy) Honda, Karen (Larry) Staggs, Suzi (Michael) Tressivano; also survived by other relatives.

Tajiri, George Toshimitsu, 95, Los Angeles, CA; Sept. 1; he is

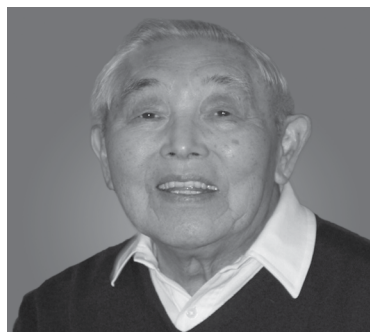
survived by his sister-in-law, Fay Tajiri; nephews, Edward (Margaret), Charles and Alan (Kyong) Tajiri; nieces, Suzan, Lucille, Jackie Tajiri, and Lorraine Imai; also survived by many other relatives.

Takata, Sherman Saburo, 86,



Long Beach, CA; Sept. 9; Veteran of Korean Conflict; Oakland, CA-born Nisei; survived by his wife, Nancy Takata; sisters-in-law, Jane Hoshino and Hazel Yanagida; brother-in-law, David Watada; also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Umino, Al Yamato, 88, Stockton,



CA, Aug. 31; he is survived by his wife, Meri; daughter, Cathy Harada, and son-in-law Ron; 2 grandchildren, Devon and Brett; and brother, Shimao Umino, and sister-in-law, Carol.

Uchino, Janet M., 63, Los Angeles, CA; Sept. 15; beloved sister of Maureen K. Uchino; aunt, Fuki Yoshiwara; uncle, Frank Endow; also survived by many cousins and other relatives.

Watanabe, Chigako, 76, Brea, CA; Sept. 9; Japan-born Issei; survived by her children, Alice and Richard Watanabe; sister, Katsuyo (Isamu) Kinoshita; also survived by many nieces, nephews, and other relatives in U.S. and Japan.

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JOHNSTON >> Continued from page 3

Even though it says "Letter From an Editor," I am no longer serving as the interim editor. I have a full-time job at which I am happily employed, and I am uninterested in becoming *P.C.*'s executive editor.

Still, in addition to helping *P.C.* keep some semblance of a publishing schedule, I've also been helping in other areas. *P.C.* now has a business manager: Susan Yokoyama. I've known Susan and her husband, Gregg, going back to when I worked at *P.C.* years ago. In fact, I launched *NikkeiNation.net* with Susan and can think of no one else with her community knowledge and commitment combined with a no-nonsense skill-set of business, advertising, marketing, human resources and accounting.

We also have a new interim editor. I will allow this individual, whom I recommended, make an introduction at a later date if the occasion arises. Suffice to say, however, this person is more than qualified to lead *P.C.*'s editorial operations through the next few difficult weeks.

With an interim editor and business manager in place, more personnel (including some interns and an assistant editor once the full-time executive editor is named to help in that selection process) can help *P.C.* regain its footing.

On that note, I want to use this space to say that the hiring of a full-time executive editor is of paramount importance and must be completed without delay. Ideally, the hiring should be done by mid-November. Waiting until February's national board meeting to make the decision would be detrimental to the survival of this publication.

On a related note, thanks to everyone who responded to *P.C.*'s Reader's Poll, which was first published in the Sept. 7-20 issue. Once the data from the poll is parsed and the

staffing issues are settled, the results will help *P.C.* and JACL make the right decisions to plot the best course for the future, not only just for survival but also a revival. (Hopefully, the results can be published, too.)

On a lighter note to end this epistle, I have to admit that returning to *P.C.* so many years later has elicited many thoughts and observations.

When I originally worked here, it was not only pre-Internet, it was before desktop publishing revolutionized newspaper and magazine production. Back then, strips of phototypeset text would come from a photochemical processor, be cut into

strips and then run through a waxer before being laid out on blue-lined boards that would not show when photographed in the steps to making printing plates.

Before I left the paper, I talked to Harry Honda (who

was then the paper's general manager; he was feted Oct. 6 in Los Angeles at the annual PSWDC awards dinner) about how the paper needed to switch to desktop publishing, using Macintosh computers. To me, it was simply a better, more efficient way to get things done.

Unconvinced, Harry told me that a newspaper couldn't be produced on a Macintosh. Within a few years, though, *P.C.* switched to Macs; today, the office boasts some pretty decent Apple hardware for newspaper production.

But when I stepped back recently into *P.C.*'s office, I had to laugh when I saw that old waxer. That thing doesn't belong in a modern newspaper office — it belongs in a museum!

As for me, I'm not quite ready for a museum. I am glad I could be of some assistance to the place that helped me launch my career so many years ago. ■

'I am glad I could be of some assistance to the place that helped me launch my career so many years ago.'

— George Johnston

KAWAMOTO >> Continued from page 5

As vice president for planning & development, Jason Chang was and is in charge of so many of JACL's programs. He did a great job overseeing all of the programs, providing any assistance where needed. And, just as I'm fortunate to have (my wife) Carol, we were lucky to have Jason's "better half," Losa. She did a wonderful job designing our board ads for various program booklets. Thank you, Losa.

Ron Katsuyama always amazed me with his knowledge on pertinent issues and how he fully took charge of those issues, appropriately addressing them. I'm so grateful for his attentiveness to his duties.

Our JACL Youth were truly extraordinary. Devin Yoshikawa and Matthew Farrells used the modern media to keep their constituency apprised of all the latest developments within JACL. They coordinated regular meetings of JACL's Youth Council. And, we can all be proud of how active and involved our district youth representatives have been. Additionally, I was so impressed with how they both were always completely informed and prepared for our board meetings.

I mention these things because I strangely keep hearing members wondering what their board is doing. Please know that your elected volunteers are all spending incredible amounts of time and resources on behalf of the JACL. We can never thank them enough for their selfless giving, but please don't stop trying!

David Kawamoto is the former JACL national president.

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