



NSRCFUND NEWSLETTER

COMMEMORATE THE PAST - EDUCATE FOR THE FUTURE

VOLUME 30

FALL 2022

2022 NSRCF SCHOLARSHIPS: Celebrating as a Community



\$65,000 awarded to 38 Oregon/Southwest Washington students

On a blistering hot August 6th, nearly 100 family, friends, and supporters gathered outdoors under tents at the Federated States of Micronesia Consulate of Portland to celebrate with some of this year's scholarship awardees. It was the first time since 2019 that the NSRCF awards ceremony was held in-person. The awards committee stated, "Opportunities to recognize our Southeast Asian students and their achievements are rare and special.

We do not take these moments for granted..."

Many thanks and much appreciation to the 2022 scholarship awards committee under the superb guidance of co-chairs **Jeanice Chieng** and **Kimberly Moua** (Kimberly was a 2004 NSRCF scholarship recipient from Portland!): Sokho Eath, Ping Khaw, Mari Watanabe, Soumountha Bessas, Thaen Saelee, Mae Saechao, Chippi Bello, and Toc Soneoulay-Gillespie.

Thanks also to those who helped make the awards ceremony a success: Suzie Cha, Christine Cha, Joy Khamsoukthavong, Lucy Nem, Rone Nop, Khan Tung, Olivia Vang, and Daniel Xiong. Special mention also goes to Consular General Joe Enlet.

The committee decided to include the awards program as part of a two-day, SE Asian Youth Leadership & Unity Retreat (SEAYLUR)

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GREETINGS FROM THE BOARD

Dear NSRCF supporters and friends,

Congratulations to the Class of 2022! Now into the third year of the covid pandemic, we thought we were finally done with it, but no, we had to learn about the highly contagious Omicron BA.5 variant. Again, concerns were raised for the seniors whose high school lives continued to be upended, disrupted, unsure. But thanks to the hard work and commitment of the 2022 local scholarship awards committee, the NSRCF awarded 38 students from Portland, Oregon and Southwest Washington State with \$65,000 in scholarships.

We ask so much of the local scholarship committee every year and appreciate the commitment, enthusiasm, and hard work folks are willing to put in over a months-long process. Many thanks to committee co-chairs **Jeanice Chieng** and **Kimberly Moua** for all their hard work in ensuring the project's success. We are pleased to note that Kimberly received an NSRCF scholarship in 2004 when the Fund was last in Portland. Special acknowledgment also goes to **Toc Soneoulay-Gillespie** and Consular General Joe Enlet of the Federated States of Micronesia in Portland. [See article on the awards ceremony.] The NSRCF received two donations from **Anne Naito-Campbell** and the **Oregon Health Sciences University**. Their generosity enabled five more scholarships of \$2000 each to be awarded. THANK YOU SO MUCH!

The board of directors is all-volunteer and remains determined to keep operating costs to a minimum so that donations to the Fund go primarily towards scholarships. (The NSRCF's financial statement is made available upon written request.) Even given the current economic situation, the Fund stands at \$2.4 million as of July 23, 2022.

Welcome new board member, **Alex Cherup**. Alex grew up in Metro Detroit and currently makes Reno, Nevada his home. A graduate of Northeastern University School of Law, he now works at Nevada Legal Services and supervises legal programs related to access to justice and the representation of indigent individuals. Alex's maternal grandparents were incarcerated at Manzanar, CA and Gila River, AZ and he says their experiences contributed to his focus on restorative justice.

A new Legacy Fund was established by long-time supporter Jack Sneider of Sarasota, Florida in memory of his wife of 63 years, **Nancy K. Sneider**, who passed away in June of 2021. The NSRCF received a gift from the estate of **Masu Sasajima** of Seattle who passed away in July of 2021 and the board of directors established a Legacy Fund in her honor. The board also pays special tribute to **Bobby Takatsuka** of Seattle who passed away in April of this year at age 97. Bobby and his wife Lily established their namesake Legacy Fund decades ago, always giving generously, humbly, and quietly.

Special thanks to **Don Misumi** of San Francisco for putting the newsletter together this year.

The Fund is currently exploring awarding scholarships in Las Vegas, Nevada in 2023.

If you are interested in joining the board of directors or a committee, getting involved and helping out, contact us at info@nsrcfund.org. There are many important and satisfying ways you can pay it forward. We would love to hear from you.

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- Greetings from the board

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Lastly, thank you to the Fund's supporters on its 42nd anniversary. These last covid-defining years have impacted so many young lives. Our sense of *ongaeshi* (repay a kindness) is unwavering, but our ability to do so depends on your support. In grateful appreciation,

NSRCF Board of Directors

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Alex Cherup

2022 NAMED SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Nay Aye (Karen), Centennial HS, Portland



Hisaye Hamaoka Mochizuki Scholarship

Nay's parents, refugees who fled Myanmar, are her biggest influence. They tell her, "When you receive enough education, remember to go back and help your people." She was enrolled

a medical program at Center for Advanced Learning to get a head start as she plans to major in biology and become a dentist. She is attending Portland State University.

Savannah Hoang (Laotian), Roosevelt HS, Portland



Kay Yamashita Scholarship

Savannah is proud of her 4.0 GPA, devoted to her studies, and a committed volunteer at school and in the community at Hmong New Year and a community garden. She also babysat and dogsat as well as tutored. But

it was being targeted with anti-Asian hate and bias due to COVID that propelled her and other students to create the Asian Student Group as a safe place for Asian students. Savannah is attending the University of Portland, pursuing a nursing degree.

Ashley Cha (Hmong), Roosevelt HS, Portland

Nobu (Kumekawa) and Yosh Hibino Scholarship

Ashley is a second generation Hmong American; her parents are refugees from Laos' Secret War. They always impressed upon her the importance of education. She says, "Being Hmong, I experienced a strong family oriented upbringing. Although a challenge at times, having to navigate between both American and Hmong cultures has made me enjoy the best of both worlds." Ashley volunteered at church, school-wide events, and was a teacher assistant. She is attending the University of Oregon.

Delany Mach (Khmer/Chinese/Vietnamese), Clackamas HS, Clackamas



Ryozo Glenn Kumekawa Scholarship

Delany grew up in an extended family of Khmer, Vietnamese, Cantonese, and French, the twin daughter of immigrant parents. She graduated with a 4.0 GPA, and because of covid says,

"Living through these unprecedented times has opened my eyes to the health disparities that continue to plague marginalized communities around the world. ... I strive to combat this ongoing issue." She is attending Oregon State University and plans to major in biochemistry and molecular biology and become an emergency room doctor.

Emylee Cha (Hmong), Roosevelt HS, Portland



Dr. Kenji Murase Scholarship

As the oldest daughter, Emylee has many family and sibling responsibilities, but she still excelled in school, making the Honor Roll, taking Honors Physics, a dual college credit math course, and AP Biology.

She volunteered at school events and Hmong New Year, was active in the Asian Student Group, and participated in Portland State's TRIO pre-college program. She is attending Portland State University.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2022!

Madison Macris (Vietnamese), Newberg HS, Newberg



Michi Nishiura Weglyn Scholarship

Madison's mother is her role model. An immigrant from Vietnam, she worked hard to provide financial stability for the family. Inspired by her to do her best, Madison excelled in her studies. Being half-Asian and half-white, and growing up in a small, predominantly white town, Madison learned to advocate for herself and take advantage of every opportunity and resource available to help her reach her goal of college. A proud first generation college student, Madison is attending the University of Oregon.

Nhu Ho (Vietnamese), David Douglas HS, Portland *Alice Abe Matsumoto Scholarship*

Nhu's school activities and volunteer work included Key Club and Red Cross, teacher assistant, The Grotto sanctuary, and the local library. She talks about going to Sunday School for 10 years to learn Vietnamese but resisted. Her feelings changed when she wasn't able to communicate with her grandmother, and she is now dedicated to learning the Vietnamese language and culture. Nhu is attending Oregon State University and hopes to become a dietitian or anesthesiologist.

Kevin Ngov (Khmer), Mountainside HS, Beaverton



David Mitsuo Takagi Scholarship

While carrying a heavy course load in high school, Kevin also lettered on the varsity swim team and volunteered in the community. He is trilingual in English, Khmer and Chinese. His parents came to the US and struggled with language and finding work. He says, "it motivates me to push myself harder every day for my

parents because they have worked so hard their whole life and never gave up." Kevin is attending Oregon State University, pursuing an electrical engineering degree, specifically in green energy.

Jolie Nguyen (Vietnamese), Benson HS, Portland



Koh, Mitsu, and Dr. Kotaro Murai Scholarship

Graduating at the top of her class, Jolie was senior class treasurer, president of the Impact Club, and volunteered as a Vietnamese language teacher assistant. Other interests included art and weightlifting. "I want to be a role model for the young Asian children, never once seeing their culture represented in the Western media, to give them the sense of security I wish I felt sooner. I will pave their way, knocking down one stereotype after another." Jolie is attending Lewis & Clark College in Portland, planning to major in pre-med.

Justin Nguyen (Vietnamese), David Douglas HS, Portland



Michihiko and Bernice Hayashida Scholarship

Justin was active in National Honor Society, captain of the swim team, lettering all four years, is a certified lifeguard, and made the honor roll all four years. He also earned 29 college credits. "My education, knowledge, and experiences have taught me that having a picture of all sides of a problem is critical in finding a solution." Justin is attending Portland State University and planning to major in biology and pre-med.

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2022 NAMED SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS *cont'd.*

Brendon Tran (Vietnamese), Tigard HS, Tigard

Audrey Logan Scholarship

Brendon is proud of his 4.0 GPA and #1 class ranking. He was vice president of the Asian Union Club, Volunteer Club, Basketball Club, and tutored other students. Brendon is passionate about maintaining his Vietnamese language and culture. He states, "I became a youth leader in our Vietnamese community where we help children and young adults learn about the culture of Vietnam and help them learn the language of Vietnamese as well." Brendon is attending Oregon State University.

Ngoc Huyen Nhu Nguyen (Vietnamese), McKay HS, Salem



Kaizo and Shizue Naka Scholarship

Ngoc is an immigrant to the US, and struggled to learn English. She overcame her fears and began asking questions for help, working hard and staying after school. She proudly earned a 4.0

GPA. She was a member of the National Honor Society and Advanced Math Club in addition to volunteering in community service programs, and working part time. Ngoc is attending the University of Oregon.

Tiffany Ngoc-Uyen Nguyen (Vietnamese), David Douglas HS, Portland



Lafayette and Mayme Noda Scholarship

Tiffany was on the swim team, band, and Key Club. She volunteered at the food pantry, with the Communicare program that encouraged students to engage in community service,

and at the local hospital. She is a daughter of immigrants and grateful for her parents' support, "I want to prove

that they won't regret the choices they've sacrificed for my education and future." She is attending the University of Portland, pursuing a nursing degree.

Lina Ouanesisouk (Laotian), Roosevelt HS, Portland



Colonel Joseph Y. Kurata Scholarship

Lina was an honor roll student with a 4.0 GPA, took AP classes, and played varsity volleyball and varsity tennis. She volunteered with Hmong New Year, was a Student Engagement Intern, and

active in the Asian Student Group. With the Student Equity Council, she helped create an anti-discrimination policy under the values of Black Lives Matter in order to confront inequities in the school system. She is attending Oregon State University, planning to major in psychology.

Chanh Tern (Mien), Reynolds HS, Troutdale



Gladys Ishida Stone Scholarship

Chanh's drive for higher education and a good future stem from his Mien indigenous history. He feels fortunate and privileged to have been born in the US where resources and opportunities are plentiful

for him. Chanh also understands the importance of education because his ancestors and elders had to give up their way of life and culture for future generation of Mien to have a better life here. Chanh is attending Mt. Hood Community College in Gresham and plans to major in Engineering with an emphasis on Mechanical Engineering.

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2022 NAMED SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS *cont'd.*

Lucy Son (Khmer), Beaverton HS, Beaverton



Fred and Kimiko Kishi Scholarship

Lucy's mother was the only one in her family to survive the Khmer Rouge "Killing Fields" of the mid-1970s, and her journey to America will always inspire and motivate her. Lucy writes, "My identity has allowed me to earn

every opportunity given to me and thus I will use my knowledge to broaden and expand the world around me and myself as a student. I am determined to live a life that my mother never had the opportunity to have." Lucy is attending Oregon State University pursuing a medical degree.

Jaden Phiakhamngon (Laotian/Mien), Clackamas HS, Clackamas



Hiroko Fujita and Paul Fukami Scholarship

Jaden was an active member of the Key Club, "Winter Blitz," and the Asian Pacific Islander Student Union. He worked several part-time jobs and also had family childcare responsibilities. He

plans to major in electrical/computer engineering, "with that I'll have hands-on experience on how to exactly go about bettering our community. I'll be one of those who advances our tech software." Jaden is a first generation college student, attending Oregon State University.

Rita Thammakhoune (Laotian), Sunset HS, Portland



Shim and Chiyo Hiraoka Scholarship

Rita credits her Lao culture and identity with shaping who she is and how she sees the world. Her list of activities includes: National Honor Society, Girls Go Cyber, HOSA, CyberPatriot cyber

defense competition, Science Olympiad, and Science Ambassador to encourage interest in STEM. She also works part time, and enjoys badminton, ceramics and sculpting. Rita is attending Boston University's College of Engineering, pursuing a degree in Biomedical Engineering.

Hailey Ngoc Huyen Tran (Vietnamese), Aloha HS, Aloha



My Immigrant Ancestors Scholarship

Hailey is deeply grateful to her grandparents who raised her while her parents worked and understands the sacrifice they made to give her the opportunities she has. She

took several AP classes and maintained a 3.9 GPA. Her extracurricular activities included National Honor Society, treasurer of the Associated Student Body and Key Club, Science Ambassadors, Warrior Crew, and dance. She also worked part time. Hailey is attending George Fox University in Newberg pursuing a nursing degree.

Kim Thien Tu (Vietnamese), Centennial HS, Portland



Yutaka and Maureen Kobayashi Scholarship

Kim says, "I am passionate in pursuing my education because I wish to offer my heritage to be a good representation in the worlds of others." She took several AP

courses, was in National Honor Society, Student Council, Key Club, advanced choir, and varsity cross country/track & field/swimming. She also volunteered at the library, was a teaching assistant at the Vietnamese Language School, VP of the Human Trafficking Awareness Club, co-VP of the Anime Club, and editor of the Film Club. She is attending Oregon State University.

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2022 NAMED SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS *cont'd.*

Vy Thao Vo (Vietnamese), Leodis McDaniel HS, Portland



Tama (Yoshimura) and Jiro Ishihara Scholarship

Vy was raised by an immigrant mother who worked hard to provide for the family and encouraged her to do her best. Vy thought being a doctor was the right path and attended

medical programs such as Student Healthcare Leaders and American Medical Women's Association. But despite cultural and internal pressures to pursue medicine, she decided to follow her own aspirations and interests. Vy is attending the University of Portland with an open mind, seeing college as a wonderful opportunity to explore.

The following two scholarships were made possible by the generosity of Oregon Health & Science University, Portland

Dora Ho (Vietnamese), Century HS, Hillsboro



Dora excelled in high school. She received college credit in several disciplines, took accelerated math courses, and won awards for academic excellence, large percussion ensemble, and Student of the Year in Biology. She worked several part time jobs

in the medical field and hopes to be a pediatric nurse "to serve the community by helping children." She is attending the University of Oregon.

Mei Taw (Burmese), David Douglas HS, Portland



Mei is inspired by her parents who came from Myanmar. As the eldest in her family, she has many responsibilities at home, but finds time to volunteer at school and temple, and work part time. Mei wants to make her parents proud and be a role model for

her younger brother. She enjoys helping people, and has a natural curiosity for getting to know them. She speaks English, Burmese and some French. Mei is attending the University of Oregon to pursue her passion for psychology.

The following three scholarships were made possible by the generosity of Anne Naito-Campbell, Portland, Oregon.

Arthur Khamkhosy (Laotian), Clackamas HS, Clackamas



Arthur maintained a 4.0 GPA, served as President of the Oregon Chapter of DECA, and was a member of the National Honor Society and French Honor Society. He sang in the school choir and the Pacific Youth Choir, and is an accomplished

pianist, all while working two part-time jobs. As a child of immigrant Laotian parents, the language barrier forced Arthur to navigate hurdles on his own. He says, "I am ready to pursue my career and spread my Laotian culture to the world." He is attending The University of British Columbia.

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2022 NAMED SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS *cont'd.*

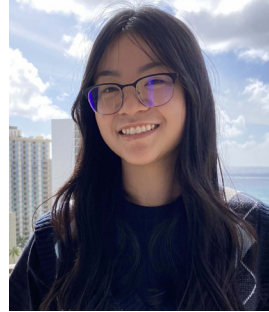
Yvonne Nguyen (Vietnamese), Early College HS, Salem



Yvonne maintained excellent grades, participated in Upward Bound, volunteered at Willamette Valley Hospice, and worked part time. She writes, “My parents frequently remind me of how difficult it is for minorities like us to gain respect and reverence

from the world. ... I will prove to everyone, especially myself, that I will be a successful Asian businesswoman.” Yvonne is attending Portland State University pursuing a degree in accounting on her journey to become a CFO.

Trina Pham (Vietnamese) Benson HS, Portland



In high school Trina studied digital media. Her volunteer work included designing cards for children and seniors from Meals on Wheels to local hospitals and food banks, and she won several design and digital art awards. Trina says, “With my family’s support

and encouragement, I started to believe I could embrace my true artistic self and follow my ambitions. ...I want to create more representation for people that look like me.” Trina is attending the University of Oregon’s Art/Tech program.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2022 NSRCF \$1,000 General Scholarship Recipients!

Jamie Dang (Vietnamese), Century HS, Hillsboro, attending Portland Community College

Kylie Kue (Hmong), Centennial HS, Portland, attending Portland Community College

Huy Duc Le (Vietnamese), Sunset HS, Portland, attending Oregon State University

Denise Mach (Khmer), Clackamas HS, Clackamas, attending Oregon State University

Emily Fuab Cua Moua (Hmong), Centennial HS, Portland, attending Portland State University

William Christopher Parta (Vietnamese), Southridge HS, Beaverton, attending Portland Community College

Jerry Pham (Vietnamese), David Douglas HS, Portland, attending Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Prescott, AZ

Shaehler Shee (Karen), Centennial HS, Portland, attending Multnomah University

Doney Tran (Vietnamese), Benson HS, Portland, attending Portland State University

Blossom Vang (Hmong), Benson HS, Portland, attending Oregon State University

Khang Vo (Vietnamese), David Douglas HS, Portland, attending Portland State University



WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP THE NSRCF

The Nisei Student Relocation Commemorative Fund needs your support. Donations are the life blood of our scholarship program and allow us to support deserving students as they move from secondary school into higher education. There are several ways to “lend a helping hand.” Tax-deductible contributions may be made to a specific Tribute, Legacy or Named Scholarship fund, or to the General Fund. Donations of appreciated stock can provide significant tax advantages. Designating a charitable donation in your will enables support for the causes that were important to you during your lifetime. Donors are recognized in our annual newsletter. Contact us by mail or email (info@nsrcfund.org) if you would like further information about giving.

✂ -----

NISEI STUDENT RELOCATION COMMEMORATIVE FUND, INC.
19 Scenic Drive, Portland, Connecticut 06480
info@nsrcfund.org www.nsrcfund.org FEIN 06-1021906

Enclosed is a tax-deductible donation of \$ _____

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Message from the 2022 Oregon / SW Washington Scholarship Committee

The Oregon/SW Washington Scholarship Committee is a community of advocates and organizers who are passionate about Southeast Asian youth obtaining higher education. We volunteered our time to help provide this opportunity to students because we know first-hand that our Southeast Asian communities are underserved and continuing to struggle.

According to data by the Southeast Asian Resource and Action Center (SEARAC), roughly 30% of Southeast Asian students do not graduate high school or obtain a GED, 17% higher than the national average. We recognize that the “Model Minority Myth” continues to harm our Southeast Asian communities and overshadows their need for resources, opportunities, and support.

To that end, we are grateful to the NSRCF Board for coming back to Oregon. The last time the NSRCF scholarship was offered in Oregon was in 2004. This year we chose to include students in Southwest Washington due to gentrification and rising home prices that have forced our communities out of the Portland metropolitan area.

We were able to award \$65,000 to 38 deserving students!

To our scholarship recipients - we are truly so proud of you! We are inspired by your journeys and dedication to yourselves, your studies, families, and communities. We hope you know that there is a larger community that supports you. More importantly, we trust that you will continue to do great things for our communities and the world.

Jeanice Chieng, co-chair
Kimberly Moua, co-chair
Sokho Eath
Ping Khaw
Mari Watanabe
Soumountha Bessas
Thaen Saelee
Mae Saechao
Chippi Bello
Toc Soneoulay-Gillespie



NSRCF NAMED SCHOLARSHIPS, LEGACY AND TRIBUTE FUNDS

The Nisei Student Relocation Commemorative Fund's annual awards are made possible by contributions from individuals and organizations. Named Scholarships, Legacy Funds and Tribute Funds enable anyone, including organizations, to honor, commemorate or pay tribute to individuals, groups or events. If you would like information about establishing a Named Scholarship (minimum \$20,000), a Legacy Fund (minimum \$10,000) or a Tribute Fund (minimum \$2,000), please contact: NSRCF, 19 Scenic Drive, Portland, CT 06480.

The following funds have been established, and are designated by who created them, * and (). The Board of Directors is grateful for the generous support these funds have received, as noted, during the period from October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2022.

NAMED SCHOLARSHIPS

American Friends Service Committee*

Hiroko Fujita and Paul Fukami
(Joyce M. Fukami)

Michihiko and Bernice Hayashida*
Hayashida Family Trust
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Margaret Murata

Nobu (Kumekawa) and Yosh Hibino
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Ken Okumura
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Diane Hibino & John Triplett

Shim and Chiyo Hiraoka
(Ann Graybill Cook and Michael Hoshiko)

Tama (Yoshimura) and Jiro Ishihara
(Jiro Ishihara, NSRCF board of directors, family and friends)
Margaret Murata

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In memory of Yoshio Matsumoto:

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Lynne & Robert Ishikawa
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Sharon Kotabe

Koh, Mitsu, and Dr. Kotaro Murai
(The Murai Family)
Estate of Mary Murai

Dr. Kenji Murase
(Family and friends)

My Immigrant Ancestors
(Marcia Mau)

Kaizo and Shizue Naka
(F. Robert and Patricia Naka)

Lafayette and Mayme Noda
(Walter N. Frank)
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Dr. Bach Tuyet Dang
Noreen Enkoji
Marjorie Krause
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Carolyn Uchiyama
Tanya Noda & Harvey Yan

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Judith & George Murakami

David Mitsuo Takagi
(NSRCF board of directors, family and friends)
Deborah & Bill Handschin
Miye Takagi in honor of David Mitsuo Takagi's 84th birthday and Mary Elizabeth Takagi

Michi Nishiura Weglyn*

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(Yutaka Kobayashi)
Jane & Howard Boltz
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Livingston Yamato Colony Pioneers

(Lafayette and Mayme Noda)

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Masu Sasajima

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Jane Beckwith

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Rosie Tani, and Florence Kawagoe)

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Lily Takatsuka

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Naka Endowment

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(Yoshiko and Ryozo Glenn Kumekawa)
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(Yoshiko and Ryozo Glenn Kumekawa)

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(Rhoda Nishimura Iyoya,
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Nishimura, Joseph Nishimura)

Shichiro and Sachi Noda

(Lafayette and Mayme Noda)

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Chiura & Haruko Obata

(Eugene Kodani)

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Anna Kuniyoshi

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(Ryozo Glenn Kumekawa)

Margaret Cosgrave Sowers*

Bill Stevenson*

Taichi and Sachiye Takagi

(David and Barbara, and Mary Elizabeth Takagi)
Miye Takagi in honor of Mary Elizabeth Takagi's birthday

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(Anna Kuniyoshi)
Anna Kuniyoshi

UC Berkeley Student YWCA

(Mary Yamashiro Otani)

Yoshiko Uchida

(Virginia Scardigli)

Paul R. Wada

(Yasuko and Yukio Wada)
Richard Eijima & Tami Suzuki

Yukio Wada

(Yasuko Wada and Family)

Michi N. and Walter Weglyn

(Robert H. & Agnes Suzuki, Lafayette & Mayme Noda, and Nobu Hibino)

Mabel Sheldon Williams*

Frances Ogasawara

Reiko Azumano Yasui

(George I. Azumano)
Homer Yasui
Rachel Yasui

The NSRCF Board of Directors established these (*) and the following funds in the hope that what happened during World War II will never be forgotten, and that future generations will have the opportunity to receive a higher education:

Amache Alumni Tribute Fund

Gila River Alumni Tribute Fund

Heart Mountain Alumni Tribute Fund

Jerome Alumni Tribute Fund

Manzanar Alumni Tribute Fund

Minidoka Alumni Tribute Fund

Poston Alumni Tribute Fund

Elaine Shiozawa in memory of
George Shiozawa, my father

Rohwer Alumni Tribute Fund

Topaz Alumni Tribute Fund

Margaret Murata
Elaine Shiozawa in memory of
May Honda Shiozawa, my mother

Tule Lake Alumni Legacy Fund

THANKS TO OUR SUPPORTERS

The NSRCF Board of Directors extends its thanks to the following contributors to the general fund:

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Benjamin Truong
Laura Uba
Mary Yee & Paul Uyehara
Paul Watanabe



2022 AWARDS *cont'd*

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that focused on Hmong, Lao, Lu Mien, Khmer, and Burmese youth who experience some of the greatest educational disparities. The committee stated, “We felt it was important to celebrate the scholarship recipients as a community, and be inspired by their journeys and achievements. It was also imperative to understand and learn from the dark history regarding the Japanese internment and its impact in Oregon.” The keynote and special guest speakers embodied that dual sentiment. Jeanice noted, “They reminded us to honor our stories, histories, and those who came before us.”

Making history as the first Lao judge in the United States, keynote speaker **Judge Chanpone P. Sinlapasai** of the Multnomah County Circuit Court, is a 1.5 generation refugee from Laos, arriving in the US at the age of 4. She was the first in her family to go college. After law school, she worked at the Immigrant and Refugee Community

Organization and then as an anti-trafficking and domestic violence attorney at Catholic Charities. As a partner in an immigration law firm, she focused on victims of crimes and victims who had been trafficked. She is also the past chairwoman of the Oregon Commission on Asian Pacific Islander Affairs. She reminded the students, “Our stories and refugee histories are our superpower.”

Guest speaker **Peggy Nagae**, a third-generation Japanese American, grew up on a farm in Boring, Oregon. In 1983 she led the legal team that represented Minoru Yasui in the successful reopening of his WWII Supreme Court case. Today Peggy is a consultant and told the students, “Especially after the murder of George Floyd by cops, and the most recent wave of anti-Asian violence, I no longer CHOOSE to use my life’s energy trying to convince so-called ‘leaders’ about the value of diversity, equity, and inclusion. Instead, I focus on true leaders who are committed to bending the arc of

justice toward inclusive workplaces and to asserting their leadership in that process.” She also made sure the students understood that they “Do not have to compromise their values and truth when advocating for our communities and justice.”

Each of the 12 award recipients who were able to attend were recognized along with their families and friends. They were given the opportunity to say a few words and all expressed gratitude to their supporters, the NSRCF, and the local committee, and excitedly shared their plans for college. There were tears when one of the parents shared how proud she was of her daughter and her achievements.

Jeanice felt, “The entire experience was heartwarming, inspiring, and beautiful. Not only were we able to help facilitate financial support to SE Asian high school graduates, but we also conveyed a strong message that they are supported, worthy, loved, powerful, and capable beyond measure to influence and change the world.”

NISEI STUDENT RELOCATION COMMEMORATIVE FUND 2022 NEWSLETTER



NISEI STUDENT RELOCATION COMMEMORATIVE FUND, INC.

19 Scenic Drive

Portland, Connecticut 06480

MISSION STATEMENT

The NSRC Fund is a 501(c)(3) organization founded in New England that annually awards scholarships to students from underserved communities pursuing higher education. The NSRC Fund was established in 1980 by second generation Japanese Americans, Nisei, in gratitude to the National Japanese American Student Relocation Council. The Council made it possible for the Nisei to leave the World War II prison camps for colleges and universities across the United States. The NSRC Fund encourages inter-ethnic collaboration and promotes public awareness and understanding of the forced removal and internment of 120,000 persons of Japanese ancestry during World War II.