



The real story. Japanese American History told by those who lived it.

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NEWS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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2011 Teri and Art Iwasaki Scholarship Recipient, Trenton Tanioka

Japanese American Living Legacy proudly announces the 2011 Teri and Art Iwasaki Scholarship recipient, Trenton Tanioka. “This is our third year awarding this scholarship and we had a record number of applicants,” said JA Living Legacy’s CEO, Susan Uyemura. Chairperson, Sharon Tani, Natalia Yamashiro-Chogyoji, and Barbara Ige comprised the Scholarship Review Committee. “To our surprise we had over nineteen applicants. All candidates demonstrated academic excellence and outstanding community involvement. Choosing just one was extremely difficult. That is why we elected to award two honorable mentions this year,” said Tani.

In 2008, the Iwasaki family of Oregon contacted JA Living Legacy to establish a five-year scholarship fund in honor of their parents, Art and his late wife, Teri Iwasaki. The Iwasaki children, Robert, Stephanie, Christie, Paul and Leslie, created the “Teri and Art Iwasaki Scholarship.” Their father, Art Iwasaki, is a member of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team’s I Company.

This year’s recipient hails from Orange County, California. Trenton Tanioka is a fourth generation Japanese American. He graduated from John F. Kennedy High School. Trenton's grandfather, Bill Wada, served with the Military Intelligence Service (MIS) during World War II and is one of the founding members of the Kazuo Masuda VFW post based in Orange County, California.



Trenton was ASB President this past year as well as a Varsity Football Captain and a Varsity Baseball Captain. He served as President and Religious Chairman for the Orange County Buddhist Church's Jr. Youth Buddhist Association. Trenton's participation in Boy Scout Troop 578 for the past 12 years earned him the highest rank of Eagle Scout. University of California, Irvine has accepted Trenton as an Education major.

Our first honorable mention is Allison Coombs from Bothell, Washington. She is the granddaughter of Junwo Jim Yamashita, 442nd Regimental Combat Team, I Company - 4th platoon. Her outstanding grades, community involvement with Nisei Veterans Council of Seattle and essay earned her an Honorable Mention. Coombs will be attending University of Washington at Seattle and will major in Science.

Our second honorable mention is Nolan Minoru Jimbo from Los Angeles, California. His outstanding academic performance, community involvement and essay also earned him an Honorable Mention. Jimbo has been accepted into Tufts University and will double major in International Studies with an emphasis in Art History and French.

All of our candidates demonstrated academic excellence, outstanding community service and well-written essays. Awards and scholarships are just a few ways we contribute to our community. If anyone is interested in setting up an award or scholarship through JA Living Legacy, please contact the Awards and Scholarship Committee chair, Sharon Tani, at stani@jalivinglegacy.org or (657) 278-4483.

The Teri and Art Iwasaki Scholarship will again be available in 2012. Application information will be available on the JA Living Legacy website beginning January 2012. Graduating high school students with a relationship to a Nisei World War II veteran are encouraged to apply.

Japanese American Living Legacy is a California nonprofit 501.c.3 organization based out of California State University, Fullerton. All of the board of directors, staff and advisors are volunteers. For more information on Japanese American Living Legacy or Nikkei Writers Guild, please visit their website at www.jalivinglegacy.org or call them at (657) 278-4483.

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