



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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2012 Teri and Art Iwasaki Scholarship Recipient, Michael Moriyama

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 was raised in Hacienda Heights. Growing up, Michael Moriyama participated in boy scouts and attained the highest honor of Eagle Scout. In high school, he played basketball as well as golf and volunteered at his church, Evergreen.

Moriyama believes in giving back to the community so while he participates in sports, he also volunteers to coach youth basketball and church activities.

Michael's grandfather, Sam Moriyama, served as part of the Military Intelligence Service during World War II.

"Spending summers working alongside my grandfather gardening, my father saw the value of an education. It wasn't easy, but my grandfather put both of his sons through college. I appreciate the time I spent carrying on the tradition of gardening with my grandfather. Not only did it instill in me a positive work ethic, but it gave me a deep appreciation of the history of my family."

Beginning Fall 2012, Moriyama will attend California Polytechnic University of Pomona majoring in Mechanical Engineering. "Thank you for this scholarship, I am proud to be a Iwasaki Scholar," said Moriyama.



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 (714) 515-5501.

The Teri and Art Iwasaki Scholarship will again be available in 2013. Application information will be available on the JA Living Legacy website beginning January 2013. 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 (714) 515-5501.

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