



JAPANESE AMERICAN VETERANS ASSOCIATION
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Photo accompanies this press release

JAVA Scholarship: Continuing the Legacy of World War II Nisei Military Service and Encouraging Future Military and Public Service

Washington, DC. The Japanese American Veterans Association ([JAVA](#)) announces the winners of the annual scholarship award program for 2018. Outstanding students from around the world applied for the scholarships. There were nearly 30 applicants for 11 scholarships. The competition was fierce, and all applicants would be worthy of receiving a JAVA scholarship to continue the legacy of the Nisei service to country, despite facing tremendous obstacles placed by their government.



The scholarships will continue to benefit a range of graduating high school seniors, advanced undergraduate students, and post-graduate and professional education students.

The \$5,000.00 memorial scholarship honoring the late US Senator Daniel K. Inouye’s iconic career of military and civilian public service goes to Mike Bosack, an Air Force veteran pursuing his PhD. in International Relations at the International University of Japan in Nigata Prefecture. In his essay, Mike wrote, “I have dedicated my life to three things: serving my country, advancing U.S.-Japan relations, and honoring my Japanese-American heritage. After leaving military service, I now find myself completing a Ph.D. in Japan as a stepping stone back to government so that I may continue supporting the ever-important U.S.-Japan alliance.”

The \$3,000.00 Founders Scholarship (named for JAVA’s founder, the late Colonel Phil Ishio, USAR, his wife Constance and his son Douglas Ishio), goes to Sarah Nakasone, a student at the University of Chicago pursuing her doctorate in Global Studies. In her application, Sarah wrote, “I didn’t look Japanese like my brothers. I didn’t speak Japanese like my friends. I didn’t even go to Japanese camp like my cousins. Me? I didn’t belong. JAVA convinced me I was wrong. My dad began taking me to JAVA meetings ...and they quickly became my favorite events of the season. In a room filled with heroes, I learned what bravery and loyalty and, most of all, patriotism meant. ... I might not look like everyone else, but I was heir to this legacy of public service and commitment to change America for the better all the same.”

The JAVA memorial scholarships each in the amount of \$1,500, go to:

Taylor Ishida, in honor of CWO 4 Mitsugi Murakami Kasai, MIS;

Jairus Iwasaki, in honor of Betty Shima, lifelong partner of 442 veteran, Terry Shima;

Becca Jackson in honor of Major Orville Shirey, 442;

Allison Janowski; in honor of Calvin Ninomiya, US Army;

Sonny Kusaka, in honor of Kiyoko Tsuboi Taubkin, longtime patron of JAVA;

Jalyn Matsumoto, in honor of Pvt. Kuwasae Senaha, 442;

Colin Takeda, in honor of past JAVA President and Korean War veteran, Bob Nakamoto;

Jenna Tsuzaki, in honor of Etsu Masaoka, wife of Mike Masaoka and sister of the Honorable Norm Mineta; and

Julia Tsuzaki, in honor of Victor Matsui and his wife Teru, MIS.

JAVA thanks the selection committee, Frank Koye, CDR USN (Ret); Tuck Rosenberry, SC(STS) USN (Ret); Joshua Rigel, USA veteran; Zac Whittaker, USAR.

The annual JAVA scholarship luncheon will be in July 2018, watch for the invitation and learn how the future of our nation is in great hands, knowing these young individuals will be at the forefront. To learn more about JAVA and the scholarships visit our website at <https://java.wildapricot.org/>