PROFILE
Q&A with Poet Amy Uyematsu

By KENNETH TANEMURA

Suziet poet Amy Uyematsu recently released her second book of poetry, "Nights of Fire: Nights of Rain," an eclectic collection which offers a deep range of experiences from love, sexuality and aging to war — themes that she has been cultivating since her days teaching some of the first Asian American Studies classes at UCLA in 1970.

As co-editor of "Roots: An Asian American Reader," member of the Pacific Citizen Writers, and contributor to "Ogura: A writer of a lot of anger, passion, being in the moment went "30 Miles From J-Town. 1 didn't start writing the stuff out until the early '80s, but it began to form in my ideas and in college."

K.T.: What are the themes in your poetry?

A.U.: I'm doing more experimentation with language, sound, prose poems, poems about film. Opening up. Before it was so much about race, and now my world is becoming more reflective about what the world is, not just about race. I want to write about race and I do write about it. I'm writing more about nature. I live in L.A. surrounded by smog and buildings, so I make an excuse to go out to the natural world. Part of me is seeking that quiet, find the tiniest bit of peace, try to see the world in its totality. Before it was more about anger. This is where I started back to bringing Japanese American culture back into reality. If you don't see your language, you see that. I think it's about the link with nature. And the Japanese being so close to the earth.

K.T.: Do you feel that your audience has the same feeling for your book as you do?

A.U.: I felt that I got a really wonderful response from "30 Miles From J-Town." That didn't happen with "Nights of Fire, Nights of Rain." I felt that a lot of the reactions I got were more abstract than what I was trying to say. I think the link with our culture, the Japanese culture, is very important to our community. We want to just read books about our community.

K.T.: You've talked about the "third world women who haven't been affected by the Western, modern world. You've also talked about identifying with color women. In this identification, through their writing or their struggles.

A.U.: There are women of color who come from cultures that are very old, like Native American women — Native American women, Mexican women. I feel a kinship with women of color that cuts through culture. When I visited Yukon with my son, I saw a woman walking down this road and she looked

See UYEMATSU page 3

Mainstream and Ethnic Press Examine Coverage of Arab American Community Since Sept. 11 Attacks

Hundreds turned out for a multicultural peace rally at Pershing Square in downtown Los Angeles Oct. 27. The Los Angeles rally joined the growing anti-war movement spreading across the nation. Speakers demanded a stop to U.S. bombing in Afghanistan, racist violence, curtailing of civil liberties and for funds to go towards social service needs. The rally was organized by the L.A./Orange County Coalition to Stop the War, Coalition for Peace, International Action Center and A.N.W.E.R. (Act Now to Stop War & End Racism).

By MARTHA NAKAGAWA

Assistant Editor

Key issues missing from the mainstream media coverage in connection with the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks were points that were repeatedly brought up at a roundtable discussion between the ethnic and mainstream media outlets on Oct. 19.

The meeting, held at the Japanese American National Museum, was co-sponsored by New Californian Media, USC Annenberg School for Communication and the Los Angeles County and City Human Relations commissions.

Speakers included Aslam Abidullah, editor of Magazine; Farida Anwar, news director of Eternal Images Radio; Akbar Mahmud Faruqui, editor of Pakistan Link; Joseph Huch, editor of New carlisle Magazine; Bhupinder Mohal, political editor of India Today; John Peely, general manager of KBBN Radio; and Min- gur Zahid, founder of Afghan Youth Journal.

See COVERAGE page 5

Support Agency Launched for Gay, Lesbian APIs

By TRACY UBA

Writer/Reporter

Augustin Pascual stood in line at a gay dance club when, at the door, the bouncer suddenly asked him for an extra form of ID. When Pascual commented that everyone else had been asked for only one form, he said he "looks like a troublemaker" and persistently elicited Pascual later learned from friends that it was based on a mistaken practice by this club to discriminate against Asian Americans or African Americans.

"I was fantastic that my community, my gay community, would allow discrimination within its own group.

That's what makes the recent launching of a new social service

See COMMENTARY page 5

P.C. PHOTO CONTEST

Break out those family photos folks! It's that time and we want you, your kids, your grandkids to remember our 2001 holiday issue "Families and Parenting."

Winning submissions will be featured on the full-color cover. Don't be shy! Send to: Photo Contest, c/o Pacific Citizen, 7 Cupani Circle, Monterey Park, CA 91755 or e-mail PJAPEG- filtered photos to: pacam@act.com. All photos will not be returned with an SASE.

Entry deadline: Nov. 15.

See AHPHN page 3

agency for Southern California's Asian Pacific Islander gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) community, providing social and legal support for local activists and public officials.

Assemblywoman Judy Chu joined the Asian Pacific American Policy and Planning Council (APAPPAC) board of directors, the East Bay Center and Asian Pacific AIDS Intervention Team (APAIT), an organization which hopes to provide social ser-
COMMENTARY
A Pacifist’s Response to Terrorism

By GORDON HIRABAYASHI

George W. Bush entered his presidency under a heavy cloud following the strange voting processes in Florida in this early stage, Bush’s comments were regarded by his supporters as fair and correct, and by opponents as illegitimate or lacking decisiveness. It was following the totally unexpected and devastating Sept. 11 attacks, the deaths of innocent civilians that the president, in a quiet yet firm manner, declared war on terrorism.

The Oval Office indicated that they have received input from the hard-liners as well as from those who saw that combating this level of terrorism must involve all freedom-loving nations, not just the United States alone. The president has responded to this challenge with leadership that showed firmness as well as an openness to constructive suggestions.

I have been asked how, as a pacifist since World War II, I react to the current level of terrorism — how suicide pilots could take passengers on jetliners and turn commercial 747s into explosive projectiles, maiming them into the Twin Towers where thousands of innocent civilians were working. I have reacted as any concerned citizen would: I was shocked to the core. Earlier retaliation tones from our leaders have been modified to more globally conscious comments, like “the terrorists will be brought to justice.” But it is not clear whether the United States will be joined by “all freedom-loving nations” (the world court or the United Nations) in seeking justice.

It is also not clear, when the president declared war on terrorism, whether he meant against all who engage in acts of terrorism and those who harbor them, or just those who planned and perpetrated the Sept. 11 attacks. These questions must be clarified, or we will not get far in ridding the world of terrorism.

When the Nazis rounded up Jews in concentration camps and said, “We will remove many of them, we declared such acts as terrorism. In the same war, when our nation rounded up persons of Japanese ancestry into concentration camps, our country called them “Assembly Centers” and “Relocation Camps.” There were no extreme policies in effect, so in comparison it was a more humane, barbaric containment of innocent victims. But could it also be seen as an act of terrorism?

Desert Storm was initially organized to remove Iraqi troops out of occupied Kuwait but dragged into several years of bombing as well. The Bush administration in the Middle East is similarly defining its area of concern. Here, we should make people hungry and ill. The problem is how do we define terrorism and who do we designate as the perpetrators and the victims? The urgent question is what can we do now to protect ourselves and the world from terrorism?

National Newsbytes

Violence Down but Workplace Discrimination Up

Groups tracking workplace violence since the Sept. 11 attacks say hate crimes appear to be on the rise, despite new complaints of workplace discrimination.

The Council on American-Islamic Relations said it received over 1,000 complaints of harassment since Sept. 11 and Oct. 22 in which people were verbally harassed on the basis of their ethnicity, religion or appearance.

A 1030 report made public Tuesday by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission said workplace relations in which people were allegedly fired, demoted or disciplined.

The group also received 900 reports of profiling in which passengers were asked to deplane, etc. or subject to what they believed were unsavory treatment.

California and New York appear to be hotspots, with the highest number of complaints.

The American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee’s legal staff joined 360 complaints of discrimination in 50 New York City cases since Sept. 17 when it established a hotline in New York.

The Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund said it had heard from Japanese, Korean and Chinese Americans that they were being unfairly targeted.

The group said that 1030 alledged attackers linked them to the al-Qaeda terrorist network. A person who was told to “go back to Osama,” and legal follow soon Yen Ling.

‘Hate-free Zone’ Posters Dispatched National JACL

SAN FRANCISCO—Global Exchange, a San Francisco-based human rights organization, says that it has passed out 20,000 posters

YUMETSU (Continued from page 1)

like she was living the same way women had been living there for hundreds of years, and I thought she was a little bit of a witch. After all, she was painting my dreams for four or five years. So, one day, I was going through a long period of isolation. Once I start having boyfriends, and family vanishes. In the movement, we were looking for our lives based on the principle that the monster is not as much as a monster. In the movement, we recognized the strength of women in Vietnam and how they held their families together in spite of everything.

K.T.: What inspired your early political activities? A.U.: “Yellow Womanhood” was my way of expressing my way toward Asian American men who were cutting our hair, making us wear white beauty and salinity.

K.T.: What kind of work did you do in the early days of Asian American Studies? A.U.: I was a student assistant for Asian American Studies when I was a graduate student at the University of California. I taught a couple of classes on Asian American Studies.

The Asian American programs today... are fantastic. I feel lucky over the way that they have grown as a struggle to get a few classes started, and the few classes have become into such large network of programs. And it’s happening all over the world. In 30 years in so many ways you can see the roots of the Asian American movement in the 1960s and it really speaks well enough, we are putting it, we think it’s important for kids in college today not to take it for granted. We had to fight for these programs.

K.T.: Have the shriveling AJS pro-

grams changed your perspective on what you do as a scholar and as an activist? A.U.: As far as fighting for a book, having conferences and class going on definitely helps get your book out into the world. Asian American writers have flourished along with AJS. I think, that when Asian American literature was Lawson, and others, and then came to UCLA. I know of other movement writers, but there were not that many. I think this can help to look for work within the Asian Pacific Islander community as much as we can, we want to be aware of what we do and we do have specific services that are based on different cultures and languages because that’s where we can make a one community” said Parit Mancho, executive director of APIHR.

APIHR (Continued from page 1)

of support. Media attention on the APIHR has already begun running language appropriate ads in each newspaper and on the popular media. The APIHR is a support group for female APIHR is also an LGBT APIHR that has been founded, and has media attention on the APIHR has already begun running language appropriate ads in each newspaper and on the popular media.

The APIHR LGBT people who are women have been shown to have had very high rates of self-esteem, it can result in depression, loneliness, self-hatred and self-worthlessness. They don’t want because every API person deserves to be loved by every person.

Carol Lee, co-chair of APIHR, says that the APIHR has been a much more effective way to deal with specific services that are based on different cultures and languages because that’s where we can make a one community” said Parit Mancho, executive director of APIHR.

APIHR (Continued from page 1)

A woman I know, said, she was a woman of color, and she was really saying that I was going through a long period of isolation. Once I start having boyfriends, and family vanishes. In the movement, we were looking for our lives based on the principle that the monster is not as much as a monster. In the movement, we recognized the strength of women in Vietnam and how they held their families together in spite of everything.

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CCLPEP Announces Informational Meeting Schedule for 2002 Grants

The California Civil Liberties Public Education Program (CCLPEP) will launch a series of informational meetings around the state to provide individual assistance to those interested in applying for funding for fiscal year 2001-2002. CCLPEP was created in 1998 as a result of legislation authored by then-Assemblymember Mike Honda of San Jose to create public education programs in the state to inform the public about the Japanese American experience during World War II.

The program was extended to continue for an additional two years. We are currently in our first year of the two-year extension.

The following is a tentative list of dates and places where the informational meetings will take place:

Call the CCLPEP office prior to each of the scheduled meetings to confirm the time and dates as they are subject to change at the last moment.

Meeting Schedule

Nov. 7, 5-7 p.m.
L.A. Downtown Library
Central Library Director's Office
630 West Fifth Street
Los Angeles, CA 90017

Nov. 8, 4-6 p.m.
Gardena Downtown Library
1731 W. Gardena Blvd.
Gardena, CA 90247-4726

Nov. 13, 5-7 p.m.
San Mateo Public Library
55 W. Third Avenue
San Mateo, CA 94402-1592

Nov. 14, 5-7 p.m.
San Diego Public Library
820 E. Street
San Diego, CA 92101-6478

Nov. 15, 5-7 p.m.
Orange County Library
101 Center Street
Orange, CA 92866-1594

Nov. 19, 6-8:45 p.m.
San Francisco Public Library
Main Branch
100 Larkin Street
San Francisco, CA 94102-4796

Nov. 27, 5-7 p.m.
California State Library Library & Courts Bldg., II
900 N Street, Room 340
Sacramento, CA 95814

Nov. 28, 5-7 p.m.
Stockton Central Library
605 North El Dorado Street
Stockton, CA 95202

Nov. 29, 5-7 p.m.
Fresno Central Library
2420 Mariposa
Fresno, CA 93722-2865

Dec. 4, 5-7 p.m.
San Jose Public Library
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
Main Library
180 W. San Carlos Street
San Jose, CA 95113

Dec. 5, 5-7 p.m.
Novato Regional Library
1750 Old Redwood Blvd.
Novato, CA 94947

Jan. 8, 5-7 p.m.
San Francisco Public Library
Main Branch
100 Larkin Street
San Francisco, CA 94102-4796

Jan. 10, 5-7 p.m.
California State Library Library & Courts Bldg., II
900 N Street, Room 340
Sacramento, CA 95814

Jan. 15, 5-7 p.m.
L.A. Downtown Library
Central Library Director's Office
630 West Fifth Street
Los Angeles, CA 90017

For more information about CCLPEP, contact Lisa Turgeon at 916-653-0125 or Maria Feres-Molina at 916-653-0125.

Camp Updates

Heart Mountain

Phase 2 is now in progress, which includes finalizing the following: walking tour, interpretive hiking, renting a half block with some original barracks, agriculture plots of crops grown by internees, placement of hospital boiler house chimney and architectural evaluation of the root cellar (currently on private property).

The Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation is now seeking input and volunteers to serve on various committees, including the Campus Site, By-Pass Project, and Board of Directors.

Manzanar

Plans are underway to restore the 1944 auditorium to become the Visiter Center and park headquarters. Design and development of the center exhibit and 15-minute introductory movie are on track and currently under review. Construction begins early next year and should be completed by spring of 2003.

The Manzanar staff is currently preparing a Cultural Landscape Report to provide an understanding of the historic landscape of the camp site and the following by European American settlers and Owens Valley Paiute tribe.

The first draft of the a glossy National Park Service brochure has been completed and reviewed.

An estimated 37,631 individuals have visited Manzanar between January and September. Five hundred and eight individuals attended ten interpretive and 13 education programs this calendar year.

"Confinement and Ethnicity" is available online at www.manzanar.gov.

A notice of when the brochure will be available commercially will be posted on their website.

Santa Fe

More than $8,000 has been collected for the Santa Fe Internment Camp Historical Society's fundraising campaign. A part of the donated funds will be used to build a monument at the former World War II Department of Justice Internee Camp for Japanese Americans, and the remaining portion will be used to establish an archive program at the Palace of the Governors Museum in Santa Fe, NM. The monument, which will consist of a granite boulder with a bronze plaque is scheduled to be dedicated in the early summer of 2002.

Gila River

Maintenance and damage assessment of the Gila River camp sites of Canal Camp #1 and Butte Camp #2 were made on Sept. 22 by Arizona JACL chapter members Masaji Inoue and Joe Alman.

Three staff officials from the Manzanar National Historic Site were also present. They included Superintendent Frank Hays and rangers Kim Line and Alan Lynch. Canal Camp #1 was in good condition, including the small monument and plaque.

Butte Camp #2 had considerable trash, including several old tires. The lower portion and pillars of the large monument were vandalized with graffiti. A paint and trash pickup crew, led by Jason Wong, president of the Asian Coalition at Arizona State University, cleaned up the area on Sept. 23.

The Manzanar staff plans to visit other former camp sites to prepare educational material presented at the Manzanar.

Minidoka

Minidoka became the 386th unit of the National Park system after the Bureau of Reclamation recently transferred the land to the National Park Service.

Meanwhile, a workshop on Japanese American history organized by JACL National Historical Sites Committee was accepted into Idaho's in-service training, according to Micksaki Kawakami.

Kawakami said the chapter is looking at all the costs of the presentations and would welcome any assistance from other chapters or corporate grants.

Facilitators Needed for Go For Broke Education Program

The Go For Broke Educational Foundation is looking for workshop facilitators to help train educators on the Japanese American World War II experience.

"We are looking for facilitators to provide an excellent understanding about Ameri- can history, it is important for students to understand what happened to Japanese Americans during World War II and how the actions of the Japanese Americans solders helped shape America as we know today," said Carol Kawasmo to, the foundation's education consultant.

The American Story Teacher Training Workshop Program was established in 1996, when the foundation was granted seed money from the State of California. Since 1999, 16 workshops have been held throughout California and over 400 educators have participated.

The workshops focus on JACL, immigration, evacuation, internment, resettlement and the reparations process. Panel discussions with Nisei veterans and former internees are also a vital part of the workshops.

"Facilitators are being sought throughout the state to conduct workshops, generally conducted on Friday and Saturdays, on an as-needed basis. Requirements and application forms are available online at www.gfb.org," said Eva Chou, the foundation's education consultant.

Blue Shield health plans for California JACL members

Blue Shield of California offers group health care coverage to current JACL members age 18 and over who reside in California. Plans may include a wide range of benefits, including vision care, worldwide emergency coverage, dental care, prescription drug benefits and more. For more information about these plans, call the JACL Health Benefits Plan at 1-800-400-6633.

Website: http://www.jaclhealthbenefits.org

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COMMENTARY (Continued from page 1)

was done to us by a majority of Americans." Unfortunately, with the exception of wholesale expulsion and incarcer- ration, it is happening again.

In 1943, the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Intern- ment of Civilians reported to Presi- dent Roosevelt that Congress and the WWIII denial of constitutional rights to JAs was a "possible means of "race prejudice, war hysteria, and the failure of political leadership."

What is the nature and race prejudice?" Well, before the concentra- tion camps, the authorities sys- the JAs farms to determine whether the color and strawberry- were growing in patterns point- ing at airfields. Buddhist ministers and Japanese language were singled out and arrested by the FBI. JAs state employees were fired en masse. Remember "a day's a Log," that pithy phrase that de- humanized a generation of patriotic Americans born school children.

Things aren't so different today. Talk-show hosts and politicians beat the drums of war, and the pub- lic and authorities respond. An Arab-American doctor is denied ac- cess to his plane once flights were restarted because passengers didn't want to share a plane with a fear of Arab-looking people and peo- ple in general. The FBI can "call to send them all back where they came." General business and Inte- turn in neighbors in concert with broad FBI sweeps of Arab-American communities by leaders and Inte- The war hysteria and race preju- dice is not the same thing anymore. We have to get up with patriotism, kill someone they think is the same race as the terrorist. It's the same thing when teenagers in San Jose stereotyped a mother, father, and two kids as sault and threaten her as she walks past a street corner. It is not a defensible, race-neutral response to be afraid of all Arab- Americans, Muslims. If it were, then why aren't we afraid of all those who have wars between us.

War veterans like Timothy McVeigh; Who's getting profiled at the airport?

COVERAGE (Continued from page 1)

"We beheaded them to come and cover it but nobody showed up," An- wari said. "Now, had they come, they would have a history of our community, that's why they will make more contacts."

Dahir, founder of the Northern California-based magazine Afghani Youth Journal, voiced similar senti- ment. She noted that some main- stream journalists are simply going into stores owned by Middle Eastern- ers and interviewing them without seeking a broader cross sec- tion of the community.

"They're not getting the perspec- tive of the general population of Afghans here who have been so long trying to give their perspec- tives be heard," she said.

Abdullah, editor of Minaret Mag- azine, which covers Muslim-related issues for various ethnic groups ranging from African-Americans, Chinese-Americans to Arab Ameri- cans, pointed out that it was impor- tant to examine who defines Islam.

He questioned why the mainstream media continues to give prominent coverage to such people as suspected terrorist Osama bin Laden while ignoring others who interpret Islam differently. He likened the situation to that of giv- ing continuous coverage to such American groups as the Ku Klux Klans, which espouses Christian beliefs.

Also he pointed out that in con- trast to the treatment being said in the mainstream press, the concept of a "holy war in Islam," said Abdullah, "reflects the views of the extremists to mean that."

He explained that the reason Christianity is so reviled in some "predominantly Muslim countries is that it is too closely associated with past European colonialism and so- cial exploitation."

Today, while colonialism may be gone, Abdullah notes, the same U.S. foreign policy has been responsible at some level for the terrorist att- acks. "They live in a political climate that encourages violence," said Abdullah. "Going there again would surely be our shame."

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The national JACL recently announced its 2001 scholar-
ship winners, including awards for freshmen, under-
graduates, graduates and in the areas of law, and the
arts. The JACL National Scholarship Program began
in 1948 and continues to be one of the largest schol-
arity programs in the Asian Pacific American com-
unity. This year, JACL handed out 38 scholarships
worth $68,000.

FRESHMEN

PATRICIA & CAI
MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Kimberly M. Tanaka
Las Vegas JACL
Freshman Level of Study: Freshman
Field of Study: Business Management
Essay Excerpt: "Where it was once nearl
impossible to have an American iden-
ty, Japanese Americans today share
the same rights and privileges as ev
eyone else. Yet the suc-
cess of Japa-

" "

en's assimilation into the Ameri-
can mainstream is the central quest ion: are we becoming too Ameri-
can? We have long sought to gain our own identity, but in the process have slowly begun to lose our distinctive background and identity in our efforts to fit in with main
test society. This new gener-
ation emerges, the traditions and customs our ancestors practiced have slowly become less important and even forgotten. In our Ameri-
canized lives we need to focus on the main focus must be towards strengthening the family and cultural ties. Both par
ties are required to support and emphasize to their children the im-
portance of their culture and background and instill in them knowledge and pride for their ethnicity.

MASAO & SUMako ITANO SCHOLARSHIP

Grant J. Takahashi
Pasadena JACL
UC Berkeley Level of Study: Freshman
Essay Excerpt: "The problem of our cultural identity stems from the generation gaps and the lack of understanding of beliefs be
tween different age groups. As each gener-
ation passes, the Japanese American cul-
tural identity becomes slowly and vague as it dis
tegrates into something else. I do not believe there is exactly one answer or any answer at all. However, I do believe that the family must reinforce our past heri-
tage to each generation. In order for the Japanese American community to be absolutely necessary in helping to de
tach ourselves from our Asian ethnic group. In this pro-
cess, we need to have a strong cultural background so we can build an understanding of exactly

MASAO & SUMako ITANO SCHOLARSHIP

Zachary Katagiri
Portland JACL
Stanford University
Field of Study: Sociology
Essay Excerpt: "Trinually, the advances that have endowed the Japanese American community a respected place in society

have come at the expense of their distinct cultural identity. The fact that the Japanese Americans contribute to being highly educat
ed, successful, and upwardly mobile people that they have had more opportu
nities to succeed and it is in the middle, we tend to be an invi
able minority and we need to guard against that trend.

KENKU KASAI MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Cindy T. Nakano
San Jose JACL
UC San Diego Level of Study: Freshman
Essay Excerpt: "To begin with, community groups must make an effort to keep Japa
nese Americans involved with activities that are exciting, enjoyable and en-
lightening. By becoming involved in the community, an individ
ual can learn much about tradi
tional customs, beliefs and the his
tory of Japanese culture itself. Seco
ndly, community groups must build up the will and individual people to dedi
cate themselves and each other in support of bringing back the lost genera

tions in order to expand the reaches of Japanese culture in everyday life. If enough of the community has the desire
to educate themselves and others, it is possible for the culture of Japan alive, maybe not in practice, but in acknowledging our ancestry in some way, we can between generations be bridged and a new generation can be produced.

HENRY & CHYO KIWAHARA MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Tiffny G. Nagano
SALINAS JACL
Harvard University Level of Study: Freshman
Field of Study: Undeclared
Essay Excerpt: "Fortunately for me, my parents had instilled upon me the word
"Future," the word being lost. I am long lost has been the
case with many and a new cul
ture has yet to be taken on, that of the American. While it is important to take on the culture of the surroundings, it is also importan
t to retain a sense of our roots. It is important not to lose our identity. Because of the loss of culture with

the rise of "Japanese", it is impor
tant that the children are the

ones to regain what was lost. My generation simply does not know where we came from before it's too late. If we continue to lose the preservation of rich Japanese American culture, the hope for future, the change must start now.

MARI & MRS. TAKASHI MORIUCHI MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Jamie L. Funamura
JACL
Stanford University Level of Study: Freshmen
Field of Study: Undeclared
Essay Excerpt: "I am an Asian. But in truth I feel less like a Yonsei and more like a Semissi or if there are enough Japanese Americans in one group that can play a role in maintaining that thing called a 'Japanese American Community' and we can do so without sacrificing our inher
ent American character.

HENRY & CHYO KIWAHARA MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Harumichi A. Kariya
UC Berkeley Level of Study: Freshman
Field of Study: Mechanical Engineering
Essay Excerpt: "The loss of the Japanese culture in Japanese America has been
taken away. It is the en
richment and unique perspec
tives brought by the Japan
ese American.

This is the loss that faces many today. What worries me is that even if the fake emic puts up young Japanese Americans when they come to hold pride in a culture in which they know nothing. Japan
ese Americans are called being Japanese American not as a privi
eledge of a certain group to "Asian Pride" or to inherent uniqueness, but as the rare situ
ation of being Japanese American.

The sense of being "Japanese" in Japanese Americans is being derided to the point where many young people are losing sight of their tradi
tion, fictitious characters. By widen
ing interest in the Japanese American, Japan is a culture brought out of the language at home. I was struck by the realization that a large number of us, in many ways repre
sentatives of the future of the Japanese American community, never would master the language of our culture and that Japan was a native language could be com
pletely lost to the generation after.

GOROKO NAKAMURA MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Maximilian Boal
Los Angeles JACL
Harvard University Level of Study: Freshman
Field of Study: Undeclared
Essay Excerpt: "As our generation grows more and more diverse and as we see culture nar
swer the challenge of our roots with

sion, the future, such as myself, the Japanese
American community is in ser
ious crisis. Over the years, the

careful attempt to adjust to the Ameri
can way of life and to proper
ly assimilate, Japanese Americans have lost many of the original a

imals of Japanese Americans. When we talk about language, it is language, culture, diet, values or even nature, the Ameri

cans of Japanese culture have been diminished by assimilation. Today, the traits that define our culture only in history, Swift, yet subtle action, the creation and upkeep of Japanese cultural museums and the study of the Japanese language in schools and the continued prepara
tion and strength of Japanese Ameri

can culture which will, in the end, it will soften the delicate distinc
tion between Japanese and Ameri

can which describes who we are.

YUTAKA NAKAHATA

MARI Hayman
Seattle JACL
Washington University Level of Study: Freshman
Field of Study: Undeclared
Essay Excerpt: "My teachers always encouraged us to seek the "Americanlander" box because, although Asian, and because minorities were such a rare and com

" "

crate in my own home, but I did not understand the snares and tangles of the Scantoon mentality of one's society that refused to acknowledge the Asian-American identity as a whole. I looked Asian, and because minorities were such a rare and com

" "

MITSUBISHI YONEMURA MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Stephen Chu
Twin Cities JACL
Washington, D.C.

I believe that the most significant issue facing the Japanese American community is our ability to communicate and to understand one another. If we lack this ability, our country will suffer. The battles we fight are no longer for survival, they are for the ability to communicate and understand ourselves. This is a challenge that we must face, and we must work together to overcome it.

KENJI KAWAKAMI MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Penny A. Honda
Dubbo Valley JACL

The Japanese community has always been a strong and resilient community. It has faced many challenges throughout its history, but it has always managed to overcome them. Today, the Japanese community is facing new challenges, but we can overcome them if we work together.

SABURU KIDO MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Isaac H. Smith
Mount Olympus JACL

The Japanese American community is facing many challenges today. It is important that we work together to overcome these challenges and ensure a bright future for the community.

V. S. KUVAHARA MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Jennifer R. Sugiyama
San Diego JACL

The Japanese American community is facing many challenges today, but we can overcome them if we work together.

MARI & JAMES MICHENCER SCHOLARSHIP

Ashley N. Iwashiki
Santa Clara University

The Japanese American community is facing many challenges today, but we can overcome them if we work together.

Eric M. Iinuma
Fresno JACL

The Japanese American community is facing many challenges today, but we can overcome them if we work together.

YOSHIKO TANAKA MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Minna M. Kurata
San Francisco JACL

The Japanese American community is facing many challenges today, but we can overcome them if we work together.

Dr. THOMAS Y. TATANE

Tritia H. Nishikawa
West Los Angeles JACL

The Japanese American community is facing many challenges today, but we can overcome them if we work together.

GRADUATE

Merrill D. Oda
University of Chicago

The Japanese American community is facing many challenges today, but we can overcome them if we work together.

Continued on next page
Whose Nation?

In his otherwise insightful article in the Sept. 24-Ist issue, he concludes that since the very beginning, "This nation has just suffered a vicious surprise attack on its own soil, apparently by people of a different race and culture."

I suspect many of us do not get the same reaction: who does the author think "this nation" is? I think we are of a multicultural state, made up of people of different races, cultures, and traditions.

Troubled in Paradise

All races and cultures. Whoever the perpetrators of the attack might be, there are many Americans of that same race and culture. Though you see this sort of this being written every day, you still see it. Many Americans still assume that the American nation is united, has a core, and that everyone else is an "other." The result is that we have no identity, and hence nowhere to go. Whereas that may have once been true, at least in practice, it certainly is no longer true. In Hawai'i for instance, European Americans have always been the minority and many other states are fast approaching that situation, including some that have not been so populous. The day may one day arrive when there will be a person who looks more like Tiger Woods than George Bush, one who will not fit the image of the amalgamation of the entire rest of the world.

And yet, so many of us persist in this sort of practice. I know many Japanese Americans who do the same thing; referring to European Americans as "Americans" and all other Americans as something else, whether Japanese, Chinese, or various mostly disappearing categories for other non-white groups.

I suppose this is a minor annoyance in the grand scheme of things, particularly in the age of suicide bombings and anthrax. But in a small way, it contributes to the general mindset that leads to such events as the mass internment of Japs and many other less extreme examples, by implicitly legitimizing those of us who are not of European ancestry as somehow inferior to those of us who are. Language can be important in shaping attitudes. If one continues to refer to Hawaiians or Filipinos or people of the South East Asian descent as other than American, it will tend to reinforce the prevailing notions many of us have given. Have the characteristic American chauvinism, it is a small step from being a product of an idea of group not being "American," to justifying special treatment for that group, whether in the form of ID cards, surveillance, or profiling, all of which have been proposed for other Americans in the present case.

As this "war on terror" continues, we are in danger of being seen as "suspects" (for a long time, we have to continue to be vigilant about our actions. The line between fighting terrorism on the one hand and trampling on civil rights on the other, is a fine line. Under the pressure of war, the former can be seen as just another threat to our civil liberties we would never accept in peace time. Getting caught up in this may not be the best approach. We need to be ever vigilant about such repressive measures, whether or not we are personally or fact.

We also need to be vigilant about the way we talk about our society and our nation of which we are a part of Americans. We are, after all, a country of immigrants, and we all come in all sorts of shapes and colors, all sorts of flavors, varieties, and combinations, creating a different race and culture. In Japan, many Japanese Americans who do the same thing; referring to European Americans as "Americans" and all other Americans as something else, whether Japanese, Chinese, or various mostly disappearing categories for other non-white groups.

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Obituaries

All the visas are in California except as noted.

Adachi, Shoza, 81, Aug. 11; Los Angeles-born Nisei; survived by wife, Takeko; daughter, Hiron; mother, Yoko (Takahashi); sister, Asahi. 2 gc; and nephews and nieces and other relatives.

Asagi, George Keichoichi, 68, Gardena, Aug. 22; Hakata, Hawaii-born Nisei; survived by wife, Shizue; son, George; daughter, Mariko; sister, Emiko; brother, Harold; many nieces and nephews.

Ayagi, Eugene Keiichi, 70, Gardena, Aug. 22; grandson of Ayagi and Cindy (Drake) Peters; sister, Emiko Eho; brother, Henry; 2 gc; and many nieces and nephews.

Fuji, Sadayi, 101, Gardena, Aug. 21; Yamaguchi-born Issei; survived by daughter, Kames; grandson, Kathleen Al, Miike; (Kogetsu) Ogata; Helen (Joe) Setig and Charlene (Richard) McNabb; 4 gc; and many nieces and nephews.

Kazushige, Mikio, 74, Long Beach, Aug. 20; Terminal Island-born; survived by wife, Becky (Miko) Gillet; sons, Clifford (Laurel) and Ernest (Katsuyuki) Kato; sisters, Masako (Tosaka) Tani and Eiko (Ishii) (Harashima) and Sadako Kanbo; uncles, Fukino Endo; 4 gc; and many nieces and nephews.

Masayoshi, Toshiko, 86, Torrance, Aug. 7; younger born; survived by son, Eiji (Kaye); daughter, Eiko; many nieces and nephews; sisters, Akiko Watanabe, Matsuda Shimo; brother, Tatsuro Kato; mother, Minakata Sasa; 4 gc; and other relatives.

Morishita, Juzo Akiko, 55, Gardena, Aug. 1; born in Nisei; survived by wife, Masa; daughters, Sadae, Yoko; mother, Yosuke; many nieces and nephews.

Nakai, Takeshi, 87, Los Angeles, Aug. 12; Los Angeles-born; survived by brother, Robert; sister, Alice; and many nieces and nephews.

Ono, Yoshizuru, J., 8, Santa Monica, Aug. 13; Montebello-born Nisei; survived by wife, Lois; sons, James and Roger; nieces and nephews, the definition of which remains unknown.

In the meantime, the letter writer may wish to keep his secret under wraps, lest these subterfuges and the subterfuges behind the subterfuges cover us before we can notify him.

Bill Marutani is a past JACL national legal counsel and retired judge of the Pennsylvania bia court.

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