

Club Honors 20

The Club's Joannie Mukai Scholarship Program for 2012


Congratulations!

The Club family is filled with young people of promise, hope, service... and achievement. The Club is pleased to announce the winners of the Club's annual Scholarship Program for 2012. The Club's Scholarship program was named for the late Joannie Mukai, the former Club Board Member who passed away in 2010. Those eligible included Club Members, their spouses and their children who are in college or will be attending an accredited college or university in Fall 2012.

Here are the recipients of the 20 scholarships:

- Jacob Muñoz, son of Oscar Muñoz, DWP;
- Ashley Arikawa, daughter of Norman Arikawa, Harbor;
- Anthony Kissinger, son of Bernard Kissinger, DWP;
- Alexandra Bell, daughter of Alan Bell, DWP, Retired;
- Ashley Cooke, daughter of Allen Cooke, Public Works;

Here are brief profiles of the awardees:



JACOB MUNOZ

Jacob graduated from California High School in Whittier and plans to attend Cal State Long Beach in the fall, studying mechanical engineering.

In high school, Jacob was an honor student and was involved in the water polo and swim teams for three years. He was

also involved in community service, including assisting the Special Olympics and acting as an educator at the Aquarium of the Pacific.

"I am very pleased with my life so far, and if I could go back and change anything, I definitely would not, because all my actions have made me the person I am today," he wrote in his application essay. "My proudest moment of my life so far is getting accepted to college. I have never been so excited to be starting school again."

He's the son of Oscar Muñoz, DWP.



ANTHONY KISSINGER

Anthony attends the University of La Verne, where he studies business.

He has participated in a number of charity activities, including the ALS Foundation Walk, the March of Dimes, the MS Foundation Walk, and Habitat for Humanity. At

La Verne, he plays baseball, participates in student government, and social activities including Welcome Back Week and pep rallies.

"Upon graduation, I want to get a job with a baseball team and do marketing for them," he writes. "I then want to rise in the ranks and become a general manager for a baseball team. I also want to open my own restaurants to go along with my love of cooking. I would also like to marry and start a family like most people because I am a very family-oriented person. I want to continue to coach baseball in the future as well."

He's the son of Bernard Kissinger, DWP.



ASHLEY ARIKAWA

Ashley received her associate's degree from El Camino College, and plans to attend the University of California, Irvine, majoring in business.

At El Camino, she was involved in a number of groups, including the El Camino

College Japanese Cultural Club (which she co-founded) and the Alpha Gamma Sigma Honor Society, and she made the dean's list every semester. She volunteered at the Nisei Week Japanese American Cultural Festival, the South Bay Keiro Nursing Home, and the Tanoshii Japanese Youth Camp. She also studied ballroom and Latin dance.

"Over the past few years, I have become very involved in the Japanese American community and have further developed a passion for my culture and heritage," she writes. "[My activities] have taught me to be passionate about something greater and have connected me with many like-minded individuals in the community who share this passion.

"I have learned about the importance of introducing more American companies, especially small businesses, to potential markets abroad and hope one day to play a role in connecting small American businesses with larger foreign trading partners."

She's the daughter of Norman Arikawa, Harbor.



ALEXANDRA BELL

Alexandra graduated from Calabasas High School and plans to attend the University of California, Santa Cruz, in the fall.

At Calabasas, she was involved in the Girl Scouts, and TUNS - Teens United for

Neighborhood Services. She was in the choir for four years, and she was on the honor roll.

"I woke up dazed and confused, to a steady beep in my ear and a contraction attached to my arm," she writes. "What happened to me? I was dying and [the doctors] had no idea why. [Later], I was diagnosed with SLE, or Systemic Lupus Erythematosus; it sounded horrifying and confusing to me. Lupus is a disease that affects the immune system. In a way, I learned through all the hardship to be strong enough and stand up on my own with the help of friends and family.

"Fully healed and back on my feet, I have continued school at Calabasas, to learn from the bumps in the road that came across my path."

She's the daughter of Alan Bell, DWP, Retired.

THE CLUB

With Mukai Scholarships

awards \$500 to 20 members of the Club family.

- Kyle Campbell, son of Lantz Campbell, Public Works;
- Raven Burrell, daughter of Adriane Buchanan, Building and Safety;
- Bethany Costa, daughter of Samuel Costa, Airports;
- Nadia Aguirre, daughter of Veronica Diaz, Rec and Parks;
- Deepak Atyam, son of Suneeta Atyam, Building and Safety;
- Taylor Harvey, daughter of Theresa Walker, Rec and Parks;
- Aryel Gilmer, daughter of Tonja Bellard, Personnel;
- Justin Matute, son of Linda Matute, DWP, Retired;
- QueJonné Smith, daughter of Lady Smith, Fire and Police Pensions;
- Sabrena Edwards, daughter of Brenda Edwards, Public Works;
- Garrett Dunlavey, son of Margot Ramirez, formerly of the Harbor Dept.;
- Bernadette Lim, daughter of Frank Lim, Personnel;
- Andrew Linaac, son of Ellen Linaac, Aging; and
- Azarria Mathews, daughter of Neika Allen, CDD;
- Tiffany Lee, daughter of Kam Lee, Transportation.

Congratulations to the awardees, and the Club wishes the best success to all those who applied.



ASHLEY COOKE

Ashley graduated from Royal High School in Simi Valley, and plans to attend the University of San Francisco in the fall.

At Royal, she was in the National Honor Society, student leadership board, the French Honor Society, and she ran track. She was also involved in the Make-a-Wish Foundation and the California YMCA Youth in Government program.

"I always forget that this is my life," she writes. "The fact that I have control over my own future seems so intimidating. I can either sit back and let life come at me, or I can attack it, and set a path for my own future. I try to take inspiration from every aspect of my

life and integrate it in to my own aesthetics. I work to build my own cultured life out of the things I love and am passionate for. I hope to graduate from the University of San Francisco and go on to become a successful publicist in fashion or media.

"In life, you get up and you go, you do, you see. It is up to me to do something that my future self will thank me for: continue on with a life of knowledge, wisdom, kindness, and love, always with my eyes open."

She's the daughter of Allen Cooke, Public Works.



KYLE CAMPBELL

Kyle attends Cal State Long Beach, studying business.

At Gardena High School, Kyle was a member of the Key Club (service), a volunteer at an elementary school, and was heavily involved in bands, including the marching and jazz bands. He was a section leader of the marching band's drum line, and he received academic and music honors.

"Once I get my degree, I plan to go to Universal Technical Institute and learn how to work on cars and work towards becoming a certified car mechanic," he writes. "My main goal is to open up my own auto shop

so I can fix my cars and those of others and keep people from getting ripped off as much as possible. I plan on tackling each of these goals listed above, one at a time, until they become a reality, and I am determined to do so."

He's the son of Lantz Campbell, Public Works.



RAVEN BURRELL

Raven attends the University of California, Irvine.

At UCI, she's co-chair of the school's iRise Program, a stay-over program hosted by the Black Student Union. She participates in the West African Dance Group, where she is a performer and choreographer, and works for the UCI Early Academic Outreach program. She volunteers for beach clean-ups, and she was president of the Minority Association of Pre-Health Students.

"Entering the health field has been my passion since I was five years old," she writes. "My ultimate goal after UCI is to become a physician assistant, specializing in obstetrics. To serve people, especially the underserved minority communities,

is my passion, because no one deserves to be left out, no matter what their financial standing is."

She's the daughter of Adriane Buchanan, Building and Safety.



BETHANY COSTA

Bethany graduated from Centennial High School in Corona, and plans to attend Pacific Union College in Napa Valley in the fall.

Bethany lists more than 13 volunteer and 11 school activities, including academic, music, cultural and service-based involvements.

"For the past 18 years of my life, I can say that I am undeniably proud of both my academic and personal achievements," she writes. "I have defined myself as an independent and diligent student, evident through my academic successes.

"As an accomplished student and performer, I do aspire of becoming a doctor. Although my decisions to study music and become a doctor are two contrasting ideas, I believe

that I will be able to accomplish this goal with compassion, perseverance, and optimism. My past achievements inspire me to become a better person every day, and continue to motivate me to work toward my future."

She's the daughter of Samuel Costa, Airports.





NADIA AGUIRRE

Nadia attends the University of California, Santa Barbara, majoring in linguistics.

In high school, she was the class historian and representative. She was also involved in the yearbook and in dance/cheerleading. She volunteers at the Foshay School Library and at Planned Parenthood.

"Beginning in the sixth grade, I was enrolled in the Neighborhood Academic Initiative (NAI) program provided by USC, to two at-risk middle schools and high schools. It was a very demanding program, and as the years went by I saw fellow classmates drop out or get kicked out. It has not been an easy path, and I always had to push myself to remain in it. I learned many valuable things about my education and how important it is to obtain one.

She hopes to "continue providing support for those who are younger, encourage them to stay in school, and make them realize they can achieve everything they want and more."

She's the daughter of Veronica Diaz, Rec and Parks.



ARYEL GILMER

Aryel attends Azusa Pacific University.

She is on the dean's list, is a member of the Scholars for Business Achievement club, and helped lead personal finance workshops for students. She has also worked at Faith Community Church as a ministry leader and media volunteer. She volunteers with children whose parents are in prison, and helps clean the lawns of the elderly.

"For as long as I remember, I have always loved school," she writes. "There is a feeling that is intrinsically satisfying to me when I set standards, try to achieve them, and earn good results. I want my accomplishments in school to be a testament to my character and a gesture of respect to those that have invested their time

and finances into my education.

"My career goal is to work in the field of television or film production."

She's the daughter of Tonja Bellard, Personnel.



DEEPAK ATYAM

Deepak attends the University of California, San Diego.

In high school, he interned at the Jet Propulsion Lab, where he worked on the Curiosity Mars rover; the Langley Research Center (NASA); and the Marshall Space Flight Center (NASA). He volunteered at Cerritos in Motion, Beta Labs, and Antidote International. At UCSD, he created and is the president of the Triton Rocket Club.

"My current educational objectives at UC San Diego are obtaining my bachelor's degree and successfully designing, building, and launching a liquid-fueled rocket," he says. "After my undergraduate education, I plan to continue my passion and get a master's degree while being employed by the Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) or another NASA facility.

"The experience that I will gain with the Triton Rocket Club allows me to gain the knowledge necessary to mentor students at UCSD so that they can gain the hands-on experience necessary to work in the new space-based industry."

He's the son of Suneeta Atyam, Building and Safety.



JUSTIN MATUTE

Justin graduated from Rio Hondo College with an associate's degree in psychology, and plans to attend the University of California, Los Angeles, in the fall.

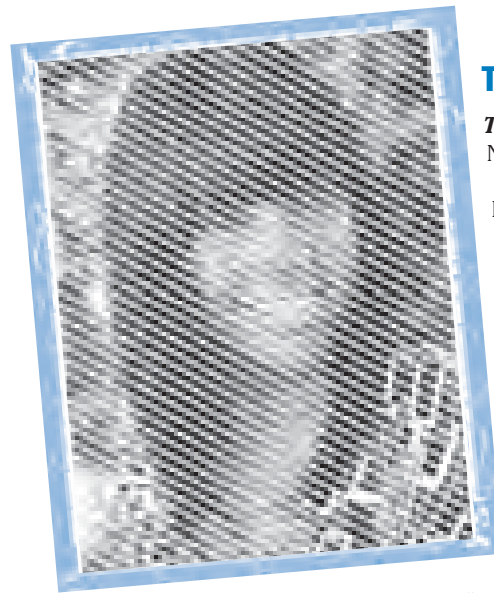
At Rio Hondo, he has been on the dean's list during four semesters.

"Growing up, I was always considered to be the troublemaker and would do anything to get attention," he writes. "After high school, I know I did not qualify to go directly to a four-year university, so I enrolled at Rio Hondo. During my fourth semester there, I was struck by the biggest loss I will ever know, the passing away of my father.

"The heart of a champion beats inside of me, and I finally know why. It

is because of the love and support that my parents have shown me. Now, it is up to me to make my family proud and be a role model."

He's the son of Linda Matute, DWP, Retired.



TAYLOR HARVEY

Taylor attends Columbia University in New York.

Her volunteer efforts include the Foundation for the Junior Blind festivals, St. John's Convalescent Hospital, and an organization at Columbia that collects items and donates them to shelters. As a jazz vocalist, she has many honors and accolades, including from the National Foundation for the Advancement of the Arts; the Grammy Jazz Ensemble; the Marlborough High School choir; and the Columbia University Society of Hip Hop. She interned at Sony Records and took part in the Tavis Smiley Youth Institute.

"I value both my persistence to overcome obstacles and my ability to reflect back on them and achieve greater

self-knowledge. In my sophomore year, I sustained a vocal injury that prevented me from performing most of the year. The time away allowed me to keep my mind open for other career paths and, more importantly, discover more of who I am apart from my music. Looking back with full vocal health now, I see that the injury taught me determination and flexibility, and it offered me an opportunity to locate my strengths in other areas."

She's the daughter of Theresa Walker, Rec and Parks.



QUEJONNÉ SMITH

QueJonné graduated from Frederick Douglass Academy High School and plans to attend the University of California, Riverside, in the fall.

She has volunteered at the Bethany Prayer Temple Holy Church, the Urban Media Program at Our Weekly Magazine, the LAPD's National Night Out, reading to children, Our Children One Village, the Sutton Recreation Center, the LA All Stars Afterschool Program, and Upward Bound at USC.

"Despite the graphic nature of South Central Los Angeles and my premature exposure to the world and what it possesses, my steadfast mindset keeps me motivated to succeed," she writes. "Just as every other student in

the world, I face challenges in school, at home, and in my social life, but a steadfast and driven mindset is what got me through school thus far, and it will continue to keep me going in the right direction.

"I look forward to the challenge of the University of California, Riverside, and I cannot wait to see what doors will open for me. I know, without a doubt, that I will reach my goals and all of my 'realistic' dreams if I continue to have a steadfast mindset. Staying on the right path to success is my ultimate goal."

She's the daughter of Lady Smith, Fire and Police Pensions.



SABRENA EDWARDS

Sabrena attends Whittier College.

She volunteers at the UCLA Medical Center, the Hicks Family Daycare, and Ramona Park. She has been a member of the Olive Grove Choir and the Olive Grove Library.

"Things that I like to live by are, put God first and family second; that education is the key that will unlock any door that is in front of me; and never lose sight of my goals in life.

"My ultimate goal in life is to get into sports medicine and eventually be a medical surgical physician, but I also want to mentor younger children. My mission is to encourage, influence and help others within the community to reach their full potential."

She's the daughter of Brenda Edwards, Public Works.

Mukai Scholarships

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TIFFANY LEE

Tiffany graduated from Mark Keppel High School in Alhambra, and plans to attend the College of Engineering at Cornell University in Ithaca, N.Y., in the fall.

She's volunteered at TAG Away Graffiti, Junior Friends, the Union Station Thanksgiving in the Park, and at the Rose Parade. In high school, she was on the debate team, the math club, on the senior council, and was a member of the California Scholarship Federation.

"My experiences with my grandfather prompted my interest in biological engineering as my future career," she writes. "Over the years, I watched my once-vibrant grandfather slowly deteriorate into a wheelchair-bound man. I wanted to help my grandfather receive better treatment, and I found the

opportunity to do so by majoring in bioengineering.

"With my experiences in leadership and service to both the school and the community, and with my aptitude for science and mathematics, I will succeed as a bioengineer and, through my future research, give others healthy bodies, longer lives, and most importantly, hope for generations to come."

She's the daughter of Kam Lee, Transportation.



AZARRIA MATHEWS

Azarria attends Bethune-Cookman University in Daytona Beach, Fla.

She has volunteered as a Pop Warner cheer coach, a math tutor, a youth volunteer at the Bradley Milken Center, and as part of the Jewels to Gem group at the Maranatha Community Church. In high school, she was on the cheer squad and the swim team, and she was a member of the National Society of High School Scholars and the class steering committee.

"My career goals are to become a television host and radio personality," she writes. "With the money I would earn from working, I would open my

own business that focuses on recycling clothing and providing families that have nothing with clothing. I tend to set a lot of goals for myself, but I know that, with determination and drive, I can achieve them.

"I know determination is key to my success, and with that I can achieve any goal that is set forth for me and my future."

She's the daughter of Neika Allen, CDD.



BERNADETTE LIM

Bernadette graduated from St. Lucy's Priory High School in Glendora, and plans to attend Harvard College in Cambridge, Mass., in the fall.

In high school, her research activities were at the City of Hope Dept. of Tumor Cell Biology, the Southern California Junior Academy of the Sciences, and at the American Association for Cancer Research. She has worked at UCLA Dept. of Radiation Oncology, and as a pianist/organist at St. Christopher's Catholic Church in La Puente. Her volunteer activities include the March of Dimes, the Key Club International, the Science Olympiad, the California Scholarship Federation, and others.

"Combining these two interests into one profession, I one day aspire

to be a doctor/scientist specializing in maternal and neonatal health, hoping to combine my love of science with my passion to promote the well-being of women and children worldwide," she writes. "I care deeply and intend to work to secure every individual's right to a healthy life.

"With my love for learning and hopeful aspirations to serve others, my education has been the basis for my passion for life itself."

She's the daughter of Frank Lim, Personnel.



GARRETT DUNLAVEY

Garrett attends the University of Oregon.

In college, he's been a facilitator of the University of Oregon Earth Week, the Sustainability Center and the Center for the Advancement of Sustainable Living. His activities include Net Impact, which he founded and is president; the Climate Justice League; the International Business and Economics Club; and ASUO student government. He received the university's Centurion Award.

"For the first two years at the University of Oregon, I felt as if I did not really have a purpose on campus," he writes. "Then, during last summer, I interned at the Port of Los Angeles and discovered my interest in integrating business and the environment. Realizing that true passion was within the field of sustainability, the very next term I became so enthralled with this newfound motivation that I went straight to the dean's list for the first time.

"I have big plans to make a difference in the future within this field. I am convinced that my accomplishments thus far, as well as the extensive network I have begun to assemble, is not only representative of my dedication but also the extent of the people I will be working with."

He's the son of Margo Ramirez, formerly of the Harbor Dept.



ANDREW LINAAC

Andrew graduated from La Salle High School in Pasadena, and plans to attend the Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park, N.Y.

Andrew volunteered at the Project Angel Food as a kitchen volunteer; at the AIDS Walk; at Ability First, as a tutor in the Pasadena Unified School District. His school activities included the swim team, the astronomy club, Science Outreach, the Robolancers, the Chamber Choir, the tennis team, and the theatre tech crew. He received numerous academic and service awards.

"My greatest passion in life is to become a pastry chef and open my very own bakery business some day," he writes. "Why did I choose this instead of becoming a doctor or engineer like my parents would want me

to be? My grandmother was a great influence in my decision by teaching me basic kitchen skills. Growing up in a Filipino family, food is and will always be at the center of our gatherings. By becoming a pastry chef, I can combine my creative talents and my passion for food.

"The motto of the Culinary Institute of America is, 'Food is life,' and it sure is."

He's the son of Ellen Linaac, Aging.

