

# KOKORO

the heart and soul of our community  
Japanese American Citizens League – San Mateo Chapter  
**January 2012**  
[www.sanmateojacl.org](http://www.sanmateojacl.org)  
inquiries: Steve Okamoto 650.574.2641

San Mateo JACL is dedicated to promoting the historical and cultural understanding of the Japanese American experience and to protecting and advancing the human and civil rights of our multi-ethnic society through educational and community programs.

Articles must be submitted before the first Friday (one month prior to publication) [steveokamoto1@gmail.com](mailto:steveokamoto1@gmail.com)

## Chapter News

### San Mateo JACL Announces 2012 Scholarship Program

The San Mateo JACL is pleased to announce their scholarship program for the 2011-2012 school year. Eligible high school seniors are invited to submit applications to our chapter's Scholarship Chairperson by March 1, 2012. Winning applicants will be contacted individually in early April, 2012.

#### **Eligibility Requirements:**

Applicants must be seniors enrolled in a San Mateo County public or private high school. Applicants must be an active National JACL member at either an Individual or Student/Youth Level. (Parent membership will not meet this requirement.) Applicants will be partially judged on their involvement in the JA/Asian American community. Applicants must be planning to attend a college, university, trade school, business school or any other institution of higher learning within the United States. Applications for JACL membership can be downloaded at <http://www.jacl.org/>

#### **Application Requirements:**

Eligible students must submit a fully completed application.

One letter of recommendation.

An official high school transcript.

A verification of SAT/ACT scores.

A "personal statement" of no more than two pages on the topic question presented in the application must be included.

An interview with JACL scholarship committee members is part of the application process.

Applications must be postmarked no later than March 1, 2012.

Applications of winning students will be entered in the National JACL scholarship program for 2012.

Completed applications must be sent to: **Mary Jo Kubota-Arcarese, Scholarship Chairperson**  
c/o Japanese American Community Center  
415 South Claremont Street  
San Mateo, CA 94401

The Northern California Western Nevada Pacific District of JACL is forming a committee to plan activities and programs for families with children in elementary and middle school. While some of our chapters have such activities, others have too few families with children to keep a

program viable. Former NCWNP District Governors Mark Kobayashi and Alan Teruya hope that we can find enough families to make a district-wide program successful. Our goal is to have quarterly events for families. Possibilities include outdoor excursions, museum trips, game nights, cultural events, etc.

Since the District Executive Board is meeting in Monterey on Sunday, January 22 we thought it would be a good opportunity to let the kids visit the Monterey Bay Aquarium. As many of you know, the Monterey Bay Aquarium is a world class aquarium and research institution. They recently reopened their Open Sea exhibit where deep ocean creatures swim lazily by in front of a 90-foot window. This and their many other exhibits are an excellent way to introduce kids to the wonders of the seas.

We will also use this activity as an opportunity to let the kids of our district meet each other and come up with other activities for the future.

We would like to have families meet near the entrance at 1:00 and let the kids explore the museum together. If you are interested in joining us please contact Mark at [408-254-9487](tel:408-254-9487) or Alan at [925-455-1269](tel:925-455-1269) or [<ATTeruya@cs.com>](mailto:ATTeruya@cs.com). If you have access to discount tickets through work or some other source, please let us know so we can help get people the best deal. On the day of the event Alan can be reached on his cel phone, [925-202-1582](tel:925-202-1582).

We hope to see you there.

## NATIONAL NEWS

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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2012

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**Japanese American Citizens League**  
**San Mateo Chapter**  
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