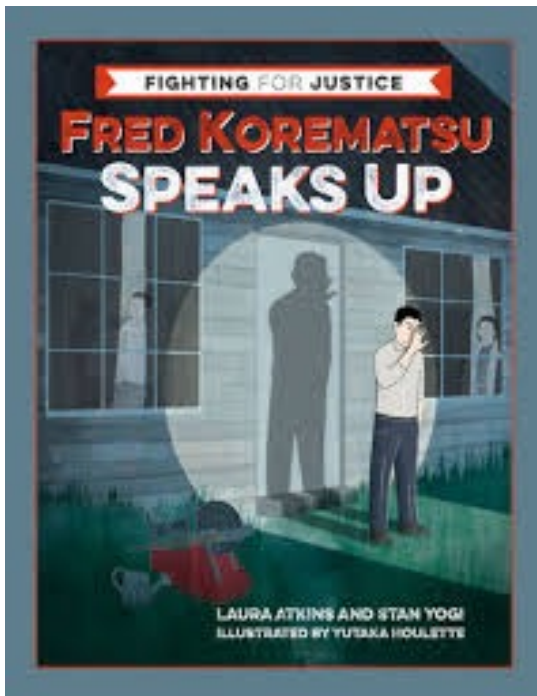


# KOKORO

## **Donating Fred Korematsu Speaks Up to Libraries**

This past November The San Mateo Chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League presented every high school, middle school, community college, and public library in San Mateo County with a copy of the book *Fred Korematsu Speaks Up*. The goal of donating this thought provoking book was to help enrich classroom instruction, enhance library collections, and to inspire both teachers and students.



Some books were presented by our board members but most were mailed with an informational letter enclosed. *Fred Korematsu Speaks Up* is the first in the upcoming series *Fighting for Justice*. Providing this book for educational institutions in San Mateo County is an important component of our Boards commitment to proactively and publicly implement our mission statement that commits us to “[promote] 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”.

Fred Korematsu, a local hero and an American Citizen of Japanese ancestry, who refused to follow the unconstitutional Executive Order 9066 issued February 19, 1942 to leave his home in Oakland, California and be transported to a prison camp based on his ethnicity. This book tells his story in a meaningful and engaging format for young readers.

[continued on next page...]

Fred Korematsu Speaks Out was written by Laura Atkins and Stan Yogi and illustrated by Yutaka Houlette. The Fighting For Justice web site ([HTTP://FIGHTINGFORJUSTICESERIES.COM/HOME/](http://fightingforjusticeseries.com/home/)) describes the goal of the series as “Introducing young readers to people who spoke up and fought for their rights in California History [by] blending free-verse poetry and illustrations with historical primary source material, “Fighting For Justice biographies encourage young people to speak up and make a difference.” We have received many thanks and positive feedback from book recipients.

The following quote from a letter received from Serra High School is representative of the responses to our project. “ .... it is indeed a beautifully produced book and will be a welcome addition to our library. Matters of justice in our nation’s and our state’s history are central to our social studies and theology curricula, [this] book presents an unforgettable and sad chapter in that history. Our book collection is certainly strengthened by the addition of this volume.”

## **Announcing the 2018 JACL Scholarship Program for High School Seniors**

The San Mateo Chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) is pleased to announce their scholarship program for the 2017 - 2018 school year. Applications are available at [www.jacl.org/](http://www.jacl.org/).

Eligible San Mateo County high school seniors are invited to submit applications to our chapter's Scholarship Chairperson by March 1, 2018. Winning applicants will be announced by April 1, 2018.

### **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 [www.jacl.org](http://www.jacl.org)

Completed applications must be sent to: San Mateo JACL, Scholarship, c/o Japanese American Community Center, 415 South Claremont, San Mateo, CA 94401