



2009 NSRC Awards Ceremony held at Cal State University Long Beach

\$35,000 in scholarships awarded

The beautiful campus of Cal State University Long Beach was the setting for this year's scholarship awards ceremony on June 6. 150 recipients, parents, teachers, friends and siblings, members of the local awards committee and NSRC board, and the co-sponsor Khmer Parents' Association, joined together to congratulate and celebrate this year's 30 winners as they embarked on their college careers.

The MCs, Alan Nishio and Phylipo Tum, skillfully moved the program along. Dr. Felton Williams from the Long Beach Unified School District Board of Education and Mary Ann Takemoto, Associate Vice President of Cal State University Long Beach welcomed

the attendees and congratulated the winners. Their words of encouragement to the soon to be college students were well received. Three young women from the Khmer Arts Cultural Center dressed in full ethnic costume performed the "Wishing Dance." Paul Watanabe and Jean Hibino represented the NSRC board of directors. Paul brought greetings and congratulations from the board and introduced the NSRC video. Although "technical difficulties" prevented a full showing, Paul filled in admirably. He also recognized Fred Hoshiyama, a very spry and alert 94 year young Nisei helped by the National Japanese American Student Relocation Council to leave the Topaz internment camp to attend

Springfield College in Massachusetts. Mr. Hoshiyama was featured in an *LA Times* article about the NSRC Fund that appeared that morning.

The awarding of the scholarships was done in groups – the ten Named Scholarship winners (\$2000 each), the ten \$1000 winners, and the ten \$500 winners. As each recipient was recognized, a short biography was read which really helped the audience get a feel for the winners. Two of this year's awardees were asked to speak, Chimchanbo Uk and Stepher Soung. [Excerpts of Chimchanbo's speech are reprinted in this newsletter.] Hearing a recipient open up and speak about his or her personal

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Recording Secretary Kesaya Noda presents outgoing NSRC president R. Glenn Kumekawa with Certificate of Appreciation, April 18, 2009



Greetings from the Board -

Dear NSRC supporters,

It's time to reflect on the past year's work and to look forward to 2010, the NSRC Fund's 30th anniversary. It's been quite a journey.

For the first time in seven years, the board of directors voted in a new president at its annual meeting in April. Board member Paul Watanabe became the NSRC's 4th president and the first of the "younger" generation. As his first official act, he was charged with writing this year's appeal letter. [see related article] CONGRATULATIONS PAUL! May your tenure as board president be productive, creative and inspired.

A hearty and most appreciative THANKYOU to our outgoing president, Glenn "Rosie" Kumekawa. At the April meeting Glenn was presented with a certificate that reads in part:

"R. Glenn Kumekawa has played a critical role in the growth and development of the Nisei Student Relocation Commemorative Fund (NSRCF) for seventeen years. ... In 1992, he chaired the Southern New England Awards Committee. ... Glenn joined the board in 1998 and assumed the presidency in 2002. ... During his presidency, we have further clarified our mission statement; restructured the board; expanded the levels of scholarship giving; sought and received several grants; developed new informational materials; and transitioned to a younger, more diverse board of directors. ... Glenn Kumekawa has ... steadfastly focused on the importance of our efforts to commemorate the wartime evacuation and the generosity and goodness of people who reached across race differences and wartime hatred to offer a helping hand to young Japanese Americans. He has inspired our efforts to reach out in that same spirit, and he has made our work together deeply satisfying."

We are most fortunate that Glenn remains on the board. Besides Glenn, the other NSRC presidents - Lafayette Noda and Yutaka Kobayashi - also

remain on the board. A true testament that this isn't "just another organization" - this is something special. The Nisei on the board of directors - Lafayette, Yutaka, Glenn, May Takayanagi, Bob Naka, and Bob Maeda - continue to share their wisdom, expertise, leadership, and experiences. The great stories and hilarity are an extra bonus.

In 2009 the board of directors bid farewell to Nancy Ukai Russell and R. Dana Ono. Their work, family and prior volunteer commitments kept them from devoting as much time as they wished they could to the NSRC. THANK YOU for your help and friendship!

As of September 19, contributor support to the Fund was \$35,400, and combined with interest and dividends, total income was \$52,450. Operating expenses so far this year are \$8,578 (not including the scholarships, and the printing and mail out of the newsletter). With an all-volunteer staff we continually strive to keep operating expenses to a minimum. As of September 19, the fund stood at \$950,000. We are proud that even in this economy the Fund is healthy. Since its inception the NSRC Fund has proudly awarded 570 scholarships totaling \$538,800.

The 2009 scholarship awards were given at Cal State University Long Beach on June 6. THANK YOU to Co-chairs DEAN TOJI and BOB SUZUKI for continuing the long line of local committee chairs who drive our Fund's success. Thank you to the Long Beach Local Awards Committee: Monique Chhoeun, Larry Hashima, June Hibino, J.D. Hokoyama, Chan Hopson, Barbara Kim, Kim Thai Kuoch, Linda Espana-Maram, Suely Ngouy, Alan Nishio, Sara Pol-Lim, Yoko Pusavat, Karen Quintiliani-Hodgson, Mary Ann Takemoto, John Tsuchida and Phyllyppo Tum. We know the chairs could not do it without you! [see related articles]

We eagerly look forward to the 2010 scholarship awards that will be given in the Washington, D.C. area / "around the Beltway," an auspicious venue for our 30th anniversary. The chair is Diane Hibino (sister of Jean, aunt of Stephen, and daughter of Yosh and Nobu).

SPECIAL RECOGNITION to Don Misumi of San Francisco, CA (newsletter), David Aman of Hanover, NH (database/IT) and Maureen Kobayashi of Wellesley, MA (investment). We can measure the Fund's success in large part by the hard work, endless hours and expertise they willingly give year after year. THANK YOU!

CONGRATULATIONS to board member Phitsamay Uy and her husband, Vrak, as they welcomed their first child, a baby boy named Logan on July 28. WELCOME LOGAN!

Finally, to the longtime supporters of the Fund, our heartfelt thanks. Your belief in the Fund's mission and work keep us going.

In grateful appreciation,

NSRC Board of Directors

Paul Watanabe, *President*
 Joyce M. Fukami
 Jean Y. Hibino, *Executive Secretary*
 Stephen Y. Hibino, *Treasurer*
 Yutaka Kobayashi, *Awards Committee Liaison*
 Ryoza Glenn Kumekawa
 Robert Maeda
 F. Robert Naka
 Kesaya E. Noda, *Recording Secretary*
 Lafayette Noda
 May O. Takayanagi
 Phitsamay Sychitkokhong Uy

In her own words

[Ed. Note: Chimchanbo Uk is the 2009 winner of the Michi Nishiura Weglyn Scholarship. She is attending San Francisco State University. The following are excerpts of the speech she gave at the 2009 awards ceremony in Long Beach.]



By Chimchanbo Uk

“Life has always been a roller coaster ever since I was young. The first six years of my life in my native land (Cambodia) must have been the most stable years I’ve experienced. I was raised with an older brother and two loving parents who brought in a decent income for the family.

“In 1996 my brother, mother and I moved to America, leaving my father behind. This was the first traumatic event that had occurred while I was a child. Not only was I not familiar with the English language, but already lacked a father figure at a young age. This immense change caught me off guard.

“Fortunately ... I was able to catch up and excel in the English language. This was an advantage compared to my mother, who ... could not grasp the new language. I felt as if I had to grow up instantly once moving to America. Any form of paperwork or translation was our responsibility. ... Growing up without a father figure not only affected the family emotionally, but economically as well. Money had always been tight from the beginning, and since my mother did not know English, finding work was always a challenge.

“I was determined to work hard in school because I had a dream that some day we would have our own house. Throughout my early years of schooling, I excelled at all of my classes. But as my sophomore year came, my world was flipped

upside-down. October of 2006, I was informed that my father had passed away due to medical reasons. ... Continuous guilt and sorrow ran through me. Being that it was the first death I’ve ever experienced, I had no clue on how to handle my emotions. ... I managed to pick myself back up and realize that this was another obstacle I had to overcome. Within a couple of months after the death of my father, I was finally able to focus on school. All seem steady until I was informed my brother had overdosed on medication due to depression. I could not handle all the commotion. Family issues became a priority and education was put aside. While the entire world around me was falling apart, I had to stay strong; if not for myself, then for the woman I care about the most; my mother.

“As my senior year rolled around, it was going to be a new year, a new start. Although my previous grades were shameful, I could never give up my dream of going to college. After all, this was the reason why we moved to America. ...

“... Being able to have a greater understanding of one’s adversity has definitely driven me to the direction of working with people from around the world. ... when entering college, I plan to major in International Studies and perhaps minor in Southeast Asian Studies. My biggest dream is to be a part of the United Nations ... Although I myself have struggled a bit in the past, I was fortunately given the opportunity to strive for a better future.”

Meet the new NSRCF president, Paul Y. Watanabe

[Ed. note: We are grateful that Paul was willing to accept the torch as it was passed to the next generation. His first duty as NSRC board president was to write this year's appeal letter. His trial by fire came at the September board meeting where he had to keep the meeting on track and running smoothly, ensure that all voices were heard (literally), and make sure the board got its work done. Congratulations!]

Paul Watanabe is from Murray, Utah. At the outset of WWII, his Issei father, Nisei mother and older brother were living in the Los Angeles area. They were first interned at Manzanar and then sent to Tule Lake until the spring of 1946. They moved to Utah where Paul grew up. He attended the University of

Utah and received his Ph.D. in Political Science from Harvard University. He remained in Massachusetts where he is currently the Director of the Institute for Asian American Studies and Associate Professor of Political Science at the University of Massachusetts Boston. He is also a member of the Board of Directors of the American Civil Liberties Union of Massachusetts and the Advisory Boards of the Asian American Policy Review and the New England Chapter of the National Association of Asian American Professionals. Paul was recently appointed to the U.S. Census Advisory Committee on the Asian Population. His principal research and teaching interests are in



the areas of American political behavior, public policy, ethnic group politics, Asian Americans, and American foreign policy. Paul is also a regular commentator on national and local television and radio, and contributor to newspapers and newsmagazines. A diehard Boston Red Sox fan (is there any other kind?) he and his wife Gloria have two grown children.

Board member Bob Naka inducted into Air Force Space and Missile Pioneers Hall of Fame

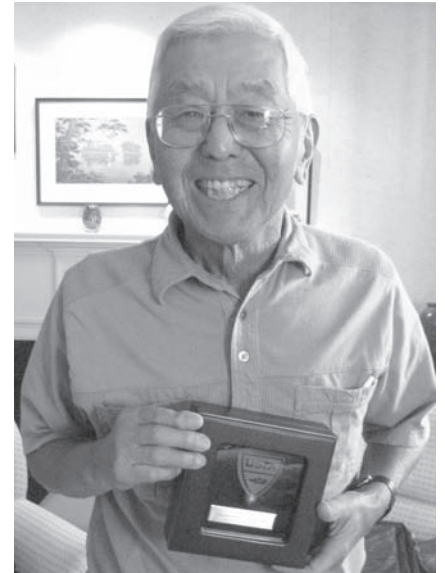


Gen. C. Robert Kehler, AFSPC commander presenting award citation

On August 11, 2009 five "space pioneers" were inducted into the Air Force Space and Missile Hall of Fame including the NSRC board's very own F. Robert Naka. According to the Air Force Space Command, Bob was a "pioneer in the development of a wide range of ground- and space-based systems including missile warning and space surveillance radars as well as reconnaissance systems. He invented the concept of 'cumulative probability of detection,' which he applied to the beam scan sequence of the large, fixed detection antenna for the Ballistic Missile Early Warning System. He was instrumental in designing the millstone hill radar that tracked Sputnik, the world's first artificial satellite, in October 1957."

The induction took place at Peterson AFB in Colorado. Bob's children and several grandchildren proudly attended the event.

CONGRATULATIONS BOB!



Congratulations to Yutaka Kobayashi!

Board member Yutaka Kobayashi received the "bronze tennis ball" at the US Tennis Association's national doubles tennis competition held at the famous Longwood Tennis Center in Boston. He won third place in the 85-and-older competition, fulfilling a lifelong dream. Yutaka and his wife Maureen were also inducted in the Kiawah (SC) Tennis Hall of Fame. Over nearly three decades Yutaka has won more points than any member of the Kiawah team.



Award ceremony photos by Michael Kolana Kek and Jean Hibino

2009 NSRC Awards Ceremony

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life and experiences not only puts a face to the NSRC's work but also shows that the Fund is making a difference in a student's life.

Keynote speaker California State Assemblymember Warren Furutani, (pictured above) spoke about opportunity and the importance of education and that someday he was sure there would be the first Cambodian Assembly person and first Cambodian on the LBUSD board. The audience really appreciated that.

This year's event was co-sponsored by the Khmer Parents' Association and Chair Chan Hopson specially recognized ALL the Khmer high school graduates. California State Assembly person Bonnie Lowenthal presented a "Resolution on

Cambodian Genocide Week" to Cal State University Long Beach. The grand finale was the NSRC winners and all the high school seniors having their names and high schools announced as they walked across the stage to loud applause. It was a very impressive scene and everyone enjoyed it. The ceremony concluded with a reception of delicious food provided by Sophy's Fine Thai and Cambodian Cuisine of Long Beach, and a raffle of wonderful door prizes.

The NSRC board of directors would like to give a hearty thanks and much appreciation to this year's Awards Committee, in particular the co-chairs Dean Toji and Bob Suzuki and the many volunteers and contributors; Cal State University Long Beach and President

F. King Alexander; Long Beach Unified School District; United Cambodian Community; CSULB Cambodian Student Society; and the Khmer Arts Cultural Center. Their hard work, assistance and support helped to make the awards a big success.



2009 Winners' Profiles



Named Scholarship Winners (\$2000 award)

Chhun, Alexander, Polytechnic High School.



During high school, Alex was able to balance academic achievement, student leadership, extracurricular activities, and part time work. He was a High Honors student and despite working part time to help pay for college, he also logged over 200 hours of community service. He plans to pursue a Ph.D. in Civil Engineering and Architecture. He wants to return to Long Beach to help improve the city's infrastructure and create eco-friendly parks. He is attending the University of California at San Diego.

Alex received the Koh, Mitsu and Dr. Koh Murai Scholarship because he plans to serve the community through engineering, architecture and environmental issues, following Dr. Murai's public service through his research and development of antibiotics and its contributions to public health. He also follows Dr. Murai's parents' advice, "study hard while you are young and always behave like a gentleman."

Eang, Freda, Lakewood High School.



Freda is a member of the Applied Technology Magnet Program at Lakewood, earned numerous academic distinctions, and graduated with highest honors. She is enthusiastic, highly organized and a disciplined self-starter. She received the Medal of Merit for being a top student in U.S. History; was named Student of the Year in Computer Applications; and was a Distinguished Student in chemistry. Freda speaks Khmer, Spanish and English and wants to study Mandarin in college. Her career goal is to be an ophthalmologist and serve as an interpreter and advocate for Khmer-speaking patients in the medical field. She is attending the University of California at Santa Barbara.



Freda received the Michihiko and Bernice Hayashida Scholarship because her high school achievements and future goals honor the Hayashidas decades of distinguished work and service in ophthalmology, education, hospitals and various community and neighborhood projects; as well as their wish to support educational endeavors in the Southeast Asian community.

Horn, Ratha, Polytechnic High School.



Growing up Ratha remembers having to translate for his mother and help her get used to life in America. He was on the Honor Roll for three years and received the Pursuit of Excellence Awards in science and math. The two biggest influences in his life are his family and a group called Educated Men with Meaningful Messages (EM3) a group dedicated to developing leadership skills, preventing teen pregnancy, promoting community involvement and environmental awareness. Ratha plans to become a teacher, "I want the opportunity to help children and inspire them to do great things in their life." He is attending California State University Long Beach.

Ratha received the Gladys Ishida Stone Scholarship. Gladys served as chair of the Department of History and Social Sciences at the University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point. She is remembered for her strength, sense of fun, dignity, discipline and love – attributes Ratha hopes to pass along in his future career.

Kao, Wanda, Millikan High School.



Wanda's academic and extracurricular activities were undertaken with enthusiasm and determination. She was on the Principal's Honor Roll, the QUEST High Honor Roll and served as an officer in various school clubs. She volunteered for over 200 hours of community service and helped care for her terminally ill grandmother. While in college, she wants to volunteer in the Cambodian community to help guide disadvantaged students as she was once helped. She is attending the University of California at Irvine and hopes to become a civil engineer.

Wanda received the Kay Yamashita Scholarship because her hard work, positive attitude and desire to "pay it forward" honors Kay's life's work.

Kong, Solene, Polytechnic High School.



Solene wrote in her essay that she comes from "what society labels as a 'low-income family' and many believe that because I am in this category my dreams are limited. One of my drives that push me to work hard is proving this stereotype wrong." She was a member of the 2006 Honor Roll and a magnet program for gifted and talented students. She has received Pursuit of Excellence Awards in French, English, and math; and also tutored. Solene is attending the University of California at Irvine and hopes to major in business economics and



minor in finance/accounting.

Solene received the Kaizo and Shizue Naka Scholarship because her pursuit of excellence in academics and extracurricular activities; and her career goals mirror the Nakas emphasis on education. Mr. Naka emigrated from Japan to work on a farm in Stockton, CA and then went on to earn his BA and MA from UC Berkeley.

Nguyen, Dominic, Polytechnic High School.



Dominic has a long track record of student leadership at his high school. He was on Student Commission (Council), is an AP Scholar, and received the Pursuit of Excellence Awards in geometry, intermediate algebra, AP biology and Honors chemistry. He is fluent in Vietnamese and English and plans to major in biology with the goal of medical school. He is the youngest child of refugee parents, he writes, "ten years from now the language barrier from the first and second generation will still be present and I can be the bridge the helps connect it." Dominic is attending Cerritos College in Norwalk, CA.

Dominic received the Tama Yoshimura Ishihara Scholarship because his determination to pursue higher education reflected Tama's firm belief in the value of education, especially for recent immigrant children, as a necessary tool for success in America.

Sim, Molica, Millikan High School.



In high school Molica was an exceptional student involved in sports, extracurriculars and community service. Her academic achievements have included the Principal's Honor Roll (every semester), National Honor Society and California Scholarship Federation. She was also a Varsity athlete in both badminton and soccer, and graduated with High Honors. She is attending the University of California at Irvine and plans to become an optometrist or a high school science teacher.

Molica received the Lafayette and Mayme Noda Scholarship because her desire to be a "chain reaction" whose "actions can be stepping stones for others" embodies the life's work and philosophy of the Nodas who always tried to make the world a better place.

Som, Jennifer, Polytechnic High School.



Jennifer is a member in the Program of Additional Curricular Experiences for academically talented students. She is also a gifted musician and dancer. Jennifer was involved in the Red Cross Club and the American Red Cross Youth Council. She raised \$600 and delivered over 500 school supplies to students in Cambodia. She credits her parents with giving her the "fuel and drive" of her work ethic and her desire to give back to Cambodia and the local Khmer community. She is attending San Diego State University and plans to major in Business Management. She hopes to become a hospital administrator.

Jennifer's dedication to her family and community, in addition to her focus on local and global health care and education issues, earned her the Nobu KumeKawa Hibino Scholarship. Nobu, the "driving force" and founding member of the NSRC Fund, established the first Head Start program in Connecticut.

Soung, Stephen, Polytechnic High School.



Stephen's teachers praised him for his effort, dedication, academic ability, positive attitude and leadership. He was on the Honor Roll every year, and volunteered at a hospital three days a week. He faces significant challenges to pay for college but this only motivates him to work harder. He hopes to be the first in his family to receive a college education and wants to use that to motivate his younger siblings. Stephen is attending Long Beach City College and plans to transfer to a four year school. His life goal is to become either a nurse or a doctor.

Stephen received the Alice Abe Matsumoto Scholarship because his dream of providing health care for public servants, military personnel and the underserved in Cambodia exemplifies Alice's decades of work promoting optimal nutrition, health and well-being.

Uk, Chimchanbo, Wilson High School.



"I felt as if I had to grow up instantly once moving to America." Like many children of immigrant/refugee parents, Chimchanbo grew up translating documents for her mother. She has overcome many economic and emotional hardships and was an outstanding student and leader. She was on the Principal's Honor Roll and a member of the Distinguished Scholars program. Her extracurricular activities included Link Crew, Khmer Club and Students Together Against Racism (STAR). She also participated in the National Conference for Community and Justice. She is attending Long Beach City College. Chimchanbo spoke at this year's awards ceremony (read excerpts of her speech in this newsletter).

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2009 Winners' Profiles

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Chimchanbo received the Michi Nishiura Weglyn Scholarship because she tried to make her high school a better place for all students. She hopes to work at the United Nations in order to improve the lives of citizens around the world. She exemplifies Michi Weglyn's tireless struggle for justice on so many issues.

General Scholarship Winners (\$1000 award)

Hul, April, Polytechnic High School.



April was selected as one of her high school's 12 International Ambassadors for her academic performance, citizenship, and commitment to school and community. She worked as a peer counselor in the CARE Center and was a youth volunteer for the American Red Cross. April hopes to continue making a positive impact on the Cambodian community as she continues her education. She is attending the University of California at Irvine and plans to get a degree in psychology.

Khiev, Lisa, Polytechnic High School.



As the first in her family to attend college, Lisa recognizes the pressure of setting an example for her younger siblings. She has succeeded academically and as a peer tutor with the AVID program at her high school and volunteering with community organizations. Lisa is attending San Francisco State University and plans to pursue a career in business or medicine.



Leang, Ramy, Polytechnic High School.



Despite having arrived in the U.S. in 2000 Ramy has become a top achiever in her English classes. While still in middle school she joined the Long Beach Schools Educational Talent Search. She has been noted for her "artistic and perceptive way of looking at the world" and hopes to use these skills as an interior designer upon graduation from college. Ramy is attending Cal State University Long Beach, the oldest of three children and the first in her family to attend college.

Meas, Monica, Lakewood High School.



Despite being shy and reserved by nature, Monica has worked hard to overcome this and other obstacles. She challenges herself to succeed academically. One of seven children raised by a single father and her older siblings, Monica hopes to repay all those who have sacrificed to help her. She hopes to become a Registered Nurse. She is attending Cal State University Long Beach.

Moy, Linda, Polytechnic High School.



Linda completed over 400 hours of community service in the Boys and Girls Club of Long Beach, the Khmer Girls in Action, the Cambodian Association of America and the American Red Cross. Linda received Pursuit of Excellence awards in geometry, Earth Science and English. Linda's inspiration is her father. She is attending San Diego State University and hopes to major in sociology.

Nou, Sandy, Wilson High School.



Sandy is an accomplished Cambodian classical dancer and instructor. She is the lead student instructor for the Cambodian Association of America's Arts Preservation Program, The Spirit of Khmer Angkor. She was president of her high school's Khmer Club her senior year. Sandy is bilingual and would like to use her skills as a social worker or in immigration or business. She is attending Cerritos College in Norwalk, CA.

Nuon, Danou, Jordan High School.



Danou and his family came from Cambodia just four years ago. He could barely speak English. Since then he got As almost every semester – his dedication and hard work paid off. He was a member of Peace 90805, the human relations campus club. Danou hopes to become a computer engineer.



Sea, Amanda, Polytechnic High School.



Despite family obstacles, Amanda is known for her positive attitude and determination to succeed. She received a Pursuit of Excellence medallion for English and was twice Student of Month in her academy, Medical and Professional Section. She regularly volunteered at the library where she worked with local school children. She is attending Cal State University Long Beach and plans to major in political science. Her goal is to become an attorney.

Song, Peter, Wilson High School.



Peter graduated as a Distinguished Scholar. He is described by his teachers as an excellent and dedicated student, positive, dynamic and personable. He wants to become an ophthalmologist or an optometrist because of his mother, a killing fields survivor diagnosed with glaucoma. He would also like to follow the example set by his father and serve the Cambodian community in Long Beach. Peter is attending Cal State University Long Beach and plans to major in biochemistry.

Ti, Monica, Jordan High School.



Monica has been on the Principal's Honor Roll and a Student of the Month. Her teachers praised her for her work ethic and character. She was active in the Key Club was a Recreational Leader for an after school program. Monica is attending the University of California at Irvine. She hopes to use her college education to "give back to her family and community for everything they have given me."

General Scholarship Winners (\$500 award)

Chan, Alyn, Polytechnic High School.



Alyn has taken her mother's advice to "make sure you get an education so you can go to college prepared and find a career of your choice." She is attending Cal State University Long Beach working towards a degree in communications. Alyn is happy she is close to home so she can continue her volunteer work with the Cambodian community.

Chhim, Neda, Polytechnic High School.



Neda credits her friends and teachers for pushing her to be a better student and a better human being. She is looking forward to new experiences and challenges at San Francisco State University. She plans on becoming a business major. She would like to maintain and strengthen her ties to her culture and community by someday working with Khmer youth to teach them the beauty of their language and culture.

Ear, Sovanmakara, Polytechnic High School.



Sovanmakara's counselors and teachers describe her as a pleasure to have in class and an enthusiastic learner. She was a dedicated library volunteer and assistant in the Counseling Office. She is attending Long Beach City College.

Im, Darin, Polytechnic High School.



Darin is a national AP scholar and continually challenges himself academically. He took courses during his senior year at Cal State Long Beach as part of the Young Scholars Program. He was also on the tennis team. He is attending Stanford University and plans to major in either chemical or biomedical engineering.

Khim, David, Lakewood High School.



David has worked hard to balance his academics with community service and badminton. He was a vital member of his school's first Moore League championship badminton team. He was also the president of his school's Key Club. He sees getting a college education as a way to "repay my parents for what they done for me and sacrificed." David is attending the University of California Irvine and plans a career in either biomedical engineering or pharmaceutical sciences.

Ngan, Taylor, Lakewood High School.



Taylor was active in the Lakewood Red Cross as a blood donor recruiter and in the Accolade Club as an art donor. He also worked part time at the Long Beach Unified School District and a non-profit organization. His referents praised him for his character, leadership and communication skills. Taylor is attending Cal State University Long Beach and hopes to become an immunologist or an environmental scientist.

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Enjoying this year's award ceremony (left to right): MC, Alan Nishio; local committee member, June Hibino; NSRCF supporter, Laura Misumi; Co-chair, Dean Toji; president, Paul Watanabe



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Savady, Mary, Wilson High School.



Mary was an active leader in several community organizations such as Khmer Girls in Action and Boys & Girls Club of Long Beach, and was a youth leader/volunteer coordinator for the 6th District's Martin Luther King, Jr. Clean Up Day and Global Youth Service Day. She is attending Cerritos College in Norwalk, CA and hopes to pursue a career in criminal justice.

Thao, Bee, Millikan High School.



Bee's family came to America in 1994 to escape the hardships of life following the Vietnam War. "I was fortunate to be young enough to go to preschool while my older siblings started in the first grade and up. So my father always said that I would be the most successful person in the family. This saying helps keep me determined in whatever I do in regards to school." Bee enjoyed math classes and hopes to become an engineer. He is attending Cal State University Long Beach.

Ung, Christine, Polytechnic High School.



Christine loves getting involved, she is described as outgoing, bright, and energetic. In addition to her involvement in several school organizations, Christine was also a leader and mentor in her church's youth group. She also works at her family's restaurant. She is attending Long Beach City College and wants to pursue a career in nursing, psychiatry or geriatrics. She particularly sees a need among people without health insurance during this time of economic difficulty.

Vongchantha, Ada, Polytechnic High School.



Ada is described as thoughtful, sincere and with a "deep sense of passion and determination not only for improving her own circumstances, but also those of her community." She has done electoral work in Long Beach with Khmer Girls in Action, and despite significant family, financial, and educational challenges, Ada was the first in her family to attend college. She is at California State University Dominguez Hills and hopes to become a teacher.

Would you like to receive the NSRCF newsletter by email?

Save the NSRC Fund time and money! The cost of printing and postage increases every year. Approximately 2,300 newsletters are mailed out. You can view the annual newsletter by visiting the website at www.nsrcfund.org or have it emailed to you. Just let Jean Hibino know: jeanhibino@aol.com. Thank you!

NSRC NAMED SCHOLARSHIPS, LEGACY AND TRIBUTE FUNDS

The NSRC Fund's annual awards are made possible by contributions from individuals and organizations. Named Scholarships, Legacy Funds and Tribute Funds enable anyone, including organizations, to honor, commemorate or pay tribute to individuals, groups or events. If you would like information about establishing a Named Scholarship Fund (minimum \$20,000), a Legacy Fund (minimum \$10,000) or a Tribute Fund (minimum \$2,000), please contact the NSRC Fund at 19 Scenic Drive, Portland, CT 06480.

The following funds have been established, and are designated by who created them, * and (). The Board of Directors is grateful for the generous support these funds have received, as noted, during the period from October 1, 2008 to October 1, 2009.

NAMED SCHOLARSHIPS

Michihiko and Bernice Hayashida*

David & Catherine Hayashida
Paul Hayashida
Susan Hayashida

Nobu Kumekawa Hibino

(Family and Friends of Nobu Kumekawa Hibino)
Sam & Teri Fujikawa
Diane Hibino & John Triplett
Haruo & Mary Hanamura
Shirley Hibino
Phuoc & Erin Le
Cathy Inamasu
Jim & Toby Kubota
Diane Misumi
Michio Nakajima
Rick & Karen Okabe
Marisa Rivero & Michael McNulty
Mark & Kim Rivero
Nancy & Jack Sneider

Tama Yoshimura Ishihara

(* and Jiro Ishihara)
Jiro Ishihara
Kiyo Yoshimura

Alice Abe Matsumoto

(Family and friends of Alice Abe Matsumoto)
Steve Matsumoto
Michio Nakajima
John & Patty Tanaka

Koh, Mitsu, and Dr. Kotaro

Murai (The Murai Family)
Mary Murai
Takuro Nakae

Kaizo and Shizue Naka

(F. Robert and Patricia Naka)
David Naka

Lafayette and Mayme Noda

(Walter N. Frank)
Eldora Adachi in memory of Mayme Noda
Evelyn & Gary Glenn in memory of Mayme Noda
Miho Kunzer
Phuoc & Erin Le
Joan Longcope
Mary Lou Munts in honor of Mayme Noda
Kay Nishiyama & David Noda
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In addition to those who gave to specific Named Scholarships, Legacy Funds and Tribute Funds, the NSRC Fund Board of Directors extends its thanks and appreciation to the following contributors who gave to the general fund between October 1, 2008 and October 1, 2009. We appreciate that you continue to believe the Fund's mission is worthwhile and deserving.

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KENJI MURASE

Former NSRC board member Kenji Murase passed away in his San Francisco home on June 2, 2009 at the age of 89.

Kenji was attending UC Berkeley when he and his family were sent to the Poston, Arizona internment camp. Through the efforts of the National Japanese American Student Relocation Council, he left Poston to attend Temple University in Philadelphia. He received his Master's of Social Work from Columbia and became one of the first faculty members recruited to the new Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research at San Francisco State University. Kenji joined the NSRC board in 1982 and remained on it for 22 years. When he retired in 2004, he was honored for the dedication, energy and leadership that marked his tenure:

"Dr. Kenji Murase played a critically important role in the development and success of the Nisei Student Relocation Commemorative Fund. One of the earliest members of its Board of Directors, Dr. Murase organized the first NSRC Fund student award ceremony in June of 1983 in Berkeley, California. He involved eighteen local committee members and established a model for all subsequent local award committees. His wise requirement that all applicants submit personal essays has led to the collection of a rich archive of materials offering a panoramic view of Southeast Asian perspectives.

"Over the years, Dr. Murase also represented the NSRC Board of Directors at award ceremonies in several communities in California and nearby states, and conducted the preliminary research and investigation for award ceremony venues throughout the country. In 2003 he wrote, 'During the past 40 years I have been associated with many worthy charitable and service organizations. None has been as rewarding in interpersonal terms or as effective in fulfilling its mission as the NSRC Fund.' The Board, in turn, has been enormously rewarded by Dr. Murase's years of devoted work."

EJI SUYAMA, a founding member of the New England Nisei, passed away June 8, 2009 in Sebastopol, CA. Eji was chief of surgery at the Maine Coast Memorial Hospital in Ellsworth for many years. It was during this time that the New England Nisei group was treated royally to his famous clam bakes and lobster bakes and hours on his sailboat. The great food and even better company strengthened and affirmed those Nisei friendships.

PAUL TANI, a founding member of the NSRC Fund in the late 1970s, passed away February 19, 2009 at age 83. He lived in Ashburn, VA. He and his family were interned at Topaz and while there, he was drafted into the Army. After the war Mr. Tani received his Master's Degree in mathematics from Stanford and was among the first to write programs for the first commercially available electronic digital computers. Mr. Tani was an early and ardent supporter of the idea of a scholarship fund established on the concept of "ongaeshi" – repaying a kindness. He believed strongly in the necessity and power of higher education.

AUDREY LOGAN

The NSRC Fund mourns the passing of our good friend Audrey (Armour) Logan, a Quaker with a lifelong concern for young people and commitment to education. Audrey worked for justice and fairness, marching in protests, standing in vigils, writing letters to newspaper editors, teaching children, and sharing her resources generously. She was born in Brooklyn, New York in 1916. After elementary school, she studied at Friends Academy in Locust Valley, Long Island, where she first encountered and embraced the Quaker faith that was to guide her throughout her life. After graduating

from Smith College, Audrey trained as a teacher at the Bank Street College of Education in New York City. From the time she first learned of the founding of the NSRC Fund until the end of her life on November 1, 2008, Audrey offered her support and encouragement.

GARY FUJIWARA

Gary passed away in June of 2008 at age 72. We first met Gary after an article appeared in the *Boston Globe* about his art and work with the Boston Children's Museum. He immediately grasped the significance of the NSRC Fund and offered his artistic talents. He created our "Named Fund" brochure and was getting ready to update it when he got ill. He and his family were regular attendees at Oshogatsu, the New Year's celebration begun by the New England Nisei group. Gary was a wonderful, creative, talented, gentle soul.



This year we also bid farewell to **HARUKO (Koizumi) MISUMI** (at left) and **SUMIKO (Fujii) BIDERMAN**, both longtime supporters of the NSRC Fund. Mrs. Misumi, 87, passed away July 13, 2009 in San Francisco. She was an art teacher in Topaz, and in later years painted and became quite skilled at Japanese doll-making. She was the

mother of our newsletter guru, Don, and his two siblings. Mrs. Biderman, 84, passed away March 2, 2009. She was also interned at Topaz, and due to the efforts of the National Japanese American Student Relocation Council, left camp for Bennington College in Vermont. She was a longtime Democratic Party activist and resident of McLean, VA.

TO: **NISEI STUDENT RELOCATION COMMEMORATIVE FUND, INC.**
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