



McKinley High School Foundation
1039 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

mckinleyfoundation.com

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JACKSON NAKASONE

It is with great reluctance that the Board of Directors accepted the resignation of Jackson Nakasone, Class of 1963. Jackson has been on the Board of Directors from the very beginning of the Foundation. He served as President for many years and under his guidance the Foundation has prospered. Jackson and his wife, Carol, have been strong supporters of our efforts and we are indebted to both of them. Without Jackson's support and enthusiasm for McKinley our Scholarship Program and the financial stability of the Foundation would not be at the level we are today.

The Board of Directors is sincerely grateful to Jackson for his many years of service and support. And to Carol for her unselfishly supporting Jackson behind the scenes. We wish you the best in the future in all you do. With warm aloha we bid you adieu.

Officers of the Board of Directors:

President: Bruce Nakaoka

Immediate Past President: Carl Takamura

1st Vice President: Sandra Kim

2nd Vice President: Susan Sumida

Treasurer: Ben Nakaoka

Secretary: Reiko Lin

PLANNED GIVING

As life's circumstances change, so do insurance policies related to your financial planning. You can have the satisfaction of helping McKinley High School, its teachers and students in the future by gifting an insurance policy that's no longer needed. If a donor transfers a life insurance policy to the McKinley High School Foundation, the gift is tax -deductible for gift tax purposes. If the donor pays subsequent premiums due on the policy, those additional premium payments constitute additional gifts that would also qualify for the gift tax charitable deduction.

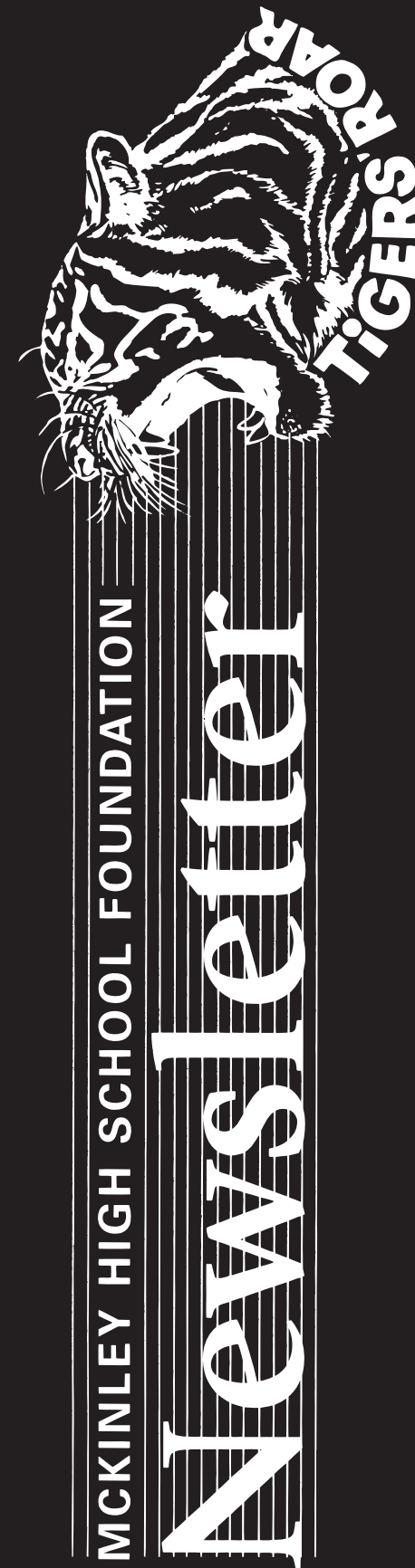
In addition for the first time, IRA owners can give a portion of their retirement savings directly to charity without first counting it as income and pay income tax. In 2006 & 2007, holders of traditional and Roth IRAS who are at least 70 1/2-years-old can make direct charitable transfers up to \$100,000 per year.

For more information, please contact the McKinley High School Foundation at (808) 536-3832 or send in the short form below.

Name (Please Print): _____

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Mail to: McKinley High School Foundation
1039 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814



mckinleyfoundation.com
December 2010 - Volume 14, Number 1

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



BRUCE NAKAOKA

Aloha,

As another new year approaches, we look forward with high hopes and reflect back on last year's achievements. Much thanks to past President Carl Takamura ('62) for his steady leadership of the McKinley Foundation over the past four years, a period which saw total scholarships awarded exceed \$870,000. You...the proud alumni of McKinley, corporate partners and community supporters helped fuel the educational pursuits of nearly 550 worthy MHS graduates.

The stories and expressions of gratitude from the Class of 2010 awardees are shared in this newsletter.

Have you seen the updated Foundation website? Go to: www.mckinleyfoundation.org. The new video vignettes bring life to the mission of the Foundation, and how about that Class of '42 guy recently elected to his ninth term as U. S. Senator. We are particularly grateful to board member Susan Eichor ('80), President and COO of aio Group, videographer Susanne Kurisu (Menpachi Productions) and board member Hoala Greevy ('94) for making this happen in record time. While on the website, we hope you will consider extending your financial support of the Foundation.

In the new world of Facebook friending and Twitter tweeting, (none of which I understand), we know this virtual vehicle will help strengthen our alumni network and encourage all to be as generous as possible. As board member Brian Maeshiro ('75) notes, "Tigers...they're great!"

Finally, we would be remiss if we didn't acknowledge the service, generosity and kolohe imagination of departing board member Jackson Nakasone ('63) who will bring his considerable talents and energy as President of the Palama Settlement Board of Trustees. Good luck Jackson.

Wishing everyone a healthy, joyful and prosperous new year!

Bruce Nakaoka ('75)

CLASS OF 1977

We are extremely grateful to all of the alumni who hold their reunions and so very generously donate their surplus funds to the Foundation. It is because there are so many of you out there who have taken up the idea of giving back to your alma mater that our Scholarship Program is so successful. Recently the Class of 1977 held their reunion. They held a raffle and donated the proceeds to the Foundation. We thank Amy Monk who was the mastermind behind the raffle and donation. And we thank the entire Class of '77 for this generous gesture. Thank you to every class who has so graciously and generously supported the Scholarship Program. Including the Class of 2009, they sponsored a scholarship for the Class of 2010. A huge Mahalo to all of you!!

McKINLEY HIGH SCHOOL FOUNDATION

JULY 16, 2010 - DECEMBER 3, 2011

Class of `31

George Donald Gedge
In memory of Michio Oyama & Teruo Sasaki

Class of `35

Lillian (Mow) Ako
In memoy of husband Dennis James Lee
Verna Sue Lee

Class of `36

Marjorie Ann (Hoo) Miller

Class of `37

Alice T. (Tom) Lum

Class of `38

Herbert H.Y.S. Foo

Class of `39

Wah Chiu Chang
In memory of Bernard K.S. Leong & Dr. Albert Tsuda
Richard Y. Kanno
Munny (Ah Mun) Lee
Masayoshi Nakamura
Glenn Nakasone

Class of `40

Haruyuki Kamemoto

Class of `42

Isamu Furuya
Kazue (Watanabe) Granich

Class of `43

Carol (Furuike) Berk
Annie Tom Chang
In memory of Bernard K.S.Leong & Dr. Albert Tsuda
Laura (Mock) Foo
Norman Hashisaka
Wakao Kawada
In memory of Yoshio Inouye
Class of `46
Catherine (Yogi) Morishige
Mitsuru Sakamoto
Seiko Tokuda

Class of `44

Wakao Kawada
In memory of Yoshio Inouye
Class of `46
Betty Kikuyama
Richard Kikuyama
Kazuo Kosaki
Henry Miura
Irene Sawada
In memory of Makoto Sawada
Class of `44
Laura (Aragaki) Yanamura

Class of `45

Rachel (Hiramoto) Fukuda

Betty (Tagawa) Harimoto
Walter Harimoto
Kiyoji Takenishi
William Toyofuku
May S. (Anami) Uyeda
In memory of Larry Nolan Anami
Class of `49
Shuk Fon Yuen

Class of `46

Fred Kamemoto
Helen (Ikenaga) Shigemura
In memory of Richard Shigemura

Class of `47

Albert Fukuda
In memory of Gladys (Tagawa) Fukuda
Class of `46
Henry Kodama
In memory of James Molo
Class of `45

Class of `48

Helen (Morichika) Fujimoto
George Furuuchi
In memory of Linda “The Songbird” Dela Cruz
Nancy (Mana) Hamabata
John T. Inouye
In memory of brother Robert Inouye
Class of `49
Calvin L.Y. Lyau
Ruth (Kam) Wong
Robert Y. Yonesaki

Class of `49

David Hirai
In memory of Daniel Ho Class of `49
Ellen (Taki) Kosaki
Gerald M. C. Liu
In memory of wife Rose Liu
Class of `51
Edward Matayoshi
In honor of Emma Lue Drake (Faculty Music Band)
Margaret Ojima
Jacqueline K. (Amina) Rapoza

Class of `50

Donald Harada
In memory of Bruce Shigeki Hamada
Class of `45 &
Hiram “Bomber” Sasaki
Class of `48
Mildred Miyasato
Doris (Suzuki) Ojiri
Yoshinori Ojiri

Class of `51

June Akigi
In memory of Mildred (Kano) Makaoi
Class of `50 &
June (Okabe) Yamasaki Class of `51
Franklin Mishima

Louise (Pabro) Okuma
William Okuma
Thomas Uedoi

Class of `53

Margaret (Ching) Lyau
Albert Morinaka
Aileen (Fujitani) Okamoto

Class of `54

Tit Kwong Chun
Janie Iwai
Robert Iwai
Class of 1954 Scholarship
Bert Maekawa
Ethel (Yoda) Mukai
Benjamin Shimokawa
In memory of Richard Yasuda
Class of `52 &
Don Radcliffe
Nancy (Higa) Shimokawa
In memory of Richard Yasuda
Class of `52 & Don Radcliffe
Coletta (Wong) Shiroma
In honor of MHS
Class of 1954
Eleanor Tokunaga

Class of `55

Elaine (Kim) Silva

Class of `56

Jane (Sueda) Fujioka
Joy (Tanaka) Fujitani
George Masaki
In memory of Samson Tatsuguchi
Class of `55

Class of `57

John K. Almarez
In memory of Edward Almarez
Class of `57
Harold K. Asato
Joyce (Shimada) Asato
Calvin Namihira
Dennis Toyama

Class of `58

Charlie Honda
In memory of Roy Honda
Class of `56 and
Roy Sunaoka
Class of `58
Gary N. Kinoshita
Lois (Tomooka) Mihaylo
Myrna (Okamura) Nip

Class of `59

June Kaya
In memory of Faith (Morinaka) Sumida
Stanley Murakami

Class of `60

Bert Arakawa

Charline Q. Chang
Sharon (Ogawa) Inamine
In memory of mother
Yaeko (Fujii) Ogawa
Class of `30 and
Brother Colin Ogawa
Class of `66
Judy (Nakamura) Ishihara
Frank Kawamura
In memory of wife
Jeanette (Lee) Kawamura
Class of `63
Milton Kusunoki
JoAnn N. Lara
In honor of the Class of `60
Stanley Masaki
George T. Nomura
Ernest Shimodoi
In memory of Sydney Vierra
Class of `60

Class of `62

Darlene Ulalia KaaI Berman
In memory of Mrs. Josephine `Ikuwa KaaI
Class of `20
Karen (Yasui) Chang
Carole (Yee) Hiyama
Roy Hiyama
Norman Kino
Philip Muramoto
Vernon Pai
Dennis Pang
In memory of Randall Uchima and Myles Matsuura
Class of `62
Carole (Shimizu) Onouye
In memory of Ethel S. Shimizu, my Mother
Kenneth Takushi
Frances (Kaneshiro) Yamamoto
Rodney Yamamoto

Class of `63

Patrick E. Carvalho
Diane (Hayduk) Hollinger
In honor of father
William Hayduk
Marilyn (Wong) Kamimura
Georgianna (Morishige) Ludvig
In memory of brother
Ronald “Sash” Morishige
Class of `65
Amy (Muranaka) Matsuda
Cynthia (Ching) Takeda
Steven Tokuda
Mario C. Yano
In memory of Warren & Louis Yano

Class of `64

Carol (Fukunaga) Emerson
Gail K. Ogawa
Walt Yasumoto
Lorraine (Honda) Young

Class of `65

Dianne (Kitagawa) Douglas
Gayle (Nakano) Fukunaga

In memoy of Hiroshi Ige
MHS Counselor
Van B. Nakagawara
In honor of the Class of `65
Elizabeth Tajima
In memory of Aunt Barbara (Yaeko) Misawa Fukunaga
Class of `38 and
In honor of Carole (Shimizu) Kai
Onouye Class of `62
Cynthia Teramoto
In memory of Ted Teramoto
Class of `65

Class of `66

Jenny Choy
David Lam Jr.
David Miyashita
Etta (Yee) Murakami
In memory of Sueno Murakami (1920-2010)
Keith Murakami
In memory of Sueno Murakami (1920-2010)
Rose (Hatakeyama) Pai
Catherine (Chun) Shepherd
Winston S. Wong

Class of `69

Gary Azama
Ray Kanemori
Keith Kurahashi
Michael Nekoa
In memory of Charles Ciacci
Class of `51
Wayne Shiohira

Class of `71

Susan M. Hashimoto
Luis R. Segovia
In memory of Helen and Lydia Segovia

Class of `74

Laurie (Tsuji) Kauleinamoku
In memory of brother
Albert Kazuyoshi Tsuji
Class of `76
Ben Nakaoka
John & Jeanne Oshiro

Class of `75

Tertia (Shishido) Freas
Bruce Nakaoka
Annie Shimabukuro (Friend of MHSF)
In memory of son Wes Shimabukuro
Class of `75
Diane Yamauchi

Class of `77

Class of `77 alumni
Attending Class Reunion
Susan Yamane

Class of `79

Amy Abe
Joyce Lee

Class of `81

John Yuen

Class of `82

Su Sen Chang Tran

Class of `84

Alan Chun

Class of `94

Mini Co
Class of `94 Scholarship
Ho`ala Greevy
Class of `94 Scholarship
Richard Hoke
Class of `94 Scholarship
Sheila Kim
Class of `94 Scholarship
Yvette (Nozaki) Matsumoto
Class of `94 Scolarship

Class of `04

Nhi Hoan Quach

Class of `05

Sandy Ma

Class of `07

Connie Ma

Class of `08

Irene Ma
Tom Shek

Friends of MHS

Rosario Caratozzolo
Michael Chun
Marian (Ige) Hayashida
In memory of father Yuichi Ige
Class of `29
Franklin Hayashida
In memory of Father-in-law Yuichi Ige
Class of `29
Gannett Foundation
In conjunction with Bart Asato
Hung Wo & Elizabeth Lau
Ching Foundation
Junior Achievement of Hawaii
Macy's
in conjunction with Richard & Betty Kikuyama
Microsoft
Dale Nakayama
In memory of Tokie Sakata
Class of `39
Annie Shimabukuro
Gary & Jodi Yoshioka
McKinley High School Robotics Team for the Professionalism of Osa Tui
And team members Jessica And Michelle. To all the Great students & Advisors At McKinley.

PROFILES OF OUR 2010 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

As part of the scholarship application process the applicants were asked to write about a personal challenge. The following excerpts are a brief synopsis of what they wrote about. We hope that it helps give an insight on part of the reason they were selected. As much as possible the renditions are “in their own words”.



Daniel Hong

Daniel writes that his inspiration to succeed had much to do with his two older sisters; both were star athletes and valedictorians of their respective classes. I think we all would feel challenged trying to live up to these standards – and Daniel was no different. Daniel excelled academically and was a competitor in the Intel International & Engineering Fair in Atlanta, Georgia; where he came in fourth. This science fair gave him the clarity to decide that he would pursue a career in biology and one day become a physician. He became an active volunteer at the American Lung Association and at the Queen’s Medical Center. He had the unique opportunity to work with individuals who want to quit smoking. Hearing their stories for wanting to quit was inspiring and helping them to make that vision a reality made volunteering worthwhile.

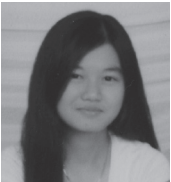
Daniel will be attending the University of Hawaii at Manoa, where he will major in Biology. He is the recipient of the Alexander & Baldwin, Inc. Robert J. Pfeiffer Community Scholarship in the amount of \$4,000.



Li Xi Liu

Li says that she has always been exceptionally shy, so much so that she was ridiculed and bullied by her peers. When her family immigrated to Hawaii six years she struggled to learn English and immerse herself in a new culture. She says that being fluent in English was not her greatest achievement. Overcoming her low self-esteem and finding confidence was her greatest challenge. A presentation in front of her classmates was the defining moment that she attributes to her emerging out of her shell to become a bright and pleasant butterfly.

Li Xi is attending Kettering University where she is majoring in Mechanical Engineering. She is the recipient of Foundation Scholarship Honoring Eyninne & Kay Lee in the amount of \$3,000.



Tina Nguyen

Tina states that when she was in the third grade her parents switched occupations from restaurant cook to self-employed retailer, selling clothes at the Swap Meet. This was life changing for her. Because babysitters were expensive she and her brother spent the days with their parents at the Swap Meet. Feeling cheated out of free time she resented the time at the Swap Meet and time away from TV and friends. When her parents again changed careers to selling cell phone accessories, she learned the business with them, because of their limited English they had a hard time remembering all of the phones available. She now looks back at that time as life changing. She learned that hard work does pay off and that with dedication one can attain their goals.

Tina is attending the University of Hawaii at Manoa where her major is Biology and eventually she wants to be a Pediatrician. She is the recipient of Hung Wo & Elizabeth Lau Ching Foundaiton Scholarship in the amount of \$2,000.



Andi Ngo

Andi writes that as a child growing up, he did not have access to cable television and the internet – but he was intrigued by learning and sought out books to answer questions like, why the sky rained water, why his ears popped on the airplane and why his eyes saw colors. While the desire to learn yielded many benefits; it also had a negative impact on his social skills. He wasn’t afraid to ask questions in class, but he found it difficult to strike up a conversation with his peers. So he joined McKinley’s Speech Team in hopes of curing as he puts it his social ineptitude. Under the tutelage of coach, Mr. Newkirk, and a mentor, a senior who was state champion in Humorous Interpretation, he began to chip away at his soft-spoken shell. He learned to project his voice, control facial expressions and most importantly, have eye contact. As a result he is no longer afraid of being stuck in awkward conversation. He says he still loves learning but “the withdrawn me is no more”.

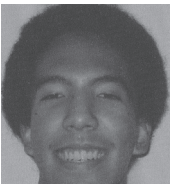
Andi is attending the University of Hawaii at Manoa where he is a Biology/Pre-Medicine Major. He is the recipient of Hung Wo & Elizabeth Lau Ching Foundaiton Scholarship in the amount of \$3,000.



Christina Nguyen

Christina has a fierce desire to move forward. It came down to a tennis match for the Oahu East Side Soft Tennis Championship to make her realize that she has what it takes to succeed. Down two games to four (the first pair to win five games wins the match) she and her partner came back to tie the match four to four. While they didn’t ultimately win the match, she learned that she needs to keep moving forward. She quotes an old Japanese proverb “Fall seven times, stand up eight”. She says that this message is crystal clear. “Life doesn’t wait for you when you fall down flat on your face. It’s up to you to get back up again and chase after it. That’s why no matter how many times I fall, no matter how many championships I may lose, I’ll keep getting back up again to win the game, set, and match”.

Christina is attending the University of Hawaii at Manoa where her major is Psychology. She is the recipient of the Jack Tsui Scholarship in the amount of \$2,500.



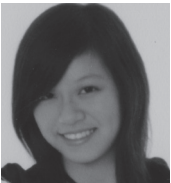
Takanori Shiotsu

Takanori’s Ap Chemistry teacher Ms. Katherine Taniguchi writes “Having been an advanced placement chemistry teacher for over 25 years, I feel that I am quite experienced in recognizing a gifted student even if I have known him for only a short time (five months) and even though he is reserved and unassuming.

Takanori Shiotsu is such a student; quiet by nature but brilliant and productive. He performs outstandingly; his work reflecting lucid, logical thought. I particularly enjoy correcting his free response explanations and calculations because he conveys as clearly, thoroughly, and meticulously as he thinks”.

Takanori writes that his one big challenge was overcoming his fear of water and learning to swim when many of his fellow classmates were much younger than him. Although embarrassed because of this he persevered and can now swim – he says he still dislikes swimming, but he has made progress and for that he is proud.

Takanori is attending the University of Hawaii at Manoa where he majoring in Computer Science. He is the recipient of Foundation Scholarship Honoring Dr. Raymond Yap in the amount of \$2,500.



Jun Li Zhong

Jun Li says that her biggest challenge was learning to accept the responsibility of looking after her younger brother when her parents were at work. She resented it when it took time away from her studies. When she complained to her older sister, who was away at college, she took her words to heart. Her sister said “He’s your brother who’s only six! Remember to set a good example for him. I know it’s hard for you, but don’t try to make it any harder for mom and dad. You can do it. Remember that ‘Whatever does not kill you, makes you stronger’ as Nietzsche once said.” That phrase completely altered her thinking and she believes that today she is a better person and is grateful her parents gave her the opportunity to discover that by improving other’s lives she enriched her own.

Jun Li is attending the University of Portland where her major is International Business. She is the recipient of Foundation Scholarship Honoring Abraham & Shin Quon Wong Goo in the amount of \$2,500.



Angelica Marie Fernandez



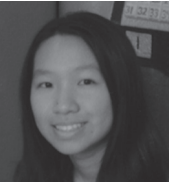
Christopher Escalante



Wendy Wu



Seon Joo Lee



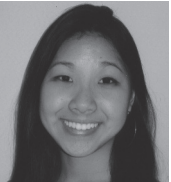
Jane Lai



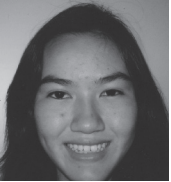
Valerie Dao



Jamie Li



Vanessa Lui



Annie Do

Angelica describes herself as being “reliable”, to quote her “When I say “reliable”, I do not just mean that I was responsible, but that I was a person that my friends can rely on”. Always there when a friend or family member needed a helping hand, Angelica’s biggest challenge was learning to rely on them when she was in need. After a very dear aunt passed away, an aunt that she considered her second mother, did she learn that being on the receiving end of support was gratifying. She learned that it is give and take in life – we can give support and we must learn to accept support when we need it.

Angelica is attending Seattle University where she is majoring in Biology/Pre-Medicine. She is the recipient of a Hung Wo & Elizabeth Lau Ching Foundation Scholarship in the amount of \$2,500.

Learning to play the Euphonium was Christopher’s big challenge. When he took up the instrument in Middle school he placed last in his section. Embarrassed he told himself he would never be last seat again. Diligently practicing and never hesitating to ask questions about the music or the instrument, he would practice twice a day. It paid off! He placed first in his section for the second semester seating test. He continued to play the instrument at McKinley and in his senior year he was Low Brass section leader and first chair Euphonium player. He says that he has learned that through hard work and determination he was able to overcome difficulties in learning how to play the Euphonium and it is a lesson that he knows will help him in the future.

Christopher is attending the University of Hawaii at Manoa where his major is Mechanical Engineering. He is the recipient of a Hung Wo & Elizabeth Lau Ching Foundation Scholarship in the amount of \$2,000.

Being the oldest of four children, Wendy had the task of helping out around the house, from baby sitting to laundry and learning to cook at an early age has shaped her to become the responsible individual she is today. There was a time when she became resentful for having the burden of doing most of the household chores. Then one day she caught a glimpse of her mother and realized that she looked frail. Wendy knew that this was from working and keeping the family fed and cleaned. From that day forward she encouraged her siblings to do their share of work – this was a turning point and one that she knows benefits all of them.

Wendy is attending Creighton University where she is majoring in Dentistry. She is the recipient of a Hung Wo & Elizabeth Lau Ching Foundation Scholarship in the amount of \$2,000.

Having immigrated to Hawaii from Korea was Seon Joo’s toughest challenge. Her biggest obstacle was the language barrier. She did not know any English and was put in an ESL (English Second Language) class and struggled. With a whole lot of studying she passed her English class and was awarded “Most Improved Student Award” in 8th grade. When she transitioned to McKinley she continued to study hard and in her senior year took three AP classes. She says that taking AP literature was her biggest challenge in life to date.

Seon Joo is attending the University of Hawaii at Manoa where her major is Pharmacy. She is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship Honoring Steven Hirano in the amount of \$2,000.

Jane writes that during the summer of her junior year she volunteered for the Therapeutic Recreation Team at Kuakini Hospital. This experience was a challenge in the sense that she was not there just to fulfill her work assigned; she also needed to be friendly and upbeat. She found that the age difference made this difficult and making conversation with the patients was strained. Only after she changed her attitude and begin to look at the patients as individuals did she realize that the age difference was only a state of mind. She states that “the sympathy I felt for them was rather needless and rude, dubbing them helpless creatures by appearance”. She says that she must make sure that her openness will never hinder her in such a way again.

Jane is attending American University where she is majoring in International Relations. She is the recipient of the McKinley Class of 2009 Scholarship in the amount of \$1,600.

Valerie says that until she began to write about her feelings and issues she not only found herself but also a passion for writing. Not sure of where to turn at times – she turned to putting all of her desires and fears down on paper. It was therapeutically healing – and filled her with hope for the future. She now looks forward to pursuing her degree in English.

Valerie is attending the University of Hawaii at Manoa where her major is English. She is the recipient of a Foundation Scholarship Honoring Senator Patsy Young in the amount of \$1,500.

Jamie writes that her one big challenge has been communicating with her parents. They do not speak a lot of English and Jamie does not speak Cantonese as well as she would like. Because her parents worked and there was a big age difference between her and her siblings looked after her most of the time. Her sisters spoke to her only in English – although she went to Chinese school, she did not speak Cantonese on a daily basis and it was difficult. When her sisters went on to college she had no choice but to work on her communication. She now is proud that her efforts have brought her and her parents closer together and her father even helped her test out a generator.

Jamie is attending Seattle University where her major is Environmental Science/Engineering. She is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship Honoring Dr. Ruth Ono in the amount of \$1,500.

Vanessa says that her big challenge was learning to speak in public without having jitters and sweaty palms. She states that if she gave a class presentation she would be overcome by an unexplainable feeling of paralysis. It wasn’t until she entered the Pacific Symposium for Science and Sustainability did she began to feel more comfortable speaking in front of others and it has helped her to overcome other personal challenges.

Vanessa is attending the University of Hawaii at Manoa where her major is Biology. She is the recipient of a McKinley Foundation Scholarship Honoring Bennett C.L. Ing in the amount of \$1,500.

Being shy and as Annie puts it, socially awkward, her life changing event happened her sophomore year. A camping excursion on the North Shore at Camp Erdman, with her Honors World History Class to help the class prepare for an upcoming project ended up giving Annie so much more. Her teacher Ms. Nakamura, emphasized that each individual get our of their “comfort zone”, teamwork, communication, dedication and having the courage to face your fears. Annie states that in the span of two days she got close to people learned to trust in people and felt herself breaking out of her bubble she had kept herself in – she became more open and endearing toward others.

Annie is attending the University of Hawaii at Manoa where she is majoring in Dentistry. She is the recipient of the Jeanette M.Y. Kawamura Memorial Award in the amount of \$1,250.



Geneva Nguyen

Geneva came to Hawaii with her father in 2001, not speaking English and not having any friends made her wish that she could go back to Vietnam. When she was wrongly accused of stealing something that another student had stolen and put in her bag did she realize that she needed to stand up for herself and not allow others to take advantage of her. Today she speaks fluent English and has many friends and takes pride in knowing that the one person she can depend on is her!

Geneva is attending the University of Washington where her major is Pharmacy. She is the recipient of a Carole Kai Charities Scholarship in the amount of \$1,250.



Yenmy Truong

As a child Yenmy was painfully shy. So shy that she frustrated her teachers because she whispered her answers. In Middle school, with the aid of a teacher who said she needed to come out of her shell, she found her voice. Later at McKinley she gained confidence with good grades and learned teamwork, communication and responsibility when she joined robotics and the math team. She not only learned engineering skills, she made many friends along the way. Inspired, she hopes to become a mechanical engineer.

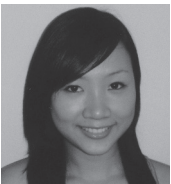
Yenmy is attending the University of Hawaii at Manoa where she is majoring in Mechanical Engineering. She is the recipient of a Carole Kai Charities Scholarship in the amount of \$1,250.



Ying Guo

Speaking to people has always been especially difficult for Ying. She says that many times by the time she worked up the courage to talk to someone they would have already walked away. Difficult as it was for her, she decided she would try to get over her somewhat unreasonable shyness. The first time she attempted to talk to a new person she failed – feeling tongue-tied and a little foolish she gave up before she started. It took awhile but she decided to take it one step at a time and ease out of her comfort zone. She is still not totally comfortable talking to new people, but slowly she is making progress.

Ying is attending the University of Hawaii at Manoa where her major is Computer Science. She is the recipient of a Carole Kai Charities Scholarship in the amount of \$1,250.



Ngoc Nguyen

Anticipating that her paper work to move to the United States would be coming soon, her parents withdrew Ngoc out of high school. As it turned out, her paperwork did not get approved for more than a year. Because she had withdrawn out of school she was not allowed to re-enter. Her parents made her enroll in a private school in Vietnam because her paperwork was taking so long. This embarrassed her because was the oldest one and she thought people would think she flunked. When she finally moved to Hawaii she was motivated to study hard, finish the ninth grade so she could catch up with her friends.

Ngoc is attending the University of Houston where she is majoring in Psychology. She is the recipient of a Carole Kai Charities Scholarship in the amount of \$1,250.



Precious Arao

In 2001 Precious and her sister moved from the Philippines to Hawaii. They had lived with their grandparents until then. Their parents had left the Philippines years before, her mother to work in Hawaii and her father became a seaman. Longing to live with her parents weighed heavily on Precious. She was elated to finally live with her mother. Because her mother worked, she and her sister had a lot of free time on their hands and at one point as Precious puts it went “gallivanting around”. In her junior year she realized that she was the only one who could make her life worthwhile. She buckled down, studied and is proud to say she is on the right track.

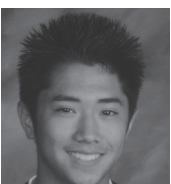
Precious is attending the University of Hawaii at Manoa where her major is Physical Therapy. She is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship Honoring Senator Daniel K. Inouye in the amount of \$1,000.



Charles Siu

Charles states that “Life is full of challenges” and that this great nation is built on challenges”. His big challenge was being raised by Chinese parents who did not speak very much English. As a child he was quiet and a difficult time making friends. He has worked very hard to break what he calls his “social bubble” and feels he has finally made that transition – now he wants to show his parents that the did not waste their time coming to Hawaii to raise a family.

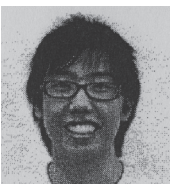
Charles is attending the University of Hawaii at Manoa where he is majoring in Architecture. He is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship Honoring Senator Daniel K. Inouye in the amount of \$1,000.



Jordan Cesneros

From a very young child Jordan knew that he wanted to become a music teacher. Music is his passion, he remembers going to his grandpa’s house and listen to him play the guitar and sing to him. He says he was the only third grader that knew songs from The Beatles such as “Hey Jude” and “Strawberry Fields Forever”. Convincing his parents that he really wanted to teach music has been his big challenge. His parents really wanted him to make a different career choice, but Jordan says music his career choice and will follow his dream to become an educator in music.

Jordan is attending the University of Hawaii at Manoa where his major is Music Education. He is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship Honoring Senator Daniel K. Inouye in the amount of \$1,000.



Yi Heng Hu

Yi Heng writes that he immigrated to Hawaii five years ago, knew very limited English and was uncertain about his future. Then he had a momentous day at a Mini Math Meet. His curiosity was sparked by a robotics demonstration. He became a member of the McKinley Robotics Team as a freshman and discovered that robotics was more than he expected. He says “Mechanical structures, electronic sensors, and programming logic were all fascinating new concepts to me and motivated me to further pursue my journey into engineering”.

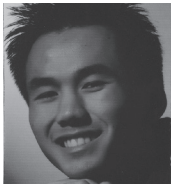
Yi Heng is attending the University of Hawaii at Manoa where he is majoring in Electrical Engineering. He is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship Honoring Senator Daniel K. Inouye in the amount of \$1,000.



Jennifer To

Jennifer states that her inability to speak up in class was a huge challenge for her. Afraid of giving a wrong answer and being ridiculed added to her dilemma. In Middle School her self confidence was further diminished by being bullied. When she began her freshman year at McKinley she came to the realization that she needed to change and she worked very hard at breaking out of her shell. She now knows that by having an optimistic mindset and can reason what you say, you are not wrong.

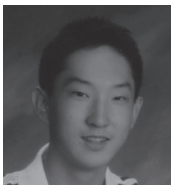
Jennifer is attending the University of Hawaii at Manoa where her major is Psychology. She is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship Honoring Senator Daniel K. Inouye in the amount of \$1,000.



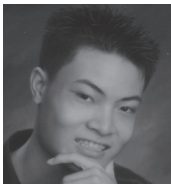
Garret Hino



Daniel Luong



Royce Kwon



Kevin Goo



Celestina Royer



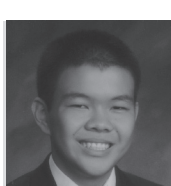
Connie Nip



Zane Wu



Jian Er Chen



Kurtis Kometani

During his Middle school years Garrett did not excel academically, he disappointed his parents with his low grades. His father sat him down and gave him the most memorable lecture of his life. He told him that he wanted him to succeed and be more successful than he ever could have been. Garrett states that the beginning of high school was a life changing moment for him. With his father’s lecture imbedded in his mind, he was motivated to do well. He his so pleased with his grades and know that this was the greatest gift he could give his parents.

Garret is attending the University of Hawaii at Hilo where his major is Pharmacy. He is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship in Memory of Lawrence Hirohata in the amount of \$1,000.

Daniel says that his biggest challenge was his inactivity. His life consisted of doing homework and watching television or going on the computer. During class one day he overheard a classmate talking about a conditioning class for soccer tryouts. Thinking this might be just what he needed; Daniel went to the conditioning class. He could not believe how out of condition he was, his body ached after the first class. But, he stuck with it and even made the soccer team! It even made a sports lover out of him and he even joined volleyball to stay in shape.

Daniel is attending the University of Hawaii at Manoa where he is majoring in Engineering. He is the recipient of the Class of 1954 Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000.

Royce has a special love for basketball and was thrilled when he made the junior varsity team and in his sophomore year was declared a starter. Then one day in practice he injured his wrist and was not able to play. This devastated him, because he felt that if didn’t play his sophomore year he would not make the team the following year. It was depressing but with the encouragement from his family and coaches he practiced because it was injured, allowing him to continue to practice his skills. Overcoming his injury and his personal challenge allowed him to rededicate himself toward a successful junior year.

Royce is attending the University of Hawaii at Manoa where his major is Biology. He is the recipient of the Class of 1994 Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000.

Kevin states that his biggest challenge has been adjusting to the divorce of his parents. He recognized that he would have to work harder to keep up his school work, mainly because his week was split up going between his parents’ two households. It has made him more understanding and is grateful for both of his parents who truly love him and their divorce has not affected him negatively.

Kevin is attending Hawaii Pacific University where he is majoring in Computer Science. He is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000.

Losing her father to Lou Gehrig’s disease when she was in the first grade was Celestina’s personal challenge. After the passing of her father, her mother worked hard to raise four children on her own. It meant that her mother worked long hours and although her brothers looked after her, Celestina learned to be very independent so she wouldn’t overburden her already exhausted mother. Although it is a challenge to live without her father, she knows that this challenge has matured her greatly and prepared her for life as an independent person.

Celestina is attending the University of Hawaii at Manoa where her major is Dentistry. She is the recipient of the Panda Travel/Henry Lau Scholarship in the amount of \$500.

Connie writes that her biggest challenge was leaving Kawananakoa Middle school and transitioning to McKinley High School. Although a few of her friends from middle school also went to McKinley with her, she knew that it was going to be very different. She recalls her first weeks as a freshman. Her Geometry class was more terrifying to her because not all of the students were freshman. Then the opportunity came for her to run for student government. After she was elected into student government and joined clubs she started to make new friends. She realized that she needed to open up and socialize more. She looks back at her four years at McKinley and says she fits perfectly in with the crowd and has lots of friends to share her memories with.

Connie is attending the University of Hawaii at Manoa where she is majoring in Education. She is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship in the amount \$500.

Zane says that his biggest challenge is that he avoids situations and cannot make decisions. While he recognizes that some may find this trivial, for him it is a real problem. Being the youngest child in the family he has always been protected by his parents and sisters. Now that he is older he knows that he must step out of his comfort zone and began to make his own decisions. At McKinley the McKinley Theatre Group II, has helped him to learn to speak in front of groups. This has helped him accept criticisms and he is now able to express his opinions. He states that the transition to college will be a test to his efforts.

Zane is attending the University of Hawaii at Manoa where his major is Computer Science. He is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship in the amount \$500.

Immigrating to Hawaii in 2008, Jian Er devoted much of her time in learning to speak and write English. Being fluent in English consumed her and in time while her speaking improved her other grades went down. Realizing that she needed to control her time better she took it upon herself to make a schedule everyday. As she followed her daily schedule her grades improved and she joined the Chinese Club. She is now able to work independently and looks back on her time at McKinley has enriching and rewarding.

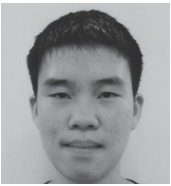
Jian Er is attending the University of Hawaii at Manoa where she is majoring in Psychology. She is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship in the amount of \$500.

Kurtis writes that his four years at McKinley were wonderful! (Something that many can relate to) His biggest challenge was learning to prioritize between school work and extra-curricular activities. He absolutely loves baseball and was thrilled to be on McKinley’s baseball team – his dilemma was he also liked being in the band. He managed to do both, but one day there was a playoff baseball game and a band concert on the same day at the same time. His coach and band instructor left the decision of what to do up to him. He ended up playing part of the game and left early to play in the concert. After the concert he went back to the baseball game and discovered his team had just lost the game. He felt really bad and was grateful his teammates did not hold the loss against him.

Kurtis is attending Boise State University where his major is Computer Science. He is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship in the amount of \$500.



Jenny Hong



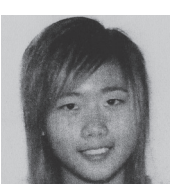
Raymond Fung



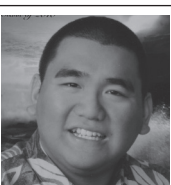
Frances Gamponia



Andrew Nguyen



Connie Liang



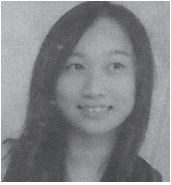
Travis Watanabe



Yi Jing Huang



Karen Chen



Li En Cheng

Jenny says that she faces challenges nearly every day – some big, most are small. However, she states that her biggest challenge is keeping a positive attitude. She even went as far as making sure that she kept a happy facial expression. Jenny felt that acting cheerful made her happy. Jenny says William James, a famous psychologist in the 18th and 19th century theorized “expressions not only communicate emotion, they also amplify and regulate it”. Jenny is attending the University of Hawaii at Manoa where she is majoring in Architecture. She is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship in the amount of \$500.

Raymond writes that his biggest challenge was breaking a childhood habit. His parents and siblings all tried, to no avail to break his habit but it only made it worse. They even bribed him with money. He recognized that breaking an old habit is something that must come from within him and with a lot of self determination; he broke it after eight long years of trying. Thankful that he found the courage to work out his problem on his own, he knows that he can accomplish anything he desires. Raymond is attending the University of Hawaii at Manoa where his major is Accounting and Finance. He is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship in the amount of \$500.

When Frances was eight years old she, her younger brother and her mother immigrated to Hawaii from the Philippines. Since her mother was a single parent and worked the graveyard shift; Frances and her brother got themselves ready for school. She also found school difficult and had to work very hard to get good grades. By the time she enrolled at McKinley she had become an all around person who was capable of working out her own problems. She is proud of the fact that she recently passed her Naturalization test and will soon be a U.S. citizen. Frances is attending the University of Hawaii at Manoa where she is majoring in Physical Therapy. She is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship in the amount in the amount of \$500.

Andrew had a speech impairment that was a major burden on him in elementary school and he was able to conquer it when he was in Middle school and enrolled in a drama class which forced him to do public speaking. He was extremely proud that he had vocal freedom. Then one afternoon when he was coming home from tennis practice, he was mugged. After that event his speech impairment returned and he continues to work on overcoming it. It has gotten much better and he is confident that he will once again have “vocal freedom”. Andrew is attending the University of Hawaii at Manoa where his major is Nursing. He is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship in the amount of \$500.

Connie says that her one big challenge to date has been learning how to walk again. During a judo class she was paired with a boy older than herself for warm-ups, and was flipped the wrong way. She fell the wrong way and heard something crack. She had broken three bones in her left foot. Being on crutches for the next few weeks made getting around difficult. However, it was when the cast came off and she still relied on her crutches that rally caused her stress. Since it hurt to put full weight on her foot she used her crutches until her doctor told her she needed to “suck it up” and learn to walk without them. At first she thought her family was being cruel not allowing her to use the crutches, but in the end she realized it was the only way she would walk normally again. Connie is attending Northern Arizona University where she is majoring in Forensics. She is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship in the amount of \$500.

Travis states that his having his family learn to work together through some very troubling times has been his biggest challenge. He spent some of his youth with an aunt and uncle while his parents worked out some personal issues. Today he is so grateful that they were able to heal together as a family and he is appreciative for both his mother and father. He now feels that he will be able to accomplish anything that he attempts. Travis is attending Graceland University where his major is History. He is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship in the amount of \$500.

Yi Jing writes that her biggest challenge has been learning the English Language. She and her family came to Hawaii just a few years ago. While she has a deep desire to learn it is hindered because she must first translate what she reads. Keeping good grades and being able to communicate fluently in English is something that she takes great pride in. She says that it has made her a stronger person and fuels her desire to succeed. Yi Jing is attending Kapiolani Community College where she is a Liberal Arts major. She is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship in the amount of \$1,250.

Karen’s mother has been the one steadfast stable person in her life. As a single parent she worked hard to keep everyone together and still was there for all of the important times in Karen and her brother lives. Karen says that there were times when she felt life was so unfair that her father was not there with them, but she began to realize that if she looked at her mother, who was always there for them, her life was indeed rich. Her mother’s perseverance has been handed down to Karen. She knows that if you work hard and live life in the best way you know how good things will happen. Karen is attending Kapiolani Community College where she is majoring in Business. She is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000.

Li En’s family immigrated to Hawaii three years ago. Her biggest challenge was learning the English language while trying to study and do well in school. When she had trouble with homework she learned to ask her teachers for help. She tried her best to communicate with classmates to improve her English. She now knows that hard work truly does pay off. She is improving in English and she looks forward to the future and her pursuit to be a teacher. Li En is attending Kapiolani Community College where her major is Education. She is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000.



Eunice Vallejo



Shannon Okamura



Jorlene Saludo



Tamara Tovio



Jennifer Ferrer



Cheryl Dacanay



Li Ji Cao



Daniel Van



Angela Cheung

When Eunice’s family moved to Hawaii from the Philippines four years ago, she was not prepared for the deep sadness she felt. Leaving her homeland was very traumatic for her. She only wanted to go back home. She writes that she cried day and night. Eventually by going with the flow, she learned how to manage her sadness and began to make friends. Today she is looking forward to the future in her new homeland. Eunice is attending Kapiolani Community College where she is majoring in Dental Hygiene. She is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000.

Shannon writes that he joined the band at McKinley because his friends urged him to. At first he did not practice hard or attend any of the band social events. By his sophomore year he was motivated to change his ways. He practiced hard, and when the seating results came out he was seated 7th in the entire Wind Ensemble I and Ensemble II sections. He was pleased with his ranking but practiced even harder to tie for first seat in the next seating that came out. Shannon now knows that when he puts his mind to something he can do it. He is attending Kapiolani Community College where his major is Engineering. He is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000.

When her family immigrated to Hawaii from the Philippines Jorlene could not have known how cruel life could be. When she was in Elementary & Middle school she was bullied by her peers. The relentless bullying never stopped. They would corner in the hallways; they would steal her personal things and say they were theirs. They would prank call her at home and she also became a target of their internet blogs. She states that going through relational aggression was agonizing. It affected her life that she lost self confidence. Now she looks back and says in some strange way it has made her a stronger person. She is attending Kapiolani Community College where she is majoring in Culinary Arts. She is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship in the amount of \$750.

At an early age Tamara and her family went through some very troubling times. Which resulted in her being put in the foster care system. For the next five years she would struggle to put her life on the right track and succeed in school. She is grateful to the foster care families who were there for her when she needed to talk. Tamara is proud for what she has accomplished and knows the future holds many wonderful things for her. Tamara is attending Kapiolani Community college where her major is Nursing. She is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship in the amount of \$750.

Learning a new language was a hard obstacle for Jennifer to overcome. Jennifer and her family moved to Hawaii a few years ago. While she was told that the educational opportunities would be better here, she was not prepared for how difficult it was. In order for her to do well in school she had to master the English Language. She read as many books as she could to hone her English skills. She now tries to help her sisters with their work and feels grateful that she can help her parents in this small way. Jennifer is attending Kapiolani Community College where she is majoring in Medicine. She is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship in the amount of \$750.

Cheryl’s family immigrated to Hawaii from the Philippines in search of a better life. Growing up in the Philippines was hard for her parents and they wanted more for Cheryl and her brother. With the encouragement from her family she knows that she has the motivation to further her education and make a better future for her and her family. Cheryl is attending Kapiolani Community College where her major is Business. She is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship in the amount of \$750.

Li Ji found life in Hawaii very difficult. Immigrating was not easy and learning not only the language but the culture ways of the local people was very hard. Li Ji did not adjust well in the beginning. She was hard on herself and gave up easily. It took a life changing moment when she realized that she needed to pick herself up, be the person she knew was inside of her and forget what other people thought. From that day forward she has kept the promise of hope in her heart and she knows that she will be successful. Li Ji is attending Kapiolani Community College where she is majoring in Education. She is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship in the amount in the amount of \$750.

Daniel loves tennis, so it was a natural attrition for him to join the tennis team at McKinley. He soon found out that time was a precious commodity. Practice for tennis was three days a week plus he practiced on his own on Saturdays. Since he loved tennis he put that as his priority and fit in homework around his tennis schedule. Needless to say that didn’t work well – so he made a fundamental change, after talking to his coach he put school first. He was pleasantly surprised to find that by putting school first he would finish his work in a timely fashion so he could play tennis. He now understands what the word prioritize means! Daniel is attending Johnston County Community College where his major is Computer Science. He is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship in the amount of \$750.

Angela writes that although her challenge was one that she has endured for several years – it is also one that has been a huge benefit for her. Because her parents could not understand English very well Angela acted as their English translator. When she was in elementary school it was difficult because she didn’t understand many of the issues that companies were writing or calling for. As she got older it got easier to decipher the information and she began to realize that it has actually given her an insight on what kinds of responsibilities she will face as an adult. She is now grateful to her parents for this exposure. Angela is attending Kapiolani Community College where she is majoring in Nursing. She is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship in the amount of \$750.



Vivien De Guzman

As a sophomore Vivien’s set of friends found a new group of people to hangout with. This group consisted of high school dropouts and as she puts it “if that wasn’t bad enough, they were druggies”. Not wanting to be left out she went along with the group. Skipping school and being less than truthful with her parents weighed on her conscience. When she got caught for truancy she took this as a sign that she was going down the wrong path. She vowed that she would not associate with these types of people, which turned out easier than she thought because her original friends dropped out of school. Once they left she started anew and her grades rose instantly. This experience taught her that she can control her destiny by making the right choices. Vivien is attending Kapiolani Community College where her major is Liberal Arts. She is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship in the amount of \$750.



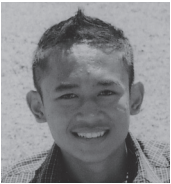
Brittany Renteria-Smith

Brittany writes that her personal challenge is learning to live with a skin disorder called Eczema. While she realizes that some people might find this trivial, she wants people to understand what it is like to constantly worry about what your skin looks like. It can be very painful and the medication that helps to control it can have adverse affects. Because of these affects, Brittany was taken off of the medication. She has learned to ease the pain by thinking happy thoughts and by doing breathing and stretching exercises. Brittany is attending Kapiolani Community College where she is majoring in Creative Arts and Medicine. She is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship in the amount of \$750.



Monica Li

Being in a car accident had a huge impact on Monica. Although the accident was minor and no one was hurt badly she was very shaken up. It shook her up so much that she would literally hyperventilate if she went on the freeway. Side streets she could handle without too much trauma. But it took several months before she could not be on the freeway – as a passenger or a driver. She says since this was her first car accident it had a big impact on her. She has learned to control her fear and has found ways to calm her down. Monica is attending Honolulu Community College where her major is Elementary Education. She is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship in the amount of \$750.



Raymart Cortez

Raymart writes that when he stepped foot on the campus of McKinley he felt like he was in big trouble. In elementary and middle school he had a group of friends to socialize with – and he also had the support of his parents. When he got to McKinley the campus seemed huge and he wondered out he would get to his classes on time when the bell rang. He says given a choice he probably would have been very happy to stay home or transfer to a school with a smaller campus. Then reality set in and he knew he had to quit whining and learn to enjoy the experience. He is now so grateful to have graduated from this magnificent school and it is with pride that he can now say that he is a McKinley alumnus. Raynart is attending Kapiolani Community College where he is majoring in Culinary Arts. He is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship in the amount of \$750.



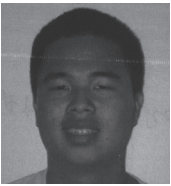
Lan Tran

Once very shy and reserved Lan says that when she was in the fifth grade she ran for student body treasurer. A fourth grade student won the election and it devastated her. Although there were tears she picked herself up and vowed to try again. In the 6th grade and at a new school she ran for student body president and won! She couldn’t believe it and was a life changing event for her. As president she needed to speak in front of the school introducing teachers and guest speakers. She is so glad that she persevered and will carry that valuable lesson with her in the future. Lan is attending Kapiolani Community College where she is majoring in Medicine. She is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship in the amount of \$750.



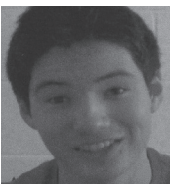
Hong Dong Ma

Hong Dong’s family immigrated to Hawaii from China in 2006. He writes that his biggest challenge was learning the English language and adjusting to a different way of life. Going to middle school is often difficult for English speaking students, but for someone who did not understand English it was overwhelming. He would go home after school feeling depressed and didn’t think he could go back. But go back he did and now he looks back at those days and says he feels he can accomplish so much more because of this experience. Hong Dong is attending Kapiolani Community College where his major is Computer Game Programming/Business. He is the recipient of the Class of 1994 Scholarship in the amount of \$500.



Patrick Wu

Patrick writes that his own insecurities and lack of self confidence was his biggest challenge. In middle school this was magnified because he tried to be someone else instead of himself. This came about because he wanted to be like everyone else. When his grades suffered because he didn’t concentrate on school work instead of friends he made the conscience effort to be himself. He credits his family with helping him stay on track. Patrick is attending Kapiolani Community College where he is majoring in Computer Science. He is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship in the amount of \$500.



Bryson Okuno

Bryson says that he had so many responsibilities that when he got sick he ignored his symptoms because he just had too much to complete. He had two very important rehearsals for the 2009 commencement ceremony band and a major Algebra 2 final test and a presentation for his English class. Only when he had a fever of 103 degrees and his father insisted he stay home and get better did he realize that he needed to get better before he could finish his tasks. Bryson is attending Kapiolani Community College where his major is Radiology. He is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship in the amount of \$500.



Kan Gong

Like some of his classmates, Kan, also immigrated to Hawaii just a few years ago. His one big challenge was learning the English language enough to communicate with others and more importantly understand his teachers and the work required of him. He credits his English teacher, Mrs. Young, and his math teacher Mr. Hendrix, with helping him as he made his transition into McKinley. He has profound loyalty to his alma mater and is proud to call himself a McKinley Tiger. Kan is attending Kapiolani Community College where he is majoring in Liberal Arts. He is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship in the amount of \$500.



Im Fong Chang



Raymond Wu



Jason Liang



Tisha Higashi



Steven Maddela



Crystal Kionia



Curren Sakumoto



Esther Villanueva

Im Fong says her biggest challenge was learning how to become financially frugal. Having a part-time job helped Im Fong to purchase many items that she now realizes she didn’t really need. She used to spend money on snacks, clothes, CDs and family and friends. When she got her back statement one month and saw that she spent hundred of dollars frivolously she knew the time to take control of her finances had come. She is much more diligent and careful about spending money, but still finds it is a challenge.

Im Fong is attending Kapiolani Community College where her major is Labor and Tourism. She is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship in the amount of \$500.

Raymond says his challenge was overcoming his shyness. He was so timid he was afraid to ask for help from his teachers and coaches. He would attempt to complete his homework even though he did not understand the assignment. One thing that helped him change was participating in extra curricular sports. His freshman year he played football and he also paddled canoe. Paddling canoe taught the importance of teamwork and not to be afraid to ask questions when needed. Raymond is attending Honolulu Community College where he has not yet decided on a major. He is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship in the amount of \$500.

While Jason had aspirations, he was stunned to overhear some of his classmates discussing which college they wanted to attend. When they rattled off names like Harvard, Princeton and Yale he could hardly believe his ears. This was a moment in time that he will always remember. He realized that his own goals seemed small in comparison. This did not make him jealous, but instead, as he puts it, gave birth to ambition. He began to put his whole heart and soul into his school work and feels more motivated than ever. He knows that through hard work and diligence he will be successful. Jason is attending Kapiolani Community College where he is majoring in Business. He is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship in the amount of \$500.

Tisha knows that her big challenge is one that she needs to work at. She says that laziness and distraction attribute to her sub standard grades. She knows she is capable of so much more. When she entered McKinley she knew that she would have to do some serious buckling down to get good grades. Attribute it to maturing but she is now proud to say that when she puts her mind to something she can finish it successfully. She overcame her challenge by learning what was stopping her from getting good grades. Tisha is attending Kapiolani Community College where her major is Nursing. She is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship in the amount of \$500.

Steven says that life has ups and downs. Challenges and obstacles are always in the way of achieving something. Shyness was his obstacle. In middle school he made the conscience effort to open up more. He always had good grades so he began to help his classmates when they asked for it. By helping others he was able to work on his social skills and now feels comfortable in many situations. He even goes out of his way to meet new people. Playing sports in high school played a part in his new found communication skills. Steven is attending Honolulu Community College where he is majoring in Electrical Engineering. He is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship in the amount of \$500.

Crystal’s mother raised her as a single parent and because of that they are extremely close. Her relationship with her father was not as good as she would like it to be. Recently they have reconnected and while she does not always agree with him, she is grateful that he is a part of her life. She wants to make him proud and works hard so that both of her parents can look at her with pride. She knows that a good education is will make that happen. Crystal is determined to be successful. Crystal is attending Kapiolani Community College where her major is Liberal Arts. She is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship in the amount of \$500.

Curren says that if he were to sum himself up in a few words, the words passionate, stubborn and intense come to mind. He will stick to something until it is finished. This passion was carried through at McKinley as a member of the band. He says playing music is the one way he can express himself artistically. He has a great deal of respect for his mother, who raises Curren and his sister on her own. He wants to do well to make them proud. Curren is attending Honolulu Community College where he is majoring in Engineering. He is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship in the amount of \$500.

Esther writes that her challenge has been accepting her role as an only child. They were older when they had Esther so she feels that there is a huge age gap. They were both born in the Philippines and have strong cultural ties with their homeland. This coupled with the age gap sometimes causes friction. Esther has learned to accept the fact that they may always think differently but she loves her parents and wants to be successful and make them proud of her. Esther is attending Kapiolani Community College where her major is Nursing. She is the recipient of a McKinley High School Foundation Scholarship in the amount of \$500.