

## Press Release

May 8, 2019

The Japan Exchange & Teaching Program Alumni Association of Northern California Announces Its 2019 Scholarship Recipients

San Francisco, CA – The Japan Exchange & Teaching Program Alumni Association of Northern California (JETAANC) recently announced the recipients of its 2019 scholarship. Ryan Moore, JETAANC Scholarship Coordinator, proudly named Sylvan Myers of Bella Vista High School in Fair Oaks as the primary recipient. Ashley Kogoma of California High School in San Ramon received honorable mention. The JETAANC scholarship selection committee was especially impressed with their academic excellence, sustained interest in Japan, and extracurricular activities.

Sylvan is an active Japanese National Honor Society member as well as a Japanese and Anime Club member. Last summer, Sylvan made a trip to Japan with her teacher and some peers and noted that the trip was a “means to supplement the education that I was receiving class... simply being in Japan shaped my character in subtle ways.” Sylvan intends to study international relations and cultural anthropology, in addition to Japanese language and culture, initially at Sacramento City College this fall and eventually at a four-year college.

Ashley has been a student with Southern Alameda County Buddhist Church Japanese Language School for eight years and is now an assistant teacher for elementary and middle school students at the school. “Japan has helped shape me to be who I am today,” and reflecting upon her future studies, Ashley noted, “In college, I am planning to do research in cross-cultural and personality psychology so I can conduct research on cultural differences between Japan and the U.S.” Ashley will be attending Case Western Reserve University beginning this fall.

Annually, the JETAANC honors one or two high school seniors who have demonstrated academic excellence, possess interest in Japan, made outstanding contributions to their communities, and been accepted into an accredited college or university.

### Contact

For more information about the JETAANC Scholarship, contact Ryan Moore at [scholarship@jetaanc.org](mailto:scholarship@jetaanc.org).

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The Japan Exchange and Teaching (JET) Program seeks to enhance internationalization in Japan by promoting mutual understanding between the people of Japan and those of other nations. The program aims to enhance foreign language education and promote international exchange at the local level through the fostering of ties between Japanese youth and foreign youth alike. Please visit the JET Program website for more information: <https://jetprogramusa.org>.

The Japan Exchange & Teaching Program Alumni Association of Northern California (JETAANC) serves as a network and resource for JET Program alumni in Northern California and Nevada (the jurisdictional region of the Consulate General of Japan in San Francisco), and provides assistance to the JET Program and other activities that strengthen U.S.–Japan relations. Please visit the JETAANC website for more information: <http://www.jetaanc.org>.