



**PRESS ANNOUNCEMENT
For Immediate Release**

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\$5,000 Kase Nikkei Community Scholarships Available

The Center Seeks Applicants for the
2018 Kase Nikkei Community Scholarship Program



April 13, 2018 (San Francisco) – The Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California (the Center/JCCCNC) is pleased to announce that applications are now available for the 2017 Kase Nikkei Community Scholarship Program (Kase Program).

The Kase Program offers students a \$5,000 scholarship to support their college education. It provides college students an opportunity to intern at and support the work of the JCCCNC, a community nonprofit organization located in San Francisco's Japantown. Participants will gain

professional experience, enhanced skills in various areas, as well as personal development and guidance during an eleven-week summer internship. The goal of the program is to support the development of the next generation of community leaders.

The Japanese American community has a vibrant history spanning more than a century and over several generations in the United States. Japanese Americans have the tremendous task of defining and addressing the needs of the present community to ensure its future vitality.

Paul Osaki, JCCCNC Executive Director, mentions, "Preparing our youth to meet these challenges, through programs like the Kase Nikkei Community Scholarship Program, is essential if we want to build future leaders in our community who are creative, competitive and capable in the years ahead."

Kase Program participants will also take part in the statewide Nikkei Community Internship (NCI) Program while interning at the Center. Interns gain valuable experience in community service, cultural preservation and networking with various community members. One day of each week is reserved for interns to visit Japanese American organizations and meet with community leaders to expand their personal knowledge of available services, resources, opportunities and issues the organization may be facing.



Important information about the Kase Nikkei Youth Scholarship Program:

1. Program Dates: June 11 - August 24, 2018
2. Japanese ancestry is not a requirement but a strong background of involvement in the Japanese American community is preferred, as well as a desire to learn about Japanese American culture, heritage and the San Francisco Japantown community.
3. To be eligible for the 2018 program the applicant must be a continuing college student in fall or have recently graduated, and be 18 years of age at the start of the program (birth date on or before June 11, 2000)
4. Up to five (5) participants will be selected based on application, letter of recommendation and interview.
5. **Applications are DUE on Sunday, May 6, 2018.**



The Kase Program application is a two-step process. After initial application and letters of recommendation have been received, qualified applicants will be invited to a personal interview and participants will be selected by May 18.

Applications and letters of recommendation should be submitted to:

JCCCNC
Attn: Kase Scholarship Program
1840 Sutter Street, San Francisco, CA 94115

For more information or to download the application visit www.jcccnc.org or contact Lori Matoba at (415) 567-5505 or imatoba@jcccnc.org.

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Photo captions from top: 2017 Kase Program Interns (LtoR: Grant Eshima, Stephanie Doi, G. Kase, Kenneth Kitahata, Keith Eshima; 2012 Kase Interns in Peace Plaza (Sara Matsumoto, Casey Ikeda, Miya Yung, Lauren Morimoto); 2013 Intern (Tara Umemoto) leading Obon dancing

About the Kase Nikkei Community Scholarship Program (Program)

Developed in 2012, the Kase Program is sponsored solely through the generosity of G. Kase. Having been a strong supporter of the Center over the years and it having become a second home in the community. It is the belief of the Kase Family to support the leadership development of Japanese American youth, as they are vital to the future of the community, preserving its rich history, heritage and traditions for generations to come, as well as provide financial support for youth in the community to attend college.

About the JCCCNC

Envisioned by the Japanese American community, JCCCNC will be an everlasting foundation of our Japanese American ancestry, cultural heritage, histories and traditions. The JCCCNC strives to meet the evolving needs of the Japanese American community through programs, affordable services and facility usage. The JCCCNC is a non-profit community center based in San Francisco.