

South Bay Chinese Service Club Annual Scholarship Awards Program

(Submitted by Jane Lin, SBCSC Scholarship Committee Chairperson)

On Wednesday, April 19, 2023, the South Bay Chinese Service Club (SBCSC), in an inaugural partnership with the Chinese Immersion Parents' Council of Fremont (CIPCF) and the pioneering class of the Fremont Unified School District Mandarin Immersion Program (MIP), awarded \$46,375 in scholarships to 28 exceptional high school seniors of Chinese descent at our Scholarship Awards Banquet at Pearl Bay Restaurant in Fremont, CA. This year is the 53rd anniversary of our scholarship program, and over the years, we have awarded close to half a million dollars to Tri-City area high school students.

South Bay Chinese Club (SBCC) President Dr. Clifton M. Der Bing opened the banquet by welcoming and commending the graduates for their academic and extracurricular achievements, their community service and perseverance, and also thanked the parents and scholarship donors for their interest and involvement. He also recognized legislators and distinguished guests such as Fremont Mayor Lily Mei, Congressman Ro Khanna representatives Simeone Chien and Mimi Hoang, State Senator Aisha Wahab representative Astrid Scott, Assemblymembers Alex Lee and Liz Ortega representative Charlsie Chang, Assemblymember Evan Low – District 26 representative and Foothill-De Anza Community College District Board President Patrick Ahrens, Alameda County District 1 Supervisor David Haubert representative Kathy Kimberlin, Cupertino Vice Mayor Sheila Mohan, our very own SBCC vice-president and Cupertino Councilmember Joseph Fruen, Mountain View Councilmember Lucas Ramirez, Cupertino Union School District Trustee Ava Chiao, and Fremont Union High School District Trustee Naomi Nakano-Matsumoto.

Scholarship Committee Chairperson Jane Lin talked about her personal relationship to the scholarship program, as a 1980 former recipient, the older sister of a 1983 recipient, and the proud mom of the 2015 Best Essay recipient, and praised the new 2023 “scholars’ club” members for their outstanding accomplishments, and encouraged them to return in the future and continue our important legacy. She also introduced the distinguished guests from our local Tri-City school districts, Principal Jeff Evans from Mission San Jose High School, and

Irvington, Mission San Jose, Washington High School College and Career Specialists Bindu Chopla, Yvonne Ng, Maria Ponsen, and Joerel Quintana from James Logan High School in Union City. Ohlone College in Fremont was represented by long time SBCC member and Board of Trustees president Sue Chan, Trustee Betty Ho, and Ohlone College Foundation Executive Director Binh Nguyen. Past President and Scholarship Committee member Joe Woo then presented a 12-minute video during our tasty 8-course banquet meal depicting the history of our organization, and it was a touching visual reminder of our involvement with the community, as well as of the many students who have benefitted from this program, and moved on to successful careers.

Our Keynote Speaker Randy Lau, an Electrical Engineering graduate of UCLA, who is the creative engine and content creator of “Made with Lau”, his family’s media brand celebrating the Chinese recipes and cultural heritage of his chef dad Chung Sun Lau’s 50 years of restaurant experience, gave a rousing speech about the need to follow one’s passions -- to embrace change, to experiment and explore, and to be brave about taking risks.

We were pleased that many of our major sponsors were on hand to present the awards to their recipients, and we especially appreciate the families of our memorial scholarships, who continue to support our program in honor of their loved ones.

In addition to receiving the monetary awards, the recipients also received a plaque and Certificates of Commendation and Special Recognition from U. S. Congressman Ro Khanna, State Senator Aisha Wahab, State Assemblymembers Alex Lee and Liz Ortega, 20th& 25th District, Evan Low, 26th District, Alameda County Supervisors David Haubert, First District, and Fremont City Mayor Lily Mei. These certificates were presented to the students by Mayor Lily Mei, Simeone Chien (representing US Congressman Ro Khanna), Kathy Kimberlin (representing Supervisor David Haubert), Astrid Scott (representing State Senator Aisha Wahab), and Charlsie Chang (representing Assemblymembers Alex Lee and Liz Ortega). The scholarship award plaques and checks, were distributed by SBCC President Dr. Clifton M. Der Bing, SBCSC President Aaron Wong, CIPCF President-elected Yixin Wang, and Scholarship Committee Chair Jane Lin. In addition, Wei-Lin Tong, one of the founding members of the Chinese Immersion Parents’ Council of Fremont,

CIPCF, spoke poignantly about the struggles of convincing the School Board of the Fremont Unified School District to pass the resolution in 2010 establishing the Mandarin Immersion Program (MIP), and the resilience of the first class of kindergarteners, three of whom were honored with the first CIPCF Scholarship Awards this year.

The 28 scholarship winners for 2023 are an impressive group of scholars representing 5 high schools in Fremont and one high school in Union City. The average unweighted GPA was 3.86, with an amazing 10,536 community service hours amassed. In this group, there were 5 National Merit Finalists, numerous AP Scholars with Distinction and Honors, 5 students with a perfect unweighted 4.0 GPA, 4 Eagle Scout Awards, 15 Presidential Service Awards, Robotics Awards, Scholar Athlete Awards, student leaders in student government positions, a national creative arts winner, and a 4th-ranked US Junior National Badminton member.

The following is a list of our 2023 SBCSC Scholarship winners:

Note: Students are listed in alphabetical order by last name.

Those with an asterisk (*) behind their names have achieved an unweighted GPA of 4.0.

	Student Name	School	Sponsor(s)	Scholarship(s)	Total \$
	Alina Chang	Washington High School	South Bay Chinese Service Club	SBCSC Merit Scholarship	1000
	Ariel Chang	Ivington High School	Sandra Wong & John Dietrich	Sandra Wong & John Dietrich Healthcare Scholarship	1000
	Jessica Cheng	American High School	Manny & Cecile Hernandez	Manny & Cecile Hernandez Charitable Foundation Scholarship	2000
	Carmia Deng	American High School	South Bay Chinese Service Club	SBCSC Merit Scholarship	1000
	Alexander He*	Mission San Jose High School	Citizens for Better Community Pausang Wong	CBC Scholarship for Excellence in Community Service (\$1000) Huey Wong Memorial Scholarship (\$1000)	2000
	Winnie Ho*	American High School	Pearl Li Gunsell	Perl Li Gunsell Merit Scholarship	2500
	Christy Huang	Mission San Jose High School	Dennis & Elaine Szeto	Bing J. Gee Memorial Scholarship for Science Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics	3000
	Kane Hum	Kennedy High School	Gene & Mary K Lim	Lim Family Merit Scholarship	1500
	Olivia Koo	Mission San Jose High School	Chinese Immersion Parents' Council of Fremont	CIPCF Mandarin Immersion Program Scholarship	1000
	Esther Lau	Mission San Jose High School	Dennis & Elaine Szeto	Dick F. Szeto Memorial Scholarship for Excellence in Leadership	3000

	Sarah Grace Lau	Washington High School	Chinese Immersion Parents' Council of Fremont	CIPCF Mandarin Immersion Program Scholarship	1000
	Jamie Lee	Kennedy High School	South Bay Chinese Service Club	SBCSC Merit Scholarship	1000
	Shelley Li	Mission San Jose High School	The Ngan Family Dr. Victor & Dr. Frances Gin	Karl & Frances Ngan Memorial Scholarship for Dedication to Community Service (\$1875) York & Dora Gin Memorial Scholarship for Scholar Athlete (\$1000)	2875
	Katherine Nora Liang	Mission San Jose High School	Gladys Lee & Family	Robert Yun Yau Lee Memorial Scholarship for Excellence in Performance Arts	2000
	Hung Lin*	American High School	Steve & Amy Cho	Ruby W. Chiang & Mary Ruth Wong Memorial Scholarship for Perseverance	1000
	Ray Lin	American High School	South Bay Chinese Service Club	SBCSC Merit Scholarship for Community Involvement	1000
	Jack Liu	Mission San Jose High School	Dr. David & Mrs. Branda Muh	Dr. David & Mrs. Brenda Muh Merit Scholarship	1000
	Ryan Liu	Mission San Jose High School	Sylvia Wong	Sylvia Wong Real Estate Scholarship for Business Acumen	1500
	Amy Luo	Mission San Jose High School	Randy Sabado & Family	Gerry Low-Sabado Memorial Scholarship for Community Advocacy	1500
	Nathan Massoth	James Logan High School	South Bay Chinese Service Club	SBCSC Merit Scholarship	1000
	Ben Qu	Mission San Jose High School	South Bay Chinese Service Club	SBCSC Merit Scholarship	1000
	Selina Song	Ivington High School	South Bay Chinese Service Club Aaron & Maelene Wong	Howard Tom Memorial Top Honor Scholarship (\$3000) Aaron & Maelene Wong Scholarship for Excellence in Creative Arts (\$1000)	4000
	CL Tan	Mission San Jose High School	Chinese Immersion Parents' Council of Fremont	CIPCF Mandarin Immersion Program Scholarship	1000
	Rei Tey	American High School	South Bay Chinese Service Club	SBCSC Merit Scholarship	1000
	Jackie Wang	Mission San Jose High School	Pearl Li Gunsell	Pearl Li Gunsell Scholarship for Excellence in School Leadership	2500
	Vincent Wang*	Ivington High School	Supervisor David Haubert	Supervisor David Haubert Scholarship for Youth Engagement	2000
	Wei Wei Xiang	Mission San Jose High School	Dr. Victor & Dr. Frances Gin	Dr. Victor & Dr. Frances Gin Health Professions Scholarship	1000
	Jerry Yuan*	Mission San Jose High School	Randy Sabado & Family Dutra Enterprises	Gerry Low-Sabado Memorial Scholarship for Excellence in Education (\$1500) Dutra Enterprises Best Essay Award (\$500)	2000
					\$ 46,375

The South Bay Chinese Club (SBCC) was formed in 1965 to preserve the culture and customs of the Chinese heritage, to foster and encourage better understanding of civic responsibilities and the American way of life, and to

promote general welfare of the community. In 1984, the Club formed the South Bay Chinese Service Club (SBCSC), a California non-profit organization, in pursuit of community outreach services such as the Scholarship Program. The annual Scholarship Program began in 1970 by providing two scholarships of \$100 each to graduating high school seniors of Chinese descent. The primary funding for the Scholarship Program is obtained through direct solicitation of donations from corporate and individual sponsors. Additional information about the Scholarship Program is available on the Club's website (www.southbaychineseclub.org).

