



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®
SILICON VALLEY MONTEREY BAY COUNCIL



Wednesday
October 12, 2022

Congratulations to our 2022 Honorees!

To benefit Scouting Programs of the Silicon Valley Monterey Bay Council, Boy Scouts of America



About the Character Awards

The Character Awards spotlight community leaders who have been selected by their peers because of their impact made in the community, which personifies what Scouting stands for – good citizenship and service to others.

Proceeds from the Character Awards benefit the delivery and growth of Scouting in our local community through our four programs: Cub Scouts (for youth Kindergarten-5th grade), Scouts BSA (11-18 years old), Venturing & Sea Scouts (14-20), and Career Exploring (14-20).

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17th Annual **Character Awards**

HONORING

Ron Gonzales
Chappie Jones
DeAnna Pursai
Jason Stein
Lynne Yamaichi

Wednesday, October 12, 2022
Blanco Urban Venue

2022 Executive Message

Welcome to the 17th Annual Character Awards!

We are so pleased you could join us in celebrating Ron Gonzales, Chappie Jones, DeAnna Pursai, Jason Stein and Lynne Yamaichi.

Tonight, we are also celebrating the impact and vibrance of local Scouting. Our council has seen families coming back to Scouting after time apart during the height of Covid. Our summer camps were once again full, our family camp weekends had waiting lists, and our kids throughout the year have been working on their advancements (rank advancements and merit badges) as well as some attaining "the PhD of childhood"—the rank of Eagle. We are providing youth an opportunity rarely found elsewhere.

Our camps are undergoing transformation as we increase capacity, update our restroom and shower facilities to serve families, and continue to manage the 1,000 acres of healthy forests in our care. At Camp Hi-Sierra, we have the beginnings of a new astronomy viewing area, and new lodging to reach year-round campers.

We offered over 50 training sessions to our 4,000 registered adult volunteer leaders. That means Scouting is safer and better prepared than ever for this generation. We couldn't be prouder of the Scout leaders who deliver the time-tested program of Scouting. We are celebrating over 100 years in this area! Many of you have been part of this.

If you're new to Scouting, welcome! We want you to know that close to 9,000 youth have adult guidance, safe places to camp and practice outdoor skills, and to advance their leadership capability to become the adults we need in our communities.

Thank you for being part of tonight's celebration.

We hope you stay connected with us and learn more about how scouting might actually be one of the most critically important activities for our youth during these remarkably challenging times.

Sincerely,



Mark Lazzarini
Council President



Carmen Fuller
Council Commissioner



Eric Tarbox
CEO/Scout Executive

2022 Program

5:30 - 6:30 PM

Dinner & Cocktail reception on the Rooftop & Mezzanine
Prepared by Catered Too

6:30 - 8:00 PM

Character Award Program in the Great Room
(with limited outdoor screen viewing on the Mezzanine)

MASTER OF CEREMONIES

Pam Foley,
San José Councilmember - District 9

SCOUTING UPDATE

Mark Lazzarini
President, Board of Directors
Silicon Valley Monterey Bay Council, Boy Scouts of America

VOICE OF THE SCOUT

Impact of our Scouting program

AWARDS AND RESPONSES

Ron Gonzales
Chappie Jones
DeAnna Pursai
Jason Stein
Lynne Yamaichi

8:00 - 9:00 PM

Dessert under the stars on the rooftop

Master Of Ceremonies

Pam Foley San José City Councilmember



Councilmember Pam Foley was first elected to the San José City Council in November of 2018 to represent District 9, which includes the Cambrian Park, South Willow Glen, and Robertsville neighborhoods in the southwest corner of San José, bordering Campbell and Los Gatos. In 2022, Councilmember Foley ran unopposed and was re-elected to a second term to continue serving the District she's called home for the past 32 years.

Prior to taking office on the San José City Council, Pam served for 14 years as a Trustee on the San José Unified School District Board. During her tenure on the school board, she oversaw the education of 31,000 students and a budget of \$400,000,000. In December 2017, she completed her third term as Board President.

Councilmember Foley is one of six children born and raised in Portland, Oregon. Pam and her husband, Mike, married in 1983 and purchased their first home together in the Cambrian Area of San José in 1987. After a brief move to the Santa Cruz Mountains, they moved into their current home where they raised their daughter, Katelin.

Together, Pam and her husband continue operating Foley Mortgage, their family-run mortgage company founded in 1957.

In addition to representing City Council District 9, Pam serves as the chair of the Community & Economic Development Committee and the Vision Zero Task Force, whose focus is to reduce fatalities on our streets. Additionally, she has supported several organizations that assist children with developmental and physical disabilities including the Cambrian Park Little League Challenger Division Team and BAWSI Rollers.

She dedicates her spare time to volunteering with the Rotary Club of San José with the Youth Exchange Committee and the Enterprise Leadership Conference Committee.

In 2019, she was recognized by BAYMEC as an LGBTQ+ ally having received the Stan Hajduk Award.

She is proud to have received the Boy Scouts of America Character Award in 2017 and is honored to be a part of the celebration in recognizing the good work of this year's recipients.

Order of the Arrow

Tonight's flag ceremony is performed by the Saklan Lodge, Order of the Arrow.

The Order of the Arrow is the honor society of the Boy Scouts of America, composed of Scouts and Scouters who best exemplify the Scout Oath and Law in their daily lives as elected by their peers.

For over 100 years, the Order of the Arrow (OA) has **recognized Scouts and Scouters who best exemplify the Scout Oath and Law in their daily lives.** This recognition provides encouragement for others to live these ideals as well.



Inducted members, known as Arrowmen or Brothers (regardless of gender; as BSA and its programs are open to all genders), are organized into local youth-led lodges that harbor fellowship, promote camping, and render service to Boy Scout councils and their communities. Each lodge corresponds to a BSA council in the area. Lodges are further broken down into chapters, which correspond to a district in scouting.



Members wear identifying insignia on their uniforms, most notably the OA pocket flap that represents their individual OA lodge and the OA sash worn at official OA functions. The OA program sponsors several events, awards, and training functions.

The symbol of our council's local chapter, the Saklan Lodge, is everyone's favorite mollusk, the banana slug. This year's Lodge Chief is Bailey Palmaffy.

Character Awards Dinner Committee & Champions

EVENT CHAIRS

Pam Foley & Mark Schroeder

Jon Ball

Tori Berninger

Richard Brenner

Leann Cherkasky Mekhni

Suchitha Chetia

Rod Diridon Sr.

Michael Fox Jr.

Steve Guerrero

Wilbur Jackson

Sandra Jewett

Moschel Kadokura

Cindy Kaneshiro

Heather Lerner

Pamela Lindsay

Kelli Martines

Vincent McDowell

Guisselle Nuñez

Sridhar Pursai

Edith Ramirez

Emma Reed

Debbie Stein

Larry Stone

Bob Wedig

Special Thanks to our Black Shirt Crew

**This group of volunteers is the SVMBC "A/V Club."
They provide support for many of our events**



Neal Osborn • Mark Fisher
Stephen Fisher • Stan Searing • Ron Salwasser

Not pictured: Randy Christensen, Noah Lerner, and David Rigmaiden

2022 Silicon Valley Monterey Bay Council Boy Scouts of America

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**District Chairperson*

***Local Council Representatives to the National Council*

Council Highlights

8,086 youth served in 2021 in Scouting programs across four counties: Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, San Benito, and Monterey.



3,096 boys and girls ages 5-10 participated in **Cub Scouts** in 113 Packs with their families. They made friends, went on adventures, discovered new skills and experienced the joy of serving others.

4,490 girls and boys ages 11-18 participated in **Scouts BSA** in 170 Troops. They developed as leaders, served their community, went on adventures with friends and honed life skills.

304 high school youth took adventure to the next level in **Venturing and Sea Scouts**. They planned and executed their own adventures, explored hobbies, and worked together to make an impact in their communities.



197 young adults ages 14-20 discovered potential careers in **Career Exploring**. In partnership with Public Service & Safety Agencies, Hospitals, and Engineering firms, students design their own program and work with adult mentors to explore many aspects of their future careers.

378 youth earned the highest rank of Eagle Scout, a distinction of a leadership and strong character that will stay with them for life.

25 young women earned the rank of **Eagle Scout** since our Inaugural Class of Female Eagle Scouts.

Scouts improved the community with **135,000+ hours** of service projects.

1,821 Scouts experienced summer or day camp.

6,000 attendees at Scout-O-Rama, our largest community serving event.

The quality programs and life shaping experiences were delivered by **4,350 dedicated volunteers**.



Historical Honorees

2021

Bob Wedig
Edith Ramirez
Mark Schroeder
LaDoris Cordell
Lissa Kreisler

2020

Nuria Fernandez**
Chuck Reed**
Marianne Salas**
***These outstanding individuals accepted the honor of Character Awards selection during the pandemic.*

2019

Tom Bondi
Cindy Chavez
Cindy Faulkner
Jay Ross

2018

Raj Chahal
David Ginsborg
Tony Mirenda
Elizabeth Monley

2017

Brad Baron
Kelly Dippel
Pam Foley
Mark Lazzarini
Reverend Gerald Sakamoto

2016

Dan Bozzuto
Andrew Ratermann
Emily Ruvalcaba
Ernie Yamane
Fernando Zazueta

2015

Larry Kuechler
Michael S. Malone
Leah Toeniskoetter
Bernie Vogel

2014

Brian Adams
Ned Barnholt
Debra Figone
Connie Martinez
Richard M. Noack

2013

Ed Chang
Dick Conniff
Dr. Gloria Duffy
Phil Sims*
Yosh Uchida

2012

Steve Guerrero
Richard Lowenthal
Larry Stone
Kim Walesh

2011

Jennifer Andaluz
Rich Braugh
Rod Diridon, Sr.
Greg Jamison
Otto Lee

2010

Russell Hancock
Richard Holden
Sandra Moll
G. Jeffrey Moore
Adolph Quilici*

2009

Pat Dando*
Judge Leonard Edwards
Valerie Nicoletti*
Peter Ziebelman

2008

Rich Brenner
Shirley Lewis*
Julie Matsushima
Roland Pierre-Dixon

2007

Dennis Brach
Rob Davis
Rod Diridon, Jr.
David Heagerty*
Larry Pederson*

2006

Don Allen
Jose Esteves
John Hopkins
Henry Huong Le*
Leigh Weimers*

**Deceased*

Honoree

Ron Gonzales

Ron Gonzales is the President and CEO of the Hispanic Foundation of Silicon Valley. The Foundation is dedicated to improving the quality of life for Silicon Valley Latinos.

Gonzales has over 40 years of technology and public policy experience. Prior to leading the Hispanic Foundation, Gonzales was Founder, Chairman and CEO of Presencia, LLC which provided marketing and sales consulting services.

He also served as Mayor of San José, the Capital of Silicon Valley and the nation's 10th largest city from 1999-2006.

His achievements included:

- Nationally recognized initiatives for strong neighborhoods,
- Improved public education
- Effective solutions to affordable housing
- Regional transportation projects.

Mayor Gonzales may be best known for championing the extension of the Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) to San Jose and Silicon Valley. So much so that former San Francisco Mayor Willie Brown nicknamed him "Mayor BART".

Before his election as Mayor, Gonzales worked as an executive with the Hewlett-Packard Company, in the areas of marketing, human resources, and corporate philanthropy.

Gonzales served for eight years (1989-1996) on the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors.

As a two-time mayor and member of the Sunnyvale City Council (1979-87),

He currently serves as Chair of the Silicon Valley Capital Club Board of Governors, and Board Member of KIPP Northern California Public Charter Schools, and SV@Home.



Honoree

Chappie Jones



Vice Mayor Charles "Chappie" Jones was elected to the San José City Council in November of 2014 with close to 60% of the popular vote. He represents City Council District 1, the region of West San José that borders the cities of Campbell, Cupertino, Santa Clara and Saratoga. Chappie was born in Sacramento and moved to San José in the 1990's.

His upbringing instilled a strong sense of civic responsibility and made him into a strong advocate of civil service, fiscal responsibility, and community engagement.

Prior to his election, Chappie worked in the private sector where he held sales and marketing management positions with Apple and AT&T, was an Executive Manager with Cornerstone Consulting and Technology, and owned a technology service business.



Chappie assumed the role of Chair of the Santa Clara County Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) on January 1st, 2022. In addition to his new responsibilities, Chappie serves as President of the Cities Association of Santa Clara County (CASCC), Chair of the San José Small Business Advisory Task Force, and numerous other boards and commissions.

Chappie has a Bachelor's Degree in Economics from the University of California, Davis and a Master of Business Administration degree from the Haas School of Business at the University of California, Berkeley. Chappie has been married for over 25 years to Kelli Jones, a high tech sales and marketing manager. Together they have two children and live in the Murdock neighborhood of District 1.



Honoree

DeAnna Pursai

DeAnna Pursai is Co-Founder and Executive Director of College of Adaptive Arts, she holds a Master's in Education Policy Analysis in the School of Education from University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and an undergraduate degree in Elementary and Special Education from Purdue University.



DeAnna has named as a CNN Hero in April, 2022. She has been named an Architect of Change on the Maria Shriver blog and co-awarded the Delta Kappa Gamma State Distinguished Career/Professional Service Award with CAA's Co-Founder and Dean of Instruction, Dr. Pamela Lindsay.

DeAnna is active in the downtown Rotary Club of San Jose, as a board member, as the Chair of the Rotary Climate Action Committee, and as the Rotary mentor to the newly-formed Rotaract Club at San Jose State University.



She proudly served 6 years as a board member of Christmas in the Park, and she is an active member in a vibrant Bay Area leads/referrals group called MyProGroup.

She is big sister to Angel Ellenberger, who happens to have Down syndrome and is an exquisite actress, entertainer and comedian. One of

DeAnna's bucket list items is to give a TED Talk on the subject of how to innovatively cast a wider higher education net to include adults with differing abilities who historically have not had access to higher education.



Honoree



Jason Stein

Jason was raised in Mission Viejo, CA, and started his career in community service while still in high school working after school in the Saddleback Valley Unified School District Recreation Department. There, he helped run after school programs, sports leagues, day camps, summer camps, and special events through college.

The summer before his senior year of high school, Jason met his future wife, Debbie, during a summer stock production of Sugar, the musical adaptation of the movie Some Like it Hot, in San Clemente, CA. The magnetic delivery of his taxi driver line: "a buck and a quarter," melted her heart and they continued to bond as choir and drama geeks, even competing together in local theater competitions.

While majoring in political science at University California, Irvine, Jason took advantage of his love of sports as a Public Relations Intern for the Los Angeles Rams and the Los Angeles Lakers. He worked with several well-known coaches, players, and broadcasters along the way. Ask him about these experiences; he has several funny stories to share.

Although he was not in Scouting as a youth, an advertisement for an entry level position with the Boy Scouts of America piqued his interest. Little did he know this would become his profession for 33 years, moving four times throughout the state of California, including San Jose, where he and his wife, Debbie, currently reside with their dog, Charlie.

Throughout these moves, Jason and Debbie raised three daughters who are each grounded people of stalwart character. Rachel and Rebekah remain local as a hospital nurse and a marketing executive, respectively; and Hannah is a marketing executive in Manhattan.

Jason has always exuded a sense of trustworthiness. In his youth as a wingman, that trait helped attract single women to his eligible buddies during happy hour. In his personal and professional life, that trait has been a magnet for people pursuing his counsel. Jason's ability to quickly study people and assess situations with objectivity has provided clarity and truth to those who seek it.



Jason's moral compass was a natural fit with the modeling expected for a career in Scouting. He maintained a strong sense of loyalty to the profession and with those he worked, establishing life-long relationships with volunteers and fellow professional Scouters. He sustained high expectations for himself and others, and supported and celebrated their achievement. Jason is known to provide strategic advice on matters pertaining to finance, personal and professional relationships, career choices, and professional decision-making. He naturally works as a coach helping people decide for themselves what is the best course of action.



Some would say Jason IS a character. A bit of a movie and music aficionado, Jason prides himself on his ability to draw obscure quotes and trivia from random films and music of all genres. Combining his equally matched sense of humor, no one is safe from his impromptu comedic impressions of people from all walks of life: from celebrities to family and friends. As a result of these traits, Jason's children have been raised in a home full of love and laughter.



Jason began his professional career with the Boy Scouts in Orange County in 1989, serving in various capacities including District Executive, Public Relations Director and Field Director. In 1997, the family moved to San Francisco Bay Area Council where Jason ultimately served as the Chief Development Officer, raising over \$2,000,000 through annual giving, special events, and foundations.

Moving back to Orange County in 2001, Jason served the role of Chief Operating Officer for the Orange County Council where he was principally responsible for membership, field operations and fundraising. Orange County Council enjoyed 38 consecutive months of membership growth in the traditional Cub and Boy Scout programs under Jason's leadership, a record nearly unmatched in the history of the Boy Scouts of America.

In 2004, Jason was selected as Scout Executive/CEO of the Silicon Valley Monterey Bay Council. During his nearly 18 year tenure, many significant positive organizational changes occurred.

Highlights include:

- Growth of total financial net assets by 1600%
- Increasing the annual budget by 226%

- Fundraising and building over \$20 million of major property improvements at Camps Hi-Sierra, Chesebrough, Pico Blanco and the Service Center.
- Successfully merging the Santa Clara County and the Monterey Bay Area Councils in 2012
- Dramatically increasing programmatic growth in new or reinvented events (Scout-O-Rama, Character Awards, Sporting Clays, Golf Tournament)
- Doubling summer camp attendance and growing year-round camper nights



Jason also guided the council through several public relations challenges, and led constituents through a pandemic with fiscal stability and no staff layoffs. Five strategic plans were developed during his tenure, he helped recruit hundreds of board members, and he feels blessed to have partnered with nine outstanding council presidents.

Jason is very proud of Scouting opening doors to all youth regardless of sexual orientation or gender. He worked behind the scenes, advocating with Scouting leadership to finally achieve this. Although his daughter Rachel participated in both the Police and Medical Explorer Scouting Programs, Jason wished these changes to Scouting had come earlier so he could have shared them with all three of his daughters.

Over the years, Jason has been involved in volunteering as time allowed. He served on the board of the Rotary Club of San Jose, as well as Membership Involvement Chair, and other activities. He also coached his children on several softball, basketball, and soccer teams.

Participating in family life, spending time with friends, and tending to preferred activities of being a gym rat, playing competitive tennis, and cheering on his beloved 49ers football team filled the rest of his personal calendar.

Jason finally hung up his Scout uniform after 18 years as Scout Executive of the Silicon Valley Monterey Bay Council and 33 years in the profession. He looks forward to the next chapter of how he can continue to serve the greater community.



Honoree

Lynne Yamaichi

Lynne was born and raised in San Jose, California to parents Earl and Helen Santo. Her paternal grandparents, Seizo and Taka (Kawahara) Santo immigrated from Shimane, Japan and her maternal grandparents, Shoroku and Umeko (Yoshiyama) Kodama immigrated from Hiroshima, Japan. Lynne has three siblings - Mark, Scott and Leslie.



Lynne's great uncle, George, started Santo Market in 1946 in San Jose's Japantown. The market provided Japanese groceries and goods to the families who returned to the San Jose area after being incarcerated during World War II. To accommodate the many farmers in the area, the store would always open early and closed late at night. After serving two years in the U.S. Army, Lynne's father joined Santo Market full time in 1954. Throughout the decades, Santo Market served the Issei, Nisei, and the generations that follow along with the local Japantown community and the greater San Jose area.

Santo Market became a family business when Lynne's mother, Helen, joined the store as the bookkeeper. The store became a second home to Lynne and her siblings. Throughout the years, each returned to lend a hand - Mark helped manage the store, Leslie computerized the bookkeeping, Scott maintained the facility and Lynne always kept busy by helping with a little bit of everything. Lynne, Leslie and Scott would also assist with the deli preparations. The next generation, the nine grandchildren, have been helping at the store from an early age and continue to today. Lynne's father, Earl, worked until he was 89 years old when the pandemic kept him home. In June of this year, he passed away peacefully surrounded by his family. He took comfort knowing Santo Market's legacy would continue through his children and grandchildren.

The San Jose Buddhist Church Betsuin has always been an important part of Lynne's life. She attended Sunday School (Dharma School) from preschool through high school. Saturday mornings at the Betsuin were spent going to Japanese School for many years. In 1971, the Sunday School performed a play, Fushigina Sekai, a Japanese version of Alice in Wonderland. Lynne played "Namiko," the role of "Alice," since she had a background in Japanese odori (dance) and Japanese language. Lynne was also a member of the



Junior Young Buddhist Association (Jr. YBA) organization in high school. As a parent, she was a Jr. YBA advisor for her three children. Currently, Lynne is a member of the Betsuin's Buddhist Women's Association, Dana (giving) Club and the EcoSahgha group.



Scouting was a big part of Lynne's childhood as her father was the first Cub Master at the Betsuin in 1969. Her parents helped start Cub Scout Pack 611 for their son Mark and later joined by Scott shortly after. Growing up, Lynne was a Brownie Girl Scout in the Empire Gardens School program. On Tuesdays, she would proudly wear her Brownie uniform to school in anticipation and excitement for her after school Brownie meetings where she would place her 10 cent dues in the coffee can. At the Betsuin, Lynne was also a member of the inaugural Girl Scout Troop 260 and her sister, Leslie, joined Brownie Troop 1052. The Betsuin's Girl Scout and Boy Scout organizations continued to grow into a thriving part of the community. As a parent, Lynne was the co-Girl Scout troop leader for 13 years for her daughter's troop.



Outside of Sunday School and Girl Scouts, Lynne was also a member of the San Jose Community Youth Service (CYS) where she learned tap and ballet as well as basketball. She had the opportunity to play basketball against teams from the Bay Area and Los Angeles.

From the age of six, Lynne began her study of Buyo, Japanese Classical Dance. She was fortunate to be a student of Madame Bando Mitsusa, where Lynne and her fellow dancers would perform at church events, community activities, and festivals. She participated in parades such as the San Francisco Cherry Blossom Festival and the Los Angeles Nissei Week.

Years of studying Buyo culminated in the remarkable recitals of Madame Bando Mitsusa. In 1993, Lynne obtained her Natori rank from Bando Mitsugoro IX and was given the stage name Bando Misashizu. Lynne's three daughters were also students of Madame Bando Mitsusa. While her daughters attended Suzume no Gakko, a summer cultural program, Lynne was the odori (Japanese dance) instructor. Lynne continues her joy of odori as she has recently joined the Betsuin's Obon odori assistant instructors.

Lynne graduated from San Jose High School and is very proud to be a Bulldog to this day. She played basketball, tennis, softball, field hockey, and was also on the cheerleading team. Lynne was in the inaugural class of the first Japanese Language course offered at the high school. Three generations of her family graduated from San Jose High with her father, Earl, in 1948, Lynne in



1978 as well as Lynne's daughters, Trisha, in 2008 and Carly and Aly in 2010.

From the University of California at Davis, Lynne earned her BS in Human Development. At UC Davis, she was inspired by her Professor Dr. David Lynn who taught the Life Span Course: Infancy and Early Childhood. Lynne enjoyed the Practicum course since she was able to work in the Early Childhood Education laboratory. It was Dr. Lynn and her participation in these two courses that inspired her to pursue a career working in Early Childhood Education.



With the support from the Betsuin and the guidance of the Lotus Preschool Board of Directors, Lotus Preschool opened in 1986. Before becoming the Director, Lynne worked as a teacher while also taking on the responsibilities of the Director. Lynne appreciates the unconditional support from her sister, Leslie, that has aided in the success of Lotus Preschool throughout the years. The dedicated and caring Lotus staff incorporates Japanese Culture into the preschool curriculum. The children learn through cultural songs, taiko (Japanese drums), cooking projects and celebrating Japanese holidays.

Lotus attends daily service in the Hondo (temple) officiated by Rinban Sakamoto and Mikame Sensei. Children offer incense during the sutra chanting and recite The Golden Chain, "...to be kind and gentle to every living thing...", words Lynne has lived by all her life. Lotus has always been a place to learn through fun and play while immersing the children into the Japanese Culture, local community and the spirit of giving back.

Below is a list of Lotus community partnerships that have made an impact on all involved.

• Lotus Community Partnerships

Yu Ai Kai Senior Day Service – Bi-monthly intergenerational program at the Yu Ai Kai Senior Center which benefits the Lotus children and the elderly. The Lotus children are invited to the monthly programs which feature Japanese odori dancing, hula, music, etc. They also get the opportunity to perform at the Yu Ai Kai Keiro Kai dinner and many Yu Ai Kai produced plays | San Jose State





University, School of Nursing – Taught health related topics | San Jose State University Department of Audiology – Conducted clinical pediatric screenings | California-Hawaii Elks Major Project, Inc. – Performed vision screenings | San Jose Taiko – Participated in classes | Wesley United Methodist Church Jazz Band – Collaborated on songs for Yu Ai Kai performances | Japanese American Museum of San Jose – Celebrated Grandparents' Day at the museum.

- **Lotus gives back to the community through performing Japanese songs, playing taiko, and manning different activity booths at various events**

Yu Ai Kai's Keiro Kai | Midori Kai Boutique | Nikkei Matsuri | Luna Park Chalk Festival | Viva Calle | City of San Jose and Sister City – Yokohama, Japan - Momotaro statue dedication | Welcoming committee for Japan Sumo delegation

- **Community Recognitions**

City of San Jose Commendation, 2009 | San Jose Buddhist Church Betsuin Commendation, 2011 | Spirit of Japantown, 2013 | Yu Ai Kai's Ray & Lucy Matsumoto Award, 2019 | Midori Kai's Outstanding Service to Our Community, 2022

San Jose Japantown is a uniquely special place with generational small family businesses that continue to thrive, churches that continue to be the pillars of the community and a place for local organizations to gather. Lotus Preschool is where many families and their children take their first steps into the Japantown community. Lynne takes immense pride in sharing what the community has to offer. By engaging people to partake, give back and do good for the community, the Japanese history, culture, and the legacy of San Jose Japantown can be sustained for future generations.



Lynne is grateful for the Betsuin, the Lotus Board of Directors, the Lotus Staff, her family, dear friends, community relationships and the many organizations she belongs to. She is looking forward to the near future when Lotus Preschool will move into the Dharma Center, the Betsuin's new facility.



Lynne is married to George and they have three grown daughters: Trisha, Carly and Aly. Her family has been her number one supporters in helping with many events and organizations she's involved in.

Congratulations, Jason, on
the honor of the Character
Award! You've done so
much for the Council and
the community!

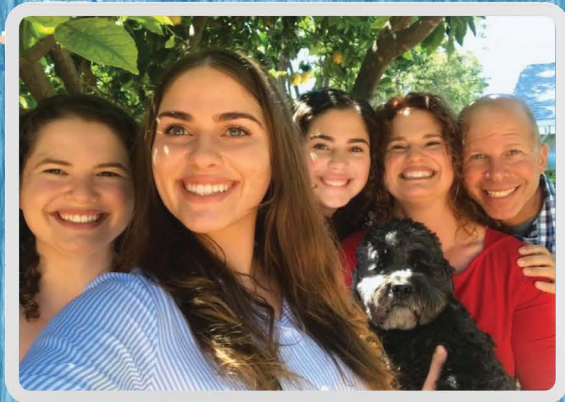


BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®
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**CONGRATULATIONS
JASON, ON YOUR 2022
CHARACTER AWARD
SELECTION!**





**WE ARE HONORED TO
KNOW YOU AND YOUR
WONDERFUL FAMILY.
YOU MAKE OUR LIVES
BETTER!**

JON AND PAULA BALL





BRANDENBURG

FAMILY FOUNDATION

The Brandenburg Family Foundation is dedicated to helping create, as well as sustain, a vibrant and healthy community where Silicon Valley residents have equal opportunity to live, work and be enriched. To accomplish its purpose, the Foundation invests in strong community-based organizations that promote better health, self-reliance, economic independence and contribute to the quality of life for economically, physically or emotionally challenged individuals.

It gives us great pleasure to help support the work done by the Silicon Valley Monterey Bay Council of Boy Scouts of America. It is also exciting for us to honor former Mayor Ron Gonzales and the other outstanding recipients of the Character Awards. The legacy these citizens leave in our community will continue to help increase the level of education for our kids, the safety of our neighborhoods and the health of our families.



*Congratulations,
Lynne*

As founder and director of Lotus Preschool, you have nurtured and prepared hundreds of children to become responsible, generous citizens.

You are an inspiration for all organizations with which you are involved. Our heartfelt appreciation for your selfless giving.

Supporting Our Community for 25 Years

Heritage Bank of Commerce

is a proud supporter of:



Boy Scouts of America
Silicon Valley Monterey Bay Council

To learn more about community banking, visit your local branch and let one of our relationship managers help you with all your banking needs.

HeritageBankofCommerce.bank

Member FDIC

HERITAGE
BANK OF COMMERCE

The San Jose Buddhist Church Betsuin congratulates Lynne Yamaichi as one of the recipients of the 2022 BSA Character Award. Lynne is a long-time member of our church and a great role model for all of our members. Her service to the church and local community cannot be measured. We are so proud and excited that she is being recognized for her numerous invaluable contributions.

Congratulations Lynne!



SAN JOSE
BUDDHIST CHURCH
BETSUIN

Congratulations Lynne!



We are proud of all that you
have done for your family,
Lotus Preschool, Santo
Market, and the San Jose
Japantown Community!

With much gratitude from
everyone you have touched.
You make a difference, and
we appreciate YOU!

We Love You!
Santo,
Yamaichi and
Kitazumi
Families
and the rest of
the crew from
Santo Market!



CONGRATULATIONS MISS LYNNE!



**KIMI, BRANDON & MIYA
UENAKA**

*Thank You to Lissa Kreisler
for helping out with the
Tribute Videos!*



Congratulations Lynne Yamaichi on the 2022 Character Award!

Nikkei Matsuri Foundation
thanks Lynne and Lotus
Preschool for their
continued support of SJ
Japantown's Nikkei Matsuri
Festival

**THANK YOU TO
CHRIS DENISE
FOR MAKING THE
HONOREE VIDEOS!**



On behalf of Boy Scout Troop 611, we want to congratulate Ms. Lynne as a Character Award Honoree! Many of our Scouts are former students of hers and can attest to the positive impact she's made on each of their lives. She has been an inspirational role model for children and parents alike, providing a loving and caring family structure to everyone in the community.

We love you Ms. Lynne!



**The Board of the Hispanic Foundation of
Silicon Valley honors the leadership of**

Ron Gonzales

**and proudly supports the
Boy Scouts of America**



**Hispanic
Foundation**
of Silicon Valley



*Congratulations
Ron Gonzales!!*

**YOU DESERVE
THIS HONOR!**



**GUERRERO PROPERTIES,
STEVE GUERRERO**



CONGRATULATIONS

**CHAPPIE
JONES**

on getting the 2022 Character Award!!



GOODWILL

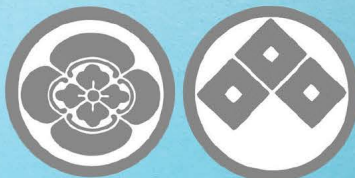
of Silicon Valley



*Thank you,
Miss Lynne!*



*Congratulations to the 2022 Character
Award Recipients and thank you for
your contributions to the community.*



The Yuki Families

**CONGRATULATIONS
ON THE HONOR OF THE
CHARACTER AWARD**

Lynne Yamaichi

YOU DESERVE IT!

 *Yoshihara Financial*

*Congratulations
Ron Gonzales
on getting the
Character Award!*







► SCOUT OATH ◄

**On my honor I will do my best to do my duty to God
and my country and to obey the Scout Law; to help other
people at all times; to keep myself physically strong,
mentally awake, and morally straight.**

► SCOUT LAW ◄

A Scout Is:

**Trustworthy • Loyal • Helpful • Friendly • Courteous • Kind
Obedient • Cheerful • Thrifty • Brave • Clean • Reverent**



**Silicon Valley Monterey Bay Council | Boy Scouts of America
970. W Julian Street San Jose, CA 95126 | 408.638.8300 | www.svmhc.org**