

W-JCC Public Schools Celebrate Famous Asian Americans – May, 2008



Jerry Yang- is Chinese American entrepreneur born in Taipei, Taiwan and raised in San Jose, California. Yang is the co-founder, chairman and CEO of Yahoo! Inc which was established in April of 1995.



Amy Tan is an American writer of Chinese descent whose works explore mother-daughter relationships as well as relationships between Chinese American women and their immigrant parents. In 1993, Tan's adaptation of her most popular fiction work, *The Joy Luck Club*, became a commercially successful film.



Michael Te-Pei Chang is a Chinese American and former professional tennis player. At the age of 17, he won the French Open and became the youngest male ever to win a Grand Slam singles title.



Vera Wang is an American fashion designer based in New York. She is known for her wedding gown collection, among other specialties. As a girl, Wang trained as a figure skater, and competed at the 1968 U.S. Figure Skating Championships. When she failed to make the U.S. Olympic team, she entered the fashion industry.



Kristine "Kristi" Yamaguchi is a Japanese American Figure skater and the 1992 Olympic Champion in women's singles. Yamaguchi also won two World Figure Skating Championships in 1991 and 1992 and a U.S. Figure Skating Championships in 1992. In December 2005, she was inducted into the U.S. Olympic Hall of Fame.



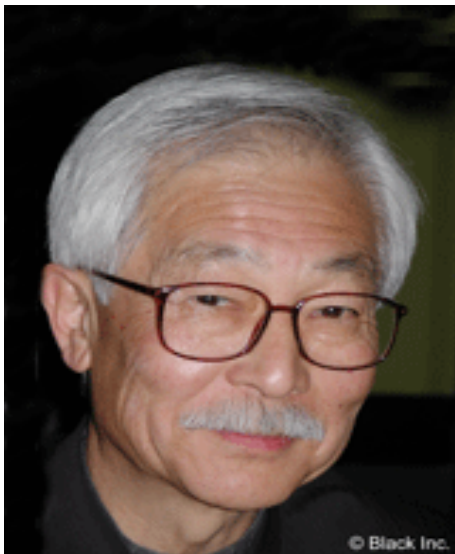
Constance Chung is an Asian-American journalist who has been part of the cast of several USA television news networks. She was born and raised in Washington, D.C. and is married to talk show host Maury Povich.



Sarah Chang is a Korean-American violinist. Chang was recognized as a child prodigy early on and by age 9 was possibly the youngest violinist ever to record a classical best-seller album.



Ann Curry is a Japanese-American television news journalist and news anchor on NBC (May 1997) and host of Dateline NBC. She sometimes anchors NBC Nightly News.



Allen Say was born in Yokohama, Japan, in 1937. In 2000, the Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles held the first retrospective of Say's work in children's literature. Fifty-five of his original drawings and paintings were featured along with original sketchbooks and autobiographical artifacts.



Norman Y. Mineta is the longest serving Secretary in the history of the U.S. Department of Transportation. He was also the first Asian-American Cabinet member during the Clinton administration, and the first Cabinet member to switch directly from a Democratic to a Republican Cabinet.



Gov. Gary Locke was elected Washington's 21st governor on Nov. 5, 1996, making him the first Chinese-American governor in U.S. history. As governor, Locke works to make Washington state a better place to live, work and raise a family by:

- Promoting excellence in education
- Strengthening the economy and creating jobs
- Protecting families
- Enhancing the environment
- Advocating and modeling responsible government