



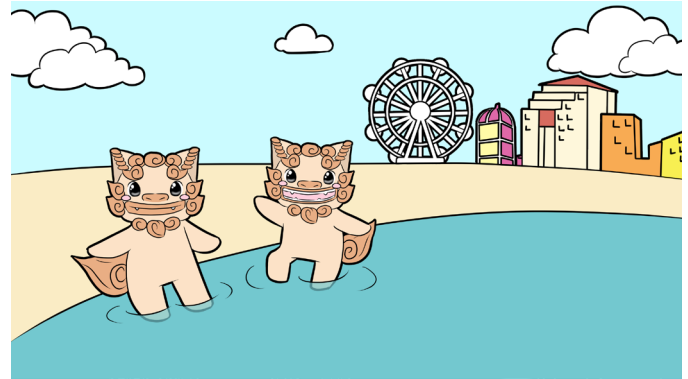
YAGI MULTICULTURAL SCHOLARSHIP IN COMMUNICATIONS DISORDERS

DONATED BY MARISA C. YAGI

DONOR BIO

Marisa C. Yagi, MS CCC-SLP is a Japanese-American “third culture kid.” She grew up in Egypt, Kenya, and Japan and spoke no English until in junior high school. Her first experience of living in America was at the University of Wyoming, where she earned three degrees, including a masters in speech-language pathology. After becoming a certified speech language pathologist, she started her own

company, Yagi Speech LLC, to provide accessible and affordable online and in-person speech/language services focused on the international, multicultural, and multilingual community. At the age of 27, Marisa established a business unit in Okinawa called ShisaCare which, for the first time, enabled U.S. military service members and their families in Japan to receive speech-related services covered by TRICARE.



PURPOSE OF SCHOLARSHIP

Wyoming is the donor family’s U.S. home and all of her siblings, including two with hearing impairments, attended UW. Her global background gave her a special appreciation of the needs and challenges facing everyone—especially children—in multilingual and multicultural environments... and of George Bernard Shaw’s shrewd observation that “the single biggest problem in communication is the illusion that it has taken place.” The Cowboy values she learned at UW compelled her to help provide some of the same assistance as an alumna that she herself received as a student. It is hoped that this scholarship will provide material support to deserving students and encourage them to persevere no matter what obstacles they encounter. Priorities for the Yagi Multicultural Scholarship in Communications Disorders include the following (in order of importance): underrepresented, international, or minority students with financial need; students with financial need who articulate how they will use their degree to promote multiculturalism and/or multilingualism; or students with financial need.



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