



Christian Academy in Japan
65th Commencement Exercises

Class of 2020

Friday, June 5, 2020
3:00 p.m.
Gymnasium

Program

Processional	<i>Pomp and Circumstance March, No. 1</i> Sir Edward William Elgar Ayumi Tsuruta, director
* Alma Mater	<i>Hail, Alma Mater!</i> CAJ Concert Choir Scott Ponzani, conductor
Welcome	Anda Foxwell
Invocation	Gerald May
Presentation of Senior Awards	Tanya Hall
Senior Address	Dominic Lazaro Climacosa
Senior Memory Video	Senior Council
Scripture Reading (Mark 4:35-41)	Yukiko Howard
Commencement Address	Vincent Howard
Presentation of Diplomas and Bibles	Anda Foxwell
* Scripture Benediction (Numbers 6:24–26)	Mrs. Evangeline Kindervater (English) Mrs. Noriko Iwata (Japanese) Mr. YoungKwon Kim (Korean) Mr. Corsino Climacosa (Tagalog) Mrs. Marina Handa (Russian) Mr. Oscar Mendoza (Spanish)
Announcement	Anda Foxwell

* Please stand

The ceremony is being broadcast live over the internet. Photos from this evening and a video file of the ceremony will be available at <https://www.caj.ac.jp/divisions/hsgraduation/>

Hail, Alma Mater!

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| 1. Hail, Alma Mater, raise high thy gold and blue!
Colors reflecting our loyalty to you.
Strong and enduring, in Christ you ne'er shall fail.
Hail, Alma Mater, all proudly we hail! | 2. Hail, Alma Mater, beneath the towering pines!
Christian Academy stands beloved through time.
God hath ordained thee to blaze a truth-sod trail.
Hail, Alma Mater, all proudly we hail! |
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Senior Music Awards

Dominic Lazaro Climacosa
Yuka Iwata
Nana Kano
Eunmin Kim
Sung Won Kim
JinWoo Lee
Yui Matsumaru
Mayumi Okuda
GyeongJun Son
David Augustus Thicksten

John Philip Sousa Award for Band

Eunmin Kim
Mayumi Okuda

Louis B. Armstrong Award for Jazz

Dominic Lazaro Climacosa

Martie Tarter Choral Award

Yuka Iwata
Eryn Mae Kindervater
JinWoo Lee

Fritz Kreisler String Award

Nana Kano
JinWoo Lee

Senior Athletic Awards

Miyuki Yamakawa Basu
Dominic Lazaro Climacosa
Joseph Frazier
Masaki Handa
HyeonSeo Kwon
Rachel Nelson
Reeko Ohashi
Kyle Philson
Eugene Reedy
Rina Seminoff
Hayato Taguchi
Tai Van Dam

Career Knights Roll of Honor

Yuka Iwata
Nana Kano
Yuki Kano
Eunmin Kim
YeonJoo Kim
Eryn Mae Kindervater
JinWoo Lee
Hajin Lee
Reeko Ohashi
Rina Seminoff

Athletes of the Year

Enosh Mutenda
Mitsuki Hishinuma

Please check the CAJ high school handbook on our website for more details about these awards, including past recipients.

PTA Departmental Awards

The recipient of each award is an outstanding student who has demonstrated one or more of the following:

- A deep understanding and appreciation for the subject.
- A mature proficiency in the use of the tools of the subject.
- The ability and willingness to contribute to the learning of others.
- The ability to do useful, independent study in the subject.

Art: **Jun Nelson**

Bible: **Eryn Mae Kindervater**

English: **Grace Emiko Iijima**

Mathematics: **Reeko Ohashi**

Music: **Nana Kano**

Physical Education: **Tai Van Dam**

Science: **Matthew Buss**

Service: **Yuka Iwata**

Social Studies: **Susana Mendoza**

Technology: **Shion Suzuki**

Vocational Arts: **Yui Matsumaru**

World Language: **Eunmin Kim (Japanese)**

Ron and Carolyn Hardy Discipleship Award

This award is presented to a student who has demonstrated and expressed a vital relationship with Jesus Christ and who has been involved in discipling others within CAJ or the wider community, encouraging them in their faith journey and helping them move from where they are toward where God desires them to be.

Recipient: **David Augustus Thicksten**

Howard Blair Award

This award is endowed as a tribute to Mr. Howard Blair, who was active as a teacher of English at CAJ for many years. This award is presented to a senior who has consistently demonstrated talent, dedication and excellence in the study of literature and who has maintained a high standard of communication in writing and speaking. The student is remarkable for developing skills and for presentation abilities.

Recipient: **Emi Miyazaki**

Les Johnston Biblical Perspective Award

This award is presented to a student who has shown exceptional ability to apply a biblical perspective across disciplines and issues. This student not only has mastered the academic skills involved, but also has made a personal commitment to embracing a Christian worldview.

Recipient: **Reeko Ohashi**

June Habbestad Award

The Habbestad Fine Arts Award was endowed as a tribute to Ms. June Habbestad, who was active as a sponsor of fine arts activities for many years. Senior students are nominated for this award by either a staff member or fellow student and are then asked to submit an application outlining their artistic achievements, which includes a statement on the role they foresee the arts playing in their lives after they leave CAJ.

Recipient: **JinWoo Lee**

Fitzgerald Career Athletic Awards

These awards go to a male and a female senior athlete for the positive impact that they have had on CAJ's athletic program over their entire high school career. The recipients have demonstrated excellence in their achievements in sports and are recognized for their consistent level of leadership. Seniors are compared based on the total number of varsity letters they have received over the course of their time at CAJ, the individual successes they have experienced during their careers, the total number of awards, and the opportunities they have had to emerge as leaders.

Recipients: **Rachel Nelson, Rina Seminoff and Eugene Reedy**

Martin Essenburg Academic Awards

From the early days of CAJ's history, Dr. Martin Essenburg had a significant impact on the school, notably in the pursuit of academic excellence. His influence over sixteen years of service is honored in two awards, one for the valedictorian and one for the salutatorian. There are so many excellent and hard-working scholars at CAJ that these awards are often determined by their academic performance in the last quarter, or even in the final days of their high school career. They are based on the students' cumulative grade point average (GPA), calculated from all their grades in high school at CAJ.

Recipients: **Reeko Ohashi (S)** and **JinWoo Lee (V)**

Kidron Valley Award

The Kidron Valley Award is funded by a donor who desires to assist missionary kids, or MKs, with the costs of going to college. This award, the only one we present that is restricted to MKs, is given to the MK with the highest GPA after the Essenburg awards are presented.

Recipient: **Rina Seminoff**

Alvey Leadership Award

This award is given to a senior who has demonstrated the highest degree of leadership qualities over his or her high school career. The donor for this award asked the man for whom it is named what leadership trait he thought was most important. This very successful businessman, at the sunset of his life, stated, "Humility." Humble leadership is one of the defining traits to qualify an individual for this award.

Recipient: **JinWoo Lee**

Samuel Public Speaking Award

This award is named after a dynamic and exceptionally well-prepared preacher who was also a mentor for others. It should also be noted that the talents of the biblical Samuel included ministry, speaking and teaching.

Recipient: **JinWoo Lee**

Judy Amos Distinguished Service Award

Mrs. Judy Amos served CAJ as a teacher, board member, board secretary, board vice-chair and board chair. This award honors her service, and the recipient, in like manner, is a student who has selflessly served the CAJ community.

Recipient: **Shun Collier**

CAJ Honor Award

The criteria for this award, considered the most prestigious of our awards, are as follows: "One member of the senior class who is respected as a leader and outstanding role model of what CAJ desires its students to become spiritually, academically and socially. Some qualities that are exemplified and looked for include: interest in helping others, attitudes of genuine friendliness, a daily lifestyle that brings honor to the Lord, and faithfulness."

Recipient: **Dominic Lazaro Climacosa**

Dear Class of 2020, (2020 Vision: Perfect Reputation!)

About a month ago when I was listening to a podcast on one of my favorite books, Harry Potter, I was reminded that the main characters, Harry, Ron and Hermione did not finish their last year of high school. Instead, they left on a journey that isolated themselves from the rest of the world. Their circumstance was a bit different (going to find Horcruxes to defeat Voldermort and save the world instead of staying home to save ourselves from the invisible virus that could seriously harm us....oh wait...maybe there is a correlation!)

I decided to re-read the last book to see how they survived that year.

Harry was brave and bold. He was loyal. A true Grifindor. He was also a risk-taker and was not afraid to fail, which was why he probably got into so many near accidents but was also able to get out of them! He was also a person with strong moral beliefs and values; he believed in humanity and included all sorts of people and creatures into his circle of friends.

Ron did not have to go on this journey, but he did because he was Harry's friend, and that's what loyal friends do. He was insecure but was smart (remember his chess moves) and he loved to have fun.

Hermione also did not have to go on this journey, but there was no doubt in her mind from the beginning that she was going. She was incredibly intelligent and organized, and fought for justice for all.

These three survived that year because they had each other. They were so different from each other, but they worked together, using their strengths and gifts that they had developed during their years at Hogwarts.

My hope for all of our students at CAJ is that they will be able to discover and develop their gifts to build community. As you leave this place, remember your friends. Remember that being in community is how we were meant to be. You have gifts to share with others, as they have gifts to share with you. Work together with those God puts in your life to not only survive this world, but also to thrive, and to make it even better.

CAJ will always be a place you can come back to. We are part of your community.

Mrs. Hall

High School Principal

“May all that is un-lived in you blossom into a future graced with love.”- John O Donohue

Other Accepting Institutions

In addition to the institutions our graduates have chosen to attend, the following have accepted one or more of our students

Asbury University	Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences	Trinity University
Boston University	McMaster University	University of California Davis
California Baptist University	Northeastern University	University of California Irvine
Calvin University	Pennsylvania State University	University of California San Diego
Carleton University	Purdue University	University of California Santa Barbara
Case Western Reserve University	Queen's University	University of Alberta
Colby College	Ritsumeikan University	University of Georgia
Doshisha University	Rutgers University	University of Massachusetts-Amherst
Drexel University	Ryerson University	University of Ottawa
Fashion Institute of Technology	Seattle Pacific University	University of Pittsburgh
Fordham University	Simon Fraser University	University of Vermont
Gardner-Webb University	Skidmore College	University of Washington
Geneva College	Sophia University	Western University
Hosei University	Stony Brook University	Westmont College
Indiana Wesleyan University	Syracuse University	Wheaton College
		York University

Plans for the Future

Tai Hyuk Ahn	Waseda University	Hajin Lee	International Christian University
Miyuki Yamakawa Basu	Sophia University	Jin Woo Lee	Imperial College London
Matthew Buss	University of British Columbia	Yui Matsumaru	professional school in Japan
Dominic Lazaro Climacosa	University of British Columbia	Susana Mendoza	George Fox University
Shun Collier	Florida Institute of Technology	Emi Miyazaki	University of Toronto
Joseph Frazier	University of Wisconsin-Madison	Jun Nelson	Handong Global University
Iwao Hall	undecided	Rachel Nelson	St. Olaf College
Masaki Handa	International Christian University	Asuma Nishizaki	University of Sydney
Mitsuki Hishinuma	Hosei University	Reeko Ohashi	University of Waterloo
Grace Emiko Iijima	Torchbearers, then Trinity Western University	Rika Ohira	Keio University
Yuka Iwata	International Christian University	Mayumi Okuda	gap year, then university in Japan
Nana Kano	International Christian University	SeongJoon Park	Sophia University
Yuki Kano	University in Japan	Kyle Philson	Georgia State University
Eunmin Kim	International Christian University	Eugene Reedy	Villanova University
Sung Won Kim	Taylor University	Rina Seminoff	Biola University
Won Jun Kim	University of California, Los Angeles	Timothy Sexton	technical school
Yeon Joo Kim	Waseda University	Gyeong Jun Son	University of Rochester
Eryn Mae Kindervater	Grove City College	Shion Suzuki	Cal Poly San Luis Obispo
Hyeon Seo Kwon	International Christian University	Hayato Taguchi	Hosei University
		Alice Takeyama	New York University
		David Augustus Thicksten	Cypress College
		Tai Van Dam	Anderson University

The Class of 2020

Tai Hyuk Ahn
Miyuki Yamakawa Basu †
Matthew Buss †
Dominic Lazaro Climacosa †
Shun Collier
Joseph Frazier †
Iwao Hall
Masaki Handa
Mitsuki Hishinuma
Grace Emiko Iijima †
Yuka Iwata *†
Nana Kano †
Yuki Kano
Eunmin Kim †

Sung Won Kim
Won Jun Kim *
Yeon Joo Kim *
Eryn Mae Kindervater
Hyeon Seo Kwon
Hajin Lee †
Jin Woo Lee *
Yui Matsumaru
Susana Mendoza *†
Emi Miyazaki †
Jun Nelson
Rachel Nelson *
Asuma Nishizaki
Reeko Ohashi *

Rika Ohira
Mayumi Okuda *
SeongJoon Park
Kyle Philson
Eugene Reedy †
Rina Seminoff †
Timothy Sexton
Gyeong Jun Son
Shion Suzuki
Hayato Taguchi
Alice Takeyama
David Augustus Thicksten
Tai Van Dam

*National Honor Society member † Senior Council member

Senior Home Room Teachers

Tom McGlothlin, Shani Mutenda, Ryan Potter ('98), Morris Yaegashi ('98)

Senior Comprehensive Shepherds

Christina Johnson, Keith Kelleth, Tom McGlothlin,
Shani Mutenda, Ryan Potter ('98), Morris Yaegashi ('98)

Administration

Anda Foxwell (Head of School)
Tanya Hall ('91) (High School Principal)
Winnie Langelaar (Middle School Principal)
Jean Hino (Elementary School Principal)
Jacquie Willson ('84) (Director of School
Support Services)

Bryan Lewis (Business Manager)
Pam Kumate (Human Resources Manager)
Nate Rudd (Information Technology Director)
David Marshall (Director of Teaching & Learning)
Stephen Willson (Facilities Manager)

Board of Directors

Gerald May (TEAM)
Lawrence Spalink (CRJM)
Joel Peterson (Member-at-Large)
Anda Foxwell (Head of School)
Pauline Carlson (ECC)
Jeremy Seminoff (Member-at-Large
and Educator)
Jaine Chung (Jaine Loh) (Japan
Baptist Fellowship)
Karen Stoesz (SEND)
Daniel Sexton (OMS)
Jennifer Rood (Supervisor-Auditor)
Sobie Abraham (Supervisor-Auditor)

Board of Councilors

Grant Buchholtz (ECC)
Pauline Carlson (ECC)
Jaine Yeong Yueh Chung (JBF)
Pamela Duhrkoop (OMS)
Jeong Gho (CRJM)
Gerald May (TEAM)
Lawrence Mutenda (Member-at-
Large)
Joel Peterson (Member-at-Large)
Nelle Potter (Member-at-Large
Alumni)
Jonathan Reasoner (SEND)

Mark Roberts (Member-at-Large)
Poppy Roberts (Member-at-
Large)
Aileen Selander (TEAM)
Daniel Sexton (OMS)
Paul Tsuchido Shew (Member-at-
Large Educator)
Lawrence Spalink (CRJM)
Karen Stoesz (SEND)
Hiroaki Tada (Member-at-Large
Staff)
Ken Taylor (JBF)