



The Janet Aiko Sekiguchi Foundation
9374 Galvin Avenue • San Diego, California • 92126

April 10, 2006

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Dear Friends,

I can hardly believe it's been almost four years since the death of our dear friend Janet on April 11, 2002. Like many of you, I have struggled to find ways to honor her memory and somehow reflect how much she influenced and inspired me. She really had a heart for teaching and for reaching the underserved, especially in the inner-city. She challenged me with her honest appraisals of issues of race, gender, and privilege. She showed me the selfless love of God in countless small ways. And above all, she made life fun with her esoteric jokes, delight in cheesy 80's tunes and old-school rap, an unexpected rebellious streak, and her unique fashion sense. (Now that I live in San Diego, I can appreciate the appeal of the "white socks with flip-flops" thing.)

Many of Janet's friends have discussed ways to honor her memory. To that end, some of us have created the Janet Aiko Sekiguchi Foundation. Our vision statement is to carry on the legacy of Janet Sekiguchi to bring justice and serve the least among us by investing in urban education and promoting racial reconciliation. Our hope is that the Foundation could carry out some of the work that Janet might have done in her lifetime, had she had more time with us.

In the near term, we hope to help fund a teacher or missionary working with youth in one of America's urban centers. Eventually, we'd like to see the Foundation administer its own grant that could fully support a teacher or missionary who has chosen a career in the inner-city.

We would love for you to join us in remembering Janet. We invite you to visit janetsekiguchi.org to check out our plans. We also encourage you to add your memories of Janet to the collection on the website. Janet had such a neat way of connecting with all kinds of people, in all dimensions of her life. I know I've really enjoyed hearing stories about Janet from parts of her life I didn't know, like her high school days. I'm sure we would all benefit from hearing your stories about her too.

Thank you for your time and attention, and for being someone important in Janet's life.

Warmly yours,

Valerie Hsieh Chu