

## **PRESS RELEASE**

*For Immediate Release*

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## **Dale Yasukawa Scholarship Deadline May 15 for NUPOC Students**

April 7, 2017 – Charlotte, North Carolina - The OPAF Dale Yasukawa Scholarship Fund is now accepting applications from Northwestern University students currently enrolled in the O & P masters degree program. The \$1,000.00 scholarship is intended to assist NUPOC students attend their local chapter or society meeting of the Academy. More information is located on the OPAF website at

<http://www.opafonline.org/programs/scholarship.htm>

Scholarship applications are due by May 15.

This scholarship program is currently open to all full-time master's program candidates enrolled in Northwestern University's Prosthetic Orthotic Center (NUPOC). The chief purpose of the scholarship is to encourage student participation in their local annual meeting of the American Academy of Orthotists and Prosthetists (AAOP). It is expected that the award will be used specifically to defray meeting registration fees of their local AAOP meeting and assist in the purchasing of books, supplies, and equipment needed for ongoing studies at NUPOC.

In November 2001, a memorial fund was established at OPAF in the name of Dale Yasukawa CP. In cooperation with Linda Yasukawa, PT, MS, OPAF has created a scholarship program connected to Dale's memorial fund.

Yasukawa, who died on November 22, 2001 at the age of 43, served as director of prosthetics at the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago (RIC) in the department of prosthetic-orthotic clinical services. He began his work with RIC in 1988 as a physical therapy aid. In 1990, he joined the O&P clinical services department, and in 1991 Yasukawa attended the Northwestern University prosthetics certificate program. He became an ABC-certified prosthetist in 1993 and throughout his career worked with patients of all ages - children, young adults, and geriatrics. Yasukawa was involved in the Midwest Chapter of the American Academy of Orthotists & Prosthetists for over seven years, completing his service as immediate past president in 2001.

For more information, please contact the OPAF office at 980-819-9404 or [robin@opafonline.org](mailto:robin@opafonline.org).

**About OPAF:** Serving as the philanthropic arm of the US orthotic and prosthetic community, the Orthotic & Prosthetic Activities Foundation (OPAF), develops, implements, partners and hosts adaptive recreational clinics for those with physical challenges. The First Clinics are recognized as leaders in adaptive recreation. Whether this is the first time a participant is trying an activity after illness, injury or episode or the first time they are ever trying,

First Clinics offer top notch adaptive instruction specifically for them. Founded in 1995 to support the Paralympic Games in Atlanta, OPAF & The First Clinics have moved forward to offer introductory level adaptive recreation opportunities to everyone, not just the elite athlete. For more information on OPAF and The First Clinics, visit [www.opafonline.org](http://www.opafonline.org).