

# JAMES BRADLEY PEACE

## F O U N D A T I O N

BOX 367 RYE, NY 10580

WWW.JAMESBRADLEY.COM/JBPF

WINTER 2010



*James Bradley in China*

MY FATHER helped raise the flag on Iwo Jima, Japan. When I was nineteen I attended university in Tokyo, the capital of his former enemy. The experience changed my life. Later I wrote books about Asia and decided that money from my books would be used to send American high school students to China and Japan.

My hope is that after these young people come back from their one year abroad, they will eventually migrate upwards into the American power structure and the next time we are debating whether to talk it out or fight it out, one of them might make a difference.

My life has been enriched getting to know these talented students and I'm sure you will enjoy learning more about them here.

**James Bradley**

President, *James Bradley Peace Foundation*  
Author, *Flags of Our Fathers*,  
*Flyboys* & *The Imperial Cruise*

“Fostering understanding between America and Asia by sending American students to Japan and China to study.”

### China Scholars

CONGRATULATIONS to the most recent JBPF China scholars Matthew Doughty from Jefferson City, MO and Samuel Klug from Austin TX. Matthew and Samuel arrived in Beijing in late July where they met their host families and attended an intensive language course before starting school in late August. Matthew is attending No. 9 Senior Middle School in Anshan. Samuel is attending No. 57 High School in Beijing. Enjoy the year!

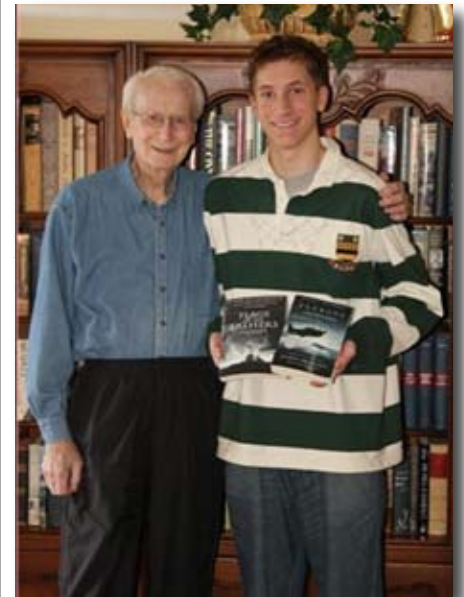
“PEACE CANNOT BE  
KEPT BY FORCE.

IT CAN ONLY BE ACHIEVED  
BY UNDERSTANDING.”

- Albert Einstein

### Japan Scholars

KUDOS to the most recent Japan scholars. Colin Kulstand from Hopkins, MN is living in Kanagawa and attending classes at Waseda University Senior High School in Tokyo. Sara Grat-tan from Salinas, CA is living in Saitama and attending classes at Urawa Nishi High School. Read inside about what they are experiencing in Japan!



*Japan Scholar Colin Kulstad with his grandfather in Hopkins, MN*

### Introductions

THE James Bradley Peace Foundation has been sending students to Japan and China for the last five years.

Inside are excerpts of some of our scholars' writings, as well as photos of their experiences. They also update us on what they've been up to, and share their future plans.

JAMES BRADLEY PEACE FOUNDATION

#### Board

James Bradley  
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# Reina Chen

Plano, TX

James Bradley Peace Foundation  
China Scholar 2008-09

*My interest in Chinese has boldened even more. In the future, I would love to have a career that goes between China and the United States. Words simply cannot be enough to express the gratitude I feel towards YFU and James Bradley for being granted this incredible experience.*

- Reina Chen



This year has been a year like no other. It's true how they say you learn so much more than you ever expected before going into this thing. From this year in China, I have really matured and changed in some ways for the better. Vivid experiences I've had here have made me open up my mind and let me learn about what kind of person I want to strive to be. As well, I didn't solely just learn about China. Because by often being in the company of other exchange students coming from countries all over the world has taught me things about other cultures also. A big shocker to me had been how all of them were so familiar with America's music, geography, modern language, and so forth. And in terms of improvement in my Chinese, this year-long stay in China has done wonders.



# Kayla Van Dyke

Eagan, MN

James Bradley Peace Foundation  
China Scholar 2008-09

*Traveling to Japan has given me great perspective on my life at home and how I interact with the world.*

*- Kayla Van Dyke*

I had a lot of ideas about what Japan would be like. But I had no idea how it would change my perspective. Travelling abroad challenged me to examine my culture in reference to another. By understanding and experiencing Japan, I became rooted to it. I gained a history there by interacting with it on a personal level. Each day was a step away from what I was accustomed to, so each small event became a significant learning

experience. When something as simple as communication is difficult, being able to express yourself is worthy of celebration. The challenges of learning to adapt to something so different gave me tools I never knew I needed, but find indispensable now. Despite difficult times, each battle overcome and lesson learned has added to me as a person and made my trip truly life altering.



# Eric McCabe

Ann Arbor, MI

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James Bradley Peace Foundation  
China Scholar 2008-09



*This past week, I celebrated my eight month anniversary here in China, although it doesn't feel like I've been here nearly that long... With three months left, I'm excited to report that this exchange year has so far been a huge success, and one of the best decisions of my life.*

- Eric McCabe

China is a pretty amazing place to spend a year, especially once you get a hold on the language. These days, my routine has pretty much fallen into a pattern of studying and being with my host family. At school, where I don't have any homework or tests, I usually fill my time by preparing for the HSK (a Chinese proficiency test), which I plan to take in June, just before I come back to the U.S. Although I have a lot of free time, my friends do not. We get out of school at 5:30 or 6:30 every school day, which doesn't leave a lot of time for hanging out with them. Furthermore, most of my classmates have additional classes on the weekends, which usually rules out Saturday and Sunday as far as doing things with them is concerned. Fortunately, I have a cool host sister who is willing to keep me company any time anywhere, so I'm rarely lonely. As my exchange year winds down, I find that classmates are busier and busier (tests), which is making it even

harder to find time to hang out with them. That's the downside. On the upside, my Chinese is pretty good these days, and I feel comfortable in most situations that I find myself in. As I mentioned earlier, I also have a lot of free time, which I am using more and more to explore my city and seek opportunities to practice speaking Chinese. To any future students who are thinking of doing an exchange year in China, or anywhere in Asia for that matter, a word of warning. The Asian languages are not like the Romantic languages, where you can learn the language just by listening to it. Learning Chinese took massive amounts of time and energy, and to any future students, I recommend that you have a working vocabulary of at least 1000 words before going abroad. Believe me, this will save you months of painful study.

# Rebecca Pazderski

Irmo, SC

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James Bradley Peace Foundation  
Japan Scholar 2008-09

My name is Rebecca Pazderski and I was awarded the James Bradley Peace Scholarship to Japan. I couldn't be more grateful to James Bradley, his family and the Peace Foundation for funding my trip to Japan. I lived in Kitakyushu City and studied at Hokuchiku High School. I grew to love the country very much. I hope that I can educate many people about the Japan that I love in the future.

# Sarah Grattan

Salinas, CA

James Bradley Peace Foundation  
Japan Scholar 2009-10



Why does anyone want to travel? Why would anyone want to go halfway across the globe to study? Why does anyone want anything? To fulfill goals and dreams. To experience something that you would not otherwise be able to. To see life and the world from another point of view. With how biased people can be, it's nearly impossible to get a true understanding of the world and of humanity through the viewpoint of only one country or nation. The only way, I think, to understand what I want to understand is to look at the world through as many perspectives as I can.

On a more specific level, Japan is a country I would very much like to live in, if only for a little while. It has always been a source of wonder and fascination for me, and now, having an opportunity to go there, live there, be a student there, I cannot let that chance slip by. My interest in the country was sparked, I think, by my grandmother; an immigrant from Japan. When I was young, she was the one who primarily raised me, and as such I grew up in an environment shaped by the Japanese lifestyle and culture.

Of course, when speaking of traveling away from one's home country to study, immediately the difficulties of such an endeavor will come to mind. The stress of having to adjust to an entirely different system, a different lifestyle, being separated from one's family and friends. Many people would likely think of these things as difficulties; obstacles to overcome. I, personally, find that the challenges that come with the experience are just another reason why it would

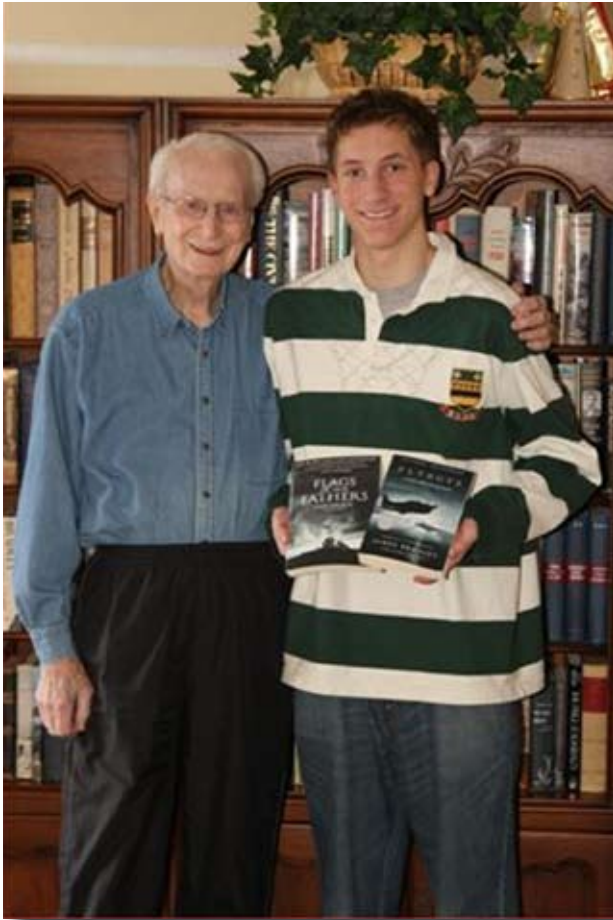
be beneficial for me to go. Human beings are creatures of habit, and I think that to embark upon a journey that defies nearly everything I have known in my life will, indeed, be a challenge... and nothing short of an adventure.

There is also, of course, the thing that can be obtained via this program that many, if not all, people want: knowledge. Knowledge, memories, experience. I place great value in these things, as they are some of the few things that no person can take away from you. I, unfortunately, currently have fairly limited knowledge of the Japanese culture, which I hope to amend. What little I know is a drop of water in the ocean; what would it be to equate to even something so small as a pond?

The quest for knowledge and understanding is one that has no end and, perhaps, no beginning. While I do not know about anyone else, I know that I will never be truly satisfied with the number of things I have done and seen. I abhor the idea of simply doing nothing as opposed to trying to better myself through experiences I would not have been able to go through with otherwise. Perhaps it is impossible for one to ever be truly satisfied with oneself. But, has one really failed when one has nothing to lose?

*The quest for knowledge and understanding is one that has no end and, perhaps, no beginning. While I do not know about anyone else, I know that I will never be truly satisfied with the number of things I have done and seen.*

- Sarah Grattan



# Colin Kulstad

Hopkins, MN

James Bradley Peace Foundation  
Japan Scholar 2009-10

*Growing up, I cannot remember a time when Japan hasn't been a part of my life. My parents say that my interest sparked around the age of 7. I do not remember what started that flame, but my interest in Japan has been what has defined me ever since.*

*- Colin Kulstad*

After learning to read, I read every book in my school library on Japan. By the age of 13, I had attended two summers at the Concordia Language camps to learn to speak Japanese. I have studied Japanese on my own for years and have begun formal study this fall in high school. This past April, I was lucky enough to have parents who decided to take me to Japan for a week to see if I would be happy there and I felt that I had come home. I know I would be happy in any family or town where I would live. I knew that being in Japan would provide an experience that would truly be me.

But there is still more. My grandfather, Robert Mayotte, served in the South Pacific in World War II and I grew up with his stories of living on Pacific Islands, while waiting for victory. He was in the Signal Corps in the Army and although he did not see active combat, he was to be part of the invasion of Japan and was told that he would probably not be coming back. Fortunately, this did not happen. My grandfather returned home and I am one of his seven grandchildren.

In 2006, my cousins and I accompanied him to visit the World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C. It was a very moving experience for all of us, but I knew that it was most important to my grandpa. Luckily, my grandpa has written all of his war experiences, complete with photographs, in a book that I hope to show my children someday.

My grandfather was one of seven brothers, five of whom served in World War II. My grandfather especially talks about his younger brother, the pilot of a B-24 Liberator in Italy. We have all grown up going to air shows and touring the incredible airplanes that made such a difference in the war.

The greatest part of my grandfather's stories is that he never seemed to have harbored a grudge against Japan and has always encouraged me in my love of Japan and in international travel. My brothers and I have attended a public French Immersion school, and although we all speak fluent French, it is a well-known fact among my school friends that Japan is where my interests lie.

# JBPF Scholar Colin Kulstad in Sun Newspapers

## Edina student going to Japan with James Bradley scholarship

BY Jason Kroeker - SUN NEWSPAPERS

Thursday, February 26, 2009

Colin Kulstad is going to spend a year in the country his grandfather almost invaded.

Colin, a sophomore at Edina High School and a resident of Hopkins, won a James Bradley Peace Foundation scholarship to spend a year studying in Japan. The scholarship was established by Bradley, the author of "Flags of Our Fathers" and "Flyboys," to foster understanding between Americans and Asians.

More than 60 years ago Colin's grandfather, Robert Mayotte of Richfield, was stationed in the Pacific while in the Army Signal Corps during World War II. He was preparing for an invasion of the Japanese island of Kyushu when the war ended.

Mayotte does not hold any hard feelings against Japanese people. During the war people were filled with intense nationalism, he said, but once the war ended that subsided.

When he learned that his grandson was going to Japan to study he was happy for him.

"I'm absolutely thrilled. It's a marvelous opportunity," Mayotte said. "We've always had a very friendly relationship with Japan since the war."

As part of his application, Colin wrote an essay about how his grandfather served in the South Pacific in World War II, and how he wanted to live with the people that his grandfather fought.

In December Colin received a package from James Bradley informing him that he had won the scholarship, along with signed copies of his books. Colin received one of the four scholarships that Youth For Understanding gives out annually.

"I've always wanted to be a Japanese kid," Colin said. "I've always had an interest in Japan."

One thing about the culture that Colin is attracted to is that Japan is modern and advanced, yet maintains a deep respect for its cultural traditions.

On the James Bradley Peace Foundation website, Bradley says his father helped raise the flag on Iwo Jima. When he was 19 he

attended university in Tokyo and that experience changed his life.

"My hope is that after these young people come back from their one year abroad, they will eventually migrate upward into the American power structure and the next time we are debating whether to talk it out or fight it out, one of them might make a difference," Bradley writes on the website.

Colin said he started reading books about Japan in third or fourth grade, but it was only in the last few years that he saw a correlation between his interest in the country and his grandfather's experiences. The stories Colin heard about Mayotte's life in the South Pacific probably contributed to his interest in the country, said Colin's mother, Lisa Mayotte.

Unlike many war veterans, Mayotte has been open about sharing his war experience with his family, and he has heavily documented his time in the South Pacific with photos, clippings and writings.

Colin will leave for Japan March 16, but he does not know his final destination yet. Youth For Understanding, the organization that organizes the foreign study program, has not told him what family he will live with or in what city.

He will attend a Japanese school as a foreign exchange student. Their school year begins in March.

"I'm a bit nervous about arriving and the culture shock period," Colin said. "I'm moderately confident in my language abilities."

He began studying Japanese on his own in fifth grade, and currently takes Japanese classes at Edina High School. It is not his first experience with a foreign language.

He went through the French-immersion program at Normandale Elementary School and continues to study French.

Colin will return next January or February. Youth For Understanding encourages



Edina High School sophomore Colin Kulstad and his grandfather, Robert Mayotte of Richfield, talk about Colin's upcoming trip to Japan and Mayotte's experiences in the region while in the Army Signal Corps in World War II. (CRAIG LASSIG SUN NEWSPAPERS)

students to keep their correspondence with friends and family in America to a minimum so that they can immerse themselves in the culture and overcome homesickness.

"I'm thrilled for him. Of course I'm going to miss him like crazy. That's a long time," his mother said.

Even though it is a long time to be gone and there are still a lot of unknowns, his parents are not too worried. Lisa studied in France when she was in college, and his father, John Kulstad, was an exchange student in Italy.

"We just think this is a great opportunity," Lisa said.

Colin has set up a blog where he will post pictures and write about his experiences, so his family will know what he is doing.

While Colin is in Japan he will also get a chance to meet with Bradley. The author makes a point to meet with all the scholarship recipients while they are overseas.

To make sure Colin really wanted to go through with the program, his family traveled to Japan last April and spent a week in the country.

"He said he felt like he was at home," Lisa said.

# Know a potential JBPF scholar?



## UPCOMING DEADLINES

<b>CHINA</b>	<b>JAPAN</b>
1/5/10 Application postmarked July 2010 attendance	10/9/10 Application postmarked March 2011 attendance

Visit [www.JamesBradley.com/jbpf](http://www.JamesBradley.com/jbpf) for more information.

## DONATIONS

**Help to ensure a peaceful co-existence with our world neighbors by donating to the James Bradley Peace Foundation.**

Proceeds go toward sending James Bradley Peace Foundation scholars to study abroad. Donations are tax deductible.

Online donations may be made through PayPal via a credit card or PayPal account by visiting [www.JamesBradley.com/jbpf](http://www.JamesBradley.com/jbpf) Contact us at [jbpf@jamesbradley.com](mailto:jbpf@jamesbradley.com) with any questions.

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Checks payable to the "James Bradley Peace Foundation". Please send to: James Bradley Peace Foundation, Box 367, Rye NY 10580. Donors will be acknowledged in newsletters. Check here if you prefer to have your donation anonymous: \_\_\_\_

**Thank you for supporting these bright scholars!**

JAMES BRADLEY PEACE FOUNDATION SCHOLARS

2002 - 2003

JAPAN

Brittany Collins Flemingsburg, KY  
 Claudia De Leon Mercedes, TX  
 Hieu Doan Manchester, NH  
 Katelyn Filbrandt Antigo, WI  
 Jamie Torres Conemaugh, PA

2003 - 2004

JAPAN

Philip Ingram Hillsboro, KY  
 Alexandra Kilsdonk Antigo, WI  
 Dannick Villasenor Weslasco, TX

2004 - 2005

JAPAN

Jonathan Lee Troy, NY  
 Andrew Shartie West Linn, OR  
 Brandon Uyehara Carmel Valley, CA

CHINA

Gwendolyn Rouse Madison, WI

2005 - 2006

JAPAN

Andrew Comick CareFree, AZ  
 Marie Pappas Lansdowne, PA  
 Kristina Staab Williams Bay, WI

CHINA

Christian Arevalo Kearny, NJ

2006 - 2007

JAPAN

Hanna Griffith Roseville, CA  
 Deborah Powers Roseville, CA

CHINA

Luke Dollmeyer Waitsfield, VT  
 Aaron Katz Brooklyn, NY  
 Sophia Pederson Tulsa, OK

2007 - 2008

JAPAN

Julie Eagle Olympia, DC  
 Jennifer Swagert Rockland, IL

CHINA

Kilian Goldin Irving, TX  
 Akasia Reyes Weslasco, TX

2008 - 2009

JAPAN

Reina Chen Plano, TX  
 Eric McCabe Ann Arbor, MI

CHINA

Rebecca Pazderski Irmo, SC  
 Kayla Van Dyke Eagan, MN

2009 - 2010

JAPAN

Colin Kulstad Hopkins, MN  
 Sarah Grattan Salinas, CA