

Dear Friends of Jamie Hagiya:

I have had the pleasure of knowing Jamie since she was a tiny little girl and watched her grow up into an outstanding person who happens to be a great basketball player. Jamie has become a wonderful ambassador in the Asian American community through her college and international professional basketball career and her experience with Nisei week as Miss Tomodachi. With all of her successes, she has always remained humble and has always had a heart for community outreach (especially with the kids who look up to her).

Historically, Asians have always been known as the silent minority, having had to overcome racial differences through strong work ethic. Asian Americans have had successes in many sports over the years. Unfortunately, we have had very limited representation in professional basketball. We have one current representative in the NBA in Jeremy Lin on the Golden State Warriors (who followed the first Asian American Wat Misaka who broke the Asian color barrier of the NBA in 1947 playing for the New York Knicks); and none in the WNBA.

The reason that I am writing this letter is to make you all aware of a tremendous opportunity to help show support for Jamie as she enters another door of opportunity in her life. I have been very fortunate to have piqued the interest of the Los Angeles Sparks WNBA team about the fact that they have completely missed the mark in penetrating the Asian American market; when more than 30,000 Asian American kids are currently participating in organized intercultural and AAU club basketball competition in California alone (not to mention many generations of past players who are now parents and grandparents). I shared with them Jamie's college career at USC and how it positively impacted ticket sales for all 4 years that she played for them.

After several discussions and meetings with the Sparks executives, they admitted that they had never considered the Asian American consumer market or attracting Asian companies as potential sponsors. The Sparks are now very interested in the possibility of Jamie becoming part of the team.

This "Asian Basketball Nite" event on August 30<sup>th</sup> is the next step in Jamie's process, where objective is to show the Los Angeles Sparks organization and

executives the kind of impact that Jamie has had on our children and community. If the turnout is a success for this event, the next step would be for Jamie to have a formal Sparks tryout in the fall of this year. With 3 Sparks players considering retirement, her chances are as good as anyone could imagine.

### Asian Basketball Nite

Defending WNBA Champs Seattle Storm vs. LA Sparks

Tuesday, Aug. 30 - 7:30pm

Staples Center

This is our chance to show Jamie our support and to show the Sparks just how we support our own and our love for the game of basketball. **Please have all of your kids bring their balls, team uniforms & court shoes for the free basketball clinic before the game from 4:30 to 5:30 pm hosted by Jamie... which is included with your ticket purchase (have your kids wear their team jersey's even if you can't make it to the clinic).** If we have a good turnout, the Sparks will allow the kids to form the welcome tunnel for the players from both teams.

**Please see the attached flyer to order tickets individually online or in bulk quantities for your teams, churches and organizations by phone with Lou Rosenberg at (213) 929-1328 or [lrosenberg@la-sparks.com](mailto:lrosenberg@la-sparks.com) .**

**USE THIS LINK TO ORDER ONLINE – ENTER CODE *JAMIE***

**[HTTPS://OSS.TICKETMASTER.COM/HTML/GO.HTML?L=EN&T=SPARKS&O=1101873&G=703](https://oss.ticketmaster.com/html/go.html?L=EN&T=SPARKS&O=1101873&G=703)**

Let's rally behind Jamie and show up at Staple Center in force on the 30<sup>th</sup>! Spread the word to your family, friends, teammates and co-workers to come out. Please purchase your tickets online as early as possible and let's fill Staples Center... and send a message to the Los Angeles Sparks to bring Jamie onto the Sparks line-up. It will be a great night of fellowship and basketball.

Sincerely,

Brad Chang