

## Kylie Ng

I was the daughter of a father who only seemed to show tough love and a mother who expressed an excessive amount of it. I am half Japanese and half Chinese, but I've always favored boiling ramen noodles over fried chow-mein from the wok. I was just a girl when my father died. I am now...

I am the daughter of a mom who never fails to support me. She is my hero without the cape and always inspires me to be better than the day before. I am a sister who constantly pushes herself to be a role model for her brother even when we don't get along. I am the friend who is there when someone needs to rant or cry, but I am also the friend who will give honest advice regardless of how harsh it may be. I am a basketball player who loves and hates it, like a relationship with a boy she cannot escape from. But, I am no longer the girl who lets time pass her by, who takes things and people for granted. I am a woman who was forced to mature at a young age to become a person my father would be proud of now.

Throughout the years, basketball has given me opportunities to meet new people and develop as a person, and most importantly, it has allowed me to grow, giving me skills necessary for life. With all that it has offered me, I was fortunate to give back as a coach in community basketball programs such as Tigers, Mofufus, Run Jump Hoop, and, although no longer around, Intensity. These outlets enabled me to return knowledge and skills to children that can be great despite the stereotypes of being Asian or from other minority groups. Additionally, being included in the cohort of APIFM allowed me to dive into problems of environmental injustice and help the elderly in the SGV by hosting food drives, raising awareness on global warming and pollution, as well as planting trees around the area to improve the well-being of places I pass every day.

Some of my hobbies include sports photography and writing poetry as an outlet for all my thoughts. Basketball, also a hobby, is considered one of my passions, and I have a career goal that stems from it. I want to stay around the sport, but I also want to help people, and I can do both as a Physical Therapist.

My Japanese heritage derives from my mother's side, who's Sansei. My grandma moved to the US before WWII and was placed in the internment camps at the time. I enjoy telling people that I'm Japanese because I ultimately represent a product of their hardships and their resilience. I love Japanese food, the obons, the breathtaking temples in Japan, and the often-overlooked strength of identifying as Japanese. I am proud of the red circle centered on the white flag and the person I am because of it.