

## Class of 1961 Scholarship Fund



Mamiko Taniguchi '11

In 1991, members of the Bowdoin Class of 1961 established The Class of 1961 Scholarship Fund to commemorate the thirtieth anniversary of their graduation. The Fund provides financial aid to Bowdoin students based on their need, but with preference for students who demonstrate academic excellence, who are descendants of the Class of '61, and who come from the State of Maine. The Fund reached its endowment threshold in 1997 and began supporting students in that academic year.

Mamiko Taniguchi '11 is the tenth and most recent recipient of scholarship aid from the Fund. In keeping with the Fund's intent, Mamiko is an outstanding student and a Mainer. She graduated from Rockland District High School in Rockland, Maine, and is now a senior at Bowdoin. She is a Sarah and James Bowdoin Scholar and a Mitchell Scholar, and is majoring in economics. Mamiko recently returned from Germany, where she spent the spring semester studying the politics and economy of the European Union. On campus she serves as an academic mentor to Bowdoin peers, an activity she squeezes in between her academic studies and her performances of Japanese Taiko drumming. Mamiko spent half of last summer in Japan and the other half working at the Samoset Resort and volunteering at the Farnsworth Museum. She is considering careers in business and government after graduation.

Here is what Mamiko recently had to say about the Class of 1961 Scholarship Fund and what it means to her and her family:

*I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your generosity in funding the Class of 1961 Scholarship Fund. I am deeply appreciative of your support. Your assistance has tremendously helped pay for my education and has reduced my financial burden.*

*I am originally from Osaka, Japan. My family and I moved to the wonderful small town of Rockland, Maine, when I was in the seventh grade. I am now a senior majoring in economics and minoring in Asian studies. I spent part of last year studying politics and economics of the European Union in Freiburg, Germany, at an IES study abroad program. Through the program, I had the opportunity to engage with officials and representatives of major EU institutions and other governmental organizations through integrated field studies in Brussels, Strasbourg, Paris, Prague, Frankfurt, London, Stockholm, and Tallinn, among other cities. On campus at Bowdoin, I am involved in a student-run music group called Taiko Club where we play Japanese drums and put together public performances. I am also an academic mentor to Bowdoin peers committed to discovering strategies and approaches that will best help achieve their personal academic goals. This past fall, I assisted Professor Fitzgerald with homework and grading. Bowdoin has provided me with so many wonderful opportunities. I have only one more year left to go but I am determined to make the best out of it! Once again, thank you very much for supporting students of Bowdoin College. Your generosity truly makes a difference.*