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ORGANIZATION:

2009 Cherry Blossom Festival So Cal
686 S. Arroyo Parkway, #221
Pasadena, CA 91105

**2009 CHERRY BLOSSOM FESTIVAL SEEKING NOMINATIONS FOR
TEACHERS MAKING A DIFFERENCE AWARD**

www.cherryblossomfestivalsocal.org

The Cherry Blossom Festival So Cal is seeking nominations of teachers in Southern CA who are “*Making a Difference*”. The deadline for nomination is February 1, 2009 and nominated teachers will be judged based on questions on the submittal form. Winning Teachers will be contacted by February 16th and will be recognized in a special ceremony at the Cherry Blossom Festival on Saturday, April 4th held in the Little Tokyo district of downtown Los Angeles on the main stage.

We are accepting nominations for any and all teachers who are currently teaching in Southern CA. Teachers who teach preschool, elementary, middle school, high school, magnet schools, college & universities, private schools, teachers who train teachers & Japanese language teachers

The Cherry Blossom Festival So Cal is produced by a 100% volunteer team and underwritten by private donations and sponsors. This Festival celebrates Spring through Cherry Blossoms and promotes the diverse Japanese and Japanese American through cultural arts of demonstration, dance, music and performance. It also has a Hawaiian Village with stage entertainment, nonstop performance in the Martial Arts Arena and a large activity area for kids as well as craft vendors, retail and commercial vendors and a Cherry Blossom Food Court. The Festival is held in the Little Tokyo district of Los Angeles on April 4th & 5th and is a Free Entrance to the public. Attendance at the 2007 Festival was over 30,000.

2008 Teachers Making a Difference Honorees included: **REBECCA CARUSO** – 6th Grade, Cleveland Elementary, Pasadena; **JOYCE WAKANO CHINN**, 5th Grade, Vanalden Elementary, Reseda; **JOE GIVENS** – Speech & Language Teacher, Willard Elementary, Pasadena; **LESLIE HONG**, PreK Special Education Autism, Cleveland Elementary, Pasadena; **RON HOSHI**, Grade 7-12 Vocal Music, now Asst. Principal, Oxford Academy, Cypress; **SHARON ITO** – 8th Grade English, Brightwood Elementary, Monterey Park; **BONNIE KASAMATSU** – High School Geometry, South Hills High School, West Covina; **DR. HIROKO C. KATAOKA** – Asian American Studies, California State University, Long Beach; **STAN KONG** – Professor, Design, Pasadena City College; **ANN OGAWA**, Adult Education, Belmont Education & Career Center, Los Angeles; **MYRON GEE**, Adult Education, Belmont Education & Career Center, Los Angeles; **CATHY OKITA** – 1st & 2nd Grade, Ranch Hills Elementary, Pomona; **THERESA PETERS** – High School Biology, Mayfield Senior School, Pasadena; **DR. GAY YUEN** – Professor, Charter Colleges of Education, California State University at Los Angeles.

To nominate a teacher go online to www.cherryblossomfestivalsocal.org to download the form.

CHERRY BLOSSOM OPPORTUNITIES:

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