

Rotary Club of Renton



Wednesday, January 22, 2025

January 23rd, 2024 Program

Jesse Tam



Lunar New Year, January 29th

Jesse Tam is the founder and Managing Director of Mega Pacific Investments (an international business consulting firm). He is also a founder and banker for 40+ years and forming his 4th Washington State chartered community bank, United Diversity Bank in Bellevue, WA.

Jesse has been a Rotarian since 1984 and a charter member of Seattle International District Rotary Club. In 2008-2009, he became the first Asian American Rotary District Governor for Rotary District 5030, covering the Greater Seattle area. Currently, he is Renton Rotary's President-Elect.

He has a passion for education and has served as mentor and lecturer for Seattle University and other universities in the Pacific NW. He is a past president and current director of the Seattle Chinese Chamber of Commerce. Jesse is a graduate of Boise State University, and holds an MBA from City University and the University of Washington.



Club Meeting Place & Time

Renton
Meets at Fairwood Golf & Country Club
17070 140th Ave SE
Renton, WA 98058
Time: Thursday at 12:00 PM

Events

January 23rd

Jan 23rd Club Meeting

Speaker: Jesse Tam - Lunar New Year

January 30th

Jan 30th Club Meeting

February 6th

February 6th Club Meeting

Speaker: Thomas Robbins - Embracing Passion Post-Retirement

February 13th

Weekly Club Meeting

February 19th

Monthly Board meeting

February 20th

Weekly Club Meeting

Club Officers



Al Ralston
President



Rosie Rourke
President-Elect



Jesse Tam
President-Elect



Mary Fitzgerald
Secretary



Lora Ueland
Treasurer

Come Learn About Rotary



2025 Community Service Grants



Calling all Renton area non-profits. Renton Rotary is wanting to hear from you and the great work you are doing in the community. We will again be awarding grants to 501(c) 3 organizations serving the Renton area. Applications are due by midnight, March 7th, 2025. [Please download the application and carefully read the instructions to apply.](#) We look forward to hearing from you.

January Students of the Month

Renton Rotary selects Youth of the Month

January 2025 - Rotary Club of Renton has selected their Youth of the Month. Rotary members nominate several Renton School District high school students each month as Youth of the Month. This award is given to students who possess leadership abilities, community service, commitment to their fellow students, and maintain good grades and attendance.



Gretchen Frier is a Senior at Mead High School. She enjoys math classes at Mead and is involved in Photography Club, Education Rising Club, and Drama Club. She also participates in track during the winter and plans to be a triathlete. Gretchen spends time volunteering at a variety of job sites over the summer and during the school year. She engages with other nonprofits. She has also worked part-time with the City of Renton. In a previous semester, she worked with a nonprofit organization. She has plans to attend a four-year university to pursue a degree in either Educational Studies or Elementary Education and has hopes to become an upper elementary or middle school teacher.



David Smith is a Senior at Linderoth High School. He enjoys math and specifically his Bridge to College Math Class at Linderoth and serves as the President of Bridge Club. He plans to be an actor and will continue their studies at the university to be an actor studying the highest cultural arts. He volunteers through Bridge Club and spends time as a mentor with students at Cascade Elementary. He has hopes to continue working business and hopes to grow his skills and expand the business. David plans attend college where he hopes to earn a Business Degree and would like to use his degree to continue growing his business to a point of owning his own shop.



Sofia Rivers-Pattison is a Senior at Renton High School. Her favorite classes have been math and science classes such as AP Biology and Calculus. Sofia is involved in the career classes Union, AP class officers, as well as Variety Girls Soccer and Track and Field. She volunteers with the Cascade District Food Bank and the Seattle Children's Hospital. Sofia has been where she works closely with other volunteers to prepare and serve meals for the homeless. Sofia also works part-time at Amazon Table Store. After graduation, she plans to attend a four-year university to major in aerospace engineering and is also interested in joining a study abroad program to expand her skills as a global citizen. She would like to gain the experience as an international student to further her understanding of the semester.



Arianna Robinson is a Senior at Taylor High School. She enjoys Leadership, Entrepreneurship, Business and Computer classes at school. She is involved in the Bank Student Union and the new DECA chapter at Taylor. She occasionally volunteers at school to help plan and prepare for school events. She currently works with the Renton School District in the Home Based Learning to help students at elementary school find their reading skills. After high school, Arianna would like to attend a four-year university or trade school but is undecided on the specific area of study. Her thoughts on a career at this time, are to become either a caregiver or possibly an event coordinator.

January Educators of the Month

Renton Rotary is pleased to honor these educators with \$250 each to be used in their classrooms.

Renton Rotary selects Teachers of the Month

January 2025 - As part of their commitment to education, and to celebrate teachers in the Renton School District, each month members of Rotary Club of Renton select a few teachers as Teachers of the Month.

January Teachers of the Month are:

Ginger Burke

Preschool Teacher at Meadow Creek Early Learning Center

Ginger attended Pacific Lutheran University where she earned a Bachelor's Degree in Education, and she continued at the University of Washington to receive a Master's Degree in Early Childhood Special Education. Before teaching with the Renton School District, Ginger worked as a childcare in Seattle. Ginger has been teaching with the Renton School District for two years.



Silvia Flores

Special Education Teacher at Taylor Hill Elementary School

Silvia attended the University of Texas at Austin, where she earned a Bachelor of Science in Education with a focus on Special Education, and she is currently working towards a Master's through the University of Washington to earn a degree in Clinical Educational Change and Leadership. Before becoming a Special Education teacher, Silvia worked as a pre-school educator and paraprofessional for several years in Texas. This is her eighth year teaching with the Renton School District.



Christine Olson

Math/English Teacher at Hudson Middle School

Christine attended Boston University where she earned a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education. Before moving to Washington, Christine worked as a middle school math/English teacher in Worcester, Massachusetts. This is her seventh year teaching in the Renton School District.



Tyler Shon

Special Education Teacher at Honey Dene Elementary School

Tyler attended Clark University in Seattle, where she earned a degree in English Literature and she currently attends Clark University where she will obtain a Master of Education in Curriculum and Instruction, with a Special Education Endorsement (plans to complete in June 2025). Prior to becoming a teacher, Tyler worked as an office assistant at a non-profit working with families and individuals in maintaining public housing. This is Tyler's third year teaching in the Renton School District.



Share the Magic of Rotary



With your friends, neighbors and professional network!

You can tell them how we.....

Join with millions of other Rotarians to provide service to others, promote integrity, and advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through our fellowship of business, profession and community leaders.

Engage with and support the community. In the last 12 months, we have raised funds through the Rubber Ducky Race at Renton River Days and our annual CAPER auction and:
Awarded **\$24,000 in college scholarships** to Renton School District seniors

Put **\$12,000 worth of warm coats** on children


Contributed over **\$3,000 to eradicate polio**

Invested over **\$13,000 in 3rd graders education** and ongoing learning

Contributed over **\$15,000 to international humanitarian projects**

Provided a **\$250 cash gift to over 24 educators** in the Renton School District to support their classroom

Awarded nearly **\$53,000 in non-profit grants**



Supplied appliances for senior citizens to help them be able to stay in their homes

and much more!

Our dues are only \$50 a month! Come check us out at a weekly meeting and have lunch with us on Thursdays at 12:00 pm at the beautiful Fairwood Golf & Country Club. All are welcome, you don't have to be a business owner, just someone who cares about Renton and cares about serving.
