

One of the more noteworthy graduates of Riverside Junior College is Miné Okubo who attended the school in the early 1930s. Okubo's main focus at RJC was in Art. She was a member of the yearbook staff and did most of the illustrations in the 1932 "*Tequesquite*". The photo on the left is from the 1932 yearbook. The photo on the right is from the June 1974 "*RCC Reports*" publication.



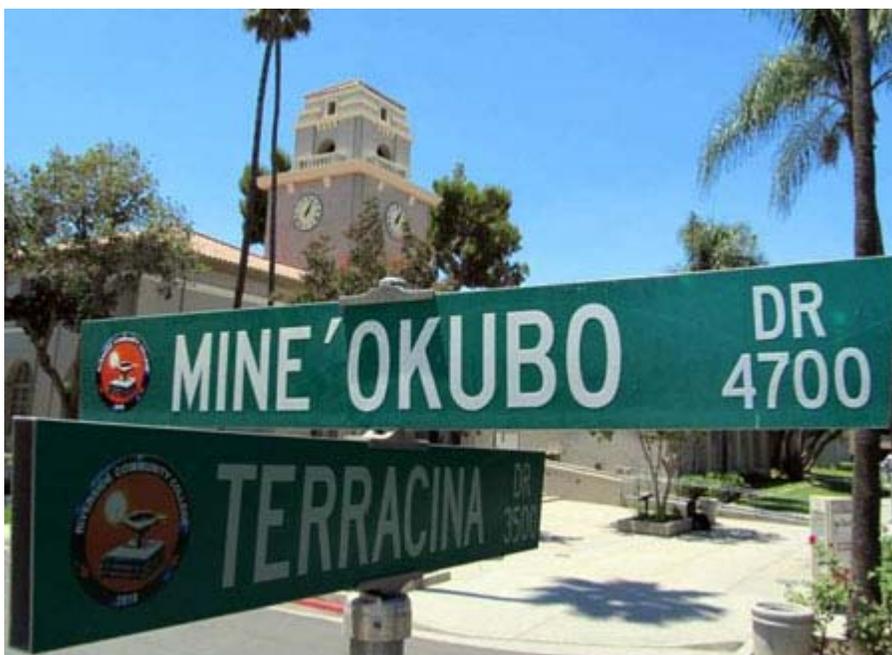
Even after she left RJC and moved to the Bay area, there was still local interest in her artistic endeavors. The two articles below appeared in the college's student newspaper "*The Arroyo*". The article on the left is from November 17, 1937 and the one on the right from June 10, 1938.

<p><b>Okubo Paintings Now On Display at Mission Inn</b></p> <p>An exhibit of approximately 15 tempera and guasche paintings of landscapes and portraits by Mini Okubo, young Japanese artist, will be held in the Adobe of the Mission Inn beginning Wednesday, November 17, at 8:00 p. m., and will continue through December 1.</p> <p>Miss Okubo, a graduate of Riverside Junior College in the class of June 1932, received her bachelor's and master's degrees at the University of California, Berkeley. At present she is working with John Haley, art instructor at Berkeley, on murals for Government Island. Recently the artist won the purchase prize offered by the San Francisco Art Association at its second annual water color exhibit.</p> <p>The exhibit is open to the public, and hostesses at Wednesday's reception include Miss Frances Fraser, Mrs. H. A. Atwood, Mrs. Charles Rouse, Mrs. Walter Kelley, Mrs. Elsie Pomeroy, and Mrs. Yoshi Canaka.</p>	<p><b>M. Okubo Earns Henicke Award</b></p> <p>The Berthan Henicke traveling scholarship for 1938 and 1939 at the University of California, has been awarded to Miss Mine Okubo, graduate of Riverside Junior College and the University of California.</p> <p>Miss Okubo, who has been doing mural work under Beckford Young in San Francisco since her graduation from the university, will sail from New York in June to spend a few months in Paris, and then settle in Florence, Italy, to study murals of the great painters of the Renaissance.</p> <p>Easel work in water colors and oils which Miss Okubo has done has been exhibited here and at the Los Angeles museum, Western Foundation of Art, Los Angeles; at Santa Barbara and the San Francisco Art Association. Miss Okubo has also done work in stage design for Warner Brothers studio.</p>
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Perhaps her best known work is *"Citizen 13660"*, where she sketched and wrote about her time spent in a World War II U.S. internment camp. In 1974 she was named Riverside Community College District's eighteenth Alumna of the Year. She is seen below during a 1984 visit to RCC's Hall of Fame. The photo is from the September 1984 *"RCC Reports"* publication.



On February 22, 2006, a street on the RCC campus was renamed *"Miné Okubo Drive"* in her honor. The photo of the street sign, seen below, was provided by Anthony Rizo.



The RCC Digital Library is currently archiving a collection of her writings, sketches and paintings. To read more about Miné Okubo and see examples of her artwork, follow this link:

<http://library.rcc.edu/riverside/okubo/>

June 27, 2012 will mark the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Miné Okubo's birth. On that date, the Riverside Community College District will have a preview opening of the "The Center for Social Justice & Civil Liberties" in downtown Riverside. The building will be the repository of 6,000 paintings and some 2,000 documents of Miné Okubo.

It is 3 years and 37 weeks until RCC's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on March 13, 2016.

The Riverside City College Instructional Media Center is bringing you this five year countdown to RCC's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Our intention is to give everyone a weekly glance at the many people and events that have been a part of the college. Our thanks go to the RCC Digital Library Archives and the District's Office of Strategic Communications and Relations for allowing us to use their photo and newspaper collections. Thanks as well to all of the RCC students and Faculty Advisors that were a part of the yearbook and newspaper staffs. Thanks also to Tom Johnson and Gilbert Jimenez who wrote "the book" about RCC's history. "Riverside City College 1916-1981- A 65 Year History" is available in the RCC Digital Library. For copyright purposes, all images originating from Riverside City College publications and the District's Office of Strategic Communications and Relations are the property of the Riverside Community College District.