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Amy L. Unterburger

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Amy L. Unterburger : Whos Who Among Asian Americans 1 before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Whos Who Among Asian Americans 1:

Book by Unterburger, Amy L.

From BooklistCompiling a biographical directory of notable Asian American contemporaries is another first for Unterburger, who also edited Who's Who among Hispanic Americans and Who's Who in Technology. Criteria for selection include "positions held through election or appointment to office, notable career achievements, or significant community service." Reference value is stated as the determining factor. "Asian Americans" refers to U.S. citizens or residents whose ethnic background is Asia or the Pacific Islands. Most candidates completed the publisher's form to submit biographical facts. The editors wrote entries based on other sources for notables who did not supply information directly.Entries are easy to read and comfortably spaced. The layout using boldface type for names and headings allows quick location of facts within entries. Entries include occupation, ethnic and cultural heritage, personal data, educational background, career information, organizational affiliations, honors and awards, special achievements, military service, biographical sources, and address. A "Geographical Index" is arranged alphabetically by state and then by city of residence in the U.S. The "Occupational Index" lists more than 200 categories. The largest, Education, College/University, has 20 percent of the entries; engineering, management, and medicine each list about

10 percent. The "Ethnic/Cultural Heritage Index" is alphabetical by Asian country of background. More than 30 percent of the entries are under China, almost 20 percent under India, and more than 10 percent from Japan. The remaining entries are from 18 other backgrounds, including Cambodia, the Philippines, and Sri Lanka. Fewer than 10 percent of the people in this book are also in Who's Who in America. What seems to be recognized in this publication is middle class professional achievement. Sports, music, and art seem underrepresented, excluding Cleveland Browns defensive lineman Pio Sagapolutele and martial artist Ernie Reyes, star of the Sidekick TV series. Dith Pran is out, but the doctor who played him in *The Killing Fields*, Haing Ngor, is in. Illustrators of children's books, Gyo Fujikawa (dozens of preschool books) and Jose Aruego (*Leo the Late Bloomer*), are out, but authors Lawrence Yep and Allen Say are in. Toshiko Akiyoshi, jazz musician, is out; Midori, classical violinist, is in. Sammy Lee, Olympic gold medalist, physician, and coach to Greg Louganis, is out, but Louganis, Olympic gold medal diver, is in. Quibbles aside, this shakedown edition will allow readers to suggest additions for future editions. It deserves an A for effort. An important new specialized source, this will be used in academic or public libraries serving Asian American communities.