

“Passion lives in JOCS !!”

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Welcome to the *Journal of Oleo Science* !

We have the Year of Dog according to the signs of zodiac, and I found various types of dogs printed on many of the New Year's cards. And I enjoyed every one of them. The Hokuriku region where I was born and other areas along the Sea of Japan coast suffered heavy damage from record snowfalls. It paralyzed traffic for days this January. Snowfall records are rewritten all over Japan, and the mercury also dipped to record lows.

I have spent this winter listening to classical music, going to see films and watching television in spare time from my work. And I learned much from them. I'll show you four things among them.

【 1 】 Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart is one of my favorite composers. This year is the 250th anniversary of his birth. I visited Mozart's native Salzburg when ISEO (International Symposium on Essential Oils) held in Austria around ten years ago. My favorite music are overtures of opera "Le Nozze di Figaro" (The Marriage of Figaro) and "Die Zauberflöte" (The Magic Flute). Whenever I listen to them, I get very excited and lightened up.

【 2 】 When I was a boy, I had the utmost respect for Rev. Martin Luther King. At the end of this January his widow, Jr. Coretta Scott King, died at age 78. After her husband's assassination in 1968, she carried on his work as a leader in the civil rights movements. Living with the civil rights leaders meant exposing herself to the violence of the forces trying to crush the civil rights movements, but nothing baffled her. When their house was bombed in 1956, she remained incredibly calm. In 1963, King delivered his famous speech, "I Have a Dream", in which he prayed for an eventual end of racial discrimination in the United States. During the memorial meeting on the 40th anniversary, Coretta voiced her hope that people would be able to see her husband's glorious dream, not just a fantasy, but in the not-too-distant future. I admire her courage.

【 3 】 In February, I went to see two films about the trials and tribulation of elderly mathematicians. One is called "Hakase no Aishita Suushiki" (The mathematical formula the doctor loved) and the other is "Proof of My Life". In each film, the protagonist who was a former

mathematical genius showed us the beauty of numbers and formulae. It is rather difficult for me without any mathematical talent to speak of to truly appreciate the beauty and depth of mathematics. But this should be no problem for the budding geniuses of you.

【4】 One day in February, I watched the opening ceremony of the Winter Olympic Games in Turin, Italy on television. Italian tenor Luciano Pavarotti sang “Nessun Dorma (Let None Sleep)”, an aria from Giacomo Puccini’s opera “Turandot”. His voice was as powerful and beautiful as ever as he sang the words “vincero, vincero” (I shall win, I shall win). If I remember right, Pavarotti announced that he would retire when he turned 70 in 2005. I don’t know how and why he showed up at the opening ceremony. But nonetheless he appeared and sang. I was very happy to listen to a clear, resonant human voice. I got deeply impressed. Watching this scene, I wished that I could still continue my research at age of 70 like him.

Even when everything seems to be going wrong, it can’t be denied that sometimes we can see light at the end of the tunnel. If we continue to have our hopes, there is a chance of snatching victory. These four impressive events encouraged me to believe that it can’t be impossible.

The *Japan Oil Chemists’ Society* was registered officially as a public service organization with the objective of “contributing to the advancement of science and technology on oils and fats, natural products, surfactants, petrochemicals, biochemicals and related substances through working to bring members of the society close together”. The *JOCS* is a society, not a



college. So, any researcher who is interested in our purport is able to participate in *JOCS*. And the *Journal of Oleo Science* will welcome a paper of following five fields from you:

- a. Oils and Fats
- b. Detergents and Interface Science
- c. Biochemistry and Biotechnology
- d. Chemistry and Organic Synthesis
- e. General Subjects

The theme of the Winter Olympic Games in Turin was “PASSION LIVES HERE!”. I believe there is much passion in members of *JOCS*, too. And we hope the *JOCS* and this *JOS* are both like a ROOT ($=\sqrt{\quad}$) in mathematics, and are capable of many different kinds of reports of science and technology. It’s all up to you to promote further progress and survive in this field. I’m looking forward to your passionate and budding reports from many countries.

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