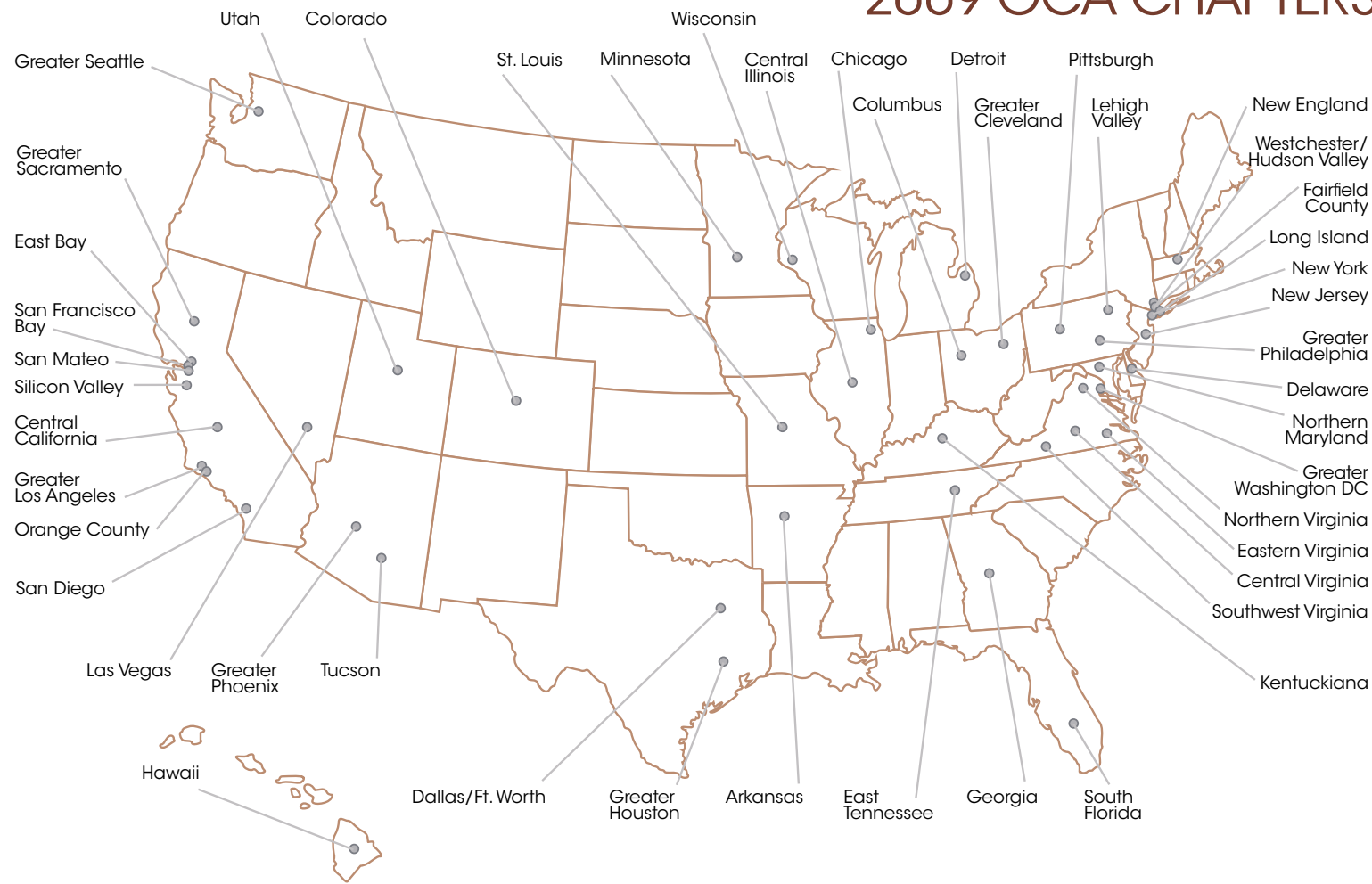


2009 OCA CHAPTERS



OCA National Center
1322 18th St NW
Washington DC 20036

Prsrt Std
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit # 3323
Southern, MD 20790

SPRING/SUMMER 2009



IMAGE

OCA | EMBRACING THE HOPES AND ASPIRATIONS OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICANS



Marking
20 Years
of **OCA Interns**

APAs
and the **New**
Administration

Hot Issues:
Census,
Hate Crimes
and **Health Care**



©Sodexo

She could be anything she wants at Sodexo

Sodexo is Being Recognized as a Leader

2009: Top Three Companies for Recruiting and Retention – *DiversityInc.* • Top 100 Employer – *The Black Collegian Magazine*
2008: Diversity Leader – *Profiles in Diversity Journal* • Corporation of the Year – Hispanic College Fund • Top 50 Military Friendly Employers – *G.I. Jobs* • Top 40 Best Companies for Diversity – *Black Enterprise Magazine* • Top Global Outsourcing Services Company (#4) – International Association of Outsourcing Professionals (IAOP) • 2008 Innovations in Diversity – *Profiles in Diversity Journal* • Top Company for Diversity (#12) – *DiversityInc.* • Top Company for Recruitment and Retention (#3) – *DiversityInc.* • Top Company for People with Disabilities (#6) – *DiversityInc.* • Top Company for African Americans (#9) – *DiversityInc.* • Top Company for Latinos (#9) – *DiversityInc.* • Top 50 Entry Level Employers – CollegeGrad.com • Top 200 Intern Employer – CollegeGrad.com
2007: Top 15 Best Companies for Workforce Diversity – *Black Enterprise Magazine* • 2007 Best Places for Minorities to Work – *Atlanta Tribune* • 2007 Innovations in Diversity – *Profiles in Diversity Journal* • 50 Best Companies for Latinas in 2007 – *LATINA Style* • Top Companies for Hispanics – *Hispanic Business* • 2007 Best Companies for Multicultural Women – *Working Mother Media* • Top 50 Entry Level Employers – CollegeGrad.com • Top 20 Companies for Asian Pacific Americans – *Asian Enterprise Magazine* • Top 50 Corporations for Supplier Diversity – *Hispanic Trends Magazine* • Five Star Employer – U.S. Department of Defense

HEALTH CARE, EDUCATION, BUSINESS, GOVERNMENT
 Food Service, Facilities Management, Vending, Catering, Office Refreshment Services, Environmental Services, Landscaping & Grounds Management, Conferencing, Laundry & Linen Services, Plant Operations & Management

www.sodexoUSA.com



sodexo
 Making every day a better day

oca lifetime members

OCA would like to take this opportunity to highlight our Lifetime Members and salute them for their lifetime commitment and dedication to the organization. We apologize if we have inadvertently omitted anyone from this list. Please contact the OCA National Office at 202 223 5500 or oca@ocanational.org to provide any updates you may have.

- Mary Au** Greater Washington DC
- Linda and Linda Bien** San Mateo County
- Jason Bobadilla** Westchester/Hudson Valley
- Janet Lew Carr** Wisconsin
- Charles W. and Alice Cha** Greater Chicago
- Flora and Shu-Wing Chan** San Mateo County
- Ann Elizabeth Chan and Howard Chan, Jr.** Long Island
- Alice Chang** Northern Virginia
- Colin Chang** Dallas/Ft. Worth
- Jean and Stanley Chang** Westchester/Hudson Valley
- Theresa Chang** Greater Houston
- Felix Chao** Dallas/Ft. Worth
- Andrew Chen** Pittsburgh
- Grace Chen** Columbus
- Jane Chen** New Jersey
- Claudine Cheng** San Francisco Bay
- Jessie Cheng** Hawaii
- Joe N. Chiu** Dallas/Ft. Worth
- Michelle Chiu** Greater Los Angeles
- Chi-Ming Chow** Detroit
- Gregory Christopher** Detroit
- Jaclyn Allison Chu** Westchester/Hudson Valley
- Thomas Eng** Long Island
- Frank C.S. Fang** Eastern Virginia
- Celine Foug** Westchester/Hudson Valley
- Rene Snuggs and Dean Francis** Long Island
- George Gee** Greater Houston
- Herbert H. and Virginia C. Gee** San Francisco Bay
- Ginny Gong** Greater Washington DC
- Hwa-Shan Ho** Greater Houston
- Johnny C. Hsu** Colorado
- Helen Y.H. Hui** San Francisco Bay
- Kenneth Hum** Greater Washington DC
- Jeanne Lee Jackson** New York
- Stanley Jsa** Kentuckiana
- Edward and Nancy Kang** Long Island
- William and Rose Tan Kaung** Westchester/Hudson Valley
- William Kwan** Dallas/Ft. Worth
- Cassandra Kwoh** Greater Los Angeles
- Elaine Lai** Westchester/Hudson Valley
- Wai Ching Lam** At Large
- Albert Lau** Long Island
- Amy Ai Yu-Mei Lee** San Francisco Bay
- David S Lee** At Large
- Geoffrey Lee** Lehigh Valley
- Marjorie Lee** At Large
- Robert E. Lee** San Francisco Bay

- Songbae Lee** Northern Virginia
- Wen Ching Lee** Greater Houston
- David F. Lee III** San Francisco Bay
- C. Joanna Lei** Westchester/Hudson Valley
- Frances Leung** Dallas/Ft. Worth
- Patrick Leung** Minnesota
- Kai Tung Li** Dallas/Ft. Worth
- David T. Lin** New Jersey
- Michael C. Lin** Greater Washington DC
- Pearl Lin** Fairfield County
- Dominic Ling** Greater Sacramento
- Frank Liu** Pittsburgh
- Alex Mark** At Large
- Deborah F. Ching and Mark M. Mayeda** Greater Los Angeles
- George M. Ong** San Francisco Bay
- Sam Ong** Greater Sacramento
- Karl Frank Rosenberger** Detroit
- Paul Y. Sha** Greater Houston
- Betty Lee Sung** New York
- Alfonso and Lana Tan** Long Island
- Austin P. Tao** St Louis
- Peter To** Westchester/Hudson Valley
- Cindy Tong** San Francisco Bay
- Stanley F. Tseng** Eastern Virginia
- James Tso** Northern Virginia
- William C. Uy** East Bay
- K. L. Wang** Greater Washington DC
- Keith Wang** New Jersey
- Philip Wang** San Mateo County
- Stanley Wang** San Mateo County
- Claire Faith Weinan** Detroit
- Andrew K.C. Wong** Long Island
- Dai-Shan Wong** Greater Houston
- David Wong** Long Island
- Martha Wong** Greater Houston
- Raymond Wong** Greater Houston
- S.B. Woo** Delaware
- Clyde Wu** Detroit
- Moses and Margie Wu** Detroit
- Raymond Wu** Columbus
- Robert Wu** Hong Kong
- Chung Shu and Sue Pai Yang** New Jersey
- Victor Yau** Westchester/Hudson Valley
- Aiden Yee** Detroit
- Aiden Christopher Yee** At Large
- Jessie Lee Yip** San Francisco Bay
- Mary Ann Yu** Westchester/Hudson Valley
- Ai Zheu Xu and Qu Zhou** Detroit

IMAGE

in this issue

Spring/Summer 2009

3 From the Board

Messages from the National President, the Executive Director and the National VP for Communications

6 National Center Updates

Hate Crimes Prevention Workshops, White House Easter Egg Roll, JACL/OCA Leadership Conference, Immigrant Children Gain Health Care

15 Events

Corporate Achievement Awards

16 Community Issues Updates

Census 2010, Philly Chinatown Fights Casino, Florida's Alien Land Law

18 OCA Feature Articles

APAs in the Obama Administration, 20th Anniversary of Interns, OCA and the 2008 Elections

26 Chapter Highlights

38 APA Community Spotlight

Where Are They Now?, Remembering Mo Marumoto, Getting to Know Our Partners

41 Arts + Entertainment

Book Reviews, OCA and the Miley Cyrus Controversy

46 Thank You for Your Support!

Our Mission

OCA is a national organization dedicated to advancing the social, political, and economic well-being of Asian Pacific Americans in the United States.

To fulfill its mission, OCA has established the following goals:

- + To advocate for social justice, equal opportunity and fair treatment;
- + To promote civic participation, education, and leadership;
- + To advance coalitions and community building; and
- + To foster cultural heritage.

Founded in 1973 as the Organization of Chinese Americans, OCA aims to embrace the hopes and aspirations of Asian Pacific Americans in the United States.

OCA is engaged in organizing its over 80 chapters and affiliates across the nation to develop both leadership and community involvement. OCA chapters and our organizational and college affiliates are establishing strong local programs in all parts of the country.

OCA's base in Washington, D.C. gives the national office an effective vantage point for monitoring legislation and policy issues affecting Asian Pacific Americans. In addition, OCA is able to build national support and to work in coalition with other national groups around issues affecting Asian Pacific Americans.

OCA takes no collective position on the politics of any foreign country, but instead focuses on the welfare and civil rights of Asian Pacific Americans in the United States.

IMAGE is published nationally by OCA, Inc. Entire contents copyright 2009. Printed in the USA. All rights reserved. Submissions to IMAGE are welcome, including: feature stories, poetry, fiction, artwork, photos, editorials, and letters. All submissions become the property of the publication. No contents may be reproduced without the express permission from the Publisher. Every precaution has been taken to ensure the accuracy of information a press time; neither the Publisher nor the editors shall be liable for damages arising out of errors or omissions. The opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect those of IMAGE or the publisher. We reserve the right to refuse or edit all submissions.

OCA Executive Council

National President Ken Lee
Immediate Past National President Ginny Gong
Executive Vice President Michael W. Kwan
Treasurer Linda Ng
Secretary Sharon Wong

Vice Presidents
Chapter Development Duy Nguyen
Communication Mia Youhne
Economic Development Rogene Gee Calvert
Education and Culture Miriam L. Yeung
Finance Chu Lan Shubert-Kwock
Public Affairs Deborah Chen
Membership Services Wendy L. Wilber

General Counsel Ada Loo
Executive Director George C. Wu

IMAGE

Publisher OCA
Executive Editor Mia Youhne
Managing Editor George Wu
Editor Sarah Smith
Art Direction Sarah Smith, Deanna Pineda
Contributors Iimay Ho, Douglas Lee, Mingchee Wen, Kelly Xu, Pei-Un Yee
Photo Contributors Sarah Smith and Floyd Mori

Contact IMAGE with comments or sponsorship rate inquiries

OCA
 attn: IMAGE magazine
 1322 18th St NW
 Washington DC 20036

telephone 202 223 5500
fax 202 296 0540

email oca@ocanational.org
web www.ocanational.org



Message from the President

Ken Lee | OCA National President

For my first IMAGE article as OCA National President, let me say that I am so proud to be a part of this organization that “embraces the hopes and aspirations of Asian Pacific Americans.” I look forward to getting to know those who are new to OCA and spending time with those I’ve known for years.

The main item I would like to highlight for this issue of IMAGE is the 2009 OCA National Convention on August 6-9 in San Francisco. As some of you may know, San Francisco is my hometown, so I invite you all to enjoy a great city with great energy! There are parts of San Francisco that even I as a native enjoy and have my eyes opened to each time I go back to the city. From the mom-and-pop restaurants to a host of great dim sum places throughout the city, ask me and I can share a couple of favorites. So, make sure you take some extra time to spend in the city. The Convention is the biggest event of the year for OCA, and given the fact that San Francisco is so richly diverse, I hope to see a tremendous turnout.

The opportunities at the Convention are endless; everything from networking to education will be available. This is your opportunity to see and work with other chapters, to visit the exhibits, meet those from corporations and government agencies, attend their workshops, and much more.

The theme of this year’s Convention, “A Call to Action: Empowering Asian Pacific American Voices,” will focus not only on strengthening our diverse community’s voice, but also on solidifying our efforts to be more inclusive, so that each APA group will be able to reach out and be heard.

This theme ties in well with my overall goal for OCA: our commitment to advocating for social justice, equal opportunity, and fair treatment. I want to stress that it is my hope we can open the door to more discussion within this organization and I look forward to seeing opposing sides have the opportunity to voice their opinions and ensure that proper representation will be available for both sides. This way, we can really be a fair organization, ready for dialogue.

Once again, I am honored to be your new National President, and I am excited to watch the future of OCA unfold. ■



Message from the Executive Director

George C. Wu | OCA Executive Director

Our nation's capital has been the focus of attention for much of the last several months as the new Administration and Congress went to work for the American people. For OCA, the nation's first Asian Pacific American organization to establish permanent headquarters in Washington, D.C., the beginning of 2009 also marked the beginning of a new administration under the leadership of our 17th National President Ken Lee.

Joining Ken is a dedicated and talented group of leaders who understand the unique opportunities OCA has as we begin the next 35 years of organizing a community of advocates. It's been my distinct pleasure to begin the year as OCA's 10th executive director and, with two National Board meetings under our belt, I'm pleased to report that OCA is ready to take on the challenges of a new social, political and economic environment.

We began the year getting to know all the new faces in town and joining in the celebration of America's successful transition of power. However, soon after seeing the sea of cheerful faces during the Presidential Inauguration, the "goofy" face of one young celebrity reminded OCA and our members that there was much work ahead to create a fair and inclusive society. I learned a lot about the power of social media during our campaign to ensure that APA youth are not taunted with offensive gestures like the slanted eye pose. In fact, you can find OCA not just on our website, but we are now on Facebook, YouTube and Twitter.

With any new federal Administration come new opportunities for our community members to serve this great nation. I'm especially proud OCA was able to work with our partners in the National Council of Asian Pacific Americans and the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus to advocate for the political appointments of many great

Americans of Asian descent. Many of the new faces of the Obama Administration are very familiar to the OCA family.

Secretary Eric Shinseki is a 2003 recipient of OCA's Spirit of America Award. Secretary Steven Chu has long been admired by OCA for his Nobel Prize winning work in the sciences. Secretary Gary Locke received OCA's highest honor in 2005 as the OCA Outstanding Citizen Achievement awardee and served as the honorary chair of the building campaign that led to the establishment of OCA's National Center.

White House Director of Public Engagement Tina Tchen, an OCA-Greater Chicago member, visited the OCA National Center for the very first time when OCA and JACL hosted the very first DC reception in her honor and introduced her to the DC APA community. OCA's partnership with Tina's office allowed me to represent OCA at the White House when President Obama signed the Children's Health Insurance Program Bill. Many OCA families also attended the White House Easter Egg Roll in April.

While OCA's stake and access to the political system brings many new opportunities, the severity of these economic times also challenge us to take responsibility for ensuring that our communities will emerge from these difficult times with greater equity in all aspects of society. Recently, President Obama signed the Serve America Act and OCA joins our partners in ServiceNation in seizing this opportunity to encourage our community members to engage in service. Each January 19 (1/19) and September 11 (9/11), OCA will ask all of you to join us in service events around the country.

OCA is also dedicated to developing the new leaders that will help this nation recover. Our chapter leaders from

across the country attended our annual Leadership Conference with JACL and other APA organizations in Washington, D.C. and learned ways to collaborate and innovate. Participants inspired each other, but also met with national leaders like Senator Daniel Inouye and Congressman Joseph Cao. In addition to the Leadership Conference, OCA continues its work with college-age emerging leaders through the 10-year-old APIAU training program and our 20-year old Internship Program.

These are the programs that will ensure that our community will have leaders and advocates who can help solve any challenge that come our way. I hope you will continue to support our future leaders by supporting especially our Internship Program for college students. You can also help students get to college by celebrating May Heritage Month this year by purchasing one of three beautiful t-shirts at Nordstrom. After cost proceeds from these Anna Sui and Koi Suwannagate-designed t-shirts will support the OCA Scholarship Program.

There is so much I want to share with you as OCA continues to serve the APA community, so I encourage you to enjoy this edition of IMAGE magazine and stay engaged. IMAGE magazine is delivered to OCA members only, so I hope you will join one of our chapters or become an at-large member. You can also sign up for our monthly e-newsletter and, for those who want constant information, please follow me on Twitter. com (GeorgeWuOCA). Finally, I hope to see you in person at OCA's 2009 National Convention in San Francisco on August 6-9 as well as at OCA's Corporate Achievement Award and newly developed young and emerging professionals event in Washington, DC on October 23. ■



Message from the Editor

Mia Youhne | Vice President of Communications

Happy Lunar New Year and greetings from Las Vegas!

What an exciting time for our country! The theme of this year seems to be change, and what a great opportunity for OCA to take a lead in political advocacy. As one of the leading APA national civil rights organizations, OCA needs to continue to be one of the forefront leaders in political advocacy, especially during the start of this new administration on Capitol Hill.

For this issue, we showcase the new political transitions by highlighting APAs within the new administration. We applaud those currently in the White House, such as Stephen Chu, Eric Shinseki, Tina Tchen, along with many others. Throughout this issue, we feature photos of our OCA members across the nation who have been actively involved with getting out of the vote of our first biracial U.S. President. We would like to thank all the OCA members and chapters who participated.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the OCA National Board and EC members for your continuous support. As I look back at the past eight years that I have been involved with OCA, starting as an intern, I have always been and continue to be inspired by the Board and the members who are so passionate and involved in making a difference for the APA community. For the past two years, I was honored to work with the National Board, the EC, and the National

Center staff. I am truly amazed by our young staff at the OCA National Center and I would like to take this time to especially congratulate our new Executive Director, George Wu.

When I first stepped into office two years ago, we envisioned a new design for both IMAGE and our National website and we were quite successful. One of our biggest achievements was the launching of our e-newsletter back in 2008 sponsored by Yum Brands. My goal for the next two years is to maintain and progress the IMAGE magazine, e-newsletter, and other communication tools that reach out to all our members. I am excited about our new OCA branding efforts, along with our new online document center, where OCA members have full access to all types of documents including OCA letterhead, logos, business cards, past meeting minutes, resolutions, and much more. I look forward to working with all of you to continue to enhance the area of communications for our family for the next two years as your VP of Communications.

Grow. Lead. Succeed. ■

Hate Crimes Prevention Hosted By OCA-GLA

Diana Quach | OCA-Greater Los Angeles

OCA-Greater Los Angeles was honored to receive a grant from Allstate Foundation and OCA in developing workshops to educate and empower the community in preventing and effectively reacting to hate crimes. OCA-GLA collaborated with local law enforcement, non-profit groups and student organizers of the 20th Annual Student of Color Conference hosted by the University of California Los Angeles (UCLA) to outreach to student activists. Approximately 1,000 student leaders from across California settled into a Saturday morning at UCLA and heard the call to fight hate crimes in their communities.

During the first workshop, attendees listened to a panel of experts and were provided an opportunity to share their personal experiences of hate incidents with each other. Juan Carlos Martinez of the Los Angeles County Human Relations Commission and Alexis Oliver from the Los Angeles Police Department provided valuable insight on the statistics and reporting process of hate crimes in Southern California. The following workshop focused on developing strategies and provided attendees resources to “stop the hate” in their own communities. Diana Bui of the Museum of Tolerance and

Saadia Khan of the Muslim Public Affairs Council spoke to each individual student on how to bring information learned back to their campus community.

OCA-GLA’s outreach to student leaders continued through lunch. Around 150 students approached OCA-GLA’s table to inquire about the workshops, hate crimes resources and a few even asked how to get involved with OCA chapters located in their home towns. In the evening, students gathered to watch performers close out the day; two of which were OCA-GLA’s community partners. Great Leap performed their collaboration piece “Leaps of Faith” that provided a space for exploration and exchange on the subject of faith. Aesthetics Crew followed with an energy-filled hip hop performance bringing everyone in the room to their feet to end the night.

Seeing 1,000 students walking around campus with the Hate Crimes Initiative’s “Stop the Hate” t-shirts on along with their enthusiastic participation in the workshops, it was a testament to how important the Initiative is to the future responses to hate crimes. ■



Members from Aesthetics Crew, Great Leap and OCA-GLA chapter

OCA Greater Houston Hosts Hate Crimes Awareness Seminars

Debbie Chen | OCA-Greater Houston

OCA-Greater Houston organized a series of seminars targeting Asian Pacific American high school students, college and law students, and working professionals. Three main speakers were featured including Professor Mark E. Steiner from the South Texas College of Law who correlated the rise of the passive “model minority” stereotype of APAs to a rise in crimes against the community, Justo Garcia of the U.S. Department of Justice who provided resources and shared community actions to take in response to hate crimes, and OCA Senior Program Manager Pei-Un Yee, who addressed victim response to a hate crime and hate crimes prevention.

The chapter held their first seminar for college students at the Houston Community College West Loop Campus. They then hosted an annual Advocacy & Legal Issues Conference Day with one of the workshops focusing on Hate Crimes history, awareness and response. The chapter also held a Film Festival which included a special screening of three hate crimes-related documentaries followed by a Q&A session with the directors of each film. The third seminar was held in partnership with the Vietnamese Student Association at

Rice University. As part of VSA’s College Leadership Day, the seminar was one of several aimed at helping high school students prepare for college and to raise awareness of issues that impact the community. The next seminar led by Texas A&M University Professor, Rosalind S. Chou, targeted law students and focused on Negative Stereotyping & Hate Crimes awareness. The chapter’s final seminar was geared towards students from Challenge Early College, an HISD magnet high school. Four hundred students and teachers packed the auditorium to hear Justo Garcia and Houston Police Officer, Jo Ann Valverdes, speak on hate crimes prevention and education.

As a result of the seminar series, the Greater Houston chapter is now working on a partnership with Justo Garcia’s division of the U.S. Department of Justice. The chapter will be the first APA organization in the City of Houston to partner with the Department to coordinate a series of community education workshops and a Rapid Response Team in the APA community. The chapter is excited about this partnership and the possibilities for further community building in Houston. ■

OCA-Greater Seattle Chapter Sponsors Hate Crime Workshop

Kelly Dang | OCA-Greater Seattle

On October 25, 2008, over 50 members of the public attended an all-day Hate Crime Workshop hosted by the OCA-Greater Seattle chapter, recipient of a \$10,000 OCA and Allstate Foundation 2008 Hate Crimes Initiative grant. Agencies who participated in the event included representatives from the King County Prosecutor's Office, the Washington Human Rights Commission, the Seattle Commission for Sexual Minorities, the American Civil Liberties Union and a retired Judge from the Washington State Circuit Court.

The day began with welcome remarks from Allstate representative, Lindsay Pease, and chapter president, Victor King. Kelly Dang, chapter board member, gave a brief presentation regarding hate crimes in the Puget Sound area. She showed that statistically, hate crimes in Washington State happen most frequently on the streets/roadways, at one's homes, or at parking garages. Michael Hogan from the King County Prosecutor's Office discussed the difference between the state and federal legal definitions of hate crimes. He explained the challenges of prosecuting hate crimes cases due to the disparity of standards. Other presenters for the Hate Crime Workshop included Michael Chin and Martin McMurray from the Washington Human Rights Commission, retired judge, Honorable Charles Z. Smith, David Beard from the Seattle Commission for Sexual Minorities, and Pat Valerio from the Associated Counsel for the Accused/ACLU.

One of the event highlights was the special messages delivered by state legislators Representative Eric Pettigrew and Representative Bob Hasegawa who expressed their support for the Chapter's initiative against hate crimes. The chapter was also very excited to have OCA Senior Program Manager Pei-Un Yee and Chu Lan Shubert-Kwock, the OCA-Hawaii Chapter president, present for their workshop. Resources on hate crimes were provided and attendees had an opportunity to view an 8-panel display of recent news articles of hate crimes in the Seattle area with stories on initiatives to address these crimes designed by Bettie Luke, chapter administrative director.

Overall, the Hate Crime Workshop was successful in engaging members of the public in discussion about hate crimes in the community, what can be done to protect ourselves, and what to do if we are a victim of hate crimes. ■



Board members from the OCA-Greater Seattle chapter

OCA Members Honored to Attend White House Easter Egg Roll

Sarah Smith | OCA Communications Manager



The 2009 White House Easter Egg Roll has been a tradition since 1878, and this year, there were some new faces there from OCA. This year's theme was "Go Play!" to encourage kids to be healthy and active. There were also performances and White House and guest chefs there to teach children how to prepare fun meals. The staff prepared 13,000 hardboiled eggs for the traditional Easter Egg Roll and Egg Hunt.

Kelly Xu said that her son was "very excited to visit the White House for the first time. We saw the President and First Lady join the kids' games, meeting people and talk to the parents."

Jack Hom said that the children who attended the event from Northern Virginia got to do fun things like play basketball with members of the Washington Mystics WNBA basketball team. It was an experience many families and friends will surely not forget. ■



Photos submitted by Jack Hom, OCA Northern Virginia and Kelly Xu, OCA Administrator



JACL/OCA Leadership Conference Offers Inspiration and Development

Pei-Un Yee | OCA Senior Program Manager

The annual JACL/OCA DC Leadership Conference, sponsored by State Farm®, was held on March 6-10, 2009 in Washington, DC. After a tour of the U.S. Capitol, OCA welcomed all participants to this engaging conference with a reception at the OCA National Center and set the stage for several days of policy trainings, networking, and leadership development activities.

Speakers from OCA's partner organizations shared their expertise on policy issues and working together on nationwide issues such as the 2010 Census and combating hate crimes. Members of Congress shared their insights on the legislative process and the importance of Asian Pacific American civic engagement at the local and national level. Participants also had the opportunity to share best practices and develop ideas to bring back to their chapters.

Leslie Moe-Kaiser, of State Farm, said, "State Farm is proud to have presented the annual JACL/OCA Leadership Conference this year. Chapter leaders learn the current status of critical national issues affecting the APIA community while State Farm learns about grassroots concerns. Together, we can build safer, stronger and better educated communities."

At the end of the conference, participants were encouraged to fill out evaluations. OCA was pleased to receive positive feedback such as:

"I have been emboldened and inspired to be more involved to further the goals of the community and minorities."

"The leadership conference inspired me to work harder and reach higher to serve the AAPI communities."

"The pure experience of being in the same room and listening to the experiences and knowledge of many different people from DC has been a great way for me to understand and appreciate the work that goes into the broader level of advocacy."

"It was a moving experience being at the center of National power and decision making. It is clear that APAs now have a place at the table after a long and hard fight to be included in the conversations and decisions." ■

JACL/OCA Conference



2009 JACL/OCA Leadership Conference Participants' Bios

SCOTT CHAN is a Board Member of the JACL Pacific Southwest District and a member of the Venice-Culver JACL Chapter. He is a Program Coordinator for Leadership Education for Asian Pacifics, Inc.

JASON CHANG is a Board Member of the Fresno JACL Chapter and is presently the Program Director of the Sound, Ostomy and Hyperbaric Medicine Department at Saint Agnes Medical Center.

PEARL CHIN is a Board Member of OCA-New York, the Executive Director of Chinatown Manpower Project, Inc. (CMP) and the Director of the Chinatown-Lower East Side Business Outreach Center.

KELLY TUYET DANG serves as President of the OCA-Greater Seattle chapter. She works as a health policy analyst in Seattle, Washington and is an active member in Seattle's Asian community.

MEGUMI J. KAMINAGA is the Northern California Western Nevada Pacific (NCWNP) District Youth Representative on the National Student/Youth Council of the JACL. She is also the founder and chair of the Nakayoshi Young Professionals in San Francisco.

JESSICA MIYEGO KAWAMURA is a member of the Berkeley JACL chapter. She has been involved with JACL since her sophomore year in high school.

NIKUN KHOONGUMJORN is a Software Engineer working in the mobile phone industry and currently serves as Secretary for the OCA-Orange County chapter.

KENSHIN KUBO is the Program Coordinator for the Pacific Southwest district of the JACL. He also serves as a director of ProTa, a post collegiate Taiko group.

THEODORE LAU is the current President of the OCA-Colorado chapter. He is also the founder of an LED lighting firm in Denver, Colorado.

ANNIE LEE is the Policy Chair of the National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum in DC (NAPAWF-DC). She currently works at Telesis Corporation, a community development firm.

MICHELLE LEE is serving her second term as the President of Young Professionals of OCA-Utah Chapter. She is currently a graduate student at the University of Utah.

IAN LIM is the Program Chair of the OCA-Dallas/Fort Worth chapter. He is a CFA charterholder, working in the

financial services industry as a Senior Investment Research Analyst.

KAM LIU is on the Board of Directors of the OCA-Greater Chicago chapter. He is a realtor and Real Estate Developer/Investor and VP of the Chicago Chinatown Chamber of Commerce.

LINDA LOUIE is a Director with the OCA-Hawaii chapter. She is currently retired but is heavily involved with assisting Mayor Hannemann of Honolulu and other community organizations.

JACQUELINE MAC is currently the JACL Ford Program Fellow in the Midwest District Office of the JACL. She is a current graduate of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

ERIN HASHIMOTO MARTELL is a Science Teacher Leader in the Boston Public Schools and is currently pursuing a Ph.D at Boston College. She is on the board of the New England JACL Chapter.

DAVID MCKNIGHT is the current President of the OCA-Central Illinois chapter. He has been employed by State Farm Insurance for 21 years, holding management positions in Texas and Illinois.



JACL/OCA Conference



LISA MIYAKE is a board member of both the Pacific Southwest District of the JACL and the SELANOCO JACL Chapter. She is a Senior Associate at Spectrum Knowledge, Inc. in Los Angeles, California.

JUDE NAZARETH is a member of the OCA-Las Vegas chapter. He currently practices business and transactional law along with bankruptcy.

STEPHANIE NITAHARA is a student at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and is the Midwest District Council youth representative on the JACL National Youth/Student Council (NY/SC).

LIZA NORMANDY is on the Board of Directors of the OCA-San Mateo chapter. She is currently the Director of Catering for Doubletree Hotels in Burlingame, CA.

POONAM PATEL is an intern with South Asian Americans Leading Together (SAALT). She received her Bachelor's Degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and intends to pursue a law degree in the future.

DAWN REGO is the Conference and Events Manager for the National Court

Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Association, President of the JACL Seattle Chapter, and board member of the Pacific Northwest JACL District.

TOMOKO ROUDEBUSH is a board member of the Diablo Valley JACL Chapter in the Northern California Western Nevada Pacific District. She works in the education field as an educator, program administrator, and an advocate for students.

SUZUHO (SUZY) SHIMASAKI is a new member of the JACL, Mile Hi Chapter in Denver, Colorado. She is the Resource Coordinator for the Equality in Health Initiative at the Partnership for Families & Children in Denver.

MATTHEW TESHIMA is a student at Notre Dame University and serves as the Membership Chairman for the Midwest District Council of the JACL.

STAN TSAI is a Co-President of the OCA-Greater DC chapter and a long-time community grassroot/services activist in the Washington DC area Chinese community.

KAYOMI WADA is a member of the Puyallup Valley Chapter of the Pacific Northwest District of the JACL. She is

a graduate student at the University of Washington, Tacoma.

ZOUA XIONG was a former intern with the Hmong National Development (HND) and currently resides in Madison, Wisconsin where she attends the University of Wisconsin, Madison.

KEEN YEE is a member of the OCA-Westchester/Hudson Valley chapter. He has built a 28 year career on in business spanning across the United States, China and Asia.

SUZAN YOSHIMURA is a Business Development Specialist with the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) in Salt Lake City, Utah. She is currently President of the Wasatch Front North JACL Chapter of the Intermountain District Council (IDC).

JASON YU is the current President of the OCA-Greater Philadelphia chapter and works as a Consultant for Accenture.

Immigrant Children Gain Access to Healthcare through CHIP

Kelly Dang | OCA Greater Seattle Chapter President

On February 4, 2009, President Barak Obama signed into law the Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2009 (CHIPRA) which extends and expands the State Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP, formerly known as SCHIP). CHIP was enacted into law through bipartisan support in 1997.



President Obama speaking at CHIP signing

Low-income children usually receive health coverage through Medicaid. CHIP was created as a complement to Medicaid to provide coverage to additional uninsured children who are not eligible for Medicaid. In the U.S., nearly 29 million children are covered by Medicaid and 7 million are covered by CHIP.

Dispelling the model minority myth, statistics show that nearly 1 in 10 Asian Americans families live in poverty; and about 1 in 5 Pacific Islanders live in poverty. This means that low income Asian Pacific American families and their children also rely on Medicaid/CHIP for access to health care.

What about immigrant children whose family cannot afford private health insurance? Before the passage of CHIPRA into law, legal immigrant children and pregnant women were banned from any type of public assistance their first five years in the country. The policy was put in place as part of the welfare reform movement in 1996. This policy ignored the fact that most immigrant children become U.S. citizens by the time they are 30 and contribute to the U.S. economy as they enter the work force. Studies also show that immigrant children who have access to family doctors are less likely to use emergency rooms.

Among other things, CHIPRA undid the 10 years of poor policy relating to health care for immigrant children by allowing states the option to provide health coverage to legal immigrant children and pregnant women during their first five years in the country.

It also expanded health care coverage for an additional 6.5 million children who otherwise would have been uninsured. The new law also provided \$100 million in grant money for translation and interpretation services in a medical situation. For recent immigrants, medical interpretation and culturally competent health services means their children will not have the burden of acting as the family's interpreter/translator at the doctor's office.

Thanks to Congress and President Obama, all are ensured that America's children will have access to quality health care services. And thanks to the local OCA chapters for their leadership in advocating with their state Senators for the passage of the CHIPRA with the provision to cover immigrant children. ■



George Wu and Floyd Mori of JACL at CHIP Signing

Kelly Dang is the President of the OCA-Greater Seattle Chapter. You may contact her at kellytdang@gmail.com.

OCA-Utah Hosts a Grand Corporate Achievement Awards

Michael Kwan | OCA Executive Vice President

After months of planning, the Utah chapter hosted the 2008 Corporate Achievement Awards (CAAs). The event was held at the Salt Lake Marriott Hotel in Downtown Salt Lake City on Oct. 17, 2008. While the Utah chapter is one of OCA's smaller chapters, they are proud to have hosted two major events from OCA, having previously hosted the National Convention in 2002.

The event itself was a great time, with 10 CAA recipients. Iris Chan, of Wells Fargo, received special recognition as the Community Service Award honoree. This award is given to an individual who demonstrated extraordinary commitment to diversity in the community, commitment to unity among Asian Pacific Americans, support of one's own ethnic community and demonstrates leadership qualities. Iris said that she views banking and community service as equal passions.

Terence Chen, past OCA-Utah president, said, "I had the chance to meet the wonderful recipients and talk with them and know more about their lives and the outstanding people they are. They truly deserved the awards for their work in corporate America. They were able to enlighten us as adults but more importantly the second generation of younger Asian Pacific Americans. What a wonderful experience for all that attended." ■



Terence Chen, OCA-Utah, welcomes all to Salt Lake City



Iris Chan (second from left) of Wells Fargo, recipient of the OCA Community Service Award, poses with Ginny Gong, Bernie Collins and David Lin

Corporate Achievement Awards Honorees

Iris S. Chan of Wells Fargo
Ted Haoquan Chu of General Motors
Jayanthi Iyengar of Chrysler LLC
Vivek Lall of Boeing
Sharron Moss-Higham of Kraft
Henry Shay of Avon
Zarina Lam Stanford of IBM Corporation
Sylvia Y. von Bostel of Booz Allen Hamilton Inc.
Xianqin (Lisa) Wallace of UPS
Robert Yi of State Farm

Corporate Achievement Award honorees



Guests enjoy the dinner



Philadelphia Chinatown Fights Casino

John Chin | Executive Director, Philadelphia Chinatown Development Corporation

It seems just when Philadelphia's Chinatown gets comfortable with the idea that it will be allowed to exist and expand on its own terms and vision with the support of the broader community, it gets blindsided by another unwanted "urban renewal" project.

Today, Chinatown is fighting against the proposed relocation of a casino to the neighborhood. It seems like it was only yesterday that Chinatown was fighting against the placement of the Phillies baseball stadium in Chinatown. No, that was the Federal Detention Center that was proposed next to Holy Redeemer Chinese Catholic School and Church. Or, was that the Pennsylvania Convention Center project that forced the relocation of Chinatown families to make way for the building's service entrance, loading docks and tractor trailers. I remember now, it was the 9th Street commuter rail tunnel project which changed Chinatown into a construction site for many years and produced a swath of surface parking lots that cannot be built atop of. No, it definitely was the Greyhound bus station that was relocated to Chinatown to make way for progress on the west side of Center City.

This community should have acquired an inferiority complex by now, but we love Chinatown for what it is and what it means to so many different people. Chinatown is a gateway for new immigrants. It is a connection to our culture. It is a safe haven. It is a hub for the Asian Pacific American community.

Chinatown opposes the casino for the same reasons that two other neighborhoods, which are designated sites for casinos, oppose casinos. The additional traffic, the buses, the seedy elements, and deterioration of the quality of life are all damaging to communities. A casino in Chinatown would exacerbate the gambling problems already documented in the APA community.

The benefits that Chinatown has received are only gotten by persistent advocacy. These benefits have been few and far between. Chinatown's vision and its needs have been documented over the years in our Neighborhood Plans and is open for everyone to see. What Chinatown needs is more affordable housing, the development of the Chinatown Community Center, more green space, increased bilingual social services for our Limited English Proficiency population, and support programs for our youth and seniors.

Once again an unwelcome project has been forced upon Chinatown with the cards stacked against us. The community was notified without prior discussion on September 10, 2008,

the day of the official press announcement that a casino could be coming to Chinatown. City Council sent a clear message to Chinatown on November 1, 2008 when they held a special hearing on rezoning. City Council, after hearing six hours of testimony in opposition to the rezoning legislation, voted unanimously without debate to advance the rezoning legislation, thus, starting the process in motion to relocate the casino to Chinatown. Chinatown has been put in this position

before. Our roots are deep and strong from the many historic battles to preserve Chinatown. We are here to fight against casinos in Chinatown. The skills that we have honed over the decades and the knowledge gained are now entrusted to a new generation of leadership to preserve the heritage and protect the culture that represents who we are. Chinatown needs the broader APA community to come together and rise to the challenge to preserve not only Chinatown and Philadelphia, but Chinatowns across this nation. ■

What Chinatown needs is more affordable housing, the development of the Chinatown Community Center, more green space, increased bilingual social services for our Limited English Proficiency population, and support programs for our youth and seniors.

OCA Strives to Remove Florida's Alien Land Law

Ilimay Ho | OCA Program Assistant

Imagine if you were told you couldn't own property in the US because of your race. The alien land laws adopted in the early 1900s in a response to large-scale Chinese and Japanese immigration banned Asians from owning land. Almost all of these unconstitutional and racially discriminatory laws have been struck from state's books. Florida is now the last state in the nation to still have an alien land law.

Winnie Tang, OCA-South Florida chapter president, has been working to repeal Florida's alien land law since 2002. That year, Professor Jack Chin, head of the Alien Land Law project at the University of Cincinnati College of Law, approached former State Representative Phillip Brutus about removing the law from the Florida Constitution. Brutus then contacted Winnie about working together to repeal the law.

Florida is now the last state in the nation to still have an alien land law.

Because the alien land law is in Florida's state constitution, it can only be removed through an amendment that is approved by at least 50 percent of voters on Election Day. For the past six years, Winnie has worked with Representative Brutus and former Senator Geller to pass a joint legislative resolution that would amend the constitution to remove the alien land law. But the post-9/11 anti-immigrant political climate made it difficult to

convince legislators to support the resolution.

A joint resolution finally passed both houses of Congress in 2008, and an amendment to remove the alien land law was included on the ballot. However, it failed to pass, with 52 percent voting "no" and 48 percent voting "yes."

"After six years of hard work, I'm naturally very disappointed that Amendment 1 didn't pass to remove this outdated discriminatory law from the Florida Constitution. However, this defeat only energizes us more to better prepare ourselves to educate the public on this important issue for 2010," said Winnie.

Winnie believes that confusion and lack of awareness contributed to the defeat of the amendment. Although OCA-South Florida worked with many community-based organizations as well as local chapters of national groups such as the American Civil Liberties Union, the League of Women Voters, and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People to spread the word about the amendment, there was no budget for printed materials or mailings. Also, anti-immigrant groups thought the phrase "aliens ineligible for citizenship" referred to undocumented immigrants and mobilized against the amendment.

Although Amendment 1 failed, the resulting press coverage has reached a large audience and garnered new support for repealing the alien land law. Also, Geller's successor Senator Eleanor Sobel and Brutus's successor Representative Ronald Brise plan to introduce another joint resolution this legislative session. Meanwhile, Winnie and OCA-South Florida will expand its grassroots coalition and continue to educate Floridians about the history of the alien land law. ■

OCA and the 2008 Elections

Members Organized to “Get Out the Vote”

Sarah Smith | OCA Communications Manager

From YouTube messages to registering first-time voters, OCA members came out in a host of ways to promote the 2008 Presidential Elections. OCA also worked closely with Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund (AALDEF) to ensure that all APA voters were represented accurately and with translations if needed in the election process.

APAs, especially first-time voters, demonstrated strong support for the historic 2008 election of our nation’s first African American president. OCA also worked with AALDEF to conduct an exit poll at 113 poll sites in 12 Asian languages and dialects: Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese, Japanese, Tagalog, Khmer, Arabic, Bengali, Hindi, Punjabi, Urdu and Gujarati. There were hundreds of attorneys, law students and community volunteers on hand to conduct the multilingual exit poll and to monitor polling places for incidents of voter discrimination.

Thanks to all OCA members who participated in this important American process—voting! ■



OCA-Wisconsin



OCA-Wisconsin



OCA-Georgia



OCA-Georgia



OCA-San Mateo



OCA-Georgia

Corky Lee Highlights APAs in Photographs

Sarah Smith | OCA Communications Manager

Corky Lee, who has often taken pictures for OCA events such as our 2008 Convention, is hosting an exhibit of photographs capturing Asian Pacific Americans engaging in social and political movements spanning from the 1970s to the present day. For over 35 years, photojournalist Lee has played both witness and participant, chronicling the evolution and expansion of the APA community through his photographic work.

The Chinese American Museum (CAM) and El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historical Monument will hold the event *Asian Roots/American Reality: Photographs by Corky Lee*, which is running through May 31, 2009. Occupying two galleries, the exhibit will feature 88 black and white photographs depicting scenes of labor, protest, resistance, celebration, and everyday community events that defined the socio-political and cultural landscape of APA communities over the past three decades.

The Chinese American Museum is located at 425 North Los Angeles Street in El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historical Monument, across from Union Station. Hours are 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Tuesday-Sunday. Admission is a suggested donation of \$3 for adults and \$2 for seniors and students. For more information about the Museum, visit www.camla.org. ■

White House Boasts Many New Faces: APAs in the Obama Administration

Don Duong | OCA Consultant

Sarah Smith | OCA Communications Manager

The 2008 Presidential election was groundbreaking, not only that the first African American president was elected, but a new crop of talented Asian Pacific Americans can now also call the White House home. President Obama has picked some very skilled members of the APA community to help him make tough decisions, particularly during this time of economic crisis.

Here are many members of the new administration making a difference.

ERIC SHINSEKI – General Eric Shinseki is a four-star general (retired) and serves as the Secretary of Veterans Affairs. Shinseki is a former Army Chief of Staff and 38-year Army veteran who served two combat tours in Vietnam. He is the highest ranked Asian Pacific American military official in the history of the United States. In 2003, OCA honored General Shinseki with the OCA Spirit of America Award.



Eric Shinseki

STEVEN CHU – Steven Chu is an American physicist and the Energy Secretary. As a scientist, Chu is well known for his research in cooling and trapping atoms with laser light which won him the Nobel Peace Prize in 1997. Before being appointed Energy Secretary, Chu was a professor of physics

and molecular and cellular biology at the University of California, Berkeley and the director of the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory where his primary research was biological systems at the single molecule level. Chu is a vocal advocate for alternative energy and nuclear power which is essential to curb global warming.

GARY LOCKE – Gary Locke serves as Secretary of Commerce. Before serving on the Obama administration, Locke was the nation's first Chinese American governor for the state of Washington from 1997-2005. Locke is the first Chinese American Secretary of Commerce and became the third Asian American in the President's cabinet, the most by any administration. He received the OCA Outstanding Citizens Award in 2005 and was the honorary chair of the OCA Building Campaign.



Steven Chu



Gary Locke

CHRISTINA TCHEN – Christina Tchen is the Director of the White House Office of Public Engagement where she reports directly to President Obama and his Senior Advisor, Valerie Jarrett. Her role will be to advance the president's policies with interest groups through briefings, meetings and large events. She will also serve as executive director of the White House Council on Women and Girls, which Jarrett will chair. Tina, a OCA-Greater Chicago member, visited the National Center for the first time on March 2 for a reception hosted in her honor.

PREETA BANSAL – Preeta Bansal is the General Counsel and Senior Policy Advisor for the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

NANCY-ANN DEPARLE – Nancy-Ann DeParle is the Director of the White House Office of Health Reform. She has served as the director of the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA).

TAMMY DUCKWORTH – Tammy Duckworth is Assistant Secretary of Public and Intergovernmental Affairs for the Department of Veterans Affairs. Duckworth was most recently director of the Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs and ran for the House in the 2006 elections.



Tina Chen (center) at the National Center

IVAN FONG – Ivan Fong is the General Counsel for Homeland Security. Fong was most recently at Cardinal Health, where he was Chief Legal Officer. He also served as Deputy Associate Attorney General where he played a key role in directing the government's role in civil litigation and enforcement matters.

SHIN INOUE – Shin Inouye is the Director of Specialty Media for the White House. He was also the constituency communications coordinator for the Obama for America campaign. Before the campaign, Inouye was the communications director for Representative Jerrold Nadler, chairman of the House Judiciary Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties.

CHRISTOPHER KANG – Christopher Kang is Special Assistant to President Obama for Legislative Affairs. Previously, Kang was the lead floor staff for US Senate Assistant Majority Leader, Senator Richard Durbin of Illinois.

EUGENE KANG – Eugene Kang is a political advisor of President Obama. At 24, he is one of the youngest members of the White House team. Kang created Obama's website for Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

NEAL KATYAL – Neal Katyal is the Principal Deputy Solicitor General of the United States. Katyal served as National Security Adviser in the U.S. Justice Department.

BETSY KIM – Betsy Kim is the White House Liaison, Department of Defense.

VIVEK KUNDRA – Vivek Kundra is the Federal Chief Technology Officer. Kundra will also have a role in the Office of Management and Budget administrator for e-government and

information technology. Kundra has served for the mayor of Washington, DC, Adrien Fenty, as the Chief Technology Officer.

CHRISTOPHER LU – Christopher Lu is the current Cabinet Secretary for the President's executive office where he will serve as a liaison between the White House and the heads of the executive departments. Lu formerly served as legislative director in Senator Obama's office during the 2008 presidential campaign where he led a 15-person team that was responsible for overseeing the drafting of all legislation and floor speeches for

KAL PENN – Kalpen Suresh Modi is a television and film actor and incoming Associate Director of the White House office of Public Engagement where he will be primarily involved in dealing with Asian American and Pacific Islander communities and the arts communities.

NICK RATHOD – Nick Rathod serves as the Deputy Associate Director of the White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs. Rathod, a civil rights attorney and one of the founders of South Asians for Obama, was in the transition team where he had served as director of Intergovernmental Affairs. Rathod had earlier served in the New York governor's office and as senior manager of state and regional affairs at the Center for American Progress.

PETER ROUSE – Peter Rouse is the Senior Advisor to President Obama. Before arriving at the White House, Rouse was Chief of Staff during Obama's tenure as Senator and also served as chief of staff for other members of Congress for over 30 years, including Tom Daschle and Richard Durbin. While working for Senator Obama, Rouse was part of

a group of advisors which guided the Senator through the process of deciding to run for President in 2008.

MEENA SESHAMANI – Meena Seshamani is the Director of Policy Analysis Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Health Reform.

RAJIV SHAH – (Nominated), Rajiv Shah has been nominated as Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics, United States Department of Agriculture.

SONAL SHAH – Sonal Shah is head of the new Office of Social Innovation and Civic Participation in the Obama administration. This office will fall under the Domestic Policy Council, a body that coordinates domestic policymaking in the White House and is headed by Melody Barnes

RHEA SUH – (Nominated), Rhea Suh has been nominated as Assistant Secretary for Policy Management and Budget, Department of Interior.

NEERA TANDEN – Neera Tanden is Senior Advisor Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Health Reform. Prior to this she was a senior vice president for Academic Affairs at the Center for American Progress.

VICKI TUNG – Vicki Tung, a former OCA intern, is a legislative specialist for the Commerce Department. Prior to this she was the first executive director of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus (CAPAC).

OCA looks forward to working with these great APA leaders! ■

“Experience of a Lifetime” Celebrating the 20th Anniversary of OCA Interns

Douglas Lee | Senior Program Manager

For the last 20 years, OCA has had a core mission to identify and nurture the next generation of leaders. No program resonates more with this goal than the internship program that annually brings a new group of Asian Pacific American students from across the country to Washington, DC. It is a program many have described as an “experience of a lifetime.” OCA will celebrate the 20th anniversary of the OCA Internship Program this summer at its annual OCA National Convention in San Francisco.

Since its inception in 1989, the size of the internship program has mimicked the growth of OCA from one intern to an annual class that can be as large as 30 interns. From that inaugural class of interns, Julie Su (1989), who now serves as a Litigation Director for the Asian Pacific American Legal Center (APALC), said, “There was an executive director, one staff person and me, the summer intern, crammed into a tiny office with two desks.”

With the establishment of the OCA National Center and the generous support from sponsors and individuals and chapters, the OCA Internship Program has grown from its very humble roots to be able to support the program to make it annually one of the largest APA summer internship experiences.

OCA places its summer interns at various offices in Washington, DC ranging from Capitol Hill, federal government agencies and non-profits. Placements have ranged from interning with the Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi, Department of Justice, NAACP, APIA Vote and the National Education Association. The placements have benefitted greatly from the interns because of the help they provide on long-term, substantive projects and are one of the key reasons why the office is always open in bringing aboard more interns. The intern benefits greatly from the mentoring experience of individuals who have been in Washington, DC. OCA interns are also given the opportunity to work at the OCA National Center to find out more about the programs and services OCA provides to its membership and the APA community.

In order to supplement their work experience, OCA provides interns opportunities to network and learn more about issues in the community. OCA organizes brownbag lunches, open to OCA interns and other APA nonprofit interns, that explores in more detail specific community issues and the broader civil rights community.

Included with their work and opportunities, the interns work on projects that has benefits the broader community and campus. Interns have worked on factsheets shedding light on various issues in the community and toolkits focused on Asian American Studies, bias incidents and coalition building. This year the class of interns will develop a campus/community action plan on an issue that they care about deeply to utilize the resources they learn in Washington, DC and the experiences of their fellow interns.

Class of 2006



The experience of the summer internship has sparked the involvement and activism in the APA community of several former interns, some of which have been profiled in IMAGE magazine over the last two years.

- Victoria Tung (2001) recently joined the Obama Administration at the Department of Commerce and previously served as the Executive Director of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus (CAPAC).
- Clifford Yee (2001) works in the Asian Health Services, a community health clinic in Oakland, CA, as a Youth Program Coordinator.
- Tina Pham (2002) is the Community Organizer for the Asian Pacific American Legal Resource Center (APALRC).
- Brian Redondo (2004) has been the Program Associate for the Educational Equity and Youth Rights Project at the Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund (AALDEF).
- Other notable internship alumni are now working in creating political change.
- Kathay Feng (1993) is the executive director of California Common Cause.
- Bryan Jung (2002) works at the White House as special assistant to Larry Summers.
- Crystal Chiu (2004) now works in Speaker Nancy Pelosi’s office.
- Jian Zapata (2005) is part of the House of Veterans Affairs committee in Chairman Bob Filner’s office.
- Elsa Tung (2004) works at Congressman David Wu’s office.
- Tina Wei (2005) works in Congressman Frelinghuysen’s office.

In addition to the interns working for political change and the APA community in various capacities, several interns have deepened their involvement with OCA at both the national and local levels. Presently, we have former interns who are currently serving on chapter boards as well as the Executive Council.

Class of 2004



Interns throughout the years

Class of 2008



Class of 2003



Class of 2001

Mia Youhne (2001) is currently the National Vice President of Communications and Vicki Shu (1990) is the President of the OCA-New York chapter. Several former interns have worked at the OCA National Center, most notably, Christine Chen (1994) who served as Executive Director from 2001-2005. Keith McAllister (1994) worked for ten years as it’s Director of Technology. Giles Li (1999), Eleanor Lee (2000), Douglas Lee (2004), April Rongero (2004) and Stephanie Kao (2006) have all served various capacities within OCA as part of the OCA National Center staff.

OCA is now embarking on formalizing and strengthening a stronger internship alumni bond to connect former interns with each other as well as chapters and current interns now. With over 250 intern alumni in various parts of the country working in government, entertainment, health and public policy professions, the combination of the alumni network brings together this unique group of voices that can attest to OCA’s leadership development work. Find out more at the 2009 OCA National Convention. ■

Invest In Our Future

the internship fund needs you!

One of OCA's missions is to nurture youth leadership. Since the establishment of the Internship Program in 1988, the OCA Internship Program has become the largest of its kind.

Every summer, OCA places more than 20 interns in Congressional offices, federal agencies, non-profit organizations and the OCA National Center. Each year, we receive applications from motivated college students across the nation. In order to provide the "experience of a lifetime" for as many students as possible, it is imperative that OCA's Internship Fund is adequately funded. The goal of the Internship Fund is a formidable political network to make our presence known and our voice heard.

Past interns are already making an impact as OCA full-time staff, OCA Chapter Presidents, Members of OCA Executive Council, Civil Service Commissioner in San Francisco, Executive Director of Common Cause in California, and Executive Director of the Congressional APA Caucus.

To continue this commitment into the future, we need your generous donation—your investment in the future of our next generation and our community.

For a donation of \$4,000 or more, you can name the internship after your chapter, in memory of your loved one or anyone you wish. However, any amount is most welcome and equally important!

The following generous individuals and chapters, and companies have funded one or more interns in 2009:

Booz Allen Hamilton
Comcast Foundation
OCA-New York
OCA-San Mateo
State Farm
K. Lee Foundation

We also would like to thank the following individuals and chapters for their vital support of the internship fund:

Jeanette and Frank Kam
Sandy and Martin Woltman
Kevin W. Leong
OCA-Greater Houston Chapter

*Please make checks payable to OCA Internship Fund and send to
OCA National Center, 1322 18th St, Washington DC, 20009*

For more information call 202 223 5500.

Make It Count: OCA and Census 2010

George Cha and Iimay Ho | OCA New England and OCA Program Associate

As an official Census Information Center (CIC) and a Census 2010 partner, OCA will work to make sure that everyone is counted for in Census 2010. The CIC program is a partnership between the U.S. Census Bureau and national level, community-based organizations, colleges, and universities that serve as data distribution centers reaching underserved communities. As a CIC, OCA will provide Census information in an accessible manner to the Asian Pacific American community to make sure we are fully represented.

The national census is taken every ten years and is a count of everyone residing in the United States, Puerto Rico, and the Island Areas. The Census does not ask for sensitive data such as social security numbers or immigration status. The information is kept

confidential for 72 years. This year, unlike 2000, there will be no long-form questionnaire. Every household will receive a short questionnaire that takes ten minutes to complete.

Census data is used to allocate Congressional seats and draw state legislative districts. Additionally, every year, over \$300 billion in federal and state funding is allocated to communities for neighborhood improvements, public health, education, transportation and much more.

Community and advocacy groups rely on Census data to identify populations who are in need of additional social services.

Despite the importance of being represented in the Census, the APA community has been historically

undercounted. APA immigrants are particularly vulnerable to being left out because of their often limited English proficiency, high mobility and complex family structures.

The Census Bureau has a much higher chance of reaching every U.S. resident by partnering with community organizations. OCA encourages its chapters to hold their own Census outreach events. Chapter leaders can also work for the Census Bureau as partnership specialists and work on increasing the mail-in response rate, providing language assistance, and building connections with hard-to-count populations.

"OCA, with the network of chapters across the country, is uniquely positioned to lead the APA participation of the coming 2010 Census. It'll give us the opportunity to identify who, what, and where we are; and with this knowledge, we'll take charge of our destiny," said George Cha, OCA-New England member.

"The undercount of Asian Pacific Americans negatively affects the community's political representation and limits its access to resources. OCA wants to work with all of its chapters to get the most complete count possible for the 2010 Census," said OCA Executive Director George Wu. Visit www.ocanational.org for more information. ■

United States™
Census
2010

The Census Bureau has a much higher chance of reaching every U.S. resident by partnering with community organizations. OCA encourages its chapters to hold their own Census outreach events.

OCA Chapters Highlight Celebration and Outreach

This past winter gave way to countless Lunar New Year and holiday celebrations, festivals and community events. Many chapters and members received accolades for their accomplishments and efforts to give back, so read on to find out what went on all over the country.



OCA-Central Virginia

On February 7, 2009 OCA-CVC, along with the Richmond Chinese community organized the area's first public Chinese New Year Festival at Mills Godwin High School. There were several organizations that helped kickoff the year of the Ox. Among them were three Chinese schools, three Chinese Churches and two student organizations.

The nearly 2,000 visitors enjoyed a parade featuring four Lions and a Dragon, followed by two hours of performances by local Chinese groups. The commons area featured 30 tables of vendors, cultural exhibits, children's hands-on activities, and Chinese organizations.



OCA-Central Virginia

OCA-Detroit



OCA-Detroit

One hundred and five contestants, ages 8 to 80, participated in the "Celebrating the Asian Heritage" Art Contest. Sponsored by Chase and co-sponsored by the Detroit Institute of Art and the Helen Art and Education Center, this program aimed to promote Asian culture through art education, contest and exhibit. The award presentation and exhibit were held on December 14, 2008, at our Chinese Community Center (CCC). Thirty five awardees received plaques and cash awards. Local Chinese painting artists Shulin Sun, Tsailing

Chou, and Teresa Yang also displayed their art works at the exhibit.

Forty-two volunteers who have been providing vital service and help to our programs were honored at the Thanksgiving Event at the CCC. They demonstrated volunteer spirit and helped our programs grow in many different ways in the past year. From providing transportation, coordinating activities to maintenance of the facility, these volunteers provided a significant amount of in-kind contribution to our services. We are

truly blessed with these individuals who value the importance of our services and freely give their time, experience and expertise to help others to maximize their lives.

We are proud to announce the forming of the ACA Senior Choir. Led by director Yuping Yan, an amateur artist in music originally from Taiwan, this group meets once a week to rehearse. The common thread binding them together is the enjoyment of friendship and the desire to sing.



OCA-Detroit

OCA-Georgia

OCA-Georgia Chapter held a successful Lunar New banquet on January 24, 2009 at the Oriental Pearl restaurant in Atlanta, Georgia. There were 180 members, community partners, and sponsors who enjoyed the entertainment and the special 10-course New Year meal.

Newly elected Chapter President, Norman Chu leads a dynamic slate of board members. He spoke about using our patchwork heritage to collaborate with community partners in Atlanta to bring about change that embraces the mission of OCA, which is to help promote the social, economic, and political well being of all Asian Pacific Americans. The chapter will have four signature events this year with the Lunar New Year banquet, Asian Heritage month celebration on May 2, 2009 and scholarship award, a Career Fair, and a Holiday Dinner. In

addition, the chapter will kick off the Entrepreneurial workshop (sponsored by State Farm), and Mentoring program (sponsored by UPS). Key accomplishments for the chapter (under Past President Alfred Yin's term 2007-08) were the successful outcomes to two anti-discrimination cases for Gloria Chang and Dr. Emelita Breyer.

OCA National President Ken Lee spoke about starting out 2009 with new sense of directions. He talked about the 2008 accomplishments including the protest and successful outcome to the New York radio station distasteful phone prank and portrayal of Asian Pacific Americans. The GA chapter welcomes OCA leaders from the various chapters OCA National Board Meeting in Atlanta and looks forward to exchanging ideas on how to serve our Asian Pacific American communities.

OCA-South Florida

Started in 2002, OCA-South Florida Chapter continues its advocacy to repeal Amendment 1 -- old and outdated discriminatory language of the Alien Land Law -- off the Florida Constitution. The goal is to push the ballot in 2010 and educate Florida voters and gain their support in for the 2010 elections.

On January 19, 2009, OCA-South Florida hosted an "AAPI Community Job Fair with Canned Food to the Needy" to celebrate the National Day of Community Service as part of the Presidential Inauguration Ceremony. Over 50 people attended to learn about possible job opportunities. At the job fair, we took the opportunity to offer a job readiness technical workshop on how to prepare an effective resume presented by James

Johnson, recruiter of Immigration and Custom Enforcement. A mock interview will be scheduled in March.

OCA-South Florida Chapter cosponsored a few Chinese New Year events to welcome the Year of Ox 4707 -- the Chinese New Year Festival on February 8 was a great success and attracted over 7,000 visitors, and on February 15 the Lunar Senior Appreciation Party served lunch to over 150 elders.

In December 2008, Winnie Tang was elected as President of the Florida Chinese Federation, comprising of 13 Chinese organizations. On February 16, Winnie Tang, President of OCA-SFL, spoke on how Asian Americans were involved at the 2008 Presidential Election at the "President Barack Obama Avenue"

-- the first street naming ceremony in honor of President Barack Obama in the City of Opa-Locka. Over 3,000 elected officials and residents attended the ceremony.

OCA-SFL will celebrate the Asian Pacific American Heritage Month with a series of programs: the 6th Annual OCA-SFL Excellence Award, the 11th Annual APAHM Cultural Series and the first APAHM Concert featuring world-known Pianist Ning An.

In addition, OCA-SFL is planning projects throughout the year to promote Census 2010 to increase our community's public awareness and the importance of participation in the Census count by completing and mailing the questionnaires back by April 1, 2010.

OCA-Pittsburgh

On January 17, 2009, OCA Pittsburgh Chapter's Youth Performance ensemble comprised of over 30 members presented an educational event through the art of Chinese dance on the cusp of the Lunar New Year. The intent was to reach out to the surrounding Pittsburgh area by targeting the high schools to educate the young people about Chinese culture. Under the direction of Chiapih Shaw, the performance ensemble presented dances representing the following styles of dance: martial arts, traditional folk dance, ethnic and

fusion. The evening began with an educational presentation in a question and answer format answering many questions about the Chinese New Year. A great deal of educational material was also included in the program book so educators could take it with them to use in the classroom. Although the evening was snowy, a crowd of over 300 educators and friends came to learn about our most important holiday.

A traditional Lunar New Year's banquet feast was held at the Syria Shriners Center on February 7 for

the Pittsburgh Chinese community to bring in the New Year. A 10 course feast was provided by the Pittsburgh Chinese Restaurant Association featuring many delicious traditional New Year dishes. Our honorary chairperson of the banquet was Mrs. Phanny Yang for her dedication and many volunteer and charitable works with local Chinese communities. The evening was capped off by dance performances from the youth ensemble.



OCA-Pittsburgh



OCA-Central Illinois

When Bruce Yamashita was hosted by the Central Illinois Chapter in 2008 at an event (where he shared his experience of racial discrimination in the American military 20 years ago,) we learned that the copyrights for clips used in his documentary were about to expire. Generous donors contributed the final \$2,000 needed for those renewals to be possible. The message is timeless and should be kept alive: racial discrimination is not acceptable.

Partnering with two local universities, OCA-CIL co-hosted Dr. Yoji Kondo (also known as author Eric Kotani) at three speaking events in BMI. A world-renowned astrophysicist and noted science fiction author, Kondo/Kotani has made an indelible mark in these fields as an Asian American. He held three forums over two days before heading overseas to other speaking engagements.

Partnering with NAACP and several other organizations in the community, OCA-CIL participated in the local Culture Festival. It is a popular event for children and is held outdoors at a local park; an excellent partnership among groups interested in helping people understand the differences among cultures. In addition, OCA-CIL members participated in the local

Hiroshima Memorial event and worked with children to create lanterns and set them out in memory.

In conjunction with a local India Association, OCA-CIL held its annual "Taste of Asia" signature event, working with local restaurants, businesses, Chinese School, and many volunteers who bring Asia alive for the community under one roof. It involves many learning activities for children, along with broadening minds and taste buds of attendees. AirTran Airlines again graciously provided our grand prize with round trip travel tickets.

After holding the chapter board elections, a Holiday Board Mixer of outgoing and incoming board members was held as the last meeting of 2008. In addition, OCA-CIL, along with other chapters and individuals, helped make OCA National's Staff holiday celebration fun with some special gifts.

In preparation for our local Annual Lunar New Year event, OCA-CIL purchased a lion and dragon costume which was donated to the Heartland Community College Chinese School for use in the community.



OCA-Central Illinois

OCA-Greater Cleveland

Beginning in 2009, OCA-GC will be commencing a new outreach initiative by launching IMAGE TV OHIO, a 30 minutes high-energy magazine style television program designed to give the community at large a better understanding of Asian Pacific American culture.

IMAGE TV OHIO will focus on local Asian American influences and perspectives on Economic, Social, Arts and Cultural Development. The show has the potential to reach up to 1,556,700 households in northern Ohio. Each episode will include segments on a variety of diverse topics relating to economic, education, culture, traditions, food, health and beauty, fashion, sports, arts and entertainment, news, and current issues as well as upcoming events.

We are currently looking for sponsors to underwrite episodes, traditionally, a television episode would cost a fortune to produce, but thanks to the help and support of our community and many local businesses, IMAGE TV OHIO can be produced at less than 10% of an actual television production cost.

A promotional video can be found at OCA-Cleveland Chapter <http://www.ocagc.org>

OCA-Columbus
Mr. Zhen Fuzhi (83 years old) and his wife Yan Xiuyu after voting for the first time on November 13, 2008, at Franklin County Veterans Memorial. (Photo by Kun Shi).



OCA-Sacramento

Back in 1997, 10 Chinese community organizations from China, Taiwan, Hong Kong, and South East Asia worked very hard to hold the first Chinese New Year celebration in Sacramento. Since then, the celebration has become bigger and better. This year, 14 organizations worked very hard to bring Sacramento Chinese Americans together, to pass our culture and heritage to our younger generations and to enhance our friendship with other ethnic groups.

In the last 11 years, member organizations took turns chairing the event. OCA Sacramento Chapter

Co-Founders, and founding Chinese New Year Culture Association (CNYCA) members Rung Fong and Dwan Chen Hsu along with Tom Bhe, will represent OCA as Co-Chairs of the annual community wide event.

The all-day event, which attracts thousands, was held at California State University, at the University Union building, Sacramento, CA on February 14, 2009. Activities include Chinese performing arts shows, professional shows, children's games, and small merchants selling various products. The large front lobby was for major sponsors' exhibitions.

OCA-San Mateo

For the fifth year, OCA San Mateo is proud to convene Speak and Lead with Pride. Founded in 2005 to develop the public speaking skills of high school students, the Program aims to strengthen the confidence of participants, with the ultimate goal of building each student's leadership potential. While participation has remained strong over the years, the tremendous responses to this year's offering inspired the OCA San Mateo Board of Directors to substantially expand the program for 2009.

Notices of the 2009 Program, distributed to San Mateo County high schools, were met with enthusiasm by the counselors and students alike, yielding an impressive array of applicants and recommendations.

The 2009 Program will consist of approximately 20 highly motivated students, ranging from freshman to seniors, from a variety of high schools including Aragon, El Camino, Mills, San Mateo, and South San Francisco. To ensure that the quality of the coaching is maintained while choosing the participant pool, the Board approved the funding of two separate classes for the 2009 Program.

The Program covers a number of topics centering on successfully preparing for and delivering an effective speech. Individual topics and themes for the 2009 Program include learning the subject, understanding the occasion, knowing your audience and their expectations, techniques for preparing the introduction, body,

and conclusion of a speech: transiting and the use of audio and visual aids. The coaching portion of the Program will include dealing with stress voice control: eye contact, proper physical posture, and hand movements. Each week, students will practice speaking to the class on a given subject, followed by immediate evaluations, and an opportunity to repeat the delivery while applying the lesson learned. The strength of the Program is rooted in this continuing feedback and practice. The Program concludes each year with a final competition for the strongest delivery, recognized with a cash prize.

OCA-OC

On December 10, 2008 OCA-OC, NAAAP-OC (National Association of Asian American Professionals), and YGAP (Young Generation Asian Professionals), came together and organized a Toy Drive & Networking Mixer at the South Coast Chinese Cultural Center in Irvine, CA. The event was publicized to over a thousand people in the Orange and Los Angeles Community and over 130 people came to support our cause. Initially expecting one bin full of toys, we ended up filling over 15 trash bags full of toys (more than 130 toys) to be donated to the UC Irvine Family Health Center in Santa Ana, CA. Many attendees brought more than one toy, some brought three or four! Most importantly, the attendees were extremely touched by this enormous project that touches over 4000 children's lives each year. The event at the UC Irvine Family Health Center starts at 10am on the third Friday of December, and families start lining up at 12am the night before, sitting through the cold, to get the only gifts

they would get for Christmas. OCA-OC is honored to be able to help our community have a better holiday season.

On January 22, OCA-OC held its first event for 2009, the Lunar New Year Celebration and Mixer. We are proud to report that this event was a great success. In a room filled with more than 100 guests, we made many new friends and welcomed 41 new members!

We are confident that one of the draws to sign-up for membership the night of the Lunar New Year event was the newly created membership benefits that our group put together. (To see a complete list of OCA-OC's membership benefits please go to www.oca-oc.org).

The night was filled with great conversation, a silent auction, a raffle and to top it all off, a special performance by the UC Irvine Lion Dance Team. Thanks to the generosity of the Orange County Chinese Artists Association, the UC Irvine Basketball



OCA-OC

Team, and the Anaheim Arsenal Basketball Team we were able to hold a silent auction and raffle that was a lot of fun!

This was truly a team effort. Every Board member contributed their time and energy to make sure that this event left our guests with memories of an enjoyable evening, and would have them coming back for more. Our Speed Networking Event was booked up in two weeks. OCA-OC is looking forward to an exciting 2009!



OCA-Utah

OCA-Utah

On Saturday, November 22, 2008 OCA Utah chapter held the annual membership potluck dinner and board elections at Todd Dam and Fan Kwan's residence. As an added treat, they shared their vast karaoke library with us and we sang late into the evening.

We had a great turnout with about 50 members and their families attending. It was a great chance to share some delicious food, catch-up with old friends, and conduct some important year-end business.

The main order of business was to vote for the new board members and to thank those members of the Board who relinquished their posts at the end of 2008. We had to say goodbye, for now, to our Secretary Eddie Mitko,

President-Elect Julie Hong, Jenny Chen, and Sabrina Chapuis.

While we will miss their incredible contributions, the Elections' Committee proposed eight candidates for the seven open seats on the Executive Board. After a brief introduction of the candidates, the assembled members voted in all the candidates present. We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all the candidates who offered their services to UOCA in this election.

The other six seats on the Board are filled with members who are serving the second half of their terms. President Terence Chen will continue on the Board lending us his experience as Past President.

OCA-NY

Since the Fall of 2008, OCA-NY has been busy working on a number of issues and projects important to the Asian Pacific American community here in New York City.

On October 19, 2008, OCA-NY participated in the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer. An OCA-NY "Team" walked five miles through Central Park on what was a cold, windy day, warmed by the hears of thousands who care about finding a cure for breast cancer.

On November 8, over 30 OCA-NY members and friends attended and supported the Pan Asian Repertory Theatre's production of "Shogun Macbeth." After the play, OCA-NY hosted a reception for is members and the cast and crew of "Shogun Macbeth." The support of the December production of the Pan Asian Repratory Theater is a signature event of OCA-NY's in its efforts to promote Asian Americans in the arts.

On December 13, OCA-NY held its annual elections and general membership meeting. OCA-NY is very excited to bring on four new board members, adding even more diversity to our board! As part of the general membership meeting, a panel discussion facilitated by Judge Dorothy Chin-Brandt on "Asian

American Grassroots Participation in the 2008 Elections." Representatives from both Obama's and McCain's campaign spoke on the importance of Asian Americans being actively engaged in the political process.

On January 8, 2009, OCA-NY joined with OCA-NJ, OCA-LI and OCA-Westchester/Hudson Valley for the First Day of Issue Ceremony of the Year of the Ox Stamp.

In its ongoing efforts to address hate crimes, OCA-NY released a statement on January 12, condemning recent hate crimes against immigrants in the New York area. As the economy becomes worse, immigrants are often the targets of hate crimes and it is important for the Asian American community to not only speak out against them, but advocate for hate crime sentences and educate the general community on the virtues of diversity.

On January 28, OCA-NY members and friends attended Young Jean Lee's newest play, "The Shipment," as part of its on-going efforts to bridge communities of color and ethnicities. Ms. Lee, a Korean American, writes that "The Shipment" is "an extremely awkward exploration of the experience of being black in American that raises pointed questions about ethnic

appropriation and race relations... [T]he discomfort and awkwardness involved in watching this struggle is the truth of my experience." Opening to rave reviews in the New York Times and Time Out New York, "The Shipment" sold out within a few days of opening.

On January 30, OCA-NY coordinated a meeting with the staff of just-appointed New York Senator Kirsten Gillibrand. Along with OCA-LI, George Wu and Ken Lee, OCA discussed the importance of issues such as immigration and immigrant rights for our community, as well as informed Senator Gillibrand's staff of what OCA is.

Moving into Black History Month, OCA-NY planned a panel discussion for the end of February. New York City Council Members Robert Jackson (represents Harlem; Chair of Education Committee) and John Liu have confirmed their attendance. Poet Elijah Kuan Wong will be composing a poem specifically for this event.

OCA-NY is also very excited to announce that Elizabeth R. Ouyang, our Executive Vice President, was selected by the Brooklyn District Attorney's office as one of 31 "Extraordinary Brooklyn Women" for Women's History Month in March!

OCA-New Jersey



OCA-New Jersey

On February 6, 2009, members from OCA-New Jersey attended a Lunar New Year celebration reception given by New Jersey Governor Jon S. Corzine at his executive mansion, Drumthwacket. Although this is the Governor's official residence, it is a public treasure shared by all residents of New Jersey. The evening was perfect – from the moment the state trooper checked us through the front gate until we left two hours later. The food was delicious and the Governor's staff was kind. Dignitaries from China and Korea were present, as well as other Asian groups from New Jersey. The Governor's assistant said that the attendance was the "Who's Who Among the Asian Community." The piece de resistance was the presenting of a beautiful wall hanging depicting thousands of well wishes to the Governor from China. Of course, being in Governor Corzine's presence was a thrilling experience. The Governor was a very gracious host; and we all had a great time.

OCA-New Jersey



OCA-Long Island

OCA-Long Island

On January 31, 2009, many OCA-LI members and friends marched in the Flushing Lunar New Year Parade, celebrating the Year of the Ox! Kudos to Monica Lam, Ed Chu, Mary Tsang, Sherry Tsang, Donna Lee, Wai Lee, Mary Chu, Winnie Mou, Lily Lee, Peter Gong, Betty Leong, Evergreen Chou, Su Leong, Angela Lee, Leona Chin and many others for their support.



OCA-Westchester and Hudson Valley

In October, members and friends attended our annual "Meet the Candidates" event where they listened to different political candidates present their platform. It was an extremely well informed evening.

On November 15, 2008, over 200 guests attended our 28th Annual Dynamic Achiever Awards (DAA) Gala, celebrating together the achievements of local prominent Asian Americans. This year's awardees included Dr. Tom Hei, Professor of Radiation Oncology and Environmental Health Sciences at Columbia University. Wesley J. Hom, VP of System Z platform from IBM was the second awardee; and, Kam Mak was recognized for his talent as designer of the Lunar Stamp Series for the United Postal Office.

Bill Imada, CEO, Chairman of IW Groups was our Dynamic Keynote speaker, premiering the video documentary OCA-NY, NJ, WHV and LI fights against radio racism. We were honored to have as a special speaker The Honorable Elaine Chao.



OCA-Westchester and Hudson Valley

OCA Interns Where Are They Now?

Giles Li was an OCA intern in 1999 while attending University of Massachusetts – Amherst. He now works at the Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center as the Coordinator for the Arts & Enrichment program and is also a spoken word performer.

How did you get involved with OCA?

My parents were members of the New England chapter as far as I can remember, and I just happened to find an announcement about the internship in one of the newsletters. I figured I had no shot at it: I got mostly average scores at a state school, and I thought all the interns would be National Honors Society Ivy Leaguers. So when I was offered the internship, it kind of made me feel like I could compete with anyone. I give a lot of credit to the National Office for looking beyond the traditional measures of achievement.

In the summer of 1999, I think we had 12 interns, which ended up being the last year there were so few. As someone who at that point had never really been farther from Boston than to Philadelphia, meeting student leaders from all over the country who were active on their campuses and in their communities made me feel like there was a lot going on that was connected in spirit. At that time, most of us didn't really know how to use the Internet yet, so I never could have met all these folks or learned about their struggles any other way than spending the summer in D.C. with them.

Then a few months before graduating from college in 2000, I called the OCA office to ask if Daphne Kwok would write me a letter of recommendation for various jobs I was applying for on



the Hill. But instead they offered me a job as staff in the National Office! Here was a nationally recognized civil rights organization asking me to come aboard right out of college -- which I did without hesitation. That's when the "Giles Li Era" at OCA begins, or as it is more commonly called: July 2002.

What motivated you to get involved in APA and social justice issues?

The micro answer is this: my dad always had strong opinions about social issues, but I never really got to see them in action because my dad was

busy working and supporting us. If he hadn't had to work so much or so hard, maybe he could have run for office, or been a public intellectual, or written great historical research texts. But he had a real life to live, and a real family to support, and so that's not part of his CV. But now in my relative comfort and privilege, how much of a waste would I be if I only worked to make money so I could spend it? Those of us who have the opportunity to go to college, or have unique experiences like the OCA or other interesting internships, should appreciate the experiences they offer, and the subsequent responsibility to build off the things we learn there and contribute to the world.

The macro answer is this: if we are to spend our entire lives on this planet, then we must work to make it better for others without an expectation of reward. That's what keeps a planet or a society or a community thriving -- and we've seen how quickly things can turn for the worse when the wrong people get in the position to make important decisions. So as long as we're citizens of this world, we can never just accept injustice. It would be irresponsible.

What did you do after your internship? What are you currently doing?

When I moved to D.C. after college, I thought I would remain inside the beltway for the rest of my working life,

but after two years there, I could not wait to come home. It takes a very strong, and unusual, person to stay in national civil rights work for more than a few years.

I currently work at the Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center as the Coordinator for the Arts & Enrichment program, organizing art, music, dance, writing, theater, multimedia, photography, and a bunch of other types of classes and events for our constituents, from toddlers to seniors. It's a great position for a great agency that serves about 4,000 people every year.

In my other life, I maintain a career as a spoken word performer on the national circuit; I've been lucky enough to perform all over the country, and share the stage with good friends and other poets who have inspired me. It has been an important method for me to work through my own doubts and frustrations as an artist. I've been fortunate in that I've been able to closely tie my identities as a performer and artist to being an educator and activist. This fall, I'll be teaching a course on performative storytelling at UMass-Boston, my alma mater. In addition, I'm involved with the Boston Progress Arts Collective, an all-volunteer community-based organization that supports Asian American and Pacific Islander artists through a wide range of activities, from skills-building

workshops, to performance events, to film screenings, to artist retreats.

What issues would you encourage readers to get involved in?

I can't assume that I know what issues are important to everyone. I would encourage people to look at the hurt and hardships around them, and work to lessen their impact in a lasting way, but that could mean a hundred different things to a hundred different people.

Having said that, I think there is a tendency for all of us to want to get involved with the highest-profile issues, like electoral campaigns, blatantly offensive public behavior, or misrepresentation in pop culture; these things are easier to learn about and more likely to see timely responses than other equally important issues like labor exploitation, gentrification of immigrant neighborhoods, unequal access to resources in rural and urban areas, or countless others.

There are and always will be ongoing efforts to make our world better, that are not centered around specific people, but are tied to long-term visions for equality and justice. If each person is truly in tune with what is important to him or herself, there should never be a point when anyone needs to ask "what issue should I get involved in?" ■

To support the OCA Internship Program, see page 24.

Fondly Remembering Mo Marumoto

William H. (Mo) Marumoto, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Asian Pacific America Institute for Congressional Studies (APAICS), passed away on November 25, 2008. He was 73 years old.

Marumoto's career expanded more than five decades of giving back to this country, his community, and his friends. He joined the White House staff as Special Assistance to the President Richard M. Nixon and served more than three years recruiting individuals for Cabinet and sub-Cabinet positions. Prior to his stint at the White House, he was Assistant to the Secretary at the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare, responsible for all senior-level recruiting for the U.S. Office of Education.

He received more than 25 national professional awards for his work in higher education, fundraising, direct mail, event management, and publications. In June 2008, he was honored by President George W. Bush with the Lifetime President Volunteer Service Award. His staff had estimated that he had contributed more than 40,000 volunteer hours to 35 local, regional and national nonprofit organizations over a 50-year period.

Upon his retirement as Founder, Chairman and Chief Executive Office of The Interface Group, Ltd., Marumoto accepted the position as President and CEO of the Asian Pacific American Institute for Congressional Studies in September 2006.

Among the numerous boards and commissions he sat on were the Board of Trustees of the Japanese American National Museum and Whittier College, of which he was a graduate. He was also on the Board of Directors of the Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, the President Advisory Committee on the Arts of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, the Advisory Council for George Washington University School of Business and Public Management, the Asian and American Pacific Islander American Scholarship Fund (APIASF), and the National Asian Pacific Center on Aging.

OCA remembers the life of a man who touched and inspired the APA community in so many ways. ■

Getting to Know Our Partners Hmong National Development

Nou Vang | HND

Hmong National Development (HND) is a national nonprofit organization dedicated to building community, developing leaders, and empowering families in the Hmong American community. Incorporated in 1993, HND has successfully implemented several types of programs, including technical assistance trainings and needs assessments, to transform local community-based organizations as well as to provide services and resources meeting the diverse needs of Hmong American families. As a national advocacy organization, HND collaborates with various local affiliates and national partners to build capacity, develop leadership, and empower the Hmong American community in the areas of economic development, education, and social justice.

Advocating for Change

HND views advocacy as a tool to increasing the visibility of the Hmong American community and stressing the urgency of its issues to policy makers, legislators, and key stakeholders within the greater American public. HND advocates on behalf of local Hmong communities, strengthening their voice at the national level through civic engagement activities, education and the offering and sharing of resources, strategies and information. We at HND engage local communities and organizations in civic processes and activities by providing current information about federal, local, and state policies and legislation.

Building Community

Capacity building is valuable to improving the effectiveness and efficiency of organizations that serve the Hmong community. HND's capacity building focuses on providing technical assistance, training, financial assistance and/or resources, and consultation to Hmong and non-Hmong organizations to improve the effectiveness of their service, programs, and mission delivery. HND believes that organizations can fulfill their mission and vision if given the proper support and guidance most appropriate to their organizational life stage. Through our community capacity building initiatives like our Strengthening Organizations for Sustainability project, we have increased the internal capacity of over 20 Hmong Mutual Assistance Associations (HMAAs) across the country.

Developing Leaders

HND views leadership as a process and as a means to creating progressive and proactive change within the Hmong American community. Leadership and leader development are integral to the mission and vision of HND. As such, HND seeks multiple ways to provide services and programs that will cultivate Hmong American leaders. Through leadership initiatives encompassing internships, training, networking, educational opportunities, and the sharing of information and resources, HND is able to empower Hmong Americans to build upon their strengths and embrace new leadership ideologies to become responsible community leaders.

The Hmong National Conference was created as a national platform for interested individuals to discuss and strategize solutions to address the challenges of Hmong Americans. Since the first Conference in St. Paul, Minnesota in 1995, the Hmong National Conference has consistently provided educational, skill building, and networking opportunities for professionals, scholars, community members, youth, and leaders to increase capacity, promote active civic participation, discuss community challenges, and celebrate successes. By providing practical knowledge, skills, and the necessary tools, the Conference strengthens the ability of attendees to address socio-economic problems their respective communities are facing. We are expecting over 1,000 participants at this year's conference. ■

For more information about the conference or about Hmong National Development, visit www.hndinc.org.



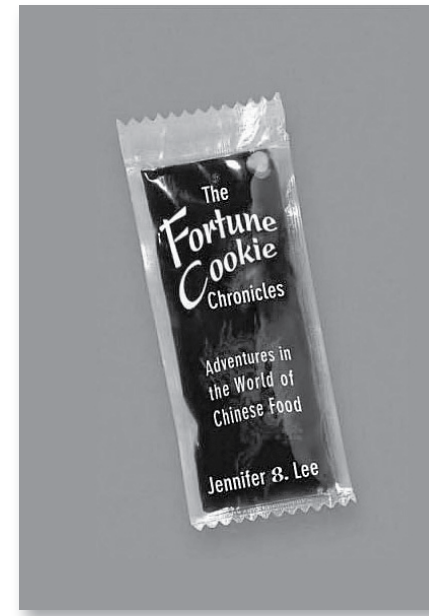
Celebrating 15 Years

of Empowering the Hmong American Community

Book Review:

The Fortune Cookie Chronicles: Adventures in the World of Chinese Food

Vivian Chen | OCA National Center Intern



Despite its title, *The Fortune Cookie Chronicles: Adventures in the World of Chinese Food*, is not about food. Cleverly packaged in a bright orange slip adorned with little plastic soy sauce packets, disposable chopsticks in red paper, and of course the trademark broken cookie with a fortune gingerly slipping outside, *The Fortune Cookie Chronicles* is much like its namesake dessert, containing surprising contents.

The focus of the book is not fortune cookies, or even Chinese food in particular. It is apparent early on that Jennifer 8. Lee (that is correct, as in "Eight") is not a food critic or even an amateur foodie, as her descriptions of food are vague and forgettable. Instead, her approach is more akin to that of a cultural anthropologist. Eager to discover the origins and development of the unique cuisine best characterized as Americanized-Chinese food, Lee's quest takes her all over the world delving into forgotten and overlooked parts of American history.

With many years under her belt as an investigative journalist, Lee begins by turning her critical eye to myth-busting the stories behind Chinese food. Readers will come away knowing the truth about the origins of General Tso's Chicken, Chop Suey, and of course, fortune cookies, but these are merely tidbits of entertaining food trivia interspersed into the narrative. While discovering these origins may have been Lee's primary objective, her focus on the Chinese restaurant industry eventually evolves into the story of the Chinese immigrant experience. Just like the cuisine, Chinese immigrants as a people have a parallel tale of discrimination, adaptation, and integration.

Lee has approached her subject with such a scholarly seriousness that she often treads into the territory of sociologists or anthropologists, and yet she manages to do so effortlessly. Equal parts history book, memoir, food trivia, and societal commentary, *The Fortune Cookie Chronicles* manages to fuse amusing anecdotes with academic analysis without missing a beat. Although the shifts in tone are never jarring, there is sometime a disconnect between Lee's vignettes: some chapters only a few pages long and without greater thematic relevance.

Lee's true forte is her vivid depictions of people and places; these immigrant stories are the thread that weaves the entire book together. An intricate and empathetic story teller, the author adds gravitas to her book by giving it a human face. Her details bring history to life and lighten what could have been very heavy tales of discrimination and loss. By utilizing both wit and pathos, Lee has made her material much more accessible, memorable, and compelling.

Moreover, Lee ultimately establishes the Chinese-American experience as the quintessential American experience. Despite foreign and distant origins, the evolution of alien to American is one through which countless immigrants have gone. By choosing to focus her study through the lens of food, Lee has created a finely crafted tale that is as relatable and entertaining as it is thoughtful. Using fortune cookies and General Tso's Chicken as the backdrop, Lee paints the portrait of an American as not being defined by what he eats, but rather by how he came to be where he is today. ■

Lee shared her experiences writing *The Fortune Cookie Chronicles* at the 2008 OCA National Convention in Washington, DC.

When One Image Causes a Stir

How OCA Tackled the Miley Cyrus Photo Controversy

Vivian Chen and Sarah Smith

On February 2, 2009, a photo containing an all too familiar pose started to circulate among the Internet blogosphere. With fingers at her temples and eyelids pulled back, teenage pop sensation Miley Cyrus was photographed with several friends imitating the common slant-eyed caricature of Asians.

The initial reaction to this photo by many was not one of outrage or great surprise; tellingly, the lack of response is indicative of a much greater societal problem of how those of Asian descent are viewed and portrayed in the United States.

There was no apparent malicious or racist intent in the photo, but rather a seeming attempt at humor. Cyrus was obviously among friends, it was also obviously a private photo unintended to be seen by gossiping viewers. However, as an attempt at humor, it was not only misguided and outdated, but treaded upon a tumultuous history of Asian immigrants in the United States.



These physical imitations have roots reaching as far back as the late 19th Century, when Chinese immigrants first arrived in the United States. Images depicting Chinese people as slant-eyed and buck-toothed were widely used to transform Chinese immigrants into something foreign, other-worldly, and inhuman. These illustrations became propaganda used to legitimize excluding Chinese persons from employment opportunities, public schooling, social services, and ultimately even from immigrating to the United States altogether in the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882 – the only act in American history that has ever specifically barred one ethnic group for entry into the United States.

Moreover, even in current times, the slant-eyed caricature has been used as an instrument of mockery of the physical appearance of Asian Americans, often with malicious or hurtful intent. Regardless of whatever Cyrus's true intent behind the pose in the photo was, we know, and the public should know, it is not a symbol that can go ignored.

Despite being only 16 years old, Cyrus and her friends should be aware of the far too numerous instances in American history the slant-eye has been used to vilify, slander, and demean the Asian American community, and to realize the ramifications of her actions. As a multimillion-dollar-grossing pop singer, Miley Cyrus is a public figure (*Time* magazine named her as one of the 100 Most Influential People in The World in 2008), and many young and impressionable fans look

up to her. Her partaking in such behavior not only implies that it is socially acceptable, but also may perpetuate the tradition of dramatized and ignorant caricatures of races as a form of humor.

For some, the presence of an Asian American in the photo neutralized any possible offense. However, he is merely one person and not a representative of the entire Asian Pacific American community. While he may have been fortunate enough to never encounter the slant-eyed gesture used

maliciously, his acceptance of the expression does not undo the discrimination that has occurred to others.

Unfortunately, this photo is not an isolated incident of an offensive imitation of Asian Americans. Far too frequently, Asian Americans are depicted in television and film by antiquated two dimensional stereotypes. Be it the ninja or the nerd, the dragon lady or the timid school girl, characters of Asian appearance often end up defined in narrowly-drawn terms. The consequences of these images

in media are significant, as immensely popular films such as "I Now Pronounce You Chuck and Larry" and "Tropic Thunder" circulate insulting portrayals of yellow face and racial stereotypes to hundreds of thousands of people.

If the APA population does not speak up regarding the offensiveness of these characterizations the media perpetrates, it not only threatens to make these images more prevalent and socially acceptable in mainstream media, but also sows the seeds of future bigotry by perpetuating the notion that Asian Americans will stay silent even in the face of discrimination.

By being unafraid of controversy and taking a vocal stance against the slant-eyed gesture, OCA has stimulated discourse about a critical issue. However, this stance is not to be misconstrued as an attack on Miley Cyrus or a claim of racism. Rather, it is a call of attention to an outdated mimicry to ensure that future generations of young Americans do not repeat the mistakes or discriminatory practices of their predecessors.

OCA is currently working on a no-bullying, anti-intimidation education campaign to be released on the OCA National Web site. The campaign will expand on situations like the Miley Cyrus incident. For more information, email ssmith@ocanational.org. ■

NORDSTROM



benefits to a tee

In celebration of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, designers Anna Sui and Koi Suwannagate have created limited-edition fashion t-shirts exclusively for Nordstrom. After all costs proceeds benefit OCA, a national organization dedicated to serving Asian Pacific Americans. \$60; available beginning May 1 in select Nordstrom stores and online. To see the tees and learn more about the designers, as well as OCA and its mission, visit:

nordstrom.com/apahm or www.ocanational.org



REGISTER NOW AT
WWW.OCANATIONAL.ORG

2009 OCA NATIONAL CONVENTION

August 6-9, 2009

Westin St. Francis Hotel

San Francisco, California



Save the Date!

2009 OCA National Asian
Pacific American
Corporate Achievement
Awards

W Hotel
Washington, DC
October 23, 2009

Stay tuned to www.ocanational.org for
information on our new program for young
and emerging professionals.

Thank You for Your Support!

Thanks to the following contributors for supporting the work and mission of OCA and the National Center. These represent donor records as of April 17, 2009. We regret if any names were omitted. Please contact us for corrections.

Community Benefactor (\$500,000 and above)

State Farm®
Community Patron
(\$100,000 and above)
George Y. and Assunta H. Cha
K. Lee Foundation
Andrew K.C. Wong

Community Mover (\$25,000-99,999)

Charles and Alice Cha
Claudine Cheng
DAE Advertising
Walter and Amber Hsu
Jhemon H. Lee
Arielle Lui
Leon and Joyce Wang
Miriam and Horatio Yeung

Community Builder (\$10,000-24,999)

Jean and Stanley Chang
Debbie Chen
Hwei-Sze and Selina Chen
James and Diana Chin-Bow
Deborah F. Ching and Mark M. Mayeda
Daphne Kwok
Lam Family Foundation (Shau-Wai and Marie Lam)
Michael C. and Ellen Lin
Ty and Susan Mak
Marisa C. Ming
Jy-Hong and Ching-hua Su
Betty Lee Sung
William and Annie Tao
Carol Tsai
Sharon Wong
John Yang

Community Leader (\$5,000-9,999)

Cora May and Stephen Chin
Herbert H. and Virginia C. Gie
Ginny, Jennifer, Brian and David Gong
Peter, Irene, Steven, and Michelle Gong
Cassandra and Daniel Kwoh
Leo Y. Lee
Robert W. Lim
David Liu
David Lu
Pang L. and Hope Man
Alex and Lillian Mark
Virginia and John Ng
Philippine Chinese American Medical Association
Sik Woo Ting
Carlos H. and Maple Tiu
Ada S.Y. Tom
G.K. and Raymond Tong
Family (Theodore and Cindy Tong)
Chris Wang
Kung-Lee Wang
Astria Wong
Raymond L. Wong

Community Supporter (\$1,000-4,999)

APIASF
Jason and Carol Bobadilla
Dennis H. and Teresa Chao
Margaret L. Chan
Mark and Elizabeth Chan
Helen and Canyon Chan
Michael and Macy Mak Chan
Steve and Terri Chan
Ying Chan
Richard C. Chang
Victor and Berman Chang

Robert and Ann Chao
Arthur and Carole Chen
Danny C.H. Chen
Florence Chen
Chinese American Heros
Frances Chu
Grace Chen and David Hinds
James C.M. Chen
Mark T. and Elizabeth Y. Chen
Wai Chun Cheng
Alan and Dora Cheung
Han Chiang
Albert Chin
Douglas Chin
Maurice R. and Olive Chin
Wallace S. J. Ching
Al and Minda Chu
Frances Chu
Jimmy Chu
Rose Chu
Yuen-Chui Chueng
Mabelle Dong
Pearl Lee Dong
HC "Dick" and Lida Du
Albert Eng
Dennis Eng
Joseph Eng
Kwong Eng
Rose Eng
Tak Eng
Thomas Eng
Victor B. Eng
Kathay Feng
Finest Produce Corp. (c/o Kai-Wing Cheung)
Catharine Fogg
Dennis Fong
Susan and Wendell Foo
K.C. and Celine Foug
Jose Gomez
Sandra Gong
Lee Hawley
Ray and Barbara Hing
Kathleen Hjiung
Alan and Sylvia Ho
Alan Ho
Bill Ho (Duke Printer Center)
James C. Ho
Jimmy Ho
Elaine Hoo
Kathy Hsiang
Peter and Vivien Hsueh
James and Cynthia Hu
Joseph C. and Nancy W. Huang
Jacqueline Huey
Merrie L. Huey
Una Tsou Hunter
Tim and Winny Hurr
Alice G. Jones
Mary Jung and Adrian Sacharski
Polly Kam
Jeffrey Y. Kao
Rose and William Kaung
Michele Kee
Helen O.. Kho
Robert and Nelly Koetzner
Peter Koo
Robert W. and Shirley Koo
June Kwan
Kwok Hsu Fund (Wei-Tai Kwok and Violet Hsu)
C.F. and Florence Kwok
Frank and Ancilla Kwok
Alice and Eusebio Lee
Drew and Dorothy Lee
Kathleen Wah Lee
Lehman and Linda Lee
Amy Ai Yu-Mei and Robert E. Lee
Roberto (Bob) and Mei Lee
Theresa W. Lee
Cecilia and Henry Leung
Debbie F. Leong
Dawn Li

Eva Li
James C. Li
Thomas M. Li
Mable F. Lim
Victor Lim
Anchen and Jimmy Lin
Jeff Liu
Kam and Sadie Liu
Chi-Man and Esther Lo
Alexander Lock
Ellen C. Loo
Antonio V. and May Kwan Lorenzo
Linda Auyoong Louie
Frank and Susan Lu
Samuel K.Luk
Mr and Mrs T. Y. Mak
Leslie D. Moe-Kaiser
Perry M. and Lissa (Choiwan) Moy
Elaine T. New
Alberto D. Ng
Linda Ng and Michael Head
Shirley Chu-Ng
Duy Nguyen
Aryani Ong and Eric Lin
Sam K. and Peggy P. Ong
Harding C. Pan
Charles T. Pan
John and Katherine Pan
Monica Peng
George and Jessie Poy
Fredric Quan
Vuttinan and Linda Sankanung
In Memory of Mei Sheng Shaw
Chu Lan Shubert-Kwock
Edward Y. and Helen B. Sing
Woon-Wah Siu
Der-Song Song
Patrick and Marguerite Sung
Astrid L. Szeto
Tai Living Trust (Diane Tai)
Claire Tan
Winnie Tang
Austin P. and Mary F. Tao
Robert and Sylvia Ting
Peter To
Evelyn and Lucky Tom
George C. Tong
William and Ann Tong
Teresa Ning and Benjamin Tsang
Carol Tsai
Christopher Tuey
Jackie and William Tung
Edward and Ping Wan
Christopher Wang
Julie and Keith Wang
Yunshen and Theresa Wang
Michael and Pearl Wei
Linda Mar Weidman
Richard and Donna Wen
Wendy and Ken Wilber
Robert and Katherine Wone
Calvin and Susan Wong
Henry and Constance Wong
Lin and Ella Wong Foundation, Inc. (Vera H. Wong)
Sharon Wong
Mei Ling Woo
Alex and Daisy Wu
Thomas Wu
Gladys M. Yan
James Y. and Regina L. Yan
George and Stringer Yang
George Yap
Victor and Hun King Yau
Mee Lon Yee
Yu Sing Yee
Cora and Albert Yim
Alfred and Wooi-yi Yin
Ben You Chen Ying
Grace Young
Helen and Peter Yu
John L. and Diana D. Young
Wei Zhang

Community Friend (Up to \$999.99)

Alexander and Marjorie Bee
Alan Abramson
America's Charities Fiscal Services
Cam Ashling
May Lee and Maidey Au
Gale Awaya McCallum
Conrad Ball
Betty A. Banks
Gloria Besthoff
Zarina Blankenbaker
Pauline Brody
Stewart Bunker
David T. and Audrey H. Chai
Anna E. Chan
Betty Chan
Chris Chan
Hanley Chan
Irene N. Chan
Jeffrey R. Chan
Johnny Y. and Summe Chan
Margaret L. Chan
Samuel Chan
Shu-Ping Chan
Sulia Chan
Ted T. Chan
Teresa and Steven Chan
Connie K. N. Chang
Emily P. Chang
Ming Hong and Yeh Chang
Sam H. and Susie H. Chang
Ted Chang
Theresa Chang
Ti-Hua Chang
Armand Chao
Edith Chao
Jason Chao
Ping and Amy Chao
Yung-An and Jean Chao
Hedgehog Cap
Armand Chau
Alice Chen
Anna E. Chen
Andrew Chen
Bil Chen
Chih Ping and Virginia Chen
Fang Chen
Frederick Chen
Herbert K. Chen
Jean C. H. and Robert Chen
Ken Wen Sherng Chen
Selena Chen
Shao-Lin and
Fengchi Wu and Shao Lin Chen
Shium A. and Veronica Chen
Rebecca E Chen and William J. Chen Jr
Amber Cheng
Benny B. Cheng
Fai M. Cheng
Peter Cheng
Richard Cheng
Veronica and Basel Cheng
Cindy Cheung
Irene Cheung
Charles T. Chiang
Katherine S. Chiang
Thomas Chien
Ark G. Chin
Calvin Chin
Herbert Chin
Jack and Marilyn Chin
Mee Lon Yee
Yu Sing Yee
Leeann Chin Foundation
Michael Chin
Vern Chin
Chinese Community Benevolent Alliance
Keemin Chin-Sang
Clara Chiu
Joan and Frank F. Cho

Carole Chong
Elsie Choo
Hong-Ling and Rev. Y.H. Chou
Lena Chou
Robert and Jean Chou
Rosalind and Pei Chi Chou
Terence and Phoebe Chou
Ting Chao and Dorothy Chou
Yu Chen Chou
Catherine Chow
Franklin F. Chow
David Hsu
Oliver I. Hsu
Ching-Yeh and Kathy Hu
Hugh Hu
James and Cynathia Hu
Janelle Hu
Jean-Han Hu
Joseph Hu
Elaine B. Chu
Larke Nahme Huang
Mei Sien and Yen Yu Huang
Misa Huang
Selina Huang
Vikien J. Huang
Yao Wen Huang
Helen Y. H. Hui
Sai-Kit Hui
T.K. Hung
Nancy and Paul Hwang
Roland Hwang
Josephine and Kelvin Chung
Min-Li and Riley Chung
Susanna Chung
Tony C. Chung
Bernard Collins
Martin Jer
Charles Jim
Tom Johnson
Marie and Savino D'Agostino
Catherine C. Damoan
Janella Del Mundo
Linda Deng
Stephen Deng
Patricia Din
Mabelle Dong
Joyce and Danny Dow
Kunxian Jing and Ying Du
Theodora H. Du
Arthur and Millie Eng
Betty Eng
Ida Wong Eng
Tong Chui Koh
Murray Kong
Rene Tang Kong
Rose Eng
Stanley Eng
Wai Ling Eng
Dennis Engoff
Jerry Enomoto
Carson and Kemay Eoyang
Blair Ewing
Tony and Ernest Farley
Quan Feng
Fred Fernandez
Ophelia T. Fetter
Mark J. Freihage Associates
John and Winnie Fitzpatrick
Monica Flores and Genesis Lodise
Nathan and Christina Fong
Dennis W. Fox
Wilbur H. Friedman
Bernard Fu
Lotus and Lo Teh Fu
Yu Chun Fu
Laura Chin
David L. Fung
Paul J. Gam
George Gee
Rogene Gee Calvert
Steven and Phyllis Shuck Gee
Thomas Gee
Mary M. Geong
Robert and Elaine Gim

Kathleen Gobo
Cynthia G. Gouw
Julin Gu
Yolanda P. and Alfred Hansen
Lian and Margaret Hao
Chong Hoe Hao
Harris Bank
Lillian Gee Hirschfeld
David and Angela Ho
James C. Ho
Neil Horikoshi
Sophia and Yu Chi Ho
Maily Hoang
Jack Hom
Mary Hom
Mei Kay and Frank Hon
Wen Chen Hsia
Edward and Shirley Hsieh
Robert Hsieh
David Hsu
Oliver I. Hsu
Ching-Yeh and Kathy Hu
Hugh Hu
James and Cynathia Hu
Janelle Hu
Jean-Han Hu
Joseph Hu
Elaine B. Chu
Larke Nahme Huang
Mei Sien and Yen Yu Huang
Misa Huang
Selina Huang
Vikien J. Huang
Yao Wen Huang
Helen Y. H. Hui
Sai-Kit Hui
T.K. Hung
Nancy and Paul Hwang
Roland Hwang
Josephine and Kelvin Chung
Min-Li and Riley Chung
Susanna Chung
Tony C. Chung
Bernard Collins
Martin Jer
Charles Jim
Tom Johnson
Marie and Savino D'Agostino
Catherine C. Damoan
Janella Del Mundo
Linda Deng
Stephen Deng
Patricia Din
Mabelle Dong
Joyce and Danny Dow
Kunxian Jing and Ying Du
Theodora H. Du
Arthur and Millie Eng
Betty Eng
Ida Wong Eng
Tong Chui Koh
Murray Kong
Rene Tang Kong
Rose Eng
Stanley Eng
Wai Ling Eng
Dennis Engoff
Jerry Enomoto
Carson and Kemay Eoyang
Blair Ewing
Tony and Ernest Farley
Quan Feng
Fred Fernandez
Ophelia T. Fetter
Mark J. Freihage Associates
John and Winnie Fitzpatrick
Monica Flores and Genesis Lodise
Nathan and Christina Fong
Dennis W. Fox
Wilbur H. Friedman
Bernard Fu
Lotus and Lo Teh Fu
Yu Chun Fu
Laura Chin
David L. Fung
Paul J. Gam
George Gee
Rogene Gee Calvert
Steven and Phyllis Shuck Gee
Thomas Gee
Mary M. Geong
Robert and Elaine Gim

James Weifu Lee
Joanna and Peter Lee
May Yau and Let Mon Lee
Mary and Fred Lee
Linda and Christopher Lee
Margaret and Christopher Lee
Mark and Mei Lan Lee
Nicole T. Lee
Peter B. Lee
Romana S. Lee
Rose E. Lee
Sam Lee
Shee Hing Lee
Tak and Melinda Lee
Theresa and Siu-Leung Lee
Thomas H.C. and Nina Lee
Thomas J. Lee
Vincent Lee
Lee Association
Lee's Chen Kai Association
Dave Len
David Lai Len
Frances L. Len
Bow F. and Shuk Ying Leong
James and Janet Leong
Karen Nu Leong
Kevin W. Leong
Nia and Fook Y. Leong
Sing Leong
Patrick Leung
Barbara Leung
Cho King Leung
Lam Leung
Linus and Judy Leung
Paul and Wendy Leung
Tony N. Leung
Wah Leung
Edward W. Lew
B. and Teri Li
Thomas H. and Agnes Li
John Liang
C.S. Liao
Chung Kuo and Ming Djan Liao
Sutek and Haiyee Lie
Ray and Mable Lim
Wendy Lim
David T. Lin
Howard Lin
James G. Lin
Jeff and Sandra Lin
Jenny and Arthur Lin
Ming-Jyh Lin
T.Y. Lin
Vida Chan Lin
Douglas Ling
Elsie Ling
Sherwin W. and Linda Liou
Andy and Carol Liu
Eva and Roger Liu
Frank and Heidi Liu
Jason Liu
Victor Liu
Wan Cheng and Emily Liu
Sew Y. Liyu
David K. Lo
Eddie Lo
Frank and Grace Lo
Mary and Fred Lo
Theresa Lo
Theresa and Chu Shek Lo
Wendy Loh
Lenny and Ngan Chung Loo
Cindy Loo-Wang
Bette Bao and Winston Lord
Juanita T. Lott
Sophie Lou
Stan Lou
Sen M. Louie
Susan Lu
Y. K. Bill and Lillian K. Lui
Kevin and Linda Luke
Stanton Lum
Eileen (Lai Wang) Lundquist
Jason Ma
Quang Ma
Victoria Ma
Donald L. and Miekko Mah
Ting Hei Mak
Ty Mak
Wing Mar
Lillian and Alex Mark
Robert and Wendy May

Keith McAllister
David R. McKnight
Rika McNally
Freddie Mendoza
Richard A. and Nancy Millstein
Matthew Y.Mo
Stella and William Mo
Michael Moon
Terri F. Morse
Winnie Y. Mou
Patrick and Win A. Moy
Serena Moy
Sheekeye and Doris Moy
Roger Wong Mulley
Frances and David Namkoong
NAPAW
Virginia Nelson
Francis K.T. Ng
Johnny Ng
Max S. Ng
Patrick and May Ng
Christina Nguyen
Duy Nguyen
Sophie Nichoson
Clyde Nishimura
K. Patrick Okura
George M. Ong
Elizabeth OuYang
Harding Pan
Lili Pao
S. Paul and Juliet Mao Pao
Sophia S. Pao
Nick and Von Pappas
Donna Pascua
Monica Peng
Stephen Peng
Eleanore and Alton Phillips
Wilson Poe
Alfred and Lin Poy
Claire Pruet
Lili Qi
Mary Quan
Rho Psi, Eta Chapter
Irma Rodriguez
Rene Rodriguez
Jean Li Rogers
Guo Rui and Betty Chan
Amy Sangiolo
Caryn and Paul Schmidt
Siew Ling Seah
Fernando A. Serpa
Noel S. Seow
Bessie H.M. Shao
Kent and Anita Shao
K.S. and A.H. Shao
Kameelah Shareef
Anne and Bob Shaw
Lilian and June Sang Siak
Charles Sie
Julia Wai-Yin So
Mirchell and Annie Song
Colleen M. Sousa
Allison Stock and Patrick Bordnick
Jy-Hong and Ching-hua Su
Argus Sun
Rona C. and Peter K. Sun
Levin Sy
Joseph and Quinnette Sze
T.L. International Corporation
C.T. and Lila Taam
Choy Taam
Henry Tam
Thomas Tam
Chung Jen and Lorraine Tan
Claire Tan
Diane M. Tan
Gregory and Connie Tan
Xue-Yi Tan
George Tang
Jason and Nancy Tang
Sherman Shick-Jue Tang
Ping Tcheng
Jean and Richard Tekin
Chung Wei Teng
Daniel and Stephanie Teo
Dorothy C. Thom
Dorothy L. Thoung
Ling Thumin
Patrick L. Ting
Kathleen To
Darryl Tom

Ging and Anna Tom
William and Ann Tong
Mark Tou
Ban Tran
Vana Tran
Amy Tsai
Chen Tsai
Frank and Julie Tsai
John and Alice Tsai
Stephen and Iris Tsai
Irene and John H. Tsao
Linda and Anthony Tse
Judy Y. Tseng
Pauline Woo Tsui
Lawrence Tzou
Larry H. Uno
William Uy
Linda Ventriglia
Lien Vu
Chiaan and Lily Wan
Dave Len
Cindy-Loo Wang
David and Lydia Wang
Hai Po Wang
George and Nora Wang
James Wang
James and Joanne Wang
Jeannette Wang
Kung Yeh Wang
Stanley and Catherine Wang
Ting Wang
Tony Wang
Martha Watanabe
Rosemary Watts
Thomas C. Welch
James and Katy Wei
Michael and Pearl Wei
Victor and Sylvia Wei
Jean W. Wilson
Sandy and Martin Woltman
Women's Club of Dumont
Aimee and Bill Won
Albert Wong
Alysona and Wyman K. Wong
Olive and Andy Wong
Angus Wong
Be Gin and Gordon Zen Wong
Cindy L. Wong
Cynthia and Ruth Wong
Dennis R. Wong
Francis P. Wong
Helena Wong
Janlee Wong
Jenny Wong
Margaret W. Wong
Michael Wong
Robert and Jane Wong
Ruth Wong
Samuel and Mercedes Wong
Samuel M. Wong
Tai C. and Sau Ling Wong
Tai C. and Linda Wong
Violet and James Wong
Walter and Anna Wong
Darrel Woo
Edward K.Woo
Matthew (Gene) Woo
Warren Woo
Jessie Wood
Benjamin and Teresa Lee Wu
Chin Chao Wu
Frank Wu
Irene Wu
John T. and Amy M. Wu
Phillip and Malay Sarivong Wu
Raymond Wu
Roy S. Wu
Yu-Yee Wu
Hefeng Tian and
Xue-Yi Tan
James Yan
AlanYang
Chung S. and Sue Pai Yang
David and Rwei Wen Yang
George and Dora Yang
Sue Pai Yang
Zong-Yee Wilson Yang
Carlton Yearwood
Al Yee
Bark Lee Yee
Carl Yee
Henry J. Yee
Joseph and Fong Yee

Kenneth C. Yee
Melinda Yee
Alice Yang and Jack Yeh
James and Regina Yen
Mae Yih
Cathy and Cheng Zong Yin
David L. Yin
Helen Yin
Robert K. Yin
Sui Chun and Alice C.H. Ying
Chun and Joanne Yip
Chun Keung Yip
George and Marion Yip
Philip Yip
Kai Yong
Thanitha Yongvanichjit
Adeline Yoong
Jun Fah and Nancy Yoong
Howard B. Young
John L. Young
John Young
John L. and Diana Young
Kan and Lih Young
Vincent and Grace Young
Vincent and Joanne Young
Arthur Yu
Kai Tung Yu
Leepo and Victor Yu
Liping He and Young Yu
Norma Yueh
Stanford Yuen
John Yun
Margaret C. Yung
Jixiong "Jay" Zhu

Thank you to the following OCA Chapters

Community Mover (\$25,000 - 99,999)

Georgia
Greater Chicago
Hawaii
Greater Houston
Long Island
New Jersey
San Mateo County
Westchester/Hudson Valley

Community Builder (\$10,000 - 24,999)

Columbus
Dallas/Fort Worth
Eastern Virginia
Fairfield County
Greater Seattle
Greater Washington, DC
Greater Sacramento
New York

Community Leader (\$5,000 - 9,999)

East Bay
Greater Seattle
Las Vegas
Lehigh Valley
New England
Pittsburgh
San Francisco Bay
South Florida

Community Supporter (\$1,000 - 4,999)

Colorado
East Tennessee
Greater Cleveland
Greater Los Angeles
Greater Philadelphia
Greater Phoenix
Northern Virginia
Pittsburgh
St. Louis
Wisconsin

Community Friend (Up to \$999)

Central Illinois
Detroit

Become An OCA Member today!

We encourage you to join the OCA chapter nearest you!

If there are no chapters in your area, you are welcome to join as an OCA Member-at-Large.

If you would like to join as a Member-at-Large, please complete the membership application form below and submit along with your dues payment. If you would like more information on joining a local chapter or starting your own chapter, please send us your information and check the appropriate selection on the form.

Please return this form to the address at the bottom and make your check payable to OCA.

oca membership application form

First name: _____ Middle name: _____ Last name: _____

Birthdate: _____

Street address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

Day phone: _____ Evening phone: _____ Cell: _____

Occupation: _____

Employer: _____

Spouse/Partner name: _____ Birthdate: _____

Occupation: _____

Employer: _____

Email: _____

OCA Member-at-Large Dues Category (please check one):

\$10 Student

\$40 Single

\$50 Family

\$100 Century Club

\$250 American Club

\$1,000 Lifetime Single

\$1,500 Lifetime Family

I would like to join an OCA chapter in my area. Please send my contact information to the local chapter.

I am interested in starting an OCA chapter in my area. Please send me information.

Please send me information regarding: _____

for more information:
OCA National Center

1322 18th St NW
Washington DC 20036

telephone 202 223 5500
fax 202 296 0540

email oca@ocanational.org
web www.ocanational.org

