

Organization of Chinese Americans (OCA)



Formed in 1973, OCA is dedicated to advancing the social, political and economic well-being of Asian Pacific Americans in the United States through legislative and policy initiatives at all levels of the government. OCA is one of the most influential national APIA organizations in the U.S.

OCA advocates social justice, equal opportunity and fair treatment; promote civic participation, education and leadership; advance coalitions and community building; and foster cultural heritage.

State Farm® Background

State Farm's signature programs with OCA are the Leadership Conference for chapter leaders, APIA U: Leadership 101 for college student leaders, and the Entrepreneur Empowerment Training Program (EET).

The JACL/OCA Leadership Conference is a joint program that introduces 30 JACL and OCA leaders from around the country to the political process. They learn firsthand about current public policy issues facing the APIA community. Topics include: immigration, access to education, health issues, voter registration, coalition building, non-profit advocacy versus lobbying, grassroots organizing through the internet, and media & message training.

2009 is the 10th year of APIA-U: Leadership 101 providing Asian/Pacific Islander American (APIA) student leaders and activists a unique training that focuses on development of leadership and organizational skills that are relevant to APIA campuses and communities. State Farm Zone Agents and HR representatives present at the 10-12 campuses annually. The Agents present basic financial management from managing credit and shopping for loans to tips on saving. The HR representatives provide tips, from grooming and interview skills to etiquette, on finding that first job after college.

State Farm is the Platinum Sponsor of the OCA Convention Gala Dinner. Attendees include Zone Agents and Executives, and Corporate Associates who can benefit from learning about APIA issues. They also network with national and local community leaders.

State Farm sessions have included financial education topics, auto safety, teen driver safety, and entrepreneur training opportunities. In 2007, the Association of Women Business Centers (AWBC) presented the essentials of small business planning, highlighting its courses, some of which utilize State Farm agents' expertise. In 2009 we continue the focus on small businesses and youth leadership development training: Youth Advisory Board, Project Ignition, Service Learning, APIA U: Leadership 101.

State Farm sponsors an OCA Summer Intern that serves at OCA headquarters and undertakes a research project for State Farm.

Dr. Leslie Moe-Kaiser serves on the Business Advisory Council.

At A Glance:

Contact information:

1322 18th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20036
www.oceanational.org

Executive Director

George Wu, Esq.

Fast Facts

- **National Leadership:** Serves as the national leader of over 80 chapters and affiliates nationwide. Establishes relationships with other major civil rights organizations and supports effective coalition building among other Asian minority groups.
- **Advocacy:** Monitors government and political activities to ensure the civil rights of all Asian Pacific Americans are not being compromised.
- **Leadership Training:** Provides annual training to Chapter leaders on APIA issues, advocacy, coalition building and networking with elected officials in Washington, D.C. Provides annual leadership training to college leaders through the APIA U: Leadership 101 workshops.
- **Community Awareness:** Provides current information through the quarterly publication, Image, covering legislation, political developments, social and economic issues, as well as educational and professional opportunities. Provides the next generation with education and professional support, including internships, scholarships, informational resources and career guidance.
- **Also:** Image Enhancement and Community Outreach

State Farm Contact

- Leslie Moe-Kaiser
(309) 766-6218