



OCA NEW JERSEY - ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN ADVOCATES

EMBRACING THE HOPES AND ASPIRATIONS OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICANS

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President

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Laura J. Lee

LEGAL COUNSEL

John Bang, Esq.

CHAPTER OFFICE

OCA-NJ CHAPTER

2 Heather Court

Dover, NJ 07801

<http://www.oca-nj.org>

OCA NATIONAL

HEADQUARTERS

900 19th Street, NW 6Floor

Washington, DC 20006

T: (202) 223-5500

F: (202) 296-0540

oca@ocanational.org

www.ocanational.org

Dear Guidance Counselors,

OCA New Jersey Chapter is pleased to announce our Scholarship Program for 2024. We continue to offer 2 different scholarship programs. The first is our traditional Essay Scholarship with awards ranging from \$3,000 to \$300, and the second is a creative artistic endeavor dedicated to the Spirit of Corky Lee in the amount of \$1,500. The application and letter of recommendation requirement is the same for both awards; however, the submission and judging criteria is different.

Please note that these scholarships are available to all college bound high school seniors of Asian American descent who are full time residents of the state of New Jersey. We encourage all eligible students to apply, especially those with greatest financial need. Parental consent, a letter of recommendation, and an official copy of high school transcripts is required. **Deadline to apply is April 21, 2024.**

We appreciate your efforts in helping us disseminate this opportunity and information to your eligible students. These forms can also be downloaded on our website at:

www.oca-nj.org

If you or they have any questions, you may direct them to me at my email address below.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Laura J. Lee'.

Laura J. Lee

OCA-NJ Immediate Past President

Chair, OCA-NJ Scholarship Committee

oca.njedcom@gmail.com



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Dear Parents,

OCA-NJ chapter is a state chapter of OCA Advocate, a section 501(c)(3) national civil rights advocacy and educational organization dedicated to advancing the social, political and economic well-being of Americans of Chinese and Asian/Pacific Islander descent. OCA's goal is to embrace the hopes and aspirations of the nearly one million citizens and residents of Asian ancestry in New Jersey, as well as, to better the lives of the more than 24 million Asian Pacific Americans across the country.

Each year, OCA-NJ chapter offers scholarship opportunities to college bound high school seniors of Chinese and Asian/Pacific Islander descent. Enclosed are the scholarship requirements and scholarship application. An OCA-NJ membership application is available for any interested applicants.

Please sign below to acknowledge your understanding of this scholarship opportunity and to grant permission for your child to apply. Should you have any questions, please direct them to me via email at: oca.njedcom@gmail.com

PRINT NAME

SIGNATURE

DATE

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Laura J. Lee'.

Laura J. Lee

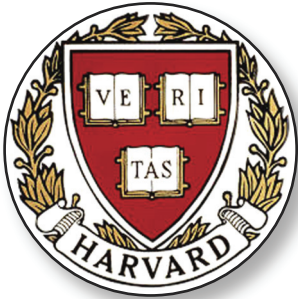
Immediate Past President

OCA-New Jersey Chapter Scholarship Committee Chair

OCA - NEW JERSEY

"Embracing the Hopes and Aspirations of Asian Pacific Americans"

ADVOCATE



You are invited to our 23rd Annual Asian Pacific American Heritage Celebration Luncheon

in honor of OCA-NJ Chapter
Essay Scholarship Winners
Sunday, May 19, 2024
2:00PM - 4:00PM



Flaming Grill & Supreme Buffet
Riverside Square Shopping Center 92 Rt 23 N Riverdale, NJ 07457

\$21.00 - Price includes drinks, tax & gratuity

(Awardees are invited as guests of OCA-NJ chapter)

For more information regarding this event,
contact Alyson Yee at alyocanjboard@gmail.com

RSVP by May 15, 2024 Please make checks payable to **OCA-NJ Chapter** and mail to:
Alyson Yee, OCA-NJ Scholarship Luncheon, 7 Lyle Avenue, Wayne, NJ 07470
or via pay pal on www.oca-nj.org

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone (____) _____ E-Mail _____
(will only use for emergency or cancellation purposes)

_____ of Persons @ \$21 = \$ _____

- My check is enclosed in the amount of \$ _____.
- I cannot attend, please accept my donation in the amount of \$ _____ for the
 - o Virginia L. Ng Founder's Scholarship
 - o Robert E. Wone Memorial Scholarship
 - o Linda Lee Memorial Scholarship
 - o Dr. Ferdinand John Gajewski, Jr. Memorial Scholarship
 - o Spirit of Corky Lee Scholarship
 - o Edwin & Aurora Len Memorial Scholarship
 - o Willie Lau Memorial Scholarship
 - o OCA-NJ General Scholarship Fund

OCA-New Jersey Chapter is a state chapter of OCA, a section 501(c)(3) national civil rights advocacy and educational organization dedicated to advancing the social, political and economic well-being of Americans of Chinese and Asian/Pacific Islander descent. To achieve these objectives, OCA is engaged in networking with its 50 chapters across the nation to develop leadership and community involvement. Our chapters and 38 organizational and college affiliates are establishing strong local programs in all parts of the country. Founded in 1973, OCA maintains its headquarters in Washington, D.C.

Visit our website at www.oca-nj.org



2024 OCA-NJ Scholarship Essay Topic

The social evolution of diversity, equity, and inclusion in the U.S. has become a highly contentious subject in our polarized society. It has become a politically charged, heavily debated topic in states and school boards around the country: critical race theory, the College Board AP Black History course, gender identity, and book banning among them.

As a student, does diversity, equity, and inclusion education belong in the public school system? Detail your reasoning and how it should be handled.

“Embracing the Hopes and Aspirations of Asian Pacific Americans”

ALL APPLICATIONS ARE AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE - oca-nj.org

Name _____ OCA member, you or your parents ☐ Yes ☐ No

Home Address _____

Telephone _____ Cell No. _____ E-mail _____

Gender Identify as: _____ Date of Birth _____

☐ 1st Generation (you are U.S. born or you immigrated) ☐ 2nd Generation (parents U.S. born)

☐ 3rd Generation (grandparents U.S. born) ☐ 4+ Generation

High School Attending _____

High School Address _____ Telephone _____

Signature of Guidance Counselor _____ **E-mail address** _____

Please attach a copy of your official High School Transcript!

College attending/hope to attend in Fall 2024 _____ Major _____

Father's full name _____ Occupation _____ Highest level of education _____

Mother's full name _____ Occupation _____ Highest level of education _____

Please list each OCA-NJ event you attended in the past 4 yrs. first, then list all civic engagement, community service, leadership roles, work experience and/or extracurricular activities in the last 12 months.

Use the back of this form if more space is needed.

[illegible]

OCA - NEW JERSEY

ADVOCATE

“Embracing the Hopes and Aspirations of Asian Pacific Americans”

2024 OCA-NJ Essay Scholarship Requirements

Eligibility:

- Applicant *must* be of Asian-American descent.
- Applicant *must* be a full time resident in the state of New Jersey.
- Applicant *must* be a college-bound high school senior.
- Applicant *must* have parental consent.
- Please submit a letter of recommendation from a guidance counselor, teacher, scout leader, worship leader, organization leader or employer.
Please see attached instructions.

Essay Criteria:

- Essay is to be two (2) pages, “double spaced” with 1 inch margins. (500-550 words)
one copy of the essay must be submitted with the essay application and one copy of the essay is to be sent electronically to **ocanjsscholarship@gmail.com**

Judging Criteria:

- Essay 40%;
- OCA Membership/Activities 20%;
- Recommendation 10%;
- Community Service/Civic Engagement 10%;
- Work Experience or Extracurricular Activities not already listed 10%;
- Academics 5%;
- Leadership 5%;
- Application must be legible.

Submitting Procedures and Deadline:

All essays, applications and required paperwork must be postmarked by April 21, 2024.
Please mail to:

OCA–NJ Essay Scholarship
L. Ray Lee
16 Meadow Lane
Verona, NJ 07044

Awards:

Virginia L. Ng Founder’s Scholarship - \$3,000
Robert E. Wone Memorial Scholarship - \$2,500
Linda Lee Memorial Scholarship - \$2,000
Dr. Ferdinand John Gajewski, Jr. Memorial Scholarship - \$2,000
The OCA-NJ Spirit of Corky Lee Scholarship Award - \$1,500
(Please see separate requirements for this artistic award)
Edwin & Aurora Len Memorial Scholarship - \$1,000
Willie Lau Memorial Scholarship - \$500

Attendance at the OCA-NJ APA Heritage and Scholarship event is required to be awarded the scholarships.



2024 OCA-NJ Essay Scholarship Letter of Recommendation Requirements

All scholarship applicants are required to submit a letter of recommendation from a guidance counselor, teacher, scout leader, worship leader, organization leader, or employer.

This form should be completed by and **mailed directly** by the person writing the letter of recommendation to:

Laura J. Lee
Chair, OCA-NJ Scholarship Committee
7 Lyle Avenue
Wayne, NJ 07470

Please Print Legibly

1. Applicants Name: _____
2. Your First and last name _____
2. Title or position _____
3. Name of organization _____
4. Relationship to applicant _____
5. Length of time you have known applicant _____
6. Phone number _____
7. Best times to be reached by phone for verification purposes _____

8. Signature _____ Date _____

OCA - NEW JERSEY

ADVOCATE

“Embracing the Hopes and Aspirations of Asian Pacific Americans”

2024 The OCA-NJ Spirit of Corky Lee Scholarship Award

The OCA-NJ Spirit of Corky Lee Scholarship Award seeks to provide a \$1,500 scholarship award to a young person embodying the grit, spirit, and vision of the "Undisputed Unofficial Asian American Photo laureate" of his time, Corky Lee, with the hopes of inspiring the next generation to help continue this important work.

Eligibility:

Applicant must be of Asian American descent

Applicant must be a full time resident in the state of New Jersey

Applicant must be a college bound high school senior

Applicant must have parental consent

Please submit a letter of recommendation from a guidance counselor, teacher, scout leader, worship leader or employer.

Written Criteria:

The written portion should include the questions, followed by your answers, "double spaced" with 1 inch margins and should not exceed 500 words. These answers will be considered more based on content than grammar, prose or craft in writing.

Artistic Criteria:

The artistic submission must be an original piece of work: photo(s) or other media, such as film, video, artwork, poetry, song, or examples of work you have done either in activism or in artistic media that reflects Corky's work in subject matter or as a craft in itself.

* Electronic submissions of both written and artistic work should be sent to: ocanjscholarship@gmail.com (DO NOT put your name on your submission, but BE SURE to put your email address on the upper right hand corner of each page submitted)

Judging Criteria:

Artistic Submission 30%

Written submission (Questions) 10%

OCA Membership/Activities 20%

Recommendation 10%

Community Service/Civic Engagement 10%

Work Experience/Extracurricular Activities not already listed 10%

Academics 5%

Leadership 5%

Submitting Procedures and Deadline:

A copy of your written (questions), application and required paperwork must be postmarked by April 21, 2024

Please mail to :

OCA-NJ Spirit of Corky Lee
L. Ray Lee
16 Meadow Lane
Verona, NJ 07044



2024 OCA-NJ Spirit of Corky Lee Scholarship Award

Please submit your answers to these questions. It is okay if before hearing about this scholarship award you were unaware of Corky Lee's work, but please spend time researching his work before answering these questions.

1. How has Corky Lee's work inspired you as an artist?
2. Describe how your artistic submission embodies and demonstrates the grit, spirit, and vision of Corky Lee.
3. Please provide photo(s) or other media, such as film, video, artwork, poetry, song, or examples of work you have done either in activism or in artistic media that reflect Corky's work in subject matter or as a craft in itself.

Important Dates for applicants:

Application/Submission Deadline: Sunday, April 21, 2024 @ 11:59 PM postmarked and electronic submission.

Result Letters will go out by Friday, May 10, 2024

Attendance at OCA-NJ APA Heritage and Scholarship Event on Sunday, May 19, 2024 is required to receive the scholarships. Please see event flyer.

OCA - NEW JERSEY

Founded in 1973, OCA is a national organization dedicated to the social, political and economic well-being of Asian Pacific Americans in the United States.

Become an OCA member today!

OCA Membership Application Form

Date _____

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

E-mail: _____

This email address will be automatically added to the OCA New Jersey General Membership Group. If you would like to opt out, please check box here ☐

Alma Mater (optional) _____ Birthday (optional) _____

Spouse/Partner Name _____ E-mail: _____

OCA Membership Dues Categories:

☐ **\$10 Youth/Student:** *(up to full-time undergraduate)*

☐ **\$20 Senior Citizen:** *(65 years and older)* ☐ **2 years = \$30** ☐ **5 years = \$60**

☐ **\$30 Senior Couple:** *(65 years and older)* ☐ **2 years = \$50** ☐ **5 years = \$100**

☐ **\$40 Individual** ☐ **2 years = \$70** ☐ **5 years = \$140**

☐ **\$50 Family** *(2 adults + 2 children under 18)* ☐ **2 years = \$90** ☐ **5 years = \$180**

☐ **\$1000 Individual Lifetime** ☐ **\$1500 Family Lifetime** *(2 adults + 2 children who age out after 18)*

Please make check payable to OCA-New Jersey and return this form to:

**L. Ray Lee
OCA-New Jersey
16 Meadow Lane
Verona, NJ 07044**

Please direct your membership questions to: oca.njmembership@gmail.com

**visit our website
www.oca-nj.org
www.ocanational.org**