



Franklin Township
SOMERSET COUNTY
MAYOR & TOWNSHIP COUNCIL

PROCLAMATION

RECOGNIZING OCA-NJ'S 25TH ANNUAL AAPI HERITAGE MONTH CELEBRATION & SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS LUNCHEON
May 17, 2026

WHEREAS, Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage Month is celebrated each May to honor the contributions, culture, and history of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders who have enriched and strengthened the fabric of our nation and our community; and

WHEREAS, the Organization of Chinese Americans – New Jersey Chapter (OCA-NJ) has dedicated itself for 25 years to advancing the social, political, and economic well-being of the AAPI community through advocacy, education, and civic engagement; and

WHEREAS, this year marks the remarkable 25th Anniversary of the OCA-NJ Scholarship Program, which has recognized outstanding AAPI high school seniors throughout New Jersey who demonstrate academic excellence, pride in their cultural identity, and an unwavering commitment to community leadership; and

WHEREAS, the many past scholarship recipients have gone on to become accomplished professionals, dedicated public servants, and passionate community advocates who continue to serve and strengthen the communities in which they live; and

WHEREAS, OCA-NJ will host its 25th Annual AAPI Heritage Month Celebration & Scholarship Awards Luncheon on Sunday, May 17, 2026, at the NJIT Campus Center, bringing together community members, honorees, and leaders to celebrate achievement, resilience, and cultural pride; and

WHEREAS, this year's program will feature distinguished speakers from New Jersey Institute of Technology, including Honorary Guest Speaker NJIT President Dr. Lim, along with student guest speakers Jian Kim and Kirithika Sankar, who will share their collegiate experiences and highlight their innovative contributions; and


WHEREAS, the 2026 OCA-NJ Essay Scholarship awardees will be recognized at this luncheon as shining examples of the strength, resilience, and promise of our AAPI community;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED on behalf of the Mayor and Council of Franklin Township, Somerset County, New Jersey, does hereby recognize and congratulate **OCA-NJ** on the occasion of its **25th Annual AAPI Heritage Month Celebration & Scholarship Awards Luncheon**, and extend our deepest appreciation to all scholarship recipients, program volunteers, and community leaders whose dedication continues to inspire generations to come.

BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED that Franklin Township proudly celebrates AAPI Heritage Month and honors the rich contributions of the Asian American and Pacific Islander community to our township, our state, and our nation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hands this **17th day of May, 2026**.


Shepa Uddin, Councilwoman


Phillip Kramer, Mayor