OCA NEW JERSEY - ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN ADVOCATES

EMBRACING THE HOPES AND ASPIRATIONS OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICANS

ADVOCATE
NEW JERSEY

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Executive Vice President
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Henry 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 2026. We continue to offer **2 different** scholarship programs. The first is our traditional Essay Scholarship with awards ranging from $3,500 to $300, and the second is for those who better express themselves in a more creative and artistic endeavor which is dedicated to the Spirit of Corky Lee in the amount of $1,500. The application requirements are the same for both awards; **however, the submission requirements are different.**

Please note that these scholarships are available to all high school seniors of Asian American descent who are full time students and residents of the state of New Jersey who will be attending an **accredited** institution of higher learning (College, University, Jr./Community College or Trade School). 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 **Sunday, April 12, 2026.**

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,



Laura J. Lee
Board of Directors, OCA-NJ
Chair, OCA-NJ Scholarship Committee
oca.njedcom@gmail.com

OCA-New Jersey Chapter is a state chapter of OCA, a section 501(c)(3) national organization dedicated to advancing the social, political and economic well-being of Asian Pacific Americans in the United States. Our goals are: (1) To advocate for social justice, equal opportunity and fair treatment. (2) To promote civic participation, education and leadership. (3) To advance coalitions and community building. (4) To foster cultural heritage. Founded in 1973 as the Organization of Chinese Americans, OCA maintains its headquarters in Washington, D.C. Contributions are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law.

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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 the Asian American/Pacific Islander community.

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 American/Pacific Islanders across the country.

Each year, OCA-NJ chapter offers scholarship opportunities to high school seniors of Asian American/Pacific Islander descent who will be attending an accredited institution of higher learning (University, College, Jr./Community College or Trade School). Enclosed are the scholarship requirements and scholarship application. An OCA-NJ membership application is available for any interested applicants and their families.

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,



Laura J. Lee
Board of Directors, OCA-NJ
Chair, OCA-NJ Scholarship Committee

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SAVE THE DATE

OCA-NJ 25th ANNUAL

AAPI HERITAGE CELEBRATION LUNCHEON

HONORING THE 2026 OCA-NJ SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

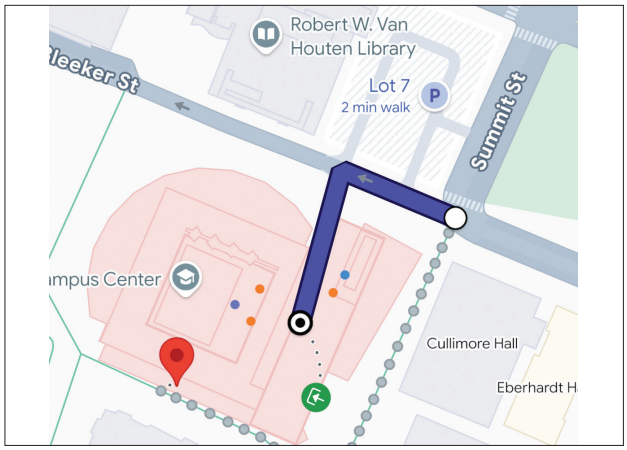
MAY 17, 2026 - 12:OO-2:00 PM

NEW JERSEY INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
CAMPUS CENTER ATRIUM

150 SUMMIT STREET, NEWARK NJ

(Use Parking Lot 7)





More details to follow

Attendance is mandatory to receive your scholarship

OCA - NEW JERSEY

"Embracing the Hopes and Aspirations of Asian Pacific Americans"

ADVOCATE

2026 OCA-NJ Scholarship Essay Topic

To help us get to know you, please tell us about your educational journey thus far, your ups and downs, how or if being an Asian American has impacted your educational experience, what you hope for your future, and who or what motivates you.

Please be honest and authentic and **NOTE** that work generated through **AI** will be **disqualified.**

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ADVOCATE

2026 OCA-NJ Scholarship Application

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

Personal Information

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

Home Address _____

Telephone _____ **Cell No.** _____ **Personal E-mail only** _____

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**

School Information

High School Attending _____

High School Address _____ **Telephone** _____

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

Please attach a copy of your official High School Transcript!

Educational Institution attending in Fall 2026 _____ **Major** _____

Family Information:

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

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

Extracurricular Activities:

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

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

Year	Activity/Work Experience	Office Held/Honors Received	Hours Per Week

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2026 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 high school senior who will be attending an accredited educational institution of higher learning.**
- **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 ocanjscholarship@gmail.com**

Submitting Procedures and Deadline:

All essays, applications and required paperwork must be postmarked by April 12, 2026.
Please mail to:

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

Awards:

Virginia L. Ng Founder's Scholarship - $3,500

Robert E. Wone Memorial Scholarship - $3,000

Linda Lee Memorial Scholarship - $2,500

Dr. Ferdinand John Gajewski, Jr. Memorial Scholarship - $2,000

Edwin & Aurora Len Memorial Scholarship - $1,500

Willie Lau Memorial Scholarship - $1,000

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

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2026 OCA-NJ 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

"Embracing the Hopes and Aspirations of Asian Pacific Americans"

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2026 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 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 high school senior who will be attending an accredited educational institution of higher learning.
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 comment than grammar, prose or craft in writing. Please note: AI generated work will be disqualified.

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).**

Submitting Procedures and Deadline:

A copy of your written (questions), application and required paperwork must be postmarked by April 13, 2026.

Please mail to :

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

OCA - NEW JERSEY

"Embracing the Hopes and Aspirations of Asian Pacific Americans"

ADVOCATE

2026 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 does Corky Lee's work inspire you as an artist?

2. Describe how your artistic submission demonstrates the spirit and vision of Corky Lee.

3. Please provide original 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 12, 2026 @ 11:59 PM postmarked and electronic submission.

Result Letters will go out by Friday, May 1, 2026

Attendance at OCA-NJ AAPI Heritage and Scholarship Event on Sunday, May 17, 2026 is required to receive the scholarships. Please see event flyer.

OCA - NEW JERSEY

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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:

Ms. Jenny Lee
OCA-New Jersey
2 Heather Court
Dover, NJ 07801

You can also use the QR Code for online submission

Please direct your membership questions to: oca.njmembership@gmail.com
visit our website
www.oca-nj.org
www.ocanational.org

2024