

## OCA RECEIVES \$50,000 GRANT FROM THE UPS FOUNDATION

### *Funds to be used to start a new mentorship program for APA professionals*

Washington, DC—OCA, a national organization dedicated to advancing the social, economic, and political well-being of Asian Pacific Americans, received a \$50,000 grant from The UPS Foundation, the charitable arm of UPS (NYSE: UPS). The grant will be used to fund a new mentorship program connecting Asian Pacific American professionals with APA leaders in government, the corporate sector, and non-profit organizations.

“There is a glass ceiling that continues to prevent Asian Pacific Americans from reaching top leadership positions in the public, private and non-profit sectors in the U.S. For example, while APAs make up approximately 4.4% of the U.S. population, the percentage of APAs who sit on corporate boards is 1.5%,” said **Ginny Gong, OCA National President**, “Our goal with the mentorship is to help the APA community make inroads into these leadership positions and to help APA professionals meet their career goals by linking them up with established leaders.”

The mentorship program will coach and assist APAs in developing communication, interpersonal and networking skills. OCA will identify and pair mentors and mentees and will assist both groups in identifying and pursuing leadership opportunities.

“For over 20 years, OCA has been at the forefront of nurturing leadership skills in the APA community,” said **Michael Lin, OCA Executive Director**, “OCA’s internship and scholarship programs target APA youth leaders, while the JACL/OCA Leadership Training Conference brings leaders from OCA and JACL chapters to Washington to learn about current policy issues and developing leadership at the grassroots level. We are excited to be working with The UPS Foundation, a longtime supporter of OCA, on a new leadership building project.”

Established in 1951 and based in Atlanta, GA, The UPS Foundation identifies specific areas where its backing clearly impacts social issues. In support of this strategic approach, The UPS Foundation has identified literacy, hunger relief, and volunteerism as its focus areas.

In 2006, The UPS Foundation distributed over \$45 million worldwide through grants that benefit organizations or programs such as OCA and provide support for building stronger communities.

“Giving back to the communities is an important part of UPS’s nearly 100 years-old culture that’s embraced by our employees through volunteerism, making donations and sharing their unique skill sets,”

said **Lisa Hamilton, president of The UPS Foundation**, “Together with nonprofit partners such as OCA, we work to make a positive impact on the lives of people in need.”

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