



November 2011 eNews

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APIASF's Scholarship Benefit Raises More Than \$600,000 to Support Deserving Students

The Asian & Pacific Islander American Scholarship Fund (APIASF) recently hosted its sixth annual Today's Minds, Tomorrow's Future Scholarship Benefit at the Hilton New York on November 1. During the event, **USA Funds** and the **United Health Foundation** were honored for their strong commitment to diverse communities, extensive contributions to the field of education, and broad support of APIASF. **Dr. Bob H. Suzuki**, President Emeritus of California Polytechnic University, Pomona, received the Higher Education Award for his long-standing commitment to education. Nearly 450 people attended the event and APIASF was able to raise more than \$600,000 to support deserving AAPI students.

In addition to the awards program, APIASF also hosted its third annual Career Workshop titled, "The Best Career Advice I Ever Received." The two-hour panel provided participants with a glimpse into the best career advice received by leading executives at some of the nation's top companies.



From left to right are panelists: **Michelle E. Scales**, Business Manager of Diverse Segments and Enterprise Marketing at Wells Fargo & Company; **Julio Suarez**, Director of Diversity Outreach for Darden Restaurants; **Kerwin Higashi**, Regional Vice President

at Sodexo; **Kimberly Ford**, Director of Minority Inclusion at NCAA; **Toya Spencer**, Senior Manager of Diversity & Inclusion at Abercrombie & Fitch; **Patricia (Pat) Harris**, Global Chief Diversity Officer at McDonald's Corporation LLC; **Tariq Kahn** (Moderator), Founder and President at Global Diversity Marketing; and **Commander Dennis Espiritu**, Naval City Outreach Officer and Chief of Naval Personnel of the Diversity Directorate Office at the United States Navy.

For additional information about the event, [click here](#). To view pictures from the Scholarship Benefit, [click here](#), and to view pictures from the Career Workshop, [click here](#).

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Scholar Profile



"The blessing of receiving the scholarship has made a lasting imprint on my life. As a first generation college student from a low income family, one thing that I take am passionate about is giving back to the community that has shaped and molded me into the individual I am today."

Michelle Chang
2011 - 2012 APIASF /
UnitedHealthcare
Scholar

Attending University of
California, Berkeley
and Majoring in
Neurobiology

Four-Year Scholarships Now Available Through New Partnership with FedEx

APIASF announced its first-ever four-year scholarship opportunity for students this week. The new scholarship opportunity was developed through APIASF's partnership with FedEx and will provide eight scholarships worth \$10,000 (\$2,500 per year for four years).

According to a 2011 report produced through a partnership between APIASF and the National Commission on Asian American and Pacific Islander Research in Education (CARE), large proportions of AAPI subgroups are attending college, but not earning a degree. Among Southeast Asians, 33.7 percent of Vietnamese, 42.9 percent of Cambodians, 46.5 percent of Laotians, and 47.5 percent of Hmong adults (25 years or older) reported having attended college, but not earning a degree. Similarly, Pacific Islanders have a very high rate of attrition during college. Among Pacific Islanders, 47.0 percent of Guamanians, 50.0 percent of Native Hawaiians, 54.0 percent of Tongans, and 58.1 percent of Samoans entered college, but left without earning a degree. The new APIASF / FedEx Scholarship directly meets this need by helping to ensure that students have the financial resources to continue their education and attain a degree.

For more information or to apply, [click here](#). Applications are due at 11:59 p.m. EST on January 13, 2012.

UnitedHealthcare Increases Support to the Asian American Community

UnitedHealthcare recently launched their Asian American Markets (AAM) program to help better meet the needs of the Asian American community. In addition to providing access to things like in-language resources and a specialized website, UnitedHealthcare is supporting the AAPI community by providing scholarships to deserving students. The APIASF / UnitedHealthcare Scholars hail from California and Texas, and are attending Universities such as University of Texas at Arlington, University California, Berkeley; University of California, Los Angeles; University of California, San Diego; and University of California, San Francisco.

For more information about UnitedHealthcare's efforts, visit www.uhcasian.com.

Happy Thanksgiving from APIASF!



Did You Know?

Nearly 50 percent of all Asian American and Pacific Islander students enrolled in higher education are attending community colleges.

To help share their stories, APIASF provided video cameras to some of these students to document their experience on and off-campus.

[Click here](#) to hear their stories.

Give to CFC #44885



Did you know you can support AAPI students by giving to APIASF through the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC)? **For more information, [click here](#) or give to CFC #44885 today!**

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Asian & Pacific Islander American Scholarship Fund | 1900 L Street NW | Suite 210 | Washington | DC | 20036