Thomas Yoo - Candidate for InspirASIAN National Vice President - 2026

Why I'm Running

Early in my career, I thought the formula for success was simple: work hard, deliver great results, and good things will follow. While hard work still matters, I've learned that growth also comes from meeting people, understanding the broader organization, learning from others, and having people in your corner.

I only wish I had discovered this organization sooner. It introduced me to valuable relationships, knowledge, and opportunities—and I want to help others find those benefits earlier in their careers.

My goal is simple: create an organization where people support one another, volunteers know they are appreciated, and programs are valuable, engaging, and—yes—actually fun!

My Three Priorities

- **Invite two people:** I'll encourage every member to invite at least two colleagues to join each year. A simple invitation could open the door to connections and opportunities they might not find on their own.
- **Make programs valuable and engaging:** Our events should help people learn, grow, and build relationships—and enjoy themselves along the way.
- **Celebrate volunteers and build partnerships:** Our volunteers give their time and energy, and they deserve recognition. I'll also continue developing partnerships that can bring fresh ideas, resources, and opportunities.

A Little About Me

I currently serve as interim Vice President, supporting the President and helping move the National Executive Board's priorities forward. This hands-on experience has given me a clear understanding of the role and made me even more excited about continuing to serve.

I also served two terms as President of the Southern California chapter, where I championed useful programs and made it a priority to recognize our hardworking volunteer leaders.

For approximately 20 years, I've been the chapter's dragon boat captain and coach. Along the way, I helped grow the team, involve community leaders, build partnerships, and attract sponsors. Dragon boating has taught me an important leadership lesson: everyone has to paddle together—or we just go in circles!

As Vice President, I'll bring that same team spirit, along with a practical, collaborative, and people-focused approach. I would be honored to continue supporting the President, our members, chapters, and National Executive Board—and to help more people connect, contribute, and succeed.