



CFALA Honors Andy Chong, CFA As May Volunteer of the Month



Like many CFALA members, Andy Chong has found being a charter holder very beneficial to his career. Our May volunteer of the month now helps others who want to achieve that distinction.

Chong received his CFA designation and joined the society in 2007. Since then, he's served as a coordinator for the CFA exam review program at the University of Southern California and mentor to current CFA candidates. He is also Co-Chair of the Asian Pacific community of interest group, one of the biggest and fastest growing communities within

the society.

"I enjoy giving back, and volunteering is very helpful in terms of personal and career development, learning to network with different people and how to organize different events," Chong said.

"Also, one of the big reasons I volunteer is because having the charter helped my career a lot. It gave me the credentials to be in this industry, because I didn't have that academic background in business or finance when I graduated from college. I was originally planning to go into law."

Rather than pursuing law school after receiving his bachelor's degree, Chong began his career in finance by working at various financial institutions and obtaining several security licenses. Chong refocused his career path into private wealth management, and the change of direction has worked out. Chong is currently a portfolio manager in Northern Trust's Pasadena office, managing equity and fixed income portfolios for high net worth families, trusts, retirement plans and foundations. He previously was a portfolio management associate at Kayne Anderson Rudnick and also worked at the U.S. Trust Company.