my name is wayne wang i am at the NASA Glenn Research Center and i am the advanced thrilling converter lead engineer and what that entails is i've been working with a company called SunPower to develop the advanced sterling converter and this is a key technology for NASA's future radioisotope power systems many of the missions that we've flown already and these missions have existed for decades are based on radioisotope power systems basically these are necessary for any application that doesn't use solar
energy or cannot use solar energy so

what we're developing is a new technology

that is much more efficient to make the

best use of the limited plutonium that

we have currently in the United States

I'm Chinese and I was born in Hong Kong

I came over to the United States when I

was about three years old and I've been

living in Cleveland ever since and I

really enjoy my hometown and I've been

I'm here at my entire life I went to

college in Cleveland at Case Western

Reserve University and when I was a

junior I sought out an internship
position and I hate I was fortunate

enough to come to NASA Glenn and spent

the summer here and when I was here I

saw the wonderful work that the center

did and the variety of technologies that

NASA was responsible for and I wanted to

make a career out of it and it was at

that point that I decided to come to

NASA I was honored recently to be the

recipient of the 2013 Asian American

engineer of the year award this was a

national award that was provided by the

Chinese Institute of Engineers I was

nominated through my management and went
through a selection process and

ultimately got this award for the work

and contributions that I've done in

terms of my NASA work on the advanced

thrilling converter while I'm proud of

the award I'm really glad that I was

able to be part of this award in

ceremony because it put a national

spotlight on the contributions of

asian-americans within the realm of

science and technology to celebrate

Asian Pacific Islander Heritage Month

for the last several years I've been

part of the organization that puts on

the Cleveland asian festival last year
we had over 42,000 attendees at this event and here we're expecting it to be even larger I'm really proud of being part of this event because it brings together my hometown Cleveland it brings together my Asian heritage and I am the MC of the event and I can talk about how wonderful this event is to all 42,000 people I would say the most important thing for a young person that's trying to make decisions about careers is exposure seek out every opportunity whether that's co-opting internship shadowing
assignments to visit workplaces of
friends and relatives just to see what
real jobs are like and what day to day activities are and answer for themselves
is this what I want to do as a career