Susan Woo, the President of Jade Lake Inc, a women’s swimwear manufacturing company, is an immigrant success story. Ms. Woo immigrated with her parents from Vietnam in 1984. Upon arriving in America, the family settled in Monterey Park, CA. Susan enrolled in Mark Keppel High School. This was a daunting challenge considering Susan left Vietnam without the advantage of speaking the English language. Unable to continue her High School education due to the language barrier, Susan decided to leave school and secured a bookkeeping position at a commodity trading firm.

Ms. Woo took two year time from work to start a family. Then she resumed her professional career when she accepted an Office Manager position with a company in the garment industry.

Susan used this job opportunity to educate herself about the fundamentals of the garment business. Subsequently, Susan recognized an opportunity to launch her own business. In 1993, she took a bold step and formed a garment manufacturing company. Susan managed the daily business of the organization, acting as the financial manager, sales representative and office manager, among her many tasks. Her partner supervised the manufacturing side of the business.

Through perseverance, tenacity and hard work, Susan was able to grow her client base and increase sales of her company’s products. The company has grown from 40 employees in 1993 to over 200 hundred employees today. Jade Lake products are sold in the leading department stores and shopping malls across America.

Not content to be a successful business owner, Susan set out to earn her college degree. She enrolled at Pasadena City College and earned her Associates of Arts degree in 2005. She then transferred to Cal State Los Angeles where she earned her Bachelor of Science in Finance.

Susan enjoys giving back to the community she lives in. She is involved in charitable fund raising and sits on the board of the Arcadia Methodist Hospital charitable foundation. She is politically active, supporting candidates for public office in the West San Gabriel Valley area and successfully managing the campaigns of several politicians.