



Asian American Coalition of Chicago

Hosted by the Malaysian American Community

39TH ANNUAL ASIAN AMERICAN LUNAR NEW YEAR CELEBRATION

Respect

Optimism

Amity

Representation

Saturday, March 12th, 2022

Drury Lane, Oakbrook Terrace, Illinois



BlueCross BlueShield of Illinois



We're proud to support the
Asian American Coalition of Chicago



THE ASIAN AMERICAN COALITION OF CHICAGO

Presents

The 39th Annual Lunar New Year Celebration

“**R**ESPECT • **O**PTIMISM • **A**MITY • **R**EPRESENTATION”

SATURDAY, MARCH 12, 2022

DRURY LANE THEATRE AND EVENT

100 Drury Lane, Oakbrook Terrance, Illinois 60181

HOSTED BY THE MALAYSIAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY

Executive Chairman

Dr. Kim K Tee

Celebrity Presenters

Vi Nguyễn, NBC5

Ravi Baichwal, ABC7

Keynote Speaker

Nadirah Mohamed Nazri

Malaysian Investment Development Authority (MIDA)

2022 Sandra Otaka Memorial Grand Asian American Awardee

Illinois Senator Laura Murphy

2022 Ping Tom Memorial Pan Asian American Awardee

Detective Henry Lai



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9th February 2022

Dr Kim K Tee
Executive Chairman, AACC 2022
Malaysian Club of Chicago
553 West 31st Street
Chicago IL 60616
USA

Dear Dr Tee,

CONGRATULATORY LETTER

I refer to your letter dated 8th January 2022.

2. We send you herewith the congratulatory letter from YABhg Tun Dr Mahathir bin Mohamad, 4th and 7th Prime Minister of Malaysia to the Malaysian Club of Chicago together with Dr Mahathir's recent photograph for your reference.

3. We wish you and your team all the best in hosting the Asian American Coalition of Chicago's 39th Annual Lunar New Year Celebration on 12th March 2022.

Thank you.

Yours Sincerely,

(TAN SRI BADARIAH ARSHAD)
Principal Private Secretary to
YABhg Tun Dr Mahathir bin Mohamad

DR. MAHATHIR BIN MOHAMAD

9th February 2022

Dr Kim K Tee
Executive Chairman, AACC 2022
Malaysian Club of Chicago
553 West 31ST Street
Chicago IL 60616
USA



Dear Sir,

I wish to extend my congratulations to the Malaysian American community of Illinois for hosting the Asian American Coalition of Chicago's 39th Annual Lunar New Year Celebration. I hope the event will be a joyous and memorable occasion to all attendees.

I remember the occasion when the Malaysia Club of Chicago hosted me and my delegation to a welcome dinner in September 2000 in Chicago. It was a wonderful and jubilant event.

I hope the Asian American Coalition of Chicago will continue to promote and preserve the Malaysian culture and heritage through cultural performances to the general public in USA especially in Chicago.

I take this opportunity to wish all Malaysian American community of Illinois a Happy Lunar New Year. May the Year of Tiger bring us peace, good health and more success.

Sincerely,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to be "Mahathir".

DR. MAHATHIR BIN MOHAMAD

No. 1, Jalan P8H, Presint 8, 62250 PUTRAJAYA
Tel : 603-8885 8900 Fax : 603-8889 1114

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www.mida.gov.my

February 25th, 2022

Dr. Kim K Tee,
Executive Chairman,
Asian American Coalition of Chicago 2022
Malaysian Club of Chicago
553 West 31st Street
Chicago, IL 60616

Dear Dr. Tee and members of the Malaysian Club of Chicago,

On behalf of the Malaysian Investment Development Authority (MIDA) Chicago, we would like to extend our warmest congratulations to the Malaysian Club of Chicago (MCC) for hosting the Asian American Coalition of Chicago's 39th Annual Lunar New Year Gala. This event is special as this will be the first time MCC hosting it in 39 years.

We are very proud to see the growth and success the Malaysian American community has brought to us here and not to forget, we are also very proud that our former MIDA CEO being one of the co-founder of MCC where the initial vision was to promote Malaysian cultures to general public in Chicago. I believe MCC has achieved this throughout all these years since its inception.

I hope we will continue to promote and preserve the Malaysian culture and heritage in the foreseeable future.

Thank you for allowing me to celebrate this special occasion with you, I am honoured to be part of this occasion.

I want to take this opportunity to wish all Malaysian Americans a very Happy Lunar year. May you all be blessed with peace, happiness, good health, and success in the Year of the Tiger, Tahun Harimau.

Sincerely,

NADIRAH MOHAMED NAZRI
Director

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New Year 2022*

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TAN SRI DR LIM WEE CHAI

18th February 2022

Dr Kim K Tee
Executive Chairman, AACCC 2022
Malaysian Club of Chicago
553 West 31st Street
Chicago IL 60616
USA



Dear Dr Tee and members of the Malaysian Club of Chicago,

I'm pleased to preface this message with a customary greeting at Top Glove: good health and good day! May this find you healthy, safe and well.

On behalf of Top Glove, we would like to extend our heartiest congratulations to the Malaysian Club of Chicago for hosting the Asian American Coalition of Chicago's 39th Annual Lunar New Year Gala. The Lunar New Year is a special occasion when families reunite and spend time together. Though we are miles away, our hearts are always close to our Malaysian brothers and sisters abroad. Our warmest wishes for a joyous celebration!

May the Malaysian American community continue promoting Malaysian culture and heritage by espousing the best of our shared values. When we Think Big, Dream Big and Do Big, we can Achieve Big.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all Malaysian Americans a very Happy and Prosperous Lunar New Year 2022. May you all be blessed with good health, happiness, peace, love, joy and prosperity in the Year of the Tiger.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'LWC' with a stylized flourish.

Tan Sri Dr Lim Wee Chai
Executive Chairman



Summary Of Malaysia's History

Malaysia's history is said to have started from the Sultanate of Malacca which was around **1400 AD**. At the time of its glory, the Sultanate Territories covered most of the East Coast of Peninsular Malaysia and Sumatra. Malacca emerged as a glorious Government because of its strategic location which was the meeting point between East Asia and the Middle East. This situation allowed Malacca to emerge as a major trading center for spice trade, especially in Southeast Asia. Islam was the main religion which emerged and became the main religion of the residents because the Ruler himself had professed the religion.

In 1511, Malacca fell into the hands of the **Portuguese** and that was the beginning of the colonial era in Malaya. After that, Malaya fell into the hands of the **Dutch** in 1641 and the **British** in 1824 through the Anglo-Dutch Treaty. British colonization was the longest compared to others. The British had integrated all the Malayan administration which was previously managed by the Malay Rulers with the help of state dignitaries. The British intervention had aroused dissatisfaction among the local population. Some individuals rose up against the colonial yet it was easily defeated by the British as their efforts were more towards individuality. Among the heroes that went against the colonialists were Dol Said, Tok Janggut, Datuk Bahaman, Rentap, Dato Maharajalela, Rosli Dobi and several others.

During the 1920s and 1930s, many residents of Malaya had started to receive education, either from the Middle East or local education. As a result, this educated group had appeared to fight in the name of nationalism. They used media such as newspapers and magazines to spread their ideology. There were also among them who had formed Associations such as the Kesatuan Melayu Muda (KMM) and Kesatuan Melayu Singapura (KMS) which were aimed at driving away the invaders and formed their own Government. When the people of this country were so eager to end the invasion, they were jolted by the Japanese landing at the end of 1941 which brought Malaya to another colonial era. **Japan** had occupied Malaya until 1945 before surrendering as a result of the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Japanese resignation had given space to the Communist Party of Malaya (PKM) to control Malaya. PKM had launched attack on Malaya through violence; they had killed three European rubber farm managers in Sungai Siput, Perak. Thus, in June 1948, Sir Edward Gent declared an

emergency over Malaya. PKM did not succeed in Malaya and the British returned more powerful. British Military Administration or BMA was between the end of World War II and establishment of the Malayan Union. On 1st April 1946, the British established the Malayan Union. However, this idea got a fight from the Malays for abolition of the royal institutions and the Malays privileges.

The emergence of **Tunku Abdul Rahman** had given a silver lining to the struggle of the Malayan nationalists when his action of forming the Alliance Party opened the eyes of the British to allow the Malaysians to govern their own country. The unity between the three major ethnic groups namely **Malays, Chinese and Indians**, led to the London Agreement that was signed on 8 February 1956 and gave signs that Malaya would achieve independence on 31 August 1957. Upon returning Tunku Abdul Rahman Al-haj from London, Tunku declared independence of Malaya in Padang Bandar Hilir, Melaka on 20 February 1956. On 27 May 1961, Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra Alhaj suggested the merger of five colonies, namely Malaya, Singapore, Sabah, Sarawak and Brunei to form a new country.

On 9 July 1963, representatives of the British government, Malaya, Sabah, Sarawak and Singapore with the exception of Brunei signed the Malaysia Agreement. The desire for forming a state called "**MALAYSIA**" was achieved on 16 September 1963.

Source: Malaysia 2016 (Department of Information)



Celebrations And Festivals In Malaysia

The culture in this country becomes more colorful due to the various races in Malaysia. This multi-ethnic population celebrates variety of festivals, lively and merrily throughout the year. In every celebration, the tradition of holding open house provides the opportunity for the various races to visit each other to enliven the celebration.

Festival of the Muslim Community

For Muslims, the two major festivals are celebrated namely **Hari Raya Puasa** (Aidilfitri) and **Hari Raya Haji** (Aidiladha). Hari Raya Puasa is celebrated to mark the end of Ramadan, which requires Muslims to fast for a month. Hari Raya Haji is celebrated on the 10th day of Zulhijjah (the month of Islam) when Muslims perform the Haj in Mecca and are in the final stages of their worship. In conjunction with the festival, Muslims who are capable are encouraged to perform sacrificial worship (ibadah korban) and due to this, it is also known as **Hari Raya Korban**. Other than the two major festivals, Muslims also celebrate **Maal Hijrah** (Awal Muharam) which is a celebration of the Islamic New Year; **Maulidur Rasul** to commemorate the birth of Prophet Muhammad SAW, and **Nuzul Quran** to commemorate the day of the revelation of the al-Quran among Muslims.

Festival of the Chinese Community

Chinese Malaysian communities celebrate **Chinese New Year** on the first day of the Chinese calendar in January or February each year. The Festival started with the whole family gathering for dinner together. The celebration lasts for 15 days to the day of “**Chap Goh Meh**” which is celebrated on the night of the 15th day of the Festival. The festival gesture or goodwill package “angpow” is a tradition that enlivens the atmosphere of Chinese New Year, especially for the children. For the majority of Chinese who are Buddhist, the month of May every year marks the arrival of **Wesak Day** to commemorate three important events in Buddha’s life namely the day of birth, the day of the achievement of maturity of thoughts and also the day of death. During the celebration, ceremonies and parades are normally held with prayers. In addition, there are also other celebrations such as the **Mid-Autumn Lantern Celebration** or “Tanglung”, month of the **Ghost Festival**, and **Qing Ming**.



National Bird: Rhinoceros Hornbill



National Car: Proton

Festivals of the Indian Community

For Hindu devotees, **Deepavali** or the Festival of Lights during the month of “Aippasi”, according to the Tamil calendar (October-November) is a time to rejoice. This Festival marks the victory; brightness overcoming darkness, goodness overcoming evil, and wisdom over ignorance. The Festival begins with prayers, followed by visiting of relatives and friends. In the evening, the house will be decorated with lights to enliven the festive atmosphere. Hindu devotees also celebrate **Thaipusam** in January as a sign of respect to the God Muruga. During the Festival, Batu Caves in Selangor will be the focus of Hindu devotees carrying presentations above the “kavadi” to be presented to the gods. In addition, Hindus also celebrate **Ponggal**, Hindu New Year, **Navarathiri** and **Kharthigai**.

Other Festivals

On 25 December each year, Christians will celebrate **Christmas** which marks the birth of Jesus with prayers in churches and visits to their relatives and friends. In Sabah and Sarawak, there are also the traditional ethnic festivals. In Sabah, in the month of May every year, the Kadazans will celebrate the **Harvest Festival** (Tadau Kaamatan) which is an important event to the farmer groups. Tamu Besar or Pasar Tahunan is a carnival created to organize traditional sports events. For the Dayaks, Ibans and Bidayuh in Sarawak, 1st June every year is a day to be awaited because on that day they will celebrate **Hari Gawai**. For the Dayaks, they will have specific celebrations consisting of **Gawai Batu** (beginning of the paddy planting season), **Gawai Burung** (celebration associated with a bad sign or nightmare), **Gawai Bersimpan** (thanksgiving upon completion of harvesting), Gawai.

Antu (celebration for the souls of the dead) and most importantly, **Gawai Kenyalang**. Apart from the different races and festivals, Malaysians also celebrate **Labour Day** on 1 May, National Day or **Independence Day** on 31st August, Birthday of His Majesty Yang Di-Pertuan Agong on the Saturday of the first week of June, Birthday of the King/Sultan at state level and **Good Friday** for the various state concerned.

Source: Malaysia 2016 (Department of Information)



National Flower: Bunga Raya (Hibiscus)



National Animal: The Malayan Tiger

20TH ANNUAL ASIAN AMERICAN FESTIVAL

Hosted by the Asian American Coalition of Chicago (AACC)
and the Malaysian American Community

Co-host: Midwest Asian Health Association

**SATURDAY,
MAY 14, 2022
11AM - 3PM**

**CHINATOWN
SQUARE
CHICAGO, IL**

For sponsorship, exhibition,
booths, and performances,
please contact

Dr. Kim K Tee
Event Chair
kkteedpm@aol.com

Dr. Hong Liu
Event Co-Chair
hongliu@maha-us.org

**SAVE
THE
DATE**

Asian American Coalition of Chicago Board of Directors



President's Message

Greetings to All!

The Asian American Coalition of Chicago prides itself of having great relationships among the member communities. In the thirty-nine years of its existence, there was never any conflict among us. As a family of Asian Americans, we have never been dysfunctional. It's hard to believe but true. We are indeed, one big happy family. To my knowledge, our cohesiveness has not been replicated by similar Asian groups.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, it's my honor and privilege to welcome the Malaysian American Community as the newest member of the Asian American Coalition of Chicago. Its membership is like baptism by fire, because there was no time for them to just sit back and learn the ropes in a timely manner. Immediately, the community leaders, headed by Dr. Kim Tee took on the reins and the challenge of hosting this 2022 Lunar New Year Celebration, notwithstanding the difficulties of the new normal. We have nothing but admiration for them because this is a monumental task. We love their enthusiasm and grit.

I thank the Vietnamese American Community for being gracious enough to move hosting the Gala to 2023, to give way for the Malaysian American Community.

I am humbled to be the president of the AACC Board of Directors. The directors have distinguished themselves in various capacities to include: membership in the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars during the Clinton Administration, the first elected Asian American as President of the world-renowned Chicago Bar Association, the first Asian American member of the Advisory Committee of the Export Import Bank of the United States, CEOs of their own business companies, and others holding significant administrative positions. The AACC Board is a symbol of excellence, and indisputable leadership.

In closing, thank you for your presence at this AACC Gala, and more power to the Malaysian American Community.

Lourdes G. Mon

Chinatown Foot Clinic

**Congratulates the Malaysian Club of Chicago
And
All Of Its Members, Officers, and Awardees**



First Host Community meeting with the AACC Board of Directors at Penang Malaysian Restaurant, 9/27/2021

From

**Dr Kim K Tee
Foot & Ankle Surgery
553 West 31st Street
Chicago IL 60616
(312) 949-9999**





GREETINGS FROM THE EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN of the AACC 2022 Lunar New Year Celebration

It is my pleasure to welcome everyone to the 39th Annual Asian American Coalition of Chicago Lunar New Year Celebration. May I wish each of you “Gong Xi Fa Cai”. Happy New Year!

As Executive Chairman of the AACC 2022 Lunar New Year Celebration, I am very proud to share this evening’s festivities, which are hosted for the first time in AACC’s history, by the Malaysian American community! Malaysia has the most popular greeting, “Selamat Datang” which means “Welcome”. That is the greeting I would like to extend to you tonight. The Malaysian American community wants each of you to experience the rich culture of Malaysia tonight.

Malaysia is a multi-cultural country where people strive to live a harmonious way of life. Malaysia is often called the “Food Capital of the World”, a foodie’s paradise with many native spicy dishes to enjoy! Its tropical climate makes it the perfect place to grow the most delicious fruits of the world, such as durian, mangosteen and rambutan. Malaysia also has a growing economy, making it an excellent choice for businesses. Malaysia has modern architecture which towers over the old-fashioned hawker stands that serve the country’s delicious local favorite dishes.

Tonight, we invite you to sit back and enjoy the program from the Malaysian American community. Let us celebrate the Year of the Tiger together! The Tiger, in the Chinese Zodiac, is a creature that is brave, competitive, confident, active and energetic. I trust that you will feel the energy of the Tiger here tonight through our performances. I hope that you will leave here tonight, with a better understanding of the rich culture and customs of Malaysia!

The theme for this year’s event is **Respect Optimism Amity Representation**.

The ROAR of the Tiger must be heard in every community across this country. In the wake of so many racially motivated hate crimes, not only in Chicago, but across the nation, the Asian communities must set an example of all these attributes. We must display and demand respect, we must be hopeful of a better tomorrow, we must build better relationships with one another, and the Asian community must be better represented in leadership roles.

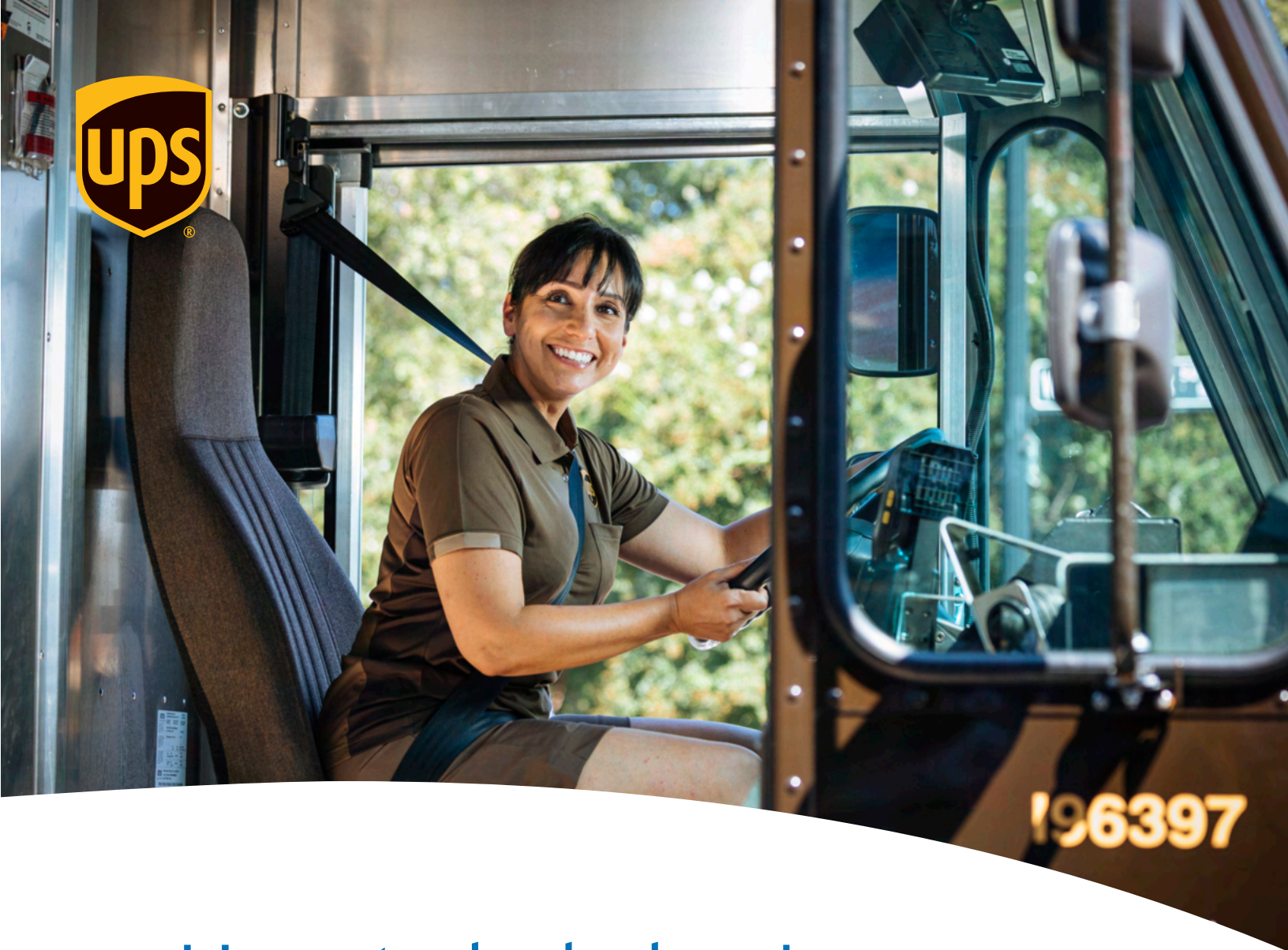
I hope that everyone here tonight will enjoy this Lunar New Year Celebration. Seeing old friends and making new ones is our goals.

With Respect,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kim Tee".

Dr. Kim K. Tee, DPM

Executive Chairman, Asian American Coalition of Chicago 2022



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Celebrity Presenters/Emcee



Vi Nguyen

Vi Nguyen joined NBC 5 Chicago as a general assignment reporter in October 2020. She previously worked at CBS Chicago where she covered stories for the morning show.

Prior to moving back to Chicago, she reported for the nightly newscasts at WISH-TV in Indianapolis, Indiana. During her time in the Hoosier state, she covered a wide range of stories from human interest to crime, including the high-profile disappearance and murders of Delphi teens Abby Williams and Libby German.

Her reporting career began at WTOV/ WQRF in Rockford, Illinois, where she learned how to shoot, write and edit. She also reported at stations in Kansas and Oklahoma.

Originally from California, Nguyen's family moved to the southwest suburbs when she was in middle school. She graduated from DePaul University with a degree in communications and a minor in biological science. She's a proud board member of the Vietnamese Association of Illinois.

In her spare time, she likes to read, watch reality shows and cheer on the Green Bay Packers.

The 39th Annual Asian American Coalition of Chicago Lunar New Year Celebration Program

5:00 PM **VIP Reception and Registration**

Political Forum

Malaysian Crafts and Sponsor's Booth Exhibitions

5:45 PM **Door Open**

Video Presentation - Malaysia Truly Asia by Tourism Malaysia

6:00 PM **Opening Ceremonies**

Patriotic Opening

Great Lakes Navy Band

National Anthem

Yasmeen Mohd Rafee

6:15 PM **Welcome Remarks**

AACC Board President - Lourdes Mon

Recognition of AACC Board of Directors

AACC Board President - Lourdes Mon

Presentation of Plaques to Retired Board Members

AACC Board President Lourdes Mon, assisted by Paul Park

AACC Board Secretary Raj Mago - Announcer

6:25 PM **"Selamat Datang" by the Host Community Chairman**

Dr. Kim K. Tee

Recognition of the Committee Chairs and the Malaysian Government Officials

Dr. Kim K. Tee

6:35 PM **Recognition of the Dignitaries and Sponsors**

Celebrity Emcee



**BlueCross BlueShield
of Illinois**

- 6:40 PM** **Kompang Stage Performance**
Kompang Malaysian Hand Drums
- 6:50 PM** **Presentation of the 2022 Sandra Otaka Memorial Grand Asian American Award**
Illinois Senator Laura Murphy
- 6:55 PM** **Presentation of the 2022 Ping Tom Memorial Pan Asian American Award**
Detective Henry Lai
- 7:00 PM** **Dinner**
- 7:05 PM** **Keynote Speaker**
Nadirah Mohamed Nazri, Director of the Malaysian Investment Development Authority (MIDA)
- 7:10 PM** **Gold Sponsor Blue Cross Blue Shield of Illinois**
Clarita Santos
- 7:15 PM** **Malaysian Costumes Fashion Show**
Young Malaysian-Americans and Friends, The Miss Chinese Chicago
- 7:25 PM** **Presentation of Exemplary Community Service Awards**
Chinese - Filipino - Indian - Indonesian - Japanese - Korean - Malaysian - Pakistani - Thai - Vietnamese
- 7:55PM** **Vietnamese Cultural Dance**
The Truc Lam Buddhist Youth Dance Group
- 8:00 PM** **Presentation of Youth Who Excels Awards**
Vietnamese - Thai - Pakistani - Malaysian - Korean - Japanese - Indonesian - India - Filipino - Chinese
- 8:30 PM** **Passing of the Gavel to the 2023 Host Community**
The Vietnamese American Community
- 8:35 PM** **Closing Remarks**
The Vietnamese American Community Chair





ASIAN AMERICAN COALITION OF CHICAGO 2021-2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



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A Brief History Of The Asian American Coalition of Chicago

By: Sadruddin Noorani

AACC VISION

The mission of the Asian American Coalition of Chicago (AACC) is to unite all Asian Americans into a significant force for strengthening the Asian American Community in the United States, enriching Asian cultural values, and recognizing the importance of Asian American contributions to the American democracy and economy.

AACC MISSION

The AACC mission is accomplished through:

1. Organized the Asian American Coalition of Chicago's Annual Political (non-partisan) Forum and Gala Dinner.
2. Conducting AACC forums and conferences.
3. Hosting Annual Asian American Festival in Chicago.
4. Publishing Pan-Asian American materials.
5. Providing opportunity for Asians of all ethnic groups and political parties to work together for the well-being of Asian American and all Americans.

AACC ANNUAL CELEBRATION

This event is held on this grand of a scale only once a year. The Asian American Coalition of Chicago (AACC)'s Annual Celebration is traditionally the single largest organized annual event in Chicago's Asian American community. Every year a different Asian community takes turn playing host of the gala. This year it is the Malaysian American Community for the first time held the gavel for the community's most important event of the year.

The Asian American Coalition of Chicago, which sponsors both the annual Gala Dinner and the week-long Asian American Festival at Chicago's

Richard J. Daley Center Plaza in the month of May, during Asian American Heritage Month. This year's host is the Malaysian American Community following the Gala dinner, will host the Asian Festival on 14th May 2022 at Chinatown Square Plaza, Chicago.

Founded in 1983, the Coalition celebrates approximately 16 different cultures. Over the years, the Coalition has included representatives of the Bangladeshi, Burmese, Cambodian, Chinese, Filipino, Indian, Indonesian, Japanese, Korean, Laotian, Malaysian, Nepalese, Pakistani, Sri Lankan, Thai and Vietnamese communities. Numerous dignitaries traditionally attend the festivities, including the Asian consular corps, elected and appointed governmental officials, political candidates, top business and corporate leaders, decision-makers at Chicago's major media press outlets, and everyone who considers him/herself a mover and shaker in and around, or for, the Asian American national movement.

1st AACC ANNUAL CELEBRATION IN 1984

Host: Chinese American Community

Sponsor: The Organization of Chinese Americans

Venue: White Eagle Banquet, Niles, Illinois

Theme: Mission of the Asian American Coalition

Attendance: 1500

Highlights: Announcement by Illinois Governor James Thompson of creation of the Asian American Advisory Council to the Governor.

In 1984, the Coalition also sponsored a public forum for then incumbent U.S. Senator Charles Percy and challenger Congressman Paul Simon for the 1984 Senatorial Election. Over 450 Asian Americans had first hand opportunity to hear both candidates present their views on national issues and on matters directly affecting the Asian American community.

2nd AACC ANNUAL CELEBRATION 1985

Host: Korean American Community

Sponsor: The Korean American Association of Chicago

Venue: McCormick Place, Chicago, Illinois

Theme: Promoting Asian American civic participation

Attendance: 1050

Highlights: U.S. Senator Alan Dixon announced his intention to create an Asian American Advisory Committee to his office.

During 1985, Chicago Mayor Harold Washington created the Mayor's Advisory Committee on Asian American Affairs. U.S. Senator Paul Simon also created an Asian American Advisory Committee after he was elected.

3rd AACC ANNUAL CELEBRATION 1986

Host: Filipino American Community

Sponsors: The American Filipino Professional Civic Alliance of Illinois

Venue: Conrad Hilton Hotel, Chicago

Theme: "The Spirit of Asian Americans"

Attendance: 1000

Highlights: An election year, an exciting and energetic program was well attended by both the Asian American Community and most of the candidates running for political office. In 1986, for the first time, Asian Americans were appointed as at-large delegates to the Democratic National Convention.

4th AACC ANNUAL CELEBRATION 1987

Host: Indian American Community of Illinois

Venue: White Eagle Banquet, Niles, Illinois

Theme: Celebrating Asian American achievements

Attendance: 1000

Highlights: Held in conjunction with the Asian American Heritage Week Celebration in May. The dinner celebrated achievements and contributions of Asian Americans in Illinois. Chicago Mayor Harold Washington was the chief guest. The event included programs and projects, minority business

seminars, an immigration workshop, a World Trade Conference, a directory of Asian American organizations, a medical assistance program, a tourism promotion for the Asian American community, corrective anti-social programs, housing projects planning and a volunteer action program

5th AACC ANNUAL CELEBRATION 1988

Host: Thai American Community

Sponsor: The Thai Association of Greater Chicago

Venue: Hyatt Regency O'Hare, Rosemont, Illinois

Theme: "Celebrate Asian Heritage: Envision New Horizons"

Attendance: 1200

Highlights: "Together, the World Can Count on Us." A contemporary unity song written especially for the Coalition, and later adopted as its theme song, debuted as opening musical number. It was performed by a cast and crew of 80 Asian American artists wearing colorful ethnic costumes.

6th AACC ANNUAL CELEBRATION 1989

Host: Vietnamese American Community

Sponsor: Nghia Sinh International, Inc.

Venue: Holidays Inn O'Hare, Rosemont, Illinois

Theme: "Asian American Contributions to America"

Record Attendance: 1700

Highlights: Asian American Coalition was incorporated on December 2, 1988. Return performance, "Together, The World Can Count on Us," preceded by workshop on "Asian Contributions to America" and followed by issue-oriented Asian American Forum. AACC motto, "Together, we'll succeed" and AACC logo, consisting of a globe showing Asia and America straddling both sides of the Pacific, were adopted.

7th AACC ANNUAL CELEBRATION 1990

Host: Japanese American Community

Sponsor: The Chicago Japanese American Council

Venue: Hyatt Regency O'Hare, Rosemont, Illinois

Theme: "Strength through Unity"

Attendance: 1000

Highlights: The importance of the 1990 Census was emphasized with a workshop preceding the gala; U.S. Rep Norman Mineta of California served as guest speaker.

8th AACC ANNUAL CELEBRATION 1991

Host: Chinese American Community

Sponsors:

- > Chicago Chinatown Chamber of Commerce
- > Chinese American Civil Council
- > Organization of Chinese Americans

Venue: Hyatt Regency O'Hare, Rosemont, Illinois

Theme: "Together, We Can"

Attendance: 1200

Highlights: This celebration emphasized "Together, We Can," in many ways—from the special original opening musical drama, "Start with the Children" to the keynote address by Chancellor Chang-Lin Tien of the University of California, at Berkeley; from the community award presentation, to the non-partisan, cooperative voter registration drives in various Asian American communities sponsored by the Coalition.

9th AACC ANNUAL CELEBRATION 1992

Host: Pakistani American Community

Venue: Chicago Marriott Hotel

Theme: "Making Visions Happen"

Attendance: Over 1200

Highlights: Several state and local dignitaries attended the banquet. Some of the prominent guests in attendance were the Chicago Mayor, Richard M. Daley, Senator Paul Simon, and Ms. Carol Mosley Braun. The emerging political presence of the Asian American community was evident in the fact that all four major media TV stations covered event, plus the major dailies. The first Pan Asian American Award and nine community service awards were also presented in which Bangladesh was introduced for the first time. Each member community presented colorful display of their own culture, which was greatly appreciated by the audience. In addition, a nice colorful 34 page program booklet was distributed to each guest. As in the past, the Asian

American Coalition promoted Asian cultural and political awareness, particularly in the Chicago area. The entire detail of document along with structure and task list was presented to host of 1993 Annual Celebration, the Korean community.

10th AACC ANNUAL CELEBRATION 1993

Host: Korean American Community

Sponsor: Korean American Association of Chicago

Venue: Hyatt Regency O'Hare, Rosemont, Illinois

Theme: "A Decade of Progress: Making Our Voices Heard"

Attendance: Over 1000

Highlights: An exciting and energetic program celebrating the Year of the Rooster. Keynote address was given by U.S. Congressman Jay Kim of California.

11th AACC ANNUAL CELEBRATION 1994

Host: Filipino American Community

Venue: Holiday Inn O'Hare, Rosemont, Illinois

Theme: "Asian Americans Together, a New Decade of Progress"

Attendance: 1200

Highlights: Keynote address was given by Maryland General Assembly Hon. David Valderrama. The First Grand Asian Award was presented to U.S Senator Paul Simon, in honor of his contributions to the Asian American Community.

12th AACC ANNUAL CELEBRATION 1995

Host: Indian American Community

Venue: Hyatt Regency O'Hare, Rosemont

Theme: "Strengthening the Coalition"

Attendance: 1000

Highlights: To mark its twelfth anniversary, the Coalition joined forces with Polychrome Publishing to create Children of Asian America, a book of original Asian American children's stories and photographs that celebrate the unity, cooperation and commitment fostered by the Coalition. The day-long program and projects included exhibition booths on cultural, industrial,

trade, and political awareness for Asian Americans. In addition, proactive career planning sessions were presented by both the IRS and the EPA officers.

13th AACC ANNUAL CELEBRATION 1996

Host: Thai American Community

Sponsor: The Thai Association of Greater Chicago

Venue: Hyatt Regency O'Hare, Rosemont, Illinois

Theme: "Bridges for a Brighter Tomorrow"

Attendance: 1300

Highlights: Keynote address was given by the Hon. H.E. Nitaya Pibulsonggram, Ambassador of Thailand, based in Washington D.C. The Grand Asian American Award was presented to Hon. George H. Ryan, Secretary of State of Illinois, farewell tribute was given to the Hon. Paul Simon, U.S. Senator.

14th AACC ANNUAL CELEBRATION 1997

Host: Vietnamese American Community

Sponsor: Nghia Sinh International, Inc.

Venue: Hyatt Regency O'Hare, Rosemont

Theme: "Unity in Diversity"

Vision: "Asian American 2000: Education, Economy and Ethnicity"

Record Attendance: 2000

Highlights: The Grand Asian American Award was presented to the Hon. Jim Edgar, Governor of the State of Illinois. There was a day-long program with conferences on Immigration, Health Care, and Welfare Reform, workshops on Government Relations and Business Development, and forums on Community, Parents, and Interfaith Activities. The three distinguished keynote speakers were: The President of Northwestern University, Northeastern University, and the University of Chicago who shared their views on Education, Economy, and Ethnicity in the 21st Century. Proclamations from President Bill Clinton, Governor Jim Edgar, and Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley were officially presented to the 1997 AACC host. The Vietnamese community handed over the AACC "Torch" to the next year's host of AACC, the Japanese community. Asian Americans from France, Canada, California, Florida,

Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Texas, and Washington D.C., came to attend the AACC conference and celebration.

15th AACC ANNUAL CELEBRATION 1998

Host: Japanese American Community

Sponsor: The Chicago Japanese American Council

Venue: Hyatt Regency O'Hare, Rosemont

Theme: "Creating an Asian American Mosaic"

Attendance: 1200

Highlights: The event included a political forum, giving of community service awards and entertainment was by Hiroshima. The Japanese American Community handed over the gavel to the next year's host community, the Chinese American community.

FALL 1998 AACC CANDIDATES FORUM

Host: Chinese American Community

Sponsor: The Asian American Coalition of Chicago

Venue: Chicago Hilton and Towers

Theme: "The place to be"

Attendance: 500

Highlights: The Asian American Coalition of Chicago proudly hosted the 1998 Candidates Forum, the first of its kind on a grand scale in Chicagoland. With AACC as an umbrella organization, the bipartisan event was sponsored by 35 different community organizations. All candidates for U.S. Senate, State Constitutional Offices, and Cook County Board President were invited. A seven-member community panel addressed the candidates on various issues of importance to the Asian American community. Voter registrations also took place on site.

16th AACC ANNUAL CELEBRATION 1999

Host: Chinese American Community

Sponsors:

- > Chicago Chinatown Chamber of Commerce
- > Chinese American Civil Council
- > Organization of Chinese Americans

Venue: Chicago Hilton and Towers

Theme: "Many Voices, One Vision"

Attendance: 1300

Highlights: Featured performance was "Sayonara, Ms. Saigon," a musical parody on Asian American stereotypes from stage and screen, which starred the 60-member strong 1999 Asian American Coalition artists. The highlight of the event was a presentation of an original musical power ballad written especially for the Coalition for this event, "Many Voices, One Vision," which featured music and lyrics by Keith Uchima.

17th AACC ANNUAL CELEBRATION 2000

Host: Pakistani American Community

Venue: Navy Pier, Chicago

Theme: "Asian Americans: Reach Out and Be Counted"

Attendance: Over 1800

Highlights: Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White announced the creation of an Asian American Advisory Council to his office and appointed an Asian American liaison. Three major media anchors and reporters emceed the gala. More emphasis was placed on food, entertainment, stage, and decor, as well as on a colorful program book. All of the 1800 guests and participants received handmade Pakistani rugs. More than 150 organizing community members received a "thank you" table clock with AACC logo on it. The Pakistani American Community handed over the gavel to the next year's host, the Korean American Community.

Since 2000 was an election year, dozens of politicians from Cook County -- U.S. congressional candidates and State constitutional officers -- spoke at the forum. More than 12 government service providing agencies, such as the Social Security Administration, the U.S. Bureau of Census displayed pamphlets and brochures at the AACC event. Other non-profit organizations and business corporations also participated in this year's event.

The importance of the 2000 census was emphasized with a workshop preceding the gala. The political forum was followed by a gala dinner, musical and cultural programs with a segment by Actor Pat Morita. Community Service awards were given in which the Cambodian and Nepalese honorees were introduced for the first time.

Among dignitaries in attendance were the Asian consular corp., elected and appointed government officials, top business and corporate leaders, and Chicago's major media outlets.

18th AACC ANNUAL CELEBRATION 2001

Host: The Korean American Community, The Korean American Association of Chicago

Venue: Hyatt Regency O'Hare, Rosemont, Illinois

Theme: "Shining Light in the New Millennium."

Attendance: 1100

19th AACC ANNUAL CELEBRATION 2002

Host: The Filipino American Community

Venue: Hyatt Regency O'Hare, Rosemont, Illinois

Theme: "Synergy Through the Winds of Change".

Attendance: 1100

Highlights: In November 2001, the Coalition also sponsored an Inter-Religious Prayer Service for World Peace and in remembrance of the victims of the 9/11 tragedy and their families. In addition to the presentation of the various awards, the AACC founders were recognized.

20th AACC ANNUAL CELEBRATION 2003

Host: The Indian American Community

Venue: Hyatt Regency O'Hare, Rosemont, Illinois

Theme: "Many Voices, One Vision".

Attendance: 1150

Highlights: The Grand Asian Award was presented to State Treasurer, Judy Baar Topinka.

21st AACC ANNUAL CELEBRATION 2004

Host: The Thai American Community

Sponsor: The Thai American Association of Illinois

Venue: Hyatt Regency O'Hare, Rosemont, Illinois

Theme: "Strengthen Our Unity".

Attendance: 1200

Highlights: Musical Performances: "Getting to Know You" and "America, the Beautiful" by AACC Choir. Keynote address by the Hon. H. E. Sakthip Krairiksh, ambassador of Thailand to the United States.

22nd AACC ANNUAL CELEBRATION 2005

Host: Vietnamese American Community

Sponsor: Nghia Sinh International, Inc.

Venue: Hyatt Regency O'Hare, Rosemont, Illinois

Theme: "APA Leadership is the Key"

Vision: "Asian Americans 2005: Preparing Future Leaders"

Attendance: Over 1800 (Banquet: 1500 tickets sold, conference: 500 registered participants).

Highlights: There was a day-long program with a variety of seminars and festivities, including a conference, an interfaith forum, a thanksgiving celebration, a banquet and dance.

> The 1st AACC "Youth Who Excel" Awards CEO, CBE Mr. Arne Duncan

CEO Arne Duncan of the Chicago Board of Education addressed 500 Asian American educators and presented the first ever AACC "Youth Who Excel" awards.

> White House Representative Director Joel Smith

A White House director presented a Presidential Proclamation signed by President George Bush at the AACC Gala.

> Movie Star/Film Writer-Director — Tony Bui

Actor Tony Bui, Writer & Director of the academy award-winning film "Three Seasons" was the keynote speaker at the Gala Dinner.

Among the distinguished keynote speakers for morning, noon, afternoon, and evening sessions from Los Angeles, Chicago, Springfield, and Washington, D.C. were:

> Hon. Pat Quinn, Lt. Governor of Illinois

> Hon. Shinae Chun, Director, U.S. Department of Labor, Office of Women Affairs

> Dr. Narnara Radner, Director, DePaul University, Center for Urban Education

The Vietnamese community handed over the AACC "Torch" to the next year's host of AACC, the Indonesian American Community. Asian Americans from France, Canada, and many parts of the USA came to attend the AACC conference and celebration.

23rd AACC ANNUAL CELEBRATION 2006

Host: The Indonesian American Community

Venue: Hyatt Regency O'Hare, Rosemont, Illinois

Theme: "Unity in Diversity"

Attendance: 900

Highlights: Indonesian community hosted the AACC dinner for the first time. Among the distinguish guest were the Ambassadors of the Republic of Indonesia to the United States, the Hon. H. E. Sudjadnan Parnohadiningrat. A new contemporary Indonesian dance was specially created by Gusti Ngurah Kertayuda and the first unity rhythm dance was choreographed by Leah Tehan with community representative performers.

24th AACC ANNUAL CELEBRATION 2007

Host: The Chinese American Community

Sponsors:

- > Chicago Chinatown Chamber of Commerce
- > Chinese American Civic Council of Chicago
- > Chinese American Service League, Inc.
- > Chinese Mutual Aid Association
- > The Organization of Chinese Americans, Inc., Greater Chicago Chapter

Venue: Hyatt Regency O'Hare, Rosemont, Illinois

Theme: "Roar with the Boar".

Attendance: 1,200

Highlights: Keynote speaker was Ms. Lisa Ling, Correspondent, National Geographic Channel. A unity performance "Our Silk Road" was presented by Marc Rita, Director and Kelly Uchima, Lead Soloist.

25th AACC ANNUAL CELEBRATION 2008

Host: The Pakistani American Community

Venue: Donald E. Stephens Convention Center, Rosemont, Illinois

Theme: "The Dawn of New Asia"

Attendance: 1300

Highlights: The Pakistani American Community hosted the 9th Annual Asian American Festival for the 2nd time during the Asian Heritage Month in May 21-25, 2007.

January 26, 2008, many well wishers, including several dignitaries attended the annual gala event. Due to election year the political forum was exciting and was well received. Illinois Supreme Court Justice Anne Burke was the keynote speaker, Chief Judge Timothy Evans of the Cook County Circuit Court received the Grand Asian American Award, and Chicago Children's Museum CEO Jim Law received the top Pan Asian American (Ping Tom Memorial) Award. Malaysian American community was inducted into the AACC. The Pakistani American Community handed over the AACC "Torch" to next year's host: The Korean American Community for Year 2009.

26th AACC ANNUAL CELEBRATION 2009

Host: The Korean American Association of Chicago
Venue: Hyatt Regency O'Hare
Theme: "Cultural Threads Woven into the Fabric of a United Future"
Attendance: 1200

Highlights: Pre-Show Screenings "Portrait of Tiffani Kim Griffith" Excerpted from IPTV Show "8ight degrees: portraits of exceptional people with impact" and "Generation: Undefined!" and "Top Ten Ways: How to Tell If You're An Asian" Cultural Showcase: "Hanryu" by Soul ReVive. Grand Asian Award to the Hon. Pat Quinn, Lt. Governor. The Korean American Community handed over the AACC "Touorch" to next year's host: The Filipino American Community for 2010.

27th AACC ANNUAL CELEBRATION 2010

Host: The Filipino American Community of Chicago
Venue: Hyatt Regency O'Hare, Rosemont
Theme: Bridging Generations and Cultures for Progress
Attendance: Over 1100

Highlights: Journalist Euna Lee of Current TV was the keynote speaker. A political Forum, Cocktail Reception, Opening Ceremonies followed by the dinner, entertainment and awards ceremonies. "The Grand Asian Award" was renamed as: "The Grand Asian Sandra Otaka Memorial Award".

28th AACC ANNUAL CELEBRATION 2011

Host: The Indian American Community of Chicago
Venue: Hyatt Regency O'Hare, Rosemont
Theme: "ONE VISION MANY VOICES"
Attendance: 900

29th AACC ANNUAL CELEBRATION 2012

Host: The Thai American Association of Illinois
Venue: Hyatt Regency O'Hare, Rosemont
Theme: "IT'S TIME...."
Attendance: 1200

The Thai American Community has trice before (1988, 1996 and 2004) held the gavel for the Asian American community's most important event of the year.

Keynote Speaker: His Excellency, Professor Kantathi Suphamongkhon, the 39th Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand (2005-2006).

30th AACC ANNUAL CELEBRATION 2013

Host: Vietnamese American Community
Sponsor: Nghia Sinh International, Inc.
Venue: Hyatt Regency O'Hare, Rosemont, Illinois
Theme: "Celebrating Three Decades of Unified Leadership & Services"

Attendance: The following community services were successfully carried out with the participation of more than 2700 Asian Americans and their guests: 700 + 450 + 250 + 920 + 400 = 2,720 Attendees for all-day events

1. Asian American Community Health Fair (700)
2. Asian American Conference on Education and Economy (450)
3. Mass of Thanksgiving (250)
4. Interfaith Prayers for World Peace and Prosperity (250)
5. Asian American Business and Cultural Exhibits (450)
6. Gala Banquet (920)
7. "Dancing with the Vietnamese" Celebration (400)
8. 377 singers, dancers, performers and volunteer attended the event.

Highlights: There was a day-long program with a variety of seminars and festivities, including a conference, an interfaith forum, Community and Family Health Fair, a banquet.

31st AACC ANNUAL CELEBRATION 2014

Host: Japanese American Community
Venue: Hyatt Regency O'Hare, Rosemont
Theme: "Beyond the Bamboo Ceiling"
Attendance: 1300

Highlights: The event included a political forum, giving of community service awards and entertainments.

The Sandra Otaka Grand Asian American Award received by Congresswoman Jan Schakowsky.

The Japanese American Community handed over the AACC "Torch" to 2015 host, the Indonesian American community.

32nd AACC ANNUAL CELEBRATION 2015

Host: Indonesian American Community
Venue: Hyatt Regency O'Hare, Rosemont
Theme: "E Pluribus Unum * Bhinneka Tunggal Ika".

Attendance: Over 1,200 attended all day event and 1,700 attended Gala Dinner.

Highlights: There was a day-long program with a variety of Seminars, Conference on Business and Networking Business Fair and Forum, Community and Family Health Fair, Youth Education Network Forum, Immigration Law seminar, Cooking Demo and a Gala Dinner.

33rd AACC ANNUAL CELEBRATION 2016

Host: Chinese American Community
Location: Hyatt Regency Chicago on Wacker Drive, Chicago
Theme: "ENVISION, ENLIGHTEN, EMPOWER".
Attendance: 1200

Highlights: A spectacular and never seen before Eight Lions dancing to thundering drums and cymbals before a packed stage of Federal, State and local dignitaries ushered in the beginning of the fifth round of host community rotations, a proud Asian American tradition started more than three decades ago. After cultural performances and award ceremonies, many guests stayed till midnight for the equally lavish after-party.

34th AACC ANNUAL CELEBRATION 2017

Host: The Pakistani American Community
Venue: Hilton Chicago, 720 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago IL.
Theme: "One World, Our World"
Attendance at the Gala: 1,500+
Festival Attendance: 5,000+

Highlights: At a time when the nation was divided more than ever, the Asian American Coalition of Chicago was rounding it's 16 Asian American communities and beyond to celebrate the 34th Annual AACC Gala with the theme "One World, Our World." The Pakistani community showcased it's most vibrant and colorful cultural performances on stage with decor of the venue.

The Pakistani American Community handed over the AACC "Torch" to next year's host: The Korean American Community for Year 2018.

Also, the Pakistani American community hosted the Asian American Festival at the Daley Plaza during the Asian American Heritage Month from Monday, May 22nd to Friday, May 26, 2017.

35th AACC ANNUAL CELEBRATION 2018

Host: The Korean American Association of Chicago
Venue: Hyatt Regency O'Hare, Rosemont, IL
Theme: "Be United, Stay Together"
Attendance: 1200+

Highlights: Due to election year, many elected government officials and those who are seeking office were present at this event and also participated in pre-gala Political Forum.

The Korean American Community handed over the AACC "Torch" to next year's host: The Filipino American Community for the Year 2019.

36th AACC ANNUAL CELEBRATION 2019

Host: The Filipino American Community
Venue: Hyatt Regency O'Hare, Rosemont, IL
Theme: "One World, One Vision"
Attendance: 1,200+

Highlights: Due to municipal election year, many elected government officials and those who are

seeking office were present at this event and also participated in pre-gala Political Forum.

The Filipino American Community handed over the AACC "Torch" to next year's host: The Indian American Community for the Year 2020.

37th ANNUAL CELEBRATION 2020

Host: The Indian American Community

Venue: Hyatt Regency O'Hare, Rosemont, IL

Theme: "Advocate. Advance. Achieve."

Attendance: 1,000+

Highlights: Due to election year in all levels (local, federal to Presidential), many elected government officials and those who are seeking office were present at this event and also participated in pre-gala

Political Forum. Keynote address by Ms. Cecile Shea, special adviser and nonresident senior fellow on security and diplomacy at the Chicago Council on Global Affairs and president of Wakaru Communications.

The Indian American Community handed over the AACC "Torch" to next year's host: The Thai American Community for the Year 2021.

38th ANNUAL CELEBRATION 2021

Host: Thai American community

Venue: Wat Dhammaram (Buddhist Temple) in Chicago and live on YouTube

<https://youtu.be/BwP7zmKCcFE>. This premier event was streamed around the globe on AACC's website at www.aacchicago.org on Saturday, February 20, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Attendance: 200 (due to Covid-19, attendance was kept limited to AACC BODs, host committee, and performers).

Highlights: At this year's virtual Annual Gala, "Unity is Power," the AACC celebrated the accomplishments of outstanding civic and business leaders who have made significant contributions to improve the health and well-being of the community.

The event theme, "Unity is Power," was selected to showcase the diverse accomplishments of Asian Pacific Americans across Chicagoland. This

premier event was live streamed around the globe on AACC's website at www.aacchicago.org and seen by over 12,000 viewers across the U.S. and Asia. The 2021 virtual event was hosted by operatic soprano and spokesmodel Marisa Buchheit, a previous co-host of the Coalition's 2018 Gala. Attorney and book publisher Sandra S. Yamate was named recipient as the 2021 Pan Asian American Ping Tom Memorial Award, and the Health Care Service Corporation (HCSC) was named as the 2021 recipient of the Coalition's Grand Asian American Sandra Otaka Memorial Award.

39th ANNUAL CELEBRATION 2022

Host: The Malaysian American community

Venue: Drury Lane Theater, Oakbrook Terrace

Theme:

"ROAR-Respect.Optimism.Amity.Representation"

Day: Saturday, March 12, 2022 at 5.30 pm

Highlights: Chicago Police Officer Mr. Henry Lai, president Asian American Law Enforcement Association was named recipient as the 2022 Ping Tom Memorial Pan Asian American Award, and Ms. Laura Murphy, IL. State Senator was named as the 2022 recipient of the Coalition's Sandra Otaka Memorial Grand Asian American Award.

The Malaysian American Community handed over the AACC "Torch" to next year's host— The Vietnamese American Community for the Year 2023.



4-course Menu

Starters

Cream of Mushroom Soup

Arugula and Pear Salad

Roaster Pear, Goat Cheese, Toasted Almonds, Riesling Vinaigrette

Entrees

Herb Roasted Chicken

Thyme Jus, Scalloped Potatoes, Julienne of Zucchini and Carrots

OR

Vegetable Kabob

Zucchini, Yellow Squash, Tomato, Onions, Mushrooms, Peppers,
Wild Rice, Balsamic Glaze

Dessert

Peach Melba

Jom Makan!



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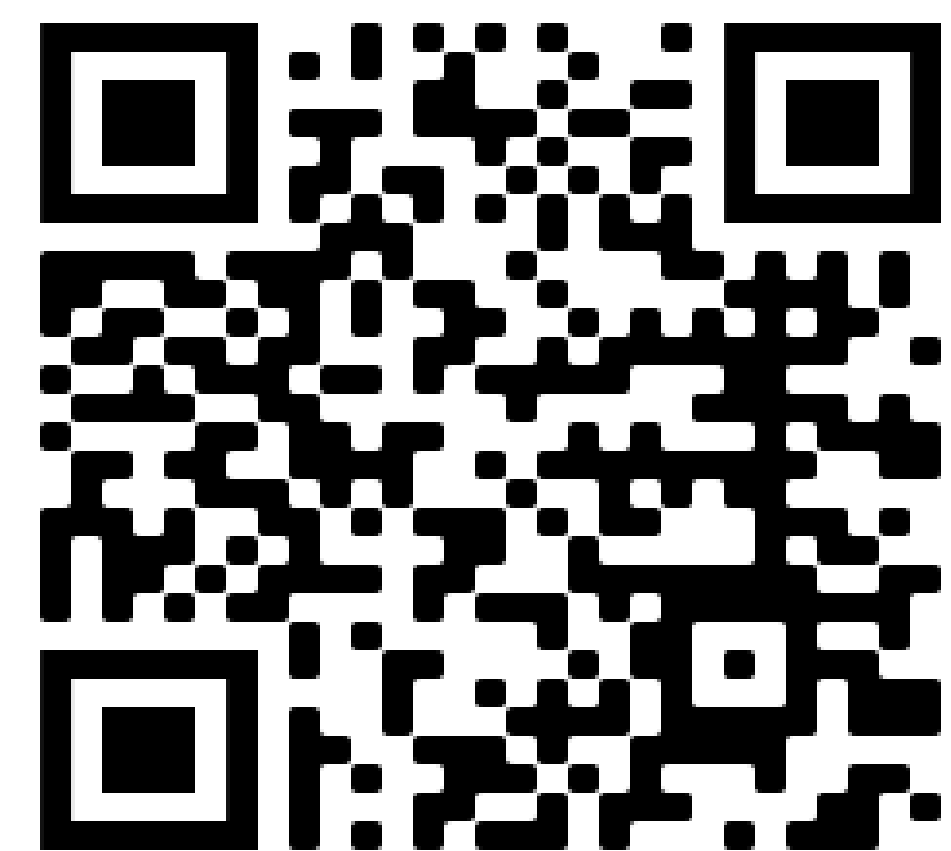
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Thank you so much for your volunteer work!
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PERFORMERS:



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National Anthem Singer



Victoria M Ng
Fashion Show Model



Jamie Moy
Fashion Show Model



Mandy Lin
Fashion Show Model



Victoria Li
Fashion Show Model



Abigail Lue
Young Model



Annabel Sulzen
Young Model



Brode Eifert
Young Model



Clio Eifert
Young Model



Summer Christensen
Young Model

VOLUNTEERS:



Hana Rafee
Program Book
Cover Designer



Lucas Wang
Program Book
Coordinator



Sly Seah
Photographer



Nor Alena Rohani
Fashion Show
Costumes Seamstress

Alice Lua
Charlie Rohr
Ethan Pan
Gardner Christensen
Gladys Lee
Isabella Chew
Jamie Moy
Jasmine Rohr
Keat Lee
Mandy Lin
Matthew Lee
Mila Christensen
Ryan Lee
Victoria Li
Victoria M Ng

The Asian American Coalition of Chicago Awards

Sandra Otaka Memorial Grand Asian American Award

The Coalition's Grand Asian American Award was established to recognize public officials who have distinguished themselves through outstanding contributions to the Asian American community and/or through meritorious service supporting the AACC's vision and mission.

The Sandra Otaka Memorial Grand Asian American Award is for those high-ranking public officials at the national state or local levels, either elected or appointed, who are of non-Asian descent and have made significant contributions to the Asian American community. This includes implementing public programs that promote unity among Asian Americans, initiating projects that make public awareness of Asian American issues or exemplifying a high level of leadership that brings about positive changes in Asian American communities across America.

Youth Who Excel Awardee

The Youth Who Excel Awards are presented each year by each of the Asian ethnic communities that participate in the Asian American Coalition of Chicago ranging from high school students to those who are freshmen in college. These Illinoisian students have demonstrated extraordinary academic achievements and scholarship excellence, extra-curricular activities and participate at the civic/community activities.

Ping Tom Memorial Pan Asian American Award

The Ping Tom Memorial Pan Asian American Award was created by the Asian American Coalition to promote Pan Asian American ideals. It is intended to recognize those whose vision and service go beyond one ethnic group.

It is important to recognize the outstanding leadership that benefits the Asian American community as a whole.

It honors the work and achievements of those Asian Americans in Illinois who have single-handedly made such noteworthy accomplishments and contributions to the well-being of all Asian Americans.

The Pan Asian American Award embodies the true spirit of building bridges across cultural diversity.

Exemplary Community Service Awardee

The Exemplary Community Service Awards are presented each year by each of the Asian ethnic communities that participate in the Asian American Coalition to an individual in Illinois who has demonstrated exemplary and extraordinary service to the community.

These awards recognize the importance and value that each of the Asian American Coalition communities places upon those who are dedicated and committed to serving the needs of the particular community.

In selecting an award recipient, each community honors an individual whose work on behalf of that community has had a significant and positive impact upon the members of the community and has benefited the community as a whole.



Senator Laura Murphy

Sandra Otaka Memorial Grand Asian American Award

From her eight years as an alderwoman for Des Plaines' 3rd Ward, to the nearly seven years she's spent in the General Assembly, State Senator Laura Murphy has dedicated her life to public service. Throughout her time in office, Murphy has prioritized bettering education for all people regardless of ZIP code, enhancing public safety and fighting government corruption.

A multi-passionate Senator, Murphy has also passed numerous pieces of legislation focused on helping people of the Asian American community feel seen. Last year, she passed a measure to establish October 2021 as Hindu Heritage Month. Earlier in the year, Murphy spearheaded a change to allow student athletes to make alterations to their uniforms for religious purposes – which includes added a hijab, undershirt or leggings to meet modesty standards of some religions.

Murphy was appointed Deputy Majority Leader of the Senate in 2020, and currently services as chair of the Appropriations – Constitutional Offices Committee, Executive Appointments Committee, and Executive – Elections Committee, and serves as a member of many other committees.

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Years!

Laura
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39TH ANNUAL LUNAR NEW YEAR CELEBRATION

AND ALL THE

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Secretary Andrew Pang
Treasurer Simon Hall
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Board Member Richard Kim
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Chairperson John Lee
Chairperson Patch Laksanaprom
Chairperson Trak Silapaduriyang
Chairperson Trung Duong

**Founded in 1983. AALEA is a
Registered 501(C)(3) Non-Profit organization
and a Chapter of
the National Asian Peace Officer Association (NAPOA)**





Henry Lai

Ping Tom Memorial Pan Asian American Award

Henry Lai is the President of the Asia American Law Enforcement Association (AALEA). He is currently serving his second term as President. Founded in 1983, AALEA is a registered 501c (3) not-for-profit organization. With more than 450 members, AALEA is the second largest chapter in the National Asian Peace Officers' Association (NAPOA) serving Chicago and the Great Lakes Region.

Henry Lai is a US citizen immigrated from Hong Kong. He is 100 % bilingual and fluent in both English and Chinese (Cantonese and Mandarin). He currently works in the Chicago Police Department, Area 1 Detective Division. His initial assignment to Detective had him training and working in Chicago's Chinatown community where he was able to serve the various Asian communities in identifying and arresting offenders that targeted the Asian population. His passion has always been to serve and protect.

In 2019, he was elected 1st time as the President of the Asian American Law Enforcement Association (AALEA). As President, he has worked to increase acceptance and cooperation with Law Enforcement in the Asian communities by having AALEA members present and interacting in the various Asian community events, staffing an information and help booth to answer community members questions, as well as recruiting members of the community to join the ranks of Local Law Enforcement to bring about the change that they would like to see in their police within their communities.

Due to the recent Covid-19 pandemic, Henry Lai has successfully led AALEA to help the vulnerable one by participating in food pantry (joint operation between Mission of Our Lady of the Angels and the Asian American Law Enforcement Association) for the communities specially targeting at Asian low-income families and seniors.

Henry Lai holds a Bachelor Degree in Architecture from the Illinois Institute of Technology and a Master Degree in Project Management from Northwestern University. Among his various honors, Henry Lai received the AALEA Merit Award in 2017, Cook County State Attorney Asian American and Pacific Islander Community Leadership Awards in 2020, and 32 Chicago Police Department Awards and Honorable Mentions.

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1304

March 12, 2022

Dear Friends:

It gives me great pleasure to welcome all of you to the Asian American Coalition of Chicago’s Annual Lunar New Year Celebration Gala, hosted by the Malaysian community. I applaud the Malaysian Club of Chicago’s commitment to uplifting and celebrating the greater Asian American community in the Chicago area and beyond.

As you come together to usher in the year of the Black Water Tiger, this is a unique opportunity to highlight the Asian American heritage and legacy each ethnic community brings, and the hope of a united future as the cultures celebrate together and recognize the important work of the Asian American Coalition of Chicago (AACC). For nearly 40 years, the AACC has worked to unite the Asian American community, strengthen cultural values, and highlight Asian American contributions to our democracy and economy. Now more than ever, organizations like AACC are fundamental in empowering the community as a whole and amplifying their voices.

Over the past two years, there has been an appalling rise in the number of hate incidents targeting the Chinese and Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community. I am proud that Congress came together on a bipartisan basis to pass the COVID-19 Hate Crimes Act last year, which sought to improve the Justice Department’s response to the rise in hate crimes and provide state and local law enforcement with guidance and tools to better track and address these incidents. I will continue to be an advocate for the AAPI community in Congress and to support policies that uphold basic human rights.

Again, I would like to extend my warmest wishes to tonight’s attendees for your dedication to the Asian American Coalition of Chicago. Congratulations on all your achievements and I wish you all a happy and prosperous Lunar New Year.



Very truly yours,

Richard J. Durbin
United States Senator

2022

YEAR OF THE TIGER

虎年吉祥

Asian Noodle House

Member of the Malaysian Club of Chicago

Congratulates

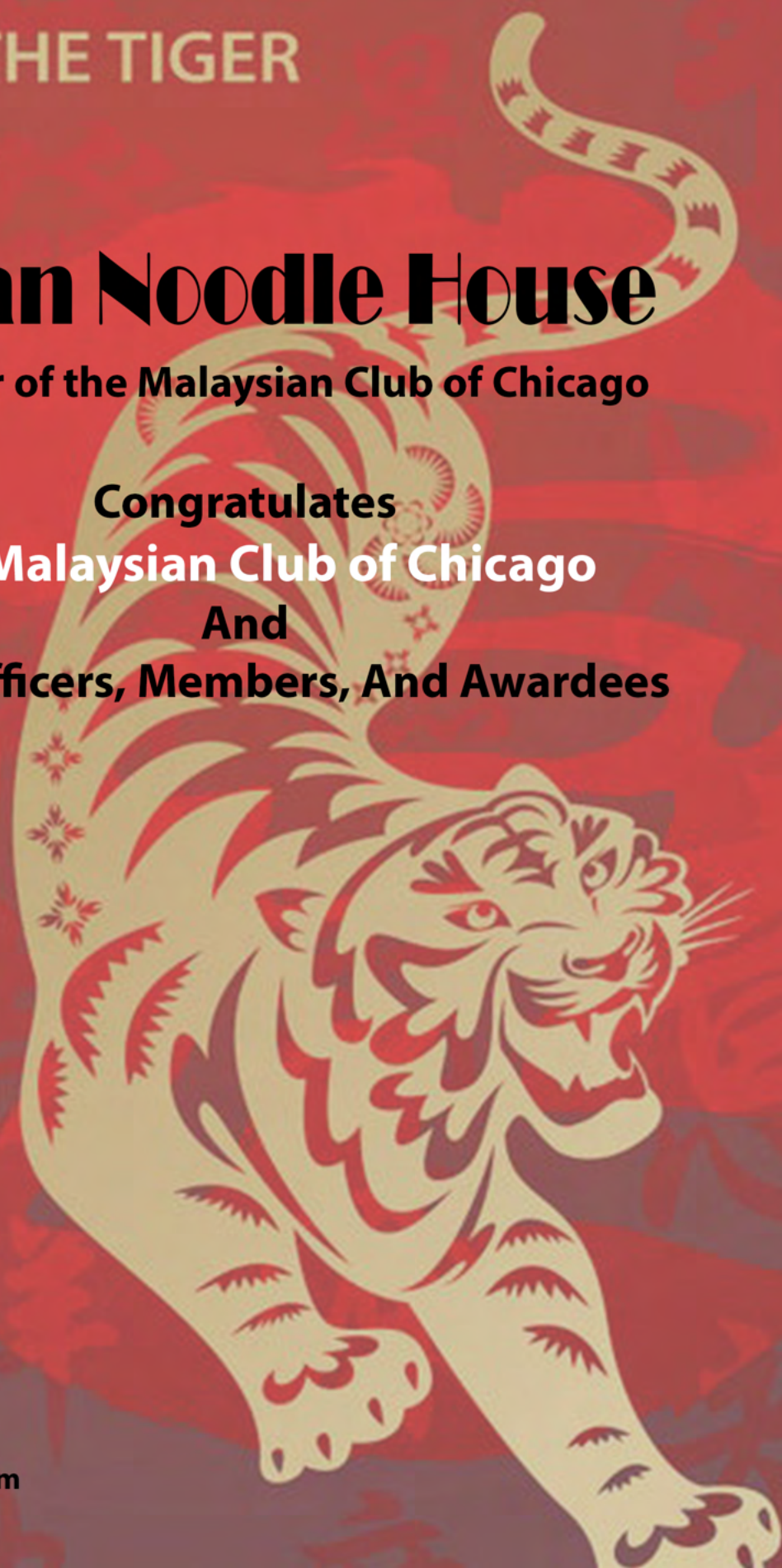
The Malaysian Club of Chicago

And

All Its Officers, Members, And Awardees

844 N Roselle Road
Hoffman Estates IL 90914
(847) 882-9650

Business Hours:
Monday-Saturday 11am-9pm
Sunday 11am-8pm



United States Senate

January 3, 2022

Greetings Friends:

I am pleased to welcome you to the Asian American Coalition of Chicago's 39th Annual Lunar New Year Celebration hosted by the Malaysian Club of Chicago.

Since the Malaysian Club of Chicago's founding, you have shown dedication to building bridges amongst Asian Americans and between other communities by sponsoring and supporting activities that enhance cultural awareness and perception. Today's event demonstrates your commitment to developing a culture of understanding and promoting cross-cultural exchanges. Organizations like yours strengthen our society by empowering all community members, celebrating our nation's rich history of diversity and improving cultural awareness amongst individuals, which helps cultivate intercultural connections.

Again, thank you Malaysian Club of Chicago and the Asian American Coalition of Chicago for the vital work that you do. My very best to you all on this special occasion as we celebrate the Year of the Tiger.



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tammy Duckworth". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Tammy Duckworth
United States Senator

SEAN CASTEN
6TH DISTRICT, ILLINOIS

WASHINGTON, D.C. OFFICE
2440 RAYBURN HOB
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-4561

GLEN ELLYN OFFICE
800 ROOSEVELT ROAD
BUILDING C, SUITE 210
GLEN ELLYN, IL 60137
(630) 520-9450



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1306

HOUSE SCIENCE, SPACE, AND
TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

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SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT
SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS
AND OVERSIGHT

HOUSE FINANCIAL SERVICES
COMMITTEE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTOR PROTECTION,
ENTREPRENEURSHIP, AND CAPITAL MARKETS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON CONSUMER
PROTECTION AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE
ON THE CLIMATE CRISIS

January 26, 2022

Asian American Coalition of Chicago (AACC)



Dear Distinguished Members of AACC,

Congratulations on your upcoming 39th Annual Lunar New Year Celebration! This is a special and momentous time for your organization, the community, and all the members who have benefitted from your organization's resources and dedication throughout the years. I hope you all can safely celebrate this event to the fullest extent possible.

If there is anything my staff or I can do to assist AACC, please do not hesitate to reach out to our office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'SCasten', written over the printed name 'Sean Casten'.

Sean Casten
U.S. Representative
Illinois 6th Congressional District

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HOUSEHOLD



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

207 STATE HOUSE
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62706

JB PRITZKER
GOVERNOR

February 10, 2022

Asian American Coalition of Chicago



Dear Asian American Coalition of Chicago Members,

I am pleased to welcome everyone gathered for the 39th Annual Lunar New Year Celebration hosted by the Malaysian Club of Chicago.

The Lunar New Year is an occasion that brings communities together, uniting diverse groups in a celebration of prosperity and hope. I commend the work the Asian American Coalition of Chicago does for the Asian American residents of Illinois by fostering solidarity and community. The contributions of Asian Americans to our democracy and economy are innumerable, and your community will only continue to contribute to our great state.

On behalf of the State of Illinois, you have my best wishes for a wonderful celebration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "JB Pritzker". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Governor JB Pritzker



金牛苑

Golden Bull Restaurant



312-808-1668
242 W Cermak RD
Chicago IL 60616



OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

JESSE WHITE • Secretary of State

December 9, 2021



To the members of the Asian American Coalition of Chicago,

Congratulations to the Malaysian American community and the Asian American Coalition of Chicago (AACC) for its celebration of the 39th Annual Lunar New Year. The AACC's mission of uniting the Asian American community, raising awareness about Asian cultural values and reiterating the importance of Asian Americans to American democracy and the economy is admirable. I commend each individual who contributes to this objective and extend my gratitude for your efforts.

I hope you enjoy your celebration of the Lunar New Year. When great leaders come together, wonderful things happen, and this event is the product of that. Thank you for your leadership, and congratulations on 39 years of excellence.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jesse White".

Jesse White

Illinois Secretary of State



La Patisserie de Lisa



Home-baked Malaysian delicacies and pastries



912-508-5935



lapatissierielisa@gmail.com



lapatissierielisa



OFFICE OF THE ILLINOIS STATE TREASURER
MICHAEL W. FRERICHS

March 12, 2022

Dear Friends:

I would like to extend my warmest wishes and congratulate the Malaysian American Community of Illinois on the Asian American Coalition of Chicago's 39th annual Lunar New Year Celebration.

The Asian American Coalition of Chicago has had an incredible history of promoting unity, educating about Asian cultural values, and recognizing the great work of Asian Americans in Illinois and around the world.

The Lunar New Year is a time of celebration with family and friends to feast on foods, exchange gifts, and offer good wishes for the year to come.

As you celebrate the Year of the Tiger, I wish you a new year filled with prosperity, resilience, and good fortune.

May this new year bring you great happiness and success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael Frerichs".

Michael Frerichs
Illinois State Treasurer



State Capitol
Room 219
Springfield, IL 62706
Phone: (866) 458-7327
Fax: (217) 785-2777
TTY: (866) 877-6013

James R. Thompson Center
100 West Randolph Street
Suite 15-600
Chicago, IL 60601
Phone: (866) 458-7327
Fax: (312) 814-5930
TTY: (866) 877-6013

Marine Bank Building
1 East Old State Capitol Plaza
Springfield, IL 62701
Phone: (866) 458-7327
Fax: (217) 524-3822
TTY: (866) 877-6013





MORE THAN JUST SUSHI



CHICAGOLAND

AURORA

4430 Fox Valley Center Dr.
#106
Aurora, IL 60504
630.820.1666

CHICAGO (CHINATOWN)

2131 S. Archer Ave
Chicago, IL 60616
312.929.2446

CHICAGO (BOYSTOWN)

3219 N. Broadway
Chicago, IL 60657
872.802.0980

CHICAGO (WICKER PARK)

1352 N. Milwaukee Ave
Chicago, IL 60622
773.697.8122

MALAYSIA

PUCHONG

1F-01, Kompleks Kenari, Jalan Kenari 19,
Puchong, Selangor, Malaysia, 47100

CHERAS

161-G & 161-1, Jalan Dataran Cheras 9, Dataran Perniagaan
Cheras, Balakong, Cheras, Selangor, Malaysia, 43200

ILLINOIS STATE SENATE

DISTRICT OFFICE:
795 Ela Rd, Suite 208
Lake Zurich, IL 60047
(224) 662-4544



CAPITOL OFFICE:
309G State Capitol
Springfield, IL 62706
(217) 782-8010

Dan McConchie

SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER • 26TH DISTRICT



February 18, 2022

Dr. Kim Tee
Asian American Coalition of Chicago
Malaysian Club of Chicago
553 West 31st Street
Chicago, IL 60616

Dear Dr. Tee,

It gives me great joy to congratulate you and the Asian American Coalition of Chicago on your 39th Annual Lunar New Year Celebration Gala. Tonight promises to be a special occasion as the Malaysian American community is hosting for the very first time.

Since its founding in 1983, the Asian American Coalition of Chicago's annual Lunar New Year Celebration Gala has been a long-standing tradition that highlights the many qualities and values of the community. For 39 years, this premier event has featured the many accomplishments of Asian American and Pacific Islander leaders in healthcare, education, business, government, nonprofit, technology, and global affairs. This year's theme: *ROAR: Respect, Optimism, Amity, Representation* - highlights the goals, leadership, and steadfast commitment of the AAPI community in uniting and representing the many different cultures.

Finally, I want to emphasize as Illinois Senate Minority Leader that I condemn and denounce the anti-Asian violence and hate that rose exponentially during the pandemic. I am deeply committed to my work in public safety, partnering with our law enforcement and first responders to ensure the well-being of all our families. As the AAPI community is the fastest-growing demographic in our state, Illinois values the educational, social, economic, political, and cultural contributions the Asian American community makes every day.

Thank you for allowing me to celebrate the Asian American Coalition of Chicago Lunar New Year Celebration gala with you. I wish you peace, happiness, good health, and prosperity in the Year of the Tiger!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dan McConchie".

Dan McConchie
Senate Republican Leader

email: mconchie@ilsenategop.org • web: senatormconchie.com



THE MEZZANINE SHOPPE



THEMEZZANINESHOPPE

Contact us:
sales@target-mktg.com

SPRINGFIELD OFFICE:
316 STATE HOUSE
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62706
(217) 782-0494
(217) 782-7012 FAX



DISTRICT OFFICE:
16W281 83RD ST.
SUITE C
BURR RIDGE, ILLINOIS 60527
(630) 325-2028
(630) 325-2291 FAX

JIM DURKIN
STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 82ND DISTRICT
HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADER



March 12, 2022

Dear Friends,

I am honored to join you in welcoming everyone to the Asian American Coalition of Chicago 39th Lunar New Year Celebration Gala. I applaud the Malaysian American community for leading the host committee for the very first time.

For 39 years, the Asian American Coalition of Chicago has served as a premier Asian American and Pacific Islander event in the Midwest. Not only is this celebration a long-standing tradition in the community, but this gala also highlights the many qualities and values of our AAPI leaders in Illinois. This year's theme, *ROAR: Respect, Optimism, Amity, Representation*, features the many accomplishments of our communities and the call to action to help our state grow and prosper. Tonight's celebration allows us to reflect on the past year's achievements while providing us the opportunity to reconnect with our friends and look towards the future. As we work to build a better tomorrow, I would like to congratulate all of tonight's awardees, especially our youth leaders. Thank you for your steadfast leadership and dedication.

Additionally, I also applaud tonight's Pan-Asian American Awardee, Henry Lai, President of the Asian American Law Enforcement Association. As Minority Leader in the Illinois House of Representatives, I am grateful to Officer Lai and to all our members of law enforcement for your dedication and commitment to safeguarding our neighborhoods. I condemn the anti-Asian violence that increased exponentially during the pandemic. I am deeply committed to my work in public safety, supporting our law enforcement and first responders, and protecting the well-being

Thank you to the Malaysian American Host Committee, Asian American Coalition of Chicago Board of Directors, and the planning committee for hosting such a memorable event. To all attendees, I wish you peace, happiness, prosperity, and good health in the Year of the Tiger. I offer my best wishes for your continued success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Durkin".

Jim Durkin
House Republican Leader
82nd District

富麗華酒樓

Furama Restaurant



點心全日供應

Dim Sum all day

9:30 am - 8:30 pm

茶市 | 晚飯 | 喜慶 | 婚宴酒席

Dim Sum | Dinner | Wedding Banquet



Tel: (773)271-1161 | 4936 N Broadway St, Chicago, IL 60640-3002

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DIXON, ILLINOIS 61021
815-561-3690
WEBSITE: tomdemmer.org



CAPITOL OFFICE
314 CAPITOL
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62706
217-782-0535
EMAIL: rep@tomdemmer.com

TOM DEMMER
DEPUTY MINORITY LEADER



March 12, 2022

Asian American Coalition of Chicago
Malaysian Club of Chicago
553 West 31st Street
Chicago, IL 60616

Dear Friends,

I am delighted to welcome you to the Asian American Coalition of Chicago's 39th Annual Lunar New Year Celebration Gala. Tonight is a historic occasion as the Malaysian American community is hosting for the first time.

Since its inception in 1983, the Asian American Coalition of Chicago continues to bring everyone together to uplift and amplify the voices of the Asian American and Pacific Islander community. This year's theme, *ROAR: Respect, Optimism, Amity, Representation*, will undoubtedly elevate the community's accomplishments. As the fastest-growing demographic in our state, Illinois values the educational, social, economic, political, and cultural contributions the AAPI community makes every day.

As Deputy Minority Leader of the Illinois House of Representatives, I condemn and denounce the ongoing anti-Asian hate and violence that rose exponentially during the pandemic. I offer my deepest condolences, prayers, and support to the many families, who lost their loved ones, whose businesses were heavily hit during the pandemic, and to the victims of these horrific tragedies. I am deeply committed to my work in public safety and supporting the well-being of all our communities. Standing alongside you, I am proud to ring in the Year of the Tiger and will continue to work together to build a brighter and stronger Illinois for all our families.

You have my sincere best wishes for your continued success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom Demmer".

Tom Demmer
State Representative

CONGRATULATIONS to the Asian American Coalition of Chicago on their 39th Annual Gala and Lunar New Year Celebration!



Despite the recent racism and violence directed towards our community, we will continue to stand strong together and help one another.

With the passage of the TEAACH Act, the Chinese American Museum of Chicago is more excited than ever to share the history of Chinese Americans in the Midwest.

We wish everyone good health and prosperity in the Year of the Tiger!

Come visit us in Chinatown!

238 W 23rd St
Chicago, IL 60616

Wed & Fri: 9:30am to 2pm
Sat & Sun: 10am to 4pm

(312) 949-1000
www.ccamuseum.org
office@ccamuseum.org





Theresa Mah • 馬靜儀博士

State Representative, 2nd House District • 伊州第二區眾議員
2108 W. 35th Street, Chicago, IL 60609
Phone: (872) 281-5775

January 31, 2022

Malaysian Club of Chicago
Asian American Coalition of Chicago
Re: Annual Lunar New Year Celebration Gala



Dear Malaysian Club of Chicago and AACC Friends,

Thank you for your kind invitation to the Asian American Coalition of Chicago's (AACC) 39th Annual Lunar New Year Celebration. It is an honor to extend my warmest greetings to those in attendance. I hope for this gathering to be a memorable and joyous experience for all here tonight.

Through the years, the AACC has been committed to strengthening the Asian American community, highlighting the deep heritage and legacy each ethnic community brings, and recognizing the importance of Asian American contributions to American democracy and economy. After a challenging year, it is a pleasure that we are able to celebrate and renew these values with our cherished friends and colleagues.

Again, I would like to extend my warmest wishes to tonight's attendees for your dedication to uniting our Asian American community. On behalf of the residents of the 2nd District, I wish you a Happy Lunar New Year. May the Year of the Tiger bring us all peace, joy, and health.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Theresa Mah". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Theresa Mah, Ph.D. 馬靜儀博士
Illinois State Representative - 2nd District 伊州第二區眾議員



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF CHICAGO

LORI E. LIGHTFOOT
MAYOR

March 12, 2022



Dear Friends:

On behalf of the City of Chicago, I am honored to welcome all those gathered for the Asian American Coalition of Chicago's 39th Annual Lunar New Year Celebration hosted by the Malaysian American Community of Chicago.

Founded in 1983, the Asian American Coalition of Chicago (AACC) supports Chicago's sixteen vibrant and diverse Asian communities by integrating values, promoting contributions by Asian Americans, and sharing the rich history and traditions that enriches us all. This year's event, themed "ROAR," presents the opportunity for members of the Asian American communities and city and community leaders to come together to celebrate the Lunar New Year of the Tiger. This celebration symbolizes good fortune and happiness, as well as multicultural exchange. I commend the Asian American Coalition of Chicago for their ongoing efforts to uplift and empower our Asian American community.

I hope your event is memorable and enjoyable. Best wishes for continued success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lori E. Lightfoot".

Mayor



CITY OF EASTVALE

12363 Limonite Avenue | Suite 910 | Eastvale, CA 91752
951.361.0900



December 6, 2021

Jocelyn Yow
Mayor, City of Eastvale

As Mayor and on behalf of the Eastvale City Council, I would like to congratulate the Asian American Coalition of Chicago (AACC) for their 39th Annual Lunar New Year Celebration!

The work that the AACC does is truly admirable, from promoting unity and cultural values, to recognizing the importance that minority groups make in the community. This work reflects what our Eastvale community values and stands for, and I cannot be prouder of the AACC's work.

I and the City of Eastvale, stand by the values of the Asian American Coalition of Chicago, and we hope to continue to see this coalition flourish for many years to come.

Sincerely,

Jocelyn Yow
Eastvale City Mayor

The Chinese American community congratulates
the Malaysian American community for leading the

39th Annual Asian American Coalition of Chicago's Lunar New Year Gala

and our awardees for serving and leading our community.



Grace Chan McKibben
Community Service Awardee



Ilona Huang
Youth Who Excel Awardee



**Coalition For A Better
Chinese American
Community** 華埠更好團結聯盟

CHINESE AMERICAN COMMUNITY

Exemplary Community Service Awardee



Grace Chan McKibben

Grace Chan McKibben is currently Executive Director of Coalition for a Better Chinese American Community (CBCAC), which engages and empowers the Chinese American Community in Greater Chicago through civic engagement and advocacy, community engagement, youth development, and community outreach.

Grace holds a B.A. in Linguistics and Sociology and an M.A. in Linguistics from The University of Chicago and an M.B.A. from The Keller Graduate School of Management. She is a board member of the ACLU of Illinois and the National ACLU. She is also an appointed member of Chicago Low-Income Real Estate Trust Fund Board, the Chicago Community Development Commission, and the Illinois Asian American Employment Plan Advisory Council, and chairs the Mayor's AAPI Engagement Council.

Grace is a well-respected community leader and has played leadership roles in many community civil engagement projects.

Youth Who Excel Awardee



Ilona Huang

Ilona Huang is a junior in University of Illinois at Chicago completing her Bachelor of Science in Chemistry.

Ilona has been working with Coalition for a Better Chinese American Community in the Chinatown community for the past 5 years. From starting as a member and secretary of the Origins Youth Group and becoming the main program instructor of the CBCAC After School Matters program, Chinese and Asian American Civic Engagement @ Chinatown. She has been leading various youth on civic engagement education and applying the knowledge and skills learned to the current activism and issues faced by the Chicago Chinatown community.

Ilona participated in voter engagement and registering, phone banking for the 2020 census, and advocating for a Near Southside Neighborhood High School by speaking at a CPS Board of Education meeting. She has also been a tutor at Project: Vision since 2019, helping students of Chinatown, Bridgeport, and surrounding communities in academics, as well as personal and civic skill development.



Jeongling Liu

新年快乐

HAPPY
CHINESE NEW YEAR

—◆—
YEAR OF THE TIGER

虎



FILIPINO AMERICAN COMMUNITY

Exemplary Community Service Awardee



Brenda Stevens

Brenda Stevens, President of the Philippine Independence Week Committee (PIWC), Board of Trustees, is a humanitarian and a consummate civic leader. No other person in the Filipino community can match the hospitality and generosity she demonstrates time and time, again.

She has chaired and hosted many fundraising events in the Filipino American Community. She was overall chair of PIWC 2012. For several years, she chaired the Annual Philippine Cultural Show at the Daley Plaza, Chicago. She volunteered for the Philippine Medical Association of Chicago's Annual Medical Mission to impoverished areas in the Philippines. Brenda was a President of the Filipino International Couples in Chicago, (FICS).

A dedicated Lion, she is a cabinet member of Lions Clubs International, District 1-A. A three-term President of the Chicago Philippine Lions Club, she has been a recipient of several awards including the most prestigious honors in Lionism, a Melvin Jones Fellow and the International Lions Clubs President's Award. She has held several leadership Lions Club positions, and is currently a Region Chair in District 1-A.

Brenda attended Philippine Women's University; pursued a BSBA degree, major in Marketing. She worked at Ryan International Airlines. Brenda is married to a successful businessman, Michael Stevens. They have three children and two from her previous marriage. A one big happy family, there are 10 gorgeous grandchildren.

The Filipino American Community is proud of Brenda Stevens as its AACC Community Service Awardee 2022.

Youth Who Excel Awardee



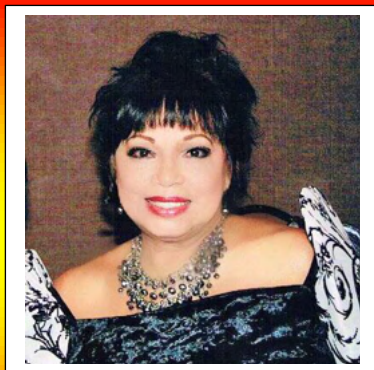
Samuel Slaw

Samuel Slaw is 18 years old and a senior at Vernon Hills High School. He has achieved academic success as a consistent honor student, as well as taking numerous college courses to pursue a career in the medical field. Sam is active in the school's pep band, debate club, robotics club and medical club. He and his debate team have traveled to Madison, Wisconsin to discuss key political issues.

Sam has volunteered countless hours at Feed My Starving Children packing food for third world countries. He participates in food drives, helps assemble beds and packages books for the less fortunate in Lake County. A black belt in karate, he helps through the Illinois Shotokan Karate Clubs to raise funds for charities including Alzheimer's, Autism, Parkinson's, Make A Wish Foundation, etc.

His proud parents are Dr. & Mrs. Stuart (Catherine) Slaw, and he has a brother, Jacob, a junior at Indiana University.

Congratulations & More Success to You!



Brenda G. Stevens

**AACC Asian Community Service Award 2022
Asian American Coalition of Chicago
Filipino American Community**

Much love from your family!

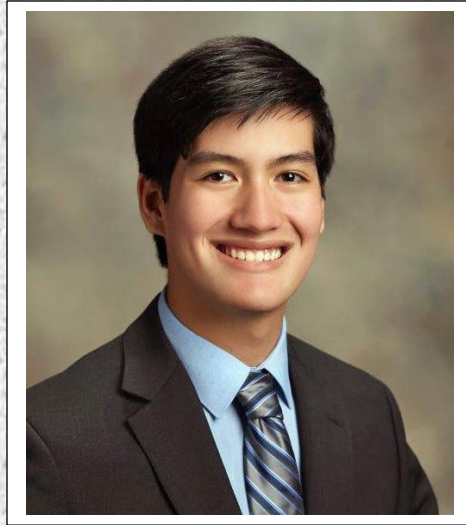


*Michael & Brenda
Stevens
with grandchildren.*



*Michael & Brenda
with children &
spouses.*

Congratulations & Best Wishes !!!



SAMUEL M. SLAW

Recipient

AACC Youth Who Excel Award 2022

Asian American Coalition of Chicago

Filipino American Community

Vernon Hills High School (Class 2022)

**Consistent Honor Student*

**Enrolled in college courses*

**Member, National Honor Society*

**Club Member – Debate, Robotics, Medical*

**Wind Ensemble (Honors Band) Percussion*

**Black Belt, Karate, Illinois Shotokan Karate Clubs*

**Charitable & Community Services*

*(Alzheimer's, Autism, Parkinson's, Make A Wish Foundation,
Feed My Starving Children, Lake County Charities)*

Asian American Coalition of Chicago

Winners of 2022

Exemplary Community Service & Youth Who Excels Award

*Congratulations from the Indian American Community,
Family & Friends*



Khaja Moinuddin
Community Service Award

Congratulations Assessor Moinuddin for this great honor and your historic election! - Brian McGuire, Supervisor, Hanover Township.
Congrats Khaja! – IL State Senator Cristina Castro



Himat Kaur Sidhu
Youth Who Excels Award

Way to go Himat! You make us proud!!!



PUNJABI CULTURAL SOCIETY OF CHICAGO

P.O. Box 1244, Palatine, IL 60078

Ph: (847) 359-5727; Info@PCSCChicago.org; www.PCSCChicago.org

P.C.S. is a non-profit 501(C)3 organization promoting Punjabi Culture, Performing Arts, Language, Education, Sports, Good Citizenship, Volunteer Community Service, & Healthier life style.

INDIAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY

Exemplary Community Service Awardee



Khaja Moinuddin

Mr. Khaja Moinuddin, a Hanover Township Trustee was elected to the office of Hanover Township Assessor following the April 6, 2021 Consolidated Elections and assumed office on January 1, 2022. Moinuddin is believed to be the first Indian American to hold this executive office in the Cook County of Illinois.

Assessor Moinuddin served as the Hanover Township Board Trustee for 5 years and served on the Township's Mental Health Board, Diversity Task Force and Engagement Committee, and the Finance Committee. He has also served as a Trustee for the Poplar Creek Library District and on the Zoning Board of Appeals for the Village of Streamwood.

Assessor Moinuddin continues to serve the community with professionalism and integrity and remains committed to providing the best possible service for all residents seeking assistance through his office.

Hanover Township serves over 101,000 residents in portions of the Cook County communities of Streamwood, Elgin, Bartlett, Hanover Park, Hoffman Estates and Schaumburg.

Khaja Moinuddin is a civil engineer by profession and has over 26 years of experience in the field of environmental and civil engineering. Throughout his career with INDOT and MWRD he has worked with federal, state, regional governmental agencies, City of Chicago and several other municipalities on various capital improvement projects.

Khaja Moinuddin was the chair of volunteers committee during AACC 2020 Lunar New Year Celebrations.

Youth Who Excel Awardee



Himat Kaur Sidhu

Himat Kaur Sidhu, junior at Barrington High School, is an academically accomplished student taking challenging AP classes, and is a recipient of the AP Scholar with Honor award. She was awarded the President's Gold Volunteer Service Award for completing 160 hours of volunteering in 2021.

Passionate at community service, Himat is also President of an organization called 60010 Feeds Kids (organizing fundraisers, events, and the end-of-year food packaging project to send food to starving kids around the world). She founded their most successful fundraiser, the "Harvest Walk," which has raised \$4,500 so far.

Himat plays violin in her school's top orchestra, the Chamber Orchestra, and Ensemble Club, where she performs at community events and retirement homes. She is second chair violinist in the Barrington Youth Symphony Orchestra and has been on musical tours of Ireland and Italy with them.

She was a math mentor for elementary school girls with Mission:MathMinds. She is in Science Olympiad, Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA), and Future Healthcare Professionals, and is going to the HOSA state competition for the second consecutive year.

Himat hopes to go to the University of Chicago and become a neurologist. She is currently working with a UChicago neurology professor on a research paper on Parkinson's Disease.

Hearty Congratulations

*To Malaysian American Community and
Best Wishes to all awardees for their achievements,
especially to:*



I KETUT GEDE ASNAWA
Indonesian American
Community Service Awardee



PASHA HABIBIE
Indonesian American
Youth Who Excels Awardee

Asian American Coalition of Chicago

The 39th Annual Lunar New Year Celebration

* Respect * Optimism * Amity * Representation *

Saturday, March 12th, 2022

Drury Lane, Oakbrook Terrace

With warm regards,

Indonesian Diaspora Network - Midwest, USA (IDN-Midwest,USA)
Indonesian Performing Arts of Chicago (IPAC), Indonesian Abroad in Reach (IAIR),
Chicago Balinese Gamelan (CBG), Semeton Bali Midwest

INDONESIA AMERICAN COMMUNITY

Exemplary Community Service Awardee



I Ketut Gede Asnawa

I Ketut Gede Asnawa is an award-winning and internationally acclaimed composer, scholar, and Gamelan master from Bali, Indonesia. He has taught at the government-sponsored secondary- and tertiary-level conservatories of Balinese music since 1980. Since Fall 2006, he has served as a visiting professor of Musicology/Gamelan and has taught various styles of Balinese gamelan at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC) School of Music.

An accomplished Gamelan musician, Asnawa has toured Europe, the US, and Asia. A demanding but charismatic teacher, he has taught gamelan groups at the University of Maryland Baltimore County, Université de Montréal, Eastman School of Music, University of Missouri Kansas City, Florida State University, Texas Women University, Richmond University, Illinois Wesleyan University, Gettysburg College, Miami University at Oxford, OH, as well as private gamelan groups Giri Kusuma in Woodstock, NY, Sekar Jaya, CA, Indonesian Performing Arts of Chicago, Chicago Balinese Gamelan, and the Netherlands.

His compositions have been featured at the Festival of Young Composers in Jakarta and the annual Bali Arts Festival. His importance as a cutting-edge composer and innovator in Balinese music was recognized in Grove Music Online. He has been contributed to the Asian American Coalition of Chicago (AACC)'s 32nd Conference on Business and Networking & Annual Lunar New Year Celebration 2015 as Gamelan Choreographer, and member of the representative committee at the Indonesian Diaspora Network – Midwest, USA. In 2017, he received the Dharma Kusuma Art Award and Gold Medal from the Governor of Bali in recognition of his life - long dedication and contribution to Bali's culture of arts, most notably in Gamelan music.

Youth Who Excel Awardee



Pasha Habibie

Pasha Habibie was born in Bellevue, Washington and is the second child of the Habibie family. He soon moved with his family to Bandung, Indonesia. At the age of 15, Pasha left his family in Indonesia to move to Putney, Vermont where he completed his high school degree, and received Faculty Award of Excellence twice. After high school, Pasha moved to Chicago to pursue a college degree. Pasha currently a Junior Student at the DePaul University where he studies his passion, Physics.

Having no Indonesian community in Vermont, Pasha was excited to find a welcoming community in Chicago; and participated at Indonesian Student Association called "Permias". He arranged an after-meeting club, where participants were able to sit and discuss any issues or concerns they were facing. His involvement in activities outside the academic realm has strengthened his leadership and interpersonal skills. In addition, he had contributed to the Asian American Coalition of Chicago (AACC)'s 32nd Conference on Business and Networking & Annual Lunar New Year Celebration 2015 as Task Force Assistant Lead of the Youth Education Networking Forum and Usher team member at the AACC's Lunar New Year Gala dinner.

During Pasha's time at DePaul, he was selected to participate in an internship where he studied Dark Matter. He worked at a wall-climbing gym, teaching younger children another passion of his. When Pasha is not climbing or studying he enjoys playing piano and guitar.



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JAPANESE AMERICAN COMMUNITY

Exemplary Community Service Awardee



Michael Tanimura

Michael Tanimura's grandparents emigrated from Japan in the early 20th Century: his father's parents from Kumamoto, and his mother's from Hiroshima. The families were incarcerated in World War II at Gila River, Arizona.

Michael served on the Japanese American Service Committee board of directors for 11 years, 4.5 as president. He has served on numerous planning committees for Japanese American community-wide events, and is currently the chairman of the annual Chicago Japanese Community Picnic.

Michael has been volunteering at judo tournaments for over 25 years, and has served on the board of directors of Tohkon Judo Academy for over 20. He has been steaming rice for mochi at the Buddhist Temple of Chicago's Mochi Tsuki and Tohkon's Kagami Biraki for over 20 years, and helped cooked chicken at BTC's Natsu Matsuri for the last 10 years.

His company developed the "US-Japan 150 Years" exhibit for the Consulate General of Japan in Chicago, and for the JASC, the "Origins of Now: Rebuilding Community" and "Winning the Peace: Chicagoans in the Military Intelligence Service" exhibits. Recently, he curated the "Art in Incarceration" on-line exhibit which accompanied Northeastern Illinois University's "With Liberty and Justice for All" 40th anniversary Japanese American Redress Conference.

In 2012 he was chosen for the Japan Ministry of Foreign Affairs and US-Japan Council's Japanese American Leadership Delegation, and serves in a communication role for the Midwest Region of the USJC.

Youth Who Excel Awardee



Taka Handwerk

Taka Handwerk was born in Ryugasaki City, Japan on May 31, 2005, and was adopted by David Handwerk and Donna Sagami in the fall of the same year in Chicago, Illinois.

Taka attended the Japanese American Service Committee's Tampopo Japanese preschool program, and Japanese language preschool at St. Matthew's Lutheran Church in Niles. He continued studying the Japanese language through December 2019, the fall of his freshman year.

Taka attended elementary school at Hawthorne Scholastic Academy in Chicago, graduating in June 2019. He entered Lake View High School in fall 2019 and continues to study there.

Taka's special interest is caring for animals. He attended Shedd Aquarium's teen orientation class and virtual events. He also has volunteered at teen shelter days at the Anti Cruelty Society, and attended the summer 2-week workshop. He is an active member of Ravenswood Fellowship United Methodist Church.

Taka hopes to attend college and study marine biology.

JASC



The Japanese American Service Committee
congratulates

Michael Tanimura

for Exemplary Community Service
and

Takaaki Sagami Handwerk

Youth Who Excels,

2022 AACC Japanese American community awardees.

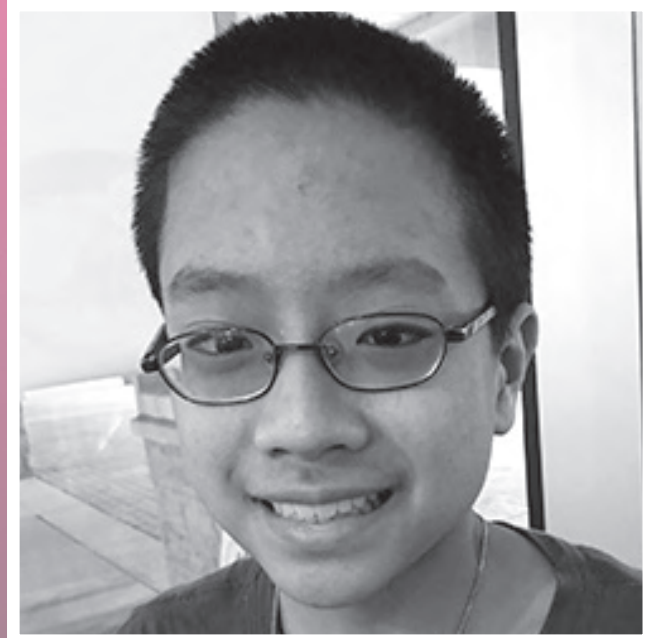
The JASC was incorporated in 1946 to assist Japanese Americans resettling in Chicago after World War II. The organization helped thousands restart their lives, provided much-needed social services, and enriched the community through cultural programs.

Today's JASC is an organization where Japanese American culture and history are preserved, cherished, nurtured and shared. Our community service programs continue to be imbued with our Japanese American values. All activities are open and intended to serve the greater multicultural community that is Chicago.

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Congratulations to

MICHAEL TANIMURA & TAKA HANDWERK



Japanese American
COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDEE

Japanese American
YOUTH WHO EXCELS AWARDEE



from the

Chicago Japanese American Council

Chicago Japanese American Historical Society (CJAHS)
Chicago Japanese Club (CJC) • Chicago Nisei Post 1183 American Legion
Heiwa Terrace • Japanese American Citizens League (JACL)
Japanese American Service Committee (JASC) • Japanese Buddhist Federation
Japanese Chamber of Commerce & Industry of Chicago (JCCC)
Japanese Cultural Center • Japanese Mutual Aid Society of Chicago (JMAS)
Midwest U.S.-Japan Council • Consulate-General of Japan in Chicago

Congratulations to

The 39th Annual Lunar New Year Celebration gala!

Hosted by the Malaysian American Community
and to Our Award recipients,

Mr. and Mrs. Eric & Jung Sook Jeong

For

**Their outstanding Services to the Korean American Community,
The Church and the Humanity!**



FROM

KOREAN AMERICAN ASSOCIATION

KOREAN AMERICAN LITERARY ASSOCIATION

KOREAN AMERICAN NURSES ASSOCIATION

KOREAN BETHANY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

KOREAN AMERICAN CULTURAL CENTER

KOREAN AMERICAN DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE OF ILLINOIS

KOREAN AMERICAN WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

KOREAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY

Exemplary Community Service Awardee



Erick and Jung Sook Jeong

Erick Jeong is the Chief Advisor and former President and Chairman of the Board of the Korean Literature Association and former Vice Chairman of the Board of the Korean Cultural Center of Chicago. Together with his wife, Jung Sook Jeong, they established a successful real estate investment company and are now reputable real estate investors. Currently, Mr. and Mrs. Jeong serve Bethany Presbyterian Church as Senior Deacon and Senior Deaconess respectively. In addition, Mrs Jeong serves as a soloist in the choir at the church.

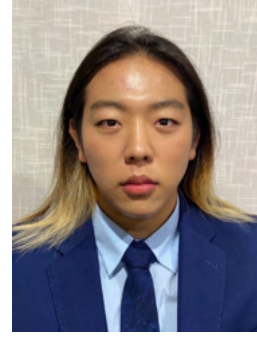
Mr. Jeong received BS degree from InHA technical University in Korea. In Chicago, he established J&J Cooling and Heating Company and worked for 20 years.

Mrs. Jeong is a Registered Nurse, graduating from Catholic Medical University in Seoul, Korea. Mrs. Jeong was the Valedictorian at graduation from Catholic University in Seoul, Korea. In Chicago, she worked at Edgewater Hospital and Swedish Covenant Hospital for 25 years.

They retired early and established the Real Estate Investment Company. Upon retirement, Mr. Jeong also went on to study English Literature at Northeastern University and received BA degree.

They are a Highly Respected Couple in Korean American Community. They have two sons and two charming grandchildren.

Youth Who Excel Awardee



Alvin Park

Alvin Park is a senior at James B. Conant High School in Hoffman Estates, Illinois. He has been a member of the National Honor Society. He serves as President of Junior Ambassador in the Korean Cultural Center of Chicago. Alvin plans to pursue a culinary profession to follow his proud father's footsteps.

Alvin is an Eagle Scout who earned the Brotherhood for the OA. He has also served in CAP United States Air Force Auxiliary as the Cadet Staff Sergeant Rank. In 2019, he attended the Mark Kir Mini-Medical School. He is a wrestler on varsity and a black belt in TaeKwonDo. He is a member of Conant Band and has been a member of SoriBeat-KPAC since 2015. Recently, he has won first prize in the 7th International Korean Traditional Performing Art Competition, as well as the Illinois Governor Award.

His community service began with his family in Midwest Korean American Jaycees International when he was five years old and ended up getting numerous service awards through his excellent services. He won a Little JC Future Leader award in 2017. In 2019, he won two President's Volunteer Service Gold Awards: one from the KPAC and the other from the KAAC. He also won the Appreciation Award from the KAWAC in 2018. He was a member of the Youth Leadership Committee in KAWAC in 2019 and received the Recognition of Leadership Award in 2019 KAWAC Youth Leadership Conference.



Malaysian Club of Chicago

Congratulates

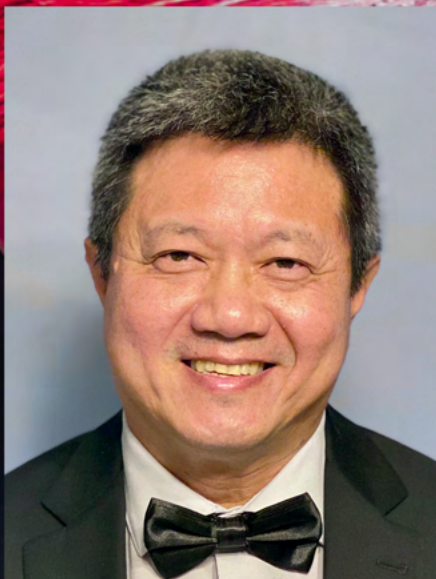
The Malaysian American Community

On Hosting

The 39th Annual Lunar New Year Celebration

"Respect, Optimism, Amity, Representation"

The Malaysian American Community Awardees



Swee Cheng

Community Service Awardee



Ryan Lee

Youth Who Excel Awardee

MALAYSIAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY

Exemplary Community Service Awardee



Swee Cheng

Swee Cheng was born in the state of Johor, Malaysia. He came to the United States in 1986 and attended University of Toledo in Ohio. In 1990, he moved to Greensboro, NC to pursue a graduate degree in electrical engineering in North Carolina A&T State University.

Swee joined one of the world's largest logistic companies, United Parcel Services (UPS) in 1995 and is currently serving as an engineer.

Passionate about giving back, he actively involved in various communities. He joined the Malaysian Club of Chicago (MCC) as a committee member in 2017 and was elected Vice-President in 2021. Besides MCC, he is the Soka Gakkai International-USA Elk Grove North District leader, Asian American or Pacific Islander (AAPI) Chicago Chapter board member, UNITY 2022 General Coordinator. He is also currently serving on Board of Directors on the Chinese-American Museum of Chicago.

Swee spent ten years serving on the school board in the Chicago North Chinese School (CNCS) in Des Plaines, IL. He met his wife Pamela in college and is the father of two sons. In his free time, Swee loves to go camping with friends and family. His other hobbies include swimming, cycling, home cooking, and the family enjoys both domestic and international travel.

Youth Who Excel Awardee



Ryan Lee

Ryan Lee is an active Sophomore at Naperville North High School. He has a wide range of interests in the arts and sciences and embraces diversity in his choices.

He listens to classical and hard rock music, reads the classics and comic books, and plays the guitar and saxophone. He is an avid cook and continuously astonishes his family with his creative dishes.

Ryan has been in Taekwondo since he was 8 years old. He earned his First Degree black belt in 2019 and is now working towards his 2nd degree. He is a leader in his dojo and goes in an hour early before his own class as a volunteer teacher to the younger kids. He has won several medals for his high kicks and breaking form as well praise for his leadership and mentorship skills from his master instructors and teachers alike.

Ryan was an altar server in church and volunteers with many Outreach programs like Harvest Sunday, Feed My Starving Children and Sleep Out Saturday to raise awareness about family homelessness. He also spends Thanksgiving Day serving lunch to the homeless community. For the pandemic, he assisted his mother at the Cook County Community Mass Vaccine sites to direct patients to vaccination stations.

Ryan is well on his way to becoming a productive, positive and contributing member of our diverse society.

The Pakistani American Community of Chicago



Past Gala Host:
The Asian American Coalition of Chicago
1992, 2000, 2008 and 2017



And

Past Host of the Asian American Festival
1999, 2007 and 2017

Congratulates

Illinois Senator Laura Murphy
Grand Asian Award Recipient

Mr. Henry Lai, Chicago Police
Pan Asian Award Recipient

Ms. Sayira Khokhar
Exemplary Community Service Award Recipient

Ms. Soha Abbas
Youth Who Excel Award Recipient

And,
All the Awardees

Congratulations to
The Malaysian American Community
On A Successful 39th Annual Gala Celebration
Of



The Asian American Coalition of Chicago

Page Sponsored By:
Rashid Chaudary and Sadruddin Noorani

PAKISTANI AMERICAN COMMUNITY

Exemplary Community Service Awardee



Sayira Khokhar

Sayira Khokhar grew up in Chicago. She has always taken the time to volunteer for the South Asian community to raise awareness for important issues. Starting at the early age of 15, she volunteered for Muslim Youth of North America as a Youth Camp Counselor and Program Manager for the annual Youth Conference.

Sayira also served on the board of the Chicago Chapter for DIL (Development in Literacy) which focuses on building and sustaining schools for girls in rural areas of Pakistan. Amongst her many notable accomplishments, Sayira played a critical role in the planning and execution of the 2017 AACC Gala that was hosted by the Pakistani American community.

Despite her busy schedule, Sayira always finds time to selflessly help the South Asian community in a positive way. Currently, Sayira works at ComEd, an Exelon Company as a Project Manager in the Solar Division. Sayira is also expecting her first child in April 2022.

Youth Who Excel Awardee



Soha Abbas

Soha Abbas is a Junior at Lyons Township High School. She is a dedicated student and involved in the school community. She has been an honor roll student throughout her high school career and also an active member of several clubs, from the PSI club to SAVE Promise Club and Peer Leadership.

Soha's goal is to create a safe, positive school environment that celebrates everybody, supports positive interactions and inclusion of all people. As a proud Pakistani-American, Soha is also involved in her school's Asian Club which explores and promotes Asian culture.

Outside of school, Soha provides tutoring to students 1st-8th grade through a program called The Leadership. Soha volunteers at her local library, helps with many of their fundraising events and is their designated photographer.

In her free time Soha loves to bake and develop her own recipes. She enjoys drawing, and learning new art mediums. Soha is a graduate of the IEC Husaini Sunday School and received an Award of Excellence for her outstanding work and desire to learn.

Congratulations to

The 39th Annual Lunar New Year Celebration Gala

Respect • Optimism • Amity • Representation

Hosted by the Malaysian American Community

and to our award recipients

Busaba Pardungkiattisak

Community Service Awardee

Natasha Dhamavasi

Youth Who Excels Awardee



From

Thai American Association of Illinois

and

Thai Cultural and Fine Arts Institute



THAI AMERICAN COMMUNITY

Exemplary Community Service Awardee



Busaba Pardungkiattisak

After working as a computer programmer in Bangkok, Busaba Pardungkiattisak came to the U.S. in 1982 to pursue her master's degree in computer sciences at Western Illinois University with her husband, Suttisak. She has worked in IT for over 35 years until her retirement from SUPERVALU Inc. as a System Engineer in 2019.

Since Busaba wanted her children to learn more about Thailand and its culture, the family started attending Sunday service at Wat Buddhadhamma, in Willowbrook. Busaba got more involved in Sunday school, being a volunteer teaching Thai language class, an assistant in Thai dance, and as a PTA president for Sunday and summer schools.

In 1999, a non-profit organization, the Thai Cultural and Fine Arts Institute (TCFAI) was formed with goals of preserving and promoting Thai culture through education and community services. For the past 22 years, Busaba continues to volunteer as a TCFAI Thai language teacher teaching Thai to Thai youth and any non-Thai people. Busaba has held various positions - secretary, treasurer, vice-president, and president in the organization. Busaba was elected TCFAI president in 2007 and 2009, and was elected again in 2019 as a president since.

With her leadership, TCFAI has become a valuable resource to Thai Consulate office and Thai communities. TCFAI performs Thai dance and music in events such as Travel Show at Rosemont convention center, Asian Cultural Festival at Morton Arboretum, Thai Festival at Olbrich Botanical Garden in Wisconsin, etc.

Busaba is a board member of Thammasat University Alumni of Chicago and an advisor of Thai-American Association of Illinois.

Youth Who Excel Awardee



Natasha Dhamavasi

Natasha Dhamavasi is a junior at Niles West High School in Skokie with a 3.9 GPA. She takes all honors and AP classes. Natasha is very involved with the dance team, the acapella choir group, and the golf team. She is in a class to help special education students and help them learn how to cook. Outside of school, Natasha works as a tutor at Kumon learning center.

Natasha's engagement with the Thai community has led to many opportunities. Since she was young, she has always performed Thai dance and music at various festivals throughout the year. Natasha also volunteers to teach the preschool class for the Sunday school program at Wat Dhammaram. She was part of a Nationwide Panel for a Samakkee Thai Coalition for teen Thai Americans where they discussed what it means to be Thai American. One of her biggest achievements has been representing the Thai American Midwest Camp by introducing our delegation to the Prime Minister of Thailand, Prayut Chan-o-cha.

Being Thai American has been a major part of who she is today. She has learned not only to appreciate the community and to give back to the community as well. In the future, she hopes to go to the University of California San Diego to pursue her dream of becoming a veterinarian. Natasha also want to pursue a career in social justice activism. Natasha is proud to be Thai American and to be so involved and to represent her community.

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VIETNAMESE AMERICAN COMMUNITY

Exemplary Community Service Awardee



Lan Dinh

Lan Dinh currently is working as an IT Support Specialist for Illinois Department of Health and Services.

She had been actively participating in many cultural and social activities in the Vietnamese Community in the DuPage County since she was in college around 1991.

For the past 12 years, she has been dedicated herself contributing her times and efforts in most of the cultural and social activities in the Vietnamese communities in the Greater Chicagoland area and in the suburbs.

She is a Vice President - External Affairs of the Unified Vietnamese American Community of Illinois, she has been instrumental in fostering working relationships between the Vietnamese community and other minority communities e.g. Filipino, Korean, Chinese, Laos, Cambodian, etc., as well as governmental offices for the benefit of the community in her area. She also is a member of the Asian American Advisory Council.

She also serves as a liaison person for many veteran posts (VFW and American Legion) throughout Illinois, especially those around Chicagoland and the DuPage/Cook counties. She coordinates to organize many events throughout the years for our veterans; some of them include Pearl Harbor Remembrance, the Flag Day, the Fall of Saigon, Memorial Day, Veteran Day, etc.

Youth Who Excel Awardee



Nathan Huynh

Nathan Hoang Phuc Huynh is currently a freshman at Lane Tech College Prep High School. He is consistently on the 4.0 GPA honor roll and previously scored in the 95th percentile in reading and 99th percentile in math on all NWEA scores. He is currently studying in the STEM track at Lane Tech, a member of the Business and Ultimate Frisbee Clubs, and plays violin in the high school orchestra. Previously Nathan enjoyed volunteering on the lights and sound team for the school musical performances at West Ridge Elementary School in Chicago.

Currently Nathan leads virtual study groups for Lane Tech and participated in the Promise program at Illinois Math and Science Academy. In his free time, Nathan also plays piano during church services and has been a faithful member of the Vietnamese Baptist Church of Chicago's Youth Group.



The Asian American Coalition of Chicago

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Korean Cultural Center of Chicago



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KCCoC Music Composition Competition

문화회관 학생 미술대회

KCCoC Student Art Contest

신인미술작가 공모전

Annual New Artist Competition

청소년 문화 리더십 프로그램

Junior Ambassador

9930 Capitol Dr., Wheeling, IL. 60090

☎ 847.947.4460 ✉ admin@kccoc.org

Mon-Fri : 9am-5pm Sat : 10am-3pm Sun : Closed

🌐 www.kccoc.org 📺 youtube.com/koreanculturalcenterofchicago

📘 www.facebook.com/kccoc 📷 www.instagram.com/kccoc_chicago



美亚健康协会
Midwest Asian Health Association



社区心理健康中心 Community Mental Health Clinic

The Midwest Asian Health Association (MAHA) is a non-profit, 501(c)3 organization established in 2003 with a mission to reduce health disparities for Asian American and Pacific Islanders in the Midwest.



We provide culturally-sensitive mental health services to Asian American & Pacific Islander, Asian immigrant, and other low-income minority populations in the Midwest. Our mental health program is CARF accredited.

Services in English, Mandarin, and Cantonese

我们提供普通话、广东话、和英文服务

Telehealth / remote services available



Services include:

- Individual, Couples, and Family Therapy
- School Consultations
- Community Support
- Mental Health Workshops
- Psychiatric services

We accept:

- General Medicaid
- Medicaid MCOs
- Sliding scale self-pay fees

Bilingual Intake Line 预约 (中/英文)

电话: (312) 285-2287 电邮: intake@maha-us.org

Monday thru Friday: 9AM to 5PM

238 W Cermak Rd., 2nd Floor - 2A, Chicago, IL 60616

★ RE-ELECT ★

Mariyana T.

Spyropoulos

DEMOCRAT

METROPOLITAN WATER RECLAMATION DISTRICT
COMMISSIONER

**ELECTION DAY IS
JUNE 28th, 2022**



CitizensForMariyana.com



[Citizens for Mariyana Spyropoulos](https://www.facebook.com/CitizensforMariyanaSpyropoulos)



Info@CitizensForMariyana.com



312-456-8005





MAP OF MALAYSIA



REASONS TO VISIT

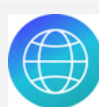
1. Value for money destination (\$1.00 - RM 4.20 *subject to change*)
2. Safe haven for all travelers.
3. An endless array of things to see, do and experience.
4. Home to Asia's 3 main races; The Malays, The Chinese and the Indians.
5. All year round festivals and celebrations embraced by each and every one of Malaysia's major races respectfully.
6. A gastronomy destination.
7. Biodiversity on land and in water.
8. Home to the one of the oldest rainforest in the world, more than 13 million years old and older than the Amazon.
9. Home to wildlife that are endemic species and rich in flora & fauna.
10. Spectacular dive destinations.
11. Off-the-beaten-paths destination offering unique experiences.
12. Lonely Planet's list of Top 10 destination to visit repeatedly.

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