

**Stand Up,
Stand Out,
Stand Proud!**



Chinese American Citizens Alliance
56th Biennial National Convention
August 7~14, 2021



GRAND LODGE
ESTABLISHED 1895

美 洲 同 源 總 會 CHINESE AMERICAN CITIZENS ALLIANCE

~ NATIONAL ~

1044 Stockton Street, San Francisco, California 94108 • Telephone/FAX (415) 829-9332

Greetings and Welcome to the Chinese American Citizens Alliance
56th Biennial Convention!

I take great pride in welcoming you to the very first virtual convention taking place on August 7-14, 2021. The pandemic has forced us into a new world made possible through technology but brings us new opportunities and possibilities and the ability to reach a wider audience. This virtual conference will allow us to connect as a broader audience with a greater flexibility to offer a diverse selection of speakers, workshops, and presentations focusing on preservation and history, service to country, advocacy and education.



I would like to also extend my deepest appreciation and gratitude to the National Board Executive team, the Past National Presidents, Portland Lodge Centennial planning team and so many others who worked so hard to bring you a program which is exceptional in the range and quality of sessions.

The theme of the conference “Stand Up, Stand Out, Stand Proud!” underscores the continued need during an atmosphere of racism and violence against the AAPI community that we must speak out and unite against hate, discrimination, and prejudice, and empower ourselves and others to make a positive impact and to have the resiliency and confidence that we will effect positive change. I hope that you will enjoy and find our programming meaningful and thought provoking and to share your thoughts with your lodge, with your communities and with National.

We also have two Centennials to celebrate, which is a true testament to the longevity of our organization and the dedication and commitment of our members. Join us as we commemorate Portland Lodge’s centennial anniversary and their accomplishments, successes and hear about their inspirational work with the community, youth and promoting the causes central to our mission. Congratulations to Portland lodge on your Centennial and may you have continued success as you begin your journey into the second century!

Our historic Grand Lodge building in San Francisco will also be celebrating its centennial anniversary on August 10, 2021. As I walk through the building, I feel the history and legacy of all the leaders of the organization, and it continue to inspire and empower me to ensure that C.A.C.A. continues its mission of advocacy, community leadership and education.

I am also pleased that we will honor three exceptional persons with the Spirit of America award. This award recognizes individuals who exemplify the indomitable spirit of our nation and whose achievements have improved the lives not just of Chinese Americans but of all our fellow countrymen. We are honored to recognize the lifetime achievements of Major General William S. Chen, Corky Lee and Judge Michael Kwan. They truly are an inspiration to us all!

Let us celebrate our accomplishments, preserve our legacy, connect, and continue to build communities as we look towards the future.

With warm regards,

Melanie Chan
National President



Chinese American Citizens Alliance 56th Biennial Convention Program August 7-14, 2021

Check out our convention page at [Cacanational.org](https://cacanational.org)
for updated information

Most non-business sessions will be lived streamed and available for
viewing on the You Tube C.A.C.A. Channel

<https://tinyurl.com/CACANational>

To Join: Click on the [Zoom link](#), or use the Zoom ID or use the QR
code

Saturday, August 7, 2021

Opening Plenary and Business Sessions

11:00– 4:00 (PT)
(Zoom info to be sent
to delegates prior to
session)

Welcome and Opening Ceremonies
Committee and Lodge reports
Resolutions
Nominations

Moderator: Melanie Chan, National President,
San Francisco Lodge



Sunday, August 8, 2021

Celebrating Portland Lodge's Centennial

11:00-12:00 (PT)
[Zoom Link](#)

Welcome and Celebration- Melanie Chan, National President



Join us as we observe the Centennial of the Portland
Lodge and celebrate their accomplishments.

Keynote Address:

Standing Together: AAPI Communities Role in Advancing an Equitable World

With the pandemic, society's reckoning with systemic racism, and the
rise in anti-Asian violence, C.A.C.A. and other civil rights' work is more
important than ever. As we celebrate hard-won victories, especially

Meeting ID: 863 1120
2159

Passcode: 808580



over these challenging past few years, we need to prepare for the battles ahead. We must confront internalized messages regarding white supremacy and anti-Blackness and work in solidarity with other groups marginalized by our unjust systems. We must examine and let go of many philosophies and practices we have learned that no longer serve us. We will discuss these and other urgent topics in this challenging and thought-provoking presentation. Let us unlock our full potential to create a more just and equitable world

Presenter: Vu Le- writer, speaker, and former Executive Director of RVC, a nonprofit that promotes social justice



12:00-12:45 (PT)

Break

12:45-1:15 (PT)

[Zoom Link](#)

Webinar ID: 834 5692
2865

Passcode: 458557



Celebrating Portland Lodge's Centennial

Celebrate with Portland Lodge as they lead us through 100 years of the history of their lodge

Presenter: Jennie Shen, Portland Lodge Board Secretary



1:15-2:00 (PT)

[Zoom Link](#)

Meeting ID: 858 1738
0637

Passcode: 461313



Featured Scholarship Winner and AAYLC Alumni Discussion

Meet Portland Lodge Scholarship and AAYLC alumni and join in a lively discussin on the value and power of youth programs and tips for youth engagement.

Moderator: Helen Ying, National Executive Vice President, Portland Lodge



Panelists:



Anna Song Canzano, Emmy and Murrow award winning journalist, Emmy nominee. Host and creator at That Expert Show in partnership with The Oregonian.

Dr. Lori Tam MD, Medical Director,
Providence Women's Heart Program,
Cardiologist, Providence Heart Institute



Jennie Shen, Portland Lodge
Board Secretary



Justin Kwong, Project Engineer at
Hoffman Construction



Kai Nelson, College Student, California
Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo



2:00-2:15 (PT)

Break

2:15-3:15 (PT)

Hollaback Bystander Training

<https://zoom.us/j/95996301217>

Or One tap mobile :

US:

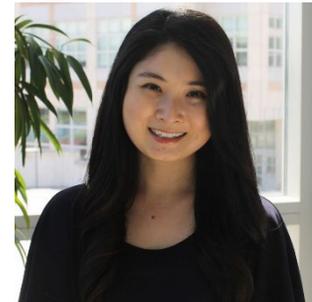
+13126266799,,9599630
1217# or

+16468769923,,9599630
1217#

Or Telephone:

Webinar ID: 959 9630
1217

The one-hour, interactive training will teach you Hollaback!'s 5D's of bystander intervention methodology. We'll start by talking about the types of disrespect that Asian and Asian American folks are facing right now from microaggressions to violence — using a tool we call the "spectrum of disrespect." You'll learn what to look for and the positive impact that bystander intervention has on individuals and communities.



Presenter: Hitomi Katsumi

3:15-3:30 (PT)

Break

3:30-4:30 (PT)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84407202187?pwd=bkVhY255SitoNkNMS1NXRINZTHEvQT09>

Meeting ID: 844 0720 2187

Passcode: 659657



Traditional Chinese Cooking Demonstration

Chef: Kevin Lee, Seattle Lodge

Join Kevin, Seattle food expert as he demonstrates how to make 2 delicious Chinese Dishes:

番茄牛肉炒麵

Tomato Beef Chow Mein

鴻圖伊府雲吞

Hung Tao Yee Foo Wonton



Monday, August 9, 2021

Committee Work

TBD

Citizenship, Finance and Planning committees will work on resolutions to be presented on Saturday August 14, 2021

Tuesday, August 10, 2021

History and Preservation

11:00-11:30 (PT)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89107058134?pwd=d0JSbGpBaS8xR25kM1FWekE0Smlvdz09>

891 0705 8134

Passcode: 885931



Welcome and Commemoration- Melanie Chan, National President

On this exact day 100 years ago, August 10, 1921, the building, our Headquarters 1044 Stockton Street was dedicated and officially opened. On this Centennial Anniversary, we look back on the history it represents and look forward to the lessons in legacy C.A.C.A. conveys to America.



Keynote Address:

Importance of a National Museum of History and Culture for Asian Americans

Congresswoman Grace Meng, 6th District of New York

Congresswoman Meng who co-authored the COVID-19

Hate Crimes Act and introduced legislation to study the creation of AAPI museum will be joining us live to speak about how a museum would be a gateway for all Americans to understand the contributions and achievements of AAPI and how it can contribute to cross racial healing, education, and foster dialog to create change and to hear your concerns and questions.

Moderators:

Ted Gong, VP Civic and Public Affairs, Washington DC Lodge
Kin Hui, VP Membership, San Antonio Lodge

11:30-11:45 (PT)

Break

11:45-12:15(PT)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84377153835?pwd=cE5ueGw1NGFhbU5iZ3FPM0pLQUZ0UT09>

Meeting ID: 843 7715
3835

Passcode: 431502



A Building's Legacy- Celebrate the National Headquarters' 100th Anniversary and Virtual Tour

Our Headquarters is a one-of-a-kind building in Chinatown, but for national recognition as proposed by the National Board, it is more important to report what occurred within its walls, namely the national impact since 1895 of the history and achievements of C.A.C.A. We report latest findings and discoveries for the nomination to the National Register. We will also be sharing a virtual of the building. Headquarters is accessible to Members, but few outside the San Francisco Bay Area may visit in-person and experience its historical ambiance. Filmmaker Barre Fong takes us around inside, and gives us seldom-seen views, plus some rare rooftop sightings of Chinatown.

Presenters:

Munson Kwok, National Past President, Los Angeles Lodge



Davace Chin, National Past President, San Francisco Lodge

12:15-12:45 (PT)

[Zoom Link](#)

Meeting ID: 843 7715
3835

Passcode: 431502



Summit Tunnels: Case for a National Monument

The Summit Tunnel and surrounding site near Lake Tahoe in the Sierra Nevada Mountains was essential in the construction of the first Transcontinental Railroad and in the making of the American nation. Ted provides an update on efforts to designate the site a National Historic Monument and discusses the importance of such historical monuments in giving Chinese visibility.

Presenter: Ted Gong, VP Civic & Public Affairs, Washington DC Lodge President



12:45-1:15 (PT)

[Zoom Link](#)

Meeting ID: 843 7715
3835

Passcode: 431502



C.A.C.A. Archive Project at Stanford

Hear about the C.A.C.A. archive project at Stanford University



Moderator: Suellen Cheng, National Historian,
Los Angeles Lodge



Presenter: Alyssa Tou, Stanford Archivist. As a project archivist, Alyssa is responsible for processing archival collections, arranging and describing materials acquired by Special Collections and University Archives

1:15-1:30 (PT)

Break

1:30-2:30 (PT)

Sharing our Stories

Local Lodge panelists offer their successes, methods, challenges of their C.A.C.A. history collection projects and community preservation efforts.

Moderator: Suellen Cheng, National Historian



[Zoom Link](#)

Meeting ID: 899 4763
3638

Passcode: 169649



Panelists: Siu Wong, Regional Executive and Past President Albuquerque Lodge

Helen Ying, National Executive Vice President and Past President of Portland Lodge



Ted Gong, VP Civic and Public Affairs, Washing DC Lodge

Service to Country

11:00 (PT)

Welcome- National President Melanie Chan

Honor and recognize our veterans who served in WWII and learn how they paved the path forward for future generations.



11:00-11:30 (PT)

Chinese American World War II Veteran Congressional Gold Medal Program

Hear about the journey that C.A.C.A. undertook to spearhead a national campaign to identify, honor and recognize the efforts and accomplishments of all Chinese Americans who served on WWII which resulted in passing of the of the Chinese American World War II Veteran Congressional Gold Medal Act and the impact of those who served in WWII on the future generations.

[Zoom Link](#)



Presenters: Ed Gor, National Director, CAWWII Veteran Recognition Project, Past National President

Meeting ID: 875 7507 3710

Passcode: 985374



Major General William Chen
U.S. Army (Retired)



Major General Robert Lee
U.S. Army (Retired)



Major General Steve Tom
U.S. Army (Retired)

11:30-12:15 (PT)

[Zoom Link](#)

Meeting ID: 895 0289
3714

Passcode: 786391



Library of Congress- Veterans History Project

The Veterans History Project of the American Folklife Center collects, preserves, and makes accessible the personal accounts of American war veterans so that future generations may hear directly from veterans and better understand the realities of war.

Presenter: Andrew Huber, Liaison Specialist
at Library of Congress



Moderator: Ted Gong, VP Civic
and Public Affairs, Washington
DC Lodge



12:15-1:00 (PT)

Break

Experiences and Challenges of Chinese American Veterans

A distinguished panel of retired Chinese American Flag-Rank Officers and a WWII veteran will speak on leadership challenges and unique situations they experienced during their careers in the military.

Presenters:

1:00-2:30 (PT)

[Zoom Link](#)

Passcode: 661775



Major General Bill Chen, U.S. Army
Retired
Panel Topic: "Taking Charge"



Major General Robert G. F. Lee,
U.S. Army Retired
Panel Topic: WWII Veterans
Impacted My Career



1Lt Arthur Shak, Navigator, B24
Heavy Bomber "Guardian Angel"
Panel Topic: How WWII Affected
My Life



Major General Darryl Wong



Rear Admiral Jonathan
Yuen, SC, U.S. Navy
Retired
Panel Topic: "Servant's
Heart/Bedside Manner /
Socratic Mindset"



Major General Suzanne Vares-
Lum, U.S. Army
Panel Topic: "Turning
Challenges into Opportunities"



Major General K.K. Chinn,
U.S. Army Retired
Panel Topic: "Relationships,
Trust, Family"

Advocacy

11:00-11:30 (PT)
Meeting ID: 836 7974
8868
Passcode: 667346

[Zoom Link](#)



11:30-12:15(PT)
Meeting ID: 836 7974
8868
Passcode: 667346

[Zoom Link](#)



12:15-12:30 (PT)

12:30-1:30 (PT)
Meeting ID: 832 8082
5175
Passcode: 218728

[Zoom Link](#)



Welcome- National President Melanie Chan



Our Vision: Leadership, Empowerment and Advocacy for All Chinese Americans

Keynote Address:

Congresswoman Judy Chu, 27th District of California

Congresswoman Chu, who was the first Chinese American woman, elected to Congress and serves as Chair of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus will speak via a recorded message to us about issues impacting the AAPI community today.



Rise Against Hate

National VP of Communications Rick Eng, who is involved with Los Angeles County's LA vs. Hate program, will introduce individuals responding to the escalation of hate violence especially in AAPI communities nationwide. Their experiences can serve as inspiration and models for communities facing similar strife and challenges in a period of growing discrimination and intolerance.

Moderator: Rick Eng, VP Communications, LA Lodge



Break

Project No Hate

Learn how San Antonio Lodge worked with local law enforcement to create agreements to implement section 3 of the COVID-19 Hate Crime Act and to assist with grant proposal preparation and provide feedback related to hate crime reporting and outreach programs.

Presenter: Kin Hui, National VP Membership, San Antonio Lodge



1:30-2:30 (PT)

Break

Dear Corky (Rough Cut): Film Preview and Discussion

Curtis Chin and Ken Eng share a sneak preview of their tribute to photographer Corky Lee and his commitment to New York's Chinatown. The filmmakers will discuss their project, which began before the pandemic as a broader look at American Chinatowns. They will describe their work with Corky and address the role of storytellers and artists as activists.

Moderator: Sojin Kim, Curator, Smithsonian Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage

Panelists:

2:30-3:30 (PT)

[Zoom Link](#)

Meeting ID: 885 0427
9728

Passcode: 858545



Curtis Chin, Director, Co-writer, Producer

Curtis Chin has screened his films "Vincent Who?" and "Tested" at over 500 venues in a dozen countries. To view the films, go to www.curtisfromdetroit.com

Kenneth Eng, Camera, Editor; C.A.C.A. National Executive, Los Angeles Lodge

Kenneth Eng is an American documentary film director and editor. He is best known for his work on the documentary films My Life in China, Kokoyakyu: High School Baseball and Take Me to the River.



Matthew Wang, Composer

Matthew Wang is a Asian-American film and TV composer who has written music for shows including Kipo & The Age of Wonderbeasts, New Amsterdam, Glow, and Ginny & Georgia among other projects. He is the composer of Joseph Juhn's Jeronimo, IFC Midnight's Centigrade, and the upcoming Shaq Executive-Produced animated short film Headnoise.

3:30-4:30 (PT)

[Zoom Link](#)



Meeting ID: 831 4054
7322

Passcode: 675278

The Last Laugh: How to be Funny in a Backlash Culture

ASIA conference attendees examine how comedy as entertainment, social commentary and as a reflection of own sensibilities in the current environment of narrowing social norms.



Moderator: Rick Eng, National VP Communications, LA Lodge

Friday, August 13, 2021

Education

Welcome- National President Melanie Chan



Leadership in education is essential to achieving educational equity and provides a broader framework to bring positive perspectives and conversations.

11:00-12:00 (PT)

[Zoom Link](#)

Meeting ID: 883 9263
5072

Passcode: 271856



Grantmaking 101 with Proven Tips for Success

Learn how to submit a proposal that will grab attention and funding

Presenter: Gloria Lee, Portland Lodge

Gloria Lee brings 21 years of experience in growing non-profits and 25+ years in senior management with SYSCO in procurement, training, and sales management.



In 2000, Gloria transitioned from VP Merchandising at SYSCO to Executive Director of Portland's newly opened Classical Chinese Garden (Lan Su). She fell in love with mission driven organizations and thrives on growing successful non-profits. Since 2014, Gloria operates a non-profit serving low-income populations in affordable housing with resident services, art, education, and recreation. Currently, The Giving Tree NW and a local senior center are joining together to rebrand as the Community for Positive Aging. Besides gardening, cooking and reading, Gloria believes in giving back. She has served on the boards of Cedar Mill Library, Travel Portland and Northwest China Council and Old Town/Chinatown Community Association and currently leads the Civic Engagement program for C.A.C.A. Portland.

12:00-12:15 (PT)

Break

12:15-1:15 (PT)

[Zoom Link](#)

Meeting ID: 865 7907
9036

Passcode: 543925



The Power of Telling Our Stories Using the Arts

Hear how using film, art and the performing arts can create a meaningful and personal narrative to tell the story.



Panelists: Larissa Lam, Director of Far East Deep South;
Greater San Gabriel Valley Lodge
Baldwin Chiu, Producer of Far East Deep South, Los Angeles
Lodge
Rusty Chan, National Secretary, Albuquerque Lodge

1:15-2:15 (PT)

[Zoom Link](#)

Meeting ID: 814 1567
2042

Passcode: 982830



Laying the Foundation for AAPI Studies

This workshop will focus on themes and events that illustrate the importance of making the K-12 curriculum more inclusive. Using examples like the Chinese Exclusion Act, the Transcontinental Railroad, and the Immigration Act of 1965, participants will see how to construct lessons that are meaningful and meet state standards in multiple ways.

Moderator: Charles Mau, National VP
Education, Greater San Gabriel Valley Lodge



Presenter: Ting-Yi Oei,
Education Director, 1882
Foundation; Curriculum and Staff
Development Consultant; retired High School
Teacher and Administrator, Washington DC lodge

2:15-3:15 (PT)

Oregon's Journey of Inclusive Curriculum in K-12 Schools

In 2017, Oregon passed House Bill 2845 requiring Ethnic Studies standards in grades K–12. It was the first state in the nation to do so. The bill passed almost fifty years after the founding of the country's first Ethnic Studies. The hour-long session will highlight the milestones of how the bill started from

[Zoom Link](#)

Meeting ID: 810 4707
8745

Passcode: 174737



a concept to become law and how it is being implemented and the journey ahead.

Presenters:



Joseph Santos Lyons, former Executive Director of APANO



Amit Kobrowski, Social Science Specialist, Oregon Department of Education



Helen Ying, Multnomah ESD Board Member and C.A.C.A. National Executive Vice President, Portland Lodge

3:15-3:30 (PT)

Break

Spirit of America Awards

Join us as we recognize and celebrate the winners of the Spirit of America Awards. First presented at the 47th National Convention in 2003, the Spirit of America Awards (“Awards”) recognize individuals who embody the indomitable spirit of our nation and whose achievements have improved the lives not just of Chinese Americans but of all our fellow countrymen.

Awardees:

3:30-4:15 (PT)

[Zoom Link](#)



Meeting ID: 819 7069
5418

Passcode: 316734



Major General
William Chen



Corky Lee



Judge Michael Kwan

Moderator: Melanie Chan, National President, San Francisco Lodge

Closing Plenary and Business Session

11:00-4:00 (PT)
(Zoom Info to be sent
to delegates prior to
session)

Reports

Election Results

Resolutions

National Executive nomination and elections

2023 Convention bid

Adjournment

Networking

Aloha! Put on your favorite Hawaiian shirt, sip a Mai Tai and join us for a special Hula performance by the acclaimed dance company Na Lei Hulu I Ka Wekiu lead by Patrick Makuakane, Kumu Hula followed by Hawaiian music as we network and celebrate our accomplishments and look forward to the future!

2019-2021 NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Melanie Chan
President



Helen Ying
Executive Vice President



Ted Gong
Vice President – Civic Affairs



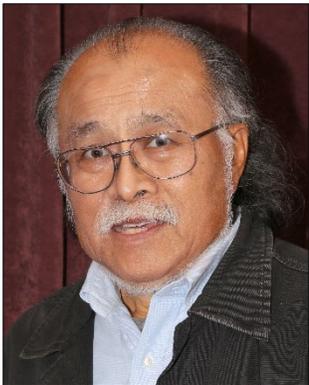
Rick Eng
Vice President – Communications



Charles Mau
Vice President – Education



Kin Hui
Vice President – Membership



Eugene Moy
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Rusty Chan
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NATIONAL EXECUTIVES



Dorothy Chow



Kenneth Eng



Albert Fong



Ken Ho



Cathy Lee



Esther Lee



Elaine Wong



Paul Wong



Christina Yu



Felicia Yu



SPIRIT OF AMERICA AWARDS

First presented at the 47th Biennial National Convention in 2003, the Spirit of America Award recognizes individuals who embody the indomitable spirit of our great nation, excel in their commitment to community service and whose achievements have made a difference not only on Chinese Americans but for all Americans.

Past recipients have demonstrated leadership in many diverse fields of endeavor, including political advocacy, arts, business and commerce, education, government, law, media, sciences, sport, theater, and volunteer services. This year we honor another three extraordinary individuals, Major General William Chen (Ret.), Honorable Michael Kwan and Corky Lee.



Major General William S. Chen, U.S. Army (Retired), is a third-generation Chinese-American. His father, Hong-Mon Chen, born in Columbus, Ohio, was an aviation pioneer, who graduated from the University of Michigan in Aeronautical Engineering in 1932, and was a pilot for the U.S. Mail Service, an airline pilot who flew the Hump, and a U.S. Army Air Corps pilot in World War II with the 14th Air Force (Flying Tigers).

General Chen was born in Shanghai, China, on November 11, 1939. He entered active duty in the Regular Army as a Second Lieutenant in June 1961 after receiving a B.S.E. in Engineering Mathematics in June 1960 and an M.S.E. in Aeronautical &

Astronautical Engineering in June 1961, both from the University of Michigan. In October 1989, at age 49, he was promoted to Major General, the first Chinese-American to wear two-star rank in the U.S. Army. He retired from the Army in September 1993 after serving our country for 32 years with distinction.

General Chen commanded the 1st Battalion, School Brigade, United States Army Ordnance and Chemical Center and School, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland. Overseas assignments included Korea, Vietnam, Thailand, and Laos. General Chen served as the MICOM Commander from October 1989 to July 1992. Awards and decorations received by General Chen include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (with 5 Oak Leaf Clusters), Air Medal, Joint Services Commendation Medal (with Oak Leaf Cluster), and Army Commendation Medal (with Oak Leaf Cluster).

General Chen continued to serve the nation by working in the defense industry after his retirement. During 1994-2005 he held key positions with Armament Systems, United Defense (now BAE Systems, Inc.) as VP & Program Director, VP Army Programs and VP Engineering & Product Development. In 2005-2011, he served as Assistant General Manager (BAE Systems VP & General Manager) at FNSS Defense Systems in Ankara, Turkey, a joint venture company that develops and manufactures combat vehicles for customers.

General Chen joined C.A.C.A.'s Boston Lodge in 2016 when he moved to Massachusetts and has been an active member. He has exhibited great dedication, knowledge and leadership through his tireless work. MG Chen's dedication is exemplified in his involvement in the Chinese American WWII Recognition Project, the C.A.C.A. Congressional Gold Medal (CGM) advocacy trips to Washington D.C., and countless hours dedicated to the book, *Unsung Heroes*. MG Chen's dedication was instrumental in C.A.C.A. National's efforts to secure passage of H.R. 2358 and S. 1050.

Dan Luke, who worked closely with General Chen as a co-editor of the book, *UNSUNG HEROES Recognizing and Honoring Chinese American World War II Veterans - Congressional Gold Medal Recipients*, bore testimony to his tremendous contributions. "It was through MG Chen's vision,

SPIRIT OF AMERICA AWARDS

...serving as editor-in-chief that this book came to fruition and was published in September 2020 under the auspices of the C.A.C.A. Boston Lodge. This book is a landmark publication because for the first time it weaves a historical narrative of: a) The socio-economic conditions that Chinese Americans lived under in PreWar America fraught with racial discrimination and adversities. b) The many profound contributions that Chinese American World War II veterans made in WWII to secure the Allied victory and preserve American democracy. c) The subsequent impact that WWII had on the veterans, and how it shaped their attitudes and outlook in raising families in the Post-War period as told from the perspective of their sons, daughters and grandchildren. d) The veterans from the New England States.”

Mr. Luke praised MG Chen, emphasizing the urgent message that *Unsung Heroes* brings to the public, and stressing its role in restoring a long missing page in American history that sorely needs to be told, especially in light of the rampant anti-Chinese racism that is enveloping the nation today. It speaks of another time when Chinese Americans were also marginalized and saddled with racially discriminatory policies that treated them as second-class citizens. But in spite of these adversities, they put their lives on the line, and served with dedication and patriotism to defend American freedom. These are lessons that need to be taught, because as the book itself explains: “Those who do not remember the past are condemned to repeat it”.

MG Chen’s relentless devotion to the making of *Unsung Heroes* was the instrumental factor that made it a reality. He is selfless in bringing recognition and honor to the Chinese American WWII veteran.



Born in Inglewood, California, in 1962, Honorable Michael W. Kwan the second child and only son of Fulton Checkfull Kwan and Marjorie Lim Kwan. He grew up in West Hills, California, and graduated from Canoga Park High School in 1982, where he was an active member of the high school band and the Junior ROTC program. Following a long family legal tradition, Michael earned his law degree from Whittier College School of Law in California and was later certified in Chinese Law by the East China University of Politics and Law.

Michael and his family moved to Taylorsville, Utah, in 1996 and made the Beehive State their home for more than two decades. He began his career in Utah in the healthcare field as an EMT for Gold Cross Ambulance and then as a Burn Technician at the University of Utah Hospital Burn Unit. After passing the Utah bar, Judge Kwan worked as a Salt Lake City prosecutor and served as Pro Tempore Judge in 3rd District Court from 1996 to 1998, when he became the first Municipal Judge appointed to the Taylorsville Justice Court where he presided for 22 years.

Judge Kwan’s professional career was marked by innovation. His honors and awards are plentiful. Among these, he began one of the first DUI/drug courts in the nation in 1998. The program was honored in 2008 with the Governor’s Award for reducing drug and alcohol abuse-related crimes. It has served as a prototype for other courts across the country. His model for the domestic violence program was awarded the Peace on Earth Award



SPIRIT OF AMERICA AWARDS

from the Salt Lake Area Domestic Violence Advisory Council in 2002. Another example of the numerous awards he received is the Utah Judicial Council's Quality of Justice Award in 2001.

He taught judicial and law classes at the Utah Judicial Institute, the American Bar Association, and the National Drug Court, among others, and lectured at countless educational programs across the country. He was a valued, highly sought-after speaker, as his presentations were always well-researched, interesting, and seemingly effortless.

Judge Kwan was an active member of the community on many levels. He founded several social justice, community, and advocacy organizations and served countless others in a myriad of ways. Notable among the organizations in which he founded, served as board member, advisor, or consultant are OCA-Utah, and several OCA chapters, Utah Minority Bar, Asian Pacific Islander American Public Affairs – Utah chapter, Utah Asian American Chamber of Commerce, and the Refugee and Immigrant Center-Asian Association of Utah, where he served as Board Chair. Especially meaningful to him was the national OCA-Asian Pacific American Advocates, in which Judge Kwan served on the Executive Board beginning in 1997 and as the national President in 2015. Judge Kwan co-founded OCA-Utah in 1998, receiving the Pillar of the Community Award in 2012 for his tireless dedication to the Asian and Pacific Islander community.

Something that gave him particular satisfaction was assisting with the production of the 150th anniversary of the Chinese workers on the Transcontinental Railroad. In addition to being appointed to the State of Utah Golden Spike Commission, Michael spearheaded and led the global community of descendants, supporters, and advocates as President and Founder of the Chinese Railroad Workers Descendants Association. Michael worked tirelessly and successfully to honor and properly credit our ancestors in the celebration of the 150th anniversary of the Transcontinental Railroad, gaining global recognition for his efforts.

His life's work and achievement are Herculean but Judge Kwan was a humble, considerate individual, always displaying the calm authority and supreme diplomatic skills that made him an effective, respectful leader. His amiable nature and irreverent sense of humor made him a beloved human being.

Stated Taylorsville Mayor Kristie Overson: “[Judge Kwan] cared profoundly about our community and strived to make it better. But most importantly, he prized justice. He was intensely focused on providing equal protection under the law for all who entered his courtroom. He was compassionate and often extended a second chance for many. Above all, his model was fairness and he eschewed bigotry and racism with every essence of his being.”

Judge Kwan unexpectedly passed away July 21, 2020. He was 58. His passing will leave a hollow place that can never be filled and we can only speculate how Judge Kwan could have enriched society had we had him with us longer. But we are fortunate, too, that what remains is an instructive and enriching template of commitment to public service.



Born on September 5, 1947 in Queens, New York City, Young Kwok “Corky” Lee was the second child of Lee Yin Chuck and Jung See Lee, both Chinese immigrants. His father owned a laundry business and served in World War II; his mother worked as a seamstress. Corky attended Jamaica High School, before going on to study American history at Queens College in 1965.

Teaching himself photography with borrowed cameras, Corky was inspired by an 1869 photo he came across in a junior high school social studies textbook. The photo celebrated the completion of the transcontinental railroad at Promontory Point in Utah.

SPIRIT OF AMERICA AWARDS

Although thousands of Chinese workers were involved in the construction of the railroad, the photo showed no Chinese laborers.

Corky's photographs have documented many key events in history, and especially Asian American history. He took photos of protests of racism and police brutality against Asian Americans, and he humorously referred to himself as the "undisputed unofficial Asian American Photographer Laureate." He has also taken photos of everyday Asian Americans as they have gone about their daily lives.

Mayor David Dinkins proclaimed May 5, 1988, as "Corky Lee Day" in recognition of Corky's important contribution to the communities of New York City through his photographs. He supplied photos to local newspapers regularly.

Notably, his photo "Police Brutality Victim" (1975) of 27-year-old engineer Peter Yew, who was severely beaten without cause by New York's Fifth Precinct police, appeared on that year's cover of the New York Post, mobilizing up to 3,000 Chinatown residents to march to City Hall in protest of unwarranted police brutality against visible minorities. In his 2014 photo, "Utah, 145th anniversary of the first Transcontinental Railroad, the act of Photographic Justice at Promontory Summit" (2014), he restaged the original railroad photo on its 145th Anniversary, replacing the White laborers with 250 descendants of the original Chinese laborers. Mr. Lee returned to Utah to restage the historic gathering at the sesquicentennial anniversary celebration of the Golden Spike ceremony in May 2019. In December 2018, he helped win passage of the Chinese American World War II Veteran Congressional Gold Medal Act, where approximately 20,000 Chinese and Chinese American servicemen and servicewomen were finally honored for their role in the United States Armed Forces during the Second World War.

Mr. Lee's photography has appeared in numerous publications including Time, The New York Times, Associated Press, and The Village Voice. He held many exhibitions, such as "A Photographic Journey with Corky Lee" at New York University's Asian/Pacific/American (A/P/A) Institute in 2002, "Chinese-American: Exclusion/Inclusion" at New York Historical Society in 2014, and the "Anti-Asian Racism Exhibition" hosted by New York's Chinatown Organization for Media Awakening in

2020. He received the 1993 Special Recognition Award from the Asian American Journalists Association (AAJA), the 2002 New York Press Association Award, and the 2009 Susan Ahn Award for Civil Rights and Social Justice for Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders from AAJA. In May 2019, Mr. Lee was recipient of the President's Award from the Chinese Railroad Workers Descendants Association (CRWDA) at the Golden Spike 150th Anniversary.

Sadly, Corky passed away at the age of seventy-three on January 27, 2021, after testing positive for COVID. Corky was a Chinese American activist, community organizer, photographer, journalist. His work chronicled and explored the diversity and nuances of Asian American culture often ignored and overlooked by mainstream media and made sure Asian American history was included as a part of American history.

Corky served his community, state and nation through his photographs, inspiring Asian Americans, touching millions of lives, and educating the world.



NATIONAL ESSAY CONTEST

For more than 50 years, thousands of high school students across the nation have participated in the Alliance's National Essay Contest. Traditionally held on the first Saturday in March, the essay contest is intended to foster creative thinking and self-expression and to encourage an awareness of current local and world events. Top placing finishers receive cash scholarship towards their educational endeavors.

The topics chosen for the essay contest have covered a broad range of subjects of interest to the Chinese American community, including, for example, the depiction of Asian Americans in mass media, the lingering persistence of racial stereotypes, the generational gap among families, and the participation of Chinese Americans in politics.

The 2020 contest saw 144 students representing 14 chapters participate in the annual contest. With the start to the 2020 census just weeks away, participants were asked for their suggestions for generating interest and further participation in the census, especially among Chinese and Asian households.

“By April 1, the Census Bureau plans to send a letter or a door knocker to every U.S. household. It's part of a once-a-decade tradition of counting every person living in the U.S. The census is required by the Constitution, which has called for an “actual enumeration” once a decade since 1790. The 2020 results will be used to draw district lines, allocate seats in Congress, and distribute government funding for essential services over the next 10 years.

The 2020 count will be the first one to allow all U.S. households to respond online. Paper forms will still be available, and for the first time you can call a 1-800 number to give responses. Census questions will include asking the number of people living or staying in a home on April 1, 2020 and the name, sex, age, date of birth, and race of each person in the home. There will be no citizenship question on the 2020 census.

In past years, there has been an undercount of certain segments of the population. What factors contribute to an undercount? Do you think that these problems will continue? Why or why not? What are the long-range consequences to an undercount of the U.S. population?

Imagine that you are a census worker trying to convince a Chinese/Asian family of recent immigrants in your district to take part in the Census. What personal approach will you use to persuade them to complete the census form? What are the compelling reasons you will present to encourage them to participate in the census and give accurate information?”

The COVID-19 pandemic and the mandate for social distancing did not dampen the spirits for the 2021 contest. For the first time in its history, the contest was conducted electronically, with all students participating virtually from the comfort of their home or location of their own choosing.

“Starting in early 2020, we have been facing hard times with the COVID-19 pandemic and our lives have been adversely affected by imposed health measures, resulting in isolation from family and friends.

Which aspects of your life, including school, family, and community, have been most severely disrupted? Describe how you have been coping with them. What lessons have you drawn from it?

Discuss the special challenges the Asian American communities have faced that made them fare differently from other groups. What are your thoughts on dealing with them effectively?”

Even under restrictive conditions, the contest generated interest and participation from just over 100 students from 12 chapters.

As always, we are gratified by the continued outstanding performance of our many talented student essayists.



NATIONAL ESSAY CONTEST

2020 NATIONAL RESULTS

First Place – Urszula Solarz

Second Place – David Feng and Sophie Nguyen

Merit Recipients:

Marquesa Calderon (Portland)

Sherry Chen (Greater New York)

Kameron Fong (Chicago)

Alex Infelise (Boston)

Mackenzie Joe (Houston)

Kevin Men (Portland)

Norbu Shastri (Phoenix)

Stacey Tang (Greater New York)

Jenna Wang (Peninsula)

Le Yi Zheng (Chicago)

Richard Zhu (Greater New York)

2021 NATIONAL RESULTS

First Place – Carolyn Yee

Second Place – Rebecca Wu

Third Place – Sophia Hua

Merit Recipients:

Emilio Ronaldo Calderon (Portland)

Daphne Chiu (Portland)

James Guan (San Francisco)

Sally Ho (Los Angeles – GSGV)

Ellie Howard (Portland)

Le Lang (Boston)

Kathryn Luo (Los Angeles – GSGV)

Janice Wong (Los Angeles – GSGV)

Julianne Zane (Portland)

Amy Zhang (Los Angeles – GSGV)



First Place

Urszula Solarz

Class of 2021

Bard High School Early
College

Queens, New York

If you've ever gotten a call from a mysterious government worker requesting your personal information because you owe \$100,000 to the IRS in late taxes, you've probably slammed down the phone,

frustrated at scam and robocalls infiltrating your privacy. If a person shows up at your door asking similar questions about your personal information, you're probably twice as likely to shut the door in their face! In a world where privacy has become something increasingly valued, it is no wonder taking the census has become a difficult task.

When the Founding Fathers established the laws that would govern the US, they knew they were undertaking something much larger than themselves. They had to create a process that would forever ensure politicians would come out of the plush seats of Washington D.C. and into local neighborhoods to really understand the needs of the populations that elected them. Hence, the census emerged to ensure the nation had proper district lines, fair representation, and adequate infrastructure.

However, today minorities are reluctant to trust their government because of historical discrimination. This disparate nature between politicians and communities is rooted in exclusion acts like the Chinese Exclusion Act of the late 1800s, labor laws concerning Irish-Americans, and even segregation laws barring equal facilities for different races. Since minorities have never had fair lives and representation in America, why would they make themselves more vulnerable to systematic injustice by giving out personal information? Additionally, non-citizens mistakenly think there is a risk of deportation. Thus, this undercount in minority communities will continue as long as people don't understand goals of the census, especially in the Trump era.

I believe we can increase census participation by 1) increasing education about census benefits/questions in schools and community centers, and 2) employing a more diverse coalition of census workers knowing a variety of languages. Since communication is the missing link between politicians and communities, education about the lack of citizenship questions could bring in non-citizen participants and diverse census workers speaking various languages in minority communities could bring in people once hesitant to trust the government.

As a resident of Sunset Park's Chinatown, I would share the benefits the census provided my own community to encourage recent immigrants to participate. For instance, after the 2010 census showed there are more school-aged children in

NATIONAL ESSAY CONTEST

Sunset Park than seats in school, a new school was built and more funding was allocated for a playground. In addition, more modern buses were added to the B70 route to prevent overcrowding, and a neighborhood WC was constructed for hygiene services. Now, Sunset Park Chinatown is faced with rezoning threats from Industry City and we need our numbers to speak for themselves.

In the end, minority communities have the most to gain and lose from the census. If people don't fill it out, long term consequences include exclusion of resources and representation, but this time, it'll be self-imposed. In the end, it's not censYOU, it's censUS.



Second Place
David Feng
Class of 2020
La Cueva High School
Albuquerque, New Mexico

The job of the Census Bureau has always been an incredibly difficult one. As the Bureau tries to reach out to every single person living in the United States, it often undercounts certain segments of the population. The first reason this happens is because certain groups of people—especially minority groups, which tend to be underinformed—are not aware of the existence of the census in the first place. This problem will most likely continue, but it should become less problematic with time, as communications become more advanced and the internet makes it easier to get word of the census out to the people.

Another explanation for why people in the US refuse to respond to the census is that they did not enter the country legally. These people don't complete the census because they are afraid that their information will be used against them in some way, resulting in deportation. Given that there will be no citizenship question on the census, these concerns might be alleviated. But fear of the government remains a very large roadblock to accurate counting and will likely be a problem for many years to come.

It's hard to tell how, exactly, undercounting will affect the United States. But one thing is certain: an undercounted census completely fails to represent the people that it counted. This might result in poorly drawn districts or disproportionate representation of minorities in Congress. But no matter what the specific result may be, the fact remains that the government has failed to properly represent its people, inherently violating the foundations of our democracy.

As a census worker reaching out to a Chinese or Asian family of recent immigrants, I would immediately acknowledge and articulate the cultural and political shift that the family would likely be experiencing. The political culture that exists in America isn't always present in Asian countries, and many immigrants aren't aware of the fundamental American ideal of political participation. Although participating in the census isn't as impactful as voting in the 2020 Presidential election, it's still a way in which everybody in America can shape government policy to better their own lives. I would also repeat that no census information would be used against them in any way, and that there would be no citizenship question on the census, which eliminates the risk of deportation.

I would conclude my appeals for the census with an incredibly important aspect of Asian culture: a focus on the wellbeing of family and, specifically, children. Participating in the census, and ultimately in all aspects of American politics, is an incredibly impactful step that all families can take to directly ensure that America is in its best possible state for future generations. Communicating this idea to Asian immigrants would allow them to recognize that, although they might not have lived here long, they can still directly shape the world to suit their children's interests. Such a realization is incredibly compelling and should encourage all Asian Americans to take part in the census.

NATIONAL ESSAY CONTEST



Second Place

Sophie Nguyen

Class of 2021
BASIS Phoenix Charter
School
Phoenix, Arizona

Good morning, Mr. and Mrs. Wang. I am your local census worker. I asked you today to take part of the 2020 Census. Now, I know you might distrust the government and do not know what the census would mean for your stay here; however, if you do not participate, you would be undercounted and overlooked for a significant time of your lives. Your local government will not be able to assist you with services, like waste management or health care, for the next decade. If you do not participate this year, there is a high chance you will not participate in 2030, and so on, perpetuating this undercount. It will harm you in the end, as you will not be counted as officially residing here in the United States.

Let me give you some background information on the census, so you can make an educated decision for yourself whether or not to participate. The census is a once-in-a-decade official count of every person living in the United States. That is a long time between each census. If you are not counted now, it will be ten years before you can officially be regarded by the government. If the government knows you officially live here, they can help you by divvying out funds for your local government. Then, your local government can build resources to improve your life, perhaps a Chinese senior center for your elderly or a daycare for your children. You will also be rewarded for your time. For everyone who participates, we will give a small gift, similar to a late Lunar New Year's red envelope.

If you are worried about citizenship, don't be. We will not ask about citizenship or any similarly sensitive information. We will not deport you. We will only ask about your name, age, sex, date of birth, and race. We require that everyone in your household answer these questions so we can get an accurate count. However, we will be sensitive about anything you do not wish to report.

If you believe that a paper form will waste too much time, then don't worry. You can also go online or

call a number. We will do whatever it takes to adjust to your circumstances. Regardless, please answer the survey accurately. There is no right or wrong answer that we want you to select. Answer truthfully, and you will see the benefits in the upcoming decade when your city hosts a celebration for Chinese New Year or assists you if a family member falls ill.

I hope you decide to participate in the census, Wang's. I have been in your position before and distrusted the census. After learning more about it, however, I tried it out, and I now believe the census can help us, Asians, in the future. Feel free to give me or the agency a call, and we can assist you in filling out the form. Thank you and have a good day.



First Place

Carolyn Yee

Class of 2021
Ingraham High School
Seattle, Washington

It started as a raindrop. A single cloud of uncertainty. Would we have school tomorrow? Then came the rain. The principal announcing "essentially a two-week spring break" to a response of cheers, groans, and above all, surprise. I closed my locker that day, prepared to see it again in two weeks. I wouldn't see it again until July, in an empty hallway, as I carried a large canvas bag to bring my books home.

The rain turned into a hailstorm. In a matter of weeks, the world shut down. The biggest change for me was school. It was all online now, and due to how unexpected it was, for the first few months, it was challenging for the teachers and students alike to adjust. I took dance classes in my living room, never left the house without a mask, and started viewing the world through a screen. The pouring rain seemed to be continually pounding at the windows, with no end in sight.

Then a second hurricane hit. From xenophobic nicknames of the coronavirus as the "Kung-flu" to a racist perpetuation that all Asian Americans were at

NATIONAL ESSAY CONTEST

fault for the coronavirus, every morning, I woke up to increasing news of attacks against Asian individuals. *“Anti-Asian Hate Crimes Increased by 717% in Vancouver in 2020.” “Anti-Asian Hate Crimes increase nearly 1900% in the United States.”* My classmate’s mom was attacked unprovoked in the middle of the Seattle’s Chinatown. I could not find the words to describe how angered and saddened I felt about the senseless violence occurring.

Rain is dreary, yes, but it also has a different effect on the world: it washes away the parts that have been built on unequal footing, exposing the cracks in the foundation. This pandemic has offered clarity into the workings of the world, and we have seen that the fight for racial equality for people of color is far from over.

After every rain comes growth. In this uncertain time, I have grown roots, in my community, in my home, and in who I am as a person. I am Chinese American. My ancestors were immigrants and hard workers who contributed back to their community; my childhood is woven with the scent of dumplings and jasmine tea. From this pandemic, I have come to appreciate every moment I am able to spend with my family, and I have learned that I am terrible at baking banana bread. Above all, I learned to never stop growing. We must have these difficult conversations, and the fact that we are able to voice our opinions about these inequalities in this essay shows how far we have come. We must not stand for xenophobia or racism, and we must address racial discrimination in any situation. Our roots have not only grown, but they extend to each other, and through empathy, solidarity, and awareness, we will rebuild, not on an uneven foundation, but on one built of compassion, kindness, and human decency.



Second Place
Rebecca Wu
Class of 2022
Alhambra High School
Alhambra, California

The pandemic has revealed many things about our world, one of the most saddening being the social

injustice that is still so inherent in the twenty-first century. We saw the darker side of humanity, and everyone’s life has been impacted severely. The impact that this pandemic has had on my community and family life taught me vital lessons about personal qualities. The Asian American community has also faced severe challenges, but through collaborating with leaders across the nation, I have developed solutions in dealing with them effectively.

The two aspects of my life that have been largely affected are my family and community life. My parents are essential workers and work in-person, leading our family to worry immensely about their health. As the eldest child, I do my best to alleviate the family’s stress by looking after my younger siblings: ensuring that they have fun activities to consume themselves with, helping them with school, work, cooking warm meals, etc. In terms of community, my passion lies in civic engagement, and COVID forced me to seek ways to connect with my community virtually. As an APAs Mobilize scholar and volunteer on the re-election campaign for LACCD Trustee Mike Fong, I networked with community leaders, encouraged local citizens to vote, and fostered discussions with leaders such as Former United States Deputy Secretary of Labor Chris Lu. Emotionally, the pandemic taught me the qualities of being resilient when encountering a challenge, being adaptable when the world continuously changes, and using my voice to advocate for social justice (among other issues).

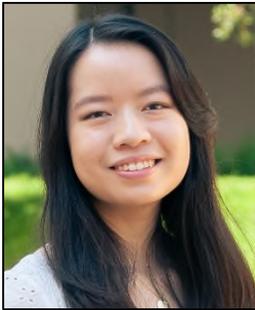
The pandemic has also posed large challenges for the Asian American community.

Especially now, Asian American youth are afraid to share their culture with their peers and the Asian American community worries over the discrimination that our elderly will encounter in public. As an intern for Stop AAPI Hate, I have worked to empower youth and end to anti-Asian hate. In the 2020 summer, my team and I created a Policy Report which outlined five recommendations in combating discrimination, ranging from ethnic studies to restorative justice, and included insights and data from over 800 youth. We also wrote an ethnic studies and anti-bullying curriculum currently being circulated under the Biden Administration’s AAPI initiative. This year, I am focusing on raising awareness for our campaign in the media and among youth. To connect our mission with American citizens, I speak at various press conferences with

NATIONAL ESSAY CONTEST

news outlets such as NBC and the HuffPost. I also host conferences with hundreds of youth in attendance, in which we focus on mental health, our identities, and the pursuit for racial justice.

For many of us, this past year has been one of the hardest experiences. But this pandemic has also revealed society's strengths and weaknesses. I hope that as our world moves into a better stage, every community will feel empowered to help and uplift one another.



Third Place
Sophia Hua
Class of 2021
Alhambra High School
Alhambra, California

Like a calm sea right before the storm, 2020 seemed promising, all until the pandemic struck. Since its outbreak, COVID-19 has effectively disrupted life as we know it, infecting much of society with loss, isolation, and a surge in racism.

The most severe disruptions to my life have come as indirect effects of COVID-19. In December, my aunt passed away due to liver failure, unable to receive the medical attention she needed because nearby hospitals were overwhelmed with patients. As a result, I have lost one of the most kind-hearted and optimistic people in my life. Compounded with the stresses of physical isolation from friends and family and the cancellation of events that my peers and I have looked forward to for years, the pandemic has at times been overwhelming. That's why I am so grateful for my parents and for my friends. While I sometimes cope by writing out my thoughts or drowning them out with loud music, far more often I have turned to the most supportive people in my life to talk. Through our conversations, we release our pent-up emotions and understand that even in this isolation, we still have each other. I have learned to find time each day to reach out to others because even the smallest conversations can relieve the pains of isolation.

Though the pandemic seems to only bring more tragedies with each day, the lesson that I am reminded of daily is of my own privilege—my ability to have reliable access to the Internet each day. Frankly, COVID-19 has only amplified societal inequalities. The transition to online learning for many schools has created numerous difficulties for those without Internet access. And as we watch the vaccination rollout and see underfunded communities struggle the most in obtaining vaccinations, we are reminded that there is so much reform that must be made to better serve all communities. This has encouraged me to look further into public policy so I can help advocate for effective change.

Yet another issue that the pandemic has exacerbated are racist attitudes. When politicians began referring to COVID-19 as the “Chinese virus” or the “Kung flu,” their remarks only increased the irrational blame being placed on Asian-Americans. These tensions have risen into full-blown harassment and violence, worsened by the increasing length of the pandemic. There is no simple solution in eradicating racism, unfortunately, but efforts can be made to raise awareness on the situation, properly identify its roots, and share information on Asian cultures. Mindsets can be very difficult to change, but by increasing accurate representation of Asians in the media and integrating Asian history into school lessons, harmful stereotypes and false information surrounding Asian-Americans could potentially be eliminated, especially for younger generations whose perceptions of others are still developing.

No matter how insurmountable the pandemic may seem, increasing access to information and strengthening our connection with others will be effective in mitigating some of the impacts of COVID-19.



NATIONAL ART CONTEST

A remarkable group of gifted young artists submitted their creations for the 2021 National Art Competition, sponsored by the Chinese American Citizens Alliance and the Chinese American Museum. This biennial national competition provides students of all ages the opportunity to express their creativity, originality and extraordinary artistic skills using a variety of mediums including oil, watercolor, acrylic, crayon, pen, pencil and charcoal.

The competition encourages students to reflect on their cultural heritage, promotes diversity, and celebrates the past and continuing contributions of Chinese Americans.

Students from across the country submitted entries based on this year's theme, "This year, we are facing hard times with the COVID-19 pandemic, natural disasters and isolation from family and friends. Yet there are many helpers in our communities that are our heroes. Who is your hero this year and why?"

Top placing entries will eventually be on displayed at the Chinese American Museum, in Los Angeles, California. Future plans include a traveling exhibition, including artwork from previous competitions that would appear in various chapters across the country.

NATIONAL RESULTS

Grand Prize Winners

Upper Division – Ethan Zejia Chen
Lower Division – Sylvia Mai

Division 1 Winners (Kindergarten to Grade 3)

First Place – Joshua Chan
Second Place – Tiffany Lin
Third Place – Claire Chen

Division 2 Winners (Grades 4-6)

First Place – Hannah Chan
Second Place – Evan Sun
Third Place – Angela Liang

Division 3 Winners (Grades 7-9)

First Place – Eric Sun
Second Place – Keenan Nakamura
Third Place – Shreya Jalasutram

Division 4 Winners (Grades 10-12)

First Place – Jesse Ding
Second Place – Kathryn Koerner
Third Place – Xi Yao Yin



"Eye See Heroes" by Ethan Zejia Chen, Age 13, La Verne, CA



"A Special Moon Festival with My Hero" by Sylvia Mai, Age 11, Union City, CA



"You Are My Hero" by Tiffany Lin, Age 6, Valencia, CA

NATIONAL ART CONTEST



"My Community Heroes" by Joshua Chan, Age 7, Fremont, CA



"Lung Savors" by Evan Sun, Age 11, El Monte, CA



"Our Super Hero" by Claire Chen, Age 8, La Verne, CA



"Magical Music" by Angela Liang, Age 10, Los Angeles, CA



"Look Up to Our Heroes" by Hannah Chan, Age 11, Fremont, CA

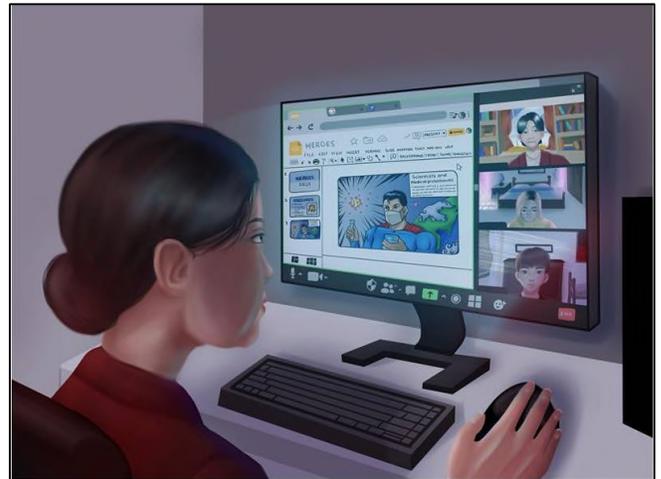


"Viral Marathon" by Eric Sun, Age 14, El Monte, CA

NATIONAL ART CONTEST



"At the Hands of Heroes and Villains" by Keenan Nakamura, Age 14, Wahiawa, HI



"Thank You Teacher, Good Bye" by Kathryn Koerner, Age 16, Houston, TX



"The Make Up" by Shreya Jalasutram, Age 13, Fremont, CA



"Anti-epidemic Hero" by Xi Yao Yin, Age 16, Rosemead, CA



"My Grandma" by Jesse Ding, Age 18, Wilmington, MA





GREETINGS AND BEST WISHES FROM THE MEMBERS OF THE SAN FRANCISCO LODGE



Board of Directors (left to right): Joe Tanizawa, Sherman Tang, Ken Ho, Nellie Leong, George Lai, Harvey Louie, Shirley Warren, Calvin Louie, Art Lew, Teresa Lai, Joanna Tom, Charlie Sung, Betty Chow, Desiree Lew, Michael Chow, Eddie Chin, Philomina Tang, Kam Ross and Gary Fain.

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San Francisco Lodge members provide a warm welcome to attendees during the Northern California Congressional Gold Medal Presentation.



Members volunteered countless hours preparing for the Northern California Congressional Gold Medal Presentation.



Members take the oath of office during the 2021 installation ceremony via Zoom.



Teresa Lai and Joanna Tom join Lauren Yang, Miss Chinatown USA 2020 and her Court.



Melanie Chan and Davace Chin present a gold medallion necklace to 2020 titleholder Lauren Yang, Houston Lodge's representative.



Calvin Louie welcomes attendees to the Northern California Congressional Gold Medal Presentation.



The arrival of Santa Claus brings happiness and joy to all at the annual Children's Christmas Party.



CHINESE AMERICAN CITIZENS ALLIANCE
SAN FRANCISCO LODGE
IN MEMORIAM



George H. Leung

June 30, 1928 - September 14, 2020

San Francisco Lodge President 1978



CHINESE AMERICAN CITIZENS ALLIANCE
SAN FRANCISCO LODGE
IN MEMORIAM



Alice Y. Tom

June 6, 1924 - February 2, 2020

San Francisco Lodge President 1997 and 1998



CHINESE AMERICAN CITIZENS ALLIANCE
SAN FRANCISCO LODGE
IN MEMORIAM



Robert B. Wong

June 20, 1929 - October 7, 2020

San Francisco Lodge President 1993 and 1994
Oakland Lodge President 1970



Stand Up, Stand Out, Stand Proud!

C.A.C.A. 56th Biennial National Convention

August 7 - 14, 2021

C.A.C.A. Los Angeles congratulates C.A.C.A. National Headquarters in San Francisco and C.A.C.A. Portland on their Centennials

Los Angeles
Founded May 15, 1912



Congratulations

National Board

Virtual 56th Biennial Convention

Best wishes for a

Successful Convention

From



CHINESE AMERICAN
CITIZENS ALLIANCE

PORTLAND LODGE

波特蘭同源會

波特蘭同源會

成立一百週年



Betty Jean Lee

Franklin Quan

Kent Lee

Helen Ying

Stephen Ying

Gloria Lee

Wisdom Ming

Kittie Kong

Raymond Chong

Jennie Shen

100th Anniversary

100th Anniversary

Chinese American citizens Alliance Portland Lodge

7th
Printing



Cook Book
for Sale

only \$40 Shipping
included

Please go to <https://cacaportland.com> to order your copy

This is the 7th printing of our Cantonese style cookbook spearheaded by Betty Jean Lee and offers favorite recipes from 62 Oregonian Chinese Americans. Originally our intent for the cookbook was to teach the art of Chinese cooking. We wanted to present everyday family recipes that could be handed down through the generations.

Since its first printing in November 1972, Asian cuisine has become diverse and multi-ethnic in the United States. The internet has made it easy to share recipes and cultures from many regions around the world. Today the recipes in Chinese Gourmet reflect the history, availability of ingredients and traditions of Cantonese cuisine and the experiences of earlier generations of Chinese Americans in the United States. Most ingredients are now easily purchased in local Asian markets. We hope you enjoy sharing these recipes with family and friends.

Portland Lodge Celebrates its 100th Anniversary

The Portland Lodge Board of Chinese American Citizens Alliance and members would like to thank National Historian, Suellen Cheng and Past National President Munson Kwok, Ph.D. for their contribution in helping to complete the Portland Lodge story of the first 100 years.

Highlights of Our First 100 years

The founding date of Chinese American Citizens Alliance Portland Lodge is February 24, 1921. Some months earlier, the Portland group received the sanction from the Grand Lodge (Board of Grand Officers) to charter Portland Lodge. Lee Hing, charter president, reported that the committee had signed up 60 paid up, qualified members, all American citizens as required. As it turned out, that night *the Portland Oregonian* announced a charter membership as great as 150! The article announced that local District Attorney Evans and Mayor Baker of Portland were among those attending and speaking at the open house of the new headquarters near Chinatown. Chartering and installing officer was Grand President Leong Kow from San Francisco.

This 1953, Twenty-second Biennial National Convention souvenir pamphlet is dedicated to the charter members who initiated the Portland Lodge of C.A.C.A. in 1921.



INITIAL BOARD OF OFFICERS OF PORTLAND LODGE 1921

Fourth row, left to right: *Dan G. Goon, Paul S. Hong, Wong Fook Young*, Henry J. Chan*, Harold Lowe, John D. Wong.*

Third row: *Moy Chee, Lee Foo*, Winge H. Lee, Seid G. Back*, Louie Sing Chung*, Chin Hing*.*

Second row: *Herbert Jue Sue Jewel, Woo Lai Sun, Chuck Wing Moy, Lee Hing, Lee S. Sue*, Ding Gow.*

Front row: *Kie Ming Moy, Moy Louie*.*

* deceased

The officers installed were:

- Lee Hing, president;
- C. W. Moy, vice president;
- S. C. Lee, Chinese secretary;
- Dow (sic) Gow, assistant Chinese secretary;
- Woo Lai Sun, English secretary;
- Herbert Jewell, assistant English secretary;
- Kie Ming Moy, treasurer;
- Moy Louie, sergeant-at-arms;
- Henry H. Chan, collector;
- Chin Hing and Moy Chee, auditors; and
- Louie Chung, chairman of the executive committee.

Some notable charter leaders included Lee Hing, charter president, and Woo Lai Sun, first English secretary, noted as the first Chinese American graduate from University of Oregon in civil engineering, 1914. He was the son of the notable Lai Sun family of Salem, prominent hop farmers. He would be important later in Grand Lodge activity. Lee Hing was charter president, but he would serve several terms later. Both were descendants of families successful in hops farming, and later in businesses. Ding Gow, charter assistant Chinese secretary, would serve in many positions. He would later be Grand Representative for Portland Lodge for nearly 30 years, past 1953. When Portland Lodge was first formed, these young men were scarcely into their 20's, continuing a pattern in pioneering by native-born Chinese begun with the initial 1895 incorporation of the Grand Lodge in San Francisco.

Portland Lodge was immediately active in the local community and with the national missions of the Chinese American Citizens Alliance. The Portland Lodge teamed with community groups for China relief in March. In this article "Chinese Are Granted Use of Auditorium for Relief Banquet", prominent lawyer Seid Gain Back is mentioned connected with the Chinese American Citizens Alliance as a member of the board of directors. Just six months after chartering, Portland Lodge was immediately immersed in the Headquarters Building project in San Francisco, marking the Grand Opening on August 10, 1921. On the record, the fledgling Lodge is noted to have raised \$200, equivalently \$2,500 in 2021 dollars. On the same weekend, three delegates attended the 8th Biennial National Convention in Oakland. In 1923 in San Francisco, charter president Lee Hing was sitting on the Grand Board (Board of Grand Officers) and only one delegate, Chun Ting, was admitted. By 1926, 105 members were reported in the death benefit insurance program and by 1933, Portland recorded 199, with 113 in the insurance.

Perhaps a most important early involvement of Portland Lodge on the national stage was its participation in a campaign to obtain family reunification of wives (in China) with their native-born husbands. This action became urgent when a majority of members expressed concerns on behalf of those who had traveled to China, married, even had children, and then returned to America. The Immigration Act of 1924 virtually shut down the hope of immigration for the non-citizen women. The resolve was translated into action at the 1925 national convention in Chicago. The committee formed to plan a financing campaign included Woo Lai Sun of Portland. He did not participate however in an incredible whistle stop campaign but was included in the Washington D.C. lobby team with important Alliance leaders You Chung "Y.C" Hong, team head, Walter U. Lum, Kenneth Y. Fung, Peter Wong, and Peter Soo-Hoo Sr., another engineer from Los Angeles. The advocacy effort would have to last over 20 years until Aug. 1946 when the "Wives of Chinese American Husbands" Act was passed in Congress and signed by President Harry Truman to give non-quota status for the immigration of the women.

Minutes also show that arguments arose in the mid-1920s (1926) resulting from inflexibilities and inefficiencies in administration of the death benefit program. Portland seasonal workers in salmon canneries would be paid mainly at the end of season. The late payments to the program led to threats of cancellation or actual cancellations. The Grand Board, based comfortably urban in San Francisco, naturally expected timely payments to keep the program funded. Considerable dialogue transpired before compromises led to some allowance made for some seasonal and lowered “lump sum” payments to the program.

The fledgling Portland Lodge through Grand Representative Ding Gow challenged justifications for loans to the equally fledgling Chinese Times. Fundraising for the newspaper took place the next year. Then Charter Member Henry Chan reported the prospect of 40 members for New York, but nothing resulted.

In 1933, Portland Lodge hosted a national convention for the first time, the 14th Biennial National Convention, during the term of Walter U. Lum as Grand President. Lum was by now better known as Editor of *Chinese Times, Gum Saan Sze Po*. President Seid Gain Back died suddenly early in the year while leading the planning. One of Portland’s charter leaders, Woo Lai Sun, stepped in once again so Portland could meet its obligation to the national organization. Seid was Portland’s most prominent Chinese American lawyer and doubtless important to C.A.C.A.’s national immigration campaign. National minutes indicate an intense discussion about the selection of the dates for the convention event. The reasoning given by Portland is a clue on the nature of membership at the time. It has been noticed that Chinese American Citizens Alliance membership comprised as much as 10% of all eligible (namely native-born) Chinese men in the United States, an astonishing number. One can surmise that the popularity was due to two important factors: the attractiveness of a death benefit insurance program and the reassurance of an “unofficial” certification of citizenship which could be issued. Racial discrimination had prevented Chinese from obtaining any insurance. The certification seemed still reliable despite Immigration Department insistence that the certificates had no legal basis. Portland Lodge pushed for a postponement of the national convention since as many as 60% of its members were employed in the salmon canneries, in season until October. It was a strong indication that the typical membership included working men as well as businessmen and professionals. Characteristically, the Board pushed back, but finally had to relent, or lose the host at the last moment.

The 14th national convention was held successfully October 16-21. Making the trip to Oregon were Grand Lodge, San Francisco, Oakland, Los Angeles, Fresno, San Diego, Chicago, Boston, Pittsburgh, to join host Portland. Among the issues discussed were the forming of women auxiliaries and the starting of an organizational history. Foremost remained immigration rights and family reunification, namely bringing Chinese wives to America. The following years were not easy for Portland Lodge in the time of the Great Depression and then World War II. Membership dwindled, as it did in several lodges, and convention proceedings reported that Portland could not even qualify for any representation in 1937.

Portland leader Woo Lai Sun was not done. After World War II in 1953, Portland Lodge revived and willingly offered to host its second national convention, possibly as late observance of the 30th Anniversary. Ding Gow (William Gow Ding) was still Grand Representative. At the 22nd National Convention, September 9-12, Grand President Y.C. Hong would be ending his term and incoming Grand President Henry Lem would be installed. The Grand Opening Ball and meetings were at the *Hotel Multnomah* and the closing banquet was held at the *Golden Dragon Restaurant*. Congressman Walter Norblad (R-OR) was a featured speaker and proposed new beginnings for the Republic of China. Portland would host three more, the 33rd National Convention in 1975, the 40th in 1989 and the 46th, in 2001. A major milestone took place at the 33rd National Convention when the Grand Council took action

to admit women as bonafide members. The Honorable Gary Locke and then up-and-coming politician David Wu visited at the latter.

While Portland Lodge was slated to host the 56th National Convention in 2021, the COVID-19 pandemic put an unprecedented spin on the situation. Instead, the National Convention is being held wholly online and digital-based using Zoom.

After such a span of community service and commitment to the Alliance, national minutes does document most of the lineup through the 1950s of Portland Lodge presidents, given here:

Lee Hing	1921, 1922, 1925, 1926, 1934, 1935, 1939, 1942, 1943, 1944
Woo Lai Sun	1923, 1924, 1932, 1933, 1937, 1953
Seid Gain Back	1933 (died in April)
Ding Gow	1938, 1940, 1945
Herbert Jue Sue Jewel	1941
William Moe 巫美振	1954, 1955
張錦濂	1956, 1957

And here is an additional listing of Portland Lodge presidents from the collective memories and records after 1957:

Mark Goon	1950's and 1960's
Chester Locke	1960's
George Fung	1960's
Fred G. Lee	1970's
Norman Locke	1970's
Ronald Wong	1970's
Wiz Wong	1970's
Franklin Quan	1970's
Sam Won	1970's
Leonard Lee	1970's
Ronald Eng	1980's
Keith Lee	1980's and 1990's
Joseph Tam	1990's
Helen Ying	1998 to 2003
Stephen Ying	2004 to 2010
Cyrus Lee	2011 to 2014
Gloria Lee	2015 to 2016
Kent Lee	2017, 2018, 2021
Kittie Kong	2019 to 2020

The Annual Food Faire that started in the 1980's continued to draw the biggest crowd of volunteers and guests in the 1990's. The 1998 Food Faire was another great success. Along with all the fun and fanfare, we raised close to \$19,000, the highest ever. The Annual Chinese New Year and Anniversary Celebration took the place of the Annual Food Faire as the main fundraiser in the early 2000's.

Portland Lodge Cookbook

Once the Basketball Program was established in the 1960's, there definitely was a need for financial support. Many of the members helped by selling snacks at games, but it wasn't enough revenue. The

idea of gathering family recipes and developing a “Cookbook” was established. We gathered family, and friends to send in recipes and we “hand typed” out our first cookbook and sold 1,000 in the first week. There have been six printings and the seventh one is forthcoming. We hope this cookbook will be passed onto the next generation to preserve our traditional food.

In the 1990’s, the Portland Lodge Board developed a new mission statement that centered its focus and activities: ***The C.A.C.A. Portland Lodge's mission is three-fold, to develop leadership, serve the community, and promote civil rights.*** The following highlights some of our additional activities and accomplishments:

Leadership development

Asian American Youth Leadership Conference

As shown in the Portland Lodge’s 2001 National Convention report, “The Portland Lodge continues to support the Annual Asian American Youth Leadership Conference in sponsorship as well as planning. Over 400 students participated in the conference this year.” In 2010, the founder of the conference, Paul Duong selected the Portland Lodge as the baton taker and turned over the conference to the Portland Lodge Board. This conference serves as an annual summit and on-going mini-gatherings aimed at inspiring Asian American youth to value the importance of self-discipline, self-confidence, self-esteem, and the overall rewards of perseverance and achievement. We believe that when youth are provided with resources, empowerment, and opportunities, they can become role models for others in their communities. With the help of over 50 volunteers, the conference is co-chaired by Helen Ying and Hoa Nguyen will be holding its 30th event in 2022. Learn more via its website, AAYLC.org.

Youth Lion Dance Program

As reported in the 1999, 2001, and 2003 national convention reports, *“Our Youth Lion Dance Program is also doing very well under the arduous training of Master Stephen Ying. They have received many accolades at all the performances. February is a very busy month for this group as it’s the season to celebrate Chinese New Year, yet, they continue to be in demand for shows throughout the year. They were in four shows this summer. Along with the lively and aesthetic performance, they also served to promote C.A.C.A. in the community.”*

“Under the guidance of Master Stephen Ying, our lion dance team has performed in many events. They include celebrations for the Lunar New Year, events at the Classical Chinese Gardens, World Animals at the Portland Zoo, the Gresham Children’s Fair, ArtExplosion: Asian/Pacific American Performing Arts Festival, and the Grand Opening Ceremonies for Portland Street Cars.” The program retired in 2003.

Youth Basketball Program

The Portland Lodge youth basketball program that was initiated in the 1950s became a signature program for over 60 years. The program was an important service for the Chinese American community for decades as many families had working parents with latch key children as well as those who hung out in restaurants while their parents toiled long hours at their businesses. The program provided a stable activity where young people got together for a positive and productive activity.

The program started by leaders like Fred G. Lee continued to thrive under leadership of those that followed. As noted in a 1999 report to the 45th national convention, *“Our Youth Basketball Program is*

vibrant and growing. Thanks to coaches and volunteers, we had another awesome season. Besides the regular games, our teams participated in two tournaments with the Seattle Chinese Athletic Association. One was held in February in Portland while the other one was held in Seattle in March. State Farm Insurance has underwritten some of the cost of the tournament which helped to defray our cost. We are grateful for their support and many thanks to the Basketball Board and coaches for their dedication and hard work. Keith Lee continues to be a tireless force behind this enormous undertaking. Thanks to Keith Lee for serving as the director of the youth basketball program for over twenty years. He has passed the baton to Rex Wong. Under Rex's leadership and the help of 15 coaches, the program is serving over 130 young people with 12 basketball teams for 4th graders to high school students."

The program was retired in 2017 after a continuous run of over 60 years.

Scholarship Program

- **Fred G. Lee Memorial Scholarship** - A good friend, Mark Goon, brought Fred and many young professional men into the C.A.C.A. in the 1950's. He immediately became active in helping his community, but especially its young people.

Remembering how much fun he and his friends had playing basketball, he organized the C.A.C.A. Basketball program in the late 1950s. He was on the Chinese School board. He mentored and advised many young people, often bringing them home for dinner, and, according to Betty Jean, wanted to adopt a couple who were going through tough times because of the lack of parental support. Much of what he did was done quietly and without recognition.

After his untimely death in 1979, the Chinese community decided to establish a scholarship to continue his commitment to young people. With more hard work, fund-raising, and donations through the years, more than 70 scholarships have been awarded.

- **Paul Duong Memorial Scholarship** - The Asian American Youth Leadership Conference (AAYLC) was organized in 1993 under the leadership of Mr. Paul Duong while he was serving as the Coordinator of the City of Portland's Refugee & Immigration Program. From the beginning, it has been supported by Asian American community-based organizations including the Chinese American Citizens Alliance Portland Lodge. The conference team named its scholarship program in memory of Mr. Duong after his passing in 2015. Learn more about Mr. Duong [HERE](#). In 2010, the founder of the conference, Paul Duong selected the Portland Lodge as the baton taker and turned over the conference to the Portland Lodge Board.
- **David Lee Quan Memorial Scholarship** - Franklin and Sharry Quan established a scholarship in memory of their son, David Lee Quan. Their beautiful baby boy was born in 1979. He suffered oxygen deprivation at birth that resulted in severe brain damage. He could not walk or talk or take care of himself and suffered cerebral palsy his whole life. Still, he was always smiling, was loving and affectionate. He died in 2016 of complications of pneumonia, at age 36. In honoring their son, Franklin and Sharry hope the scholarship will inspire students going into medical fields to help people like David and to someday find a cure for devastating brain damage.
- **Tiffany Wang Arts Scholarship** - This scholarship is sponsored by Tiffany Wang, a gifted musician, who has a passion for music and the arts. When Tiffany was in high school, she performed at various functions where she was paid or received gratuities. One such event was the local Farmer's Market. Tiffany felt privileged that her parents could afford to send her to

summer music camps, and she sponsors this scholarship with the monies that she earned from her performances to help students that are less fortunate. This scholarship helps students with their tuition fees for summer camps in the fine arts and performing arts.

- **Annual Essay Contest** - Portland Lodge has been involved in the C.A.C.A. National Essay Contest since its inception. In 2020, we were fortunate to host 17 contestants as an in-person event just before a state-wide Covid shutdown. In 2021 we pivoted to holding the contest virtually for 14 contestants. Our assessment of the virtual style was very positive for these reasons:

1. No need to rent a facility to hold the contest.
2. Our student reach was much larger, as distance was no longer a factor for the distant parts of our state.
3. One of our contestants (due to her schedule) was able to complete her essay with the San Antonio Lodge in their time zone.
4. Proctoring in the virtual manner was very easy.

Moving forward, Portland Lodge hopes that National will allow each lodge the option to hold this contest in-person or virtually.

Community Service

Toy and Food Drive

Our first Toy and Food Drive last Christmas was held on the weekend of December 19- 20, 1998. Thanks to Fong and June Yee and Keith Lee for spearheading this project. Donations were received from individuals, businesses (Wal-Mart, McDonalds, Kienows) and agencies (local food banks). We received \$370 in cash donations and lots of food. The cash was used to buy food and toys. Over twenty people gathered on the 19th to pack food boxes and wrap the toys. Sixty-five food boxes and packages of toys were delivered on the 20th to families waiting at a low income housing area. It was an enjoyable occasion for givers and receivers alike. We hope to continue this effort and expand it to a larger scale in the coming years.

The Annual Toy and Food Drive now takes on a much more simplified process. In partnership with the [Asian Health and Services Center](#), gift cards are purchased with the donated funds from members and friends and given to AHSC to distribute to needy families that they serve during the holiday season in December.

Oregon Liquor Control Commission (OLCC) Server Permit Classes

In the early 1980's Oregon passed a law that owners of bars and servers of alcohol were required to pass a test to be certified for a license. The state did not consider that many of the Asian restaurant owners and servers did not speak English. We had to convince the OLCC to allow us to teach Cantonese and Mandarin classes and received no financial support from the state for translation. After 20 years, OLCC finally is recognizing the need and assisting with the program. Initially, we had monthly classes with as many as 12-15 students in attendance. Recently, Stephen Ying, has been teaching students to obtain their licenses online with computers and tablets.

Community Involvement/Civil rights

Advocacy and Civil Rights

- Over 20 years ago, Betty Jean Lee, Suenn Ho, and several members were instrumental in bringing the dream of **Classical Chinese Gardens in Chinatown** to reality.
- Keith Lee and Helen Ying attended a **City of Portland Community Budget Forum** in February 2000. They asked the city to promote higher representation of ethnic minorities in involvement of leadership along with other requests such as safe communities.
- Bill Chin represented C.A.C.A. at an **OLCC hearing** in November 2000. He also wrote letters stating our concerns of equal access to various governmental agencies including the City Commissioners, the Attorney General's office, the Oregon Liquor Control Commission, and the Office of Neighborhood Involvement. His work has led to an invitation for him to serve on the Liquor License Advisory Council.
- In September 2000, C.A.C.A. Portland Lodge had written a letter in collaboration with twenty organizations to the editors of the Oregonian expressing our outrage of the recent mistreatment of a Chinese visitor. **Immigration & Naturalization Service's** (INS) regional office organized a series of meetings with the representatives as a part of their investigation of the concerns. Questions were raised about racial profiling and uncivil treatment of clients. Concerns of diversity training, cultural sensitivity training, accessibility, and user-friendliness were addressed. In 2001, Helen Ying served as a member of the INS Community Roundtable. INS has been restructured since the formation of the roundtables. On March 1, 2003, the functions of immigration and customs were divided between three different bureaus in the Department of Homeland Security. Our Portland Lodge continued to serve as a "watchdog" to ensure proper service for immigrants for a number of years.
- We cosponsored a **civil rights workshop** with the Chinese Service Center on August 26, 2000. Ms. Faye Dow, an Equal Opportunity Specialist from the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Office of Civil Rights presented valuable information to an audience of more than 100. The outline of the workshop included Title VI of the Civil Rights Act 1964, limited English proficiency rights, provider responsibility, immigrant access to health care and social services, and nondiscrimination based on disability, race, age, sex, & religion.
- Voter registration, civic education and engagement has become part of the fabric of Portland Lodge work. Gloria Lee is currently leading this program, collaborating with funders and cultivating partnerships with organizations from Asian Health and Service Center, League of Women Voters, Japanese American Citizens League, local libraries, local Asian markets, Lee Family Association and more.
- In 2016, we joined with Asian American Network of Oregon (APANO) in becoming a VOTE partner and launched our civic engagement and education programming. Through generous re-grants from APANO, we have been able to hire contractors, train volunteers and further develop sustaining programs. Since then, we have registered over 380 new voters and followed up with hundreds more on ballot measure translations, phone banking, GOTV (Get Out The Vote) and facilitated listening circles. Over 30 native language speakers were recruited and stepped forward for additional training on vote specific vocabulary (not commonly used in everyday

speech). Continued recruitment and development of trained translators is foundational to our efforts to build trust and provide service to voters. The programs have inspired both new and established voters to engage in civic education and the democratic process.

- Since 2012, the Portland Lodge has striven to transform a barren gravel space of old graves of Chinese sojourners to the Cultural Heritage Garden at Lone Fir Cemetery. As a memorial, it will honor the Chinese sojourners in Block 14 to right the historic wrongs and actions.
- On Nov. 6th, 2016, we held the first of our election ballot party serving 125 voters facilitated by 13 trained translators working one on one with each voter. Each election since we have increased voter turnout for elections.
- In 2017, Portland Lodge was lauded for its efforts in advancing public recognition of the city's earliest Chinese settlers. The Lodge gifted the city with a plaque that commemorates the more than 5,000 Chinese dwellers living and working in Portland's original Chinatown between 1863 and 1900. "The plaque was designed by Suenn Ho and it took two years of perseverance and raising small donations to memorialize the contributions of past generations of Chinese Americans," said Betty Jean Lee, the brainchild of the plaque. Commissioner Dan Saltzman and Portland Bureau of Transportation Director Leah Treat dedicated a bronze plaque in the heart of the City's original Chinatown. We also initiated and advocated for a bill, SB 227 and met with lawmakers to ensure that Oregon students learn about the history and incredible contributions of Chinese Americans and communities of color whose stories seldom make it to the history books.
- In 2019, we advocated for Mayor Ted Wheeler to issue a Proclamation on the 150th Anniversary of the completion of the First Transcontinental Railroad in recognition of the sacrifice and contribution of the Chinese railroad workers.
- In 2020, we were funded by United Way of Columbia-Willamette for the We Count Oregon Campaign for outreach to hard to count populations in several counties. We managed to conduct 4 out of 6 events before the pandemic stay at home orders came through and we pivoted to outreach by phone, Youtube and social media.

Honoring Veterans

On November 5, 2000, the Portland Lodge co-sponsored the film screening of "**We Served With Pride: The Chinese American Experience in World War II**". Over 300 people attended the film screening. Local Chinese WWII veterans were recognized as honored guests. Terry Low, one of the organizing committee members said, "Seeing the glow on the veterans' faces on stage made the effort in putting this event together all worthwhile." Thanks to Montgomery Hom who dedicated seven years to complete this film. Not only will it serve as a memorial to Chinese American citizens whose sacrifices during the war have gone largely uncelebrated but it will also proclaim the message that Chinese Americans are no longer silent, ignored, or forgotten.

Ensuing veterans events continued over the years. We are honored to play a role in the Chinese American WWII Veterans Recognition Project and look forward to holding the Oregon Regional Chinese American WWII Veterans Congressional Gold Medal Awards Program honoring veterans from Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Wyoming on November 14, 2021. We are glad to have held virtual medal presentations to two living veterans, Mr. Fred C. Lee and Mr. Sinclair Yip already.

Education

1882 Project Celebration Since the passages of the House and Senate resolutions of apologies expressing regret for the passage of discriminatory laws against the Chinese in America, including the Chinese Exclusion Act, we have been holding annual 1882 Project Celebration to educate people about the 1882 Chinese Exclusion Act, its history and current issues related to it.

Celebrations and Fun Times

- Annual Awards & Recognition Dinner showcases the activities of the Portland Lodge, recognizes the many volunteers, and presents awards to the local winners of the C.A.C.A. National Essay Contest and the winners of scholarship recipients.
- Annual Chinese New Year and Anniversary Celebration. This annual event brings together members, friends, and elected officials to celebrate Chinese New Year and Portland Lodge's anniversary where they showcase their accomplishments and garner support to help fund the youth and civic education programs.
- Annual MidAutumn celebration and Winter Social bring together members and friends for fun times and bonding experiences.

On Sunday, February 28th, 2021 Portland Lodge invited the public to kick off a yearlong celebration of its 100th Anniversary. We were joined by 105 friends, family, and community members. Together, we traveled down memory lane to 1921 and embarked on a journey that unfolded incredible highlights, benchmarks, and milestones. We are excited to continue the centennial celebration with the C.A.C.A. family and look forward to more events and celebrations later this year.



2021 Portland Lodge Board

Top Row (L to R): Betty Jean Lee (Director At Large), Franklin Quan (Compliance Officer), Kent Lee (President), Helen Ying (Director At Large), Stephen Ying (National Representative)

Bottom Row (L to R) Gloria Lee (Marshall), Wisdom Ming (Treasurer), Kittie Kong (Vice President), Raymond Chong (Sentinel), Jennie Shen (Secretary)

Our Best Wishes for a Successful Convention



Past National President Davace Chin, along with six decades of Salinas Lodge Presidents.
 Front row: Jerry Cheang, Louis Lee, Carl Chan, Linda Low, Ira Katz, Flora Chong, Parker Chin and Wallace Ahtye.
 Back row: Henry Gong, Herb Wong, Sherman Low, Byron Chong, Alan Wing and Richard Ng.

Salinas Lodge 2021 Board of Officers

President.....	Herbert Wong
Vice President.....	Albert Fong
Secretary	Candice Chin
Assistant Secretary	Linda Low
Treasurer	Louis Lee
Financial Secretary	Herbert Wong
Compliance Officer.....	Joyce Lowe
Compliance Officer.....	Elena Fuji
Marshal	Connie Katz
Sentinel	Stan Chan
Collector	Leonard Han
National Representative.....	Herbert Wong



**SAN ANTONIO LODGE
CONGRATULATES
NATIONAL LODGE
FOR A SUCCESSFUL
FIRST EVER
BIENNIAL VIRTUAL
CONVENTION!**



COME SEE WHAT WE'RE UP TO!

WWW.CACASATX.ORG

Our Thanks to C.A.C.A. National for Hosting the

56TH BIENNIAL NATIONAL CONVENTION

August 7-14, 2021

**STAND
UP**

**STAND
OUT**

**STAND
PROUD**

Best Wishes



PHOENIX C.A.C.A.



Mississippi Lodge
Organized Sept. 9, 2000

Congratulations to Portland Lodge on your 100th Anniversary!

Jim



President

Mary



Vice President

Dana



Secretary

Cecilia



Assistant Secretary

Linda



Treasurer

Emerald



Financial Secretary

Blanche



Compliance Officers

Jing



Hong Chow



Marshal

Joe Dan



Sentinel

Jerome



Collector

Shirley



National Representative





Congratulations to C.A.C.A. National on a successful virtual 2021 Biennial National Convention

C.A.C.A. Seattle 2021 Board Members



Cathy Lee Chen
President



Ming-Ming Tung
Edelman – VP



Kevin Lee
Secretary



Christine D'Amore
Asst. Secretary



Warren Yee
Treasurer



Phyllis Lee
Finance Secretary



Alan Lai
Compliance Officer



Christin Chou
Compliance Officer



Richard Huie
Marshal



Jerry Lee
Sentinel



Jean Chen
Collector



Betty Luke
National Rep.



Julie Sun, Member
Mgr, Annual Essay Contest



The C.A.C.A. Seattle 2021 Board and Members would like to give special thanks to all of our healthcare professionals for their dedication and hard work to help combat this pandemic.



*From
Greater New York
(CACAGNY)
warm host to the 2021 NYC*



Republican mayoral nominee

Democratic mayoral nominee

Greetings and Best Wishes
to
Our Fellow Members
from Everywhere Across the Nation
especially
Portland – Happy 100th!
on the Occasion of the
56th C.A.C.A. National Convention
2021

美洲同源總會第五十六屆懇親大會紀念

睦誼惠僑

蔡英文



中華民國二十二年七月

英文用箋

美洲同源總會第五十六屆懇親大會特刊紀念

同源精英
再創巔峰

僑務委員會

委員長

童振源



敬題

美洲同源總會第五十六屆懇親大會紀念

本固枝榮

賴清德



中華民國二十一年七月

清德用箋



**Chinese American Citizens Alliance
Greater San Gabriel Valley Lodge
大聖蓋博谷同源會**

**Congratulations to C.A.C.A. National Lodge for
Successfully Hosting the 56th Biennial National Convention
On a Virtual Platform, and to
Portland Lodge for its 100th Anniversary Celebration!**

Stand Up, Stand Out, Stand Proud!



2021 Board of Officers

President: John Y. Wong

Secretary: Dean Ng

Treasurer: Jason Dhing

Compliance Officer: Shirley Hwong

Marshall: Alice Mah

Collector: Valerie Lee

Vice-President: Charles Mau

Assistant Secretary: Sam W. Gee

Financial Secretary: Holly Luong

Compliance Officer: Angela Lai

Sentinel: Scott Kwong

National Representative: Sharon Wong

Past Presidents: John Y. Wong, Maureen Sur, Lisa Yang, Paul Wong, Bob Gin,
John Gee, David Yuen, Charles Mau, Sharon Wong

**The Chinese American Citizens Alliance Houston Lodge 2021
Congratulations on the 100th Anniversary of the Portland Lodge**



Alice Lee
President



Alice Hung
Vice President



Maryann Yeung
Secretary



Faye Chin
Assistant Secretary



Daniel Chow
Treasurer



Susan Gee
Financial Secretary



Jewelry Yep
Compliance Officer



Dr. Kuo Eng
Compliance Officer



Calvin Yep
Marshal



Deanna Lau
Sentinel



Irene Joe
Collector



Shelley Ding
Grand Representative



Dorothy Chow
National Executive

Congratulations to our Sister Portland Lodge on achieving the centennial milestone. May future generations always remember and appreciate your growth and remember the historical past of your forefathers. Kudos for hosting the first virtual C.A.C.A. convention during this pandemic year.





The Boston Lodge congratulates C.A.C.A National for hosting a successful 56th Biennial National Convention!

Stand Up Against Hate **Stand Out Unsung Heroes**



Stand Proud Spirit of America





2021 Board Of Directors

www.CACALVLodge.org

- President M. Joseph Miller II.
- Vice President Robert Chin
- Secretary Patrick Sekino
- Assistant Secretary Jahzel Cruz
- Treasurer Tom Shu
- Collector Christina Evans
- Compliance Officer I Lawrence Balanovsky
- Compliance Officer II T. Treffinger
- Marshal Calvin To
- Sentinel Billy Olds
- Past President Hui-Lim Ang

Congratulations Portland Lodge



**HONORING NATIONALS FOR THE FIRST VIRTUAL
BIENNIEL NATIONAL CONVENTION
(56TH IN 2021)**

Albuquerque Lodge

SIXTY YEARS YOUNG!



Founded
April 24,
1961



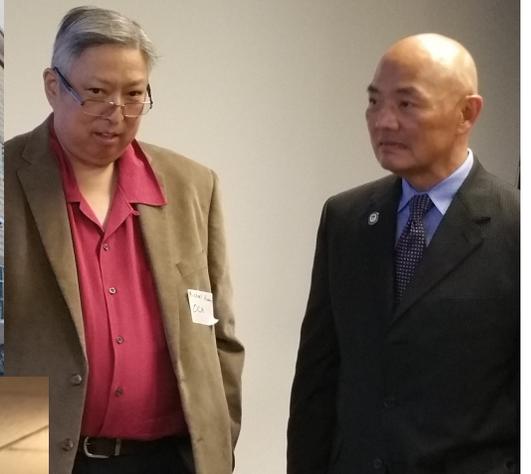
Proclamation from Mayor
Keller 2021



Front row (l to r): Song Yee, Kim Ong, Gine Gee, Edward Gaw, Wing Ong, Ken Moon Wong, Billy Gee, Henry Gee
Middle row (l to r): Jack Su, Louis Ma, King Gee, Tony Q. Chan, Frank Yee
Back row (l to r): Nelson Gee, Andy Gee, Li Lee Louie, Harry Jew, Robert Y. Lee, Kit W. Jee, James Jeung

The Albuquerque Lodge wishes Portland Lodge much success for the 56th Biennial Convention of 2021







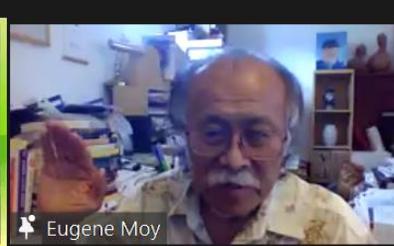
**Sacramento Lodge
congratulates**

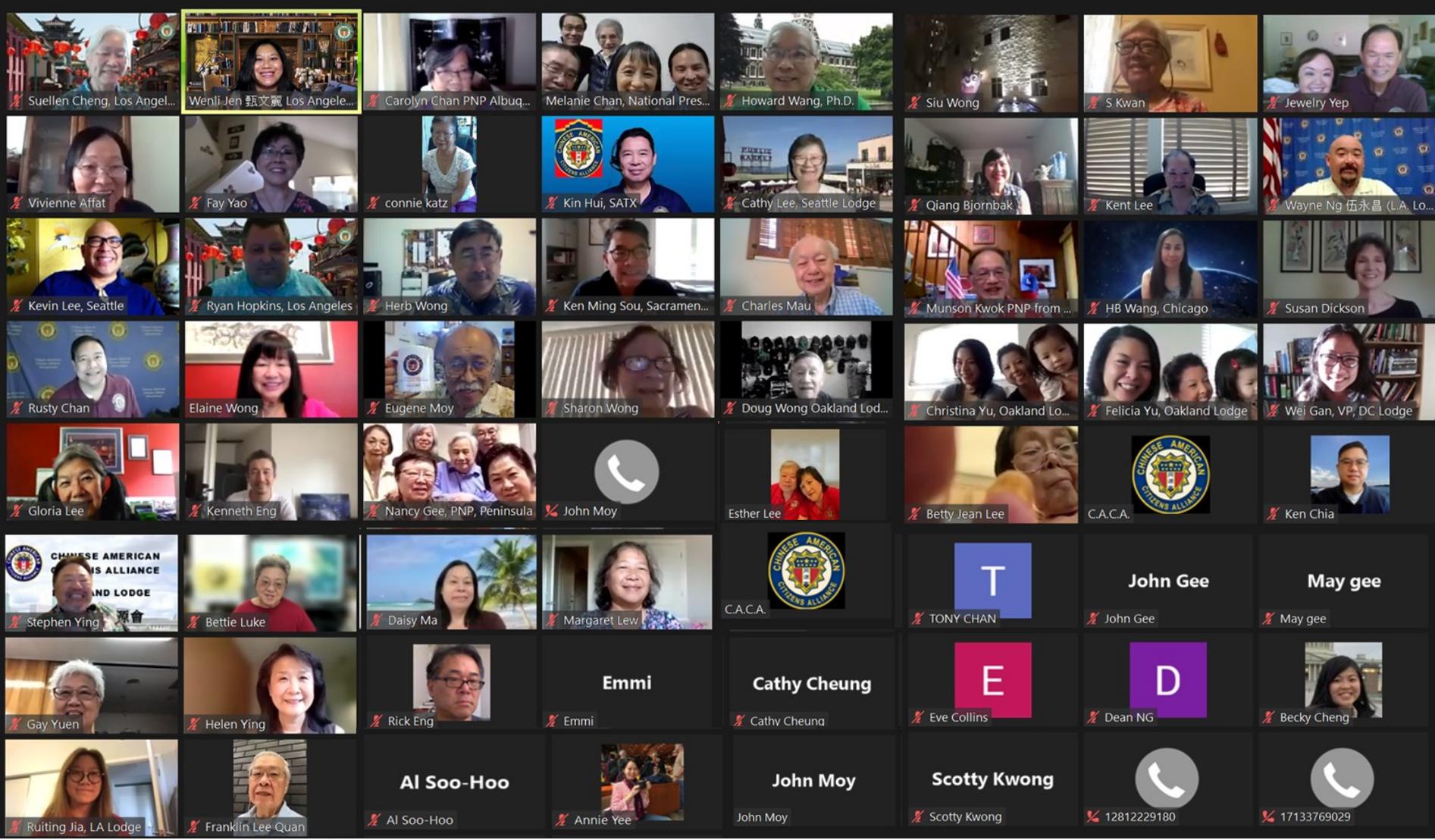
**C.A.C.A. National Lodge for the
2021 Biennial Virtual Convention
and to Portland Lodge for
their 100th Anniversary!**



Chinese American Citizens Alliance National Convention

Installation of Officers and National Executives on August 14, 2021





Chinese American Citizens Alliance

National Convention

August 7-14, 2021