

*E Pluribus Unum & Bhinneka Tunggal Ika*

**INDONESIA**

**ASIAN AMERICAN COALITION OF CHICAGO  
42<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL LUNAR NEW YEAR 4723/  
2025 CELEBRATION EXTRAVAGANZA**



Hyatt Regency O'Hare

February 22, 2025

Hosted by:

Indonesian American Community  
Indonesian Diaspora Network - USA

When you need a warm blanket for Saturday snuggles, we're here.

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**ASIAN AMERICAN COALITION OF CHICAGO**  
**42<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL LUNAR NEW YEAR 4723/**  
**2025 CELEBRATION EXTRAVAGANZA**  
 HOSTED BY INDOONESIAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY

# WELCOME SELAMAT DATANG

Apa Kabar	你好吗	คุณเป็นอย่างไร	お元気ですか	နေကောင်းလား
당신이 얼마나	Bạn như thế nào	আপনি কেমন আছেন	तुम कैसे हो	តើ ធ្វើដូចម្តេចអ្នក
Kumusta Po Kayo	آپ کیسے ہیں	तपाईं कसरी हुनुहुन्छ	ທ່ານເຮັດແນວໃດ	ඔබට කෙසේද

**THE INDOONESIAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY, represented as follows:**

- Indonesian Diaspora Network – Midwest, USA (IDN - Midwest, USA)
- Indonesian Performing Arts of Chicago (iPAC)
- Indonesian Abroad In Reach (iAIR)
- Indonesian Students Association (PERMIAS-Chicago)
- Indonesian Muslim Community (Pengajian Chicago)
- Indonesian Christian Community (PMKI)
- Indonesian Catholics Community (PWKI)
- Indonesian Buddhist Community
- International Full Gospel Fellowship (IFGF)
- Chicago City Blessing Church (CCBC)
- GPdI – New Life
- Full Gospel Indonesian Church

**SPECIAL THANKS TO:**

- Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia - Washington DC
- Consulate General of the Republic of Indonesia – Chicago
- Indonesian Trade Promotion Center
- Irene Cualoping, Executive Producer/Show Director
- ENERI Communications



MARTINO TANGKAR  
AACC 2024 - 2025 PRESIDENT



## GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT

SELAMAT DATANG! WELCOME! It is my pleasure to welcome you and your organization to participate in the 42nd Annual Lunar New Year Celebration / 2025 Celebration Extravaganza: "Garudheya" Nusantara Parade, Business Expo, Fashion Show, Unity Dance "Rhythm of ONE", Gamelan Ensemble & Lunar New Year Celebration. Our mission is to unite Asian Americans into a significant force for strengthening the Asian American Community in the United States, Enriching Asian cultural values, and recognizing the important of Asian American contributions to America and its economy!

The AACC, founded in 1983, is represented by over 18 Asian Americans cultures. An event held on this grand of a scale only once a year, The Asian American Lunar New Year Celebration is the largest annual celebration of its type here in the Midwest with over than 1000 seating dinner attendees, which helps celebrate these rich heritages and diverse histories. The communities take turns hosting the event on a rotating basis and this year, the Indonesian American community is thrilled to take the lead for the third times (twice before on 2006 and 2015). To celebrate the accomplishments of an amazing year as well as highlight the hope of a united future, this year's interactive theme is titled \* ... ONE ... \* as a reflection of \* E Pluribus Unum \* Bhinneka Tunggal Ika \*. This event will showcase exhibition for businesses and community organizations, gala dinner, entertainment, and award ceremonies.

Asian Americans are the fastest growing multicultural segment of the US population with \$1.2 trillion in buying power. The Asian American median household income is 28% higher than the total U.S. median income. According to the latest U.S Census (2020), the Asian Alone population in Illinois numbers approximately 755,938, or 5.9% of the statewide population. Approximately 119,672 Asians alone reside in DuPage County, comprising 12.8% of DuPage County's population; with 413,271 residents of Cook County, comprising 7.8% of Cook County's population. Champaign County has 24,487 at 11.9% Asian alone population; Lake County has 59,390 at 8.3%; Will County has 42,849 at 6.2%; McLean County has 8,142 at 4.8%; Peoria County 7,779 at 4.3%; Kane County 21,634 at 4.2%; Kendall County at 4,700 at 3.6%; McHenry County 8,803 at 2.8%; and Kendall County 4,700 at 3.6%. Over the past four decades, this event has established itself as Chicagoland's premier Pan-Asian event of its kind drawing over a thousand participants annually.

We also thank to all your teamwork, partnership, cooperation, and collaboration; Together, we we'll succeed! HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Respectfully yours,

*Martino Tangkar*

Martino Tangkar  
President, Asian American Coalition of Chicago  
National President, Indonesian Diaspora Network - USA





The Asian American Coalition of Chicago

Presents

... **ONE** ...

**The 42nd Annual Lunar New Year 4723/  
2025 Celebration Extravaganza**

Saturday, February 22, 2025 at Hyatt Regency O'Hare  
9300 West Bryn Mawr Avenue  
Rosemont, Illinois

Hosted by The Indonesian American Community

Indonesian Diaspora Network - USA

**2024-2025 AACC PRESIDENT**  
*Martino Tangkar*

**PROGRAM SCHEDULE**  
*(As of 2/17/25 Presstime)*  
*Subject to Change at Any Time Without Notice*

**4:30 P.M.**

**COCKTAIL HOUR / EXHIBITS OPEN**

**(GRAND BALLROOM FOYER)**

**4:45 P.M.**

**COUTURE FASHION SHOW**  
*Natalia Yaya Designs*

**SPECIAL BOG (BUY ONE, GET ONE OFFER)**  
COURTESY OF THE ASIAN McDONALD'S OPERATORS OF CHICAGOLAND.  
APPEARANCE BY *GRIMACE!*

**5:30 P.M.**

**GRAND BALLROOM DOORS OPEN**

**PRELUDE MUSIC**  
Javanese Gamelan Music Performance

**6 P.M.**

**OPENING CEREMONIES**

**PARADE**

*Malang Flower Carnival*  
*Ondel Ondel Betawi*

**WELCOME PROCESSIONAL**

**CELEBRITY PRESENTERS**

**Joanie Lum**, Reporter, FOX 32 Chicago TV News;  
**Judy Wang**, Reporter, WGN-TV News;  
**Ravi Baichwal**, Anchor/Reporter, ABC 7 Chicago TV News;  
**Tonray Ho**, Actress, AEA, SAG/AFTRA (Nurse Leah on NBC-TV's "Chicago Med"); Owner, BeSTUDIOPilates;  
**Eric Horng**, Reporter, ABC 7 Chicago TV News;  
**Tina Nguyen**, Sports Anchor and Reporter, FOX 32 Chicago TV News;  
**Vi Nugyen**, Reporter, NBC 5 Chicago TV News;  
**Randy Gyllenhaal**, Reporter, NBC 5 Chicago TV News;  
**Ji Suk Yi**, Co-Host of Spotlight Chicago, WGN-TV (1 p.m. Weekdays); Contributing Host, "Windy City LIVE,"  
ABC 7 Chicago for 7 Seasons;  
**Marisa Buccheit**, Operatic Soprano; \* Miss Illinois 2014;  
**Kimbirdlee Fadner**, Actress, AEA, SAG/AFTRA; Actress, Singer, \* (Soprano); Musical Theatre, Writer,  
Composer, Producer and Model (New York via Wisconsin); Chinese Brush Painter;  
**Cheryl Hamada**, Actress, AEA, SAG/AFTRA; Singer\*

**PRESENTERS**

**Van Ferro**, Actor, AEA; Singer; \* President, Artist Auxiliary Board, Chicago Artist Guide;  
**Won C. Kim**, Extras Actor;  
**Don Villar**, Secretary/Treasurer, Chicago Federal of Labor; Former Longtime  
Writer/Producer, ABC 7 Chicago TV News; and

**YOUTH AMBASSADOR PRESENTER**

Kayla Tejero, Singer\* and Actress; Nurse

**MEMBERS OF THE ASIAN AMERICAN COALITION OF CHICAGO BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**AACC 2024-2025 Board of Directors**

Martino Tangkar, 2024-2025 President  
and Directors:  
The Hon. Aurora N. Abella-Austriaco  
The Hon. Aileen Bhandari  
Knight Chumsangsri  
Dr. Karen Eng  
Karen Kanemoto  
Rajinder Bir Singh Mago  
Nyoman Mahartayasa  
Lourdes Mon  
Megan Nakano  
Doug Nguyen  
Sadruddin Noorani  
Paul Park  
Kay Kihwa Rho  
Anne Shaw  
Nancy Suvarnamani  
Dr. Kim K. Tee  
Khanh Buu Tran  
Catherine S. Wang  
Rehan Zaid

**POSTING OF THE COLORS**

Color Guard Provided by the Chicago Police Department and the Asian American Law Enforcement Association  
Henry Lai, President

**“THE STAR-SPANGLED BANNER” NATIONAL ANTHEM**

By Francis Scott Key  
Debut of Arrangement by *Jonathan Fadner*

**ALL-STAR ENSEMBLE: 2025 Performing Artists**

*Hon Bannapradist, Marisa Buccheit, C.W. Chan, Kimbirdlee Fadner, Van Ferro, Kus Folkers, Cheryl Hamada With C.W. Chan, Lourdes Mon and Frances Mon and Kayla Tejero*

**REMARKS BY DIGNITARIES**

**KEYNOTE SPEAKER**

*The Hon. Tammy Duckworth (D-IL)*

**2025 PAN ASIAN AMERICAN PING TOM MEMORIAL AWARDEE**

*Linda Yu*  
Trailblazing Anchor and Legendary TV Broadcaster  
Currently Principal, Linda Yu Media  
Live Presentation by Joanie Lum  
Martino Tangkar Assisted by Darryl Tom

**2025 GRAND ASIAN AMERICAN SANDRA OTAKA MEMORIAL AWARD**

*The Hon. Michael W. Frerichs, Treasurer, State of Illinois*

**2025 1<sup>st</sup> ASIAN AMERICAN ENTREPRENEURIAL AWARD**

*Jae Chul Chang*  
President, Ribbon Webbing Corporation

**7:15 P.M.**

**UNITY DANCE “RHYTHM OF ONE” by Creativity Dance Arts**

*Liah Tehan, Choreographer and Dancer*

**7:40 p.m. - 8:25 P.M.**

*(APPROXIMATELY)*

**DINNER**

**7:55 P.M.**

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF DIGNITARIES**

**8:30 P.M.**

**IN MEMORIAM VIDEO PRESENTATION**

Narrated by *Lourdes Mon*, Member, AACC Board of Directors  
Music: “Serentiy Etude” by *Cleofe Guangko Casambre, M.D.*

**8:50 P.M.**

**PRESENTATION OF 2025 EXEMPLARY COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS AND 2025 YOUTH WHO EXCELS AWARDS**

**WE INVITE ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN ELECTED OFFICIALS TO JOIN US ON STAGE FOR A GROUP PHOTO OP!**

**(Mr.) Johnny Zheng**, Owner, Afusion Restaurant, Chicago and Matteson, Illinois; Owner, Zheng Construction Company; President, Mid-America Restaurant Association, **Chinese American Exemplary Community Service Awardee; and**

**(Ms.) Katelyn Tran**, 17, Senior, Walter Payton College Preparatory High School, Chicago, Illinois; **Chinese American Community Youth Who Excels Awardee;**

**(Ms.) Cleo Aquino**, Co-Founder and Co-CEO, SPIRE Real Estate Education Inc., 2024-2025; Managing Broker, Hablft LLC; 2024 President, Asian Real Estate Association of America Greater Chicago (AREAA-Greater Chicago), **Filipino American Exemplary Community Service Awardee; and**

**(Mr.) Evan Mendiola**, 17, Junior, York Community High School, Elmhurst, Illinois; **Filipino American Community Youth Who Excels Awardee;**

**(Mr.) Tejas Shah**, Partner, Barnes & Thornburg LLP; President, South Asian Bar Association Foundation of North America, **Indian American Exemplary Community Service Awardee; and (Ms.) Maya Agrawal**, 17, Senior, Walter Payton College Preparatory High School, Chicago, Illinois; **Indian American Community Youth Who Excels Awardee;**

**(Ms.) Ira Sigar, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor, Microbiology & Immunology, College of Graduate Studies (CGS-Downers Grove), Midwestern University, **Indonesian American Exemplary Community Service Awardee; and**

**(Mr.) Zachary Wong**, 16, Sophomore, Walter Payton College Preparatory High School, Chicago, Illinois; **Indonesian American Community Youth Who Excels Awardee;**

**(Ms.) Ikuko Nichols**, Goodwill Ambassador, Chicago Okinawa Kenjinkai, **Japanese American Exemplary Community Service Awardee; and**

**(Mr.) Kanato Foley**, 18, Freshman, Florida State University, Tallahassee, Florida; **Japanese American Community Youth Who Excels Awardee;**

**(Ms.) Kiran Kim**, Chairman, Board of Directors, Korean American Association of Chicago (KAAC), **Korean American Exemplary Community Service Awardee; and**

**(Ms.) Erica Kim Yoo**, 18, Senior, Glenbrook North High School, Northbrook, Illinois; **Korean American Community Youth Who Excels Awardee;**

**(Mr.) Chee Keong (CK) Tan**, Chief Executive Officer, Supermax Healthcare Inc.; **Malaysian American Community Service Awardee; and**

**(Ms.) Kayleigh Lim**, 14, Freshman, Whitney M. Young Magnet High School, Chicago, Illinois; **Malaysian American Community Youth Who Excels Awardee;**

**(Mr.) Asif Malik**, Assistant, Circuit Court of Cook County; **Pakistani American Community Service Awardee; and**

**(Mr.) Yaseen Ahmed**, 20, Sophomore, Joliet Junior College, Joliet, Illinois; **Pakistani American Community Youth Who Excels Awardee;**

**(Mr.) Hon Bannapradist**, Senior Graphic Designer, Allured Business Media, Carol Stream, Illinois; **Thai American Community Service Awardee; and**

**(Ms.) Nattapak Chankaew**, 18, Senior, Stephen T. Mather High School, Chicago, Illinois; **Thai American Community Youth Who Excels Awardee;**

**(Ms.) Teresa Tran**, Claim Specialist, Social Security Administration; **Vietnamese American Community Service Awardee; and**

(Ms.) Sylvia Dinh, 19, Freshman, Loyola University Chicago, Chicago, Illinois;  
Vietnamese American Community Youth Who Excels Awardee.

9:30 P.M

**TRANSFER OF THE GAVEL**  
2026 AACC 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Lunar New Year Celebration  
Hosted by the Chinese American Community  
Represented by Anne Shaw and Dr. Karen Eng

10 P.M.

**ADJOURNMENT**

(HOST COMMITTEE PHOTO OPPS to 10:20 P.M.)

**ADDITIONAL RECORDED ORIGINAL MUSIC**  
*Tatsu Aoki*  
"Together, The World Can Count On Us" (AACC Unity Song)  
*Keith Uchima and Rieny G. Cualoping*



Members of the 2024-2025 Asian American Coalition of Chicago Board of Directors at the November 2024 HOLIDAY Meeting at the Korean Cultural Center of Chicago in Wheeling, Illinois.  
(PHOTO CREDIT: Amie Hana Photography)

2024-2025 AACC President  
Martino Tangkar  
Executive Producer / Show Director  
Irene (ENERI/Rieny) Cualoping  
aacchicago2025@gmail.com  
www.aacchicago.org

**...ONE...**  
ASIAN AMERICAN COALITION OF CHICAGO  
42<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL LUNAR NEW YEAR 4723/  
2025 CELEBRATION EXTRAVAGANZA  
HOSTED BY INDOONESIAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY



*menu*

 <p><b>FIRST COURSE</b> Gado-Gado   Baby Spinach   Bean Sprouts   Cucumber   Chopped Egg   Tofu   Peanut Dressing</p>	 <p><b>SECOND COURSE</b> Beef Rendang (Spicy &amp; Not Spicy) Seared Salmon   Sweet Shallot Relish Stir Fried Eggplant   Stir Fried Long Bean   Jasmine Rice</p>
 <p><b>SECOND COURSE</b> <i>Vegetarian Option</i> Grilled Tempeh Napoleon   Stewed White Beans   Olive Tapanede</p>	 <p><b>THIRD COURSE</b> Matcha Panna Cotta   Caramelized Banana</p>

NOTE: RENDANG IS RANK 1 @ CNN'S WORLD BEST FOOD  
[www.cnn.com/travel/article/world-best-foods-readers-choice](http://www.cnn.com/travel/article/world-best-foods-readers-choice)

**NAPKIN FOLDING**  
Birds of Paradise (Cendrawasih)



How to make it:

- 1 Lay the napkin face down in front of you.
- 2 Fold the napkin in half.
- 3 Fold the napkin in quarters.
- 4 Fold the napkin in half diagonally, creating a triangle.
- 5 Orient the triangle so the open tip is facing away from you.
- 6 Fold the right corner diagonally towards you by bringing it down along the centerline of the triangle, making a new tip pointing towards you.
- 7 Do the same with the left corner, fold it diagonally toward you and press it down next to the previous fold.
- 8 Fold the two "wings" that you just made in folds 6 and 7 under so that you have your original triangle shape back.
- 9 Fold the triangle in half by bringing the center seam towards you and allowing the ends to fall.
- 10 While holding the base firmly to keep your folds together, pull up the four "legs" created by the napkin's corners.



Prabowo Subianto  
President

# INDONESIA

*At a Glance*



Gibran Rakabuming Raka  
Vice President



NATIONAL FLAG

Motto: "Bhinneka Tunggal Ika" - "Unity in Diversity"  
National ideology: Pancasila  
Anthem: Indonesia Raya - Great Indonesia

Capital: Jakarta  
New Capital: Nusantara, East Kalimantan  
Area  
- Land: 735,358 sq mi

Population:  
- Q2 2024 estimate: 282,477,584 (4<sup>th</sup> in the world)  
- 2020 census: 270,203,917  
- Density: 370.4/sq mi



NATIONAL EMBLEM

GDP (PPP) 2024 estimate  
- Total: US\$4.658 trillion (6<sup>th</sup> in the world)  
- Per capita: US\$16,542  
- Time zone: UTC+7 to +9 (IDT)

Currency: Indonesian rupiah (Rp) (IDR)  
Ethnic groups: Over 600 ethnic groups

Republic of Indonesia, is a country in Southeast Asia and Oceania, between the Indian and Pacific oceans. Comprising over 17,000 islands, including Sumatra, Java, Sulawesi, and parts of Borneo and New Guinea, Indonesia is the world's largest archipelagic state and the 14th-largest country by area, at 1,904,569 square kilometres (735,358 square miles). With over 280 million people, Indonesia is the world's fourth-most-populous country and the most populous Muslim-majority country. Java, the world's most populous island, is home to more than half of the country's population.

Indonesia operates as a presidential republic with an elected legislature and consists of 38 provinces, nine of which have special autonomous status. Jakarta, the largest city, is the world's second-most-populous urban area. Indonesia shares land borders with Papua New Guinea, Timor-Leste, and the eastern part of Malaysia, as well as maritime borders with Singapore, Peninsular Malaysia, Vietnam, Thailand, the Philippines, Australia, Palau, and India. Despite its large population and densely populated regions, Indonesia has vast areas of wilderness that support one of the world's highest levels of biodiversity.

The Indonesian archipelago has been a valuable region for trade since at least the seventh century, when Sumatra's Srivijaya and later Java's Majapahit kingdoms engaged in commerce with entities from mainland China and the Indian subcontinent. Over the centuries, local rulers assimilated foreign influences, leading to the flourishing of Hindu and Buddhist kingdoms. Sunni traders and Sufi scholars later brought Islam, and European powers fought one another to monopolise trade in the Spice Islands of Maluku during the Age of Discovery. Following three and a half centuries of Dutch colonialism, Indonesia secured its independence after World War II and has since faced challenges such as corruption, natural disasters, and separatism, alongside democratisation and rapid economic growth. (Source: Wikipedia)



CONSUL GENERAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA  
CHICAGO

Chicago, February 14, 2025

### Greetings Letter

On behalf of the Consulate General of the Republic of Indonesia and the Indonesian community and diaspora in Chicago, it is my honor to extend my heartfelt congratulations and appreciation to the Asian American Coalition of Chicago for hosting the "42nd Lunar New Year Celebration."

The Lunar New Year is a time of renewal, reflection, and gratitude, bringing together families and communities to welcome prosperity, health, and happiness in the year of the snake. This celebration is also a testament to the rich cultural heritage, unity, and contributions of the Asian American community in Chicago and beyond.

Indonesia, as a diverse and multicultural nation, shares the joyfulness of this special occasion. The spirit of the Lunar New Year resonates deeply with our own traditions as it is also celebrated in Indonesia. In this respect, the Consulate General of Indonesia reaffirms its commitment in supporting the role of the Indonesian community and diaspora in Chicago to promote cultural diversity. We are proud to stand in solidarity with the Asian American community in fostering cultural appreciation based on mutual understanding towards a stronger ties between our nations.

Finally, it is my hope that the year of the snake be filled with good health, prosperity and success. Gong Xi Fa Cai! Happy Lunar New Year!



Sincerely,  
Acting Consul General



Raden Hikmat Moeljawan

211 North Carpenter Street, Chicago, IL 60607 USA  
Tel. (312) 920 - 1880; Fax (312) 920 - 1881

RICHARD J. DURBIN  
ILLINOIS  
MAJORITY WHIP

United States Senate  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1304

February 22, 2025

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE,  
NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY  
COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS  
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

TAMMY DUCKWORTH  
ILLINOIS

United States Senate

February 22, 2025

COMMITTEES  
ARMED SERVICES  
COMMERCE, SCIENCE,  
AND TRANSPORTATION  
FOREIGN RELATIONS  
VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Dear Friends,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the Asian American Coalition of Chicago's (AACC) 42nd Annual Lunar New Year, hosted this year by the Indonesian American community. This gathering is a special opportunity to recognize the great work of the AACC and welcome the Year of the Wood Snake.

Since 1983, the AACC has united and strengthened the Asian American community by highlighting their contributions to American democracy and the economy. By sharing cultural values and collaborative organizing, the AACC has provided opportunities for various ethnic groups to engage with one another and participate civically. Now more than ever, organizations like AACC are fundamental in empowering the community as a whole and amplifying their voices.

Each year, the AACC members come together to welcome the Lunar New Year by sharing traditional music and dance. This year's celebration also honors individuals through the Exemplary Community Service Awards and the Youth Who Excels Awards. I applaud your commitment to the Asian American community and the contributions you have made. I will continue to be an advocate for the AAPI community in Congress and to support policies that uphold basic human rights.

Again, I would like to extend my warmest wishes to tonight's attendees for your dedication to the AACC. Congratulations on all your work and achievements.



Very truly yours,

Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Sincerely,

Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator

711 HART SENATE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1304  
(202) 224-2152

230 S. DEARBORN STREET  
SUITE 3992  
CHICAGO, IL 60604  
(312) 353-4952

525 SOUTH EIGHTH STREET  
SPRINGFIELD, IL 62703  
(217) 482-4062

1504 THIRD AVENUE  
SUITE 227  
ROCK ISLAND, IL 61201  
(309) 786-5173

250 W. CHERRY STREET  
SUITE 115-D  
CARBONDALE, IL 62901  
(618) 351-1122

[durbin.senate.gov](http://durbin.senate.gov)

SUITE 524  
HART BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510  
(202) 224-2864

SUITE 3900  
KLUZCZYNSKI FEDERAL BUILDING  
230 S. DEARBORN STREET  
CHICAGO, IL 60604  
(312) 886-3506

8 SOUTH OLD STATE CAPITOL PLAZA  
SPRINGFIELD, IL 62701  
(217) 528-6124

EURMA C. HAYES CENTER  
441 EAST WILLOW STREET  
CARBONDALE, IL 62901  
(618) 677-7000

SUITE 2  
1823 2ND AVENUE  
ROCK ISLAND, IL 61201  
(309) 606-7060

SUITE 480  
23 PUBLIC SQUARE  
BELLEVILLE, IL 62220  
(618) 722-7070



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
207 STATE HOUSE  
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62706

**JB PRITZKER**  
GOVERNOR

January 22, 2025

Asian American Coalition of Chicago  
2249 W Berwyn Ave  
Chicago, IL 60625

Greetings!

As Governor of the State of Illinois, I am pleased to welcome everyone gathered for the 42nd Annual Lunar New Year Celebration hosted by the Asian American Coalition of Chicago (AACC).

This occasion offers an exciting opportunity for everyone in attendance to join fellow members of your coalition and generate ideas that implement solutions. I hope the Year of the Snake continues to bring opportunities that promote the leadership, strength, and diversity that make Illinois a more enjoyable place.

Illinois is proud to have enjoyed your service to our state. As you reflect on the previous year's accomplishments, I urge you to make plans for the future of your coalition that will build on your past successes. I encourage you to create new goals, both personal and for your communities, in the year to come. The impact we have on one another creates change and puts forth a better tomorrow.

On behalf of the people of Illinois, I offer my best wishes for continued success in all your future endeavors and happy Lunar New Year.

Sincerely,

Governor JB Pritzker



*WHEREAS, the Asian American Coalition of Chicago organizes and promotes equal opportunity in government, education, economic development, and international affairs to advance the integration of all Asian Americans into the mainstream of society; and,*

*WHEREAS, Asian Americans comprise more than five percent of the total population of Illinois; and,*

*WHEREAS, the Asian American Coalition of Chicago holds an annual Lunar New Year Celebration with a different Asian American community hosting each year; and,*

*WHEREAS, individuals and community-based agencies who have dedicated themselves to providing excellent service to Asian American communities will be honored and awarded during the celebration; and,*

*WHEREAS, the annual event promotes the values of Asian Americans and other global leaders standing unified in the face of adversity;*

*THEREFORE, I, JB Pritzker, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim February 22, 2025, as Asian American Coalition of Chicago Day and encourage all residents to appreciate the impact Asian Americans have on our state and country, and take the opportunity to learn about their rich heritage.*

*In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Illinois to be affixed.*

*Done at the Capitol in the City of Springfield,*  
this THIRD day of FEBRUARY, in  
the Year of Our Lord, two thousand and  
TWENTY-FIVE, and of the State of Illinois,  
two hundred and SIXTH.



*Alexis Hammond*  
SECRETARY OF STATE

*JB Pritzker*  
GOVERNOR



OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
STATE OF ILLINOIS

KWAME RAOUL  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

January 28, 2025

Martino Tangkar, President  
Asian American Coalition of Chicago  
175 E. Delaware Pl., Ste. 5203  
Chicago, IL 60611

Dear President Tangkar, the AACC Board, Staff, Volunteers, and Friends:

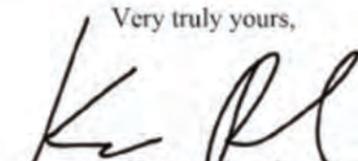
As Illinois Attorney General, I am delighted to welcome you all to the 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Lunar New Year Celebration of the Asian American Coalition of Chicago (AACC).

For over 40 years, the AACC has been dedicated to affirming and protecting the cultural heritage of Asian Americans. I am thankful for the significant contributions of Asian Americans to this state and our nation at large. I am equally inspired by the AACC's conferences, forums, collaborations, and other endeavors, which help ensure recognition of those contributions.

The vast diversity of our nation is meaningful only when all communities have equal access to opportunities, vital resources, and justice. Diversity is a priority in my office. We maintain over 20 separate Employee Resource Groups (ERGs), which include affinity groups for women, Asian Americans, African Americans, and Latin Americans. To help promote diversity in the legal profession, these ERGs partner with bar associations and numerous law school (student) affinity groups to jointly offer panels, workshops, and mentorship programs.

Thank you for inviting me to join the AACC in celebrating its numerous accomplishments. I wish you a memorable celebration and many more years of continued success.



Very truly yours,  
  
Kwame Raoul  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

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OFFICE of the SECRETARY of STATE

Alexi Giannoulias • Secretary of State

February 22, 2025

Greetings,

As Illinois Secretary of State, it is my privilege to welcome you to the 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Lunar New Year Celebration, hosted by the Asian American Coalition of Chicago in conjunction with the Indonesian American community.

The Lunar New Year is a time of reflection, renewal, and hope — a celebration of family, unity, and the shared values that bring us together. The Asian American Coalition of Chicago plays a vital role in promoting cultural awareness and strengthening connections across communities. The Indonesian American community's dedication to carrying forward this meaningful tradition this year exemplifies the spirit of collaboration and inclusivity that enriches our state.

I deeply appreciate the invaluable contributions of Asian Americans to the cultural, economic, and social fabric of our state. Your leadership and engagement inspire all of us to embrace diversity and work towards a brighter future.

Our nation, especially Illinois, is better because of the vital roles that Illinoisans play in celebrating and preserving cultural traditions. Thank you for your leadership and dedication, and I extend my best wishes for a joyous and successful event. May the Year of the Dragon bring you health, happiness, and prosperity.



Sincerely,



Alexi Giannoulias  
Illinois Secretary of State



**SUSANA A. MENDOZA**  
ILLINOIS STATE COMPTROLLER

February 22, 2025

**GREETINGS**

As Illinois State Comptroller, it is my sincere pleasure to send my warmest greetings and congratulations to everyone gathered for the Asian American Coalition of Chicago's 42nd Annual Lunar New Year Gala: ONE.

I speak from personal experience when I say that tonight's crowd is in for a treat. Each year, this event embodies the excellence of the Pan-Asian community in Chicago and beyond. This year's theme perfectly exhibits the unity of such a culturally rich and diverse community.

To this year's gracious hosts, the Indonesian American community, I want to express my gratitude. And to all those who assembled this evening to celebrate the Year of the Snake, I send my best wishes for transformation, wisdom, and intuition. Illinois is blessed to have a vibrant community such as yours.



Sincerely,

Susana A. Mendoza  
Illinois State Comptroller

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Kimbirdlee Fadner

John Rutirisari

Darryl Tom

### **COMPOSERS**

Tatsu Aoki

Cleofe Guangko Casambre, M.D. (“Serenity Etude”)

Keith Uchima and Rieny G. Cualoping (Unity Song: “Together, The World

Can Count On Us”)

### **ARRANGER**

Jonathan Fadner (U.S. National Anthem)



Joanie Lum



**Celebrity Presenters and Presenters**



Linda Yu



Judy Wang



Ravi Baichwal



Tonray Ho



Eric Horng



Tina Nguyen



Vi Nguyen



Ji Suk Yi



Marisa Buchheit



Kimbirdlee Fadner



Cheryl Hamada



Randy Gyllenhaal



Van Ferro



Won C. Kim



Don Villar



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Hosted by  
**The Indonesian American Community**  
Upcoming on Saturday, February 22, 2025  
at the Hyatt Regency O'Hare

**Friday, August 16, 2024  
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*(At the Zhou B Art Center  
Before Regular 3rd Friday)  
Brief Program (Approximately 6:15 p.m.)*

**Cate Caguiran**  
Reporter, ABC 7 Chicago TV  
Celebrity Presenter



**InJung Oh**  
Visual Artist | Volossom  
Visual Language Educator  
Executive Director/Founder  
OH Art Foundation

OH Art Foundation is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization currently housed in the Zhou B Art Center in Chicago, Illinois. The mission of the OH Art Foundation is to strengthen Chicago communities by offering accessible art education, exhibitions and events, and programs that promote understanding of diverse cultures through art.

**Martino Tangkar**  
2024-2025 President  
Asian American Coalition of Chicago

**The Hon. Theresa Mah**  
State Representative (D-2nd)  
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**The Hon. Nicole T. Lee**  
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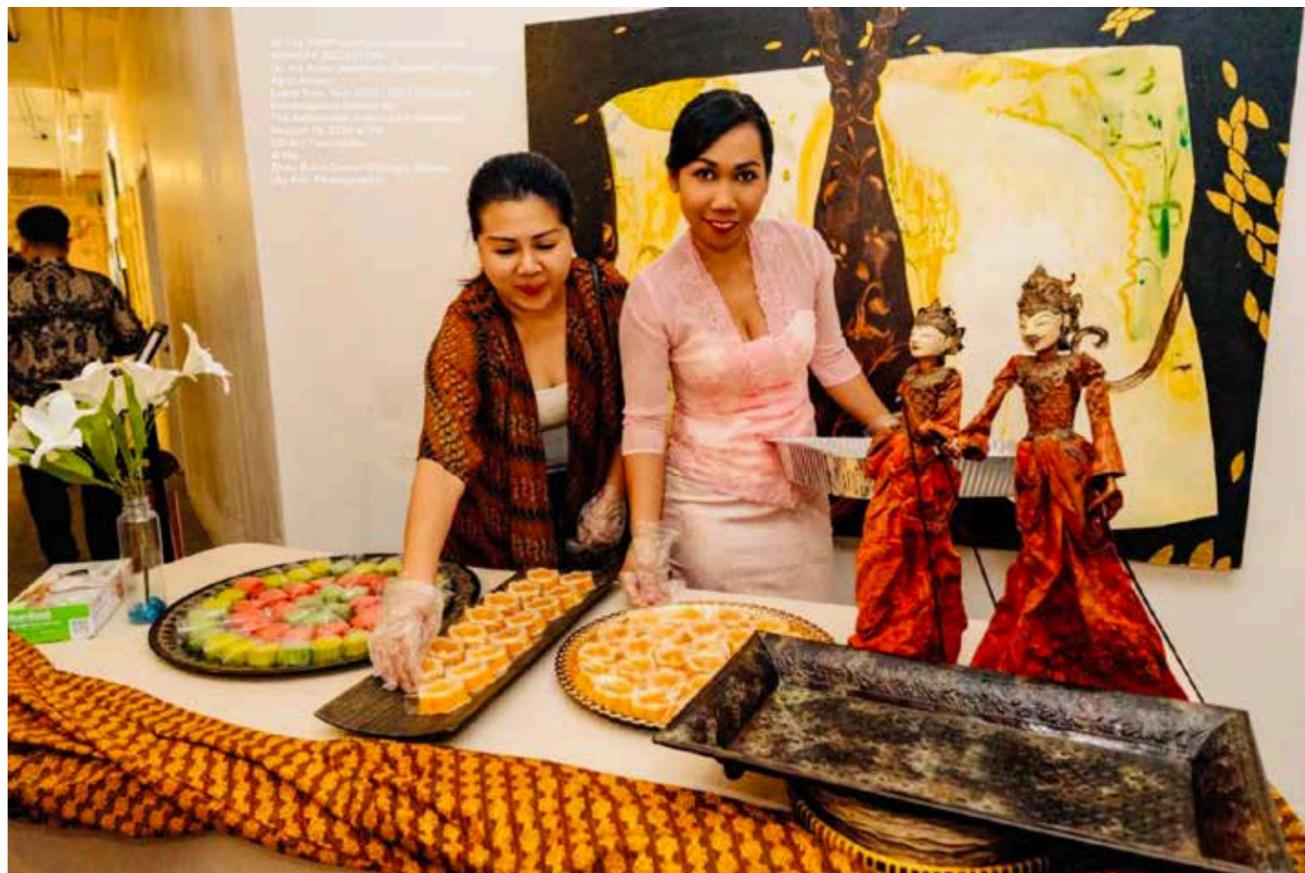
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## Ping Tom Memorial Pan Asian American Award



### Linda Yu

Linda Yu has been called a trailblazer, mentor, and award-winning journalist. She stepped back from daily broadcasting after more than 40 years in television news, including 33 years at ABC-7 in Chicago. She made history as Chicago's first Asian American anchor.

Born in Xian, China, Yu moved with her family to Hong Kong before immigrating to the U.S. at the age of four. She earned her bachelor's degree from the University of Southern California.

Yu began her career in 1974 as a writer for the Los Angeles ABC station KABC-TV before becoming a writer/producer at KTLA-TV. In 1975, she stepped in front of the camera as a reporter for KATU-TV, the ABC affiliate in Portland, Oregon. Within months, she was recruited by ABC-owned KGO-TV in San Francisco, where she worked as a reporter and anchor from 1976 to 1979.

In late 1979, Yu was recruited by NBC-owned WMAQ-TV in Chicago, making history as the first Asian American to appear on a network station in the city. Five years later, she returned to ABC, joining ABC-7 (WLS-TV) as the anchor of the newly created 4 p.m. news hour. Later, an 11 a.m. newscast was added to her responsibilities. Both programs remained the top-rated broadcasts throughout her 33-year tenure.

Yu has received six local Emmy Awards and was inducted into the prestigious "Silver Circle" of legendary Chicago broadcasters. She was also named one of Today's Chicago Woman magazine's "100 Women to Watch" and awarded a National Gold Medal by the National Conference of Community and Justice.

Beyond journalism, Yu has been deeply involved in community service. She served for over 30 years as Advisory Board Chairperson for the Chinese American Service League and co-founded the Chicago chapter of the Asian American Journalists Association in 1989. She has also been an active supporter and volunteer for Common Threads, the Juvenile Protective Association, and the March of Dimes.

## Sandra Otaka Memorial Grand Asian American Award



### Michael W. Frerichs

Michael W. Frerichs has served as Illinois State Treasurer since 2014, starting his third term in January 2023. As the state's Chief Investment and Banking Officer, he manages \$56 billion in investments for Illinois and local governments. Under his leadership, the Treasurer's Office has earned over \$2 billion for taxpayers through cautious and effective investing. He has also led the Unclaimed Property Program, returning a record \$2 billion in unclaimed cash and stock to Illinois residents, employers, and nonprofits.

Frerichs has focused on making college more affordable. He transformed the Bright Start college savings program from one of the worst to one of the best in the nation, earning a top Gold rating from Morningstar for five consecutive years. He reduced fees and expanded investment options, helping families save for their children's education. Frerichs also led Illinois in creating a multi-state alliance that allows parents of children with disabilities to save without jeopardizing federal disability benefits. The Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) program, under his leadership, has become a national model for high-quality, low-cost savings options.

In 2018, Frerichs launched Illinois Secure Choice, a retirement savings program designed for 1.2 million private-sector workers who do not have access to employer-sponsored retirement plans.

Born and raised in Gifford, Illinois, Frerichs graduated from Yale University and spent two years in Taiwan teaching English and learning Chinese. He later returned to Illinois, where he started a technology business and served as a volunteer firefighter. Frerichs was elected to the Champaign County Board and later as County Auditor, becoming a Certified Public Finance Officer. In 2006, he was elected Illinois State Senator for east-central Illinois, where he championed affordable college initiatives and chaired the Agriculture and Conservation Committee.

Frerichs has been recognized for his leadership, serving as president of the National Association of State Auditors, Comptrollers, and Treasurers in 2022, and president of the National Association of State Treasurers (NAST) in 2023. He and his wife, Erica, have three children: Ella, Max, and Theo.

## Asian American Entrepreneurial Award

### Jae Chul Chang

Jae Chul Chang, a world-renowned textile engineer, thrived in the 1990s and early 2000s when liberal economists' short-sighted policies caused many U.S. manufacturing companies to move offshore in search of cheaper labor. This led to the erosion of the U.S. industrial base and allowed China to acquire advanced technologies. North and South Carolina, once centers of the textile industry, saw their major textile corporations close. However, Mr. Chang expanded his business, Ribbon Webbing Corporation, tenfold, making it the largest U.S. manufacturer of narrow fabrics. His company outperformed China in both price and quality, even selling high-quality items to China for defense use. Mr. Chang's success became a source of pride for Chicago's manufacturing sector, and local leaders like Mayor Daley and Governor Quinn sought interviews with NBC, CBS, ABC, and the Chicago Tribune to highlight his achievement. But the humble Mr. Chang declined.

Known as a workaholic and genius, Mr. Chang arrives at his office at 7 a.m. on weekdays and spends weekends working on his 500-acre farm, where he enjoys vegetable gardening and sometimes drives a tractor. His family's story is a remarkable example of immigrant success. Forty years ago, Mr. and Mrs. Chang started with two webbing machines in a 2,200-square-foot space in Chicago. His wife, Rosa, was a member of the Seoul Symphony before they immigrated. On Sundays, they attend Mass at the Catholic Church, acknowledging that their success is a blessing from God.

Despite his business achievements, Mr. Chang is known for his humility. He avoids wearing neckties except when attending church and prefers to keep a low profile. He is also generous, giving back to both his community and churches. Seven years ago, when Mr. Chang visited a dentist for dental treatment, the cost was quoted at \$2,400. The dentist asked if he could afford the care, but Mr. Chang's humble nature remained evident, as he never flaunts his success. His 150 employees respect and admire him, as he has never laid off anyone, embodying the qualities of a proud Asian American and an exemplary U.S. entrepreneur.

Johnny Zheng was born in 1962 in Fujian, China, and immigrated to the United States in 1989 to pursue his passion for cooking. Since 1992, he has owned and operated multiple carryout restaurants, and in 1996, he launched Chicagoland's first and largest seafood buffet. Over the years, he has managed dozens of restaurants.



### Johnny Zheng

*Chinese American Community*

While expanding his food ventures, he also founded Zheng Construction LLC in 2006. Outside of work, he plays an active role in the Chinatown community.

In 2020, he led fundraising efforts and oversaw the distribution of Personal Protective Equipment during the pandemic. He has also been instrumental in organizing the Mid-Autumn Festival celebration at Chinatown Square, where he distributed mooncakes to hundreds of seniors.

For the past eight years, he has spearheaded the installation of Chinese lanterns in Chinatown to celebrate Lunar New Year. These decorative lights create a warm, festive atmosphere and have become a highlight of the season against Chicago's winter skies. Johnny leads fundraising efforts and coordinates the project while personally helping install the lanterns.

Johnny founded the Fujian Business Association in 2015 and served as its first President before earning the title of Lifetime Honorary Founding President in 2021. He also serves as President of the Chinatown Security Foundation, the Mid-American Restaurant Association, and the Coalition for a Better Chinese American Community. He was also a past Board Member of the Midwest Asian Health Association.

Cleo B. Aquino is the co-founder and co-CEO of SPIRE Real Estate Education Inc., headquartered in Chicago, Illinois, and has affiliate programs across the U.S. The company's name, SPIRE, stands for "Successful Paths In Real Estate," reflecting its mission to provide licensing and continuing education programs for real estate professionals.



### Cleo B. Aquino

*Filipino American Community*

She is also a principal at Mindanao Pueblo Filipino Development in Mexico and the sales director for LuxMods, a modular construction company specializing in creative work and personal spaces. She oversees dealer network channels, sales affiliate programs, and direct consumer sales initiatives in this role.

Before entering real estate, Aquino worked for Chicago Public Schools, managing teacher recruitment and government grant programs in math, science, and special education in collaboration with universities. This experience stemmed from an internship at The Chicago Community Trust, one of the nation's largest community foundations. Her career began at PricewaterhouseCoopers, where she specialized in expatriate taxes for global companies. She earned a Bachelor of Business Administration in Finance from Loyola University and later pursued a Graduate Certificate in Nonprofit Organization and Philanthropy.

Aquino currently serves as President of the Asian Real Estate Association of America (AREAA) – Chicago Chapter, a board member of the Southside Builders Association of Chicago, and a cultural affairs board member for the Federation of Philippine American Chambers of Commerce (FPACC). Her involvement in the Philippine American Chamber of Commerce of Greater Chicago strengthens her connection to her Filipino heritage, culture, and traditions.

## Exemplary Community Service Honorees

### Tejas Shah

*Indian American Community*

Tejas Shah is a partner at the Chicago office of Barnes & Thornburg, a national law firm. He focuses his practice on immigration law, assisting employers and individuals in applying for temporary visas and permanent residency. He also represents employers in government investigations and related litigation.



Tejas has written and spoken extensively on immigration topics and provides pro bono legal services to individuals and nonprofit organizations in Chicagoland. He collaborates with groups such as the National Immigrant Justice Center, the Indo-American Center, and Chicago Volunteer Legal Services.

A former President of the South Asian Bar Association of Chicago, Tejas has volunteered extensively with bar associations and civic organizations. He currently serves as Chair of the South Asian Bar Association of North America's Foundation, a nonprofit supporting South Asian communities in the U.S. and Canada in areas such as domestic violence, combating hate crimes, voting rights, and immigration support.

He is also the Interim Board Chair of the Indo-American Center, an organization on Chicago's north side that has assisted Indian immigrants and newcomers from over 25 countries for more than two decades.

Additionally, Tejas is the co-founder of SAAJCO, a national legal nonprofit dedicated to advancing the civil and human rights of South Asians in the U.S. through legal services, litigation, and advocacy.

Tejas is the proud father of two and the spouse of Dr. Kruti Parikh Shah.

### Ira M. Sigar

*Indonesian American Community*

Ira M. Sigar, Ph.D., graduated from the Illinois Institute of Technology with a Ph.D. in Biology in 2005. She is currently an Associate Professor teaching Microbiology at the Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine (Midwestern University) in Downers Grove, IL. One of the most rewarding aspects of her career is seeing her students excel both academically and personally as they grow toward their goals.



Dr. Sigar is deeply involved in the Indonesian community in the Chicagoland area. She has served for over 20 years as the coordinator of the Indonesian Christian Fellowship, over 10 years as the coordinator of Indonesian Christmas, and more than 18 years coordinating small groups at Westbrook Church in Bolingbrook, IL. Additionally, she has volunteered for 17 years in the Children's Ministry at Westbrook Church, and over 5 years as a greeter at Calvary Church. She also served on the Indonesian Diaspora Network's Representative Board and was the VIP Reception Committee Co-Chair for the AACC 32nd Conference and Lunar New Year Celebration in 2015. In 2018, she received the Diaspora Empowerment Award for her community service.

In addition to her community involvement, Dr. Sigar has developed a Cultural Transformation elective course for Midwestern University and has been an invited speaker at various international health and science forums.

Dr. Sigar is passionate about both people and food and believes strongly in "Unity in Diversity" (Bhinneka Tunggal Ika). She believes that if everyone fulfills their purpose, the world will be a better place.

## Exemplary Community Service Honorees

### Ikuko Nichols

*Japanese American Community*

Ikuko Nichols' dedication to preserving and sharing Japanese and Okinawan culture in Chicago spans decades, enriching the lives of countless individuals. For her profound commitment to her heritage and community, she received a Commendation from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan in 2024 and the Governor's Distinguished Contributor Award in Okinawa in 2022.



Immigrating to the United States in 1977, Ikuko worked as a nurse at John Stroger Hospital and Swedish Covenant Hospital, specializing in the ICU and emergency room. She also volunteered at the Chicago Mutual Aid Center, administering childhood and COVID-19 vaccinations to over 1,000 individuals.

Her career highlights include serving as a clinical psychologist at Tazaki Psychiatric Hospital (1964-1966), social worker at the Japanese American Service Committee (1976-1979), Japanese language teacher at Langston Hughes Elementary School (1996-2004), and certified teacher of traditional Japanese dance (1995-2014). Ikuko was also Vice President of the Chicago Okinawa Kenjinkai (2000-2002) and an Okinawa Prefecture-certified Uchina Goodwill Ambassador (2004-2023).

She led community Obon dance celebrations at Mitsuwaka and brought students on educational trips to Japan, enhancing their cultural understanding. A lifelong member of the Church of Christ, Presbyterian, Ikuko has been instrumental in supporting Japanese nationals in the northwest suburbs, fostering a sense of community.

### Kiran Kim

*Korean American Community*

Kiran Kim currently serves as the Chairperson of the Board of the Korean American Association of Chicago.



After immigrating to the United States in 1977, Kiran dedicated 27 years to nursing, working at John Stroger Hospital and Swedish Covenant Hospital, with specialized experience in the ICU and emergency departments.

Throughout her career, Kiran has remained deeply committed to serving her community. She has volunteered extensively at the Chicago Mutual Aid Center, where she helped administer childhood immunizations and COVID-19 vaccines to over 1,000 individuals, demonstrating her dedication to public health.

From 2021 to 2023, Kiran served as the President of the Korean American Nurses Association, where she was instrumental in organizing community activities and volunteer initiatives. In 2023, she became the Chairperson of the Board of the Korean American Association of Chicago, playing a key role in decision-making and contributing significantly to the remodeling of the Association's building.

In addition to her community work, Kiran is the President of the Parkinson's Disease Association, where she leads efforts to support patients and raise awareness about the disease through health education and prevention programs.

Kiran's deep passion for community service, fueled by her medical background, continues to guide her volunteer work and outreach initiatives, leaving a lasting impact on both the Korean American community and the wider Chicagoland area.

## Exemplary Community Service Honorees

### Chee Keong Tan

*Malaysian American Community*

Chee Keong (CK) Tan has been a dedicated member of the Malaysian Club of Chicago for over a decade, serving a term as director and remaining an active benefactor. His ongoing support, along with his family's involvement in various community engagements and events, highlights his commitment to enhancing the community.



CK Tan earned his degree in Computing & Information Systems with honors from the University of Staffordshire, UK, in 2000. He began his career in the Sales & Marketing division of Supermax Group, where his capabilities led him to the role of CEO at Supermax Healthcare Inc. By 2024, he advanced to Senior Executive Director and Group CEO of Supermax, further solidifying his leadership within the company.

Beyond his professional achievements, CK is known for his humility and widespread respect within both the Malaysian expatriate community and the broader public. His remarkable contributions during the COVID-19 pandemic stand as a testament to his character. Through Supermax, he facilitated the donation of millions of medical gloves to local hospitals, police and fire stations, and the Salvation Army, demonstrating his deep sense of responsibility to others.

CK Tan continues to inspire with his leadership and community impact. His ongoing commitment to both his professional success and charitable efforts makes him a true pillar of the Malaysian community and a deserving candidate for recognition.

### Asif Malik

*Pakistani American Community*

Asif Malik is a dedicated leader whose impact on the Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County spans over 12 years. Known for his exceptional financial oversight, strategic thinking, and unwavering commitment to ethical standards, he has driven significant efficiency across the Suburban Districts, setting a high bar for excellence in public service. As Assistant Chief Deputy Clerk, Asif leads with integrity, ensuring employees adhere to the highest professional and ethical standards while overseeing complex operational procedures. His innovative approach as Traffic Manager, including the successful "Credit Card Bond Out" system, showcases his forward-thinking mindset and commitment to improving customer relations and accessibility.



Beyond his professional achievements, Asif is a passionate and active leader within the South Asian community of Maine Township. He values cultural competency, diversity, and active civic engagement in local government. Advocating for a more inclusive and representative township, Asif works tirelessly to ensure all communities, particularly those in unincorporated areas, have a voice and are fairly represented. As an immigrant, he brings a wealth of experience in finance, budgeting, planning, and community engagement to the Township Board, focusing on ensuring that every voice is heard.

With degrees in Science and Agricultural Management, Asif's continued service as Traffic Manager for the Cook County Circuit Court stands as a testament to his dedication to excellence and his lasting commitment to fostering a more inclusive and efficient public service environment.

## Exemplary Community Service Honorees

### Hon Bannapradist

*Thailand American Community*

Hon Bannapradist, originally from Bangkok, moved to the United States in 1990, where he earned a degree in Graphic Design. With over 20 years of experience at Allured Business Media, he has built a distinguished career in the media industry. Hon is married and a proud father of one.



A tireless advocate for the Thai-American community, Hon has been instrumental in shaping its growth and success in the U.S. He served as Vice President of the Thai American Association of Illinois for over a decade and continues to serve on its Board of Directors. His leadership as President of the Thai Golf Club of Chicago has strengthened the community's ties and furthered its cultural visibility.

Hon has made significant contributions to initiatives that improve the well-being of the Thai community in Chicago, including leading the Thai Annual Health Fair, supporting the Thai Illinois Project, and advancing the mission of the Thai Midwest Lions Club. His involvement extends to influential organizations such as the Asian American Council, the Jesse White Asian-American Advisory Council, and the Ancient Free & Accepted Masons of the State of Illinois.

Through his vision, commitment, and tireless efforts, Hon Bannapradist has left a lasting impact on the Thai-American community, enhancing cultural awareness, health initiatives, and civic engagement across the Chicagoland area. His work continues to inspire others to contribute to a stronger, more connected society.

### Teresa Tran

*Vietnamese American Community*

Teresa Tran was born in Vietnam and moved to the United States with her parents in 2003, settling in Chicago's West Town. Her passion for helping others began early, starting with volunteer work by assisting in church cleanups after Mass. By the age of 13, she was serving as an altar server at St. Aloysius Church in the Archdiocese of Chicago.



While pursuing a BA in Industrial Organizational Psychology at DePaul University, Teresa became deeply involved in supporting disadvantaged students through the All-Cities Project. As an assistant coordinator, she contributed to an after-school mentoring program. As a peer mentor in the Psychology department, she guided fellow students through their academic paths. Her commitment extended beyond the university, contributing to Marillac St. Vincent Family Service's food pantry and participating in various community outreach projects.

Teresa's volunteerism continues with the Nghia Sinh Association, where she helps organize Thanksgiving Masses and dinners for refugees. She has also volunteered at community events hosted by the Asian American Coalition of Chicago, underscoring her dedication to serving others. Today, Teresa serves as a lector and Eucharistic Minister at her church.

Professionally, Teresa works as a Customer Service Representative for the Social Security Administration in Chicago, providing essential assistance to those in need. Her unwavering commitment to service and her community highlights her exceptional contributions and dedication.

## Youth Who Excels Honorees

### Katelyn Tran

*Chinese American Community*

Katelyn Tran (17), a senior at Walter Payton College Prep, is dedicated to uplifting her community through advocacy. She focuses on empowering the AAPI youth voice in Chicago.

A year ago, Katelyn became a peer facilitator in Origin, CBCAC's Youth-Led Civic Engagement program, where she guides participants in researching, designing, and implementing short-term projects to address community issues.



She is also a lead member and active participant in the Teen Coalition of Chinatown, collaborating with teens citywide to amplify Chinatown's voice in the mega-development "The 78" and combat threats of gentrification and displacement. Katelyn's passion for organizing youth and inspiring action has led her to successfully mobilize others to take on issues they care about.

### Evan Mendiola

*Filipino American Community*

Evan Mendiola (17), a junior at York Community High School, is committed to excelling academically and as a peer leader. He is working toward earning the Seal of Biliteracy in Spanish and aims to be inducted into the National Honor Society while tutoring classmates in pre-calculus.



Evan volunteers as a coach for youth baseball programs, sharing his passion for the sport and helping younger players build skills. As a member of his high school's Varsity Baseball Team, he plans to continue his athletic career in college while pursuing a medical career. He aspires to join his grandmother on future medical missions to the Philippines, where he can immerse himself in Filipino culture while providing care to those in need.

### Maya Agrawal

*Indian American Community*

Maya Agrawal (17) excels at one of Illinois' top high schools, maintaining straight A's and earning admission to the National Honor Society for her academic achievements and community service. She was also awarded the AP Scholar with Distinction honor.



Maya interned with a non-profit school for low-income children in India, focusing on grant writing and fundraising for a new school. She served as a Community Navigator for the Indo-American Center, assisting Chicago's immigrant community, and is a Payton Advisory Leader, mentoring fellow students.

As a Student Government Senior Representative and an ASVC leader, Maya helps plan the Chicago Public Schools arts festival and advocates for arts access and quality in schools. She is the Section Leader for her school's Concert Choir and created a blog, Genz Diaries, which has 2,000 readers worldwide.

### Zachary E. Wong

*Indonesian American Community*

Zachary, a rising junior at Walter Payton College Prep, excels in both academics and community service. As a key member of his school's math team, he has led them to first-place finishes in major competitions like the City of Chicago Math League and the North Suburban Math League. He also won the Math Kangaroo state title and was a semifinalist in the Wharton Investment Global Competition. With a 5.05 weighted GPA and enrollment in three AP courses, Zachary continually challenges himself academically.



Beyond academics, Zachary is dedicated to service. He serves as Advocacy Chair for UNICEF, helping vulnerable children through education and fundraising, and volunteers with The Honeycomb Leadership Corp., tackling societal issues in Chicago's neighborhoods. He's organized food drives, advocated for affordable housing, and raised \$500 for the "By the Hand" nonprofit. Zachary's leadership and selfless actions inspire those around him, showing his commitment to making a positive impact.

## Youth Who Excels Honorees

### Kanato Foley

*Japanese American Community*

Kanato Foley (18) a first-year at Florida State University in Tallahassee, is pursuing studies in pre-accounting. He is a member of the first cohort of the university's Business Living-Learning Community, which is open to a select group of business students. Kanato is also an associate in the Beta Alpha Psi Honor Society, and a member of the Japanese Student Association.



During his years at Whitney M. Young Magnet High School, Kanato co-founded the school's branch of the Future Business Leaders of America and was a two-time finalist at the Illinois State Leadership Conference. He was president of the Japanese Culture Club, and secretary of the school's Freshmen Mentors group. Fluent in both English and Japanese, Kanato was awarded the State of Illinois Seal of Biliteracy and served as youth volunteer coordinator for the Chicago Japanese Club.

### Kayleigh Lim

*Malaysian American Community*

Kayleigh Lim is a youth member of the Malaysian Club of Chicago. She moved to the U. S. with her Malaysian-born parents and brother at age 4. Currently, she is a Freshman at Whitney Young Magnet High School and has played the violin with the Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestras for 6 years. In 7th grade, she became concertmaster of Whitney Young's Symphony Orchestra and is also involved in the Chamber Orchestra and Tri-M Music Honor Society.



Kayleigh has helped with Malaysian events and led a food stall at the Taste of Malaysia event. She is cheerful and manages challenging classes, is part of the Math Team, and volunteers with the National Junior Honors Society. In the summer, she volunteers at her local church. In her free time, she enjoys drawing and reading mysteries.

### Erica Kim Yoo

*Korean American Community*

Erica Kim Yoo (18), who is a first-generation American, has embraced her dual identity as a Korean American. Determination is one of her core values, which has led Erica to earn a spot on their school's honor roll and participate in various academic programs.



Erica's passion for service and teaching began early, as she volunteered as an art teacher for Milal Mission, a group supporting the disabled. Erica currently serves as a "Junior Ambassador" at the Korean Cultural Center of Chicago, promoting Korean culture in the Chicago-land area.

Her cultural interest blossomed in childhood when she joined the Chicago Korean Dance Company. Over the years, she performed across the country and eventually earned the title of "Student President." In this role, she had the opportunity to guide her fellow dancers, helping them excel not just as performers but as a cohesive team.

### Yaseen Ahmed

*Pakistani American Community*

Yaseen Ahmed (20) is a talented and dedicated 20-year-old. He lives in Bolingbrook, IL, with his family and graduated from Bolingbrook High School in 2022 with a GPA of 3.5. He is currently studying finance and accounting in college. Yaseen volunteers at the Taste of Pakistan festival and helps organize events at the Bolingbrook Golf Club, including the Cricket Award Ceremony. He participates in the Bolingbrook Pathway Parade and contributes to the Boys Truth Seekers program at local Mosques, coaching youth basketball and volunteering for events.



Yaseen mentors college freshmen emphasizes community engagement, assists elderly individuals, and leads congregational prayers. He aims to major in finance, become a financial advisor, and open his own accounting firm while enjoying sports.

## Youth Who Excels Honorees

### Nattapak Chankaew

*Thailand American Community*

Nattapak Chankaew (18), a senior at Mather High School, is passionate about pursuing a career in pharmacy. He has been actively involved in traditional Thai dance and music, taking classes at Wat Dhammaram, and performing at events such as Sabaidee Fest in California, the Songkran Festival in Minnesota, and the Thai Festival in Chicago. His involvement in these events has helped strengthen connections between Thailand and the United States.



In school, Nattapak participates in sports like swimming, badminton, and bowling, and is a member of both the National English Honor Society and National Honor Society. Additionally, he has assisted in teaching Thai to the Wat Dhammaram Kindergarten class, supporting his cultural heritage and the local community. Nattapak is eager to continue promoting the Asian community and values the lessons he has learned through his involvement.

### Sylvia Dinh

*Vietnamese American Community*

Sylvia Dinh (19), a first-generation Vietnamese American, is a first-year Biology student at Loyola University Chicago. She and her family volunteer at community events, such as feeding the homeless, providing meals for children, performing cultural dances for the Lunar New Year, and participating in Memorial Day parades. Sylvia is an active leader in Truc Lam's Vietnamese Buddhist Youth Association, where she teaches dance and Vietnamese.



She also served as president of her school's Asian American Association for two years, organizing dance performances for Multicultural Night, pep rallies, and India Night. Passionate about traveling and learning about new cultures, Sylvia hopes to visit Vietnam more often to reconnect with her family and heritage.

Sylvia has received the Presidential Merit Award, the highest honors, and is a member of the National Honor Society, Math Honor Society, and Science Honor Society.



PHOTO: Rieny Photography

Martino Tangkar, 2024-2025 President, Asian American Coalition of Chicago, shown with some of the AACC 2025 Youth Who Excels Awardee Designates who attended the Asian American Coalition of Chicago Holiday Meeting/Photo Shoot Honoring Awardee Designates, November 20, 2024 at the Korean Cultural Center of Chicago in Wheeling, Illinois.

L to r: Evan Mendola (Filipino American Community); Yaseen Ahmed (Pakistani American Community); Nattapak Chankaew, Thai American Community; Erica Kim Yoo (Korean American Community); Martino Tangkar, 2024-2025 President, Asian American Coalition of Chicago; Kayleigh Lim (Malaysian American Community); Zachary Wong (Indonesian American Community) and Kaitlyn Tran (Chinese American Community). (Not Pictured: Mays Agnew (Iranian American Community); Kenzie Foley (Japanese American Community) and Sylvia Dinh (Vietnamese American Community).) (Photo by: 2024 Rieny G. Cataloging for AACC25)



Ketut Muka Pendet was born in Nyuh Kuning in 1961, since the age of 15 he has studied Nyuh Kuning style sculpture, then studied Ubud traditional painting at the Fine Arts High School (SMSR) in Denpasar. While studying at SMSR he once won a prize for making a kastok and ashtray design which was competed at the Bali Arts Festival (PKB) in 1979. After graduating from SMSR in 1982, he continued at the Fine Arts Design Study Program (UNUD) Udayana University in Denpasar Bali, taking the field of ceramic craft studies. Further studies S2 and S3 in Cultural Studies UNUD in 2015 with the research topic "Banyu Mulek Pottery, West Lombok, Analysis of Form, Function and Meaning, and a dissertation with the topic 'Innovation of Batupadas Craft Products, Singapadu Village in the Global Era'. Until now he has been a lecturer at the Craft Study Program, Faculty of Fine Arts and Design, Indonesian Institute of the Arts (ISI) Bali.

The book that he has written together is Technology, Ceramic Decoration, History of Gianyar Weaving. His latest research is Mapping and Identification of Small and Medium Industries (IKM) in the Field of Fine Arts and Design in Bali Province 2019. Participating in the Bali Mega Rupa Exhibition at the ARMA Museum 2022, International Community Service at the Indonesian School Kuala Lumpur (SIKL) 2023, Identification Team for the Bali Museum Statue and Mask Collection, giving Traditional Painting Workshop at Shanghai Art Collection Museum, join the Painting exhibition in the framework of Indonesia Night in Bangkok, and in 2024 join painting exhibition at the Indonesian Embassy in Kazakhstan.



BIOGRAPHY OF JAMALIAH ISMAIL TEHAN

Born in the vibrant city of Singapore to Malay and Javanese parents, Liah Tehan is a passionate advocate for the performing arts, celebrating the rich tapestry of cultural heritage through dance. Schooled in Asian Traditional Dance from an early age, she discovered the power of movement as a medium for storytelling, preserving the narratives of her ancestry while connecting with global traditions.

Liah's career spans decades as a dance instructor, choreographer, and cultural ambassador. Her work has brought to life numerous performances and events, each showcasing her belief that dance transcends boundaries, fostering understanding and unity. By blending the discipline of traditional routines with the creativity of modern fusion, she has developed a unique choreographic style that resonates with audiences worldwide.

As an educator, Liah inspires students to embrace their roots and explore the beauty of diversity. Her teaching philosophy encourages self-expression and curiosity, empowering young dancers to celebrate their identities while building bridges between communities. Through her artistic vision, Liah has transformed the stage into a platform for dialogue, inclusion, and hope. Her journey is a testament to the enduring power of the arts to unite, inspire, and create a shared language of humanity.

# Rhythm of One!

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by Liah Tehan

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**'Rhythms of One'** – A Tapestry of Asia... is a kaleidoscope of culture, rhythm, and movement, weaving together the spirit of 18 Asian nations into a breathtaking tapestry of unity. Each act pulses with life, blending the timeless elegance of tradition with the electrifying energy of modern beats. From soulful expressions to infectious rhythms, the performance is a journey through Asia's rich heritage, reimagined with bold, contemporary flair. With every step and turn, this celebration bursts into a radiant crescendo, embodying resilience, diversity, and the shared rhythm of humanity.

**The Opening – A Vibrant of Celebrations**  
Rhythms Of One...Symphony Walk of Unity!  
A harmonious procession of 18 Asian nations,  
celebrating diversity through rhythm and tradition.

**Act #1 – Harmony in Motion**  
Cambodian – Ni Wayan Mulyati  
Thai – Alexis Cortes  
Laotian - Dewi Sinta

**Act #2 – Serenade of Cultural Horizon**  
Bangladeshi – Sasha Simanjuntak  
Indian – Mutiara Mahartayasa  
Pakistani – Miley Kadarman  
Sri Lankan – Anastasia Fremault  
Axel Simanjuntak  
Nerio Yudhokusuma  
Sakha Irawan

**Act #3 – Lights of Love**  
Filipino – Nikie Suryadi  
Vietnamese – Clara Suryadi  
Vietnamese – Keisha Suryadi

**Act #4 – The Soul of Archipelago**  
Indonesian – Nadira Bumi  
Indonesian – Imam Prasetyo  
Indonesian – Yehezkiel Sitingjak  
Malaysian – Miranda Soegomo  
Singaporean – Rita Lee

**Act #5 – Echoes of Innovation**  
Chinese – Kus Folkers  
Japanese – Jianna Torcende  
Taiko #1 – Leo Huesca  
Taiko #2 – Brian Haro

**Act #6 – Rhythms of The Ancients Earth**  
Burmese – Reny Fremault  
Nepalese – Nina Mulyani  
Mongolian – Putri Plumeria

**Act #7 – Young Spirits in Motion**  
*D' Korean Ambassadors...*  
Alison Vazquez-Irizarry  
Calesthan Pendit  
Ellyana Yudhokusuma  
Gabriel Kumpis  
Louisa Smith  
Mavisha Irawan  
Velida Sinaga

**The Finale – Canvas of Life**  
A lively Rhythms of One, the fusion of the Macarena with an Asianique flair, building to the spirit of rumba's rhythm and uniting the audience in swaying samba moves

*I was born around 50 years ago, with the name AGUS SUNANDAR, in a small village in Madura called Malaka. Elementary School - High School in Madura, and continued bachelor's degree at IKIP Malang, then master degree at ITB Bandung and doctoral program at ISI Surakarta. Now as a fashion lecturer in Fashion Design Faculty of Vocational UM, and became a designer and owner of 2 fashion brands called "SAMSUGA" and "A-Man".*

*Became the founder of 2 big events in East Java and Indonesia in general, namely "Malang Flower Carnival" and "Malang Fashion Week". I can travel the world because of the government's appreciation for my dedication and seriousness in creative fashion activities and costumes. Now I also provide a lot of mentoring and training to creative industry UMKM groups, especially in fashion sector, crafts and textiles, for communities and fashion schools throughout Indonesia*



**Dr. Agus Sunandar, S.Pd, M.Sn**  
**SAMSUGA**



**Wayan Kun Adnyana**  
a professional artist and current Rector of ISI Denpasar (2021-2025), has exhibited internationally in Taiwan, Australia, Poland, and Thailand. Formerly the Head of the Bali Provincial Cultural Office (2019-2021), he has researched Balinese painting that extended to the Netherlands. His notable publications include Pita Maha (2018). He has received several awards, such as Dharma Kusuma (2024), the Anugerah Kebudayaan Indonesia, and the World Peace Artist Awards from the Committee of Artists for World Peace, Republic of Korea (2023), recognizing his contributions to art and culture.



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# Linda Yu

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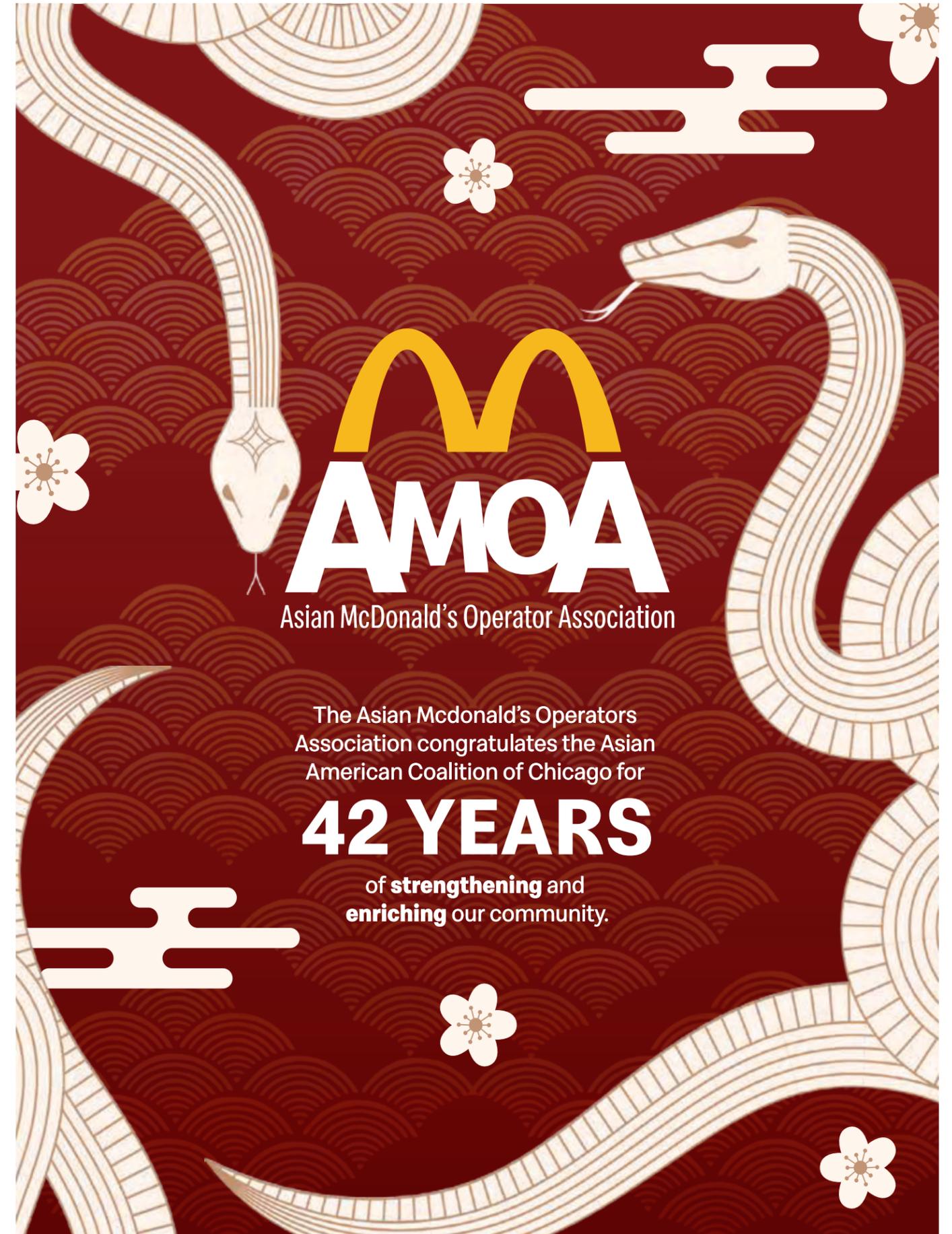
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State of Illinois  
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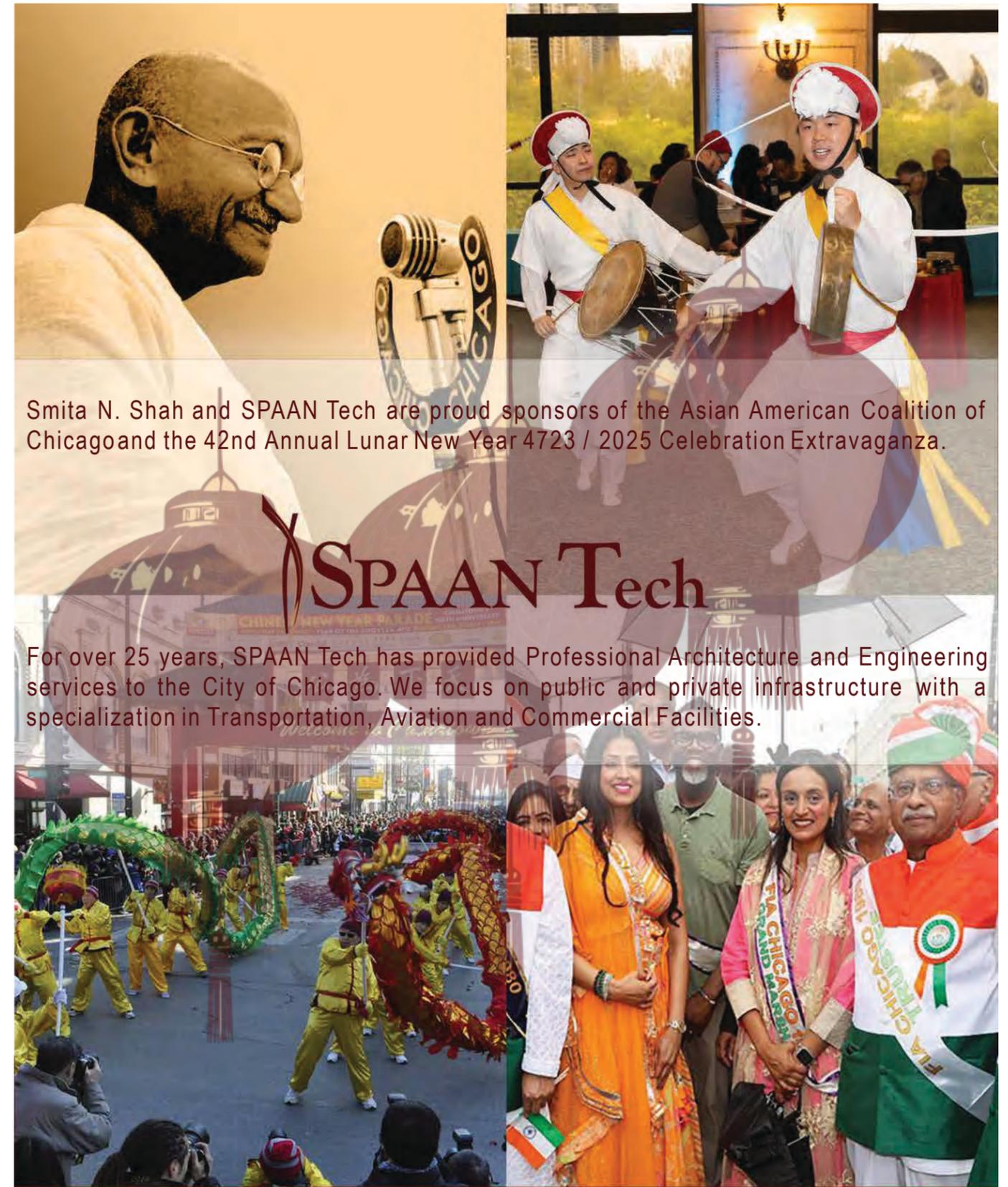
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OF ILLINOIS

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# CONGRATULATIONS

## 2025 AACC Japanese American Community Awardees

**Ikuko Nichols**  
Exemplary Community Service

**Kanato Foley**  
Youth Who Excels



**JASC**  
Japanese American  
Service Committee



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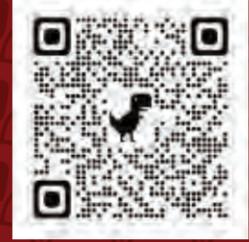
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CLEO AQUINO

Filipino Community Exemplary Service Awardee

MICHAEL FRERICHS

Honorable Sandra Otaka Grand Asian Awardee

&

LINDA YU

Ping Tom Awardee

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CONGRATULATIONS TO THE ASIAN AMERICAN  
COALITION OF CHICAGO  
42ND ANNUAL LUNAR NEW YEAR 2025  
CELEBRATION EXTRAVAGANZA

Habloft proudly joins in celebrating this special occasion  
and extending our heartfelt support to the Asian  
American community.

*With special recognition of Cleo Aquino  
Exemplary Community Service Honoree  
Filipino American Community*

**We cordially invite you to learn more about  
Habloft at our first annual Real Estate Expo.**

*March 15th, 2025  
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## Asian American Coalition of Chicago

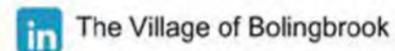
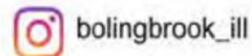
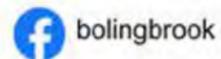
**42nd Annual Lunar New Year 4723  
2025 Celebration Extravaganza**  
*Hosted by The Indonesian American Community*

**Mayor Mary Alexander-Basta**  
Marti Barton, Village Clerk

### Village Trustees

Michael Lawler   Michael Carpanzano  
Troy Doris   Jean Kelly  
Jose Quintero   Maria Zarate

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With Best Wishes from

Pan Asian American Business Council (PAABC)  
And  
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## Cyber Security Annual Conference

# GCSI 2025

At  
IIT Chicago Kent College of Law (565 W. Adams St, Chicago)

## On April 23, 2025

## Cyber Security Winter Conference

# GCSI@MxD

At  
MXD The Digital Manufacturing and Cybersecurity Institute  
1415 N Cherry Ave, Chicago  
On November 6, 2025

For more information please contact us at  
[panasianbusinesscouncil@gmail.com](mailto:panasianbusinesscouncil@gmail.com)  
[GCSChicago.org](http://GCSChicago.org)  
312-226-6582

# AREAA- GREATER CHICAGO



*Congratulations*

to the Asian American Coalition of Chicago on its  
42nd Annual Lunar New Year 2025 Celebration  
Extravaganza!

Especially to Cleo Aquino  
AREAA Chapter President  
AACC 2025 Exemplary Community Service Honoree  
Filipino American Community



Scan Here to Connect with Us!  
Scan to Become a Member today!  
We are on Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn



## SPIRE REAL ESTATE EDUCATION INC.

Our mission is in our company name.  
Creating "Successful Paths In Real Estate" through licensing,  
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Join us on Saturday, March 15th at 10am to learn what it  
takes to become a licensed real estate broker.

Register at: <https://bit.ly/SPIREInfo>  
[WWW.SPIREREALSTATEEDUCATION.COM](http://WWW.SPIREREALSTATEEDUCATION.COM)





COALITION FOR A BETTER  
CHINESE AMERICAN COMMUNITY  
CONGRATULATES

THE INDONESIAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY FOR LEADING

The 42nd Annual

# Lunar New Year Celebration

AND OUR AWARDEES FROM THE CHINESE AMERICAN COMMUNITY



JOHNNY ZHENG  
--  
EXEMPLARY COMMUNITY  
SERVICE AWARD



KATELYN TRAN  
--  
YOUTH WHO EXCEL AWARD

Thank you for your dedication to the community!



CONGRATULATES

the Asian American Coalition of Chicago on its  
42nd Annual Lunar New Year 2025 Celebration  
especially

Cleo Aquino  
AACC Exemplary Community Service Honoree

and

Evan Mendiola  
Community Youth Awardee

Filipino American Community



Aurora  
Abella-Austraco  
President



Richard  
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Board Member

PACCGC is a Chicago-based small-business 501(c) 6 organization led by Filipino American business owners, professionals and entrepreneurs focused on empowering Chicago's Filipino-American community by coaching, educating and connecting its businesses with growth opportunities and community events.

<https://paccgc.co>

*Congratulations and much love to...*



*YOUTH WHO EXCELS 2025*

*Asian American Coalition of Chicago*

*"We are confident that you will continue to strive for your educational ambitions and wishing you much success in your chosen endeavor."*

*From:*

*Your Family*

*Cleofe Mendiola, Espie Vassallo, Carrie Tierro*



*Sister Janelle*



*Evan, Sister Lauren  
Mom Yvet & Dad Richard*



TO THE INDOONESIAN AMERICANS COMMUNITY & ALL AWARDEES  
ASIAN AMERICAN COALITION OF CHICAGO  
42ND ANNUAL LUNAR NEW YEAR 4723  
2025 CELEBRATION EXTRAVAGANZA  
ESPECIALLY TO



IRA SIGAR, PH.D.  
EXEMPLARY COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDEE



ZACHARY E. WONG  
YOUTH WHO EXCELS AWARDEE

WITH WARM REGARDS  
FROM LAS VEGAS



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MIA GOOSSENS, FATMAH KIMPTON, TRISILA DAVIDGE



@THEMORINGAJEWELRY  
COKORDA ARIANI FRASER

OF  
THE LAS VEGAS INDOONESIAN COMMUNITY





Chicago Japanese American  
Historical Society  
www.cjahs.org

**Congratula\* ons to  
the Japanese American Community  
2025 Awardees**



**IKUKO NICHOLS**

Exemplary Community Service



**KANATO FOLEY**

Youth Who Excel

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Korean Cultural Center  
of Chicago



**HAPPY LUNAR  
NEW YEAR!**

from Chicago Sister Cities International  
**LAHORE COMMITTEE**

---

Tariq Butt MD



**Congratulations All  
Award Recipients &  
Happy Lunar New Year!**

Pakistani American Chicagoland  
Chamber of Commerce

---

Chairman  
Tariq Butt MD



President  
Naveed Anwar

*Congratulations to*

# The 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Lunar New Year Celebration

Hosted by The Indonesian American Community

and to our award recipients

**Hon Bannapradist**

Exemplary Community Service Award

**Nattapak Chankaew**

Youth Who Excels Award



From:

Thai Illinois Friendship Alliance (TIFA)

Thai Golf Club of Chicago (TGCC)

Thai Golfers Association in America (TGAA)



*Congratulations*

to all AACC 2025 Award Recipients

especially to



**Hon Bannapradist**  
Exemplary Community Service Award



**Nattapak Chankaew**  
Youth Who Excels Award

Awards Presented by

**Asian American Coalition of Chicago**

on

**The 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Lunar New Year Celebration**

Hosted by The Indonesian American Community

From

Thai American Association of Illinois

Thai Cultural and Fine Arts Institute

Century 21 SGR



The Vietnamese Community and  
Nghia Sinh International, Inc.



CONGRATULATE and BEST WISHES TO  
**TERESA TRAN and SYLVIA DINH**



On your selections as the 2025 Exemplary Community  
Service and Youth Who Excels Awardees for  
the Vietnamese American Community!!

Hearty Congratulations

to the

**Indonesian American Community**

and all awardees for their achievements,

especially to

**Ira Sigar**

Indonesian American  
Community Service Awardee

**Zachary Wong**

Indonesian American  
Youth who Excels Awardee

**IFGF**  
International Full Gospel Fellowship  
**CHICAGO**

**PEOPLE IS OUR MISSION**  
Connect with God & Make Disciples

**SUNDAY SERVICE 10AM**

Young Professionals & Students small groups every other Friday  
Multiple family small groups every other Monday or Saturday

Warm Regards

Lead Pastor Ps. David Bendele & Connie Bendele

Associate Pastor Ps. Ivan Simon & Irene Simon

Grace Chen, Freddy Hodinata & Sylvia Wirianata, Tita Metz & Thomas Metz,

Fepi Paramarti, Jimmy Setyo & Sandra Setyo, Effy Sutanto

Ps. David Bendele (570)216-6807

Ps. Ivan Simon (732)986-3446

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 IFGF Chicago

**SAVE THE DATE**

for the

ASIAN AMERICAN, NATIVE HAWAIIAN &  
PACIFIC ISLANDERS HERITAGE MONTH  
**Kickoff & Business Expo**

THURSDAY

**01 MAY 2025**

10 AM - 2 PM

**BMO Bank**

320 S. Canal Street, 17th Floor  
Chicago, IL 60606



[www.ocachicago.org](http://www.ocachicago.org) | [events@ocachicago.org](mailto:events@ocachicago.org)



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**Spring 2025**  
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 **nydesigns21@gmail.com**



**...ONE...**

**ASIAN AMERICAN COALITION OF CHICAGO  
42ND ANNUAL LUNAR NEW YEAR 4723/  
2025 CELEBRATION EXTRAVAGANZA**

**SAVE THE DATE**

**Saturday, February 22,  
2025**

**Hyatt Regency O'Hare  
9300 Bryn Mawr Ave  
Rosemont, IL 60018**

**Hosted by The Indonesian American  
Community  
Preceded by 2025 Conference & Expo**

# Nataliayaya Designs



- Anna Mariel Van Driel
- Catarina Thérèse
- Chris Sylvie
- Daizy Lustrup
- Daniéle Sutherland
- Gaby Haas
- Jesse Lee
- Jazib Yardin
- Jenny Huey
- Jessy Wilhem
- Katalina Dawson
- Liam Bermejo
- Naomi Parisette
- Olga Obraztsova
- Sandra Ansaldo
- Simi Sadiya
- Sultana Öztas
- Vania Piczura
- Victoria Chen
- Vivian Lee

**Models**



**2025 Community Events**

Annual Black History Month Festival of the Arts - Jan-Feb

Women's History Month: A Whisper 2 A Scream - March - April

3rd Annual Asian Pacific American Festival of the Arts - May-June

2nd Annual Hispanic Heritage Festival of the Arts - Sep-Oct

9th Annual OH Art Students Exhibition, Family Month - Nov-Dec

Contact us for more information on Children and Youth Art Classes  
[info@ohartfoundation.org](mailto:info@ohartfoundation.org)

Help support  
 @Ohartfoundation

**OH Art Foundation**

At Oh Art Foundation, our mission is to strengthen Chicago communities by offering accessible art education, exhibitions & events, and programs that promote understanding of diverse cultures through art.

Host your next Event at the Zhou B Art Center!




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 Chicago, IL 60609

✉ [events@zhoubartcenter.com](mailto:events@zhoubartcenter.com)  
 🌐 [www.zhoubartcenter.com](http://www.zhoubartcenter.com)  
 ☎ 773-523-0200



**Asian American Law Enforcement Association**

Established in 1983  
 A 501c (3) Non-Profit Organization  
[www.aalea.org](http://www.aalea.org)  
 Email: [aalea@aalea.org](mailto:aalea@aalea.org)

Follow us 😊   

**Proudly Congratulates & Supports**  
**Asian American Coalition of Chicago**



**The 42<sup>nd</sup> Lunar New Year Celebration**

**Asian American Law Enforcement Association**  
 is one of the 24 chapters of the  
**National Asian Peace Officer's Association**



**HELP  
STOP  
HATE**

*Help Illinois stop hate.*

**NOT** *in*  
**OUR**  
**STATE.**

**What is hate?**

Acts of hate target your identity—your race, color, creed, religion, ancestry, gender, sexual orientation, physical or mental disability, citizenship, immigration status, or national origin.

Such acts are deeply harmful.

**Why report hate?**

When you report hate, you can access vital resources, build awareness, and help make Illinois safer and more inclusive for all.

**How can we stop hate?**

Report an act of hate you have experienced or witnessed to Help Stop Hate 877 458 HATE (4283) or visit ILStopHate.org to fill out a form.

ILStopHate.org / 877 458 HATE

**REPORT HATE  
GET SUPPORT**



## Malaysian Club of Chicago

Congratulates  
The Indonesian American Community  
On Hosting

**...One...**

*The 42nd Annual Lunar New Year Forum and Celebration  
4723 / 2025 Celebration Extravaganza*

*and congratulates our Amazing Award Recipients*



**CK Tan**

Community Service Awardee



**Kayleigh Lim**

Youth Who Excel Awardee



  
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# Year of the Snake 2025

Wishing all a year of wisdom,  
transformation and renewal!



**Starring**  
Kimbirdlee Fadner

**Written by**  
Jonathan Fadner  
& Kimbirdlee Fadner

**Represented**  
in part by  
ENERI Communications

Heartfelt music  
and an inspiring storyline  
tell the adventures of the  
first-ever female Monkey King  
as she battles against Heaven  
and Earth's most  
treacherous foes to  
save her tribe  
and achieve immortality.



Kimbirdlee



IG



Monkey King



Jonathan



# ...ONE...

ASIAN AMERICAN COALITION OF CHICAGO  
42<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL LUNAR NEW YEAR 4724/  
2025 CELEBRATION EXTRAVAGANZA

Saturday, February 22, 2025  
Hyatt Regency O'Hare  
9300 Bryn Mawr Ave  
Rosemont, IL 60018

Hosted by The Indonesian American Community

[www.aacchicago.org](http://www.aacchicago.org)





ENERI<sup>SM</sup>  
COMMUNICATIONS

Energy Upon Impact

Enjoy  
the  
Journey!

Baby M and Rieny  
(SP/Photo by/2025 Rieny G. Cualoping)

*....ONE... #ForTheUniverse #ForOurFutureLeaders*

So honored to work with visionary Martino Tangkar, Kartika Widjanta and the Indonesian Host Community once again!

Irene (ENERI/Rieny) Cualoping, AACC First Pan Asian American Awardee (1992). (2025) Executive Producer/Show Director

ENERI Communications P.O. Box 8028 Chicago, Illinois 60680-8022 [info@enericom.net](mailto:info@enericom.net)

*“All Asian Americans should endeavor to be Hardworking,  
Honest and Exemplary US Citizens. We should place the*

*Mother Country's interest!  
Thank you and May God Bless!”*

**Jae and Soon Chang Family  
and  
Hae D Paul Park**

We thank you...  
Presenting Sponsor  
Jae and Soon Chang Family

PHOTO: 2012 Rieny G. Cualoping

*E Pluribus Unum & Bhinneka Tunggal Ika*

**IND ONE ASIA**

**ASIAN AMERICAN COALITION OF CHICAGO  
42<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL LUNAR NEW YEAR 4723/  
2025 CELEBRATION EXTRAVAGANZA**



Hyatt Regency O'Hare

February 22, 2025

Hosted by:  
Indonesian American Community  
Indonesian Diaspora Network - USA

Asian American Coalition of Chicago • 42nd Annual Lunar New Year Celebration Extravaganza • 2025/ 4723