



AAPI COMMUNITY ACTION SUMMIT

September 7, 2019

**8:30 AM – 5:30 PM
Westin South Coast Plaza
Costa Mesa, CA**



AAPI COMMUNITY ACTION SUMMIT

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Quick Glance

- 7:00 - 8:30 Registration and Networking Breakfast
- 8:30 - 9:00 Welcome and Setting the Stage (30 minutes) (*Terrace Pavilion*)
- 9:00 - 9:15 Keynote Remarks (15 minutes) (*Terrace Pavilion*)
- 9:15 - 10:30 Plenary | Up For Grabs: AAPI Voters And The Future Of Our Nation (*Terrace Pavilion*)
- 10:30 - 10:45 Break
- 10:45 - 12:15 Plenary | Moving the Dial: Issues that Move Our Community (*Terrace Pavilion*)
- 12:15 - 12:30 Transition to Lunch
- 12:30 - 1:30 Lunch (*Terrace Pavilion*)
- NextGen #AAPIHollywood: Asians in Entertainment and Activism
- 1:30 - 3:00 Concurrent Sessions and Training
- Civic Engagement 2.0: Celebrating a New Generation of Progressive AAPI Women in Public Office (*San Gabriel*)
 - Campaign Training 1.0 (New Americans Leader) (*San Carlos*)
 - Bolstering Our Voice and Impact through 501c4 Power (*San Felipe*)
- 3:00 - 3:15 Break
- 3:15 - 4:45 Concurrent Sessions and Training
- Coalition Building for Power and Impact: Fortifying Our Reach and Mobilizing Community Resources in Emerging Communities (*San Gabriel*)
 - Campaign Training 2.0 (New Americans Leader) (*San Carlos*)
 - C4 Action Planning: Ramping Up for Foundation Dollars (*San Felipe*)
 - Engaging the Media: A Practical How To Guide (*San Pedro/San Diego*)
- 4:45 - 5:15 Fireside Chat (*Terrace Pavilion*)
- 5:15 - 5:30 Closing Remarks (*Terrace Pavilion*)

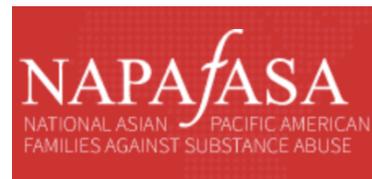
ONWARD
TOGETHER
PRIORITIES
USA



ASIAN HEALTH SERVICES



Chinese-American Elected Officials
(CEO) 美國華裔民選官員協會



8:30-9:00 AM (*Terrace Pavilion*)

Welcome Remarks

Katie Kalvoda – President, Asian Americans Rising



Katie Kalvoda is the founder and CEO of G3 Ventures, a family office specializing in innovative philanthropy, impact investments and community advocacy. She chaired the inaugural National Impact Investment Conference for Campden Conferences in September 2018. Katie is a trustee of the Kalvoda Family Foundation, a Board Member of the Sisters of St. Joseph Healthcare Foundation and a member of the California Health Facilities Financing Authority as an appointee of Anthony Rendon, Speaker of the CA Assembly.

Katie launched the Asian Americans Rising Action Fund as an advocacy organization for progressive values in the AAPI community. In addition, she serves on the board of AAPI Victory Fund. Katie is a graduate of University of California, Berkeley.

Katrina Foley – Mayor, Costa Mesa, CA



In November of 2018, Costa Mesa voters chose Katrina Foley to be the city's first directly elected Mayor. Katrina also served as Mayor in 2016-2017, and has been on Council for 10 years, (2004-2010; 2014-2018). She previously served the public on the Newport Mesa Unified School District Board of Trustees from November 2010 to November 2014. Katrina's focus is on making Costa Mesa better for families. She has 2 college age boys who attended Costa Mesa Public Schools and is married to Casey Swanson, a local teacher.

Katrina currently serves on the Travel Costa Mesa Board and liaison to the Newport Mesa Arts Commission, Cultural Arts Committee, Bike and Walkability Committee and Orange County Fair. As a City Council member from November 2004 to November 2008, Katrina served as the Chair to the Redevelopment Agency and City Council liaison to the following: OC Fair, Newport-Mesa Unified School District, Youth in Government Program, Child Care amp; Youth Services Committee, Cultural Arts Committee, and Santa Ana River Trail Blue Ribbon Committee.

Katrina has served as room mom, team mom and Mayor. She continues to volunteer her time and has served on numerous non-profit boards.

Tung Nguyen – Chair, AAPI Progressive Action



Dr. Tung Nguyen is Chair of AAPI Progressive Action and President of PIVOT-The Progressive Vietnamese American Organization, both 501c4 organizations dedicated to the AAPI progressive movement. He is also a pioneer in Asian American health research, a practicing primary care physician, and a professor of medicine at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF). Dr. Nguyen served as a Commissioner on President Obama’s Advisory Commission on AAPIs from 2011 to 2014, and as the Chair of the Commission from 2014-2017. He led the Commission in the first massive resignation from the Trump Administration after it implemented the Muslim ban in 2017. He is also a co-founder and serves on the board of AAPI Victory Fund. Dr. Nguyen received his B.A. in Philosophy from Harvard College and his M.D. from Stanford University School of Medicine.

9:00-9:15 AM (*Terrace Pavilion*)

Keynote Remarks

The Honorable John Chiang – Former California State Treasurer and California State Controller



John Chiang serves as a member of the board of directors of Apollo Medical Holdings Inc. (NASDAQ: AMEH), Zeuss Technologies, Pasadena Private Finance and Aegis Systems.

From 2015 until 2019, John Chiang served as California's 33rd State Treasurer. As the state's banker, he oversaw trillions of dollars in annual transactions, managed a \$75 billion investment portfolio, and was the nation's largest issuer of municipal bonds.

Prior to being elected Treasurer, Chiang served as State Controller from 2007 through 2014. During the Great Recession, he took steps to preserve cash to meet obligations to education and bond holders. His cash management decisions — which included delaying payments and issuing IOUs — were instrumental in keeping the state's credit rating from plunging into junk status, and his actions saved taxpayers millions of dollars. Additionally, Chiang aggressively used his audit programs to identify more than \$9.5 billion of fraud, waste and abuse in government programs, the most by any Controller in California's history.

In 1998, he was elected to California's Board of Equalization and served two terms, including three years as chair.

Chiang graduated with honors from the University of South Florida with a degree in finance and received his law degree from the Georgetown University Law Center.

9:15-10:30 AM (Terrace Pavilion)

Data & Tech Roundtable | Up For Grabs: AAPI Voters & The Future Of Our Nation

Hear the latest on polling and issues that matter to the AAPI Community

Moderator | Dave Min – Assistant Professor of Law, University of California, Irvine School of Law



David Min is a nationally recognized expert on financial markets regulation, and his research interests focus on the law and policy of banking, real estate finance, and capital markets.

Before joining the faculty of UCI Law, Professor Min spent over a decade working in financial regulatory law and policy, including as a staff attorney at the Securities and Exchange Commission, as an associate in the Securities Litigation practice group of the Washington, DC, law firm WilmerHale, as Banking Committee counsel for Sen. Charles E. Schumer (D-NY), and as the senior policy advisor and counsel for the Joint Economic Committee of Congress. Professor Min was most recently the Associate Director for Financial Markets Policy at the Center for American Progress, a policy think tank, where he oversaw the efforts of the Mortgage Finance Working Group, a collection of leading mortgage market experts responsible for, among other things, one of the leading proposals on housing finance reform that was described by the Wall Street Journal as “influential” and “one of the most detailed road maps yet for the creation of a housing-finance structure to succeed mortgage giants Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac.”

Professor Min holds a J.D. from Harvard Law School, and received his undergraduate degrees from the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School of Business and School of Arts and Sciences, where he graduated magna cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa.

Deepak Puri – Co-founder, Democracy Labs



Deepak is a Silicon Valley veteran and specialist in software innovation and distribution. He has managed strategic alliances at Oracle; participated in Netscape and VMware IPOs; holds three patents and advises multiple startups. Deepak specializes in identifying the right technology to solve business needs, structuring multi-party licensing deals and building software distribution channels. He writes on tech activism in CIO and software innovation in Network World. He serves on the board of the Tides Foundation and supports multiple non-profits including Ashoka, NetHope and Taproot.

Karthick Ramakrishnan – Principal, CRW Strategy



Karthick is a Principal at CRW Strategy. He is also a Board Member of The California Endowment, Chair of the California Commission on APIA Affairs, and Director of the Inland Empire Census Complete Count Committee. Karthick directs the National Asian American Survey and is founder of AAPIData.com, which publishes demographic data and policy research on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

He has published many articles and 6 books, including most recently, *Framing Immigrants* and *The New Immigration Federalism*, and has written dozens of opinion editorials and appeared in over 1,000 news stories. He was recently named to the Frederick Douglass 200 and is currently writing a book on state citizenship in the United States. He holds a BA in international relations from Brown University and a Ph.D. in politics from Princeton.

Tom K. Wong – Founding Director, U.S. Immigration Policy Center (USIPC), University of California San Diego



Tom K. Wong is an associate professor of political science at the UC, San Diego and also Director of the International Migration Studies Program Minor. His research focuses on the politics of immigration, citizenship, and migrant "illegality." As these issues have far-reaching implications, his work also explores the links between immigration, race and ethnicity, and the politics of identity. Recently, Tom served as an advisor to the White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (WHIAAPI) under the Obama administration.

His first book, *Rights, Deportation, and Detention in the Age of Immigration Control* analyzes the immigration control policies of twenty-five Western immigrant-receiving democracies. In analyzing over 30,000 roll call votes on immigration-related legislation in Congress since 2005, his second book, *The Politics of Immigration: Partisanship, Demographic Change, and American National Identity*, represents the most comprehensive analysis to date on the contemporary politics of immigration in the United States.

He is also on the leadership committee of the California Immigrant Policy Center, the board of the New American Leaders Project, and recently served on the advisory council of Unbound Philanthropy. Tom also consults on campaigns and elections, specializing in mobilizing low-propensity voters of color and immigrant communities.

10:30-10:45 AM
Break

10:45-12:15 PM (*Terrace Pavilion*)

Civil Rights Roundtable | Moving The Dial: Issues That Activate Our Community

This advocates roundtable will explore some of the most important civil rights issues facing the AAPI community and how community leaders and activists can mobilize for social justice.

Moderator | Luisa Blue – Executive Vice President, SEIU



Luisa Blue is the Executive Vice President of SEIU. Prior to this position, Blue served on the SEIU International Executive Board from 2012- 2016. She has dedicated the last four decades of her life to organizing and advocating for workers’ rights through the union. As a union leader, she has been at the forefront of making racial and immigrant justice a priority for the union.

Blue is one of the highest-ranking AAPI union leaders in the nation. She believes that everyone deserves access to a better future and that we must ensure that families are not torn apart because of a broken immigration system, that everyone deserves a fair wage, and that our justice system can no longer penalize people based on the color of their skin. From serving on various committees to rallying with members, Blue continues to lead the fight for workers’ rights, civil rights and economic justice.

Blue was recognized in 2015 at the National Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance Convention, where she was awarded the Philip Vera Cruz Organizing Award, and was recognized by the Filipina Women's Network as one of the 100 Most Influential Filipinas in the World because of her commitment to racial, immigrant and civil rights, and her work at SEIU.

Blue began her career with SEIU as an organizer for the SEIU Healthcare Division organizing RNs and healthcare workers throughout the U.S. in 1990. Four years later, Blue was asked to help lead the SEIU Nurse Alliance in its historic “safe staffing” campaign, which led to California becoming the first and only state to legislate nurse-to-patient ratio standards for acute care hospitals in the country.

In 1977, when she worked as an RN at San Francisco General Hospital, Blue became a member of Local 400. In 1982, she was elected president of the Local after she helped organize a successful campaign that improved collective bargaining rights for county registered nurses. She was an outspoken advocate for compassionate care of patients with AIDS/HIV in the early 1980s, successfully campaigning for AIDS/HIV education for healthcare workers.

Madihha Ahussain – Special Counsel for Anti-Muslim Bigotry, Muslim Advocates



Madihha Ahussain serves as special counsel for anti-muslim bigotry at Muslim Advocates and heads the Program to Counter Anti-Muslim Hate. Ms. Ahussain works with a coalition of organizations to combat anti-Muslim efforts by public officials. In addition, she monitors hate crimes targeting American Muslims, works with communities to respond to threats or incidents of violence, and mosque opposition.

During law school, she excelled in numerous regional and national moot court competitions, including the Whittier Juvenile Law competition where she was a member of the Best Overall Team and was named Best Oral Advocate, as well as the Jerome Prince Memorial Evidence competition where she was a national finalist and was given the award for Best Oral Advocate in the Final Round. She was also honored by the State Bar of California with the Wiley W. Manuel Certificate for Pro Bono Legal Services for outstanding community service during her law school career. Ms. Ahussain was a recipient of summer public interest fellowships from both the South Asian Bar Association of Northern California and the Hastings Public Interest Law Foundation, which allowed her to pursue her interests in civil rights work. She interned with U.S. District Court Judge Edward Chen of the Northern District of California, the Asian Law Caucus, and the ACLU of Southern California. Ms. Ahussain also worked part-time in a small law firm during and after college.

Ms. Ahussain received her B.A. with a double major in Sociology, and Psychology and Social Behavior from the University of California at Irvine and earned her J.D. from the University of California, Hastings College of the Law.

Aisha Yaqoob Mahmood – Director, Asian American Advocacy Fund (Georgia)



Aisha Yaqoob Mahmood is the Director of Asian American Advocacy Fund in Georgia, a group dedicated to building a politically conscious and engaged AAPI base to bring our communities into the larger movement for liberation and justice, and to work in coalition and solidarity with other communities of color to ultimately transform the sociopolitical landscape of Georgia and the South.

Aisha was a professional advocate for immigrant rights at the Georgia State Capitol, working with legislators on both sides of the aisle to push for civil rights for immigrants and people of color. She was a Policy Director at Asian Americans Advancing Justice Atlanta where she monitored local, state, and federal policies that affect immigrants and works to fight for their rights.

She was a co-organizer of Atlanta March for Social Justice & Women (January 2017), which saw an estimated 60,000 people peacefully march in downtown Atlanta. She earned a 40 Under 40 Georgia Muslim Award from the Islamic Speakers Bureau of Atlanta (October 2016) and the Rising Star Community Champion Award from Asian

Americans Advancing Justice Atlanta (October 2016). In 2015, Aisha earned a commendation from the Georgia General Assembly for work in the Georgia Muslim Community. Aisha is a former candidate for Georgia's HD97.

Kham Moua – Immigration Policy Advocate, Southeast Asia Resource Action Center



Kham S. Moua spearheads SEARAC's immigration policy portfolio through policy analysis, community engagement, and legislative and regulatory advocacy. He also serves as co-chair of the National Council of Asian Pacific American's Immigration Committee on behalf of SEARAC. Kham has spent over a decade community building, organizing, and advocating on a wide range of issues, ranging from immigration to military justice. His primary areas of expertise are in immigration and internet/technology policy.

Prior to SEARAC, Kham was the Associate Director of Policy and Advocacy at OCA – Asian Pacific American Advocates. While there, he directed the organization's policy, advocacy, and campaign efforts. Together with Asian Americans Advancing Justice – AAJC, he helped to establish the infrastructure for the AAPI Technology and Telecommunications Table, the only national coalition focused on those issues from an AAPI framework. Before OCA, he worked on state and local advocacy at Hmong National Development and Hmong American Partnership. Kham is also involved with AAPI LGBTQ organizations and issues. He currently serves as a board member for the National Queer Asian Pacific Islander Alliance (NQAPIA) and was previously the chair of Shades of Yellow, an organization based in Minnesota focused on Southeast Asian LGBTQ equity.

Kham hails from Minnesota and holds a political science degree with a minor in Chinese from Winona State University, where he was part of Pi Sigma Alpha.

Thu Quach, PhD – Chief Deputy, Asian Health Services and Staff, One Nation AAPI



Thu Quach, PhD has been working in public health and health care for over two decades. Her research, service, and advocacy work have been grounded in her own lived experience as a refugee from Vietnam, and the struggles her family faced in the health care system. She was among the tens of thousands of boat people who left Vietnam to escape persecution. Arriving in the US with her parents and two siblings at age 5, her family struggled with resettlement, and it has made her a fierce advocate of immigrant rights.

Trained as an epidemiologist, she has conducted community-based research, focusing on Asian Americans and immigrant populations, including examining occupational exposures and health impacts among Vietnamese nail salon workers. These research findings have contributed to the extraordinary work of the nationally-recognized California Healthy Nail Salon Collaborative, informing community engagement with the nail salon workforce and policy advocacy leading to the passing of the groundbreaking Healthy Nail Salon

Recognition Program local ordinance in San Francisco and subsequent statewide bill.

Dr. Quach currently serves as the Chief Deputy of Administration at Asian Health Services, a federally qualified health center in Oakland serving approximately 28,000 patients in English and 14 Asian languages. She is involved in local, statewide, and national research and policy efforts to promote health equity, including data warehouses, community-based participatory research, civic engagement, and health policy. Her work includes promoting smoking cessation among Asian American immigrant patients, data disaggregation, and addressing social determinants of health. In addition, she has been very involved the Progressive Vietnamese American Organization (PIVOT), which engages and empowers Vietnamese Americans for a just and diverse America.

Dr. Quach received her BA at UC Berkeley, her Master in Public Health at UCLA, and her PhD in Epidemiology at UC Berkeley.

12:15-12:30 PM

Break

12:30-1:30 PM (*Terrace Pavilion*)

Lunch Roundtable | NextGen #AAPIHollywood: Asians in Entertainment and Activism

Welcome | Lacy Lew Nguyen Wright, Board Member, Asian Americans Rising



Lacy Lew Nguyen Wright is a writer and social impact consultant who leverages the power of mass media for social good. She is the creator of Ballot Breakers, a website series interviewing young progressive candidates running for office. Ballot Breakers has featured over 50 candidates under the age of 35 who are representing young people's perspectives that are often absent in our government. Prior to Ballot Breakers, she was an Editor-at-Large at Huffington Post. Her writings can also be found on Elite Daily, The Moviegoer, The Bottom Line and HelloFlo.

In addition to her writing, Lacy regularly speaks on these issues across the nation. In 2015 she joined the Rape, Abuse, Incest National Network's (RAINN) Speakers Bureau, speaking to media and audiences on behalf of the nation's largest anti-sexual violence organization, and was recently featured in RAINN's national PSA entitled #WontStayQuiet.

Lacy is currently a YP4 Fellow at People for the American Way, expanding on the work she has begun with Ballot Breakers by continuing to engage young candidates for office. She is also a board member of San Fernando Valley Young Democrats, Fund Her Advisory Committee and Covenant House CA Event Committee, and InsideOUT Writers junior board.

Moderator | Jess Ju – Director of Programs and Operations, Coalition of Asian Pacifics in Entertainment (CAPE)



Jess Ju is the Director of Programs and Operations at CAPE, a non-profit organization that champions diversity by connecting, educating, and empowering AAPI artists and leaders in entertainment and media. At CAPE, she oversees pillar programs such as the CAPE New Writers Fellowship and the CAPE Leaders Fellowship.

Born and raised in Los Angeles, Jess has worked with numerous non-profit organizations in Los Angeles and the Bay Area. Prior to CAPE, Jess was the Assistant Company Manager at American Conservatory Theater, San Francisco's largest non-profit theater, and spent several summers interning with East West Players.

Jess is a co-founder and producer of BAD Repertory Theater, an Asian American sketch comedy and improv group based in the Bay Area. She graduated from the University of California, Berkeley with a double major in Theatre and Performance Studies and Media Studies.

Vinny Chhibber – Producer, Writer, Actor & Philanthropist



A graduate of Emory University and the Stella Adler Conservatory in New York, actor/producer Vinny Chhibber has acted in, created, and developed numerous award-winning film and television projects. His television appearances include *No Tomorrow*, *Brothers & Sisters*, *Chuck*, *Here and Now*, *Taken*, and, on CBS, *Rules of Engagement*. He can be seen in the upcoming feature film *Untitled Noah Baumbach Project*.

Through his production company, Chhibber Mann Productions, he is executive producing the documentary *Lost in America*, which follows the stories of homeless youth in America. Also, he is a founder of the Ammunition Theatre Company. Both companies are founded on the premise of creative activism: using art to facilitate change in the communities around us.

Chhibber has worked with numerous philanthropic organizations including My Friends Place, the Boot Campaign, and Young Storytellers, among others. Also, he taught a class at Ghetto Film School, which identifies young talent from local communities and provides them with the opportunity and resources to pursue creative careers. He is passionate about working with young people in marginalized communities, mentoring them in filmmaking and storytelling.

Vivien Ngô – Actor and Singer



Vivien Ngô is a second-generation Vietnamese American actor/singer who is most known for her role as Trinh Phan on Ava Duvernay's **QUEEN SUGAR**. The daughter of refugees, Vivien was raised in Orange County, CA, amidst the largest Vietnamese American community in the States. She attended the *University of Minnesota/Guthrie Theater BFA Actor Training Program* with initial aspirations to be a NY theatre actor. There, she trained extensively in both classical and contemporary stage acting and appeared in numerous plays, including the world premiere of **THE HIDDEN PEOPLE** by Joe Waechter at the *Guthrie Theater*.

She also studied at and performed on stages at *South Coast Repertory* and *Shakespeare's Globe* (in London, UK). Vivien returned to Southern California, hoping to join the ranks of Asian Americans and other women of color working to change media and mainstream entertainment. Vivien's other credits include **NCIS: New Orleans**, **SHAMELESS**, and various films that have played at *Slamdance*, *SXSW*, and *Cannes*. Currently, Vivien is developing original narrative content & writing/recording her debut EP. She hopes to collaborate on projects that challenge political, social, and artistic norms.

Nancy Wang Yuen – Sociologist, Pop Culture Expert and Author



Nancy Wang Yuen, Ph.D., is a sociologist and pop culture expert. She is the author of *Reel Inequality: Hollywood Actors and Racism* (2016), the first book to examine the barriers actors of color face in Hollywood and how they creatively challenge stereotypes.

She also pioneered the first study of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders on television and the 10-year followup study, *TOKENS ON THE SMALL SCREEN: Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders on Prime Time and Streaming Television* (2017). She is also the author of *TERRORISTS & TYRANTS: Middle Eastern and North African (MENA) Actors on Prime Time and Streaming Television* (2018).

Nancy is a popular speaker on race and media, appearing on *Dr. Phil*, *Al Jazeera English*, *BBC World TV*, *PRI*, *Teen Vogue*, *New York Times*, *Los Angeles Times*, and *Washington Post* among others. She is a guest writer at *CherryPicks*, *Elle*, *HuffPost* and *Remezcla*.

1:30-3:00 PM | Breakout Session A | *San Gabriel*

Celebrating a New Generation of Progressive AAPI Women in Public Office

Be inspired and learn what motivates this new tidal wave of AAPI leaders in public office.

Moderator | Bee Nguyen – Georgia State Representative (HD 89)



Bee is the National Policy Advisor for New American Leaders. As the daughter of former refugees from Vietnam, Bee cherishes the community's most diverse voices. She has spent the last decade working with teen girls in under resourced public high schools in Georgia through Athena's Warehouse, the nonprofit she created.

She currently serves as a state representative in the Georgia General Assembly, where she made history as the first progressive AAPI woman to be elected. In honor of the 50th anniversary of the Selma March, she biked from Selma to Montgomery using the same route as civil rights protesters. In an alternate universe, she would bike across America in search of independent book stores, street food and cozy spots in the sunshine.

Farrah Khan – Council Member, Irvine City Council, California



Council Member Farrah N. Khan is a small business owner and the Executive Director of the Newport Mesa Irvine Interfaith Council. She is a graduate of UC Davis and previously served eight years as a Regulatory Affairs Manager for a major biotech company. She was elected to the Irvine City Council in 2018.

Farrah is a PTA member and has served as PTA President for three terms at Deerfield Elementary, PTA Board at Venado Middle School and on the School Site Council at Irvine High. Farrah and her husband are also Legacy Partners with the Irvine Public School Foundation.

Farrah has worked extensively with many community organizations in Irvine and Orange County. She has served on the Steering Committee for the Irvine Global Village Festival, is a CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) volunteer with the Irvine Police Department and an active member of the Irvine Rotary Club. She also serves on the faith council for the United Way. Farrah was appointed as a Community Services Commissioner in 2014, where she took the time to get to know the city parks, open spaces, land development, amenities, and employees.

She has received numerous awards and recognitions throughout the years which is a testament to her commitment to service. She was also awarded the Community Service Leader Award from the OC Human Relations Commission in 2015.

Kim B. Nguyen – Council Member, Garden Grove Council, California



Kim Bernice Nguyen was elected to the Garden Grove City Council on November 8, 2016. She is the first Garden Grove City Council Member of Hispanic descent. Her proposed district map was unanimously approved by the City Council to be used for the City's first district elections in 2016.

Council Member Nguyen has called Garden Grove home since the age of ten. She attended Clinton-Mendenhall Elementary, Doig Intermediate, and Santiago High School. In 2013, she graduated from the University of California Santa Cruz with a degree in politics and a minor in legal studies. She is the first in her family to graduate high school and receive a college degree.

She currently works as a medical policy specialist and trainer at Blue Shield of California Promise Health Plan. Prior to that, she was an intern and a volunteer for then Senator Lou Correa.

Currently, she holds membership with the Garden Grove Elks Lodge. She graduated with a BA from UC Santa Cruz.

Melissa Ramoso – Council Member, Artesia Council, California



Council Member Melissa Ramoso is a public servant, advocate, a proud Gahr Gladiator and UC Irvine alumnus. She is the only woman on the Artesia, California City Council. She is a former Vice President of the Friends of Artesia Foundation.

Her passion for service comes from her immigrant parents. Council Member Ramoso's mother is a retired county nurse and her father is a U.S. Army veteran and retired postal worker. She was raised to believe that government should help make people's lives better.

For over fourteen years, Council Member Ramoso has represented federal and state legislators in serving their constituents. Previously, she was District Director to Assembly Member Al Muratsuchi where she coordinated a district office to help residents voice their opinions, access resources, and improve their communities.

Cindy Wu – Board Member, Mountain View School District Board of Education, California



Board Member Cindy Wu is a trailblazer and has overcome many challenges in her life. She came here not speaking a word of English, and because of the support she received from her parents and teachers, who made her feel like she could succeed no matter the obstacles, she is living the American Dream.

For the last 20 years, Ms. Wu has dedicated her life to furthering education. She has 20 years of experience in education, business, and real estate. She is a guest lecturer at Citrus College and Glendale College and is the Commissioner Emeritus for Disabled Students, Cable Services and the Planning Department.

Ms. Wu sympathizes with kids in the district, so many of whom are English learners. As an immigrant child herself, her parents left everything they knew to give their children a better life and a better education, and she benefited directly from that. She is proud to say through perseverance and hard work she became the first in her family to graduate from a university – USC and UCLA, she also attended Stanford University and Beijing University.

1:30-3:00 PM | Breakout Session B | *San Carlos*

Campaign Training 1.0

Want to join or volunteer for a campaign? Here's how to start with Campaign Training 1.0!

Training Partner: New American Leaders

Dr. Jose Paolo Magcalas – Board Member, Anaheim Elementary School Board



Dr. Jose Paolo Magcalas brings energy, passion and diverse experience to the Anaheim Elementary School Board. He teaches Ethnic Studies and United States history at Loara High School and part time in the Master of Arts in Teaching Program at Chapman University. In 2016, Dr. Magcalas was named Top 25 Teachers in Orange County according to O.C. Parenting Magazine.

He is proudly affiliated with the Paulo Freire Democratic Project, the National Association for Multicultural Education (NAME), the American Education Research Association (AERA), the Filipino American National Historical Society (FANHS), the National Association for Ethnic Studies (NAES), the California Association for Bilingual Education (CABE) and the California School Boards Association (CSBA).

Dr. Magcalas earned his Bachelor of Arts degree from California State University, Long Beach, Master of Arts degree in Education from Pepperdine University and his Ph.D. in Education from Chapman University. He was also awarded the Paulo Freire Outstanding Graduate Student Award from Chapman University.

1:30-3:00 PM | Breakout Session C | *San Felipe*

Bolstering Our Voice and Impact through 501c4 Power

C4s are the gateway to community empowerment. More activists are using 501c4 structures to advance their organizing strategies, working towards deep community engagement and collective action. C4s are essential in political power building, filling gaps where C3s and PACs cannot. This session will explore what we can achieve by building 501c4 power through organizing.

Moderator | Joon I. Kim – Partner, New Paradigm Strategy Group



Joon I. Kim is a partner at New Paradigm Strategy Group and has over 16 years of experience in Democratic politics. Joon works with clients to integrate grassroots campaign strategy with digital media strategy. Clients have included the Australian Labor Party, the AFL-CIO, Microsoft, and numerous others. Prior to joining the New Paradigm team, Joon coordinated fourteen independent expenditure campaigns in six states, on behalf of the Communications Workers of America.

Joon's expertise lies in designing, managing, and implementing sophisticated campaigns that combine digital, grassroots field operations, turnout programs, and vote-by-mail programs. He has extensive experience in voter identification, targeting, coalition building, digital and grassroots organizing. Joon has advised campaigns in Australia and the U.S. at all levels.

Shareen Punian – Co-Founder, Democracy Labs



Shareen Punian is co-founder of Democracy Labs. She comes from the world of strategy and finance with a career as an investment analyst, manager, and advisor. Shareen is also involved in social impact investing and working to accelerate change toward gender equity.

Shareen is the Chairman of the Board of The Tides Advocacy Fund and sits on the National Governing Board of Common Cause. She has a B.A. from University of California at Davis, and a MBA from the Kellogg School at Northwestern University.

Deborah Barron – Founder and Executive Director, New Left Accelerator



Deborah Barron is an attorney who led a prior life as a political junkie and consultant for progressive political candidates, not-for-profit and advocacy organizations, and foundations. She started her career in politics as the Field Director for Congresswoman Lynn Wolsey and eventually served as the Communications Director for Chellie Pingree's 2002 U.S. Senate Campaign. In between, she worked at numerous political-consulting firms and advocacy organizations, including Staton Hughes & Shafer, Spitfire Strategies, and Americans for Gun Safety. She then became an attorney. After practicing law for nearly ten years, she left her law firm in December of 2016 to work on the New Left Accelerator (NLA), and NLA's 501(c)(3) arm, The Capacity Shop, full time.

Deborah has a law degree from U.C. Berkeley School of Law, a Master in Journalism from Northwestern University, and a M.A. in Political Science from U.C. Berkeley. She currently serves on the board of Women Lawyers on Guard, lives in San Francisco, and is the proud and tired mom of Ryder Jane (5) and Hudson Townes (almost 3).

Nadia Nisha Belkin – Deputy National Field Director, America Votes



Nadia Nisha Belkin serves as the Deputy Field Director at America Votes (AV), where she works on strategic planning and coordination of issue-based and electoral campaigns. She is committed to helping AV produce innovative ideas that will cultivate relationships within the progressive community and across multiple audiences.

Prior to AV, she served as the Communications Director at the Interfaith Alliance of Colorado, where she developed grassroots trainings for new activists and mobilized community members to engage with the state legislature around racial, economic, and social justice issues. Nadia has lived, worked, and campaigned in extensively in the battleground state of Colorado. Nadia is a graduate of Smith College and is pursuing a Master's in Public Policy and Community Engagement at the University of Denver.

3:00-3:15 PM

Break

3:15-4:45 PM | Breakout Session A | *San Gabriel*

Coalition Building for Power and Impact: Fortifying Our Reach and Mobilizing Community Resources in Emerging Communities

Grow your resource network, knowledge and voice. Coalition building is essential to truly empowering the AAPI community, and the progressive movement works best when we engage. Intentionally cultivating multicultural community coalitions together with progressive partners is the force multiplier to bolstering the AAPI voice for power and greater impact. Hear from activists and community leaders talk about flipping our work from segmented success to building an infrastructure for sustained progressive collaboration.

Moderator | Vivian Chang – Civic Engagement Manager, Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance



Vivian Chang joins the Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance as the Civic Engagement Manager, overseeing APALA's efforts on Census 2020, civic engagement, citizenship, and political work. Her new role builds on her recent leadership of APALA's field program in Nevada, coordinating and mobilizing AAPI communities for record voter turnout. She previously worked in federal science policy, as well as served two years as an AmeriCorps VISTA in Philadelphia, Pa., and Moline, Ill.

She is dedicated to advancing social and economic justice informed by the collective power of communities, and to improving physical environments. Throughout her time at Carnegie Mellon and Princeton University, she dedicated time to cultivating AAPI community and building solidarity across communities of color. Vivian is a native of Columbus, Ohio, sprouting from dual Taiwanese and Buckeye traditions.

Thy Bui – Community Action Fund Board Member, Planned Parenthood of Orange and San Bernardino Counties



Thy Bui has served on the board of directors for the Planned Parenthood Community Action Fund of Orange and San Bernardino Counties since 2014. She also serves as a director for the National Asian Pacific America Bar Association and is a past president of the Orange County Asian American Bar Association. She has previously served as a volunteer attorney for several pro bono legal services organizations, and in her day job, works as an employment litigator specializing in management-side employment defense.

Andrew Fahmy – Director of Partnership, Communications, and Program Development, Multi-Ethnic Collaborative of Community Agencies (MECCA)



Andrew Fahmy is the Director, Partnerships, Communications, and Program Development for the Multi-Ethnic Collaborative of Community Agencies (MECCA). MECCA aims to enhance and improve the quality of life for underserved multicultural communities by being a unified voice advocating to reduce ethnic disparities. Before joining MECCA Andrew held a position with Families and Communities Together (FaCT), a public-private partnership with the mission of promoting best practices, training, funding, and advocating for Family Resource Centers to be Orange County’s community-based platform for prevention activities and family support services.

He also founded and currently serves as the Executive Director of the Community Camp Corporation, a 501c3 organization helping peer-led groups plan and host recreational camp experiences designed to improve each participant’s social, emotional, and leadership skills. Andrew graduated with a Bachelor’s in Anthropology from California State University, Fullerton.

Duy Nguyen – Executive Director, One APIA Nevada



Duy Nguyen, in the aftermath of the 2016 political climate, pivoted his career from working with Fortune 500 companies to focus on investment, education, and engagement of AAPIs. He harnessed his business knowledge for his current role as Vice President & Chief Operating Officer for the Asian Community Development Council (ACDC), a Nevada non-profit and non-partisan community development organization serving AAPI communities. At ACDC, Duy maps the overall strategic direction for outreach initiatives on civic engagement, health and wellness education, and workforce/leadership development programs.

In June of 2018, Duy founded One APIA Nevada, a grassroots, non-profit organization that advocates for policies empowering everyday AAPI Nevadans. As executive director, Duy oversees a state-wide operation to educate and galvanize the AAPI Nevadan constituency. In this role, Duy helped orchestrate AAPI engagement and education in the lead up to the 2018 Midterm elections, which saw AAPI voter turnout soar - up 216% from 2014’s midterm elections.

Duy served 8 years as National Vice President of Chapter Development, National Vice President of Economic Development and then subsequently National Secretary of OCA National, a civil rights and education organization for Asian Pacific Americans with over 100 chapters and affiliates across the United States. In 2018, Duy was elected to serve as the chairperson for the Nevada Minority Health and Equity Coalition, a statewide non-profit membership coalition with over 60+ organizations aiming to reduce healthcare disparities across Nevada.

Recently in January 2019, Duy was appointed to a 4-year term as a Planning Commissioner for Clark County, making him the first AAPI person to serve as a Planning Commissioner in the history of Nevada. In this role, Duy represent one of the fastest growing districts in Nevada overseeing land use requests, non-conforming zone changes, and subdivision maps.

Duy holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Management, and a Master of Business Administration (M.B.A.) from the University of Phoenix.

Tricia Nguyen – CEO, Southland Integrated Services, Inc.



Tricia Nguyen is the CEO of Southland Integrated Services, Inc., formerly known as Vietnamese Community of Orange County, Inc. (VNCOC). Created in 1979, the organization originally provided social services for Vietnamese refugees settling in Orange County. Today, Southland provides a wide range of healthcare and social services to the Orange County community. It also operates a community clinic in Garden Grove, California which provides medical, dental, and mental health services.

Tricia graduated with a Master of Public Health from UCLA.

Dilawar Syed – CEO, Lumiata; Co-founder & Board Member, AAPI Victory Fund



As CEO at Lumiata, Dilawar is leading the company's growth as a leader in AI and healthcare. Backed by Khosla Ventures, BlueCross BlueShield Ventures and Intel, Lumiata provides predictive analytics for managing health costs and risk. Earlier, Dilawar was President at Freshworks where he founded the company's North America operations. Backed by Tiger Global, Accel, Google and Sequoia Capital, Freshworks raised \$249 million along the way.

Dilawar chairs California's Entrepreneurship Task Force and drives inclusive entrepreneurship across the state. Dilawar serves on the national board of Emgage, the country's leading Muslim American civic organization.

In 2010, President Obama appointed Dilawar to the President's AAPI Commission. Dilawar was a member of the DNC's Platform Committee in 2016 and advocated for entrepreneurship and immigration reform in the party platform. As a surrogate in Sec. Clinton and President Obama's presidential campaigns, he campaigned in key states. He was a member of California AG Kamala Harris' Policy Transition team. In 2008, Dilawar served as National Co-Chair of the DNC's South Asian Leadership Council.

Dilawar holds an M.B.A. from The Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania and a B.A. from the University of Texas at Austin.

3:15-4:45 PM | Breakout Session B | *San Carlos*

Campaign Training 2.0

Want to join or volunteer for a campaign? Continue our Campaign Training 1.0 and hear from the alumni network of New American Leaders!

Training Partner: New American Leaders

Moderator | Dr. Jose Paolo Magcalas – Board Member, Anaheim Elementary School Board



Dr. Jose Paolo Magcalas brings energy, passion and diverse experience to the Anaheim Elementary School Board. He teaches Ethnic Studies and United States history at Loara High School and part time in the Master of Arts in Teaching Program at Chapman University. In 2016, Dr. Magcalas was named Top 25 Teachers in Orange County according to O.C. Parenting Magazine.

He is proudly affiliated with the Paulo Freire Democratic Project, the National Association for Multicultural Education (NAME), the American Education Research Association (AERA), the Filipino American National Historical Society (FANHS), the National Association for Ethnic Studies (NAES), the California Association for Bilingual Education (CABE) and the California School Boards Association (CSBA).

Dr. Magcalas earned his Bachelor of Arts degree from California State University, Long Beach, Master of Arts degree in Education from Pepperdine University and his Ph.D. in Education from Chapman University. He was also awarded the Paulo Freire Outstanding Graduate Student Award from Chapman University.

Juan Alvarez – Board Member, Anaheim Elementary School Board



Board Member Juan Álvarez was elected to represent Area 2 of the Anaheim Elementary School district in 2018. Juan knows the value of education and is able to demonstrate his passion for education and teaching as a bilingual junior high math teacher. Juan attributes his understanding of the value of hard work to his parents, who both immigrated from Michoacán, Mexico in the late 1970's. His father, a custodial worker and his mother, a housekeeper, always demonstrated the value of hard work, dependability, and drive to Juan and his four siblings. Juan became the first of his family to attend college and obtained his BA at California State University, Fullerton. He then received his Master's degree at California State University, Long Beach.

Juan never lost sight of his roots as a 1st generation Mexican-American. This motivated him to continue his education and obtain a Bilingual Authorization in Spanish on his teaching credential.

Juan is also active in community organizing. He is a founding member of SOMOS Anaheim, a community-based organization that received a distinction from the Orange County Human Relations for their part in

restoring peace and uniting the community after civil unrest in 2012. Additionally, Juan and SOMOS, in collaboration with the City of Anaheim, created and implemented the city's first Day of the Dead festival, "Día de los Muertos: A night of Community and Culture". His passion for education and literacy led Juan to found a nonprofit organization, Operation L.E.E. (Literacy Engaging Everyone). With the help of community members and local students, Juan led an effort to create citywide book stations, increasing access to literature in neighborhoods with few educational resources. Juan just recently ended a term on the City of Anaheim's Cultural & Heritage Commission where he worked on promoting art and culture within the city.

Farrah Khan – Council Member, Irvine City Council



Council Member Farrah N. Khan is a small business owner and the Executive Director of the Newport Mesa Irvine Interfaith Council. She is a graduate of UC Davis and previously served eight years as a Regulatory Affairs Manager for a major biotech company. She was elected to the Irvine City Council in 2018.

Farrah is a PTA member and has served as PTA President for three terms at Deerfield Elementary, PTA Board at Venado Middle School and on the School Site Council at Irvine High. Farrah and her husband are also Legacy Partners with the Irvine Public School Foundation.

Farrah has worked extensively with many community organizations in Irvine and Orange County. She has served on the Steering Committee for the Irvine Global Village Festival, is a CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) volunteer with the Irvine Police Department and an active member of the Irvine Rotary Club. She also serves on the faith council for the United Way. Farrah was appointed as a Community Services Commissioner in 2014, where she took the time to get to know the city parks, open spaces, land development, amenities, and employees.

She has received numerous awards and recognitions throughout the years which is a testament to her commitment to service. She was also awarded the Community Service Leader Award from the OC Human Relations Commission in 2015.

Bee Nguyen – Georgia State Representative (HD 89)



Bee is the National Policy Advisor for New American Leaders. As the daughter of former refugees from Vietnam, Bee cherishes the community's most diverse voices. She has spent the last decade working with teen girls in under resourced public high schools in Georgia through Athena's Warehouse, the nonprofit she created.

She currently serves as a state representative in the Georgia General Assembly, where she made history as the first progressive AAPI woman to be elected. In honor of the 50th anniversary of the Selma March, she biked from Selma to Montgomery using the same route as civil rights protesters. In an alternate universe, she would bike across America in search of independent book stores, street food and cozy spots in the sunshine.

3:15-4:45 PM | Breakout Session C | *San Felipe*

C4 Action Planning: Ramping up Foundation Dollars

Newer 501c3s and c4s are in the dark about how foundations and donor advisors operate, think and evaluate their giving. We'll take the mystery out of the process, help set concrete action steps to tap into these resources, explore grassroots fundraising strategies and spotlight the role of fundraising consultants and when to engage one.

Moderator | Tung Nguyen – Chair, AAPI Progressive Action



Dr. Tung Nguyen is Chair of AAPI Progressive Action and President of PIVOT-The Progressive Vietnamese American Organization, both 501c4 organizations dedicated to the AAPI progressive movement. He is also a pioneer in Asian American health research, a practicing primary care physician and a professor of medicine at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF). Dr. Nguyen served as a Commissioner on President Obama's Advisory Commission on AAPIs from 2011 to 2014, and as the Chair of the Commission from 2014-2017. He led the Commission in the first massive resignation from the Trump Administration after it implemented the Muslim ban in 2017. He is also a co-founder and serves on the board of AAPI Victory Fund. Dr. Nguyen received his B.A. in Philosophy from Harvard College and his M.D. from Stanford University School of Medicine.

Syd Yang – Donor Advisor, Movement Voter Project



Syd Yang is a mixed race/Taiwanese American queer healer, writer and healing justice warrior who currently serves as the West Coast Donor Advisor for Movement Voter Project (MVP), as well as leading Blue Jaguar Healing Arts in Los Angeles.

The core of their work focuses on the lived and inherited experiences of people of color and queer and trans people. Over the years, Syd has worked extensively with young women, queer folks and emerging artists as a counselor and coach, as well as a philanthropic advisor and giving coach to families and young inheritors working to align their resources and power with social justice values. They are the author of several books and curriculum on philanthropy and healing justice, such as: *The World Belongs to Us: Young Women, Leadership + Philanthropy*; *Legacy + Innovation*; and *Release: A Bulimia Story*. In the early 2000s, Syd served as a Senior Program Officer at the Women's Foundation of California then later joined Changemakers as their Program Director. Syd also was on the board of Resource Generation for several years and was an early contributor to the racial justice and donor of color organizing work with Resource Generation.

In all areas of their work, Syd supports individuals and communities in transforming resources, energies and stories in ways that move towards wholeness, regeneration, and collective liberation.

Varun Nikore – President of the AAPI Victory Fund and Executive Director of AAPI Progressive Action



Varun Nikore serves as President of the AAPI Victory Fund and Executive Director of AAPI Progressive Action, a Super PAC mobilizing the AAPI community for electoral engagement.

Mr. Nikore also currently serves as Managing Director of Red Fort Strategies, a public affairs and government relations firm, specializing in assisting corporations, non-profits, government agencies, unions and others in achieving success with the business community. Prior to Red Fort, Mr. Nikore served as Senior Vice President-International for TriPolus, a facilitator of international business and industrial offsets in the aerospace and defense business.

In 1999, Mr. Nikore was appointed by President Bill Clinton as Special Assistant to the U.S. Department of Education. Mr. Nikore has been active in business and Democratic politics for decades, having founded and served as the President of the Indian American Leadership Initiative, the largest Indian American network of Democrats in the U.S. In 2008, Mr. Nikore served as a Transportation Policy Advisor for Obama for America. In 2012, he served as co-Chair of the Small Business Owners Council for the Democratic National Committee. Mr. Nikore served on the Boards of the Virginia Commercial Spaceflight Authority and the Virginia Offshore Wind Development Authority. Mr. Nikore served on the Board of the Democratic Business Council of Northern Virginia after having served as past President of the organization.

3:15-4:45 PM | Breakout Session D | *San Pedro/San Diego*

Engaging the Media: A Practical How To Guide

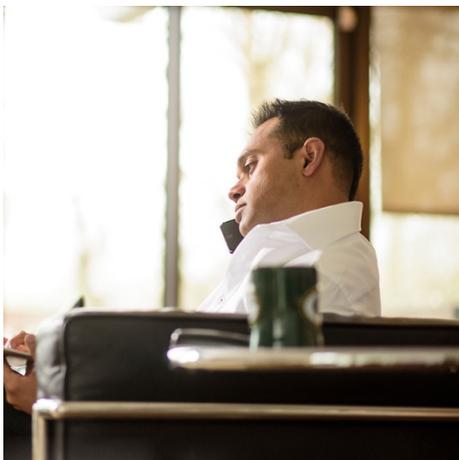
Strategic communications inspires change, raises public awareness and drives social change. Join us for this practical session in making sure your story gets heard. Learn how to hone your message, manage the press and leverage technology to bolster your impact.

Moderator | Toby Chaudhuri – Co-founder and Chief Strategist, SocialxDesign



Toby Chaudhuri is an award-winning strategist and former advisor to The White House. He is co-founder of SocialxDesign, a strategy-consulting firm dedicated to bridging the worlds of social movements, online engagement and offline experience. With offices in Silicon Valley, San Francisco, and Washington D.C., Chaudhuri helps forward-looking NGOs, governments and businesses to grow by deliberately empowering the people they serve and has worked with leadership teams at PBS, Planned Parenthood, AARP and Morehouse College. Chaudhuri has managed more than \$100 million in state and federal campaigns in the U.S. and abroad and has worked at the helm of national media operations. He worked hard to protect children as civil rights leader Marian Wright Edelman's spokesman and media strategist at the Children's Defense Fund; took on corporate polluters to provide safe drinking water and clean air as a political appointee to President Bill Clinton; and worked to elect several principled state and federal candidates including serving as press secretary to Vice President Al Gore's presidential campaign. He helped re-elect President Obama and helped Dilma Rousseff become the first female president of Brazil; he also helped re-elect Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., and Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand, in major upset elections.

Raghu Devaguptapu – Partner, Left Hook Strategy



Raghu Devaguptapu has over twenty years of campaign experience and heads the Washington, DC office of Left Hook Strategy. A seasoned strategist known for his collaborative style, affable manner, and hands-on approach, Raghu has led high profile independent expenditure, congressional, and statewide elections across the country, including Congressman Ami Bera's historic upset win in 2012 and subsequent re-election, which was one of the most expensive congressional races in history.

Raghu was the first AAPI to be named Political Director of a national party committee - first at the DLCC and then at the DGA. While at the DLCC, he helped flip 30 chambers into Democratic control - the largest partisan Democratic shift in our nation's history.

Raghu also managed the independent expenditure and issue advocacy program for AFSCME, overseeing one of the largest programs in Democratic politics. Prior to joining Left Hook, Raghu was a partner at A|L Media.

Rebecca Lee – Partner and Chief Marketing Officer, DAWN Design Studios



Rebecca Lee delivers more than a decade of strategic communications experience across government, consulting, and nonprofit environments. Rebecca is Partner and Chief Marketing Officer of DAWN, a communications and digital marketing agency that specializes in start-ups and social impact.

Rebecca was previously Communications Director for the White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, a government-wide initiative that focuses on advancing the AAPI community. At the Initiative, she launched the award-winning anti-bullying campaign Act To Change; led the communications effort around the historic White House Summit on AAPIs; and developed the branding for a network of regional-level federal outreach ambassadors.

Rebecca also served as a public affairs specialist at the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, where she developed agency-wide messaging. Rebecca joined the federal government as a Presidential Management Fellow (PMF), selected from graduate programs across the country in 2011. As a PMF, Rebecca coordinated Department-wide efforts around the Affordable Care Act at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Prior to joining the government, Rebecca was a senior consultant at Booz Allen Hamilton.

Rebecca holds a Bachelor's degree from Cornell University and a Master's degree from Columbia University. At Cornell, Rebecca led a diverse coalition to found the Asian & Asian-American Center (A3C).

Rebecca serves on the Advisory Council of the Conference on Asian Pacific American Leadership (CAPAL). Her leadership as Chair in 2013 helped transform CAPAL from an all-volunteer organization to one with paid, full-time staff.

Deepak Puri – Co-founder, Democracy Labs



Deepak is a Silicon Valley veteran and specialist in software innovation and distribution. He has managed strategic alliances at Oracle; participated in Netscape and VMware IPOs; holds three patents and advises multiple startups. Deepak specializes in identifying the right technology to solve business needs, structuring multi-party licensing deals and building software distribution channels. He writes on tech activism in CIO and software innovation in Network World. He serves on the board of the Tides Foundation and supports multiple non-profits including Ashoka, NetHope and Taproot.

Naomi Tacuyen Underwood – Executive Director Asian American Journalist Association



In January 2019, Naomi Tacuyen Underwood joined the Asian American Journalists Association (AAJA) its next executive director.

Underwood joins AAJA from the Washington, D.C.-based Faith & Politics Institute, where she served as director of programs. She has over a decade of experience in nonprofit management and community engagement where she has long focused on empowering Asian American and Pacific Islander communities.

Underwood has worked extensively in community outreach, including a stint as deputy director for APIAVote, a national nonpartisan organization that builds voter engagement capacity in local AAPI communities. She has also served as legislative staff for Congresswoman Madeleine Z. Bordallo (D-Guam), focusing on territorial, environmental and AAPI issues, among other issues.

Underwood, a Filipina immigrant, grew up in Guam and currently resides in Annandale, Virginia. She graduated from New York University with degrees in journalism and Asian Pacific American studies, and received a Master's in Public Policy from the University of California, Los Angeles.

4:45-5:15 PM Terrace Pavilion

Fireside Chat | Champions of Public Service

Moderator | Brad Jenkins – Founder, Enfranchisement Productions



Brad Jenkins is the Founder of Enfranchisement Productions, which focuses on bespoke creative for change-makers, campaigns, causes, & humans. Prior to that, Brad was Managing Director and Executive Producer of Will Ferrell’s Funny Or Die. Jenkins spent four years serving as President Obama’s Associate Director in The White House Office of Public Engagement. From The White House, Jenkins brought together creative executives, thought leaders, and some of the world’s biggest stars to advance the President’s agenda—culminating in the Emmy-award winning “Between Two Ferns” interview on the Affordable Care Act. Jenkins recounts this story in depth in *West Wingers: Stories from the Dream Chasers, Change Makers, and Hope Creators Inside the Obama White House*, a collection of personal stories by Obama Administration staffers. At Funny Or Die, Jenkins produced over 40 social impact campaigns with organizations, foundations, PACs, IEs, and committees. Most notably, Jenkins produced history-making campaigns for the start-up non-profit Rise which was founded by Nobel Peace Prize Nominee, Amanda Nguyen. For his work at Funny Or Die, Brad was featured on CNN’s History of Comedy and he has won numerous awards including a Grand Clio, Halo Award for CSR, the Humanitarian of The Year from the Venice Family Clinic, and the Spirit of Innovation Award from the Asian American Victory Fund. Jenkins also served on the AAPI Board of Advisors for the Bernie Sanders campaign in 2016.

In 2008, Jenkins served as the Deputy Director of Special Projects for President Obama’s election campaign, specializing in the intersection of youth media and grassroots engagement helping Obama turn out one of the largest youth vote totals in history. His campaign work was documented in MSNBC’s “Story Of Cool” - executive-produced by LL Cool J. Prior to joining the White House, Jenkins was the founding Vice President of Business Forward, a non-profit that brings entrepreneurs into the policymaking process. Before the 2008 campaign, Jenkins worked on the trading desk for the asset management firm, Farallon Capital in San Francisco, CA. A proud New Jersey native, Brad graduated from the University of Virginia and now resides in Washington D.C. where he spends most of his spare time doing living room comedy sets for his 5-year old daughter, Sadie and 3-year old son, Oscar. Brad appears on CNN, MSNBC, NPR, CNBC, and is a board member of the Georgetown University Institute of Politics and Public Service.

The Honorable Vinai K. Thummalapally, Former U.S. Ambassador to Belize



The Honorable Vinai K. Thummalapally was appointed in 2009 by President Obama as Ambassador to Belize, where he served until 2013. In his role as Chief of Mission, Ambassador Thummalapally helped strengthen the bilateral relationship between the United States and Belize in the areas of citizen security, economic development, education, and health care. In addition, he found innovative ways to engage regional and international organizations and other embassies to promote the same.

Ambassador Thummalapally currently leads Red Fort Strategies in its mission to provide the highest value government affairs services to its clients. He previously served as Executive Director of SelectUSA (2013-2017), part of the International Trade Administration of the U.S. Department of Commerce. Established by Executive Order of the President, SelectUSA is the U.S. government-wide initiative to attract and retain business investment in the United States.

As Executive Director, Ambassador Thummalapally managed the strategy and implementation of SelectUSA to help create jobs, spur economic growth, and promote American competitiveness. He also co-chaired, with the Director of the White House National Economic Council, the SelectUSA Interagency Investment Working Group, to coordinate resources across the federal government to promote business investment and address federal regulatory barriers.

Ambassador Thummalapally has served as President of MAM-A Inc., formerly Mitsui Advanced Media. MAM-A Inc. was the nation's leading manufacturer and distributor of archival recordable optical discs. During his fourteen-year tenure, the company became the benchmark of the optical disc manufacturing industry. Ambassador Thummalapally also served as the plant manager of WEA Manufacturing Inc., a division of Time Warner Inc.; the Managing Director for Clines Printing and Office Products; and Manufacturing Manager of Disc Manufacturing, Inc. In addition to holding two U.S. patents for design of optical disc manufacturing, he has received several Outstanding Service awards for his professional accomplishments.

Originally from Hyderabad, India, Ambassador Thummalapally moved to the United States in 1974 to pursue his engineering studies. He received his B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from California State University in 1977, completed post graduate Business Administration courses from Cal State University in 1980 and holds a diploma in "Lean Production Systems" from the University of Tennessee in 1995. He is fluent in Telugu, Hindi and Urdu. Ambassador Thummalapally serves on the board of directors of Cyient, a publicly traded Indian engineering services company. He also serves on the board of The Indian American Impact Project, a non-profit promoting Indian Americans to run for public office.

5:15-5:30 PM *Terrace Pavilion*

Closing Remarks

Varun Nikore – President of the AAPI Victory Fund and Executive Director of AAPI Progressive Action



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