

## **OCTOBER 2011 NEWSLETTER**

www.aabahouston.com

The Asian American Bar Association (AABA) of Houston is a voluntary organization of lawyers of Asian heritage or who have Asian American interests, dedicated to promoting diversity within the legal profession and Houston community.

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# Domestic Violence Informational Session

On October 27, 2011, members of the AABA met for a Domestic Violence Informational Session featuring DAYA Houston at the Tracy Gee Community Center. AABA members learned more about domestic violence, how it affects members of the community, and how attorneys can help.



Audrey Chang, Saima Razzack, Vyoma Majmudar, Abhilasha Vineet, Alice Huang, and Nusrat Ameen



Nathaniel Martinez, Patrick O'Rourke, and Andrea Penedo

### 2011 COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Social Committee

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# Domestic Violence Informational Session



David Brogden and H.C. Chang



Abhilasha Vineet

## Upcoming AABA Events

## November

#### 2011 NAPABA Annual Convention

November 17-20, 2011 Atlanta, Georgia Registration: www.NAPABA.org

## December

#### Women's Retreat

December 3, 2011 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM Jones Day Please see attached flyer.

## **Annual Holiday Party and Toy Drive**

December 17, 2011 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM Palace Lanes Please see attached flyer.

## **Sidebar**

Congratulations to AABA Member Tom Nguyen on his promotion! Tom is now the General Counsel at Platinum Energy.

## 2011 AABA SOLO AND SMALL FIRM DIRECTORY

The AABA Solo and Small Firm Committee will be happy to provide anyone with a **paper copy** of the 2011 Solo and Small Firm Directory, free of charge! If you would like a copy, please contact H.C. Chang at <a href="https://hcchang@lawtx.com">hcchang@lawtx.com</a>.

The Directory will be also be available online soon!

If you would like to publicize job opportunities, community news, or personal SIDEBAR news, please contact AABA Secretary, Jane Nguyen Vuong, at <a href="mailto:inv@njclaw.com">inv@njclaw.com</a>.

## SAVE THE DATE!

## Join us for a Legal Round-Up NCVAA 2012

Houston, Texas, May 18-19, 2012



The National Conference of Vietnamese American Attorneys cordially invites you to their Annual Conference!

For more information go to www.ncvaa.org.

If you would like to be included on the NCVAA ListServ, please e-mail Catherine Than at <a href="mailto:CThan@bickerstaff.com">CThan@bickerstaff.com</a> with your contact information.



## Nominations are now being accepted!

## **AABA 2012 Officer Nominations**

The AABA is now receiving nominations for its 2012 Officers and the 2012-2013 Elected Director.

The following positions are open and subject to vote by the AABA membership:

President-Elect
Vice President of Membership
Vice President of Programs
Vice President of Community Relations
Vice President of Development
Treasurer
Secretary
2012-2013 Elected Director

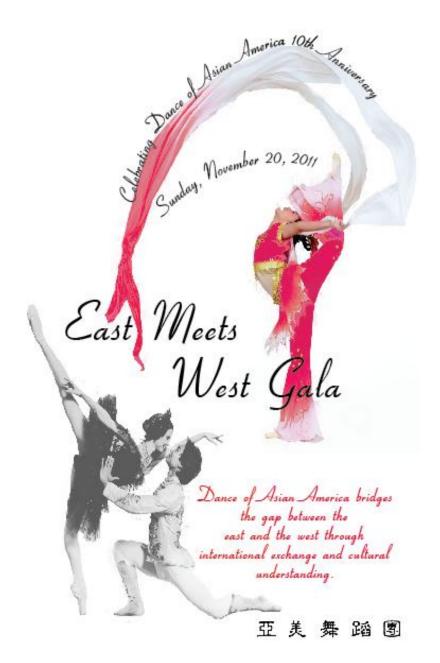
Any current AABA attorney member in good standing may nominate himself/herself or another attorney member for one of the positions listed above, except that each nominee for President-Elect must have served at least one prevous term as an Officer of the AABA.

Please send nominations in writing to AABA President Audrey Chang by 5:00 PM on Wednesday, November 30<sup>th</sup> via e-mail at changa@gtlaw.com or via fax at 713.754.7528.

Voting will begin on Monday, December 5, 2011 and will end at 5:00 PM on Monday, December 12, 2011. The election results will be announced no later than Friday, December 16, 2011.

Feel free to contact Audrey Chang (ph. 713.374.3537) or 2011 President-Elect Daniel Chen (ph. 713.780.4982) with any questions regarding the election process or the duties and responsibilities of each Officer.

We hope you will consider getting involved in the leadership of the AABA and making your contribution to our extraordinary organization and legal community.



## Dance of Asian America 10th Anniversary

Request the Pleasure of Your Company at The East Meets West Gala

Sunday, November 20, 2011

Omni Hotel Regency Ballroom

VIP Reception: 5pm

Gala: 5:30 - 9:30pm

Honorary Chairs: The Honorable George Bush & Barbara Bush

Guests of Honor: Li Cunxin & Janie Parker

Asian Chic or Black Tie Optional

## Gala Chairs

Linda Wu

Yuki Rogers & Lauren Anderson

Celebrity Table Hosts Ben Stevenson O.B.E. Lauren Anderson & Charles Foster



Cathy and Giorgio Borlenghi The Honorable Theresa and

Dr. Peter Chang

Anne and Albert Chao

The Honorable Jacquie Chaumette Marcia and Mike Nichols

Faye Chin

Donna Cole

Carolyn Farb

Lily Foster

Dr. and Mrs. Arthur Hamberger

Viet Hoang

Mandy and William Kao
Dan and Judy McClure
The Honorable Marty and
Parvin McVey
Marcia and Mike Nichols
The Honorable Gordon Quan
Y. Ping Sun
Susie and Joe Ting
Ginya and Clayton Trier
The Honorable Martha Wong

Co-Founder & Executive Director Janie Yao Co-Founder & International Liaison Mitsi Shan President: Janie Parker Vice President: Linda Wu Vice President: Yuki Rogers Secretary: Theresa Chen Treasurer: Betty Goo Board of Directors Rose Chen Bernadette Chiu George Gee Ella Hamberger Beng J. Ho Christine Ho Kamran Mansoury Ming Yao Honorary Board

Honorary Board Leeshan C. Birney The Honorable Theresa Chang The Honorable Gordon Quan

Dance of Asian America



## Dance of Asian America's East Meets West Gala Sunday, November 20, 2011

Junday, 1	Jovember 20, 2011	
I/We would like to make reservo	ations for	•
Great Wall East, Li Cunxin	\$5,000	Table of 10
Great Wall West, Janie Parker	\$5,000	Table of 10
Dynasty, Ben Stevenson	\$4,000	Table of 10
Jade, Charles Foster	\$3,500	Table of 10
Pearl, Lauren Anderson	\$3,500	Table of 10
Golden Dragon	\$2,500	Table of 10
Red Phoenix	\$1,000	Table of 10
☐ Individual Golden Dragon Sponsor ticket:@ \$250 Total:		
Individual ticket: @\$	5125 Total:	

For detailed information go to www.danceaa.org

I/We cannot attend, but enclosed is my donation \$\_

Name of Corporation	or Individual (as you wish it to app	ear in the program):
Address:		
Phone:	E-mail:	
Individual or Corporate	e Contact:	
Please make checks p	payable to: Dance of Asian Americ	ca
Please charge my:	Amex Visa Mastercard Dis	scover \$
Name as it appears or	n the card:	
Card #:	Exp. date	CVC
Signature:		
	Please list guests below	
DAA is a s	501 (c) (3) non-profit organization,	Tax ID: 76-0668169
	Guest List	
Please indicate the nu	mber of vegetarian dinners you wo	ould like to request #
1	6	
2	7	
3	8	
4	9	
5.	10.	



## Sponsorships – East Meets West Gala

[] Great Wall East	\$5000.00 - Benefits  Table of 10 with "Guest of Honor" - Li Cunxin  Full page Ad in the program  Recognition on DAA website  Recognition in program book and at the Gala  VIP Reception with Janie Parker and Li Cunxin
[] Great Wall West	\$5000.00 - Benefits  Table of 10 with "Guest of Honor" – Janie Parker  Full page Ad in the program  Recognition on DAA website  Recognition in program book and at the Gala  VIP Reception with Janie Parker and Li Cunxin
[] Dynasty	\$4000.00 - Benefits Table of 10 with "Celebrity Table Host" – Ben Stevenson Full page Ad in program Recognition in on DAA Website Recognition in the program book and at the Gal VIP Reception with Janie Parker and Li Cunxin
[] Jade	\$3500.00 - Benefits Table of 10 with "Celebrity Table Host" Charles Foster Half page Ad in the program Recognition on DAA website Recognition in the program book at the Gala VIP Reception with Janie Parker and Li Cunxin
[ ] Pearl	\$3500.00 - Benefits Table of 10 with "Celebrity Table Host" Lauren Anderson Half page Ad in the program Recognition on DAA website Recognition in the program book at the Gala VIP Reception with Janie Parker and Li Cunxin
[] Golden Dragon	\$2500.00 - Benefits Table of 10 Preferred seating Recognition on DAA website Recognition in program book at the Gala VIP Reception with Janie Parker and Li Cunxin
[] Red Phoenix	\$1000.00 – Benefits Table of 10 Recognition in program book
[ ] Individual Sponso	or Tickets: \$250.00 - VIP reception and recognition in program
[] Individual ticket:	\$125.00

Dance of Asian American is a 501(c) (3) organization, Tax ID: 76-0668169 Contributions are tax deductible to the extent provided by law



# SUSTAINABILITY 2011: RENEWAL AND GROWTH FOR TODAY AND TOMORROW

## 2011 NAPABA Annual Convention November 17-20, 2011

Omni Hotel at CNN Center Atlanta, Georgia

Registration: www.NAPABA.org
Early registration expires September 15, 2011

## Asian American College and Career Day Highlights Experience and Success in Houston's Asian Communities

October 27, 2011 -- It's been said that experience is one of life's best teachers. That's the idea behind the Houston Independent School District's sixth annual Asian American College and Career Day, when Asian American middle and high school students in the Houston area learn about career options from young Asian professionals who relate their experiences leading to success.

"We have seen that as students have a chance to interact with successful Asian role models, they are often inspired to seek career opportunities that had not previously been considered," said Gordon Quan, chair of the HISD Asian Advisory Committee,

"An engaged community opens doors for our students," said HISD Superintendent Dr. Terry Grier. "Opportunity is what Houston is about."

Keynote speaker Miya Shay, reporter for KTRK Channel 13 news, will kick off this free, four-hour event, which starts at 8 a.m. on Saturday, November 19 at Bellaire High School, 5100 Maple Street in Bellaire.

With "Marketing Yourself" as this year's event theme, students will be encouraged to hone skills and practices (leadership, good interpersonal relationships, teamwork, promoting their capabilities, and good grooming habits) that enhance academic excellence.

And as in years past, Houston-area Asian American professionals serve as role models, providing students and parents with advice and information in the following areas: business, counseling and social work, creative arts, culinary arts, education, energy and engineering, entrepreneurship, health care, information technology, law enforcement/public service, legal, media, and medical. This year, speakers will be available to meet with students informally during breakfast, prior to the opening assembly.

Throughout the morning, students also will have access to local and regional college and university representatives who share information about financial aid, admissions requirements, and college life.

Special workshops will be available for parents to help them understand college and financial aid requirements and the emotional issues surrounding the transition to college. Interpreters and translators in Chinese/Mandarin, Vietnamese, and Bhutanese will ensure a high level of interest and understanding among parents.

Middle school students and their parents will also be welcomed at a one-hour session presenting information on how to prepare for high school, college, and careers.

The college and career day for students in Houston's Asian and Pacific Islander communities is a signature activity of the HISD Asian Advisory Committee, which was established in the fall of 2005 by the Superintendent of Schools.

Event partners are the University of Houston, Houston Community College, and ARAMARK.

The **Houston Independent School District** is the largest school district in Texas and the seventh-largest in the United States with 281 schools and more than 200,000 students. The 301-square-mile district is one of the largest employers in the Houston metropolitan area with nearly 30,000 employees. **For more information, visit the HISD website at www.houstonisd.org** 





## 2011 Asian-American

# College & Career Day

## WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

Middle- and high-school students and parents

## Free admission and refreshments

Saturday, November 19, 2011 Date:

On-Site Registration/Breakfast/Meet The Speakers: 8:00 – 8:45 a.m.

**Keynote Speaker:** Miya Shay, Reporter, KTRK Channel 13

8:00 a.m. - Noon Time:

Bellaire High School 5100 Maple, Bellaire 77401

Asian-American middle- and high-school students will learn about career options from professional representatives in the following areas: business, counseling and social work, creative arts, culinary arts, education, energy, engineering, entrepreneurship, health care, information technology, law enforcement/public service, legal,

media, medical.

Place:

Students can meet event speakers informally at early morning session (8:00 - 8:45 a.m.).

Middle-school students will learn about the transition from middle school to high school.

Students will learn about getting ready for college: admissions, college essay and letter of recommendation, financial aid, and marketing yourself.

Parents will focus on college preparation for their children. Parent workshops will be offered in Bhutanese, English, Mandarin/Cantonese, and Vietnamese.

Preregistration is encouraged. To register, visit www.houstonisd.org/asiancareer

For more information, contact Dr. Sabrina Nguyen, HISD Community Liaison at snguyen1@houstonisd.org, 713-556-7220.

This event is sponsored by the Houston Independent School District in partnership with:









## AABA Women's Retreat

The AABA invites Women Attorneys to get together in a relaxed atmosphere to discuss relevant topics of today including Health and Wellness, Making Priorities and Mentoring with our Guest Speakers and amongst each other.

Where:

Jones Day 717 Texas, Suite 3300 Houston, Texas 77002

When:

Saturday, December 3, 2011

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Cost:

Free!

Breakfast will be provided courtesy of the AABA.

RSVP:

RSVP on <a href="www.aabahouston.com">www.aabahouston.com</a> or to Anna Ha at <a href="mailto:eha@jonesday.com">eha@jonesday.com</a> by November 30, 2011.



## Annual Holiday Party & Toy Orive

Come join the AABA of Houston in celebrating the holidays at our Annual Holiday Party & Toy Drive!



Palace Bowling Lanes 4191 Bellaire Blvd. Houston, Texas 77025



Saturday, December 17, 2011

11:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Lunch will be provided!



This event is FREE for AABA Members and their families. Non-Members will be charged \$20. Children under 12 are FREE.

All attendees are encouraged to bring an unwrapped gift for a child as part of the AABA's traditional toy drive benefiting Asian American Family Services. School and art supplies are also appreciated.



RSVP on www.aabahouston.com by December 16, 2011.



## GET TO KNOW AN AABA MEMBER!



Name: Kei Ashizawa

Firm: Kilburn Law Firm, PLLC

Practice Areas: Oil & Gas

**If I weren't an attorney, I would be** . . . an entrepreneur or diplomat.

The oddest food I have ever eaten has been . . . horse. Well, no, I refused those offerings in Japan, but I have eaten the very last part of a chicken's digestive system served off of a Taipei bicycle street vendor. That is odd enough for my Texan tastebuds. It was crunchy.

**In my spare time, I enjoy** . . . traveling anywhere, running, networking, volunteering, my new bicycle, sleeping, international cuisine, and the outdoors – especially the beach.

If my life were a movie, it would be called . . . "Like No Other"

In my opinion, the best restaurant in Houston is . . . too difficult to determine, but shout out to my restaurateur friend from my Maui days, Hicham Nafaa of Mia Bella, Majorca, and other great dining establishments. He welcomes the AABA with a 10% discount at Majorca in midtown. Just mention the AABA!

**The coolest store in Houston is** . . . Whole Foods. I live next door to one and love it, but my wallet doesn't. I hear Trader Joe's is coming to town and I can't wait!

**The sports team(s) I root for is/are** . . . Bellaire High School Women's Lacrosse Club, of which I am the head Varsity coach! GO CARDINALS!!!

My decade for music is the \_\_\_\_\_ and my favorite song is . . . 90's hop-hop and Marley era reggae. I don't have a favorite song, but there is something to be said about music that is the voice of its people.

My favorite quote is . . . "You don't ask; you don't get." –Momma

**Most AABA members probably don't know that I**... participated in the Emerging Leader Program of the US-Japan Council this October. The program exposed me to powerful Japanese American leaders, including Senator Inouye, who share the common purpose of advancing Asian Americans and the international bridges we build.

You forgot to ask me about . . . my favorite mentor, Donna Fujimoto Cole, President and CEO of Cole Chemical. I owe so much to her. Beyond running her own successful company, she is an energetic activist for Asian Americans and women, a philanthropist, and an all around wonderful human being. I believe Houston's Asian community will continue to advance so long as we strive to be like those great leaders before us, like Donna.

## GET TO KNOW AN AABA MEMBER!



Name: Vinh N. Ho

Firm: Boat People SOS

Practice Areas: Non-profit, Family,

**Immigration** 

If I weren't an attorney, I would be . . . running a nonprofit and building schools in Vietnam.

The oddest food I have ever eaten has been . . . (unwittingly) goat brains while travelling in Vietnam.

**In my spare time, I enjoy** . . . watching movies, TVs, and very rarely--reading.

If my life were a movie, it would be called . . . "Boats and Ho's."

**In my opinion, the best restaurant in Houston is** . . . Saigon Pagolac for the seven course beef meal.

**The coolest store in Houston is** . . . not in Houston but online—toss-up between Amazon.com and Newegg.com.

**The sports team(s) I root for is/are** . . . all major league sports in Houston starting with the Rockets, Texans, Astros, and Dynamos.

My decade for music is the 80's and my favorite song is . . . Pet Shop Boys – It's a Sin.

My favorite quote is . . . "only a life lived for others is worth living." –Albert Einstein

**Most AABA members probably don't know that I** . . . was a Varsity swimmer in High School and competed in amateur swim leagues during the summer.

You forgot to ask me about . . . my childhood as a refugee.

## Many thanks to our 2011-2012 Major Underwriters!

## **Platinum Dragon Underwriter**

GARDERE

## **Gold Dragon Underwriters**













## It's that time of year again... Renew your AABA membership!



The AABA is accepting membership applications and renewals for 2011!

You may apply for membership online at <a href="www.aabahouston.com">www.aabahouston.com</a> or by completing and submitting the attached form and dues.

If you haven't already applied for membership to the AABA, then you are missing out on all the benefits of membership. Members of the AABA receive significant discounts to all AABA events, as well as invitations to exclusive members-only seminars and programs such as the annual Corporate Counsel Dinner and inclusion in the Attorney Profiles Directory. Become an AABA member today, and gain access to all of the networking, career enhancement, mentorship, and volunteer opportunities and resources that the AABA has to offer!

Another terrific benefit of AABA membership is automatic membership in the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association ("NAPABA").

## The AABA welcomes the following new and renewing members!

Chau Do

Renee Huey
Chamberlain Hrdlicka White Williams & Aughtry

**David Kuo**Applied Optoelectronics

Tom Nguyen
Platinum Energy

Kim Sangyoon
Aker Solutions Drilling Technologies



www.aabahouston.com

## Asian American Bar Association of Houston 2011 Membership Application/Renewal

Last Name	First Name
Employer	
Address	
City	State ZIP
Office #	Home #
Fax #	E-Mail
Area(s) of Practice	
Law School and Graduation Year	
Language(s) Spoken	
Would you like to receive the AABA Newslet	ter by E-Mail?
Would you like your business contact inform	ation published in the 2011 AABA Directory?
hereby consent to the receipt of notice of m	neeting through electronic means.
Please give us any comments or programmi	ng suggestions you might have:

AABA ATTN: Membership

Make checks payable to **AABA** and submit application and fee to:

P.O. Box 1554 Houston, TX 77251

Send any inquiries concerning AABA membership to <u>membership@aabahouston.com</u>, or contact Erick Wang at (713) 425-8423.

<sup>\*</sup>Transitional attorneys refers to those attorneys currently not employed.