Spring Event 2009
Celebrating 25 Years of Asian American Political Empowerment
Saturday, June 20, 2009
Lesher Center for the Arts
Walnut Creek, CA
Good evening!

Welcome to the Spring Event 2009 where our theme this evening is "Celebrating 25 Years of Asian American Political Empowerment". Right here in Contra Costa County, the Chinese American Political Association (CAPA) was founded 25 years ago. Subsequently, the CAPA Community Education Fund (CAPA Ed Fund) was formed. CAPA and CAPA Ed Fund are two separate organizations, but they share the same long-term goal for Asian American empowerment, for striving to give Asian Americans a strong voice in our community and in our government.

CAPA and CAPA Ed Fund were established as strong community groups. As Chairperson of CAPA Ed Fund, I am happy to report to you that CAPA Ed Fund remains a strong and vibrant organization. There are many individuals we owe our thanks to; they help the organization from three distinctive directions:

a) Providing the organization with tireless workforce. They are our voluntary chairpersons, board members, and committee members.
b) Providing the organization with political guidance and know-how. They are our elected officials.
c) Providing the organization with financial support. They are our local corporations and many individuals.

Together, they make CAPA Ed Fund successful and influential. Many of these individual are here tonight to celebrate our political empowerment together. We thank you deeply for your support.

Cheng L. Liao
Chair, CAPA Community Education Fund

Dear Friends,

It is with a mix of pride and humility for myself to acknowledge that CAPA, as an organization set up in 1984 with simple beginnings, is now celebrating its 25th anniversary. For the privileged few who were CAPA’s founders, the past two and a half decades could easily be regarded as practically a blink of an eye. We all owe them our deep gratitude and appreciation for their foresight and courage during their trying times. I also wish to express the highest regard for all those that have worked so hard and so often with very little fanfare throughout the past 25 years.

This evening will surely be a grand time for everyone who attends, as we will all see our mutual friends, colleagues and supporters who have been so committed throughout the years. Now is the time to raise a glass of cheers and congratulations to each and everyone at this momentous occasion. We certainly will be looking forward to celebrating the next 25th anniversary.

Eric Golangco
President, CAPA

Greetings! A warm welcome to our distinguish guests and long-time supporters. Thank you for your presence in attending our 2009 Spring Event, an annual event which is in support of the CAPA Community Education Fund.

This year’s theme is on “Celebrating 25 Years of Asian American Political Empowerment.” We recognized that during the long road of political development in our community, many leaders from a diversity of communities have extended their helping hands. Mentors like you have given us many opportunities to learn valuable lessons.

We are proud of our accomplishments and continue to count on your support. Please enjoy this evening; this is an event that was planned for you with our deepest appreciation.

Thank you again for your contributions and continuous support.

Marsha Cheung Golangco
Spring Event 2009 Steering Committee Chair
Get more involved with CAPA and CAPA Community Education Fund
Here’s your chance to become a more active member and/or supporter of our programs. Sign up here if you would like to volunteer to help the Board assist with our annual signature events.

I would like to get involved:
☑️ I would like to serve on the Board.

I would like to help out with association activities:
☐ Spring Gala
☐ Summer Picnic
☐ Fall Forum
☐ Holiday Party

Are you a CAPA member?
☐ Yes
☐ No

Please provide your contact information. A Board member will contact you at their earliest convenience.

Name: ____________________________

Email: ____________________________

Home Phone: ______________________

Work Phone: _______________________

Address: __________________________

City: __________________ Zip: ________

Send this form to: CAPA Community Education Fund, P.O. Box 4314, Walnut Creek, CA 94596-0314.
Or email: EdFund@CAPAcommunity.org.
TONIGHT'S PROGRAM

6 pm
Registration

Mistress of Ceremonies
Emily Chang

6:30
Welcome
Cheng Liao
Chair, CAPA Community Education Fund

Short Video
"Celebrating 25 Years of Asian American Political Empowerment"

Acknowledgements & Awards
Eric Golangco
President, Chinese American Political Association

Asian American Political Leaders Panel Presentation
"Road Map to Political Empowerment"
Moderator
Marsha Golangco, Spring Event 2009 Chair

Alice Lai-Bitker, President, Alameda County Board of Supervisors
Phil Ting, San Francisco City and County Assessor-Recorder
Lena Tam, City Council of the City of Alameda

Class of 2009 Interns Introduction and Presentation
Cedric C. Cheng, Chair, Summer Internship Program
Evelyn Lin, Intern Presentation Director

8 pm
Reception and Networking at The Bedford Gallery
Greetings to everyone who has gathered for your annual Spring Gala.

Thank you for your commitment to civic participation and leadership. With your legacy of service, you have encouraged many people in the San Francisco area to become engaged in our democratic process. The Asian Pacific Islander-American community has contributed much to California, and I commend you for adding your efforts to that wonderful tradition.

I am delighted to join you in honoring your internship class of 2009. Their experiences will be a great benefit to them and to their communities, and I can’t wait to see what these remarkable young people will accomplish in the future.

Please accept my best wishes for a memorable event and every continued success.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger
June 20, 2009

CAPA Community Education Fund

I am pleased and honored to greet all of you gathered here on the auspicious occasion of the 2009 CAPA Community Education Fund Gala.

I would like to extend heartfelt congratulations to CAPA for your ongoing excellence in leadership development, as we share in your theme of “Celebrating 25 Years of American Political Empowerment”. I would also like to commend the talented interns selected this year, and wish each of you great success on your journey to becoming our leaders of tomorrow.

On behalf of the San Francisco Office of the Assessor-Recorder, I offer best wishes to all for an enjoyable and memorable evening.

Sincerely,

Phil Ting
Assessor-Recorder
City and County of San Francisco
On behalf of Contra Costa County, District IV
I would like to extend our congratulations on your

25 Years of
Asian American Political Empowerment, Education and Advocacy in Contra Costa County

Susan A. Bonilla
Chair
Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors

2151 Salvio Street, Suite R, Concord, CA 94520
Phone: 925.521.7100  Fax: 925.646.5202  Email: Dist4@bos.eccounty.us
www.susanbonilla.org
June 11, 2009

CAPA Community Education Fund
P.O. Box 4314
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

Dear CAPA,

I am writing to congratulate you on your upcoming 2009 Spring Event! For many years the CAPA Spring Event, in support of the CAPA Community Education Fund, has been an extremely successful and beneficial event and I am proud to show my continued support.

I would also like to thank you for your hard work and dedication to Contra Costa County. Since 1984 CAPA’s work serving the Chinese-American community in the San Francisco, East Bay Area, is to be commended, recognized and deeply appreciated. My office has both observed and received the benefits of your wonderful organization through the Student Internship program.

Thank you again! I look forward to celebrating 25 years of CAPA’s tireless efforts in politically empowering Asian Americans.

It is an honor to serve you on the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors and work with you in service to our citizens.

Sincerely,

MARY K. PIEPHO
County Supervisor, District III

MNP:ap
June 20, 2009

Dear Friends,

Warm greetings to all of you on the occasion of CAPA’s 20th Anniversary Gala in support of their Community Education Fund. Congratulations to CAPA for its exemplary service to the Asian American community in Alameda and Contra Costa counties.

As an organization supporting a wide array of projects including leadership trainings, I commend CAPA for building a stronger Asian American political voice. CAPA’s activities such as voter registration drives, internships connecting students with elected public officials, scholarships supporting public policy work, and Asian American cultural events, not only encourage Asian Americans to be involved in the political process, but ensure that future generations continue to advocate for issues affecting our community.

Once again, thanks to CAPA for their amazing work. I wish CAPA much success in future years.

Sincerely,

ALICE LAI-BITKER, President
Alameda County Supervisor, Third District
June 20, 2009

Chinese American Political Association (CAPA)
P.O. Box 4314
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

Dear Friends:

My warmest regards and congratulations to CAPA and CAPA Community Education Fund on the occasion of celebrating 25 years of encouraging Asian American involvement in the community and through your Summer Student Internship Program.

As an elected official, I applaud CAPA’s exemplary program to educate and encourage the younger generation to be involved in the political process. The role of CAPA is vital as we continue to work on raising the political awareness and participation of the Chinese American and Asian and Pacific Islander American across the nation.

I wish the Intern Class of 2009 best wishes and much success in the future. And to CAPA and CAPA Community Education Fund, keep up your good work!

Sincerely,

Ken Chew
Vice Mayor, Town of Moraga
June 20, 2009

Dear Friends of CAPA,

Congratulations on 25 years of Asian American Empowerment. Your efforts have helped inform the Asian American community in the Bay Area of key political and electoral issues.

I support and applaud the CAPA and the CAPA Community Education Fund for helping to promote Asian Americans to actively engage in the political and democratic process in our nation. Through education and awareness, we can help build a stronger democracy in our community.

This will help future generation be informed advocates on issues affecting our community. An informed society is vital to a vibrant democracy.

Thank you for your outstanding efforts. I wish you much success in future years.

Very truly yours

Lena L. Tam

Member, City Council of Alameda
June 20, 2009

Dear Friends:

I would like to congratulate all of the members of CAPA, as well as the dedicated Board of Directors, for all you have done to improve our quality of life through your active involvement in the political process. This being 25 years, it is truly a milestone.

From CAPA’s exemplary internship program, to the “cannot-miss” political debates, you have assured that all voices are heard and considered during our Democracy’s important policy and budget-making processes, as well as enforcement efforts.

I am very proud of all of CAPA’s younger members who have all done so much to help strengthen and improve our communities.

As a lifetime member of CAPA, I am proud to be affiliated with this organization and look forward to continuing to work closely on future issues as well as celebrating with you!

Sincerely,

John Hanecak
Member of the City Council
Pleasant Hill
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SPECIAL THANKS
NORDSTROM AT BROADWAY PLAZA • STAFF OF THE LESHER CENTER OF THE ARTS
Introducing Our 2009 Interns

Philip Chang
College/High School: University of California, San Diego
Intended Field of Study: Political Science with a concentration in International Relations, Minor in Chinese Studies, Law & Society
Favorite Book: Pride and Prejudice
Your Motto: "A journey of a thousand miles begins with one step." - Lao Tzu

Kimberly Chen
College/High School: Alameda High School
Intended Field of Study: Business
Favorite Book: Daniel Keyes' Flowers for Algemon
Your Motto: "A successful man is one who can lay a firm foundation with the bricks others have thrown at him."

Annie Chung
College/High School: Campolindo High School
Intended Field of Study: Pre-law
Favorite Book: Pride and Prejudice
Your Motto: "It is not length of life, but depth of life." - Ralph Waldo Emerson

Elliot Lee
College/High School: Dougherty Valley High School
Intended Field of Study: Bioengineering
Favorite Book: America is in the Heart by Carlos Bulosan
Your Motto: "Life is too short to live the same day twice"

Amber Leong
College/High School: University of California, San Diego
Intended Field of Study: Political Science with a concentration in International Relations, Minor in Chinese Studies, Law & Society
Favorite Book: Pride and Prejudice
Your Motto: "Formulate and stamp indelibly on your mind a mental picture of yourself as succeeding. Hold this picture tenaciously. Never permit it to fade. Your mind will seek to develop the picture...Do not build up obstacles in your imagination." - Norman Vincent Peale (1898 - 1993)

Irene Liang
College/High School: Castro Valley High
Intended Field of Study: Architecture/ Engineering
Favorite Book: To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee
Your Motto: "Our greatest glory is not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall." -- Confucius

Eric Liao
College/High School: San Ramon Valley High School
Intended Field of Study: Music, Math
Favorite Book: "The Collectors" By David Baldacci
Your Motto: "No pain, No Gain"
Gunvinder "Vinnie" Kang  
College/High School: Heritage High School  
Intended Field of Study: Dentistry  
Favorite Book: A Million Little Pieces  
Your Motto: "Live now, believe me, wait not till tomorrow; Gather the roses of life today." - Pierre de Ronsard

Kathryn Liu  
College/High School: Monte Vista High School  
Intended Field of Study: Double Major- Business and Engineering  
Favorite Book: Mountains Beyond Mountains by Tracy Kidder  
Your Motto: "Genius is one percent inspiration and ninety-nine percent perspiration." - Thomas Alva Edison

Richard Sun  
College/High School: Miramonte High School  
Intended Field of Study: Undecided  
Favorite Book: Deception Point  
Your Motto: "Nothing risked is nothing gained."

Le Tran  
College/High School: Oakland Tech High School, Will be attending Brown University  
Intended Field of Study: Comparative Educational Studies and Policy  
Favorite Book: Catcher in the Rye, by J.D. Salinger and Orlando, by Virginia Woolf  
Your Motto: "As long as you have confidence, you can pull anything off - even if you are completely clueless."

Saruuldari Tuvshintugs  
College/High School: Northgate High  
Intended Field of Study: Law, communication/broadcasting  
Favorite Book: To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee  
Your Motto: "Don’t cry because it’s over, Smile because it happened" - Dr. Seuss

Niraj Vora  
College/High School: Northgate High School  
Intended Field of Study: Orthopedics  
Favorite Book: Catcher in the Rye  
Your Motto: "Yesterday is history, tomorrow is a mystery, but today is a gift. That's why it's called the present." - Kung Fu Panda

Internship Committee and Interviewers  
Cedric C. Cheng Acting Chair  
Marianne Clark  
Macy Tong  
Tiffany Sun  
Stephen Lin  
Evelyn Lin

Special thank you to Renee Zeimer, Assistant to Walnut Creek City Manager and Carolina Zalazar, District Representative from Assemblyperson Tom Torlakson for speaking at orientation and training.
2008 was labeled a year of change. Our world was literally and figuratively changed.....hopefully for the better. The CAPA Community Education Fund continues on with it’s programs of education and youth development. Gala 2008 was well attended as we honored folks such as former KPIX Sportscaster, Rick Quan, the Asian Pacific Fund and KTSF 26 for their influence in our community and the continued presence and work they continue to provide. The Fall Forum and Debates presented us with some serious races in our area such as the campaign to win the State Assembly seat in District 15 between Abram Wilson and Joan Buchanan to the local city races of Walnut Creek and the Town of Moraga. A very well attended event proved that the community is engaged and we played a part in making that happen. Some member of CAPA were part of 80-20’s Presidential Endorsement Convention as well as working with Vision New America and APAPA (both in Sacramento and here in the Bay Area) on various projects. Along with a picnic attended by four groups....DVCCA, Contra Costa Chinese School and the Golden Crane Senior Center, 2008 was good year.
80-20 Endorsement Convention

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Congratulations on 25 Years of Political Empowerment.
Best Wishes to CAPA and CAPA Community Education Fund
on Your Continued Involvement in the Community

Scrapbook: A Look Back at 2008-09

Joint Picnic Fun
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Sustainability in Action...From Local to Global
CAPA

The Chinese American Political Association (CAPA) is a non-partisan, non-profit, educational and political organization of the Chinese-American community in the San Francisco Bay Area. Founded in 1984, CAPA’s mission is to raise the political awareness of Chinese and Asian-Americans and to encourage and promote their active participation in the political process of the United States.

CAPA Community Education Fund

Advancing Chinese and Asian American Leadership and Participation in Public Affairs

The CAPA Community Education Fund is a tax-exempt non-profit organization. The goal is to strengthen and empower the Chinese and Asian American communities by promoting leadership, civic engagement, and cultural diversity and understanding. Programs include Voter Education and Civic Participation, Student Internship Program and Leadership Development. We invite you to join us in our mission to encourage broader civic participation, develop new leaders, and promote a better understanding and appreciation of the diversity that makes the San Francisco Bay Area a unique and vibrant community.

Proceeds from this event benefit the CAPA Community Education Fund’s Summer Internship Program, Leadership Development Program and Voter Education Projects.

www.CAPAcommunity.org

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