

“Building the bridge between CUNY,
and the Asian American / Asian community.”



Upcoming Events

2/21/14 - Lecture Series

A Conversation on Asian American Art with Tomie Arai

2/28/14 - Lecture Series

If Knowledge is the Key, Then Show Me the Lock: Unlocking the Model Minority Stereotype of Asians in Various Global Contexts

3/14/14 - Lecture Series

The Power of Listening: Hearing Voiceless Voice

3/21/14

6th Annual CUNY Conference on Asian American Economic Empowerment

3/28/14 - Lecture Series

No Writer Is An Island: Hawaii Writing Is More Than Regional

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L to R: Philip Berry (Vice Chair, CUNY Board of Trustees), Dr. Muhammad Yunus & Joyce Moy (AAARI Executive Director)



L to R: Joyce Moy (AAARI Executive Director), Aziz Ahmad (President/CEO, UTC Associates), NYS Assemblymember Ron Kim & Savio Chan (President/CEO, US China Partners)

Dr. Muhammad Yunus & NYS Assemblyman Ron Kim Honored at AAARI 12th Annual Gala

11/21/13 - Dr. Muhammad Yunus, Nobel Prize Laureate & Founder of Grameen Bank in Bangladesh, and New York State Assemblyman Ron Kim, Baruch College alumnus, were both honored at the Asian American / Asian Research Institute's 12th Annual Gala. Dr. Yunus was the recipient of the Global Visionary Award in recognition for his leadership in promoting understanding and advocacy on behalf of Asian community globally. During his acceptance speech to a crowd of over 360 attendees, Dr. Yunus discussed the origins of Grameen Banks, its objective of helping poor people escape poverty through microcredit loans, and how that led to other social business initiatives to solve problems. One example was the curing of night blindness brought on by Vitamin A deficiency that affected villages in Bangladesh through a program that provided seed packets to grow vegetables. According to Dr. Yunus, the way to overcome many of today's problems is to rethink the way of doing things such as the way the economy functions in order to eliminate problems such as unemployment.

The recipient of the CUNY Distinguished Asian American Alumni Award, Assemblymember Kim discussed his early involvement in public service through AAARI's conferences and the mentorship that he received from the late Dr. Thomas Tam, Founding Executive Director of AAARI. Assemblymember Kim also thanked Dr. Muhammad Yunus for being an example for him during graduate school to sustain his passion for public service, and working now to represent his constituents in Flushing, Queens on the state government level on issues that include poverty, affordable housing, small business and education among the Asian American community. Former Distinguished Alumni recipients Aziz Ahmad and Savio Chan were also on hand to present the award.

Gala video available online: www.aaari.info/2013banquet.htm

CUNY FORUM: Advancing Asian American Studies @ CUNY

11/4/13 – Sponsored by the CUNY Diversity Project Development Fund, AAARI's annual conference focused on the intersections of Asian American Studies and the community with panels on Surviving or Thriving: Asian American Studies at CUNY - An Interdisciplinary Approach to Advancing Asian American Studies @ CUNY; Ties that Bind: Building Coalitions Within and Beyond CUNY; and Advancing Asian American Studies through Community Research. The conference concluded with the launch of AAARI's CUNY FORUM publication, and a contributors panel that included Dr. Peter Kwong, Distinguished Professor of Urban Studies at Hunter College.



L to R: Dr. K.Y. Chynn & Walter Marcus at AAARI 12th Annual Gala

KY Chynn Foundation Donates \$100,000 to CUNY to Fund Ethics and Morality Essay Contest

1/2/14 – The KY Chynn Foundation, established by Dr. KY Chynn and his wife, Noelle Chynn, have donated \$100,000 to the City University of New York to establish an endowment to fund AAARI's CUNY Ethics and Morality Essay Contest, now in its fourth year. The goal of the essay contest is to stimulate college students to ponder the topic of morality, and to broadcast the best essays, in an attempt to promote the teaching of morality in American education. The top three essays receive awards of \$1,000, \$300 and \$200.

Since 2011, Dr. Chynn and his wife have funded prizes annually for the essay contest through AAARI to ten CUNY students. They also fund similar contests at Fordham University and local high school in New Jersey. The winner of the 2013 CUNY Ethics and Morality Essay Contest was Walter Marcus, an undergraduate student from LaGuardia Community College, for his essay, *Filial Piety*, about the life lessons he learned from his mother and difficult relationship with his father. Prior to creating the essay contest, Dr. Chynn and his wife funded through AAARI the Chynn Book Award for Chinese Studies, to recognize authors whose works to promote greater awareness and understanding of Chinese history, culture and people.

Essays available online: www.aaari.info/ethics.htm

Unlocking the Mysteries of Memories

Dr. Hyungsik Lim, Assistant Professor of Physics at Hunter College, contributed to a recent study, published in *Science*, in which scientists observed fluorescently tagged messenger RNA (mRNA) molecules—a key component in the making of memories—as they traveled through the brain of a genetically engineered mouse. The observations used of an imaging technique known as two-photon microscopy.

URL: <http://is.gd/klshyP>

LAGCC Professor Receives Grant to Develop Program to Motivate Women to Enter STEM Majors

Dr. Preethi Radhakrishnan, Assistant Professor of Biology at LaGuardia Community College, was awarded a \$30,000 grant from the Elsevier Foundation to develop CUNY's first-of-its kind program designed to encourage women to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. Students will be placed in internships in partnership with Empire State College.

URL: <http://is.gd/WGIHLQ>

AAARI Receives CUNY Diversity Development Fund Grant for Professional Development Workshops

12/16/13 - AAARI will conduct two professional development workshops during the Spring 2014 semester for CUNY faculty on *CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR GRANT FUNDING, AND CONDUCTING COMMUNITY RESEARCH*, with a grant from the CUNY Diversity Development Fund. The workshops will bring together faculty from across campuses, and will provide a forum for sharing ideas for research, and create a cohort that can become a resource for one another in community research. Grant funding and publishing are two major criteria for tenure and promotion, these workshops will help to equip diverse faculty to address those requirements, and as well as help to foster research and advancing knowledge about diverse communities.

Joyce Moy Receives CUNY Women's Leadership Award

10/25/13 - AAARI's Executive Director, Joyce Moy received the Women's Leadership Award at the 9th Annual CUNY Women's Leadership Conference, in recognition of outstanding dedication and service to the Asian and Asian American community, immigrants and small business entrepreneurs and beyond. The award was presented by President Gail Mellow of LaGuardia Community College.

CUNY Senior Vice Chancellor Hershenson presented a Women's Leadership Award to Kim Jasmin, Executive Director of the Northeast Region, Global Philanthropy and Community Relations at J.P. Morgan Chase. Speakers at the conference included: Rossana Rosado, publisher and CEO of *El Diario/La Prensa*, York College President Marcia Keizs; Hunter College President Jennifer Raab; CUNY Trustee Freida Foster, Anne Sutherland Fuchs, Chairperson of the NYC Commission on Women's Issues; Senior Vice Chancellor Jay Hershenson and Joanna Barsh, director of McKinsey & Company.



L to R: Frank Shih (President, OCA-LI), Susan Wong (Board Vice-Chair, AAARI), Former NYC Comptroller John Liu, Joyce Moy (AAARI Executive Director) & Gene Woo (Board Chair, OCA-LI)

Joyce Moy Receives Distinguished Civic Leadership Award

10/11/13 - AAARI's Executive Director, Joyce Moy received the Distinguished Civic Leadership Award at OCA-Long Island's 32nd Anniversary Gala. Other honorees included Jie Zhang (Stuyvesant High School), Belle Chan (Federal Bureau of Investigations), Hsing-Lih Chou (NY Institute of Culture and the Arts), and Richard Lui (MSNBC Dayside & NBC News Early Today Show).

OCA is a national organization dedicated to advancing social, political, and economic well-being of Asian Pacific Americans, with over 100 chapters across the United States.



L to R: Beesham A. Seecharan (Managing Director & Associate General Counsel, Goldman, Sachs & Co.), Preeti Sriratana (Chairman, Apex for Youth), Joyce Moy (AAARI Executive Director) & Karen Yau (Former Executive Director, CACF)

Joyce Moy Receives Caring for Children Award

11/19/13 - The Coalition for Asian American Children and Families (CACF) presented the Caring for Children Award to Joyce Moy, Executive Director of AAARI; Beesham A. Seecharan, Managing Director and Associate General Counsel of Goldman, Sachs & Co.; Preeti Sriratana, Co-Founder and Chief Operating Officer at Sweeten.com, Founder of AU, and President and Chairman at Apex for Youth, at their 15th annual gala. During her acceptance speech, Joyce stressed the importance of teaching children to carry on the values of previous generations while looking forward. Joyce also discussed how legislators and policymakers need to be educated on the needs of the Asian American community, which lead to the release of the report, *Asian Pacific New Yorkers Count: Awareness to Action*, together with CACF and The Fund for Public Advocacy. There is a need to connect with the non-speaking constituents and to help them negotiate the system to be more engaged and to demand recognition and change.