2022 Gold Lantern Awards

TUESDAY MAY 03
6PM TO 9PM

The St. Regis Hotel
Washington DC

Shining a Light!

Gala Event Program

Gold Lantern Awards™
2022 Chinese American Museum DC
I extend a heartfelt thank you to the Chinese American Museum in DC for championing the history and art of Chinese Americans who have made tremendous contributions to this country.

I also want to invite all of you to join me and others in our AAPI community in this Asian and Pacific Islander’s history month to continually fight for our rights, and our equality in the face of injustice and continued violence against Asian Americans.

Mei Xu
Founder and CEO
YES SHE MAY
Author of Burn

yesshemay.com
WELCOME FROM CAMDC’S EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

We are honored to present the Chinese American Museum DC’s Inaugural Gold Lantern Awards Gala. This year’s theme is “Shining a Light!” The honorees are recognized tonight for their excellence, leadership, community service, and an indelible American spirit.

At CAMDC, we celebrate and honor Asian Americans every day. In times of light and darkness, we remember and recognize their many contributions to our country.

Thank you for joining us this evening, and to our community of friends, members, and donors who help to sustain and advance our mission.

With best regards,

David Uy

THANK YOU TO OUR 2022 GALA SPONSORS

Leader
Mei Xu
Founder & CEO, Yes She May

Advocate
Julian Ha
Handel & Jennifer Lee
Dr. William & Victoria Chu Pao

Partner
H. Richard Dietrich III & Ginger Huang Dietrich
Karina Hou
Jenny Liu
Sindy Yeh
DINNER MENU

APPETIZERS
Limestone lettuce, mandarin segments, water chestnuts, slivered almonds, blood orange-white soy vinaigrette

ENTRÉE
Filet of beef tenderloin, red wine shallot compote & meyer lemon marinated seabass, sauté of baby vegetables, herb whipped potatoes and bok choy
Marinated Chilean seabass, golden beet risotto, tuscan kale & lemongrass coulis

VEGETARIAN
Potato gnocchi, roasted tomato & grilled vegetables, niçoise olive & basil compote

DESSERT
Frozen lemon blueberry souffle, Breton shortbread crust, blueberry foam
Illy Scuro Dark Roast, regular and decaffeinated coffee, and selection of DAMMANN teas
6 PM  Reception in Astor Terrace

7 PM–9 PM  Dinner in Astor Ballroom

Welcome  David Uy  Executive Director, CAMDC

CAMDC  A Museum for Everyone

INTRODUCTION OF HONOREES  Ethnobeat
A song for honoree Mei Xu
Kia Hora Te Marino – May Peace Be Widespread
Māori song  Composed by honoree Christopher Tin

Mei Xu  Founder and CEO, Yes She May Honoree, CAMDC Gold Lantern Award

Dinner is served

INTRODUCTION OF HONOREES  Christopher Tin  Composer and Conductor

Andrew and Peggy Cherng  Co-founders, Panda Restaurant Group

“Some Enchanted Evening”  Jinhao (Frank) Zhang
INTRODUCTION OF HONOREE

Grace Young
Culinary author and activist

UNSUNG HEROES HONOREES

Chinese Culture and Community Service Center (CCACC)
Mr. Chih-Hsiang Li, Executive Director and CEO

Elizabeth Chung
Founder and Executive Director, Asian American Center of Frederick (AACF), Maryland

Jane Pan
Executive Director, Hepatitis B Initiative of Washington, DC (HBI-DC)

ETHNOBEAT

Baba Yetu
The Lord’s Prayer in Swahili
Composed by Christopher Tin for Civilizations IV

CLOSING

Remarks by David Uy
About CAMDC’s Honorees

Mei Xu
Founder and CEO, Yes She May

Mei Xu is a Chinese American entrepreneur, founder and CEO of three global companies, Yes She May, BlissLivingHome®, & Chesapeake Bay Candle®. She has lived her version of the American Dream.

Born in Hangzhou, Mei came to the United States in 1991 and graduated at the University of Maryland in journalism.

She secured a position in a company called the US-China Industrial Exchange in New York City. While she did not have disposable income, Mei relished walking through Bloomingdale’s, soaking up the fashion and design surroundings. It was the beginnings of her entrepreneurial ventures that grew into a multi-million dollar company.

In 1994, Mei Xu and David Wang started Pacific Trade International. They successfully negotiated the sale of Chesapeake Bay Candle to Newell Brands in 2017. Mei Xu’s business achievements have repeatedly been recognized by prominent organizations, such as Politico’s 2019 Woman of Impact Award, Smart CEO with the Brava Award, and the Asian American Chamber of Commerce with the Business Leader of the Year Award. Mei Xu was named among Forbes’ 2021 50 Over 50 Visionaries.

In June 2020, Mei created Yes She May to help women-owned brands reach a larger audience and scale. Her team aims to provide consumers a curated collection of thoughtful, high-quality, environmentally sustainable products made from talented women vendors from around the world.

Mei Xu is author of Burn: How Grit, Innovation, and a Dash of Luck Ignited a Multi-Million Dollar Success Story, published in 2021. She has met and counseled thousands of entrepreneurs and businesspeople, and even advised the President of the United States, Barack Obama.
Christopher Tin
Composer and Conductor

Christopher Tin is a two-time Grammy-winning composer of concert & media music. Time Magazine calls his music 'rousing' and 'anthemic', while The Guardian calls it 'joyful' and 'an intelligent meeting of melody and theme'. His music has been performed and premiered in many of the world’s most prestigious venues: Lincoln Center, Kennedy Center, Hollywood Bowl, the United Nations, and Carnegie Hall, where he had an entire concert devoted to his music. He has also been performed by ensembles diverse as the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, Philharmonia Orchestra, Welsh National Opera Orchestra, Metropole Orkest, and US Navy Band. His song Baba Yetu, originally written for the video game Civilization IV, is a modern choral standard, and the first piece of music written for a video game ever to win a Grammy Award. His debut album, the multi-lingual song cycle Calling All Dawns, won him a second Grammy in 2011 for Best Classical Crossover Album, and his follow-up release The Drop That Contained the Sea debuted at #1 on Billboard's classical charts, and premiered to a sold-out audience at Carnegie Hall's Stern Auditorium. His third album To Shiver the Sky also debuted at #1, and was funded by a record-breaking Kickstarter campaign, smashing all previous classical music crowdfunding records. Christopher’s new album To Shiver the Sky will premiere at the Anthem in Washington DC on May 15th.

Christopher Tin is signed to an exclusive record deal with Universal under their legendary Decca label, and published by Concord and Boosey & Hawkes. He works out of his own custom-built studio in Santa Monica, CA.
Andrew & Peggy Cherng
Co-founders, Panda Restaurant Group

Andrew Cherng was born in Yangzhou, Jiangsu Province, on the northern bank of the Yangtze River. Andrew immigrated to the United States in 1966, at age 18 to study at an American university. He earned a bachelor’s degree in mathematics in 1970 from Baker University in Baldwin City, Kansas, and a master’s degree in applied mathematics from the University of Missouri in 1972. At Baker, he met his future wife, Peggy Tsiang, born in Burma and raised in Hong Kong. Peggy earned a bachelor’s degree in mathematics from Oregon State University in 1971 and a PhD in electrical engineering from Missouri University. She was an engineering specialist at McDonnell Douglas, and a technical engineer and software department manager at Comtal Corporation, a subsidiary of 3M.

In June 1973, Andrew Cherng and his father Ming Tsai Cherng, a chef, took over a restaurant and started a new Chinese restaurant called Panda Inn in Pasadena, California. They obtained funds from the family and a Small Business Administration loan. Peggy Cherng left Comtal and became Operations Manager at the Panda Restaurant Group. She built the company’s computer systems to track customer feedback and streamline operations.

In 1983, the Cherngs opened the first Panda Express. Panda Restaurant Group bought stakes in other restaurant franchises such as Urbane Café and Just Salad. Panda Express has more than 2,200 locations, including internationally, from Canada, Mexico, South Korea to Dubai.

Peggy Cherng was #12 on Forbes America’s Self-Made Women list in 2019. The Cherngs are active and philanthropic in the community. Peggy serves on several boards including the United Way of Los Angeles and Methodist Hospital of Arcadia.
Grace Young

Culinary author and activist

Named the “poet laureate of the wok” by food historian Betty Fussell, Grace Young has devoted her career to demystifying the ancient cooking utensil for use in contemporary kitchens. An award-winning cookbook author, culinary historian, and filmmaker, Grace has been a fierce advocate for Chinatown, never more so than in her recent video series Coronavirus: Chinatown Stories, produced in collaboration with videographer DaAhn and Poster House, which documents the toll of the pandemic on NYC’s Chinese community.

In 2020 the series was shown at the Smithsonian for the Youth Summit and Food History Gala. She is also partnering with the James Beard Foundation on an Instagram campaign to #savechineserestaurants all across the country. Grace is the recipient of James Beard Awards for her Wok Therapist comedy video and her cookbook *Stir-Frying to the Sky’s Edge*. She has won five IACP awards including the prestigious 2019 Culinary Classics Award for *The Breath of a Wok*, (the “youngest” cookbook to be inducted into the Cookbook Hall of Fame). Her family’s Canton rose porcelain dinnerware circa 1940, is now part of the Smithsonian National Museum of American History’s collection where it will continue to serve as a significant artifact of Chinese American culinary history.
Chinese Culture & Community Service Center (CCACC)

Chih-Hsiang Li
Executive Director and CEO

Established in 1982 by five founders representing five Chinese Schools at the time, CCACC celebrates its 40th anniversary this year. CCACC is a non-profit, non-political, non-religious grassroots organization, serving as a focal point of the Chinese American community and bridge to government services, cultural exchanges, and assimilation.

Currently there are more than 2000 members, hundreds of volunteers and over one hundred employees working together to serve the community. CCACC’s services cover ages 5 to 105 years old for over 100,000 people (services/encounters) yearly. As a non-profit, CCACC is unique in running sustainable business operations to fund services to the community. CCACC performs these services through core values of:

- CARE WITH LOVE AND COMPASSION
- SERVE WITH SINCERITY AND INTEGRITY
- THRIVE ON JOY AND HARMONY

There are six ongoing operations at CCACC:
Adult Daycare Health Center, In Home Care, Health Center, Art Gallery, Academy, & Community Services
Elizabeth Chung
Founder and Executive Director,
Asian American Center of Frederick (AACF), Maryland

Elizabeth Chung is a native of Hong Kong, China and immigrated to the United States since 1970. She has been a strong advocate for minority health for the past 50 years. Elizabeth completed her graduate study in public health from Pennsylvania State University in 1981 and has dedicated her professional work to issues surrounding health equity since then.

She is the founder and Executive Director of the Asian American Center of Frederick (AACF), whose mission is to support immigrants with essential skills to be independent and successful contributors to the community. Under her leadership, AACF promotes language learning as capacity building for new immigrant communities. AACF provides interpreter and translator services in 40 languages to public, private and business entities. Elizabeth Chung’s primary focus has been equity through cultural competency and language access. Partnering with University of Maryland, she served as Principal Investigator (PI) on collaborative initiatives with federal funds. She was also one of the founding members for the Chinese Language Teacher Association of the Capital Region in Washington DC and has been promoting the teaching of Chinese Language locally and nationally. She has served on a variety of advisory committees, boards, and commissions in various capacities.

Elizabeth Chung has received numerous awards, including the Community Service Award - Organization of Chinese Americans, Washington DC, the Diversity and Inclusion Award, Frederick County Society of Human Resource Management and NBC 4 Community Award. In 2020, Mrs. Chung was appointed by Maryland Governor Larry Hogan to be reappointed to serve on the Asian Pacific Island American Commission for her 4th term.

Elizabeth’s most recent accomplishment is the development of the Community Health Worker Program in western Maryland, expanding public / community health workforce development to address health disparities for the most vulnerable populations in the community. For her international work, Elizabeth served as Adviser for the K-12 Global Education Research Association (GERA), Shijiazhuang, China. In 2020, The Asian American Center of Frederick was awarded by the Frederick County Commission For Women as the Best Non-Profit in 2021. Mrs. Chung resides in Frederick, Maryland with her husband, Dr. Stanley Chung - Orthopedic Surgeon (retired).
Jane Pan

Executive Director, Hepatitis B Initiative of Washington, DC (also known as HBI-DC)

Jane has brought her passion for achieving health equity to the Hepatitis B Initiative of Washington, DC (HBI-DC), where she serves as the Executive Director since 2009. Under her leadership, HBI-DC has transformed from a volunteer-based nonprofit organization to a sustainable direct service organization.

Jane takes a hands-on approach to program implementation. She has engaged key community leaders to work with health clinics, pro bono physicians, university researchers, and advocates to promote the understanding of hepatitis B, hepatitis C, and HIV through public-private partnerships. Jane actively explores additional potential partnerships with other community-based organizations (CBOs), faith-based organizations (FBOs), institutions, pharmaceutical companies, and government (local, state, and federal agencies). She has been working with at-risk communities to identify their needs; clarify their demands; and reinforce the importance of hepatitis B, hepatitis C, and HIV education, screening, and HBV vaccination among the high-risk groups through culturally appropriate messages.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, HBI-DC was one of the first organizations in DC to distribute over 2,500 PPE care kits to small business owners and residents. HBI-DC has assisted over 2,000 individuals since 2021 in receiving COVID-19 vaccination information and helping them access vaccinations.

Through Jane Pan’s leadership, HBI-DC has provided free health education to more than 38,000 people, screened over 20,000 individuals, and identified over 6,000 vulnerable to infection in need of hepatitis B vaccination in the Washington, DC metropolitan area since 2009. An average of 5% of the screened population are hep B positive and 3% are hep C positive; the majority linked to care or treatment services that potentially saved or bettered their lives. HBI-DC also won the recognition of the US Department of Health and Human Services for its excellent work in screening patients for viral hepatitis and was honored at the White House in 2016.
Jinhao (Frank) Zhang

Jinhao was born in Shanghai, China in 2009, and moved to the U.S. in 2015. He is currently in 7th grade at Burleigh Manor Middle School in Ellicott City, Maryland. Frank has studied vocal lessons under the instruction of professional baritone, Mr. Chunfeng Li, since 2018, and practiced classical and pop music songs in Italian, German, English, and Chinese. He achieved the first-place tenor award in 2020 King’s Peak International Music Competition, third place winner of Rising Star Category in 2020 Canadian International Music Competition, and the first-place winner of 2021 21st Century Talent Music Competition. Recently, he went to the Lincoln Center in New York City to perform as a winner in American Fine Arts Festival Golden Voices. Frank is an active member of the Howard County AAPI Youth Ambassadors Program.
ETHNOBEAT

ETHNOBEAT IS THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND’S PREMIER WORLD MUSIC A CAPPELLA GROUP

As members of Ethnobeat, we sing songs in different languages while bringing cultural awareness to our audience. Our group has also participated at fundraising events throughout the year. We hope our music can help in promoting diversity and unity among people of different cultural backgrounds.

PERFORMERS Andrés del Campo, Ana Smith, Indy Dorman, Anton Van De Motter, Adriana Alonzo, Alina Kahn, Anthony Garcia, Ella Jacobs, Jennifer Li, Jerry Yuan, Josh Leeman, Josie Danckaert, Lauren Eng, Sebastian Gutierrez, Tyler Young, William Avis.
IN ENGLISH

May peace be widespread,
may the sea glisten like greenstone,
and may the shimmer of light guide you
May peace be widespread,
Be widespread
Now and forever more.
Said of human life.
The sun rises to the zenith,
then declines.
Pull out the centre,
Pull out the centre of the flax plant,
Where will the bellbird sing?
I ask myself
What is the greatest thing in the world?
My answer is,
(All) the people, the people, the people!
The first breath we take.
Bind the entire flesh of our group and
bring it into force like the axe.
Gather, gather and go forward!

IN MAORI

Kia hora te marino
Kia whakapapa pounamu te moana
Kia tere te ārohirohi
Kia hora te marino
Te marino ara
Mō āke tonu ake
Unuhia te rito te harakeke
Kei hea te kōmako e kō?
Ki mai ki ahau
He aha te mea nui o te Ao?
Māku e kī, he tangata!
Tihei mauri ora
A whiti whano! Haramai te toki!
Haumi ē! Hui ē! Tāiki ē!
Kia hora te marino
Kia whakapapa pounamu te moana
Kia tere te ārohirohi
Kia hora te marino
Te marino ara
Mō āke tonu ake
Mō āke tonu ake

SONGWRITERS
Jerome Kavanagh / Ben Mullon / Christopher Chiyan Tin
Kia hora te marino lyrics © Tin Works Publishing, Tin Works Publishing LLC

ALBUM Calling All Dawns
LYRICS SOURCE Musixmatch
SPECIAL THANKS TO
Anny Lai, Ellen Feng, Wei Gan, Clarissa Qu, Xin Ren, Tessa Rodrigues, Louisa Sorkness, Bernadette Yu, Pattie Yu

EU YAN SANG

The first shop was opened in 1879 in Perak, Malaysia, with herbal remedies for the tin miners’ health. By the early 1910s, Eu Tong Sen expanded the family’s Traditional Chinese Medicine business to other parts of Malaya, Singapore, Hong Kong and Southern China with the brand name Eu Yan Sang. “Yan Sang” means caring for mankind. Eu Yan Sang has provided special bird’s nest soup drinks in some gift bags for tasting!

Eu Yan Sang has a distribution network of more than 230 retail outlets in Asia, and its health and wellness products are available in the US online at EuYanSang.com

TIGER ORCHIDS are from Caruso Florist in Washington, DC.
The Chinese American Museum in Washington, DC (CAMDC) is a bold undertaking, currently underway, to advance the understanding, knowledge, and appreciation of the Chinese American experience.

CAMDC highlights the history, culture, spirit, and contributions of Chinese Americans to our nation and beyond. We’re making the Chinese American story accessible to the nearly 22 million annual visitors to Washington, DC and audiences around the world. This is a museum for everyone.

Celebrate the past, present, and future. Help us showcase the Chinese American heroes, artists, innovators, and experts that will inspire people from all different backgrounds.

We are so pleased that you are part of our museum family.

Thank you for your support!

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