STRONGER
TOGETHER
UNITY IN DIVERSITY

Annual Dinner 2020
February 26, 2020

Cipriani Wall Street
55 Wall Street
New York, NY
Presidents of AABANY

1991
Serene K. Nakano

1992-93
Denny Chin

1994-96
Sylvia Fung Chin

1996-97
Ben Q. Limb

1997-98
Glenn Lau-Kee

1999
John Flock

2000
Paul D.Q. Nguyen

2001
Alec Y. Chang

2002
David Hom

2003
Christopher W. Chan

2004
Andrew T. Hahn

2005
Pui Chi Cheng

2006
Lai Sun Yee

2007
Vincent T. Chang

2008
Yang Chen

2009
James P. Chou

2010
Robert W. Leung

2011
Linda S. Lin

2012
Jean Lee

2013
Mike F. Huang

2014
Clara J. Ohr

2015
William Wang

2016
Susan L. Shin

2017
Dwight Yoo

2018
James R. Cho

2019
Brian W. Song

2020
Sapna W. Palla
Annual Dinner 2020

CIPRIANI · 55 Wall Street · February 26, 2020

6 PM
Cocktail Reception in the West Ballroom
VIP Cocktail Reception in the Mezzanine

7 PM
Dinner and Awards Program

9 PM
After Party

Honorees

Corporate Leadership Award

Alan K.Tse
Chief Legal Officer & Corporate Secretary
JLL, Inc.

Women’s Leadership Award

Yen Chu
Chief Legal Officer
Equinox Holdings, Inc.

Public Service Leadership Award

Hon. Sri Srinivasan
Chief Judge, United States Court of Appeals
D.C. Circuit
Program

Cocktail Reception in the West Ballroom

VIP Cocktail Reception in the Mezzanine

Welcome
Vivian Lee and James Cho

Outgoing President's Speech
Brian W. Song

Law Firm Diversity Award
Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP

Corporate Leadership Award
Alan K. Tse
Global Chief Legal Officer & Corporate Secretary, JLL, Inc.

Women’s Leadership Award
Yen Chu
Chief Legal Officer, Equinox Holdings, Inc.

Award Presentation to the
AABANY Pro Bono Committee from the
New York State Bar Association

Public Service Leadership Award
Hon. Sri Srinivasan
Chief Judge, United States Court of Appeals
D.C. Circuit

Don H. Liu Scholars Program Awards

Incoming President’s Closing Remarks
Sapna W. Palla

After-party in the Mezzanine
History

In 1988, the New York State Judicial Commission on Minorities, headed by noted African American attorney Franklin Hall Williams, examined the treatment of minority litigants and court employees. Following hearings in New York City on June 29th and 30th of that year, Rockwell Chin approached Commissioner Serene K. Nakano to discuss the need for an organization for Asian American attorneys. While Chinese and Korean American lawyer associations existed, there had never been an association of Asian American lawyers in New York.

Further impetus came when the National Asian American Bar Association (later called NAPABA) Planning Committee invited various attorneys in New York City to Chicago in October 1988. A core group, including Rockwell Chin, Glenn Ikeda, Yat T. Man, Steve Min and Serene K. Nakano, worked to found a formal association of Asian American lawyers: drafting organizational documents, reaching out to New York and nationwide bar groups, and contacting other Asian American attorneys.

Announcing AABANY’s incorporation on October 20, 1989, the group invited attorneys to an inaugural reception at New York University Law School on November 9, 1989. Among the speakers were Judge Dorothy Chin Brandt, Judge Randall T. Eng, Judge Peter Tom, past president of the American Immigration Law Association Benjamin Gim, Professor Sharon Hom, AALDEF Program Director Stanley Mark, and former NYPD Deputy Commissioner Hugh Mo. All of the speakers emphasized the unfulfilled need for AABANY. The reception was a resounding success, with over 180 attorneys and law students attending. Before the meeting concluded, over 60 people had joined AABANY.

AABANY, operating under an interim board during its first year, hosted further receptions, including evening social events, as well as a meeting at Brooklyn Law School at which Hoyt Zia, then the first President of NAPABA, spoke. Newly formed committees also sprang into action. The Issues Committee, co-chaired by Rockwell Chin and Marilyn Go, began research on redistricting, assisted lobbying for bias crimes legislation and spoke out against bias incidents. The Business Law Committee, co-chaired by Ken Chin and Marilyn Go, established a speaker series of prominent Asian American attorneys. The Events Committee hosted a fall picnic. Prompted by concerns raised by law students at the picnic, Chin Fong and James Minamoto established a student mentor program, presenting a job skills workshop to help law students hone interviewing skills.

On January 12, 1991, AABANY held its first annual meeting, electing Serene Nakano, Doris Ling-Cohan, Steve Min, Glenn Ikeda and Marilyn Go as officers and Rockwell Chin, Sylvia Fung Chin, Merlin Liu, Stanley Mark, Qazi Moid and Judge Peter Tom as directors.

Now one of the most prominent and active minority bar associations in New York, AABANY has well over 1,200 active members, including practicing attorneys in the private and public sectors, in-house lawyers, judges, professors and law students.
Dear AABANY Members, Friends, and Supporters,

Welcome to AABANY’s 31th Anniversary Annual Dinner. As Chair of the 2020 Annual Dinner Planning Committee, I want to thank each one of you for your attendance at the Dinner and for your continued support for AABANY. I also want to congratulate our three outstanding honorees — the Hon. Sri Srinivasan, Yen Chu and Alan Tse — for their lasting impact on increasing diversity within the legal profession and for gracing us with their presence and incredible stories.

I could not be more proud of AABANY as I take on the role of President in April 2020. Since it’s inaugural reception at New York University Law school on November 9, 1989, AABANY has grown into one of the largest and most dynamic minority bar associations in the United States with over 1200 members and 33 committees.

In keeping with our theme Stronger Together: Unity in Diversity, I am looking forward to working with you in the coming year to continue to advance the interests of Asian Americans in the legal profession and help give back to those in need in the Asian American community. Our Pro Bono Legal Advice and Referral Clinic has continued to expand and grow and serve the Asian American community in invaluable ways. I am incredibly proud that the New York State Bar Association’s Committee for Bar Leaders of New York State is presenting AABANY tonight with the 2019 Bar Leaders Innovation Award for our Pro Bono Clinic. Our AABANY Leadership Development Program, which is designed to address the disproportionate underrepresentation of APAs in law firm partnerships and senior in-house positions, with a cohort of ten law firm associates and five in-house counsel has great potential to grow APA leaders in our legal community. And our Annual Fall Conference which last year drew a record-setting 450 attendees continues to provide educational and networking opportunities to our membership.

As I look ahead to serving AABANY in 2020, I am confident that all of you who together have and continue to dedicate your time, energy and talent to this great organization will help lead us towards a path of greater success and innovation to fulfill the mission of AABANY to improve the study and practice of law and ensure the fair administration of justice for all by ensuring the meaningful participation of APAs in the legal profession.

Last, but not least, I would also like to congratulate Brian Song for his service, dedication and incredible leadership as AABANY President this past year and to Yang Chen our Executive Director, our staff, Board Members and Officers, committee chairs, members and volunteers for all of their contributions.

Sincerely,

Sapna W. Palla
President-Elect
Dear AABANY Members, Friends, and Supporters:

Welcome and thank you for joining us for our 31st Annual Dinner. It has been my honor to have served as AABANY President this past year. Leading one of the largest and most dynamic minority bar associations in the nation, with over 1200 active members, has been one of the most challenging and gratifying professional experiences of my life.

This year, we celebrated several significant milestones and awards. AABANY drew a record-setting 450 attendees at its Tenth Annual Fall Conference which doubled as the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA) Northeast Regional Conference. We commemorated our 30th birthday at the NAPABA Convention in Austin by receiving NAPABA’s Affiliate of the Year Award. Our Trial Re-enactment team brought the house down with their performance of “Fred Korematsu and His Fight for Justice,” reenacting Korematsu v. United States at the NAPABA Convention. We launched the second year of the AABANY Leadership Development Program, which is designed to address the disproportionate underrepresentation of APAs in law firm partnerships and senior in-house positions, with a cohort of ten law firm associates and five in-house counsel. I am also incredibly proud that the New York State Bar Association’s Committee for Bar Leaders of New York State is presenting AABANY tonight with the 2019 Bar Leaders Innovation Award for our Pro Bono Legal Advice and Referral Clinic.

However, AABANY is more than thought-provoking programs, CLES, panels and presentations. I continue to be amazed by the dedicated individuals who volunteer their time and talent to this great organization. I would like to thank our Executive Director, staff, Board Members and Officers, committee chairs, and members for all of their contributions this past year. I look forward to seeing how AABANY continues to grow and effect change on behalf of Asian Americans throughout the legal profession under the leadership of incoming President Sapna Palla.

Last, but certainly not least, I congratulate our three outstanding honorees — Yen Chu, Alan Tse, and the Hon. Sri Srinivasan — for the outstanding achievements and contributions they have made to increasing diversity within the legal industry.

We are truly Stronger Together.

Sincerely,

Brian W. Song
Dear Friends,

Welcome to the 2020 Annual Dinner, marking the 31st anniversary of AABANY’s founding. As we look forward to a New Year and New Decade, I would like to take a quick moment to reflect and express gratitude.

At last September’s Fall Conference, which also served as the NAPABA Northeast Regional, AABANY celebrated its 10th annual Fall Conference. At the start of the Plenary Lunch Session, I was pleasantly surprised by a tribute video that acknowledged my 10th anniversary as AABANY’s Executive Director. I was immensely moved by the honor, and even now, several months later, I think back on that time with deep humility and appreciation.

I will admit that when my actual anniversary date of August 1 came and went unnoticed last year, I assumed that no one remembered, shrugged it off and moved on. When I was surprised at the Fall Conference a month later with a video and an award, I realized that my milestone had not been forgotten, and I was bowled over by the extraordinary effort that went into marking the occasion. Thank you to all the Presidents, Board members and everyone else who took part in the award presentation. Thanks also to everyone who was present at the Fall Conference to share in the moment. Please know that I truly appreciate it, and I will forever cherish the honor.

Another highlight of last year was being able to celebrate AABANY’s 30th birthday in Austin, Texas, at the NAPABA Convention last November, with a special birthday party attended by numerous AABANY members and friends. I have to give a special shout-out to Beatrice Leong for creating the cardboard cutout of me that allowed me to join everyone at the Gala Dinner on Saturday night to celebrate AABANY being named NAPABA’s Affiliate of the Year, even though a scheduling conflict prevented me from being there in person. I actually think “Cardboard YC” was more popular than my actual real-life self!

In many ways, 2019 proved to be a banner year for me and my time thus far with AABANY. Thanks to Brian Song for his stellar leadership from 2019 to the present, keeping us United in Action and Vision, as we head into 2020. I look forward to working with our incoming President Sapna Palla to grow Stronger Together by achieving Unity in Diversity. I hope that I continue to earn the support and trust of our Board Members, Committee Chairs and community, in the years to come.

Very truly yours,

Yang Chen
Executive Director
Vivian Lee
Master of Ceremonies

Vivian Lee is an Emmy-nominated anchor, reporter and host for Spectrum News NY1. Since joining NY1 in 2008, she has reported on local and national headlines, including an administrative judge’s recommendation of termination for NYPD Officer Daniel Pantaleo this summer. Vivian has also anchored NY1’s team coverage on numerous stories, including Pope Francis’ historic visit to the US in 2015 and Osama Bin Laden’s assassination in 2011. In March 2013, she was the first in the New York market to report the election of Pope Francis from Vatican City. Months before that, she reported on the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy from the Rockaways in Queens, and the Financial District.

Vivian’s career in New York started at WNBC in 2002, where she was a general assignment reporter until 2008 -- but she first began reporting as a college sophomore at CJOH TV in Ottawa, Canada. She graduated with honors from Carleton University’s prestigious journalism program, and after stints as a reporter in Halifax and anchor in Calgary, she became CityTV Toronto’s Parliamentary Correspondent.

This year, Vivian received the Lifetime Engagement Award from the Korean American Family Service Center in New York. Vivian was also nominated this year for an Emmy for her profile of artist David Hockney for NY1’s “Spotlight NY.”

She lives in New York with her husband and two daughters. She’s served on the board of KoreanAmericanStory.org since 2016.
Alan K. Tse is the Global Chief Legal Officer and Corporate Secretary of Jones Lang LaSalle, Inc (NYSE: JLL), the Fortune 200 Real Estate Services Company with 92,000 employees worldwide. Mr. Tse leads a team of 300 plus legal and compliance professionals worldwide and is a member of the global leadership team. In addition to his Legal and Compliance responsibilities, Internal Audit and Insurance reports into Mr. Tse. Prior to JLL, Mr. Tse was the Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary of Petco, the pet specialty retailer with over 1500 stores in the United States and Mexico where he led all legal, compliance and regulatory affairs matters for the Company as well as managed the procurement, risk and internal audit functions. Prior to Petco, Mr. Tse was the Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary of Churchill Downs, Inc. Mr. Tse was formerly Vice President and General Counsel of LG Electronics MobileComm U.S.A., Inc. where Mr. Tse was responsible for all legal and regulatory matters for LG’s $5 Billion mobile phone business in North America and sat on the company’s senior management committee. Prior to joining LG, Mr. Tse was the Vice President and General Counsel of Ligos Corporation, a venture capital backed software company based in Silicon Valley and prior to Ligos, Mr. Tse was the Vice President of Strategic Development and General Counsel of Centerpoint Broadband Technologies, Inc., a Silicon Valley telecommunication equipment company.

Mr. Tse started his career as a business and technology attorney at Brobeck Phleger and Harrison LLP in their Silicon Valley office representing technology companies and venture capitalists. Mr. Tse served on the Board of Directors of the Association of Corporate Counsel from 2013-2019 and served as Board Secretary and chaired the Membership Committee and Advocacy Committee during his tenure. Mr. Tse is the co-founder and serves on the Board of the Asian American Legal Foundation and was named one of the best lawyers under 40 by the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association in 2005. Mr. Tse holds a B.A. in Economics and Political Science from the University of California at Berkeley where he earned Phi Beta Kappa honors and graduated cum laude from Harvard Law School.
Yen D. Chu currently serves as Chief Legal Officer of Equinox Holdings, Inc., a global integrated fitness, wellness, and hospitality company, with a portfolio of brands/business interests in Equinox, Equinox Hotels, SoulCycle, Blink Fitness, PURE Yoga, Furthermore (a digital lifestyle magazine), and Equinox Media. She leads the Equinox legal department, with responsibilities in the areas of corporate structure, financial/commercial transactions, intellectual property portfolio, dispute resolutions/litigation, employment/labor policies and training, privacy/data protection matters, digital/technology transactions, and marketing/sponsorship initiatives. During her tenure at Equinox, Ms. Chu has led business innovation and growth with the launch of new ventures and businesses, including Equinox Hotels (opened in Hudson Yards NYC in 2019, with subsequent hotels to open in major metropolitan areas), Equinox Media (a newly announced multi-brand digital wellness platform), and Equinox Explore (a travel/retraites wellness venture).

Prior to joining Equinox, Ms. Chu spent over a decade as a key member of the senior leadership team and advisor to the Board of Directors of Ralph Lauren Corporation, a fortune 500 global company specializing in apparel, home, accessories, and fragrance products. Ms. Chu spent almost a decade as a corporate attorney at the law firm of Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP where she structured, negotiated, and executed complex transactions for private equity firms, investment banks, and public and private companies in a variety of sectors including entertainment/media, reinsurance, and healthcare.

She is a champion of diversity and inclusion, dedicating her time and voice to multiple organizations that focus on advancing and empowering women, people of color, first generation students, and other underrepresented groups, particularly in the legal profession. Ms. Chu is a graduate of Columbia Law School where she served as Editor-in-Chief of the Columbia Journal of Transnational Law and was the national Justice Harry A. Blackmun Scholar. She is currently a Board member of the Columbia Law School Association. She earned her undergraduate degree, summa cum laude in International Relations at the University of Minnesota.
Chief Judge Srinivasan was appointed to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit in May 2013 and became Chief Judge on February 12, 2020. Born in Chandigarh, India and raised in Lawrence, Kansas, he received a B.A. from Stanford University, a J.D. from Stanford Law School, and an M.B.A. from the Stanford Graduate School of Business. Following graduation, he served as a law clerk to Judge J. Harvie Wilkinson III of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit, as a Bristow Fellow in the Office of the U.S. Solicitor General, and as a law clerk to U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O’Connor. In 1998, he joined the law firm O’Melveny & Myers. From 2002 to 2007, he served as an Assistant to the Solicitor General. In 2007, he returned to O’Melveny & Myers as a partner, later becoming chair of the firm’s appellate and Supreme Court practice. From 2011 until his appointment to the U.S. Court of Appeals, Chief Judge Srinivasan served as the Principal Deputy Solicitor General of the United States. He has argued 25 cases before the U.S. Supreme Court. He has also taught appellate advocacy at Harvard Law School as well as a seminar on civil rights statutes and the Supreme Court at Georgetown University Law Center.
Don H. Liu Scholars Program

Founded in 2014 by two past presidents of the Asian American Bar Association of New York (“AABANY”), the Don H. Liu Scholars Program, Inc. (“Program”) seeks to identify, cultivate and inspire future Asian American leaders within the legal profession in order to address the single most important reality facing Asian American professionals today – the barrier to advancement.

Asian Americans remain grossly underrepresented in positions of influence, leadership and power within the legal profession. The number of Asian American partners in law firms and general counsel in our largest corporations do not reflect the diversity found in today’s law school classes or the ranks of junior associates at law firms. It is the mission of the Program to increase these numbers. In its inaugural year, the Program awarded a $15,000 scholarship (“Scholarship”) to each of its first two Don H. Liu Scholars (“Scholars”) and provided mentorship to ensure that each Scholar would start her career at a prominent law firm. Each year since then, the Selection Committee chose three Scholars who possess the greatest potential to both excel in the classroom and succeed at a top law firm or Fortune 500 corporation. To date, the Program is proud to have awarded the Scholarship to 17 Scholars.

To qualify, each new Scholar must be enrolled full-time as a first year law student in a J.D. program at an ABA-accredited and approved law school in the U.S., demonstrate financial need and intend to practice in the New York City metropolitan area private sector following graduation. FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROGRAM, PLEASE VISIT http://www.donhliuscholars.org

AABANY 2020 Law Firm Diversity Award

AABANY is honored to present its 2020 Law Firm Diversity Award to Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP.

This award recognizes Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP’s outstanding commitment to diversity and inclusion, including the recruitment, retention, and advancement of women, minorities, and LGBT attorneys and its active partnerships with minority bar associations like AABANY. Please join us in congratulating Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP as the recipient of the 2020 AABANY Law Firm Diversity Award.

Starting in 2014, AABANY has sought to recognize one law firm each year for its extraordinary efforts to improve diversity and inclusion in our profession by presenting the AABANY Law Firm Diversity Award.

Firms were rated on four main criteria: 1. Demonstrated commitment to diversity as evidenced by a formal diversity plan committed to retention and promotion of women and minorities; 2. An established diversity pipeline of talent; 3. External activities, such as active participation in minority bar associations like AABANY and the diversity programs of mainstream bar associations; 4. The furtherance of AABANY’s mission, which includes the active and affirmative recruitment, retention, promotion, and development of APA lawyers in New York City.
The Asian American Bar Association of New York (“AABANY”) is proud to announce that it has been honored for the third time with the New York State Bar Association Bar Leaders Innovation Award for the Pro Bono Legal Advice and Referral Clinic. AABANY received its honor in the category of medium-sized bar associations (500-1,999 members).

The award will be presented by the New York State Bar Association (“NYSBA”), at AABANY’s Annual Dinner, taking place on February 26, at Cipriani Wall Street. According to NYSBA, “the award is presented in statewide recognition of local, minority, ethnic, specialty, special purpose bar associations... for outstanding service to the public and the profession through innovative projects and programs that serve to enhance public understanding of the law, advance and promote the work of the legal profession, and support the best interests of the public.” AABANY is pleased to announce that NYSBA President Hank Greenberg will be presenting the award at AABANY’s Annual Dinner.

AABANY’s Pro Bono Legal Advice and Referral Clinic is a joint project with AABANY’s 501(c)(3) affiliate, the Asian American Law Fund of New York (“AALFNY”). The Clinic is a volunteer-driven project serving members of the Asian Pacific American community who have limited English proficiency (“LEP”) to provide them with meaningful access to justice. Operated since December 2015 by AABANY’s Pro Bono and Community Service Committee, the Clinic has continued to grow in its operations, visibility, and, most importantly, its impact on the local Asian Pacific American communities and the legal profession in New York.

The Clinic currently operates every second Wednesday of the month in Manhattan’s Chinatown neighborhood and the last Thursday of every other month in the Brooklyn neighborhood of Bay Ridge. A team of volunteer attorneys, a mental health/benefits counselor, law students, and translators provide free, private one-on-one consultations on a walk-in basis in thirteen different languages to individuals who are primarily LEP and low-income. Mobilizing the skills, experience, and cultural competency of AABANY’s diverse and talented membership, the Clinic has helped nearly 2,000 LEP individuals in the large yet under-served communities of both East Asian and South Asian communities in New York since its inauguration.
Thank You to our Diamond Sponsor
Broadridge is proud to sponsor the 2020 AABANY Annual Dinner

We congratulate the honorees Yen Chu, Chief Legal Officer, Equinox Holdings, Inc., Hon. Sri Srinivasan, United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia, and Alan Tse, Global Chief Legal Officer, JLL, Inc.

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Our commitment to the community

We are proud to support the **Asian American Bar Association of New York** and our dedicated lawyers:

**Brian Song**, Outgoing AABANY President
**Tiffany Miao**, Vice President of Programs and Operations
**David Choi**, Litigation Committee Co-Chair
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We congratulate the 2020 Honorees:
**Yen Chu**, Chief Legal Officer, Equinox Holdings, Inc.
**Hon. Sri Srinivasan**, United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia
**Alan Tse**, Global Chief Legal Officer, JLL, Inc.

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Skadden is honored to receive the Law Firm Diversity Award from the Asian American Bar Association of New York.

We congratulate the rest of tonight’s honorees.
We are Proud to Support the
Asian American Bar Association of New York
and congratulate this year’s honorees

Yen Chu
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and

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**Hon. Sri Srinivasan**
United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia

**Yen Chu**
Chief Legal Officer
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**Alan Tse**
Global Chief Legal Officer
JLL, Inc.

We applaud the important mission of the Asian American Bar Association of New York.
Thank You to our Gold Sponsors
To all you forward thinkers, thanks for striving to make things better.

Charter is proud to support the Asian American Bar Association of New York.

Congratulations

We are pleased to support the Asian American Bar Association of New York and the 2020 AABANY Annual Dinner.

Congratulations to tonight’s honorees.
Davis Polk is proud to support the Asian American Bar Association of New York and joins in special recognition of Yen Chu, Hon. Sri Srinivasan and Alan Tse.

Debevoise is pleased to support the Asian American Bar Association of New York.

We join in honoring Hon. Sri Srinivasan, Yen Chu and Alan Tse.
Dentons is proud to sponsor the AABANY's 2020 Annual Dinner.

Congratulations to all of this year’s honorees.

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Mayer Brown is proud to support the Asian American Bar Association of New York and its mission to ensure the fair administration of justice. Congratulations to our friend Yen Chu, chief legal officer of Equinox Holdings, and all of tonight’s honorees.

Paul Weiss

We are proud to support the Asian American Bar Association of New York Annual Dinner
Schulte Roth & Zabel proudly supports AABANY’s 2020 Annual Dinner

Congratulations to the honorees

Yen Chu
Chief Legal Officer, Equinox Holdings, Inc.

Hon. Sri Srinivasan
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Alan Tse
Global Chief Legal Officer, JLL, Inc.
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Yen Chu, Hon. Sri Srinivasan and Alan Tse

We proudly support the

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We are proud to support the Asian American Bar Association of New York and congratulate this year's honorees:

- Yen Chu, Equinox Holdings, Inc.
- Hon. Sri Srinivasan, USCOA, D.C.
- Alan Tse, JLL, Inc.
Recognition of the members of the AABANY Annual Dinner Planning Committee

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Margaret Ling
Brian Song
Michael Wu

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Christopher Bae
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Thank you to all of our 2020 Annual Dinner Volunteers.

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The Asian American Law Fund of New York, Inc. (“AALFNY” or the “Fund”) was established by the Asian American Bar Association of New York (“AABANY”) in 1993 to support non-profit, charitable and education purposes within Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Code”). Though it has an independent Board, the Fund (formerly known as The AABANY Foundation, Inc.) remains affiliated with AABANY and continues to work in close coordination with AABANY.
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We thank all our volunteers who generously gave their time, energy, talents, knowledge, experience, insights and compassion to assist members of the Asian American, Pacific Islander and South Asian community, many of whom have limited resources and limited English proficiency, with their legal issues at our Pro Bono Clinics in Manhattan and Brooklyn during the past year, 2019-2020.

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NYSBA President Announces Massive Effort to Reach Out to World Bar Associations

By Joan Fucillo

Over the next five months, New York State Bar Association President Hank Greenberg will reach out to every major bar association around the world.

“Our goal is to make connections and to enter into memoranda of understanding (MOU) with as many international bar associations as possible,” said Greenberg.

“This is the future of our association,” he added. “There are 300,000 attorneys admitted to practice in New York. And 180,000 of them live and work outside of New York.” Simply put, he noted, NYSBA needs to meet its members where they live.

Greenberg made the announcement at a luncheon meeting of NYSBA’s International Section, part of the association’s Annual Meeting Jan. 27-31 in New York City.

An MOU memorializes the parties’ intent to cooperate in areas of mutual benefit. It is an agreement to work to develop and strengthen relationships and to find areas for collaboration.

“Each MOU formally establishes our relationships with our international partners and allows us to work together with them to increase membership, provide resources to members of both organizations,” Greenberg added. “Most important, it increases opportunities to provide support for the rule of law.”

NYSBA’s International Section currently has MOUs with seven international bar associations. At a recent meeting in Seoul NYSBA representatives made connections with leaders of the Seoul Bar Association, Korea’s largest. Later that fall, when the International Section held its global conference in Tokyo, Greenberg met with leaders of Tokyo’s major bar associations and its biggest law firms.

Greenberg and Seoul Bar Association President JongWoo Park will sign a memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the two organizations on Wednesday, Jan. 29.

On Thursday Greenberg and Kotaro Yamamoto, chairperson of the International Exchange Committee of the Dai-Ichi Tokyo Bar Association (DTBA), will sign an MOU between the two organizations.

“This effort is critical to the association from a membership perspective, because one of our greatest opportunities for growth is international,” said Greenberg. “It also is critical that we lawyers everywhere communicate and collaborate to fulfill our obligation to advance the rule of law around the world.”

NYSBA’s International Section includes 65 chapters and members from more than 100 countries.
AAABANY thanks all of our sponsors for supporting the association’s mission, programs and activities during the year ahead.

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