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**Embracing Wellness and Well-Being**
Strengthening the Legal Profession by Investing in Ourselves

## Annual Dinner 2023

**May 23, 2023**

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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 Lin
2012: Jean Lee
2013: Mike Huang
2014: Clara Ohr
2015: William Wang
2016: Susan Shin
2017: Dwight Yoo
2018: James R. Cho
2019: Brian Song
2020: Sapna Palla
2021: Terrence Shen
2022: William H. Ng
2023: Karen Kim
ANNUAL DINNER 2023

Cipriani Wall Street – 55 Wall Street  |  May 23, 2023

5:30 PM – 7:00 PM
Pre-Dinner General Counsel Reception *(Mezzanine)*
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KIRKLAND & ELLIS

6:00 PM – 7:00 PM
General Reception *(West Ballroom)*

7:00 PM – 10:00 PM
Dinner and Program

10:00 PM – Midnight
After-Party *(Mezzanine)*
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HONOREES

**Corporate Leadership Award**

Michael C. Wu
Chief Legal Officer
Bath & Body Works, Inc.

**Women’s Leadership Award**

Prisca Bae
Chief Partnerships Officer
The Asian American Foundation

**Impact Leadership Award**

Charles Ellis Schumer
U.S. Senator for New York
# PROGRAM

**Welcome**
Kate Siahaan-Rigg
Master of Ceremonies

**Immediate Past President’s Opening Remarks**
William H. Ng

**Law Firm Diversity Award**
Debevoise & Plimpton

**Corporate Leadership Award**
Michael C. Wu
Chief Legal Officer, Bath & Body Works, Inc.

**Women’s Leadership Award**
Prisca Bae
Chief Partnerships Officer, The Asian American Foundation

**Impact Leadership Award**
Charles Ellis Schumer
U.S. Senator for New York

**Anti-Asian Violence Task Force**

**Don H. Liu Scholars Program Awards**

**President’s Remarks**
Karen Kim

**President-Elect’s Closing Remarks**
Joseph Eng, Jr.

**After-Party in the Mezzanine**

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HISTORY

WHO WE ARE

Founded in 1989, the Asian American Bar Association of New York (AABANY) is among the largest diverse bar associations in the country. AABANY is dedicated to Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) attorneys and legal professionals in New York as well as the communities they serve. With approximately 1,700 members (based on paid memberships), AABANY is a nationally recognized leader among diverse bar associations.

Now in its fourth decade, AABANY is a full service, professionally managed diverse bar association. AABANY has maintained an active calendar of approximately 14 events each month organized by numerous committees. Its pipeline programs have seen a substantial number of participants promoted to partnership by prominent law firms. In the present economic and political climate, AABANY has increased its efforts on racial justice and judicial diversity issues, and continues to serve the legal profession and its communities via remote and in-person operations.

Asian American Bar Association of New York
Karen Kim
President

Dear AABANY Members and Friends,

Welcome to AABANY’s 34th Anniversary Annual Dinner, held for the first time during Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage Month! Thank you to our generous supporters and members for your contributions and support, helping AABANY continue to grow and have a greater impact on both the AAPI legal community and the general community.

As Chair of the Annual Dinner Planning Committee, I am excited to share that we have exceeded attendance of prior dinners, with around 900 present tonight. Thank you to each of you for taking the time to join us and show your support to AABANY and our honorees. Thank you also to the over 50 General Counsel who are in attendance this evening, for your support and leadership.

Congratulations to our honorees, Senator Charles Schumer, Prisca Bae and Michael Wu. AABANY is honored to recognize each of you, your tremendous career and impact on the AAPI community. Congratulations to Debevoise & Plimpton, AABANY’s Law Firm Diversity Award recipient, in recognition of their innovative initiatives and commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion. Congratulations to Don H. Liu Scholars, Samuel S. Kim, Kristie-Valerie Hoang and Emily Yan, whose success we are excited to see unfold as they advance in their careers.

It is my privilege and honor to serve as AABANY President. During my term, the theme is “Embracing Wellness and Well-Being: Strengthening the Legal Profession by Investing in Ourselves.” With the pandemic, anti-Asian hate, and stress of life and the legal profession, prioritizing mental health and well-being is critical. AABANY will work to help destigmatize mental health, substance use, and personal or professional
challenges and highlight the importance of self-care and well-being. My hope is that we become less apologetic about prioritizing ourselves and recognize the importance of each of our well-being and health, to better serve our clients and communities.

To highlight and raise more awareness and discussion, I am excited to share that AABANY will have a “Mental Health + Well-Being Day” on July 22 at Brooklyn Law School. July is Minority Mental Health Awareness month and I hope you will join us in July and throughout the year, in solidarity to build a supportive network, embracing wellness and well-being in the AAPI legal community and AAPI community.

Finally, congratulations to William Ng for his successful year as AABANY President and steadfast leadership. Personally, I am grateful for his friendship and support, and look forward to continuing to work with him, as he serves as AABANY Immediate Past President. Congratulations to Joseph Eng, Jr., AABANY President-Elect, the 2023 - 2024 Officers, Board and Committee Chairs. I look forward to working with each of you and am grateful for your support. Thank you to Yang Chen, AABANY Executive Director, for his continued service and commitment to AABANY. Thank you to AABANY staff, interns and volunteers and to our community partners, whose time and collaboration are greatly appreciated. Thank you to the Annual Dinner 2023 Planning Committee and volunteers, for helping make tonight another successful dinner.

AABANY is the organization it is today because of the often-unrecognized dedication and service of each of you here tonight. Thank you again for your generous financial support and time. Tonight is a celebration of AABANY, our honorees, as well as each of you here this evening!

Respectfully,

Karen Kim
AABANY President
Dear AABANY Members, Distinguished Guests, Friends, and Supporters:

Welcome to AABANY’s 34th Anniversary Annual Dinner. We are thrilled to host our first Annual Dinner during Asian American and Pacific Islander (“AAPI”) Heritage Month. Please join me in congratulating tonight’s honorees — U.S. Senate Majority Leader Charles Schumer, Michael Wu, and Prisca Bae — for their outstanding accomplishments, commitment to the AAPI community, and sustained efforts to increase diversity within the legal profession.

With approximately 1,700 paid members, AABANY is the largest diverse bar association in the United States. Founded in 1989, AABANY seeks not only to encourage the professional growth of its members but to also advocate for the AAPI community as whole. Today, AABANY is a recognized national leader in the AAPI community with award winning programs and initiatives. AABANY is fortunate to have a committed leadership team including a full-time Executive Director overseeing several staff members, an active Board consisting of 10 Officers and 8 Directors, and more than 60 committee co-chairs for our 30+ committees.

This past year, AABANY successfully returned to host our in-person pre-pandemic signature events and continued to be an advocate and trusted partner within the legal community and the greater AAPI community. AABANY also took significant steps to ensure the organization’s long-term growth and success. A brief recap of this past year’s events is below:

- **Signature Events** – In April 2022, against the backdrop of the COVID-19 pandemic, we hosted more than 800 attendees including New York State Governor Kathy Hochul for our 2022 Annual Dinner. We also returned in-person for our In-House Committee Summer Soiree, Judges Reception, Fall Conference, and Second Annual Founders’ Day Event.

- **Anti-Asian Violence Task Force and Community Events** – In May 2022, AABANY released its second report on anti-Asian hate and violence in New York City. The report, entitled “Endless Tide: The Continuing Struggle to Overcome Anti-Asian Hate in New York,” has received widespread coverage in the media since its release. In the same month, AABANY hosted a private viewing of “Photographic Justice: A Tribute to Corky Lee” at the Sifton Gallery of the
U.S. Courthouse for the Eastern District of New York. Throughout the year, AABANY members continued to volunteer at our monthly pro bono legal clinics hosted by various community partners. AABANY is proud to provide the community with culturally and linguistically competent legal assistance through education and individualized assistance at its pro bono clinics.

- **AABANY Committees and Members** – With a diverse membership consisting of private law firm attorneys, in-house counsel, government sector and public interest attorneys, judges, academia, and law students, AABANY sponsored or co-sponsored more than 12 events per month during the past year and provided its members with opportunities to attend and participate in CLE programs, joint community events, committee networking dinners, and mentorship and professional development panels.

- **Advocacy and Representation** – During the past year, I’m proud of AABANY's continued work and efforts to advocate for equitable representation at law firms, corporations, and the highest level of government, including the judiciary, legislature, and executive branches. AABANY fully recognizes that it must continue to sponsor, mentor, and support our members to become judges, elected officials, law firm partners, general counsel and senior level in-house counsel, high-ranking government attorneys, tenured professors, and recognized leaders in public interest and nonprofit organizations.

- **AABANY’s Future** – After careful strategic planning, AABANY posted positions in early 2023 to hire a Deputy Executive Director and a full-time administrative assistant to support AABANY’s increased programming and initiatives and ensure the organization's continued growth.

Our work this past year would not have been possible without your continued support, generosity and attendance at our programs and events. It has been an honor and privilege to serve as AABANY’s President for the 2022-2023 Year, and I look forward to serving on the Board as Immediate Past President. I am excited to support my longtime friend Karen Kim, AABANY President, who I am confident will continue AABANY’s important work and ensure the organization’s long-term success. Congratulations to Joseph Eng, Jr., AABANY President-Elect, the 2023-2024 Officers, Board and Committee Chairs. Thank you to Yang Chen, AABANY’s Executive Director, for his exemplary leadership, 20 years of service, and relentless commitment to AABANY and the AAPI community.

I look forward to celebrating with each of you tonight and thank you again for your continued support of AABANY.

Respectfully,

**William H. Ng**
Immediate Past President
Yang Chen
Executive Director

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the 34th Anniversary Annual Dinner of the Asian American Bar Association of New York (AABANY). I am especially delighted to celebrate Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage Month with you all, for the first time, at our Annual Dinner. The year 2023 will mark my 14th year as AABANY’s Executive Director. It is also my 20th year as an active member of this great organization.

Looking back on my last two decades with AABANY, from the early years of juggling a demanding antitrust litigation practice with my time as a Board member, Committee Chair, and then as AABANY President, followed by the transition to leading AABANY day-to-day as a full-time paid staff member to the tremendous growth experienced by AABANY over the last few years, I marvel at our progress and development:

• We now have around 1700 paid members, making us the largest affinity bar association in New York City, New York State, and the United States.
• We have more than 30 committees to serve our members and our community.
• We have an award-winning Pro Bono Clinic that, since 2015, has helped hundreds of people year after year from immigrant, low-income and limited English proficient backgrounds with their legal questions. The Pro Bono Clinic is active in Manhattan, Queens, and Brooklyn.
• In the fall of 2020, in the midst of the pandemic, we launched our Legal Referral and Information Service (LRIS). Last fall, after only two years in operation, the American Bar Association presented the LRIS with its Cindy Raisch Award in recognition that the LRIS connects members of the New York AAPI community with appropriate legal counsel, overcoming linguistic and cultural barriers and
increasing the accessibility of legal referral services in the greater New York area for an underserved demographic.

- Over the last three years, AABANY has fought anti-Asian violence and its Anti-Asian Violence Task Force has received wide recognition for its impactful programs and initiatives.

Getting to this point took a lot of hard work from dedicated volunteers who have served AABANY over the last two decades as Board members and Committee Chairs, along with staff and interns working tirelessly with limited resources. We are grateful as well to all our sponsors and community partners over the years for their consistent support of AABANY. Thank you, everyone, for your commitment to AABANY’s mission and the community that we serve.

I applaud President Karen Kim for focusing her year as President on Embracing Wellness and Well-Being. Working to advance the interests of AAPI legal professionals and the AAPI community can be stressful and anxiety-inducing, especially considering that most of the work is done by busy lawyers who donate their time, whether as Board members, Committee Chairs, or volunteers at our Pro Bono Clinic and other community efforts. Therefore, in addition to extending our gratitude to everyone who has helped to make AABANY what it is today, let us also take a moment for ourselves. Let us remember that we can and should seek out help when we need it, and there should be no shame in asking for help. Let us invest in ourselves, so that we can continue to be at our best, for each other and our community.

AABANY’s new fiscal year began on April 1, and I look forward to another momentous year ahead. Thank you for being here tonight, thank you for your membership, and thank you for your continued support of AABANY!

Respectfully,

Yang Chen
Executive Director
Kate Siahaan-Rigg
Master of Ceremonies

Artist Activist Kate Siahaan-Rigg is a New York based Asian American artist and activist. She writes, performs and produces work for television, film, stage and dive bars around the world. She is one of only two winners of the Juilliard Interarts Award given to alumni who crossed disciplines to create work with collaborations across the school's different divisions. Her one-person shows about race and representASIAN have won grants and awards from the Canada Council, the Australia Council, the NEA, the Urban Arts Initiative, the National Performance Network, and many more. She has been invited to perform these solo works twice at the Smithsonian Institute and The Comedy Central Theater. You have seen Kate recurring on NBC's New Amsterdam, FOX's Family Guy, The Dr. Phil Show where she served as a comedy correspondent for 3 seasons, and as a guest star on Law and Order SVU, The Path, Tales of the City, Law and Order, Law and Order Criminal Intent.

As a killer Amerasian MC she has toured with her rock comedy spoken word duo Slanty Eyed Mama all over the world and recorded two hit festival theater/concert hybrids "Happy Lucky Golden Tofu Panda Dragon Good Time Fun Fun Show" and "Zombie Asian Moms." In response to the rise of violence against Asian Americans she has created a new quarterly show called disorientalism at the Public Theater to uplift amplify and connect incredible Asian American Artists. As a producer and writer she has written, hosted and produced shows for the ACLU, The Dolores Huerta Foundation, Beto O'Rourke's campaign, The Asian American Arts Alliance and many more. Kate is the Creative Director of the Over the Rhine International Film Festival in Cincinnati, the nation's premier diversity and disability film festival.

www.katerigg.com
Michael C. Wu
Chief Legal Officer
Bath & Body Works, Inc.

Corporate Leadership Award

Michael Wu is chief legal officer of Bath & Body Works, Inc. (NYSE: BBWI), an international retailer with over 2,000 stores and 90,000 employees worldwide. He joined the company (f/k/a L Brands, Inc.) in 2021 and led the successful spin-off of the Victoria’s Secret business into an independent, public company. Michael is responsible for legal, ethics and compliance, government affairs, regulatory, environment, health and safety and global trade compliance at Bath & Body Works.

Prior to Bath & Body Works, Michael was chief legal officer and corporate secretary of Madewell, where he drove the company's preparation for an IPO and spin-off from J. Crew prior to the company's bankruptcy and restructuring.

Prior to joining Madewell in 2019, Michael was senior vice president, general counsel and secretary of Carter's (NYSE: CR), a leading children's apparel company. Michael joined Carter's in 2014 and was responsible for all legal, government affairs, compliance, internal audit, risk management and corporate social responsibility at Carter's. Michael partnered with the business on key strategic initiatives including establishing a business with Amazon, market entry into China, purchasing Skip Hop, a baby durables company and acquiring Carter's Mexico licensee.

Prior to Carter's, Michael was general counsel of Rosetta Stone, an education technology software company. He joined Rosetta Stone in 2006 and established Rosetta Stone's anti-piracy/anti-fraud enforcement program. Michael oversaw the company's successful IPO on the NYSE, a secondary stock offering (private equity sponsor exit), and four acquisitions. Michael also spearheaded the successful Fourth Circuit reversal of Rosetta Stone v. Google trademark infringement lawsuit, including coordinating 5 amicus briefs and 34 amici supporters and the successful settlement of the case.

Before joining Rosetta Stone, Michael was vice president and general counsel of Teleglobe (Nasdaq: TLGB), an international telecommunications provider. Michael was a key member of the team responsible for restructuring Teleglobe in Chapter 11 bankruptcy proceedings which led to the sale of the core business to Cerberus Capital Management. Michael became general counsel of Teleglobe upon the acquisition by Cerberus and led Teleglobe’s acquisition of ITXC Corp., the listing of Teleglobe on NASDAQ and the sale of Teleglobe to the Tata Group in 2006. Michael also successfully managed internal investigations including violations of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act by employees of ITXC before its acquisition by Teleglobe. He partnered with the board of directors and outside counsel on the successful resolution of issues with the federal government. Michael joined Teleglobe as senior counsel in Reston, Virginia and was promoted to executive director, operations and corporate services responsible for all operational matters in the Asia-Pacific region in Hong Kong.

Prior to Teleglobe, Michael was a senior attorney in the Hong Kong office of Global One, an international JV between Sprint, Deutsche Telekom and France Telecom. He was also associated with Baker Botts LLP in Houston, Texas and a firm in Washington, D.C. that merged into Morgan Lewis.
Prisca Bae joined The Asian American Foundation from the private sector where she designed and launched philanthropic and social impact initiatives centered around communities of color and women.

At PepsiCo, Prisca oversaw the gender diversity and women's strategy for the Global Diversity & Engagement Center of Excellence. She helped develop and launch a $100 million commitment to women and girls and worked with leaders company-wide on gender parity and pay equity issues. She also served as chief of staff to PepsiCo’s Global Public Policy and Government Affairs group. Prior to PepsiCo, Prisca advised companies and nonprofits on strategic women’s initiatives as Vice President at Seneca Women, the advisory firm founded by the former U.S. Ambassador for Global Women’s Issues, Melanne Verveer. Before joining PepsiCo, she served as the inaugural Director of the Women in the World Foundation, a public charity founded out of Tina Brown’s Women in the World Summit at Newsweek & the Daily Beast and managed Goldman Sachs Gives, a billion dollar charitable fund for the partners of Goldman Sachs.

Prisca began her career as an attorney at Latham & Watkins, LLP and received her B.A. from Columbia College, Columbia University and J.D. from the University of California, Berkeley School of Law.

She currently serves on the boards of The Roger Lehecka Double Discovery Center at Columbia University, the Korean American Community Foundation and The Li.st, a community of high impact women in media, business and tech. Prisca was born in South Korea, was raised in Chicago, and is currently based in New York City.
Charles Ellis Schumer
U.S. Senator for New York

**Impact Leadership Award**

U.S. Senator Charles Ellis “Chuck” Schumer has dedicated his career to being a tireless fighter for New York. He visits all 62 counties every year and has delivered countless large and small victories across the state, including delivering $20 billion to rebuild after the 9-11 terror attacks and passing a $63 billion relief package to help New York recover from Superstorm Sandy. From massive snowstorms in Western New York to numerous floods across Upstate, Sen. Schumer has been there to deliver aid and support to New Yorkers in their time of need.

From authoring a permanent tax credit to offset the rising costs of college tuition, protecting Social Security and Medicare to encouraging job-creating infrastructure projects, Senator Schumer has made it a hallmark of his career to protect the middle class and those working to reach it – including finding common sense solutions to national issues.

Chuck was born and raised in Brooklyn, NY, where his dad owned a small exterminating business and his mom was a housewife. He attended public school and graduated from James Madison High School before heading to Harvard University, and then Harvard Law School. Chuck has two daughters, Jessica and Alison, and he still resides in Brooklyn with his wife, Iris Weinshall.

After graduating from Harvard Law School in 1974, Chuck was elected to the New York State Assembly, where he soon made his mark with his trademark vigor and relentless advocacy. In 1980, at 29, Chuck was elected as a congressman from the 9th Congressional District.

Chuck represented the 9th CD in Brooklyn and Queens for eighteen years, where he established his reputation as a consumer advocate and a pioneer in the fight against crime during the days of sky-high crime and murder rates that plagued communities
throughout America. He was the leading sponsor of the Violence Against Women Act, which combats domestic violence and sexual assault, and the Brady Bill, which instituted mandatory background checks for handgun purchases. He championed the Hate Crimes Prevention Act, which organized data on crimes of bigotry and allowed federal authorities to prosecute these crimes. He also sponsored legislation that required banks and credit card companies to provide greater disclosure to consumers.

In 1998, Chuck was elected to the U.S. Senate; he became New York's senior senator when Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan retired in 2000. Chuck kicked off his first Senate term by announcing he would visit each of New York's 62 counties every year, a tradition he continues today to keep in touch with voters from every corner of the state.

Throughout his time in the Senate, Chuck has made improving New York's economy his top priority, bringing affordable air service, like JetBlue, to Upstate New York. He has worked to successfully retain New York jobs that were at risk of leaving and to attract many new firms to New York to create many thousands of family-supporting new jobs. Chuck was the author of legislation that eliminated barriers that delay low-cost generic medications from entering the marketplace and led the charge to make college tuition tax deductible. He also aggressively championed agricultural measures to preserve vital market support programs for New York's dairy farmers and crop growers. In 2013, Chuck worked across the aisle to pass a comprehensive immigration reform package, the Border Security, Economic Opportunity, and Immigration Modernization Act, which passed the Senate with overwhelming bipartisan support.

After New Yorkers re-elected him in 2004, Chuck secured two powerful posts: a seat on the Senate Finance Committee, which oversees the nation's tax, trade, social security and healthcare legislation, and the Chairmanship of the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee (DSCC). Chuck successfully led the DSCC for two consecutive cycles and greatly expanded the number of seats in his conference.

Following the elections of 2006, then-Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV) appointed Chuck to serve as Vice Chair of the Democratic Conference, the number three position on the Democratic Leadership team. In 2016, Chuck was once again re-elected by the people of New York and at the same time, his colleagues elected him to serve as Leader of the Democratic Caucus, the first time a New York Senator has held the position.
AABANY's Anti-Asian Violence Task Force (AAVTF)

AABANY's Anti-Asian Violence Task Force (AAVTF) is composed of individuals from across AABANY. AAVTF has implemented a multi-pronged action plan to provide a holistic approach to turn back the rising tide of hate and violence against the Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) community. AAVTF works closely with AABANY’s 501(c)(3) affiliate, the Asian American Law Fund of New York (AALFNY), through the Turning the Tide (T3) Project.

Advocacy
- **Hate Eradication Active Response Team (HEART):** AABANY assisted approximately 20 individuals to date, ensuring incidents are reported effectively, with follow-up to facilitate action by government authorities.
- **Community Court-Watching:** AAVTF has organized court-watching events to support anti-Asian hate victims and their families to highlight the fact that AAPI New Yorkers are paying close attention to the prosecution of cases involving anti-Asian hate and violence.
- **Working with Law Enforcement:** To help ensure cases of anti-Asian hate and violence are investigated and prosecuted, AAVTF established working relationships and collaborations with New York City District Attorneys’ Offices of every borough, Hate Crimes Unit of the NYPD, Westchester County District Attorney’s Office, and Nassau County District Attorney’s Office.

Research
- **Hate Crimes Legislation:** AAVTF analyzes policy and legislative reforms to address the deficiencies and inadequacies of current laws as they affect AAPI community members who encounter hate crimes and bias incidents.
- **Data Tracking and Mapping:** AAVTF has been tracking incidents of anti-Asian hate in NYC that occurred since 2021 and will be publishing periodic updates.

Education/Communication
- **Asian Americans & the Law Course:** In response to outreach by AAVTF and Judge Denny Chin and Professor Thomas Lee of Fordham Law School’s Center on Asian Americans and the Law, Touro Law School, Rutgers Law-Newark, St. John’s Law, New York Law School, Columbia Law and Cornell Law have offered courses on “Asian Americans & the Law” as part of their curriculum.
- **NYPD Training:** AAVTF designed a training to offer guidance to police officers and detectives on best practices when responding to and investigating anti-Asian crimes. AAVTF is working with the NYPD to pilot these trainings in 2023.
Since 2014, AABANY has selected a law firm to recognize for its commitment to improving diversity, equity and inclusion within the legal profession. Applications are reviewed on four main criteria, which include (1) a formal diversity plan committed to retention and promotion of women and diverse attorneys, (2) an established diversity pipeline of talent, (3) external participation in diversity programs with organizations such as AABANY, and (4) furtherance of AABANY’s mission, which includes the active and affirmative recruitment, retention, promotion and development of Asian American and Pacific Islander (“AAPI”) lawyers in New York.

This year AABANY congratulates Debevoise & Plimpton for its commitment to creating a work environment that values each individual’s contributions to the community and respects the different backgrounds, perspectives and experiences of people at the firm. The firm’s diversity, equity and inclusion (“DEI”) goals include: (1) continually evolving the core DEI mission; (2) investing in diverse talent; (3) diversifying the partnership; (4) promoting allyship and inclusion; and (5) increasing accountability via data and metrics. The firm advanced its mission via targeted programming, quarterly metrics, obtaining Mansfield certification, and weekly DEI Leadership Team meetings.

The success of Debevoise & Plimpton’s DEI efforts is reflected in the high percentage of AAPI female associates and partners at the firm. In fact, about 14% of the New York office’s attorneys are AAPI, of which 67% are women. AABANY has over the years collaborated with Debevoise & Plimpton on various programs to promote diversity, equity and inclusion, and we look forward to future partnerships.
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 $15,000 each to 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 support these emerging Asian American leaders, the Program continues to award each Scholar a financial scholarship of $15,000 as well as to provide mentorship and assistance with their career development, including identifying potential internships.

We congratulate this year’s Don H. Liu Scholars:

- **Samuel S. Kim, PhD**, Columbia Law School
- **Kristie-Valerie Hoang**, Boston College Law School
- **Emily Yan**, New York University School of Law

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROGRAM, APPLICATION PROCESS, ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA AND HOW TO MAKE A DONATION, PLEASE VISIT: www.donhliuscholars.org
AABANY ANNUAL DINNER 2023

AABANY welcomes and thanks the following General Counsel for their support and attendance at its Pre-Dinner General Counsel Reception and 34th Anniversary Annual Dinner.

Yungbi Jang  
General Counsel  
AMOREPACIFIC US, INC.

Rick Chung  
General Counsel & SVP  
Area 15

Austin So  
General Counsel and Head of Sustainability  
Armstrong World Industries

Damien Atkins  
Chief Legal Officer and General Counsel  
Aura

Stephen Kim  
Chief Legal Officer  
Avicanna USA Inc.

Jun Chul Whang  
General Counsel  
Bellevue Capital Management

Jung Choi  
General Counsel and Corporate Secretary  
Boxed

Sandra Leung  
EVP, General Counsel  
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