

## AABANY Quarterly Report: January-March 2018

This quarter, AABANY continued to host a variety of engaging events, panels, and networking opportunities in addition to its signature Annual Dinner at Cipriani Wall Street on February 28th. Such events included a new fundraiser for the Han C. Choi Scholarship, which consisted of building backpacks for kids with cancer, and the continuation of AABANY's trial reenactments, featuring the case *22 Lewd Chinese Women: Chy Lung v. Freeman*. AABANY started off the New Year by officially celebrating Fred T. Korematsu Day in NYC on January 30th, which was the result of AABANY's efforts in testifying before the City Council on a Resolution to officially recognize the day last October. At the Annual Meeting at Dorsey & Whitney on February 13th, AABANY members voted on three new proposals which elected the officers and directors for FY 2018 and passed bylaw revisions. Furthermore, the Committee of the Year, Program of the Year, and Member of the Year Awards were presented at the Annual Meeting of Members.

### Special Events

*January 18, 2018* AABANY hosted an **Exhibit Tour of FOLD - Golden Venture Paper Sculptures** at the Museum of Chinese in America in New York City. Led by curator Andrew Rebatta and co-sponsored by the Government Service & Public Interest, Immigration, and Intellectual Property Committees, the event was an exciting and eye-opening introduction to the paper sculptures created by the Golden Venture detainees, who were detained for four years after their ship, the "Golden Venture," ran ashore in 1993.

*February 10, 2018* AABANY co-sponsored **Columbia APALSA's 7th Annual Conference**, which was held at Columbia Law School. From APA Representation in the Judicial Branch to Private Sector Leadership, the conference featured a wide array of topics relevant to this year's theme of "Inspiring the Future: Celebrating APA Leadership in the Legal Field." AABANY member and trailblazer Kathy Hirata Chin was honored for her efforts and leadership in the APA and legal community with the Hong Yen Chang Award, which was named after the first Chinese immigrant and Asian attorney licensed to practice law in New York.

*February 13, 2018* AABANY held its **Annual Meeting of Members** at Dorsey and Whitney LLP. Members voted on three proposals: the first two would elect the new Board of Directors and Officers for FY 2018, and the last of which amended AABANY's by-laws to increase the number of the Board Directors from thirteen (13) to nineteen (19), in order to provide for greater operational flexibility for AABANY. All three proposals passed and a new officers and directors were elected. After elections, the Committee of the Year, Program of the Year, and Member of the Year Awards were presented to the Immigration Law Committee, the Pro Bono Clinic, and Samuel Lui, respectively. For photos and more details, see our blog at <http://blog.aabany.org/post/171092190137/aabany-held-its-annual-meeting-of-members-at>

*February 28, 2018* AABANY hosted its **Annual Dinner** at Cipriani Wall Street, drawing more than 700 attorneys, judges, supporters and other business and community leaders. It is one of the signature events of the Asian Pacific American legal community, and the theme for 2018 was Serving Our Community, Advancing Our Profession. AABANY honored the following individuals at the event: Alphonso David, Counsel to the Governor, State of New York, Public Service Award; Kathy Hirata Chin, Senior Counsel, Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft LLP, Women's Leadership Award; Mark Steffensen, SEVP & General Counsel, HSBC North America Holdings Inc., Corporate Leadership Award; and Hon. Goodwin Liu, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of California, Impact Award.

*March 14, 2018* AABANY co-sponsored with the Federal Bar Association and the Fordham Law School APALSA a **trial reenactment of 22 Lewd Chinese Women: Chy Lung v. Freeman** in the Moot Court Room at Fordham Law School. The case recounted the legal battles of 22 Chinese women traveling alone to San Francisco in the 1870s who were detained and refused admission because they were deemed to be prostitutes. The case went all the way up to the United States Supreme Court and set precedent on principles of federalism and immigration that remain pertinent to the immigration debate today.

*March 22, 2018* At Ichi Cellar, AABANY hosted its first ever **Build a Backpack for Kids with Cancer**, a special fundraiser where attendees stuffed backpacks with toys, arts & craft supplies, and other goodies for children with cancer. AABANY, KALAGNY, and CAPABA supplied the

bags and the goodies, and attendees helped to assemble and decorate the bags. The bags were delivered to NYU Langone Medical Center. All proceeds from the event went to benefit the Han C. Choi Scholarship Fund.

### Panels and CLEs

*January 24, 2018* AABANY members joined lawyers specializing in eDiscovery and Investigations for a dynamic discussion regarding the challenges of setting up investigations, discovery, and document review in China at a panel entitled **Investigation & Litigation in China - eDiscovery Challenges**.

*February 12, 2018* AABANY co-sponsored a **Trial Reenactment of Constance Baker Motley, James Meredith, and Mississippi U.** with the Metropolitan Black Bar Association. In 1961, James Meredith applied for admission to the University of Mississippi. Although he was qualified, he was rejected -- Meredith was black, and the University had never admitted a black student. Represented by Constance Baker Motley and the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Meredith sued in federal court in Mississippi, alleging that the University denied him admission because of his race. In this reenactment, AABANY and the Metropolitan Black Bar Association told the story of Constance Baker Motley and James Meredith and their battle with Ole Miss, based on court transcripts and other writings.

*February 27, 2018* The AABANY Real Estate Committee and Solo & Small Firm Practice Committee co-partnered with Flushing Bank, KALAGNY, and MacGregor Abstract to present the CLE panel **Please Don't Sign the Contracts Yet: Due Diligence and Residential Real Estate Contracts**. The program focused on due diligence and the NY Disciplinary Rules relevant to attorneys involved in real estate transactions.

*March 8, 2018* AABANY's Student Outreach Committee hosted a **Resume Review Workshop** for law students at Fordham Law School. Resumes were reviewed by practicing attorneys from a variety of different fields and Mediterranean snacks were served.

*March 15, 2018* AABANY co-sponsored with SABANY a CLE program entitled **#MeToo and Harassment in the Workplace: A Roundtable Discussion** at the EEOC's offices on Whitehall Street. The program covered topics such as how sexual harassment claims in the workplace are brought and how sexual harassment claims are changing the way companies do business in relation to the #MeToo movement.

*March 20, 2018* AABANY presented an **Anti-Trafficking Initiatives and Immigration Remedies** CLE panel at Kirkland & Ellis LLP, in conjunction with local nonprofit Sanctuary for Families. Panelists elaborated on the unique problems that Asian communities face in regard to trafficking, trafficking victims' eligibility for certain visas, and the attorney-client relationship when taking on a pro bono trafficking case.

*March 27, 2018* AABANY's Asia Practice committee presented a **Risks and Strategies for Foreign Companies Involved in US Litigation** CLE panel at Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, and Garrison LLP. The panel discussed the framework and practices of commercial litigation in the U.S., and discuss key issues and strategic considerations that foreign companies confront when litigating in the U.S.

*March 28, 2018* AABANY, APALA-NJ, KALAGNY, Bank of America, Venable LLP and AmTrust Title Insurance Company co-sponsored a CLE program entitled **"Blockchain and Cryptocurrency."** This 2 Credit CLE and Networking Event was attended by over 75 attorneys. The CLE panel was moderated by Margaret Ling, Co-Chair of the AABANY Real Estate Committee.

#### Community Outreach

*January 10, February 7, and March 14, 2018* AABANY held its monthly **Pro Bono Legal Clinic** at the Chinese Chamber of Commerce, Inc. to provide walk-in legal assistance to the Chinatown community. Over the course of three months, volunteers helped nearly 80 community members.

*January 30, 2018* AABANY co-sponsored the inaugural **Korematsu Day Celebration**, which was held at the Cantor Film Center at NYU. Throughout the event, guest speakers remarked on the importance of Korematsu in Asian Pacific American History, connecting his legacy to APA community outreach and condemning the parallels between Korematsu's case and the current Administration's stances on immigration, deportation, and detention. As moderator and AABANY co-founder Rocky Chin stated in the panel, "We are taking one step forward but two steps back." While each speaker brought their own expertise to the table—whether it was government, law, or activism—all topics were united around the theme of standing up for what is right. Students from public NYC high schools participating in the Asian American Student Advocacy Program (ASAP) remarked on the importance of ethnic studies curriculums at schools, while panelists from various non-profit organizations such as the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR-NY) emphasized the consequences of current legal decisions on immigrant deportation and detention.

*February 3, 2018* AABANY, the National Center for Law and Economic Justice (NCLEJ), and the Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund (AALDEF) co-hosted a free one-day **DACA and Immigration Know-Your-Rights Clinic** at Brooklyn Law School. In addition to assisting DACA beneficiaries with renewals, the clinic also summarized the basic requirements for DACA and encouraged attendees to seek out additional resources such as counseling and food assistance.

*March 6, 2018* AABANY's Government Service & Public Interest (GSPI) and Pro Bono Committees co-sponsored a **Know-Your-Rights Tax Training** at the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association. The CLE was intended for community members to learn more about federal and state tax filings, especially with the new changes under the recently passed tax plan.

### Networking

*February 8, 2018* The AABANY Intellectual Property and In-House Counsel Committees co-hosted a celebratory **Joint Lunar New Year Dinner** at Shanghai Heping Restaurant in Chinatown. Attendees had the opportunity to catch up and meet up over good food and good

company over delicious traditional Chinese dishes such as crispy duck, soup dumplings, and fried rice.

*February 20, 2018* A **Get to Know AABANY Happy Hour & Inter-APALSA Mixer** was hosted by the AABANY membership and Student Outreach Committees at District Social. Attendees were able to meet members of AABANY's Membership and Student Outreach Committees over light appetizers and drinks.

*March 28, 2018* After being rescheduled twice due to two Nor'easters, the AABANY Government Service and Public Interest Committee (GSPI) and Pro Bono and Community Service Committee held their **Lunar New Year Dinner** at the Bite of Hong Kong restaurant in Chinatown on March 28, 2018. Over 30 committee members and volunteers gathered to socialize and enjoy a delicious ten-course meal - family style, of course! Attendees included incoming AABANY President and former GSPI co-chair James Cho who thanked both committees for their work and encouraged more government and public-interest attorneys to get involved in AABANY.

*March 29, 2018* The IP Committee and In-House Counsel Committee joined up for a **dim sum dinner** at Nom Wah Nolita. IP practitioners from law firm and in-house settings got together in a side room that was dedicated to our party. Attendees got to enjoy the restaurant's ample offerings of Chinese classics, like scallion pancakes, chicken wings, turnip cakes, shiitake 'shroom fried rice, meatless mapo tofu, and a wide assortment of dumplings, including soup dumplings and shrimp and pork siu mai.

### Honors and Recognitions

*March 13, 2018* AABANY issued a press release to congratulate **John Kuo**, Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary for Varian Medical Systems, on being a Legends in Law Award honoree at the upcoming Burton Awards. The winners of the Legends in Law Award were announced at Lincoln Center on February 28. The award is part of the prestigious Burton Awards, which were established in 1999 to recognize a wide range of excellence in the legal profession.

*March 13, 2018* AABANY issued a press release to congratulate AABANY member **Chris M. Kwok, Esq.** on joining JAMS, the largest private provider of mediation and arbitration services worldwide. Mr. Kwok will be based in the JAMS New York Resolution Center and will serve as a mediator (調解人) in Business/Commercial and Employment matters. Mr. Kwok is the first Asian American/Chinese American mediator in the JAMS New York office.