

AABANY Quarterly Report: October 2017 to January 2018

During this quarter, AABANY continued to hold networking events for its members and informative panels and programs for the community, from talks with leaders in the Asian American legal community to a bowling night. AABANY, through its Executive Director, testified before the New York City Council in support of a resolution to make January 30 each year Fred T. Korematsu Day, and the resolution passed in December. AABANY looks forward to celebrating Fred T. Korematsu Day for the first time in New York City this January 30. AABANY also prepared for the new year, particularly the 2018 Annual Dinner and the election of new board members and committee co-chairs. Registration for the Annual Dinner, which is taking place on February 28 at Cipriani Wall Street, opened in December. On January 12, AABANY sent out the notice to its members of the Annual Meeting of Members, which will take place on February 13 at Dorsey & Whitney, at which members will elect the officers and directors for FY 2018.

Special Events

October 14, 2017 **The Northeast Regional of the 2017 Hon. Thomas Tang National Moot Court Competition**, sponsored annually by the NAPABA Law Foundation, took place at Brooklyn Law School, where nine teams from the northeast region, representing American University Law School, Brooklyn Law School, Fordham, Northeastern, and St. John's, faced off in an appellate advocacy competition. In addition to Brooklyn Law School, its APALSA, and NAPABA, the competition was also hosted by AABANY, with special thanks to Francis Chin and Samuel Yee for coordinating the event.

October 17, 2017 In conjunction with Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer, LLP, AABANY co-sponsored a **Portrait Project Panel with Justice Goodwin Liu**, a discussion between California Supreme Court Justice Goodwin Liu and a panel of members of the federal judiciary, private sector, and academia about Justice Liu's study, *A Portrait of Asian Americans in the Law*. This robust discussion on the findings of this study and their implications was followed by a reception for food, networking, and conversation.

November 16, 2017 AABANY co-sponsored with Shearman Sterling **Distinguished Alumni Perspectives with Justice Chin Brandt**, where Justice Chin Brandt, the first Asian American elected official and the first Asian American female jurist in New York, shared personal and professional insights on lessons she has learned and the ways that she carved out her own career path.

December 6, 2017 AABANY's "**How to Become a Committee Co-Chair**" **Information Session** brought current AABANY committee co-chairs into conversation with members interested in becoming co-chairs or learning about AABANY's various committees. Current Co-Chairs discussed what it means to chair a committee, and what each committee does to help AABANY provide great programming for its members.

December 8, 2017 More than 30 AABANY members and friends came out for a **theater outing** to see "**A Deal**," at Urban Stages Theater on West 30th Street. Among the attendees were Margaret Ling, Co-Chair of the Asia Practice Committee and Real Estate Committee, Judge Peggy Kuo, EDNY, and Sylvia Chin, Partner/Of Counsel at White & Case. The play is a dark comedy about a young Chinese actress in New York and her parents from China who experience a series of misadventures in their attempts to buy an apartment for her in 2015, at a time when real estate investment in New York by Chinese buyers hit a historic high. A talkback with the playwright Zhu Yi, moderated by Issues Committee Co-Chair Chris Kwok, took place after the show.

December 15, 2017 AABANY held its **holiday party** once again at **Dave & Buster's** in Times Square. More than 100 members registered, and some brought along their families and friends for a night of food, drinks and games. Our holiday party-goers filled up the Empire Room where they could gather to munch on quesadillas, wings, sliders and pigs in a blanket.

Panels & CLEs

October 16, 2017 Together with ADR provider JAMS, AABANY co-sponsored **The Evolution of ADR Services for Inbound and Outbound Investment**, at Fordham Law School, featuring a

panel which included two high-ranking Chinese judges and a talk on the use of ADR services in China and among Chinese companies around the world.

October 17, 19 and 25, 2017 AABANY co-sponsored, along with the Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund, an **Asian American Election Protection Volunteer Training** for volunteers who monitored polling sites for potential violations of the Voting Rights Act to help protect the rights of Asian American voters under that Act.

October 18, 2017 AABANY's Real Estate and Solo and Small Firm Committees partnered with the Korean American Lawyers Association of Greater New York to hold **Selling and Purchasing Real Property from an Estate**, a discussion between Margaret Ling, Real Estate Committee Co-Chair, and Pauline Yeung-Ha, who practices Trusts and Estates Law, held at one of Flushing Bank's Manhattan branches.

October 23, 2017 AABANY co-sponsored the Muslim Bar Association of New York's **How to Go In-House and Succeed**, which featured a dynamic panel of senior in-house attorneys from Mitsui, Bristol-Myers Squibb (represented by AABANY Board member Jung Choi), Bank of America, and Bloomberg, discussing their transition into an in-house role and tips on succeeding in the corporate environment.

November 14, 2017 AABANY's Women's Committee held **Women Rainmakers: Creating and Cultivating (Potential) Successful Client Relationships**, a discussion on growing a client base, with practical tips and advice from a panel of experienced woman attorneys who have cultivated their own networks and established relationships over time.

November 15, 2017 AABANY's Intellectual Property Committee presented **IP Prosecution 101**, a dinner reception and skills workshop on filing a trademark, a copyright, and a design patent in U.S., run by IP experts in different IP prosecution areas.

November 29, 2017 Partnering with Phillips Lytle, LLP, and the University of Buffalo School of Law, AABANY co-sponsored the trial reenactment, **Justice Denied (Wards Cove Packing Co.**

v. **Atonio**), about the struggle of Filipino activists protesting unfair and discriminatory working conditions that had prevailed for decades against Asian American cannery workers.

December 6, 2017 **Building a Taller Flushing: Zoning, Air Rights & Development** brought together professionals from law, real estate, and banking to discuss the future of Flushing's construction and growth, co-sponsored by AABANY's Real Estate and Solo and Small Firm Committees.

Community Outreach

October 11, November 8, December 13, 2017 and January 10, 2018 AABANY held its monthly **Pro Bono Legal Clinic** at the Chinese Chamber of Commerce of NY, Inc. to provide walk-in legal assistance to the Chinatown community. Over the course of the past few months, AABANY volunteers helped approximately 100 community members.

October 25, 2017 The New York City Council's Committee on Cultural Affairs, Libraries and International Intergroup Relations, chaired by Council Member James Van Bramer, held a **hearing on Res. No. 792 to name January 30 annually as Fred T. Korematsu Day in New York City**. The hearing was attended by many supporters of the legislation and kicked off with testimony from Fred Korematsu's daughter, Karen Korematsu, Founder and Executive Director of the Korematsu Institute, who called in from the West Coast. AABANY was privileged and honored to offer its testimony in support of Korematsu Day. Speaking on behalf of AABANY, Executive Director Yang Chen explained how AABANY's Trial Reenactment project educates lawyers and the larger community about the stories of Asian Pacific Americans like Fred Korematsu who have helped to shape American legal, political and social history. AABANY premiered its latest trial reenactment, "Fred Korematsu and his Fight for Justice," a week later at the NAPABA National Convention. On December 19, 2017, the New York City Council passed Res. No. 792, and AABANY looks forward to celebrating with the community the very first Fred T. Korematsu Day of Civil Liberties and the Constitution on January 30.

Networking

October 19, 2017 AABANY's quarterly **Tax Club Dinner** was held at Tang Pavilion. Rich Williams, Partner at Dentons and Shiukay Hung, Associate at Morrison & Foerster, discussed the recent GOP tax plan and issues of tax reform.

October 24, 2017 AABANY's LGBT Committee co-sponsored **LGBT Asian American/South Asian Attorney Networking Reception**, to celebrate the diversity within the LGBT and Asian American/South Asian communities and provide peer-support to LGBT API attorneys in corporate, commercial, government, and public interest practice.

November 8, 2017 Partnering with the Korean American Lawyers Association of Greater New York, AABANY co-sponsored the **KALAGNY Veterans & Military Networking Event**, where Hon. Randall T. Eng was the honored speaker, in conversation with AABANY's Military and Veteran Affairs Committee Co-Chair and Board Director Brian Song.

November 17, 2017 AABANY's IP Committee held a **bowling night** with NYU APALSA, at which law students got to meet and network with practicing lawyers while bowling and shooting pool and enjoying food and drinks at Lucky Strike Manhattan.