FCAM ANNOUNCES 2014 HISTORYMAKER HONOREES

The Chinese American Museum has revealed the names of six individuals and institutions that have had a significant impact on the Chinese American community. Honorees will be recognized at the 18th annual Historymakers Awards Gala on Thursday, September 25.

The museum simultaneously announced Kin Hui as Honorary Chair of this year’s gala. Hui is Chairman and CEO of Singpoli Group and a 2013 Historymakers awardee. Al Soo Hoo and Doré Wong will serve as co-chairs on behalf of the Friends of the Chinese American Museum (FCAM), which is presenting the gala at the Westin Bonaventure Hotel & Suites in downtown Los Angeles.

In making the announcements, Dr. Gay Yuen, President of the Friends of the Chinese American Museum, noted: “We are privileged to have the continued support of Mr. Hui and Singpoli and to be able to recognize the achievements of outstanding members of our extended community. This year’s Historymakers gala will also be truly memorable because we are celebrating a major milestone—our museum’s 10th anniversary.”

The 2014 honorees are:

MING HSIEH (Judge Ronald S.W. Lew Visionary Award) is the founder, Chairman, and Chief Executive Officer of 3M Cogent Inc., a leading provider of global biometric identification systems. Since September 2012, Hsieh has also served as the Chairman and CEO of Fulgent Therapeutics Inc., a cancer drug research and development company. Hsieh earned engineering degrees at the University of Southern California and serves on its board of trustees. His $50
million gift in 2010 led to the establishment of the Ming Hsieh Institute on Engineering-Medicine for Cancer. Raised in Shenyang, northern China, he is listed by Forbes magazine as one of America’s 200 richest men.

DAVID FON LEE (Dr. Dan S. Louie, Jr., Lifetime Achievement Award) has been deeply dedicated to promoting economic and cultural exchange between China and the United States. In 1980, he and Nobel Laureate Yang Cheng Ning, co-founded the National Association of Chinese Americans following the re-establishment of relations between the U.S. and China. Lee went on to play a key role in creating the Sister City affiliation between Los Angeles and Guangzhou and organized the Chinese American community to welcome athletes from the People’s Republic of China to the 1984 Olympic Games in L.A. In 1945, after serving in the United States Navy, Lee became a staunch advocate on behalf of the Chinatown business community and also successfully led his family’s business, the iconic General Lee’s Man Jen Low.

KENNETH CHIN-MING LO (International Corporate Award) - For over 40 years, Lo has been a leader in the banking and finance industries in both Asia and America with experience in securities, trust, leasing, and venture capital. He is the Chairman of EverTrust Bank USA, a subsidiary of the Industrial Bank of Taiwan, which Lo helped to establish in 1999. He also co-founded two United States-based financial services companies, Chinatrust Bank (USA) and Grand Pacific Holdings Corporation. In addition to his professional achievements, he is the founder of the IBT Foundation and a strong supporter of art education for disadvantaged youth. He holds a B.A. in Economics from National Taiwan University and an M.A. in Finance from the University of Alabama. He is a member of the Asia Executive Board of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Sloan School of Business and serves on the Advisory Committees of the National Palace Museum Advisory Committee and Taipei Fine Arts Museum.

ROSE HILLS MEMORIAL PARK & MORTUARIES (Corporate Leadership Award), founded in 1914, will observe the company’s 100th anniversary this year. Rose Hills became the first to outreach to the Asian American communities, taking special care to respect individual cultural and religious customs. Today, Rose Hills is North America’s largest memorial park,
encompassing 1,400 acres with two full-service mortuaries and five planning centers throughout Southern California. Most recently, Rose Hills teamed up with CAM to establish “A Place of Inclusion,” a permanent memorial to educate visitors about the history of the Chinese Exclusion Act and its repeal.

TUNG WAH GROUP OF HOSPITALS (Humanitarian Award), established in 1870, is the largest charitable organization in Hong Kong with over 190 community service centers covering elderly services, youth and family services, rehabilitation services and traditional services. Tung Wah’s long and meaningful history with early Chinese immigrants in California and other parts of the United States began in the late 1800s. Tung Wah served as the middle stop to transmit letters and money back to villages in the Guangdong areas from where the immigrants originated and, when necessary, Tung Wah also helped honor cultural traditions, including the transport of the bodies and bones of those who died in America so that they can be buried in their home villages.

DR. JAMES BOK WONG & BETTY YEOW (Leadership Award), among their numerous achievements, established a scholarship program for deserving college students of Chinese descent through the Chinese American Citizens Alliance Foundation. Dr. Wong served in the American 14th Army Air Force, better known as the Flying Tigers, during World War II. He earned his Ph.D. from the University of Illinois and is the former chief economist and director of international technologies for Dart Industries. Dr. Wong and Ms. Yeow are both actively involved in the CACA Foundation. Dr. Wong is a past president of the Foundation and of the CACA Los Angeles Lodge, while Yeow represents the Foundation on the Los Angeles Chinatown Business Council board of directors.

CAM opened its doors in 2003 after more than 30 years of planning, resource development, political advocacy, and community support. The museum occupies the historic 1890 Garnier Building, the oldest and last remaining structure of Los Angeles’ original Chinatown. The City of Los Angeles provides the building, housekeeping services, maintenance and security. Funds are raised by FCAM through memberships, individual and corporate
contributions, government and private foundation grants, and special events, such as the Historymakers Awards Gala.

The museum is located at 425 N. Los Angeles St. and is open Tuesday-Sunday, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. daily, closed Mondays, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year’s Day.

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