

CHINESE AMERICAN MUSEUM

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CHINESE AMERICAN MUSEUM HONORS LOCAL LEADERS

Los Angeles – Friends of the Chinese American Museum (FCAM) honored four distinguished individuals and an outstanding community-based organization at the 17th annual Historymakers Awards Gala on September 12 at the Westin Bonaventure Hotel. The event was attended by 600 Museum supporters, community leaders, and elected officials.

United States Congressman Judy Chu presented the Excellence in Leadership and Philanthropy Award Judge Ronald S.W. Lew Visionary Award to Kin Hui, owner and manager of Singpoli, a leading real estate investment and development corporation based in Arcadia and Pasadena. Hui was recognized for his business achievement as well as his worldwide charitable efforts.

Chu was also present to see her husband, newly elected Los Angeles Community College Trustee Mike Eng received the Museum’s Excellence in Government Leadership Award.

Dr. Munson Kwok, event chair, stated, “This year’s Awards Gala launches the Chinese American Museum’s 10th anniversary celebration and sets the stage for a period of tremendous growth for the museum. We are proud to be able to honor those who have dedicated themselves to the betterment of our communities.” Dr. Kwok guided the proceedings along with honorary chair Tom McKernan, Chair of the Automobile Club of Southern California and Auto Club Enterprises.

NBC News4 broadcaster and FCAM Advisory Council member Ted Chen and colleague Hetty Chang served as emcees for the evening

Dr. Gay Q. Yuen, president of the Friends of the Chinese American Museum, announced the following 2013 CAM Historymakers:

Center for Asian Americans United for Self-Empowerment (CAUSE)

Excellence in Community Service

CAUSE is a leading community-oriented 501(c)(3) nonprofit and non-partisan organization that focuses on the creation of high caliber programs aimed at increasing voter education and promoting professional development and leadership.

Mike Eng

Excellence in Government Leadership

Eng has risen to prominence as a widely respected figure in public service. He has devoted most of his life to serving his community and the state of California. Recently elected as a Trustee to the Los Angeles Community College Board, largest in the nation, he has held numerous public offices, including three terms as a member of the California State Legislature. He served as Mayor and City Councilman of Monterey Park and started the region’s first city Environmental Commission. He also helped produce an Emmy-winning video on how to become a U.S. citizen.

Kin Hui

Excellence in Leadership and Philanthropy and Judge Ronald S.W. Lew Visionary Award

Hui is not only a prominent business leader in the San Gabriel Valley and Orange County, he is also an international philanthropist. He is the owner and manager of the Singpoli Group, which is comprised of independent companies specializing in real estate investment and development. Founder of the Kin Hui Charity Foundation, Inc., he supports numerous philanthropic efforts in California and around the world.

David Henry Hwang

Excellence in Arts and Letters

Hwang is an innovative American playwright, librettist, and screenwriter. His best known work, *M. Butterfly*, debuted on Broadway and brought Asian Americans to the forefront of American theater. Hwang became the first Asian American to win a Tony Award and twice was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize.

Charles W. Wong, AIA-E

Excellence in Architecture and Dr. Dan S. Louie Jr. Lifetime Achievement Award

Wong is a recognized pioneer in the field of architecture. Among numerous accomplishments, he created 15 community multi-purpose buildings for the County of Los Angeles. He is the former president of the Asian Americans Architects and Engineers and also helped establish the Chinatown Public Safety Association. Of his many achievements, Wong takes special pride in the design of Mandarin Baptist in Alhambra, which he describes an expression of his commitment to his spiritual wellbeing as well as that of his family and fellow man.

Major sponsors for the Historymakers Awards Gala were Singpoli Group, Automobile Club of Southern California, Bob and Esther Louie Henry, In Memory of Bock G. (Foon Lee) Jang, Joseph and Flora Ko, Dr. Munson A. and Suellen Kwok, Pacific Alliance Medical Center, Charles W. Wong, AIA, and Dr. Gay Q. Yuen.

Historymakers is the signature event and major fundraiser for the Chinese American Museum at El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historical Monument. It provides critical support for the museum's vital educational programs.

For additional information about the Museum, call (213) 485-8453 or visit www.camla.org.

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