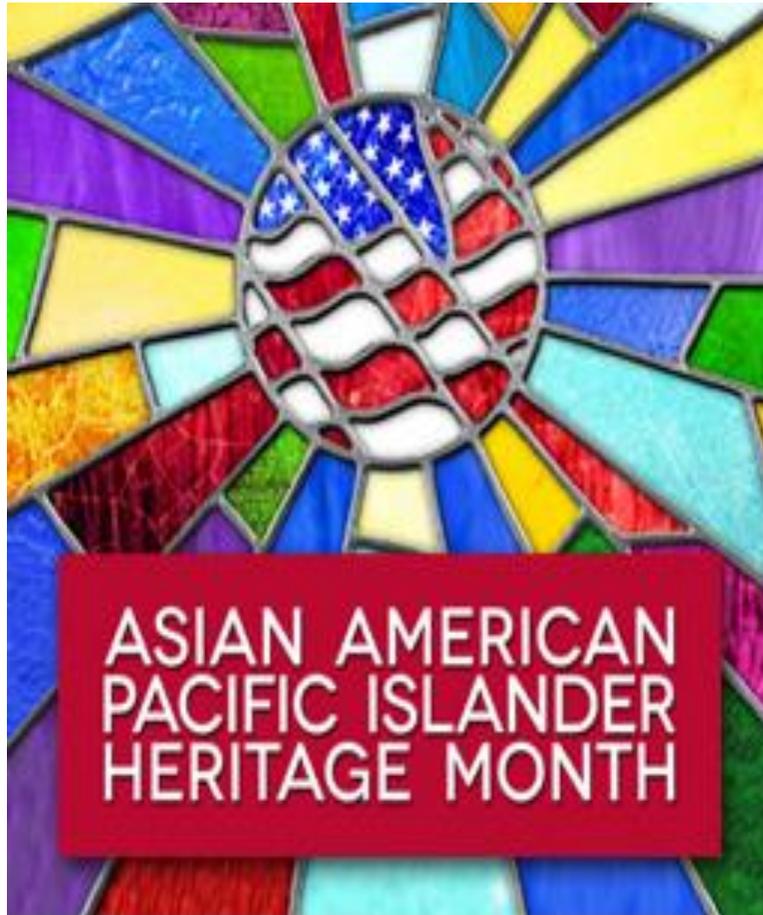


Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month



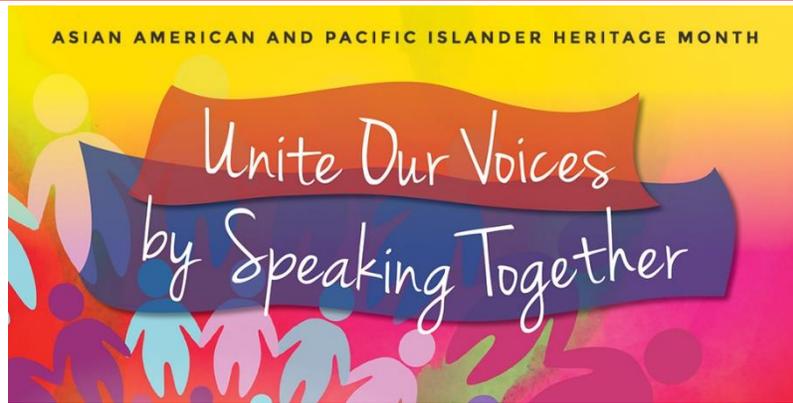
**Friday, May 21, 2021
12:30 pm – 2:00 pm**

Presented by

The Hon. Kathie E. Davidson, Ninth Judicial District Administrative Judge

Together with

The South Asian Bar Association of NY



Welcome

Ninth Judicial District Administrative Judge Honorable Kathie E. Davidson

Pledge of Allegiance

Kyra and Arya Mangal

Special Remarks

Honorable Lillian Wan
President, Asian American Judges Association of NY



Vidya Pappachan, Esq.
Vice President of Public Relations, South Asian Bar Association of NY

Musical Presentation ~ Franz Liszt's Liebestraum (Love's Dream) No. 3

Leon Wang, 7th Grade Student

Panel Discussion: "Advancing Leaders Through Purpose Driven Service"

Tara Linh Leaman, J.D., Program Director,
Westchester County Department of Social Services' Westchester Building Families



Jeremy Kohomban, Ph.D., President and CEO,
The Children's Village



Donna Hae Kyun Lee, Esq., Senior Associate Dean of Clinical Programs and
Professor CUNY School of Law

Honoree

Hon. Hyun Chin Kim, Orange County Court Judge

Poem ~ "Outside and In"

WriteGirl Alum, Sabrina Youn

Closing

TARA LINH LEAMAN, J.D.

**Program Director, Westchester County Department of Social Services'
Westchester Building Futures**



Tara Linh Leaman currently serves as Program Director of Westchester County Department of Social Services' Westchester Building Futures. Westchester Building Futures is a federally funded multiyear multimillion-dollar initiative, awarded to Westchester County DSS, which seeks to eliminate youth homelessness among at-risk youth/young adults with child welfare/foster care histories. Westchester was one of six jurisdictions nationally to receive both the Phase I Planning and Phase II Implementation awards from the Department of Health and Human Services' Administration on Children, Youth and Families'- Children's Bureau. In addition, to support Westchester Building Futures' implementation goals, Westchester was selected by the Center for the Study of Social Policy to join their Youth Thrive initiative. It was one of seven jurisdictions nationally to participate in the Youth Thrive learning community, which has helped advance Westchester Building Futures' work toward positive youth development, well-being and success. Tara's other primary role is to help lead a team of experienced child/youth welfare leaders in achieving its Family First implementation goals, laser-focused on decreasing the number of children/youth in congregate care and increasing the number of children/young people in kinship

care through the lens of advancing equity by elevating authentic youth voice and informed choice.

As an alumnus of international foster care and experienced transracial adoptee, Tara knows well the challenges and rewards of transforming adversity to resilience. She is also the Co-Founder of AmerAsians Building Bridges, Inc. which serves Vietnamese Amerasians in central Vietnam and in the Greater Washington, DC metropolitan area, as well as provides training and resources that enrich the lives of members of adoptive and foster care families, and their allies. She has worked internationally and nationally advancing social justice, including as a teacher in Johannesburg, South Africa, and a law clerk to the Honorable Judith Bartnoff of the District of Columbia Superior Court. Tara has served on Family Equality Council's National Board of Advisers and is a former board member of Holt International Children's Services, which is the adoption agency that Tara's parents adopted her from in 1974. She is a graduate of Cornell University and Georgetown Law.

As a learner, unlearner and relearner, what Tara values the most are the opportunities others have afforded her to create, cultivate and nurture authentic relationships, often centered on recognizing and honoring the burden and dignity of difference with those we serve where we work, live and play. She recognizes that we cannot do our work in a vacuum in our passion to live and breathe a life of purpose-driven service knowing that "Rough Roads Can Lead to Great Destinations."

JEREMY CHRISTOPHER KOHOMBAN, Ph.D.

President and CEO, The Children's Village



Dr. Jeremy Christopher Kohomban is the President and CEO of The Children's Village and the President of Harlem Dowling. The Children's Village, founded in 1851, and Harlem Dowling, founded in 1831, provide a broad continuum of residential and community-embedded programs serving 15,000 annually.

Jeremy is an author, an activist, and always a pragmatic leader. He played a leading role in the family support, juvenile justice and residential treatment reforms that are transforming systems. He is driven by the belief that every child, regardless of age, deserves a family, and he is outspoken about the social justice antecedents that drive child welfare and juvenile justice. Under his leadership, The Children's Village, the nation's oldest and once the largest children's residential treatment center, has been transformed into a national model for community-embedded family support. The Children's Village is the Gold Prize winner of the New York Community Trust-New York Magazine's Nonprofit Excellence Awards, the US Congressional Coalition Angels in Adoption award, the Child Welfare League of America Innovative Leadership

Award and the Alliance for Strong Families and Communities, Samuel Gerson Nordlinger Leadership Award. In 2019, City & State ranked him #3 among New York's charity leaders.

Senators Wyden and Hatch added his name to the Congressional Record as an example of bipartisanship for his testimony to the US Senate Finance Committee calling for reform of the multi-billion Title 4E funding. Testimony that led to the passage of the Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA). The Imprint notes that Dr. Kohomban was one of the most important off-the-Hill boosters of the FFPSA effort, described as the "biggest federal overhaul of foster care in decades". City Limits magazine identified him as a leader with a "clear vision for the future". In the book Pariahs to Partners, How Parents and their Allies Changed New York City's Child Welfare System, he is described as "one of the most parent-focused, reform-minded, and effective administrators in the field".

Jeremy chairs the Human Services Council, is the national co-chair of the Children Need Amazing Parents (CHAMPS) campaign, and a Trustee of Save the Children. He is a graduate of Emporia State University, Kansas, has a Masters from Long Island University, New York, a PhD from the School for Business and Leadership at Regent University, Virginia and a LittD (*Honorary Doctor of Letters*) from Mercy College, New York.

Select authored articles

The Brookings Institution – The foster care system was unprepared for the last drug epidemic

Stanford Social Innovation Review – The Systematic Starvation of Those Who Do Good

Federal Children's Bureau Express – Be the Leader Who Creates a New History

Chronicle of Philanthropy – Keeping Quiet About Wrongdoing at Nonprofits Only Makes Matters Worse

CNN video – Are my parents ok

DONNA HAE KYUN LEE, ESQ.

Senior Associate Dean of Clinical Programs and Professor,
CUNY School of Law



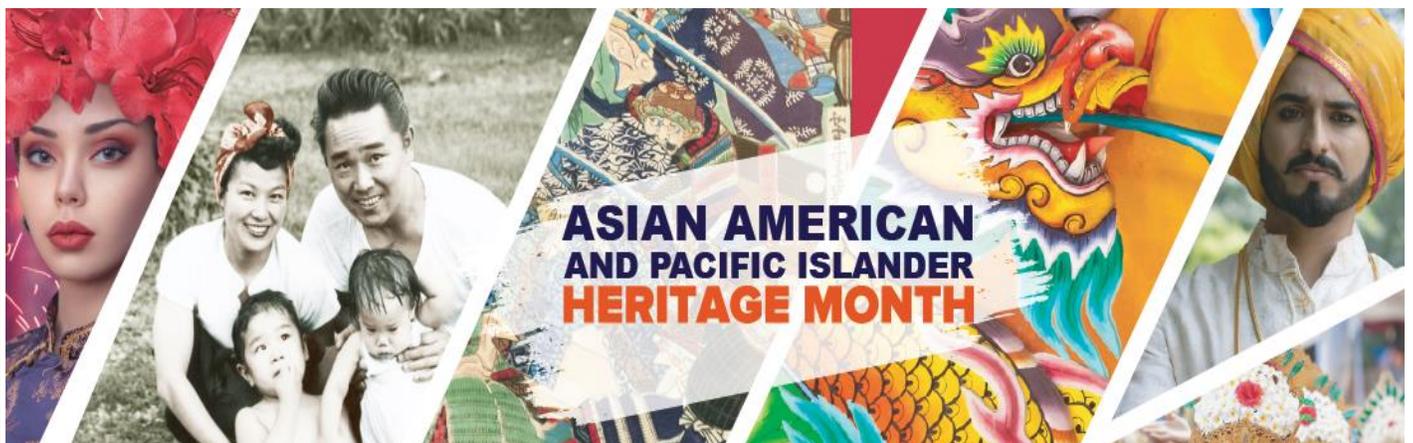
Donna Hae Kyun Lee is a Professor and Senior Associate Dean for Clinical Programs at the City University of New York (CUNY) School of Law. She coordinates an array of clinics for full-time day and part-time evening students in a program that was ranked #1 in U.S. News and World Report for best clinical training. She also serves as the Executive Director of Main Street Legal Services, Inc. which is the not-for-profit corporation that houses the law school's in-house clinical programs.

Dean Lee joined the faculty of CUNY Law to teach in the Battered Women's Rights Clinic, an interdisciplinary clinic addressing domestic violence issues from legal and social work perspectives. She teaches and writes at the intersection of family law

and criminal law, for example, publishing *Intimate Partner Violence Against Asian American Women: Moving From Theory to Strategy* in the Columbia Journal of Gender & Law. She currently serves as the Advisory Board Chair of Womankind (formerly the NY Asian Women's Center), an organization that advocates for and serves Asian women and children affected by domestic violence, and a Board Member of the Society of American Law Teachers. At CUNY Law, Dean Lee has additionally taught in the Family Law Practice Clinic and Defenders Clinic, as well as criminal procedure, prisoners' rights, lawyering, and family law.

Prior to joining CUNY Law, Dean Lee taught at Brooklyn Law School in the Federal Litigation Clinic and at New York University (NYU) Law School in the Lawyering Program. She also worked at the National Prison Project of the ACLU Foundation in Washington, DC, and the Law Reform Unit of the Legal Aid Society in New York City. Dean Lee additionally clerked on the U.S. District Court for the District of New Jersey, and on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit.

She is a graduate of NYU Law School, where she was an Articles Editor for the NYU Law Review, and later served as the President of the Black, Latino, Asian Pacific American Law Alumni Association (now the Law Alumni of Color Association). She received her B.A. in history from Brown University.



THE HONORABLE HYUN CHIN KIM

Orange County Court Judge



Prior to being elected to Orange County Court as the first female County Court Judge as well as the first Asian-American County Court Judge in Orange County in November of 2020, Hyun Chin Kim served as the Principal Law Clerk for Orange County Court Judge William L. DeProspero. She served in this capacity from 2018 until she took the bench in January of 2021.

From 2004 to 2017, Hyun Chin was employed with the Orange County Attorney's Office in Goshen, N.Y., where she rose to the position of chief assistant county attorney of litigation, supervising all civil litigation for the County of Orange in the municipal division of the County Attorney's Office.

Upon graduating from law school in 1995, Hyun Chin accepted a position as an assistant district attorney with the Bronx District Attorney's Office in Bronx, N.Y., trying major felony offenses in the Trial Division Unit. After moving to the Hudson Valley in 2000, she joined Ahmuty, Demers & Mcmanus in Hopewell Junction as an associate attorney.

Hyun Chin also serves as a Critique Faculty member for the New York State Bar Association's Trial Advocacy Program for young attorneys since 2010.

Hyun Chin graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree from Vassar College in Poughkeepsie, N.Y. in 1992. She received her Juris Doctorate from Temple University School of Law in Philadelphia, Pa. She is married to Paul S. Ernenwein, partner at a prestigious Hudson Valley-based law firm. They reside in Newburgh and have two children.



LEON WANG



Leon Wang is a 12-year-old seventh grader at King School in Stamford, Connecticut. His favorite subjects in school are math and science and he enjoys cooking, especially pasta. He has been studying with his piano teacher, Hiroko Miyake Dutton, for over 7 years. He has won numerous competitions, including the Elite Musicians Competition at Carnegie Hall, the Westchester Music Guild Competition (Young Future Star), and the Deborah Kahan Competition. He has also won top scoring in the National Guild Audition for the last 5 years.

SABRINA YOUN, AGE 19

Despite being in love with trying any form of creative storytelling – from screenplays and comics, to video editing and lyrics – Sabrina Youn will always be a writer at heart. Born in Argentina and raised in America as an ethnic Korean, she has plenty of stories to tell, and getting them out of her head and into the outside world will be an eternal goal of hers. She has published poetry through WriteGirl, interned at Fresh Films Filmmaker Lab, and volunteered for Food Forward (which may not be an art, but all that heavy lifting does feel good). Currently, she's ready to learn all she can at UCLA as an English major and Film minor. Her most recent creative project involved writing and directing a short virtual film with the Film and Photography Society at UCLA.



About WriteGirl

Founded in 2001, WriteGirl is a nationally recognized creative writing and mentoring organization serving more than 500 teens annually, mainly from LA's high-density neighborhoods. WriteGirl envisions a world where all teens live, write, and speak boldly as they become inspiring, transformative leaders, driven to effect positive change in communities. Now in its 20th season, WriteGirl has maintained a 100 percent success rate in helping its seniors not only graduate from high school, but also enroll in college. WriteGirl also works with boys and co-ed groups under the name "Bold Ink Writers." As a founding member of the Arts for Healing and Justice Network (AHJN), Bold Ink Writers brings creative writing workshops and mentors to youth who are incarcerated, and systems impacted. For more information, visit www.writegirl.org.



National Recognition for WriteGirl:

WriteGirl has won more than 90 awards for its 19 years of empowering teen girls. WriteGirl and Executive Director Keren Taylor were awarded the 2020 Los Angeles Times Innovator Award and in 2014 Keren Taylor was named a CNN Hero. In 2013, WriteGirl was honored by First Lady Michelle Obama with the National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Award – an initiative of the President's Committee on the Arts & the Humanities and the highest national honor awarded to exemplary out-of-school time programs. One of the breakout stars of 2021 so far has been WriteGirl Alum, Amanda Gorman, the national youth poet laureate whose performance at President Biden's Inauguration and the Super Bowl LV struck the hearts of America and the world. We are so proud of Amanda and all that she has achieved since her WriteGirl days, and that pride extends to our entire WriteGirl community. We continue to support and encourage the writing of hundreds of young women like Amanda each year and whether they recite a poem at the Presidential Inauguration or for their families at home, we are filled with pride and hope for the futures of these young writers.

“Outside and In” by Sabrina Youn (Age 19)

I was flown to these lands of stars
On cardboard picture books and planes
Omma stuffed me with our food, their English
said, you are an American now

So fluttered away my Spanish and Korean
Stitched lips unraveled
Roots snipped and pruned

My memories are tied to this flag
Red, white, and blue
But my body, my body speaks of another tale
Red, white, and blue

Speaks of galbi and bibimbap, of kimchi and tea
Wails of stereotypes tied to sorrow, shame, and grief
Shouts of laughter and change, of candlelight and red
So much red, so much white, but we painted on blue

So fluttered away my Omma, a tiger strangled down
Said, you are an American now, don't fly to see me out
You won't be let back in,

blocked by this great wall
of technicalities that mean nothing to my soul,

my soul splattered on by asados and chimichurri, by empanadas and pico dulces too, by a trilingual heritage I
never received, by the realization that I don't look Korean, I look Asian, and I look like my estranged brother
and oppressor too
and maybe

just maybe

someone worth hearing out

Outside and in, I am an Asian American
wouldn't change it for the world

Inside and out, I will be whatever I like



Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month (as of 2009, officially changed from **Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month**) is a period for the duration of the month of May for recognizing the contributions and influence of Asian Americans and Pacific Islander Americans to the history, culture, and achievements of the United States

Asian and Pacific Islander Heritage Month got its start as a congressional bill, inspired by Black History Month and Hispanic Heritage Week, with the mission of bringing attention to the contributions Asian and Pacific Islander Americans have made to the history and culture of the United States.

But did you know the whole thing was inspired by the work of two dedicated women? Jeanie Jew and Ruby Moy, who work on Capitol Hill, spearheaded a campaign to get congressional support for their cause. As a result of their lobbying, in June 1977 Reps. Frank Horton (NY) and Norman Y. Mineta (CA) introduced a resolution that called for the president to proclaim the first ten days of May as Asian-Pacific Heritage Week. The following month, senators Daniel Inouye (HI) and Spark Matsunaga (HI) introduced a similar bill in the Senate. Both were passed. On October 5, 1978, President Carter signed a Joint Resolution designating an annual celebration.

In 1990, President George H.W. Bush signed an extension turning it into a month-long celebration. And in 1992, the official designation of May as Asian and Pacific Islander American Heritage Month was signed into law.



Acknowledgements

NYS Unified Court System
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South Asian Bar Association of NY
Westchester Black Bar Association
Barbara Lerman, Esq.
Honorable Gail B. Rice

