



ASIAN AMERICANS
ADVANCING
JUSTICE
AAJC



AMERICAN
COURAGE
AWARDS
2024

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3

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WELCOME LETTER

Welcome to the 2024 American Courage Awards!

Thank you for joining Asian Americans Advancing Justice | AAJC as we celebrate the remarkable catalysts for change who remind us that a single voice can ignite a movement and transform communities. This year's honorees embody the spirit of resilience, innovation, and unwavering commitment to justice, inspiring us all to be agents of change in our own lives.

We are deeply honored to present the 2024 American Courage Award to the Asian American Scientists & Scholars. This group embodies the resilience and perseverance necessary to overcome tremendous adversity. Represented by Dr. Gang Chen, Dr. Anming Hu, Dr. Franklin Tao, and Dr. Xiaoxing Xi, these distinguished scientists have made groundbreaking contributions in fields such as clean energy, nanoscience, and advanced materials. Their collective experience, including enduring wrongful prosecutions, brought the scientific community together in defense of academic freedom and integrity. Their courage and unwavering dedication remind us all of the critical role that academic independence plays in driving progress and innovation. This award stands as a recognition of their strength, unity, and the vital contributions they continue to make.

Our Changemaker Award recipient, May Tiwamangkala, exemplifies the transformative power of personal experience turned into advocacy. After enduring the challenges of incarceration, May emerged as a fierce advocate for marginalized communities, dedicating their life to breaking cycles of harm and promoting equity. In their role as Advocacy Director at AZ AANHPI for Equity, May has become a driving force in the fight for voting rights, reproductive justice, and social change in Arizona. Their story is one of rebirth and purpose, showing us that even in the darkest times, there is the potential to become a beacon for profound change.

Sephora, this year's Bridge Builder Award recipient, continues to redefine the beauty industry through its unwavering commitment to diversity and inclusion. Under the visionary leadership of George-Axelle Broussillon Matschinga, Sephora has gone beyond product lines, creating a space where everyone feels seen, valued, and empowered. By championing representation and inclusivity, Sephora has set a new standard for corporate responsibility, proving that businesses can be powerful agents of positive change in society.

Sarah Zhang, our Norman Y. Mineta Spirit Award honoree, exemplifies the bright future of advocacy and leadership within the Asian American community. As a senior at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, Sarah has tirelessly advocated for creating inclusive educational environments. Their leadership in founding the Affirmative Action Coalition and their ongoing efforts to support diversity in education are inspiring examples of how the next generation is stepping forward as advocates of change for a more just and equitable world.

Tonight, we honor these extraordinary individuals and organizations who have shown us that change is not only possible but inevitable when driven by courage, compassion, and a shared commitment to justice. Thank you for joining us in this celebration, and for your continued support of Asian Americans Advancing Justice | AAJC. Together, we are all catalysts for change.

Your partners in justice and solidarity,

Kim Tran

Board Chair
Asian Americans Advancing Justice | AAJC

Handwritten signature of Kim Tran in black ink.

John C. Yang

President and Executive Director
Asian Americans Advancing Justice | AAJC

Handwritten signature of John C. Yang in black ink.

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PROGRAM

EVENT HOST

Emcee
Michelle Li
Co-founder of the Very Asian Foundation, Veteran Journalist

WELCOME

John C. Yang
President and Executive Director, Asian Americans Advancing Justice | AAJC

THE CHANGEMAKER AWARD

May Tiwamangkala
Advocacy Director of AZ AANHPI for Equity

THE BRIDGE BUILDER AWARD

Sephora
George-Axelle Broussillon Matschinga
Vice President, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

SPOKEN WORD PERFORMANCE

Tara Prakash
2024 Montgomery County Youth Poet Laureate

THE NORMAN Y. MINETA SPIRIT AWARD

Sarah Zhang
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Class of 2024

THE AMERICAN COURAGE AWARD

Asian American Scientist Scholars
Gang Chen, Anming Hu, Franklin Tao, Xiaoxing Xi

LIVE FUND A NEED

Javade Chaudhri and Judy Lam
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CLOSING REMARKS

Kim Tran
Board Chair, Asian Americans Advancing Justice | AAJC

EVENT HOST



Michelle Li

**Co-founder of the
Very Asian Foundation,
Veteran Journalist**

Michelle Li is an award-winning, veteran journalist who co-launched the Very Asian Foundation in January 2022 alongside friend and fellow journalist Gia Vang.

Her response to a racist voicemail became a global movement of unity and caught the attention of The Ellen Show. Ellen's monetary gift of \$15,000 helped start the seed money to create a non profit focused on shining a light on Asian life through advocacy and celebration. Not only did the Very Asian Foundation raise tens of thousands of dollars for AANHPI nonprofits in its first 100 days, but it also launched a national awareness youth literature campaign called The May Book Project, and started the Very Asian Creators microgrant program for people who needed startup funds to pivot in their careers.

A Korean adoptee, Michelle spent many years supporting adoptees through heritage camps and volunteer tours to Korea. She also launched a program to support Missouri children in foster care. This work led to a congressional award in 2010. Michelle's reporting has been honored with a national Peabody Award, four national Murrows, and multiple regional Emmys—often for covering topics related to race or gender inequities. Her work on the Asian American experience in St. Louis during the pandemic was also named a duPont finalist in 2023. Michelle has appeared on CNN, NBC, CBS, ABC, and The Washington Post. She released a children's book with Gloo Books called *A Very Asian Guide to Korean Food*.

CHANGEMAKER AWARD

The Changemaker Award honors an individual, company or organization that is a catalyst for change and whose leadership has inspired action that has led to change on a local or national level that benefits Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander (AANHPI) communities.



May Tiwamangkala
Advocacy Director of AZ AANHPI for Equity

May moved to Arizona after high school to attend ASU to study Philosophy, but their college career ended when they were incarcerated for two years. During their time, May focused their energy on self development by completing programs and bettering their education through reading books donated to May by an ASU professor. May spent much of their time tutoring women to achieve their GED which they felt was extremely rewarding. After May's release, May focused on being a voice for marginalized communities because they met so many disenfranchised women who helped them during their hard times. They dedicated their time to work with a local reporter to cover their experience in Arizona's inmate wildland firefighting program, and connected reporters to formerly incarcerated women who were exploited in prison labor- the story later was published nationally on multiple news outlets. May finally found their calling when they started working for Puente Human Rights Movement, an organization that pioneered the fight against SB 1070. After learning organizing tactics from the indigenous and latinx communities, May started working for AZ AANHPI for

Equity, the only AANHPI organization in Arizona that focuses on advocacy and civic engagement with progressive values. When data showed that violence and harm increased towards the AAPI community, May led in organizing a vigil for the AAPI victims in Atlanta because their community needed to heal and not feel alone. Shortly after, May was compelled to organize a Unity March because they believe change won't happen unless we have cross-racial collaboration in the fight for justice and racial equity. May is currently the Advocacy Director of AZ AANHPI for Equity leading the fight for voting rights, reproductive justice, LGBTQ+ rights, climate justice, and reimagining public safety by ending the cycles of harm caused by the carceral system.

PAST HONOREES INCLUDE: 2023 - Tavae Samuelu, 2022 - Kathleen Kim, 2021 - Hollaback!, 2019 - Affirmative Action Student Group from Harvard, 2018 - Hari Kondabolu, 2017 - Linda Sarsour, 2016 - Jimmy Ferguson

BRIDGE BUILDER AWARD

The Bridge Builder Award recognizes an individual or corporation that has developed an innovative approach to successful community empowerment and strives to overcome obstacles for the Asian American community, as well as other minority communities.

SEPHORA Sephora is a leading global prestige omni-retailer with a mission to expand the way the world sees beauty by creating a welcoming shopping experience for all and inspiring fearlessness throughout the beauty community.

The retailer operates more than 3,000 stores in 35 markets worldwide, with an expanding base of more than 600 stores across the Americas, and a world-class e-commerce site. For years, Sephora has been an industry-leading champion of diversity, inclusivity, and empowerment in the US, guided by its longstanding company values.



George-Axelle Broussillon Matschinga
Vice President, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

George-Axelle Broussillon Matschinga is the Vice President of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion at Sephora. In her role, George-Axelle leads Sephora US efforts including the design, strategic direction, implementation, and business alignment of Sephora's Diversity, Equity & Inclusion initiatives.

A French native and one of the first Diversity practitioners in France, George-Axelle brings 18 years of corporate expertise to Sephora. Since joining Sephora in 2020, George-Axelle has focused on developing an even more effective ecosystem where Sephora attracts, recruits, develops and advances the best diverse talent and fosters inclusion within the company's internal workforce, clients, and communities. George-Axelle has also built out Sephora's overall D&I strategy and governance structure, including a leadership Steering Committee for Diversity and Inclusion. Additionally, she oversees the engagement of Sephora's Equity Advisors and Partners, a group of accomplished leaders at the intersection of race, culture and civil rights organizations advising on how to promote racial equity. George-Axelle also plays an integral role in leading Sephora Employee Resource

Groups, and regularly hosts listening sessions and D&I trainings across LVMH. George-Axelle is a graduate from Harvard University, ESCP Europe Business School and Sorbonne University.

PAST HONOREES INCLUDE: 2021 - Bank of America, 2018 - Verizon, 2017 - Starbucks Coffee Company, 2016 - Walt Disney Company, 2015 - Google, 2014 - Time Warner Cable, 2013 - The Nielsen Company, 2012 - National Education Association, 2011 - Comcast/NBCUniversal, 2010 - State Farm Insurance Companies, 2009 - Edison International, 2008 - The Prudential Insurance Company of America, 2007 - AT&T, 2006 - The Honorable Norman Y. Mineta, 2005 - Bill Imada and the IW Group, Inc., 2004 - ChevronTexaco Corporation, 2003 - Anheuser-Busch Companies, 2002 - SBC Pacific Bell, 2001 - Merrill Lynch

AMERICAN COURAGE AWARD

The American Courage Award honors an individual, company, or organization that has shown extraordinary courage or commitment to civil rights.

Asian American Scientists and Scholars

Accepted by Gang Chen, Anming Hu, Franklin Tao, Xiaoxing Xi

The U.S. government has a history of treating Asian Americans and immigrants as perpetual foreigners and national security threats. For decades, the federal government has unfairly targeted and profiled Asian American and Asian immigrant scientists. A few years ago, a group of professors, scientists, and researchers including Anming Hu, Franklin Tao, Xiaoxing Xi, and Gang Chen, called out the U.S. Government for its “China Initiative.”

The now defunct “China Initiative” is a shameful example of how the government coordinated efforts to target Chinese American scientists and researchers based on their ancestry rather than true suspected criminal activity.

Though charges were dropped quickly, Xiaoxing Xi was among the first to be targeted in 2015 before official acknowledgement of the “China Initiative” program. While holding his family at gunpoint, the FBI arrested Xi in his home — accusing him of sharing confidential technology with China when he was discussing technology that had been public for years.

Anming Hu was the first academic to face trial under the China Initiative even though he had followed all procedures and disclosures required for a faculty member with work connections to China. After his arrest and trial, he was acquitted in September 2021 with the judge saying, “no rational jury could find him guilty.”

Gang Chen was arrested in 2021, accused of being a spy and failing to disclose ties to Chinese institutions, but the prosecutor’s office admitted that it did not have sufficient evidence for a case and dismissed all charges.

Franklin Tao was investigated by the FBI for espionage based on anonymous tips and arrested in 2019 on unrelated charges. Each charge has since been dismissed for lack of evidence.

Chen, Hu, Tao, and Xi were profiled and unfairly treated when they were caught in the Department of Justice’s broad net of prosecutions and sudden criminalization. Each of them continues to try to rebuild their careers and rebound from the lasting trauma they and their families have suffered from the government. For their extraordinary bravery and perseverance during the darkest times of their lives, we honor them with the American Courage Award.

PAST HONOREES INCLUDE: 2023 – The Honorable Julie A. Su, 2022 – The Honorable Mazie Hirono, 2021 – Weijia Jiang, 2019 – Karen Narasaki, 2018 – Ai-jen Poo, 2017 – Neal K. Katyal, 2016 – Vanita Gupta, 2015 – Eric H. Holder, Jr., 2014 – The Director and Producers of Linsanity: Evan Jackson Leong, Christopher Chen, Allen Lu and Brian Yang, 2013 – Valarie Kaur, 2012 – Jim Shee



Gang Chen

**Carl Richard Soderberg
Professor of Power
Engineering at
Massachusetts Institute
of Technology (MIT)**

Dr. Gang Chen is the Carl Richard Soderberg Professor of Power Engineering at MIT. He served as Department Head of the Mechanical Engineering Department (2013–2018) and as Director of the Solid-State Solar-Thermal Energy Conversion Center (2009–2019), an Energy Frontier Research Center of the US Department of Energy. He obtained his PhD degree from the Mechanical Engineering Department at UC Berkeley. He joined MIT in 2001 after faculty roles at Duke and UCLA. His research spans nanoscience, clean energy, and clean water technologies, earning him numerous accolades, including membership in the National Academy of Engineering and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. Wrongfully prosecuted under the DOJ’s China Initiative in 2021, MIT and the scientific community rallied in his support. The charges were dropped in 2022, and MIT warmly welcomed him back. In 2023, he was elected to the US National Academy of Sciences.



Anming Hu

**Associate Professor at
University of Tennessee**

Born in China, Dr. Hu earned his first Ph.D. in physics from the Chinese Academy of Sciences in 1997 and later obtained the second Ph.D. in laser physics from the University of Waterloo, Canada, in 2008. He became a naturalized Canadian citizen in 2009. In November 2013, he joined the Department of Mechanical, Aerospace, and Biomedical Engineering at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, as an assistant professor and was promoted to tenured associate professor in 2019. His research interests include laser processing, nanomanufacturing, and 3D microprinting for applications in electronics, energy, and the environment.

On February 27, 2020, he was indicted and arrested under the China Initiative by the U.S. Department of Justice. All charges were dismissed, and he was acquitted by a U.S. federal district judge on September 9, 2021. He was reinstated to his tenured associate professorship at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, on February 1, 2022.

NORMAN Y. MINETA SPIRIT AWARD

The Norman Y. Mineta Spirit Award recognizes a public-spirited youth whose leadership has exemplified dedication, compassion, and resilience on a local or national level that benefits Asian American communities. The award was established in honor of the trailblazing legacy of former Secretary of Transportation, Norman Y. Mineta.



Franklin Tao
**Associate Professor of
Chemical Engineering**

Franklin Tao earned his PhD from Princeton University and conducted postdoctoral research at the University of California, Berkeley, and Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory. He is an elected fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (2017) and Royal Society of Chemistry (2013). His research focuses on fundamental studies of catalysis for chemical transformation, energy renewability, and environmental sustainability. He received Eugene P. Wigner Fellowship from Oak Ridge National Lab (2010), finalist prize of Gerhard Ertl Young investigator award from Germany Physics Society (2010), Paul Holloway award from American Vacuum Society (2012), NSF-career award from National Science Foundation (2014), Miller research award (2014), Bellow scholar award (2018), and University Scholarly Achievement Award from University of Kansas (2019). He served on the advisory editorial boards of journals such as Chemical Society Reviews and Catalysis Science & Technology and was an editor for Applied Surface Science. In 2019-2020, he faced ten baseless charges, which were ultimately expunged after a five-year legal defense. He was fully exonerated in July 2024.



Xiaoxing Xi
**Laura H. Carnell
Professor of Physics
at Temple University**

Xiaoxing Xi is Laura H. Carnell Professor of Physics at Temple University. Prior to 2009, he was Professor of Physics and Materials Science and Engineering at The Pennsylvania State University. He received his PhD degree in physics from Peking University and Institute of Physics, Chinese Academy of Sciences, in 1987. After several years of research at Karlsruhe Nuclear Research Center, Germany, Bell Communication Research/Rutgers University, and University of Maryland, he joined the Physics faculty at Penn State in 1995. His research focuses on the materials physics of oxide and boride thin films. He is author of over 350 refereed journal articles and 3 U.S. patents. He is a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and a Fellow of American Physical Society. He was recipient of the APS 2020 Andrei Sakharov Prize and the Unity & Resilience Award from APAPA for his unwavering advocacy for Asian American scientists.



Sarah Zhang
**University of North
Carolina at Chapel Hill,
Class of 2024**

Sarah Zhang (she/they) is a senior at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill studying information science, political science, and computer science. Originally from Bucks County, Pennsylvania, Sarah has long been passionate about educational equity and access. As a Chinese-American daughter of immigrants growing up in a predominantly white suburb, Sarah understands the importance of inclusion and has long worked to develop diverse curricula and help shape school board policies focused on uplifting historically resilient communities.

Sarah's belief in the power of education to shape lives led her to create the Affirmative Action Coalition at UNC-CH, whilst dismantling stereotypes around Asian Americans and race-conscious admissions. They have helped organize multiple outreach efforts across campus and worked with university leaders to navigate a post-affirmative action world, emphasizing the importance of diversity in educational spaces. Currently, Sarah is focused on building TransparUNCy with the coalition, a new project focused on the UNC public school system, particularly after a recent decision to eliminate DEI from UNC's 16+ public universities.

Outside of the Coalition, Sarah is proud to have served Pennsylvanians and North Carolinians as a former intern within the House of Representatives and as a field organizer across local and national campaigns. She additionally leads Girls Who Code at UNC-CH, focused on educating local middle and high school girls on how to program to break barriers in a male-dominated space. The principles of empathy, solidarity, and creating community have guided Sarah's work, and she feels immensely grateful to public schools and her former teachers for shaping her into the advocate that she is.

PAST HONOREES INCLUDE: 2023 - Rohit Kataria, 2022 - Tarina Ahuja

SPOKEN WORD PERFORMANCE



Tara Prakash

2024 Montgomery County Youth Poet Laureate

Tara Prakash is the first Youth Poet Laureate of Maryland and the 2024 Montgomery County Youth Poet Laureate. She studies at Sidewell Friends School in Washington, DC. Her work has been recognized in the Scholastic Art and writing Awards (where she won a National Gold Medal and a National Silver Medal), National YoungArts, the New York Times, Blue Marble Review, and Bow Seat's Ocean Awareness Contest. Her poem was chosen as a finalist over 360 entries in Hollins University's Nancy Thorp Poetry Contest. She also earned the First Class Distinction Award by the National Council of Teachers of English. Her work has appeared in Best American Highschool Writing, The Lumiere Review, and The Daphne Review, among others. She has attended the Adroit Summer Mentorship Program for Creative Nonfiction, the Iowa Young Writers' Studio, the Kenyon Young Writers Workshop, and the Kelly Writers House Summer Workshop. As the founder of the nonprofit Write to Right, which teaches writing to underserved communities, and the founder of an international social justice journal, Between the lines, Tara loves writing poetry, flash fiction pieces, and creative nonfiction essays. In her free

time, she can be found camping with her Scouts troop, hiking with her golden retriever, or playing pin-pong with her brother and grandmother. You can learn more about her at taraprakashwrites.com

CLOSING REMARKS



Kim Tran

Board Chair, Asian Americans Advancing Justice | AAJC

Kim Tran serves as GitHub's in-house employment law attorney where she is the Head of HR Legal. She provides legal advice to all global HR functions including Talent Acquisition to Employee Relations to Operations. Kim partners with cross-functional teams to build employee processes, help attract top-talent and, support a vibrant workplace. Kim serves on the American Bar Association's content planning committee for the EEO National Conference where she also speaks on various employment law current topics. She speaks on an annual ethics panel for the Washington State Bar Association.

Prior to joining GitHub, Kim previously worked in Microsoft's Corporate Legal External Affairs for almost a decade where she served in a number of capacities including leading a team of workplace investigators, providing employment law advice on a number of global programs including mergers and acquisitions, background screening and US-based employment issues. Kim was a co-lead for API in CELA, an Employee Network where she received the Community & Culture FY21 Annual Award for a community partnership with Advancing

Justice Southern California to address anti-Asian hate incidents. Before going in-house, Kim was a litigation shareholder with the Seattle law firm formerly known as Stafford Frey Cooper. During her 12 years at the law firm, Kim's practice focused on employment law, and she litigated hundreds of civil matters. Kim previously served as judge pro tem in King County District Court.

Kim was the first woman of color to serve as President of the King County Bar Association (founded in 1886) which oversees the interests of the 15,000 attorneys who practice in King County. Kim is past board president of Asian Counseling and Referral Service (ACRS), the largest nonprofit agency serving the Asian Pacific American population in Washington, where she volunteered as a naturalization teacher from 1999 to 2009. ACRS completed a \$19.1M capital campaign project under Kim's leadership as board President.

Kim has previously served on the boards of the following organizations: National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA) Foundation (board member); Asian Bar Association of Washington (President, 2006, Community Service Award, 2004); Joint Asian Judicial Evaluations (Committee Chair, 2009); and the Vietnamese American Bar Association (board member). Kim is a Fellow with the American Bar Foundation, was an inaugural WSBA Leadership Institute Fellow (2005), WSBA's Judicial Institute (2012), and was an invited member of the William L. Dwyer Inn of Court. Kim received her J.D. from Lewis and Clark Law School, her B.A. degree from Tufts University (English and Political Science) and Certificate in Human Resources from the University of Washington. She and her husband live in Washington with their three sons and dog.

WHO WE ARE

ABOUT US:

Rooted in the dreams of immigrants and inspired by the promise of opportunity, Asian Americans Advancing Justice | AAJC (Advancing Justice | AAJC) advocates for an America in which all Americans can benefit equally from, and contribute to, the American dream. Advancing Justice | AAJC is a national 501 (c)(3) nonprofit founded in 1991 in Washington, D.C. Our mission is to advance the civil and human rights of Asian Americans and to build and promote a fair and equitable society for all. Advancing Justice | AAJC is the voice for the Asian American community—the fastest-growing population in the U.S.—fighting of our civil rights through policy advocacy, education, and litigation. We serve to empower our communities by bringing local and national constituencies together and ensuring Asian Americans are able to participate fully in our democracy.

WHAT WE DO:

STRENGTHEN ROOTS (Immigration & Immigrant Rights; Census & Data Collection; Research; Communications; Telecommunications, Technology & Media; Anti-Profilng, Civil Rights and National Security): By strengthening and expanding federal immigration policies that promote family unification, equal treatment and due process in our immigration system, and integration of Asian immigrants; by ensuring an accurate reflection of Asian Americans within the American landscape in the decennial Census; by increasing the visibility and understanding of Asian Americans as an integral part of the fabric of America through research, communications, and media representation; by safeguarding civil rights in the digital space and promoting universal access to technology and telecommunications services for Asian Americans and other underserved communities; and by providing legal resources and policy advocacy against race-based targeting of immigrant Asian Americans for surveillance and prosecution by the U.S. government.

PROMOTE EQUAL PROTECTION (Legal Advocacy; Anti-Hate Initiative; Education Advocacy):

By ensuring legal protections for Asian Americans and advance organizational policy goals through litigation, amicus briefs, and partnerships with other civil rights and advocacy organizations; by addressing hate incidents against Asian Americans through documentation, advocacy, and increasing visibility; and by working toward the inclusion of the history of Asian Americans in public education nationwide.

BUILD POLITICAL POWER (Voting Rights; Community Engagement; Youth Engagement):

By increasing the voting power of the Asian American electorate and protecting equal access to the ballot box at local and national levels; by strengthening and expanding the capacity of local community-based organizations to advance and protect the rights of Asian Americans and other communities of color; and by strengthening and expanding student engagement in Asian American civil rights issues and national policy advocacy to advance and protect the rights of Asian Americans and other communities of color.

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**We celebrate
your service**
to the community and
your dedication to
justice for all.

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Today and every day we stand with Asian Americans Advancing Justice | AAJC as they continue to advocate for Asian American and Pacific Islander rights, and promote a fair and equitable society for all.

We are grateful for our partnership with Asian Americans Advancing Justice | AAJC and are delighted to sponsor the 2024 American Courage Awards.



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to everyone.

We are pleased to support Asian Americans Advancing Justice | AAJC and the 2024 American Courage Awards.

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COMMUNICATIONS



Inspiring through advocacy

The commitment Asian Americans Advancing Justice | AAJC has shown advocating for Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders has touched the lives of many, inspiring the AA/NHPI community across the country.

Congratulations, Asian Americans Advancing Justice | AAJC, on hosting your 28th annual American Courage Awards!

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“Virtual reality let me practice hundreds of times before I operated on a real patient.”

- Dr. Anushree Baid, Resident
Dr. Shroff's Charity Eye Hospital

A resident ophthalmologist, Dr. Anushree Baid trained in **Orbis International** and **FundamentalVR**'s virtual reality platform to help learn and refine her surgical technique, helping her perform over 300 life-changing cataract surgeries last year.

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The 2024 American Courage Award honorees for their outstanding contributions and Asian Americans Advancing Justice | AAJC for its leadership in promoting and protecting civil rights for Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders.



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