



APAPA

Asian Pacific Islander American Public Affairs Association
Community Education Foundation (APAPA-CEF)
Empowering and Engaging Asian Pacific Islander Americans

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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APAPA & CLFF held National Civic Leadership Forum on Capitol Hill; House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy and 30+ congressional members attended; Former Congressman Mike Honda received Lifetime Achievement Award

WASHINGTON, DC, June 29, 2017 -- Asian Pacific Islander American Public Affairs Association (APAPA), a national non-profit, non-partisan organization that promotes the advancement of Asian and Pacific Islander (API) Americans through education, leadership and active participation in civic and public affairs, and Civic Leadership Forum Foundation (CLFF), a non-profit, non-partisan organization with the vision to create a pipeline of civic leaders regardless of ethnic group or country of origin for a fair and harmonious society, co-hosted the third annual national civic leadership forum (The Forum) from June 27 to June 29 in Washington, DC. The Forum featured keynote speeches, panel discussions, workshops and civic leadership award ceremonies. It was held in partnership with Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Forum (APIAHF), Chinese American Citizens Alliance (CACA), Council of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine Association (CAOMA), Committee of 100 (C100), National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), International Leadership Foundation (ILF), National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum (NAPAWF) and OCA (Organization of Chinese Americans).

The forum has seen unprecedented participation of 150 API American civic leaders from around the country and over 30 U.S. Congressional members, including: Ami Bera, Mike Capuano, Tony Cardenas, Steve Chabot, Judy Chu, Danny K. Davis, Jeff Denham, Lloyd Doggett, John Garamendi, Mike Honda, Sheila Jackson Lee, Pramila Jayapal, Ro Khanna, Ruben Kihuen, Doug LaMalfa, Barbara Lee, Ted Lieu, Doris Matsui, Kevin McCarthy, Tom McClintock, Jerry McNerney, Grace Meng, Bill Pascrell Jr., Nancy Pelosi, Ed Royce, Bobby Scott, Darren Soto, Eric Swalwell, Mark Takano, Mike Thompson, and Mimi Walters. Attendees also included Senator Tammy Duckworth and Former U.S. Secretary of Transportation Norman Mineta.

House Representatives Ro Khanna, Judy Chu, Ted Lieu and Grace Meng delivered keynote speeches during the two days at the Rayburn House Office Building, urging the API community to actively engage in civic affairs, work together to develop civic leadership and speak out for the community. With the moderation of Victoria Li, APAPA National Executive Director and other leaders, Congressional members participated in constructive panel discussions with community leaders, and exchanged ideas about topics important to the API community, including education, healthcare and immigration. Albert Wang, APAPA National Vice Chairman and Marianne Chung, APIAHF Senior Director provided in-depth conversation of the proposed healthcare legislation based on their professional experience.



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At the heartfelt and inspiring ceremony on June 27th, House Representative Jeff Denham presented the Leadership Award to Kevin McCarthy, House Majority Leader. Nancy Pelosi, House Minority Leader along with Norman Mineta, Former U.S. Secretary of Transportation presented the Lifetime Achievement Award to former U.S. House Representative Mike Honda, witnessed by many congressional members.

Leaders from APAPA and other prominent organizations presented at workshops that covered voter registration, civic organization building, youth leadership development, constitutional rights and government actions, and bridge building between the API community and other communities. C.C. Yin, APAPA Founder and National Chairman and Albert Wang, APAPA National Vice Chairman gave a powerful speech on leveraging the U.S. political system to build long-lasting civic power for the API community.

Sandy Chau, CLFF Founder and Chairman, C.C. Yin and Regina Yin, APAPA Founders, and Anthony Ng, CLFF Executive Director spoke about the importance of building civic leadership at the local level, and teaming up together at the national level to transform the inspiration from the previous two days into action. Hsing Kung and Ken Fong, APAPA National Board members, expressed their strong support for the API community to stay engaged and be proactive in civic affairs. The Forum closed and all left with a heightened sense of civic responsibility and enthusiasm to work together for a stronger nation.

For further information please visit <http://apapa.org> and <http://clff.org/>.

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