

The Chinese American Citizens Alliance of Greater N.Y. (CACAGNY)
紐約同源會

November 29, 2020

Virtual Ceremony for Chinese American WWII Veterans

CACAGNY hopes that all our friends and members had a great Thanksgiving this year, the 400th Anniversary of the landing of the Mayflower, and with it, the first ever experiment in history of a people governing themselves under a Compact that was based on the ideal of equal laws.

For 2020, CACAGNY also commemorates the 75th Anniversary of the ending of World War II. We remember with gratitude the "greatest generation," and the stoicism, heroism and patriotism with which they served America.

Many Chinese Americans served. When war was declared, only 78,000 Chinese Americans lived in mainland United States; an astonishing 20,000 volunteered or were drafted. This is all the more astonishing considering that many were not citizens; the hateful 1882 Chinese Exclusion Act, enacted essentially because Chinese railroad workers worked too hard too well, was still in effect.

Launched under the leadership of former President Ed Gor, the Chinese American Citizens Alliance's project to recognize Chinese American World War II Veterans was finally realized on December 15, 2018, when the 115th Congress passed the Chinese American World War II Veterans Congressional Gold Medal Act. Five days later, President Donald Trump signed it into law at the White House. We at CACAGNY are proud and humbled to have supported this successful national project, the work of many tireless volunteers, Chinese Americans as well as others, all around the country.

There will be a virtual Congressional Gold Medal ceremony on December 9, 2020 that we hope many can attend. Details are included below, including instructions for RSVP.

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Founded in 1895 in San Francisco, the Chinese American Citizens Alliance is the oldest Chinese American civil rights organization in the United States. CACAGNY is its New York Chapter. www.CACAGNY.org

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