

Chinese American Citizens Alliance of Greater New York

Press Release

December 3rd, 2016 CACAGNY.org

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Oldest Chinese American Civil Rights Organization Returning to New York

New York City- The **Chinese American Citizens Alliance ("C.A.C.A.")** is returning to the Greater New York region after a 30-year absence. The **Chinese American Citizens Alliance of Greater New York** will be chartered by the National Board at a ceremony to be held on **Saturday December 3, 2016** at the Museum of Chinese in America, to be followed by an inaugural dinner celebration at the Golden Unicorn Restaurant. (See media schedule below)

Local dignitaries expected to attend the dinner include Queens **State Senator Tony Avella** and **City Comptroller Scott Stringer**, both have expressed interest in running for Mayor. Also confirmed are Brooklyn **State Senator Jesse Hamilton, Assemblyman William Colton,** and **district leader Nancy Tong**.

Founded in 1895 in San Francisco, the C.A.C.A. is the oldest Chinese American civil rights organization in the United States. It fought against the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882, laws discriminating against Chinese in education, employment, business, immigration and in society generally. C.A.C.A defends and promotes the practice of American citizenship and the highest morals, respectfully observes American patriotism while preserving Chinese heritage and traditions and developing educational, economic, and political opportunities.

The founding and charter members of the new **Greater New York chapter** include educational advocates who have fought to maintain meritocracy in our schools including the SHSAT, community leaders who organized the Peter Liang rallies, and former executives of community health and welfare organizations including Charles Pei Wang, David Chen, Don Lee, John Chen, Lorinda Chen, Pastor Bayer Lee, as well as professionals and artists such as Corky Lee. In the upcoming months, CACAGNY will investigate crime,

including the rise in attacks against Chinese and Asian subway pushings, education, including fairness in college admissions and Specialized High Schools, economic opportunities, and the Mayoral Race and other races next year.

More information and tickets to the dinner and ceremony can be found at CACAGNY.org

Attachments: About CACAGNY

Event/ Media Schedule:

Saturday December 3

3pm-5pm Chartering Ceremony - Museum of Chinese in America

215 Centre St, New York, NY 10013

Press Conference 4:30 pm

5:30 -9:30 Inaugural Dinner Celebration- Golden Unicorn Restaurant

18 East Broadway, New York, NY 10002

Press Conference 6:00 pm

Chinese American

Citizens Alliance

Greater New York



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About The Chinese American Citizens Alliance

The Chinese American Citizens Alliance (C.A.C.A.) was founded in San Francisco in 1895 by a group of American-born males of Chinese descent to fight for the rights of Chinese Americans in the United States. It is the oldest Chinese American Civil Rights organization in the United States, formed to empower and enfranchise Chinese American citizens, to fight legislation unfair to Chinese Americans, to promote American citizenship, and to support high ethics, morals, and values for our community while maintaining Chinese heritage and culture. Originally accepting only men as members, the C.A.C.A. reorganized in the early 1900s to admit women and to expand beyond San Francisco. Before many resources were available to the Chinese-American communities, the C.A.C.A, offered various benefits, such as to members. The National Organization and its insurance and newspapers chapters or lodges are registered as 501c-8 non-profits operating under the lodge system. Many of the chapters also operate 501c-3 organizations for charitable purposes. See CACANational.org for more information about the National Organization.

Re-chartering the New York Chapter:

The Chinese American Citizens Alliance of Greater New York 紐約同源會 (CACAGNY)

In 1916, a prior Chinese American Citizens Alliance organization was formed by American-born Chinese in New York, with its headquarters at 6 Mott Street, and was credited for many civil rights accomplishments. The New York Lodge was disbanded in the early 1980's. After a 30-year absence from New York, the C.A.C.A. has returned. In 2016, exactly 100 years since the original inception of the kindred C.A.C.A. group in New York, a group of seasoned and active community advocates decided to take on the responsibility in New York of fostering Chinese American interests while building on the illustrious history of the C.A.C.A. With a fresh outlook and great respect for the community's heritage, the founding members seek to empower and enhance the future of Chinese Americans as citizens of the United States of America, by advocacy for Chinese American interests based on the principles of fairness and equal opportunity, and guided by the ideals of patriotism, civility, dedication to family and culture, with the highest ethical and moral standards.

Notable 2016 Founding Members, with selected data, include:

- Charles P. Wang, President, Chinese American Cultural & Art Association. Former Pres.
 China Institute, Executive Director of Chinese American Planning Council, appointee of Presidents Carter, Clinton and Bush.
- David Chen, Former Executive Director of the Chinatown Planning Council
- Lorinda Chen, President, NY Chinese American Association, Director Queens CPC, Health Clinic founder, radio host
- Jennifer Chu, Queens Community Board Member, Pres. Elmhurst United
- Thomas Ong, Co-Founder of the Jade Society, NYPD Detective, retired
- **Phillip Wong**, VP Elmhurst United, member of Queens Congress
- **Benton Yip**, Former Chairman, NY Chapter of National Association of Asian Professionals, Parkinson's fundraiser and advocate.
- David Lee, Executive Director CoalitionEDU Specialized High School Advocate
- Stanley Ng, School District Appointee of the Brooklyn Borough President

Officers:

Wai Wah Chin President First Vice President David Lee Second Vice President Stanley Ng Secretary Chris M. Kwok Assistant Secretary Lorinda Chen Treasurer Alex Cai Financial Secretary Michael Lee Compliance Officer Linda Lam Compliance Officer Larry Sit Marshal Robert Gee Sentinel Thomas Ong Collector Ming-I Huang Chris M. Kwok National Representative