



Welcome to

AAFE's 52nd Annual Gala

May 21st, 2026

at

Tribeca Rooftop
2 Desbrosses St
New York, NY 10013



**Asian Americans
for Equality**





AT A GLANCE

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Welcome to AAFE's 52nd Annual Gala!

For fifty-two years, AAFE has remained steadfast in our purpose: to advance racial, social and economic justice for all, regardless of background, guided by our experiences as Asian Americans and our commitment to civil rights. This evening, we honor the progress we've achieved as one community, and we look ahead to the critical work that still lies before us.

We've designed a program that reflects the vibrancy and strength of our community. With our honoree ceremony, Renaissance's dynamic small business showcase, an exciting virtual auction, and live entertainment, tonight promises to be a memorable and uplifting experience.

We are deeply grateful to have you with us tonight. Your presence and support this evening reflect a shared belief in equity and opportunity for the thousands of New Yorkers we proudly serve each year. Surrounded by dedicated partners, allies, advocates, and friends, we are reminded and energized by the collective strength behind our mission.



Honorees

Celebrating the leaders
shaping our communities.

Dr. Helen Arteaga

Deputy Mayor, Health & Human Services

Dr. Helen Arteaga made history in 2021 as the first woman and first Latina to serve as CEO of NYC Health + Hospitals/Elmhurst, guiding the hospital through the COVID-19 pandemic. Her community-centered leadership has had a lasting impact on the northern Queens neighborhoods AAFE serves, and we are proud to have partnered with Elmhurst Hospital in support of our shared communities. She now brings that same dedication to her role as Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services.



Maria Torres-Springer

President, Charles H. Revson Foundation

Maria Torres-Springer is a nationally recognized public servant and urban policy leader with over 25 years of experience, advancing housing justice and economic opportunity across four mayoral administrations. From serving as NYC's First Deputy Mayor to her current role as President of the Charles H. Revson Foundation, her commitment to building a more just and inclusive New York City aligns deeply with AAFE's mission.



DINNER MENU

During Cocktail Hour: Hors D'ouerves
& Mediterranean fare

Gourmet Sliders
& Fries

Sushi & Sashimi

Specialty Pasta

Dim Sum

Rainbow Baby Kale Caesar Salad
& Assorted Focaccias

DESSERT

+ Coffee & Tea

Lemon & Blueberry
Cheesecake

Spiced Carrot
Cake Truffles

Mini Flourless
Chocolate Tortes

Mini Ice Cream
Sandwiches

Mixed Berries with
Lemon Sabayon

Churros with
Dipping Sauce



Virtual Auction

Bidding open until May 22

Support AAFE's mission by bidding on our incredible selection of unique items and experiences!

Visit the QR code to view and bid now until Friday, May 22 at 9pm.

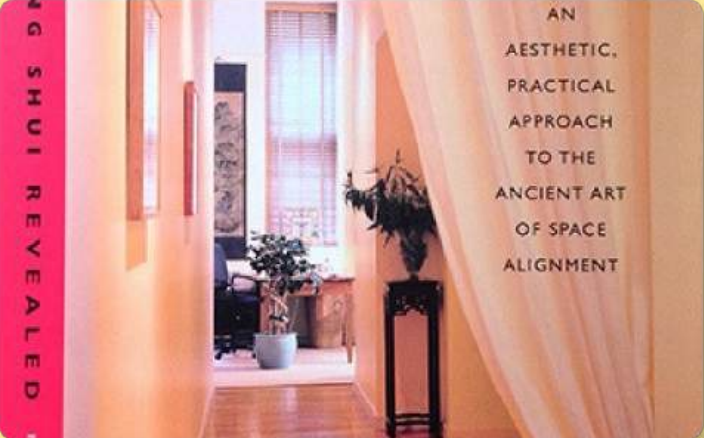


Our Auction Items

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Small Business Showcase

Browse, snack, and get to know some of the small business clients served by Renaissance, AAFE's small business affiliate.



AnnTremet Cake



Cardon



Elvis + Elvin



La Dulce Bakery



Mama Lam's



Naturalvert



Sun Wind
Talking Cookie



Volta Atelier





Tonight's Entertainment

Starlyte Dance Crew

Starlyte is a K-Pop dance crew comprised of high school students who participate in AAFE's Youth Program, through which AAFE provides college access and youth leadership for high school students in Queens.

[Click here to learn more about AAFE Youth](#)



Pianist Kayla Ren

Kayla is a music teacher who loves working with young children and helping them experience the joy of music. For years, Kayla has enjoyed playing and singing in her local faith community. Music has always been a big part of her life, and she's excited to share a little of that with guests at this year's gala.



Who We Are

Through community development, Asian Americans for Equality advances racial, social and economic justice for all, regardless of background, guided by our experiences as Asian Americans and our commitment to civil rights.

35,000

Individuals access AAFE services each year

\$450M

In mortgage financing deployed for first-time homebuyers

1,400+

Affordable rental units created across our city.

140k

Pounds of food distributed by our food pantries annually

\$70M

In small business loans provided by Renaissance

“
AAFE helped me apply for SNAP (food stamp) benefits. My SNAP application was approved within 10 days. All the services AAFE provided are free of charge to us (low-income and elderlies). This makes our lives much easier!

— Ho Choy
Flushing client

“
My experience with AAFE has been the best. [The staff] took my case and helped me organize and send the necessary documentation to participate in the Housing Connect housing lottery. After 3 months I finally signed my rental contract. Eternally grateful to the AAFE staff.

— Norma B.
Jackson Heights client



Board of Directors

NAME	TITLE	AFFILIATION
Catherine Kim	Chair	The M2M Project
Grace Alster	Vice President	CPC Mortgage Company (Community Preservation Corporation)
Peggy Chan	Treasurer	Cathay Bank
Turney (Toby) Singh Baba	Secretary	Santander Bank
Connie Lee	Board Member	NY/NJ Port Authority Human Resources division
Donna Chiu	Board Member	Mobilization for Justice
Heng Ly	Board Member	Fordham Bedford Housing Corporation
Jeanne Lang	Board Member	LENDonate
Jim Burke	Board Member	34th Avenue Open Streets Coalition
June Jee	Board Member	Community Affairs & Strategic Partnership Consultant
Kay Webster	Board Member	Resident and Community Member
Kenneth Cohen	Board Member	NAACP Northeast Queens Branch
Kimberly Williams	Board Member	Con Edison
Lisa Talma	Board Member	Deutsche Bank



AAFE Affiliates

Providing an expansive breadth of services.



Renaissance Economic Development Corporation

Small business lending and technical assistance.

Manhattan Office:

2 Allen Street, 7th Floor
New York, NY 10002

Queens Office:

133-29 41st Avenue
Flushing, NY 11355



亞洲人平等會信貸中心

AAFE Community Development Fund (CDF)

Homebuyer education and loan facilitation.

Office:

2 Allen Street, 7th Floor
New York, NY 10002





Thank You to our Host Committee Members!

Blaise U. Chow

Sam Hyun

Chris Kwok

Gerald Lam

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Tsui Ng

Josie Young

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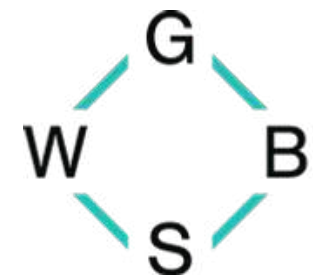




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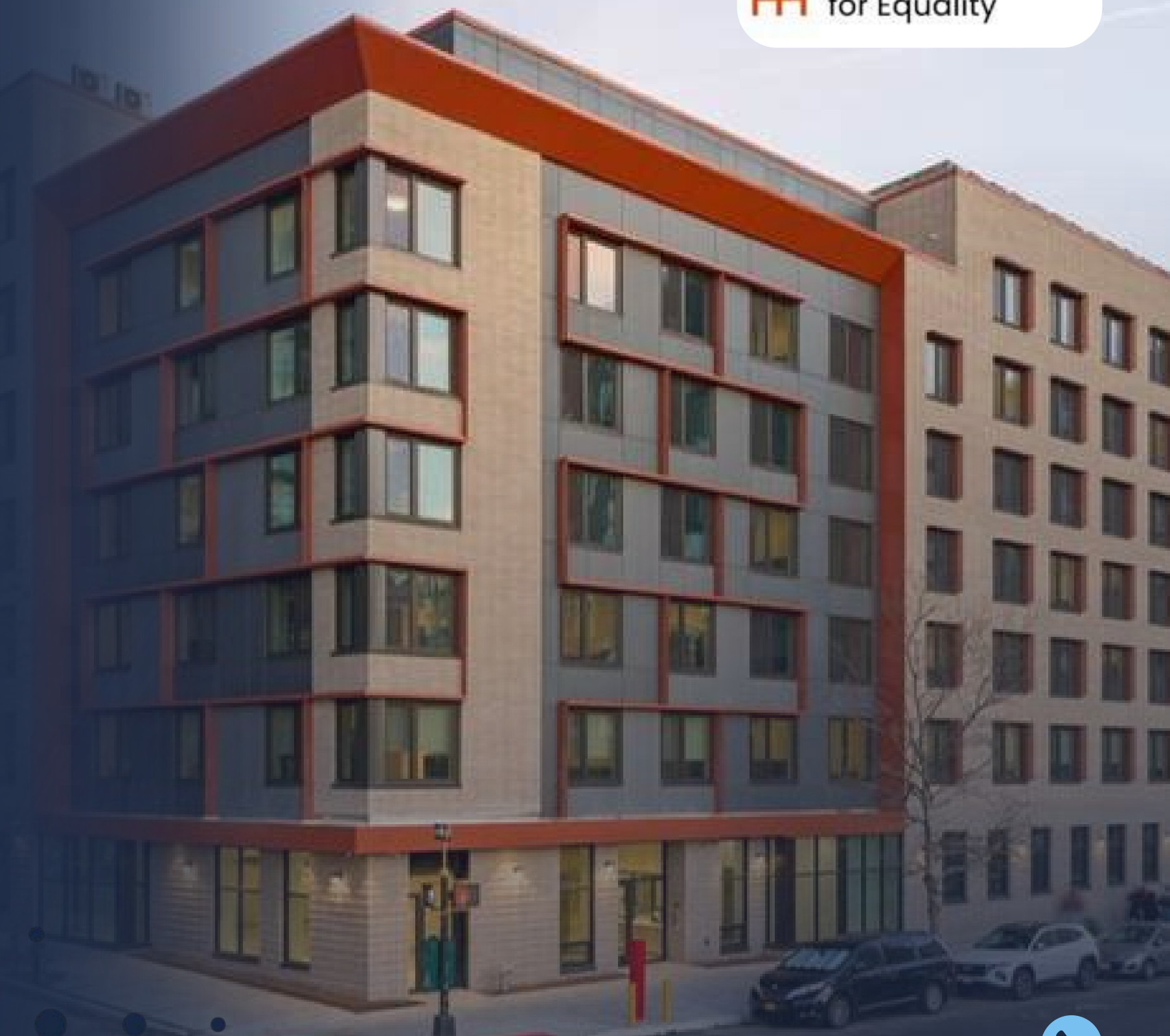
We are proud to support AAFE and its mission to strengthen and empower our communities through opportunity, advocacy, and impact.

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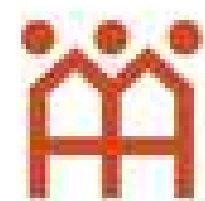
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Asian Americans
for Equality

Urban Resource Institute is proud to stand alongside **Asian Americans for Equality** in building stronger, more resilient communities across New York City. Our partnership reflects a shared belief that safe, stable housing is the foundation for opportunity, dignity, and long-term well-being.

Together, we are advancing solutions that center people, strengthen neighborhoods, and create pathways forward for families.

Because when organizations come together with purpose and commitment, **we are stronger—and our communities are stronger with us.**



**HUB International Northeast
is Proud to Support the**

**Asian Americans for Equality
52nd ANNUAL GALA**

*From your friends at HUB,
Sherry, Erica, Ginellie and Jeff*

HUB International Northeast

Sherry Ying Jiang, Senior Account Executive

Office: 718-787-3836

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HUB



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Cathay Bank is proud to support the **52nd Annual Gala of Asian Americans for Equality (AAFE)**. We stand in solidarity with AAFE in promoting racial, social, and economic justice through community development. Our efforts are grounded in the lived experiences of Asian Americans and a mutual commitment to civil rights.

Visit cathaybank.com or scan the QR code for more information:



Gilbane Development proudly supports AAFE's 52nd Annual Gala

Congratulations to this year's honorees, Maria Torres-Springer and Helen Arteaga



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PROUD TO SUPPORT



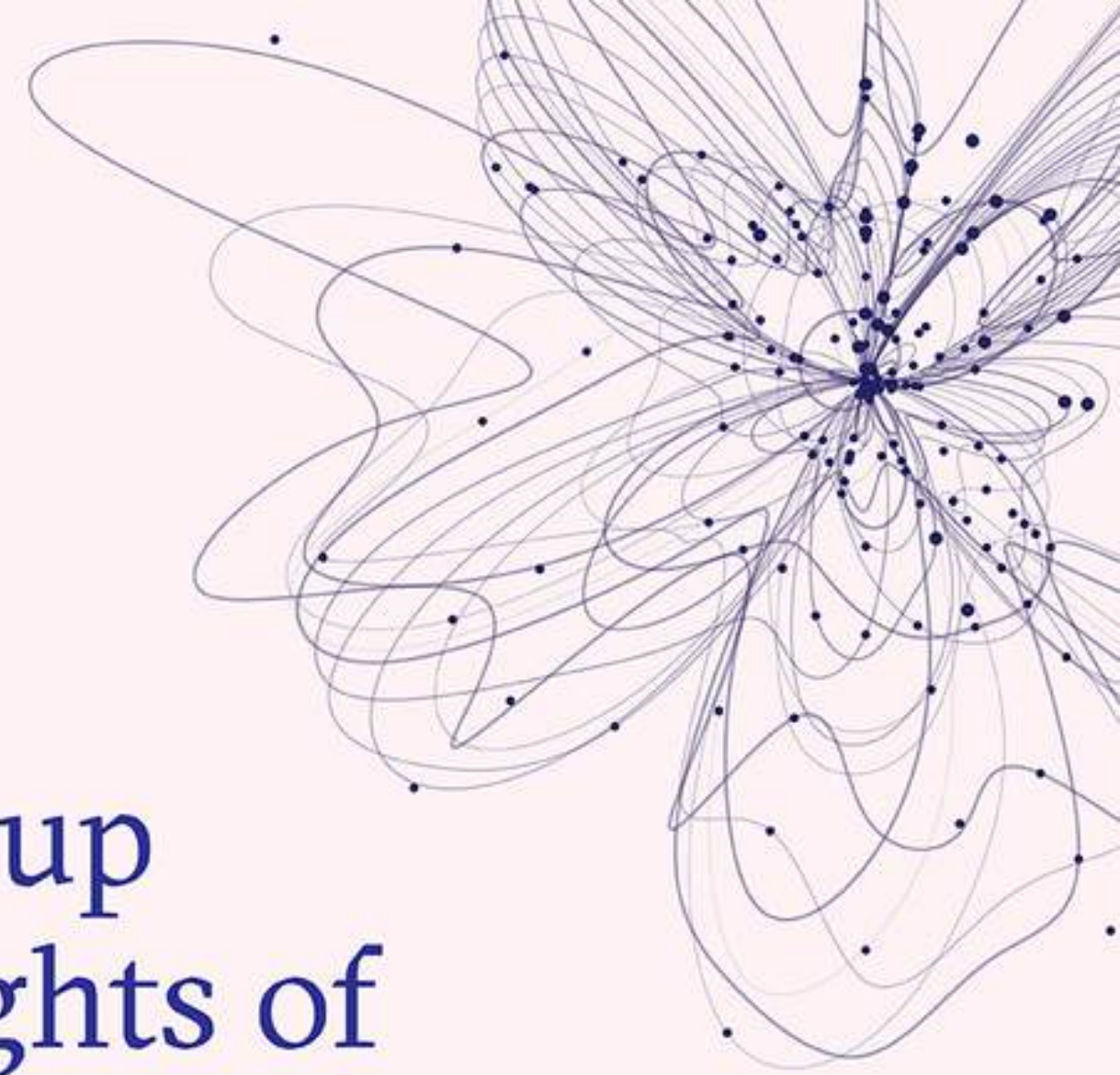
Asian Americans
for Equality

52nd Annual Gala

And their mission to advance racial,
social, and economic justice through
community development.



Cooley



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for the rights of
everyone.



GOLDSTEIN HALL IS PROUD TO SUPPORT

**AAFE'S
52nd ANNUAL GALA**

CONGRATULATIONS TO THIS YEAR'S HONOREES:

MARIA TORRES-SPRINGER

NEW YORK CITY'S FIRST DEPUTY MAYOR

DR. HELEN ARTEAGA

DEPUTY MAYOR FOR HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

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Congratulations to
Asian Americans For Equality's
2026 Honorees

MARIA TORRES-SPRINGER
CHARLES H. REVSON FOUNDATION

DR. HELEN ARTEAGA
*Deputy Mayor for
Health and Human Services*

CHUNG PAK
LOCAL DEVELOPMENT CORP.
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96 Baxter Street, New York, NY 10013



celebrates AAFE for 52 years of service
and commitment to the community!
Congratulations to all the Honorees!



Magnolia Gardens

uai-ny.com



conEdison

We proudly support Asian Americans for Equality and congratulate the 2026 gala honorees.



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Asian Americans for Equality

We congratulate the honorees:

Maria Torres-Springer
Dr. Helen Arteaga

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