

**JOIN THE MOVEMENT FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE
AND DONATE TO AALDEF TODAY!**

Name _____
 Address _____
 City/State _____ Zip code _____
 Email _____ Phone _____
 If your employer has a matching gifts program:
 Name of company _____
 We accept _____ Visa _____ Mastercard _____ American Express _____
 Name (as it appears on your card) _____ Expiration date _____
 Account Number _____
 Signature (required) _____

All contributions are tax-deductible. Please make checks payable to the Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund (AALDEF) and mail to 99 Hudson Street, 12F, New York, NY 10013-2815. You can also donate online at <http://www.aaldef.org/support>. Thank you!

How Can I Get Involved?

Donate

It is only with your help that we can continue to provide the litigation, education, and advocacy that our community has come to depend upon over the last three decades. To learn more about donating to AALDEF, go to <http://aaldef.org/support>.

Social Media

Show your support by following us on Twitter (@aaldef) and liking us on Facebook (bit.ly/aaldef)! Or catch up on renowned journalist Emil Guillermo's hilarious and insightful commentary on the AALDEF blog: <http://aaldef.org/blog>.

Volunteer

AALDEF is grateful for the support of volunteer translators, lawyers, students, graphic designers, media professionals, and more! To learn more about volunteer opportunities at AALDEF, please visit <http://aaldef.org/support/volunteer>.

AALDEF Staff

- Margaret Fung, Executive Director
- Tommy Shi, President
- Irene Chang-Cimino
- Nicholas V. Chen
- Vivian Cheng-Khanna
- Denley Y. Chew
- William T. Coleman III
- Joy Huihonhoa
- Grace Y. Hwang
- Richard K. Kim
- Peter D. Lederer
- Lauren U. Y. Lee
- Sandra Lee
- Sandra Leung
- Phillip Tajitsu Nash
- Ayaz R. Shaikh
- Ko-Yung Tung
- Susan Chong Wong
- Margaret Y.K. Woo
- Gail J. Wright Sirmans
- Mark Ro Beyersdorf
- Khin Mai Aung
- Sandy Chan
- Jeffrey Chang
- Elizabeth Kim
- Kenneth Kimering
- Bethany Li
- Shirley Lin
- Lillian Ling
- Glenn D. Magpanlay
- Thomas Maradason
- Stanley Mark
- Ujala Sehgal
- Mary Sellner
- Ivy O. Suryopas
- Ch-Ser Tran
- Mabel Tso
- Jerry Vattamala
- Jennifer Weng

AALDEF Board

SPECIAL EVENTS
 To learn about upcoming AALDEF events, please visit <http://aaldef.org/events>.

ELECTION 2012

**Asian American Legal Defense
and Education Fund**

**OUTLOOK
FALL 2012**

AALDEF
99 Hudson St., 12F
NYC 10013-2815

**Hold These Truths:
The Journey of Gordon Hirabayashi**
 AALDEF organized a theater party for the Oct. 22 performance of Hold These Truths, a one-man show inspired by the true story of Japanese American civil rights hero Gordon Hirabayashi. It was followed by a special Q&A with playwright Jeanne Sakata and former Acting U.S. Solicitor General Neal Katyal.

AI Wei Wei: Never Sorry
 Last August, AALDEF joined with several Asian American groups to host a special screening of AI Wei Wei: Never Sorry, Alison Klayman's documentary about China's most celebrated contemporary artist and its most outspoken critic.

Mr. Cao Goes to Washington
 For the 35th Asian American International Film Festival, AALDEF hosted a screening of Mr. Cao Goes to Washington, the award-winning documentary by S. Leo Chiang on the election of a Vietnamese American Republican in New Orleans.

Join our Election Viewing Party!
 AALDEF's Young Professionals Committee is hosting an Election Day Viewing Party in NYC on November 6! Past and present AALDEF election protection volunteers will be reuniting with their fellow volunteers and celebrating their efforts at the polls with AALDEF friends, supporters, and staff. Join us at Manhattan Proper in downtown Manhattan. To RSVP, email ypc.aaldef@gmail.com.

CELEBRATE THE YEAR OF THE SNAKE
 at the Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund
 Annual Lunar New Year Celebration
2013 Justice in Action Award Recipients
 Jose Antonio Vargas, Define American
 Simone Wu, Choice Hotels International, Inc.
 Tuesday, February 12, 2013
 PIER SIXTY, New York City
 Contact: events@aaldef.org
 or 212 966-5932 ext 202.

Catch up on the latest highlights from AALDEF's fight for civil rights:

Voting Rights

Election 2012: Poll Monitoring and Exit Poll

With the surge of new Asian American voters, the stakes are higher than ever for the 2012 election. That's why we're sending volunteers to 14 states to poll 10,000 Asian American voters, and document any voting problems or discrimination they face. AALDEF has been gathering data about Asian American voters since 1988. AALDEF's multilingual exit poll reveals vital information about Asian American voting patterns that is often overlooked in mainstream voter surveys. In past elections, AALDEF found mistranslated ballots, interpreter shortages that led to Asian American voters being turned away, and poll workers who made hostile and racist remarks about Asian American voters. "We want all eligible Asian Americans to be able to have their votes counted in this critical Presidential election," said AALDEF executive director Margaret Fung.



Voter ID Laws = Asian American Disenfranchisement

The wave of voter suppression laws has threatened the voting rights of Asian Americans and other voters of color. In Pennsylvania, AALDEF helped block the discriminatory new voter ID law by filing an *amicus* brief in PA Supreme Court, asserting that the law's harsh requirements unfairly affected Asian American voters. AALDEF Democracy Program Director Glenn Magpantay and staff attorney Jerry Vattamala conducted a series of free legal trainings for community leaders on election laws, and AALDEF released multilingual voting rights fact sheets.

Putting Asian Americans on the NYC Council Map

Asian American communities in New York City have been disenfranchised for the last decade because of district lines that dilute the power of their vote.

With NYC Council redistricting underway, AALDEF is literally putting Asian American interests on the map. Together with a multiracial coalition of civil rights groups, AALDEF drafted the Unity Map to ensure that Asian Americans, Blacks, and Latinos will have fair representation and can elect candidates of their choice.



Educational Equity

The Future of College Diversity

With arguments in *Fisher v. UT-Austin* before the U.S. Supreme Court, the future of diversity in higher education is at stake. AALDEF has long been at the forefront of fighting for equal opportunity for Asian Americans. We filed an *amicus* brief, with pro bono counsel Foley Hoag, supporting UT-Austin's use of diversity considerations to advance educational opportunities of Asian Americans. Our brief, signed by numerous AAPI organizations, educators, and students, offers the real data on how much diversity considerations help our community. In the fall, we took our outreach efforts on the road, from Texas, where staff attorney Thomas Mariadason spoke to UT-Austin students, to Washington, DC, where AALDEF Educational Equity Program Director Khin Mai Aung spoke at a rally on the steps of the Supreme Court on Oct. 10, the day of oral arguments.



Do Asian Americans Support Affirmative Action?

AALDEF released two policy papers from the Asian Pacific Americans in Higher Education (APAHE) and National Commission on Asian American and Pacific Islander Research in Education (CARE) that looked at a host of research indicating that Asian Americans support affirmative action.

Post 9/11 Civil Liberties

Protecting Religious Freedom in NJ and CT

In Bridgewater, New Jersey, the Al Falah Center made plans to renovate an existing building into a mosque and Muslim community center. In response, the Township of Bridgewater, NJ suddenly altered its zoning laws to block the development. Last year AALDEF, with co-counsel Arnold & Porter, Archer & Greiner, and the Brennan Center, challenged the zoning law for discrimination and for preventing the Muslim community from freely exercising its religion. In the latest development, we filed a preliminary injunction blocking Bridgewater from implementing the ordinance.

In Norwalk, Connecticut, the Al Madany Islamic Center submitted a proposal in 2010 for a center that would include a prayer hall, classrooms, and community center. Connecticut's Planning and Zoning Commission rejected its proposal, claiming the mosque would "fundamentally alter the character of this quiet, New England neighborhood." AALDEF and several co-counsel including Wilmer Hale have stepped in to represent Al Madany, which contends that its proposal was rejected due to religious discrimination. "These actions to block the building of mosques are part of the growing anti-Muslim discrimination that threatens all of us in this country," said Ken Kimerling, AALDEF Legal Director.

Sikh Temple Massacre Shocks the Nation

On August 5, a horrific mass shooting took place at the Sikh gurudwara in Oak Creek, Wisconsin, as the Sikh residents were preparing for a peaceful religious gathering. Six members of the Sikh community were killed. AALDEF condemned the blatant act of terrorism, and *Newsday* published an op-ed about the tragedy written by AALDEF communications coordinator Ujala Sehgal. AALDEF joined the Sikh Coalition and organizations across the nation to ask the Senate to conduct a hearing on the need to address hate crimes and the proliferation of hate groups in the United States. The Senate Judiciary Committee hearing was held on September 19.

NYPD Spying Program FOILED Again

From six years of spying on American Muslims, the NYPD said it did not generate a single lead or any criminal charges of terrorism. Yet the NYPD still claims that AALDEF's request for public information would interfere with ongoing criminal investigations. AALDEF and Muslim Advocates, with pro bono counsel Weil, Gotshal and Manges LLP, have gone to court seeking disclosure of information on NYPD civil rights violations.



Immigrants Rights

Taking Action on Deferred Action

On June 15, 2012, the Obama administration announced that it would grant "deferred action" status to eligible undocumented youth, which would inoculate them from deportation from the United States. The new policy could affect the lives of hundreds of thousands of undocumented youth who form the economic backbone of our country. Since deferred action or "DACA" began, we have been holding free legal clinics for undocumented youth and offering free multilingual resources on our website.

Emerging Voices

"WE ARE Emerging Voices of Undocumented AAPI Youth!"

This is the message of undocumented Asian American DREAM Act-eligible students (DREAMers) in New York and New Jersey, who have joined with AALDEF to create the youth group "Emerging Voices." AALDEF works with youth group members to provide guidance on the issues they face, from struggling to pay for higher education to concerns about deportation. "With more programs unjustly targeting undocumented immigrants, this space that the youth are creating is extremely important," said Bethany Li, AALDEF staff attorney.



Economic Justice

Workers Unite Against Koreatown Restaurant

For Asian and Latino waiters and bussers at the popular New York restaurant Kum Gang San, work was a cycle of abuse. The restaurant's owner overworked them, underpaid them, forced some to attend church and shovel snow off his driveway, and threatened any who would stand up to him. Ten of these workers bravely took a stand. AALDEF has joined forces with LatinoJustice to represent them.



Gastropub Settles Suit for Cook's Unpaid Wages

In October, AALDEF's suit on behalf of Edward Kim, a former employee at the fancy Manhattan gastropub, Spitzer's Corner, was settled. Mr. Kim filed suit in May against the restaurant's well-known former chef Sung Park and its owners alleging violations of multiple federal and state labor laws. Mr. Kim was told that he was being hired as an "apprentice" to the Michelin star-awarded chef. Instead, the aspiring cook wound up performing menial labor over 90 hours a week for as little as \$3 an hour. AALDEF staff attorney Shirley Lin, who represented Mr. Kim, announced that "the parties have reached an amicable agreement, and the entirety of the matter was settled to the satisfaction of all parties."



Anti-Trafficking Initiative

Filipina Trafficking Survivor Stands Up in RI

Filipina domestic worker Ms. Ballesteros was confined to the home of a UAE naval officer in East Greenwich, RI, forced to work 119 hours per week without a day off, and forbidden from speaking to anyone outside the house. She escaped and sought legal help from AALDEF's Anti-Trafficking Initiative. After the naval officer failed to appear in court, a judge ruled in her favor. "Ms. Ballesteros has shown tremendous courage and deserves justice," said staff attorney Ivy Suriyopas.

AALDEF Attorney Wins NYC Bar Award

Anti-Trafficking Initiative director Ivy Suriyopas received the New York City Bar Association's 23rd Annual Legal Services Award. The award recognizes "attorneys and non-attorneys who provide outstanding civil legal assistance to New York's poor." Congratulations to Ivy for her inspiring work in representing trafficked women and girls!

