



# April 2017



Serving the community of the south Bay Area since 1965

PO Box 2756, Cupertino, CA 95014

The newsletter is always available on the website ([www.chiamcircle.org](http://www.chiamcircle.org)): click on "This Month"

APRIL 2017						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAURDAY
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	April Holidays April Fool's Day - 1 Good Friday - 14 Easter - 16					

## Upcoming Events

### April 30

Organization of Chinese Americans, San Mateo Chapter's 29th Asian American Achievement Awards Dinner (see flyer)

### May 11

Scholarship Award Dinner, 5:30-9:00PM  
China Stix

### June TBD

Carmel Trip

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Dear fellow Chi Am ladies,

Spring has quietly crept to our door fronts. This is an amazing time when nature flexes its power to show us its colors. It is a time to slow down and smell the flowers, to pet the cats and dogs, to taste the berries and, of course, to embrace the inevitable allergies. Hope everyone is enjoying this wonderful Californian springtime so far.

Two weeks ago, thanks to the Chair, Leslie Tomihiro, we had our first Bubbly Paint event. Under the clear yet simple instruction, and a slight stimulation of Resveratrol, we were all able to become painters for a day. Everyone was bubbly over the bubbly and tasty hor'doevres. It was amazing how everyone painted so differently under the same instruction, yet all of the paintings turned out to be so unique and marvelous! We all now have our own masterpieces to be hung in our living room.

This is a busy time for our Scholarship Selection Committee, co-chaired by Lisa Liu and Verna Wong, and our Scholarship Awards Dinner Committee, co-chaired by Gerrye Wong and Sharon Lai. With our continuous outreach effort, we have once again received tremendous increase of applications this year. There are so many outstanding students from all walks of life in the Santa Clara County; and their achievements are so dazzling and are not for slight at heart. We can only hope that we have scholarships for each and every one of them. Nonetheless, with the relentless effort of our Sponsorship Co-Chairs, Ginger Lai and Carol Liu, and the generosity of our members, we have over \$70,000 of scholarship to award this year. Can't wait to meet with the worthy students and all of you at the Scholarship Awards Dinner on Thursday, May 11, 2017.

In end of April, Chi Am will be recognized for our long time contribution to our local community. The OCA (Organization of Chinese Americans) local San Mateo Chapter will recognize Chi Am in its upcoming gala for being an inspirational Asian American organization that has achieved a notable status in serving the APA community. The gala will be held on Sunday, April 30, 2017. We hope all of you can join us at the gala to accept this honor together. Please see details in the attached flyer to sign up.

So this is springtime, let's take a deep breath and be kind, count our blessings, love a lot, and remember to laugh often.

Sincerely,



Eva and Sylvia



Many thanks to chair Leslie Tomihiro and her committee of Laura Ah Tye, Eva Wong, Liza Wong, and Marichu Scanlon for organizing this fun & creative social event at Bottle & Bottega on March 18, 2017



Back L-R: Suzy Yee, Paulette Curby, Rose Low, Dale Ah Tye, Marichu Scanlon  
Front L-R: Eva Wong, Laura Ah Tye, Carol Fong, Liza Wong, Leslie Tomihiro



OCA SAN MATEO 29<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL  
YOUTH PROGRAM FUNDRAISER AND AWARDS GALA  
SUNDAY APRIL 30, 2017, 6PM

Individuals Who Inspire



*Join Us As We Honor*

*Hang Le To  
Community Leader*

*Tamiko Wong  
Community Leader*

*Chi Am Circle  
A non-profit Asian American Women's Organization*

*Dominic's at Oyster Point  
360 Oyster Point Boulevard South San Francisco*

*\$95/person; \$850/table (OCA members)  
\$125/person; \$1,150/table (non-members; includes 2017 membership)*

*RSVP by April 15, 2017  
(650) 533-3065; [ocasanmateochapter@gmail.com](mailto:ocasanmateochapter@gmail.com)  
Emcees: David Louie ABC7 News and  
Jeff Gee Council Member, City of Redwood City  
Special Dance Performance by Grant Avenue Follies Silent Auction and  
Raffle Drawings  
Black tie optional  
Fundraiser benefits OCA San Mateo's Youth Programs*

Note: Chi Am encourages your support in filling a table of ten. Please email Sylvia Eng at [scrseng@gmail.com](mailto:scrseng@gmail.com) or Eva Wong at [evaww@yahoo.com](mailto:evaww@yahoo.com) if you are interested.



# *Spring Cleaning?*



Spring is here! If you are spring cleaning and have things you want to part with, please consider saving them and donating them to Chi Am for a garage sale that's in the works. Ginger Lai and Carol Yiu are working on a Chi Am garage sale to be held in May or June. All sales proceeds will be applied to the Chi Am Scholarship Sponsorship program and will give us a head start for the 2018 scholarship fund. More info to come.....

Submitted by Ginger Lai & Carol Yiu  
2<sup>nd</sup> co-VPs for Sponsorship

# 2017 SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS DINNER



## Chi Am Circle Scholarships

Chi Am Circle Scholarship Awards Program is at the heart of the club, and the highlight of its fundraising efforts. For over 37 years, hundreds of scholarships have been awarded to Asian American high school seniors of Santa Clara County to pursue their dreams of a higher education. Many of the recipients are the first in their families to attend college. Applications are selected by the Scholarship Selection committee via a rigorous selection process. Awards are based on academic excellence, community service, financial need, essays and recommendations.

Please join us in applauding and recognizing our 2017 Scholarship recipients at the Annual Scholarship Awards Dinner. Each high school student awarded scholarship will speak on their aspirations for college and the future. We are grateful to our many supporters like you, who make it possible to provide these scholarships as an invaluable investment that will enrich the future of our community.

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## 2017 SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS DINNER RSVP FORM

Number of attendees: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$27 (\$30 after May 1<sup>st</sup>)

Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_ enclosed    Check # \_\_\_\_\_

Name of attendee(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Remarks: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Thursday**  
**May 11, 2017**  
**5:30-9:00pm**

**China Stix Restaurant**  
2110 El Camino Real,  
Santa Clara, CA 95050

**\$27/person by May 1, 2017**  
**\$30/person after May 1, 2017**

**Reservation details are  
available at**  
[www.chiamcircle.org](http://www.chiamcircle.org)  
**under Scholarship Dinner  
Link**

**Payment can be made  
online or mail your check,  
payable to**  
**“Chi Am Circle” along  
with names of attendees**  
**to:**  
**Chi Am Circle**  
**P.O. Box 2756,**  
**Cupertino, CA 95014**

## Guest Speaker Vic Lee

Vic Lee is a veteran news reporter on ABC7 News. He has won numerous Emmys and recognition awards at both local and national levels.



# Scholarship Contributions



THANK YOU for all the generous donations we have already received. For those who further wish to lend their support, please see below:

- 1) Online donations at [www.chiamcircle.org](http://www.chiamcircle.org)
- 2) Checks payable to Chi Am Circle and mailed to:  
Chi Am Circle (Scholarship Program)  
P.O. Box 2756  
Cupertino, CA 95014

Donations in any amount are greatly appreciated and acknowledgement letters will be issued upon receipt of your donation. Thank you!

*Ginger Lai & Carol Yiu*  
*Co-Chairs, Scholarship Sponsorship*



Note: The Scholarship Awards Committee is currently at work reviewing all the applications from the participants. Plan on seeing what the Awards Dinner Committee has in store for all at China Stix on Thursday, May 11 at 5:30 pm.

## New Member Coffee



On Saturday, April 1, we had a Chi Am member mixer. The group held a small potluck, and our special highlight was Helen Kwan's homemade coconut cake



Joyce T, Virginia B, Mary Ann W, Violet L, Cleo J



Helen K, Mary Kay L, Mary Ann W, Jeanne K.



L-R: Aurora L, Gerrye W, Violet L, Joyce T, Helen K, Jeanne K, Mary Kay L, Virginia B, Mary Ann W, Mabel S, Jennie H, Cleo J.



Hospitality Co-Chairs Joyce Tom and Mary Ann Wong prepared a beautiful setting.

Watch for the next **New Members Coffee**

New members and select current members will share Chi Am knowledge (i.e. founders, past presidents, officers, or program chairs) and will receive an invitation and reminder by email

Welcome to latest member... **Lydia So** (not pictured here)

Hospitality Chairs: Joyce Tom & Mary Ann Wong with photos by Eva Wong



 **1st** *Congratulations to Mabel & Ken Lai!*



Mabel Lai has been a Chi-Am member for over 35 years. She has been a co-president in 1986 and president in 2001 – 2002. Mabel is that special person one is fortunate to meet.

She has contributed her time, talents, and energy to community service. She will enrich your life. Kind, caring, sharing, passionate, and supportive describe her. She is a lifelong volunteer for those in need. Mabel will be honored by Self-Help for the Elderly for her instrumental contribution to the seniors. She will be honored at the Longevity Gala on **Saturday, May 13** at the Hyatt Regency, Burlingame.

I hope Chi-Am members will support Mabel by attending, and will put together at least 2 tables of members and spouses, guests, and friends to honor Mabel who exemplifies our core values of serving the community and those in need.

**Self-Help for the Elderly Longevity Gala, May 13, at the Hyatt Regency, Burlingame.**

Contact me for information and reservations at [vbakken8@yahoo.com](mailto:vbakken8@yahoo.com)

Submitted by Virginia Bakken

 **2nd** *Hard Copy...*

The fee to receive your Chi Am newsletters by mail is **\$20/year**. If you have not already done so, kindly send check payable to Chi Am Circle (notate in the 'for' line: 'hard copy newsletter' and send to Sharon Lai, Chi Am Circle, PO Box 2756, Cupertino, CA 95014. Also let Linda Chew Toda know that you are on the mailing list.



Submitted by Linda Chew Toda 408.446.2816  
[adotadniil@yahoo.com](mailto:adotadniil@yahoo.com)

 **3rd** *red shirt*



The deadline for ordering the red Chi Am Circle polo shirt has passed for the year. Yet there may be a shirt available in your size. Contact Eva Wong ([evaww@yahoo.com](mailto:evaww@yahoo.com)) and indicate size **AND** mail check for **\$21** payable to Chi Am Circle, PO Box 2756, Cupertino, CA 95014

Chi Am Board



### **About AmazonSmile Program**

Amazon donates a portion of purchases made by anyone who has designated a nonprofit organization to be recipient of a portion of their purchase. You can help us earn money at no cost to you. This program will not affect any of the benefits, products or services you currently receive from Amazon. Just need to sign on to **smile.amazon.com** instead of **amazon.com** when shopping. This is the same Amazon as you know it; same products, same prices, same service but 0.5% of your eligible purchases are donated to your designated nonprofit organization. Since 2015, we received \$147.11 from AmazonSmile.

#### **What can you do to support Chi Am**

- Go to [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com)
- Sign in with your Amazon email and password
- You have the opportunity to select a charitable organization to benefit from your purchases. Type in "Chi Am Circle", then click "search"
- Chi Am Circle org will appear as an option. Please select it.
- Shop as usual. Now each time you purchase through [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com), Chi Am Circle will benefit from your eligible purchases.

Thank you for your support!



# Glowing... Glowing... Golly! 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Special Needs Talent Showcase

For first time attendees to this event on Saturday, Mar 18, 2017 at the 600 seat theatre at the Santa Clara Convention Center, there was the expectation that the show would be similar to a performance assembly at school. We were met by ushers, given our program, and then given a glow stick to wave in the dark. As the lights went down and the opening act began, this observer realized that this was not a recital of little school children, but a major video stage production of young adults. (It is possible to surmise that a few could have been the same little ones that Chi Am met back in 2010 at the Friends of Special Needs center in Fremont.)

During the two and a half hour revue, everyone in the audience was clearly wow-ed by the 21 culturally diverse, lively, and colorful acts that included soloists or groups performing on instruments, singing, or dancing (even rap and hip hop). Fan favorites were those that were as convincingly professional as any in the field.

Cash awards were given to the top three winners (the dhol double-headed drum of India performer, the concert pianist, and the singer/guitar soloist). More cash awards were given to more pianists, and gifts bags were awarded to the remaining performers, including all the judges.

To the credit of Event Chair Anna Wang, FCSN deserves congratulations for the dedication in showcasing the hidden talents of young adults who have clearly overcome the challenges of special needs.



Music Camp Band



Anna Wang, VP of FCSN



Judges included Assem'b'n Kansen Chu

Submitted by Linda Chew Toda with photos by Birdie Adema

*You only live once, but if you do it right, once is enough.* Editors' Corner

