

The Asian American Bar Association (AABA) of Houston is a voluntary organization of lawyers of Asian heritage or who have Asian American interests, dedicated to promoting diversity within the legal profession and Houston community.

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AABA 2012 Holiday Party and Toy Drive

On Saturday, December 1, 2012, the AABA held its annual Holiday Party and Toy Drive at Star Pizza. Donations of toys, school supplies, and art supplies were collected for the benefit of Asian American Family Services. Special thanks to Social Committee Co-Chairs Chris Lee and Susan Tran for organizing this family event!



**2013
COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

Social Committee

Claudia Gee Vassar

Baker Williams Matthiesen LLP

Sandy Huynh

The Law Offices of Michael J. Scott, P.C.

*Mentorship and Law School Relations
Committee*

Jennifer Fung

Rabie Law Firm, LLP

Melody Wang

Kane Russell Coleman & Logan PC

Catharine Yen

FosterQuan LLP

Gala Committee

Anna Ha

Sidley Austin LLP

Albert Liou

Jones Day

Debbie Yee

Latham & Watkins LLP

Corporate Counsel Committee

Janet Brown

Baker Hostetler

Juvie Cruz

Pagel, Davis & Hill, P.C.

Chris Lee

Targa Resources Corporation

Solo & Small Firm Committee

Caroline Cho

Rapfogel Law Firm PLLC

Julie Pi Evans

Julie Pi Evans Law Firm

Brendan Singh

Corral Tran Singh, LLP

Technology and Web Committee

David Hsu

Law Office of David Hsu Brogden

Susan Tran

Corral Tran Singh, LLP

Nominations Committee

Helene N. Dang, Chair

FosterQuan LLP

AABA 2012 Holiday Party and Toy Drive



2013 AABA Officers, Committee Chairs, & Directors Retreat

On Saturday, January 26, 2013, the Officers, Committee Chairs, and Directors of the AABA met at the offices of Locke Lord LLP and held their annual retreat and planning meeting for the year. During the meeting, Judith Kim of Axiom Global was appointed to serve as a Director. Congratulations, Judy! Special thanks to Locke Lord LLP for hosting the annual meeting!





invites you to attend the

2013 ANNUAL MEMBERS MEETING AND KICKOFF DINNER

Come learn about exciting programs, share your ideas for how the AABA can better serve you and celebrate the new year with you AABA officers, board members, committee co-chairs, and fellow members.

WHERE:

Café Ginger
1952 West Gray
Houston, TX 77019
Telephone: (713) 528-4288

WHEN:

Thursday, January 31, 2013
6:30 PM: Check-In/Reception
6:45 PM: Annual Membership Meeting
7:00 PM: Dinner served

COST:

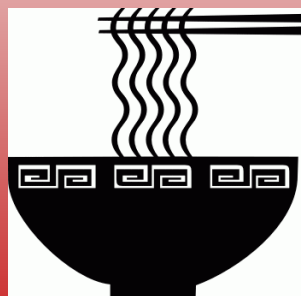
The Annual Membership Meeting is free.

The cost for Dinner is \$15 for AABA Members & \$35 for Non-Members.

REGISTRATION:

Please RSVP by 1/30/13 at www.aabahouston.com
Space is limited.

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!



Annual New Year Celebration

Join the AABA in celebrating the Year of the Snake!

Families are welcome!

WHERE:

**Fung's Kitchen
7320 Southwest Freeway
Houston, Texas 77074**

WHEN:

**Sunday, February 17, 2013
12:00 – 2:00 PM**

COST:

**\$10/person for AABA members
\$20/person for non-members
Free for children 12 and under**

REGISTRATION:

RSVP online at www.aabahouston.com by February 8, 2013

QUESTIONS:

**Contact our Social Committee Co-Chairs:
Claudia Gee Vassar at Claudia@bwmtx.com
Sandy Huynh at Sandy.Huynh@gmail.com**



**The AABA wishes you a happy, healthy,
and prosperous New Year!**



Law Day Poster Workshop

In recognition of Law Week, the AABA is again joining forces with the Houston Bar Association to host a Poster Workshop.



Date: Saturday, February 23, 2013

Time: 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Place: Chinese Community Center
9800 Town Park
Houston, Texas 77036

Speaker: The Honorable Theresa Chang

Grade Levels: K-8th grades may participate.

Posters, drawing supplies, food, and drinks will be provided for all our young artists!

This year's theme is "Realizing the Dream: Equality for All." Entries should depict the importance of law in our society to enable everyone to realize the dream of equality for all.

Completed posters will be submitted to the HBA courtesy of the AABA for entry into the official Poster Contest.

Please RSVP for yourself and your child(ren) at www.aabahouston.com no later than **February 21, 2013**.

For questions about this event, please contact Clinton Yu at cyu@givensjohnston.com.

An invitation from **yellow**
MAGAZINE

LUNAR NEW YEAR PARTY

Please join us on

Thursday, February 7
6:30pm to 9:00pm



**MOMENTUM BMW
SOUTHWEST**

10002 Southwest Freeway
Houston, TX 77074
800-714-2479

Drinks provided by



Food provided by



Co-Hosts

*Asian American Bar Association
Chinese America Citizens Alliance
Hope Initiative
KASH*

*Filipino Young Professionals
of Houston*

*Vietnamese American
Chamber of Commerce*

Entertainment provided by

*Lee's Golden Dragon
J&H Dance School*

Fashion show provided by

JOSÉ SANCHEZ

Please RSVP to event@yellowmags.com

2013 AABA MENTORSHIP PROGRAM and CAREER NIGHT

The AABA is seeking Mentors and Mentees for its 2013 Mentorship Program!

Please submit your applications by Friday, February 22, 2013.

A Career Night and Mentorship Program Kickoff will be held for all mentors and mentees.

WHEN:

Wednesday, March 6, 2013

Mentorship Program Kickoff Reception

6:00 P.M. – 7:00 P.M

Career Panel

7:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.

WHERE:

South Texas College of Law
Fred Parks Library, 6th Floor
Emilie Slohm Room
1303 San Jacinto Street
Houston, Texas 77002

All AABA members, friends, supporters, mentees and mentors are invited and encouraged to attend.

Attendance is Free!

Food and beverages will be provided.

RSVP at www.aabahouston.com

Mentor Application – AABA 2013 Mentorship Program

The goal of the Mentorship Program is to assist law students and new attorneys better define their legal path through the sharing of an experienced attorney's wisdom, experiences, and knowledge about the practice of law. In order to maximize the benefits of this program, Mentees and Mentors will be matched as closely as possible according to their areas of interest and practice, respectively. *Mentors and Mentees are encouraged to schedule a meeting once per month to 6 weeks and to remain in contact with each other on a regular basis throughout the year.*

Eligibility: Attorneys with 2 or more years of legal experience are eligible to apply to be a Mentor.

If you would like to participate in this program, please complete the form below.

The deadline to apply is Friday, February 22, 2013.

Name _____

Employer _____

Employer Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone # _____ Fax # _____

E-mail _____ State Bar Number _____

Law School _____

Year of Graduation _____

Year(s) in Practice _____

Practice Area(s) _____

Your Goals & Expectations from the Mentorship Program _____

Please mail or e-mail your completed form to:

Melody Wang
Kane Russell Coleman & Logan PC
919 Milam St., Suite 2200
Houston, Texas 77002
Tel: (713) 425-7410
E-mail: mwang@krcl.com



www.aabahouston.com

Asian American Bar Association of Houston
P.O. Box 1554 • Houston, Texas 77251

Mentee Application – AABA 2013 Mentorship Program

The goal of the Mentorship Program is to assist law students and new attorneys better define their legal path through the sharing of an experienced attorney's wisdom, experiences, and knowledge about the practice of law. In order to maximize the benefits of this program, Mentees and Mentors will be matched as closely as possible according to their areas of interest and practice, respectively. *Mentors and Mentees are encouraged to schedule a meeting once per month to 6 weeks and to remain in contact with each other on a regular basis throughout the year.*

Eligibility: Law students and attorneys with up to 1 year of legal experience are eligible to apply to be a Mentee.

Please note: Matches will be subject to availability. If you would like to participate in this program, please complete the form below.

The deadline to apply is Friday, February 22, 2013.

Name _____

Employer (for Attorneys) _____

Home/Business Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone # _____ E-mail _____

State Bar Number (Attorneys) _____

Law School _____

Year of Graduation or Current Law School Year _____

Year(s) in Practice (for Attorneys) _____

Practice Area(s) of Interest _____

Your Goals & Expectations from the Mentorship Program _____

Please mail or e-mail your completed form to:

Melody Wang
Kane Russell Coleman & Logan PC
919 Milam, Suite 2200
Houston, Texas 77002
Tel: (713) 425-7410
E-mail: mwang@krcl.com

Job Opportunity

Corporate Associate

Major Austin law firm seeks a corporate associate with two-five years experience in corporate, M&A, private equity and commercial transactions. Candidates practicing in the area of corporate/partnership tax will also be considered for the position. Excellent academic credentials, analytical skills and verbal and written communication skills required. The firm offers a collegial environment with competitive compensation and benefits. Qualified candidates should send a resume in confidence via e-mail to Holly Coe, Senior Placement Director, Special Counsel, Inc., at holly.coe@specialcounsel.com.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR THE HBA'S "TRIP TO THE COURTHOUSE"

The HBA's Law Week Committee is in need of attorney and law student volunteers as part of its "Trip to the Courthouse" event for special needs students. Volunteers are needed to assist with and direct participating children. There will be presentations, including a special re-enactment of Brown vs. Board of Education.

DATE: Friday, February 15, 2013

TIME: 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.



Please contact Hon. Kem Frost at kem@frost.cc for more information about volunteering.

If you would like to publicize job opportunities, community news, or personal SIDEBAR news, please contact AABA Secretary, Janine Yee, at jyee@porterhedges.com.

To Potential Applicants for Federal Judicial Vacancies:

U.S. Congressman Al Green is seeking names of persons who may be interested in being considered for an anticipated federal judicial vacancy in the Southern District of Texas. To assist with finding possible judicial candidates, Congressman Green has empanelled a committee to solicit, interview and recommend potential nominees for consideration.

If you are interested in being considered, please send a request to receive an application to all of the following e-mail addresses: bhall@bhalllawfirm.com, dave@matthiesenlaw.com, and jterrell@bhalllawfirm.com.

The deadline to submit completed applications is **February 15, 2013**.

LAWYERS NEEDED TO JUDGE COMPETITION DURING ABA MIDYEAR MEETING IN DALLAS

The ABA Law Student Division needs 85 lawyers and judges to participate as competition judges for the 2012-2013 Negotiation Competition National Finals during the ABA Midyear Meeting **February 8-9, 2013**, **at the Hilton Anatole Hotel in Dallas, Texas**. Lawyers interested in objectively evaluating the negotiation skills of the top 24 (out of 228) law student teams from across the country and giving them useful feedback are asked to visit www.ambar.org/lstdncFinalsJudge for more details to sign up. **Texas lawyers may earn self study CLE credit.**

Please contact Peggy Pissarreck at peggy.pissarreck@americanbar.org if you have any questions.

If you would like to publicize job opportunities, community news, or personal SIDEBAR news, please contact AABA Secretary, Janine Yee, at jyee@porterhedges.com.

Get to Know an AABA MEMBER!



Name: Claudia Gee Vassar

Firm: Baker Williams Matthiesen LLP

Practice Areas: Business/Corporate & Real Estate

If I weren't an attorney, I would be . . . a non-profit consultant.

The oddest food I have ever eaten has been . . . unidentifiable, but delicious dim sum treat.

In my spare time, I enjoy . . . new experiences.

If my life were a movie, it would be called . . . Each Day is New.

In my opinion, the best restaurant in Houston is . . . too many to choose one!

The coolest store in Houston is . . . I rarely shop brick and mortar . . .

The sports team(s) I root for is/are . . . all hometown teams and Rice University.

My favorite quote is . . . on the heels of MLK Day: "I have a dream today."

I recommend reading . . . for pleasure every day.

Most AABA members probably don't know that I . . . love all things international and am fortunate to be well connected to many places and people throughout the world.

Get to Know an AABA MEMBER!



Name: Melody Wang

Firm: Kane Russell Coleman & Logan PC

Practice Areas: Corporate and Commercial Real Estate

If I weren't an attorney, I would be . . . a shoe designer.

The oddest food I have ever eaten has been . . . eating sashimi from a fish that was still technically alive ("ikizukuri") was slightly disconcerting . . .

In my spare time, I enjoy . . . exercising, exploring new restaurants, and working on mini DIY design projects.

If my life were a movie, it would be called . . . Right now, probably: "So Many Things, So Little Time."

In my opinion, the best restaurant in Houston is . . . Uchi or Oxheart.

The coolest store in Houston is . . . depends on what I'm looking for, but I'm a big fan of Whole Foods (on Waugh!).

The sports team(s) I root for is/are . . . Houston Rockets/Texans and U.T. Football.

My decade for music is the ____ and my favorite song is . . . No favorite decade or song, but a recent favorite song is Alicia Keys' "Girl on Fire."

My favorite quote is . . . You make a living by what you earn; you make a life by what you give.

I recommend reading . . . "Delivering Happiness: A path to profits, passion, and purpose" (Tony Hsieh).

Most AABA members probably don't know that I . . . really enjoy scuba diving and would like to go to South Africa and great white shark cage dive.

Many thanks to our 2013 Major Underwriters!

Diamond Dragon Underwriter

GARDERE

Platinum Dragon Underwriters

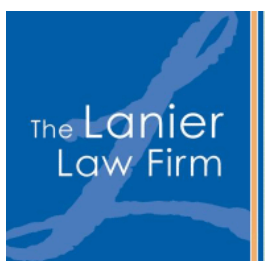
BRACEWELL
& GIULIANI

Locke
Lord^{LLP}

Gold Dragon Underwriters



FULBRIGHT
& Jaworski L.L.P.
Attorneys at Law



® | 💡 | ©
WONGcabello

It's that time of year again... Renew your **AABA** membership!



The AABA is accepting membership applications and renewals for 2013!

You may apply for membership online at www.aabahouston.com
or by completing and submitting the attached form and dues.

If you haven't already applied for membership to the AABA, then you are missing out on all the benefits of membership. Members of the AABA receive significant discounts to all AABA events, as well as invitations to exclusive members-only seminars and programs such as the annual Corporate Counsel Dinner and inclusion in the Attorney Profiles Directory. Become an AABA member today, and gain access to all of the networking, career enhancement, mentorship, and volunteer opportunities and resources that the AABA has to offer!

Another terrific benefit of AABA membership is automatic membership in the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association ("NAPABA").

The **AABA** welcomes the following new and renewing members!

Marrick Armstrong, *Adams and Reese LLP*
Juvie Cruz, *Pagel, Davis & Hill, PC*
Daniel Chen, *Nguyen Jazrawi & Chen PLLC*
Helene Dang, *FosterQuan LLP*
Zuotian Deng
Alice Huang, *Locke Lord LLP*
Nga (Natalie) Le
Lily Leal, *South Texas College of Law*

Claire Lin, *Bracewell & Giuliani LLP*
Yiheng (Lucy) Liu
Sang Shin, *FosterQuan, LLP*
Marissa Sibal
Nicholas Shumate, *Vinson & Elkins LLP*
John Tran, *Tran Law, PLLC*
Clinton Yu, *Givens & Johnston PLLC*
Claudia Vassar, *Baker Williams Matthiesen LLP*
Erick Wang, *DLA Piper LLP (US)*



www.aabahouston.com

Asian American Bar Association of Houston 2013 Membership Application/Renewal

- ☐ \$50 General Member
☐ \$25 Public Interest Attorney
☐ \$25 Government Attorney • Judge
☐ \$25 Solo Practitioner
☐ \$0 Law Student • Retired Attorney • Transitional Attorney*

Bar Number and Jurisdiction _____

Last Name _____ First Name _____

Employer _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Office # _____ Home # _____

Fax # _____ E-Mail _____

Area(s) of Practice _____

Law School and Graduation Year _____

Language(s) Spoken _____

Would you like to receive the AABA Newsletter by E-Mail? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Would you like your business contact information published in the 2013 AABA Directory? ☐ Yes ☐ No

By completing this membership application, I hereby consent to the receipt of notice of meeting through electronic means.

Please give us any comments or programming suggestions you might have: _____

Please indicate any committees on which you would be interested in serving:

- ☐ Gala ☐ Fundraising ☐ Programs ☐ Social/Networking ☐ Community Relations/Pro Bono
☐ Solo and Small Firm ☐ Corporate Counsel ☐ Mentorship/Law School Relations

Make checks payable to **AABA** and submit application and fee to:

**AABA
ATTN: Membership
P.O. Box 1554
Houston, TX 77251**

Send any inquiries concerning AABA membership to
membership@aabahouston.com,
or contact Claire Le at (713) 221-1526.

*Transitional attorneys refer to those attorneys currently not employed.