



## ***Asian American Coalition for Education and Partner Organizations***

### **“Equal Education Rights for All” Rally Speakers**

***October 30, 2022***

#### **Yukong Mike Zhao**



Mr. Yukong Mike Zhao is the co-founder and President of the Asian American Coalition for Education. Under his leadership, AACE has exposed the Anti-Asian discrimination in college admissions to national stage and mobilized Asian American communities in support of Students for Fair Admissions' lawsuits against Harvard and UNC, including the 2015 civil rights complaint against Harvard by 64 Asian American organizations, and an amicus brief filed to the U.S. Supreme Court by over 360 organizations this May. Its achievements also include Trump Administration's adoption of AACE's policy recommendations on college admissions, and its lawsuit against Yale University, among others. Mr. Zhao was featured by the Wall Street Journal in 2015 for his courage and leadership in this fight.

#### **Ward Connerly**



Mr. Ward Connerly is founder and President of the American Civil Rights Institute, a national, not-for-profit organization aimed at educating the public about the need to move beyond race and, specifically, racial and gender preferences. He has lead the efforts to end race based affirmative action since 1995. Mr. Connerly has gained national attention as an outspoken advocate of equal opportunity for all Americans, regardless of race, sex, or ethnic background.

Mr. Connerly is author of *Creating Equal: My Fight Against Race Preferences, 7 Lessons from My Uncle James: Beyond Skin Color to the Content of Our Character*. He is now working on his third book, titled "Wards Words".

As a member of the University of California Board of Regents, Mr. Connerly focused the attention of the nation on the University's race-based system of preferences in its admissions policy. On July 20, 1995, following Mr. Connerly's lead, a majority of the Regents voted to end the University's use of race as a means for admissions. He was appointed to a 12-year term as UC Regent in March 1993.

In 1995, Mr. Connerly accepted chairmanship of the California Civil Rights Initiative (Proposition 209) campaign. Under his leadership, the campaign successfully obtained more than one million signatures and qualified for the November 1996 ballot. California voters passed Proposition 209 by a 55 percent to 45 percent margin.

Mr. Connerly also led the efforts to pass initiatives in the States of Washington, Michigan, Nebraska, Arizona, Florida, New Hampshire, Oklahoma and Idaho that were patterned after California's Proposition 209, to require equal treatment under the law for all residents in public education, public employment and public contracting.

## Calvin Yang



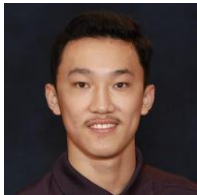
Mr. Calvin Yang is a member of Students for Fair Admissions and a sophomore at University of California, Berkeley after graduating from the Dwight School in New York City. As someone who calls both Canada and America home, he was the recipient of Canada's Top 30 Under 30 2021 by Corporate Knights for his work in Canada's climate legislations with the policy firm, CYACA.ca, that he started in high school. He has also served on federal campaigns in both countries since a teenager and co-organized the largest climate protest in American history in his sophomore year in high school. Calvin currently writes for the Berkeley Political Review in college and enjoys skydiving, cooking, swimming, among others in his spare time.

## Vijay Joho Chokal Ingam



Mr. Vijay Jojo Chokal Ingam is the author of *Almost Black: The True Story of How I Got into Medical School by Pretending to Be Black* and was part of the successful "No on Prop 16" campaign in California. Vijay is an "affirmative action hacktivist" who exposed the hypocrisy of racial preferences. He gained notoriety as a dark-skinned Indian American who posed as Black to get into medical school. He's appeared in CNN, Fox News, the New York Post, the Wall Street Journal, and a range of other outlets.

## Jon Wang



Mr. Jon Wang is a 2nd generation Chinese American and a freshman majoring in Computer Science at Georgia Tech. He was a rejected Harvard applicant this year. He has seen far less qualified applicants be accepted due to their ethnicity and is determined to fight for equality in our education rights.

## Kenny Xu



Mr. Kenny Xu is the President of Color Us United and author of *An Inconvenient Minority*, which is the definitive account about how Asian Americans inconvenience the Left's narrative on racism and why Harvard discriminates against them. This book is about the Ivy League discrimination lawsuits and commentates on Asian Americans' inconvenient place in the racial victimhood, sold out the first printing in one month and was highly ranked #1 in different categories.

Mr. Xu has written commentary for the Wall Street Journal and The Daily Signal etc. His journalism is beloved by communities of all races who share his passion for making the United States a more fair and meritocratic society. Mr. Xu has spoken on colorblindness and critical race theory in front of groups as diverse as the nationally renowned Pacific Legal Foundation to the Boston Rally for Education Rights to the all-Black Connecticut Parents Union. His commentary has propelled him to interviews with Fox News, and The Epoch Times etc.

## Edward Blum



Mr. Edward Blum is the founder and President of Students for Fair Admissions, a non-profit membership organization with over 20,000 members. Founded in 2014, the mission of SFFA is to end the use of racial and ethnic classifications and preferences in college admissions. Currently, SFFA is challenging in federal courts the admissions policies at Harvard, the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, the University of Texas-Austin and Yale. The Harvard and UNC cases are pending at the U.S. Supreme Court with arguments scheduled for October 31, 2022.

## Brian LiVeechi



Mr. Brian LiVeechi serves as the Chief of Staff for North Carolina Lieutenant Governor Mark Robinson. Mr. LiVeechi previously served as the General Counsel to the Lieutenant Governor since he took office in 2021, and continues to also serve in that role. Prior to his legal career, Mr. LiVeechi served in the US Marine Corps and as a city police officer. He was also a commissioned infantry officer in the NC Army National Guard. Currently, Mr. LiVeechi serves on the board of directors for Military Missions in Action.

## Sam Hayes



Mr. Sam Hayes is a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He has served on the UNC Chapel Hill Board of Visitors and the Wake Law General Counsel Advisory Committee. He has also served as General Counsel at the NC Department of Environmental Quality, General Counsel and Policy Director at the NC Department of State Treasurer, and General Counsel for NC House Speaker Tim Moore.

## Lee Cheng



Mr. Lee Cheng is an attorney and community activist who has fought discrimination against Asian Americans for almost 3 decades. He is a graduate of Lowell High School, Harvard University and UC Berkeley Law School, and a co-Founder of the Asian American Legal Foundation, which organized the Ho vs SFUSD lawsuit, and a co-Founder of AACE. He has been fighting for the civil rights of Asian Americans and all Americans, for nearly 30 years.

## Harry Jackson



Dr. Harry Jackson is the first African American to be elected President of the TJ PTSA and has experience in education, program management, acquisition, and cybersecurity. He is a professor at numerous colleges and universities, a recognized expert in industry-standard cybersecurity certifications, and an ardent education activist focused on diversity and excellence.

## Frank Xu



Mr. Frank Xu is the President of Californians for Equal Rights Foundation and co-founder of San Diego Asian Americans for Equality. Mr. Xu served as the Statewide Finance Chair for the No on 16 campaign. He has been committing his time and effort to the community since late 2013. After organizing several rallies against discrimination towards the Chinese American community, he realizes that the only way to empower the community is to serve and get involved. He is a board member of Rancho Penasquitos Town Council and La Jolla Presidents' Lions Club.

## Wai Wah Chin



Ms. Wai Wah is the Charter President of the Chinese American Citizens Alliance of Greater New York, a chapter of the oldest Asian American civil rights organization, founded to fight for rights of Chinese Americans. Wai Wah is also an adjunct fellow of the public policy think tank Manhattan Institute. She is an advocate for the NYC specialized high schools, for education rights of Asian Americans, and for merit.

## Suparna Dutta



Ms. Suparna Dutta is a member of the Virginia Board of Education, a co-founder of Coalition for TJ, a grassroots parents' organization fighting to keep merit in admissions to the nation's #1 public school, and Education Platform Director at American Hindu Coalition.

## Chunhua Liao



Mr. Chunhua Liao co-founded Silicon Valley Chinese Association Foundation. In 2015, 2017 and 2022, SVCAF hosted three consecutive public forums for Mr. Ed Blum to promote SFFA's mission. SFFA recruited 15,000 new members with the help from SVCA. Over the years, SVCAF has donated over \$100K to SFFA.

## James Daniel Shinn



Mr. James Shinn is currently the Senior pastor at Washington John Baptist church in Fairfax, VA. Mr. Shinn arrived in the USA in the state of Washington, DC in 1979. He graduated from Mt. Vernon High School and studied and graduated from Virginia Commonwealth University. He is also on the Board of Directors for the Asian American Coalition for Education and a former Chief Secretary Officer of the Federation of Korean Association USA.

## Anh Tu Do



Ms. Anh Tu Do is the Founder and President of the American Minority Engagement Network (AMEN), which is a 501(c)(4) non-profit organization that promotes conservative values and principles to minority communities through outreach and education. Ms. Do believes that the race-based affirmative action should be discontinued, and it is up to each one of us to stand tall and uphold the right to equal educational opportunities.

## Eva Guo



Ms. Eva Guo is a former member of the Board of Directors of Students for Fair Admissions, and she is an Asian American community leader who has heavily engaged with local school PTSAs for many years. She is a co-founder of the Association for Education Fairness, a grassroots parents' organization fighting for fair admission to gifted and talented programs in MCPS, Maryland. She believes every child deserves equal education rights regardless of race.

## Mike Gonzalez



Mr. Mike Gonzalez, a Senior Fellow at The Heritage Foundation, writes on identity politics, Critical Theory and Critical Race Theory, and multiculturalism, as well as foreign policy. He spent close to 20 years as a journalist. He joined the administration of President George W. Bush and was a member of President Trump's 1776 Commission. He is the author of three books, most recently, BLM, The Making of a New Marxist Revolution.

## Erec Smith



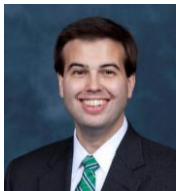
Mr. Erec Smith is Associate Professor of Rhetoric at York College of Pennsylvania, President and a co-founder of Free Black Thought, which highlights viewpoint diversity within the black intelligentsia, and a Writing Fellow for Heterodox Academy, a Senior Fellow for the Foundation Against Intolerance and Racism and for Counterweight.

## Jenna A. Robinson



Ms. Jenna Robinson is the president of the James G. Martin Center for Academic Renewal in Raleigh, NC. She also serves on the board of the UNC Alumni Free Speech Alliance and is an alumna of UNC-Chapel Hill.

## Tyler Brooks



Mr. Tyler Brooks is a lawyer based in Greensboro, North Carolina. He concentrates in constitutional law, civil rights litigation, and appellate advocacy. He holds a B.A. from Wake Forest University, a J.D. from Vanderbilt University Law School, and an LL.M. from Villanova University.

## Cory Liu



Mr. Cory Liu is an attorney at the Ashcroft Law Firm in Austin, Texas. He has spoken at law schools across the country about the Harvard lawsuit and filed an amicus brief at the Supreme Court in support of Students for Fair Admissions. He is a graduate of Harvard Law School and the University of Chicago, and he clerked for two federal court of appeals judges.