



ASIA SOCIETY
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

2023

ANNUAL GALA

SUNDAY, MAY 21
THE SKIRBALL CULTURAL CENTER

2023 ANNUAL GALA

PERFORMANCE BY
THE TAIKO CENTER OF LOS ANGELES

WELCOME
KARA WANG
EMCEE

HOTEL VISIONARY HONOR
SONIA CHENG
PRESENTED BY DANA SETTLE

REMARKS BY
DEBRA EISENMAN
CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER, ASIA SOCIETY

ASIAN WOMEN EMPOWERED VISIONARY HONOR
NORIKO HONDA CHEN
PRESENTED BY YIWEN LI

BUSINESS VISIONARY HONOR
TONI KO
PRESENTED BY BRIAN LEE

EVENING PROGRAM

SPORTS TRIBUTE
PRESENTED BY MAIA AND ALEX SHIBUTANI

DINNER

PERFORMANCE BY
JOYA KAZI ENTERTAINMENT

TECH VISIONARY HONOR
NIKESH ARORA
PRESENTED BY CHAMATH PALIHAPITIYA

CULTURE VISIONARY HONOR
AWKWAFINA

CLOSING
KATIE SOO
CHAIR
ASIA SOCIETY SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

ASIA SOCIETY SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Dear Friends of Asia Society Southern California,

We're delighted you could join us this evening in celebration of this year's all-star honorees. Each spring we gather to spotlight truly remarkable leaders across industries whose contributions serve as inspiration and exemplar to others. From the entertainment industry to finance and hospitality, to cybersecurity to cosmetics, our 2023 honorees are visionaries in their respective pursuits, making an impact on our communities and world.

Our "**Culture Visionary**" **Awkwafina**, born Nora Lum, made history in 2020 as the first Asian American woman to win a Golden Globe for best actress. Just two years before, she catapulted onto the big screen with scene-stealing roles in several blockbuster hits and the multihyphenate actor-writer-producer-rapper has been in the limelight ever since.

Mentorship is essential to **Noriko Honda Chen**, who is being recognized as the "**Asian Women Empowered (AWE) Visionary**." The mission of AWE is to convene influential Asian women to inspire and invest in future generations. Noriko fully embodies this mission as one of the exceptionally rare women to make it to the upper echelons of the investment world. The daughter of Japanese immigrants, Noriko believes resilience is learned from witnessing the sacrifices and struggles of the previous generation, and is what she aims to instill in the young women she coaches. Noriko is just one of two women on the management committee at Capital Group which has \$2.2 trillion in assets under management.

Toni Ko knows a thing or two about equity – sweat equity. She launched cosmetics brand NYX at 25 with a handful of eye and lip pencils, lugging her products to trade fairs after working in her mom's small beauty supply business since she was 14. Fast forward 15 years and the company sold to L'Oréal for \$500 million. Born in Korea, Toni emigrated to the U.S. with her parents at 13. Through her business savvy, she achieved the American Dream and is being honored tonight as our "**Business Visionary**." Now Toni is using her expertise to help launch other beauty brands.

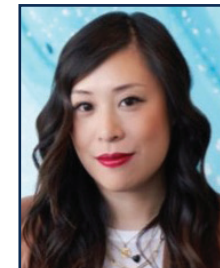
2023 ANNUAL GALA WELCOME

Our "**Technology Visionary**" **Nikesh Arora** was born and raised in India, and after graduating from the prestigious IIT system, embarked on a global journey spanning Europe, Japan, and the U.S., evolving from an engineer to a technologist who can see around corners. Prior to taking the helm at cybersecurity giant Palo Alto Networks, Nikesh played a crucial role at Google expanding the company's global business and subsequently at SoftBank where he made significant investments in technology companies around the world.

There are few female CEOs in the hospitality world, and **Sonia Cheng** is steering a behemoth of a luxury hospitality brand. Over the past decade, our "**Hotel Visionary**" Sonia has embarked on an aggressive expansion plan and reimagining of the Rosewood Hotel Group. At its core is experience and discovery across cultures – to inspire, share, and dine together, as we are this evening.

Our ASSC MVP emcee **Kara Wang** will guide us through our star-studded program. We'll be treated to a special performance by **Joya Kazi** Entertainment and salute the accomplishments of Asian and Asian American athletes. Our online auction has many travel, dining, and sport experiences. The proceeds support ASSC's yearlong programming. A special thank you to the Gala Committee, led by Brian Treiger, the "small but mighty" ASSC staff, and the generous support of our sponsors for making tonight possible.

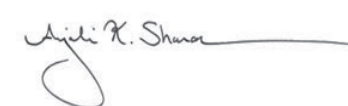
With great appreciation,



Katie Soo
Chair
Asia Society
Southern California



Anjali Sharan
Acting Executive Director
Asia Society
Southern California



NIKESH ARORA TECH VISIONARY



Nikesh Arora

Chief Executive Officer & Chairman
Palo Alto Networks

Nikesh Arora is chairman and CEO of Palo Alto Networks. Before joining Palo Alto Networks in 2018, Arora served as president and chief operating officer of SoftBank Group Corp. Prior to that, he spent ten years at Google, Inc. as a senior executive, where he was senior vice president and chief business officer, president of global sales operations and business development, and president of Europe, the Middle East and Africa. Arora's career also includes serving as chief marketing officer for the T-Mobile International Division of Deutsche Telekom AG, and chief executive

officer and founder of T-Motion PLC, which merged with T-Mobile International in 2002. Arora serves on the board of Compagnie Financière Richemont S.A., a public Switzerland-based luxury goods holding company, and Tipping Point, a non-profit organization that fights poverty in the Bay Area. Previously, he served on the boards of SoftBank Group Corp., Sprint Corp., Colgate-Palmolive Inc. and Yahoo! Japan, among others. He holds an M.B.A. in business administration from Northeastern University, an M.S. in finance from Boston College, and a B. Tech. in electrical engineering from the Institute of Technology at Banaras Hindu University

AWKWAFINA CULTURE VISIONARY



Awkwafina

Actress, Writer, Producer

Awkwafina is an award-winning actress, writer and producer from Queens, New York. She grew up with her given name, Nora Lum, and has since used her trademark comedic style and signature flair to become a breakout talent in the entertainment industry. Lum can be seen in her Comedy Central Show, *Awkwafina is Nora From Queens*, which she created and stars in, as well as Disney's *Shang Chi and The Legend of the Ten Rings*, *Jumanji: The Next Level*, and MGM's *Breaking News in Yuba County*. Lum received glowing reviews for her starring role in the indie darling *The Farewell*, where she won the

Golden Globe Award for Best Actress – Motion Picture – Musical or Comedy. She can also be heard in Universal's *The Bad Guys* as Ms. Tarantula, and Disney's *Raya and the Last Dragon*.

Lum brings an impressive range of talent to everything she does, most famously to Warner Bros' smash hit *Crazy Rich Asians*, opposite Constance Wu, Michelle Yeoh, Henry Golding and Ken Jeong, in which she starred as Peik Lin. Lum hosted *Saturday Night Live* that same year as part of the show's 44th season.

Her first book, *Awkwafina's NYC, a travel guide to New York*, was published by Penguin Random House in 2015. Lum became an internet sensation in 2012 with her satirical work in the viral video "My Vag," and her 2014 debut album, which featured her acclaimed raps "NYC Bitche\$," "Mayor Bloomberg (Giant Margarita)," and the title track, "Yellow Ranger." She currently resides in Los Angeles.

SONIA CHENG HOTEL VISIONARY



Sonia Cheng
CEO
Rosewood Hotel Group

Sonia Cheng is the chief executive officer of Rosewood Hotel Group, leading a team of seasoned industry professionals to spearhead the regional and international expansion of Rosewood Hotel Group. Cheng is also vice-chairman of Chow Tai Fook Jewellery Group, which comprises one of the largest conglomerates in Hong Kong and executive director of New World Development Company Limited and New World China Land.

Cheng holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Applied Mathematics with a concentration in Economics, from Harvard University. After graduation, Cheng joined Morgan Stanley and Warburg Pincus working in their U.S. and Hong Kong offices. In 2008, Cheng joined New World Group and became Chief Executive Officer of Rosewood Hotel Group overseeing five distinct brands: from ultra-luxury Rosewood Hotels & Resorts® in North America, Caribbean/Atlantic, Europe, the Middle East and Asia; to upper-upscale New World Hotels & Resorts in Greater China and Southeast Asia; KHOS a dynamic global business lifestyle hotel brand; Carlyle & Co., a modern and progressive private members' club; and Asaya, an integrative wellness concept. As a visionary business leader, Cheng promotes environmental-friendly and sustainable policies. Rosewood Hotel Group launched Rosewood Impacts, a corporate social impact initiative committed to empowering people and embracing a sustainability approach that put circular hospitality at the core of the business.

NORIKO HONDA CHEN ASIAN WOMEN EMPOWERED VISIONARY



Noriko Honda Chen
Equity Portfolio Manager
Capital Group

Noriko Honda Chen is an equity portfolio manager at Capital Group. She also serves on the Capital Group Management Committee. She has 32 years of investment industry experience and has been with Capital Group for 24 years. Earlier in her career, as an equity investment analyst at Capital, Chen covered Asian infrastructure, building materials and construction companies, as well as oil, gas and refining companies. She was also a research director for one of the global groups. Before joining Capital, she worked in the research department of Worldsec International Limited in Hong Kong (a subsidiary of Mitsubishi Bank) and was a manager in corporate finance. Chen holds a bachelor's degree in economics from Williams College and a degree in the Japanese Language Bekka Program at Keio University, Tokyo. Chen is based in San Francisco.

TONI KO BUSINESS VISIONARY



Toni Ko
CEO and Founder
Bespoke Beauty Brands

Toni Ko is a serial entrepreneur with a proven track record in developing and building highly successful brands. Ko's unwavering entrepreneurial spirit has armed her with over 20 years of experience in omnichannel strategies and global brand expansion, generating over one billion dollars in retail revenue in her career.

Ko first disrupted the beauty industry in 1999 with the introduction of her first company, NYX Cosmetics. She was the first to deliver professional, richly pigmented products at affordable prices and recognized the power of influencers

long before collaborating with them became the norm. L'Oreal acquired Ko's multimillion dollar operation in 2014, and at the time, it was one of the largest beauty acquisitions in history.

In 2019, she made waves in the cosmetics industry again with the launch of her newest company, Bespoke Beauty Brands – a new age beauty incubator that partners with celebrities, influencers, and entrepreneurs to bring their visions to life, and into our hands. Under this umbrella, Ko has launched KimChi Chic Beauty, in collaboration with KimChi Chic, the larger than life drag-queen from “RuPaul’s Drag Race,” and Jason Wu Beauty, the namesake brand of clean, everyday makeup essentials that is available in 400 Target stores across the country.

In 2016, Ko fulfilled a lifelong dream when she graced the cover of *Forbes* annual “America’s Richest Self-Made Women” issue and earned a spot on that list for the sixth time this year. Ko is a member of YPO Beverly Hills and the 2019 Class of Henry Crown Fellowship within the Aspen Global Leadership Network at the Aspen Institute. She is also a board member of the UNICEF Southern California chapter.

SPORTS TRIBUTE



JUN ENDO SPORTS TRIBUTE



Jun Endo is a Forward for Angel City Football Club's (ACFC). She signed on December 20, 2021, from Nippon TV Tokyo Verdy Beleza of the Japanese Nadeshiko League. In 2019, she won the Asia Football Confederation's Women's Club Championship with Tokyo Verdy Beleza.

Endo was selected to the senior Japan national team for the 2019 SheBelieves Cup and played against the United States for the first time on February 27. In 2018, Endo was selected for the Japan U-20 national team and played in six matches at the U-20 World Cup, scoring two goals with Team Japan en route to a championship victory. In 2016, she was selected to the Japan U-17 national team at the U-17 World Cup and played in four matches while scoring three goals in Japan's second-place finish.

RUI HACHIMURA SPORTS TRIBUTE



Hailing from Toyama, Japan, at just 25-years old **Rui Hachimura** has already made history and a lasting impact globally in the sports world. At the age of 13, Hachimura was introduced to basketball by his middle school classmate and since then he has never looked back. Attending basketball powerhouse Mesei High School in Sendai, Japan, Hachimura's potential was being recognized by Universities in the United States as he won three-straight national championships. He decided to attend Gonzaga University, as he tried to achieve his ultimate dream of making it to the NBA. At Gonzaga, Hachimura shined and was a key figure in the three years he played for the Bulldogs, as he was named 2019 WCC Player of the Year and

earned the Julius Erving Award, which is given to the nation's top small forward, in his junior season at Gonzaga.

In June of 2019, Hachimura was selected in the first round (ninth overall) in the NBA Draft by the Washington Wizards, becoming the first Japanese-born player to ever be selected in the first round. He made an immediate impact on the Wizards in his rookie season and was named NBA All-Rookie Second Team. On January 23, 2023, Hachimura was traded to the Los Angeles Lakers mid-season and helped the team advance to the NBA Playoffs.

Hachimura, who was previously known as the "Hope of Japan" in his home country, is now regularly associated with his own brand "Black Samurai" as he continues to write his own story and becomes an icon not only in Japan but globally.

LANG PING SPORTS TRIBUTE



Known as the “Iron Hammer,” **Lang Ping** is one of volleyball’s greats. As a player she was the driving force behind the ascent of the Chinese Women’s National Team in the early 1980’s. The “Iron Hammer” won two Women’s World Cups, one World Championship, and an Olympic Games gold medal as a player before becoming a widely-celebrated coach. When she led the Chinese women’s team to gold at Rio 2016, she became the first person to win gold as both a player and a coach. She is also a four-time Olympian.

Ping was first selected for the Chinese national team in 1978, aged 18. Quickly becoming a mainstay of the team, the outside hitter led the Chinese team to triumph at four consecutive international championships – the 1981 and 1985 World Cups, the 1982 World Championship, and the 1984 Olympic Games.

In 1995, Ping became the first woman to coach a Chinese national team and the first woman to coach a first rank team. She coached the national team to a Bronze Medal at the 1995 World Cup, a Silver Medal in the 1996 Olympic Games and the 1998 World Championship and a Gold Medal in the 1998 Asian Games.

Ping took up a position as head coach with the U.S. national team in 2005, becoming the first female foreigner to coach a major sports team in the U.S. She coached the U.S. team to win a silver medal in Beijing 2008.

She returned to head the Chinese national team in 2013, where they were back-to-back World Cup Champions in 2015 and 2019, and won the gold medal at the 2016 Rio Olympics. With the victory in Rio, Ping became the first person in volleyball history, male or female, to win a gold medal at the Olympic Games as a player and a coach. In 2019 Ping also became the first person to win back-to-back World Cup championships both as a player (1981, 1985) and as a coach (2015, 2019).

SHOHEI OHTANI SPORTS TRIBUTE



Shohei Ohtani is a starting pitcher and designated hitter for the MLB’s Los Angeles Angels. He is in his sixth season with the MLB. Ohtani represented Japan in the 2023 World Baseball Classic to win the national team’s third trophy and claim the MVP title.

In 2022, the two-way sensation put together a historic season during his fifth campaign with the Angels. He became the first player ever to qualify for the league leaders as both a hitter and a pitcher in the same season. He finished second in the MVP. Ohtani was tabbed as the 2022 Edgar Martinez Award winner, given annually to the league’s best DH. He was voted by teammates for the second straight season as the Angels Team MVP and the Nick Adenhardt Pitcher of the Year. He was selected to the All-Star Game as both a pitcher and position player

for a second consecutive season. He is the only player in MLB history to be selected as an All-Star as both a position player and a pitcher. Ohtani started the All-Star Game as the AL designated hitter and recorded the first leadoff All-Star hit since Mike Trout in 2015. He became the only player in MLB history with 10+ pitching wins and 30+ home runs in the same season. In 2021, Ohtani was named the unanimous winner of the American League MVP Award during his fourth big league season with the Angels. He joined Ichiro Suzuki (2001) as the only Japanese-born players to win the award.

Ohtani signed with the Angels as an international free agent on December 9, 2017. He was named by Baseball America as Angels’ top prospect entering 2018 and was rated as #2 prospect in all of baseball. He was designated as the #1 prospect in all of baseball by MLB.com for the 2018 campaign. In his first season with the Angels, Ohtani was named American League Rookie of the Year.

From 2013 to 2017 in Japan, Ohtani played for Pacific League’s Nippon-Ham Fighters for 5 seasons. He made his Pacific League debut in 2013 at age 18 with Nippon-Ham Fighters on March 29, 2013 on Opening Day as a right fielder.

Ohtani attended Hanamaki Higashi High School in Iwate Prefecture and participated in the National High School Baseball Championship in 2011 and National High School Baseball Invitational Tournament in 2012. Ohtani’s favorite hitter is Hideki Matsui and his favorite pitcher is Yu Darvish.

TAYLOR RAPP SPORTS TRIBUTE



Taylor Rapp was a Safety for the Los Angeles Rams for four seasons from 2019 to 2023 and won the Super Bowl in the 2021 season.

Rapp was born on December 22, 1997, in Atlanta, Georgia to a Chinese mother from Shanghai and a Caucasian father from Canada. After his birth, his parents decided to move to the West Coast. He and his older brother, Austin, were raised primarily in Bellingham, WA, where they both attended Sehome High School. NFL.com described Rapp as a player who has “beaten long odds, undeterred by a city that failed to support prep football, a high school community that openly mocked him, coaches who were unprepared to develop his talents, college recruiters who blatantly overlooked him and kids who racially taunted him for his Chinese ethnicity.” He played Safety and Running Back in football and also ran track. In high school, Rapp played football for the U-16 and

U-17 USA national teams. He committed to Washington in the spring of his junior year, choosing the Huskies over several FBS programs including Oregon, Stanford, Nebraska, and Notre Dame. Rapp was ranked as the #1 safety prospect in the state of Washington and the 9th best safety on the West Coast by Scout.com.

Rapp enrolled early at UW in January 2016. He saw playing time in all 14 games of his freshman season, starting 10 of them. He started to emerge as a playmaker in the secondary late in the season after nabbing a pair of interceptions against USC. In 2016 Rapp was named the Pac-12 Championship Game MVP. Following the regular season, Rapp was named to the USA Today Freshman All-America team.

The Los Angeles Rams selected Rapp in the second round (61st overall) of the 2019 NFL Draft. He was the fifth safety drafted in 2019. He won his first Super Bowl title when the Rams beat the Bengals in Super Bowl LVI. Rapp had nine interceptions in 57 career games, including 48 starts, during four seasons with the Rams. In March 2023, Rapp signed with the Buffalo Bills for a one-year contract as a Safety.

ALI RILEY SPORTS TRIBUTE



Ali Riley joined Angel City Football Club (ACFC) as a Defender following a trade from the Orlando Pride on January 27, 2022, where she recorded 1,556 minutes, 39 clearances, five blocks, and 19 interceptions in 2021.

Riley’s international resume includes 135 caps, four Olympic Games (2008, 2012, 16, 20), and four FIFA Women’s World Cup appearances as a member of the New Zealand national team (The Ford Football Ferns). She has served as a captain of the Ferns since 2017. Her international club career began after the WPS folded with FC Rosengård (2012-15) and continued with Chelsea (2018-19), Bayern Munich (2019), and on loan from the Orlando Pride to FC Rosengård (2020). While in Sweden, she met with

youth clubs and schools across Southern Sweden to speak about basic nutrition and wellness and wrote a regular column for a food magazine in Malmö, Sweden.

Riley started her professional career as a first-round draft pick in 2010 for the now defunct WPS FC Gold Pride; she won WPS Rookie of the Year with the club. Her second stint in the WPS was with Western New York Flash, and they won the 2011 WPS Championship, and individually she was a finalist for DPOY. Riley captained the Stanford soccer team to two NCAA semi-finals and one final. As a senior, she started in 24 games and was named a Pac-10 Women’s Soccer Scholar-Athlete of the Year and All-Pac 10 First Team. Riley’s accolades include the 2006 New Zealand International Women’s Player of the Year and the 2006 Nike International Young Women’s Player of the Year.

Off the pitch, Riley hosts “Off The Ball” for Just Women’s Sports, and in 2021, she launched *Girls Gone Veg*, a vegan cooking show, with then-teammate Toni Pressley on the ‘I Am Athlete’ platform. She also hosted the FIFPRO Podcast called *Changing the Game*, celebrating the 30th anniversary of the Women’s World Cup. Riley is a certified Health Coach through IIN.

ALYSSA THOMPSON SPORTS TRIBUTE



Forward **Alyssa Thompson** signed with Angel City on January 11, 2023, after the club selected her with the No. 1 overall pick of the 2023 NWSL draft. Thompson was the youngest player ever drafted into the league, and the first to be drafted straight out of high school.

Thompson joined ACFC from Total Futbol Academy, a boys' club in MLS Next, Major League Soccer's academy system. For two years, she played for her high school team, Harvard-Westlake, where she was named Gatorade National Player of the Year as a sophomore after recording 48 goals and 14 assists in 17 games. She had previously played with Real SoCal, as well as for the Santa Clarita Blue Heat—a semipro team largely consisting of college players—starting when she was just 13.

In 2022, Thompson earned her first call-up to the senior US Women's National Team, making her international debut against England in a sold-out match at Wembley. Also in 2022, along with her sister, Gisele, Thompson was the first high schooler to sign an NIL deal with Nike. Thompson is a third-generation Angeleno.

MICHELLE WIE WEST SPORTS TRIBUTE

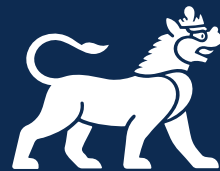


Michelle Wie West is an LPGA icon and one of the biggest names in the sport. A five-time winner on the LPGA including the 2014 U.S. Women's Open, West has been a force on the LPGA since turning professional as a teen-phenom over 15 years ago.

As a trailblazer both on and off the golf course, West became the youngest player to qualify for a USGA amateur championship at age 10, and continues to make an impact in golf through her philanthropic #HoodieForGolf campaign which raised money to create more accessibility to the sport for communities of color.

In June 2023, West will kick off the inaugural Mizuho America's Open as their first ever tournament host. As an advocate for diversity and inclusion, a philanthropist, an investor and a mother, West is one of the most impactful females in the sport.

PRESENTERS



BRIAN LEE PRESENTING TONI KO



Brian Lee is an entrepreneur. He is co-founder and Managing Director of BAM Ventures, co-founder and former President of LegalZoom.com, co-founder and former CEO of ShoeDazzle.com, and co-founder and former CEO of The Honest Company.

Formerly an attorney with Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom, LLP, Lee co-founded LegalZoom in 2001. LegalZoom has since become the nationwide leader in online legal services. Lee graduated Magna Cum Laude with a B.A. in Economics/Business from UCLA and received his J.D. from UCLA School of Law.

YIWEN LI

PRESENTING NORIKO HONDA CHEN



Yiwen Li has over a decade of experience in investing and operation and is well-versed in the venture landscape in the US and Asia. She is a Principal at Alumni Ventures. She was previously Director for Corporate Development at Masimo (MASI). She started her career in private wealth and investment at the Capital Group, then moved to corporate development at NantWorks. Li received her master's degree in Economics from the London School of Economics and a second master's degree in Global Studies from the University of Vienna. She is fluent in Mandarin and German.

Li is passionate about connecting east and west, making social impact, and supporting women empowerment. She serves as a board director at several nonprofits and foundations, including Give 2 Asia, Asia Society Southern California, and C-Sweet. In addition, Li is the author of one of the best sellers in China, "Make the World Your Playground," inspiring Chinese women to follow their unique path.

CHAMATH PALIHAPITIYA

PRESENTING NIKESH ARORA



Chamath Palihapitiya is the founder of Social Capital, where he makes big bets on transformational ideas, technology, and people. Social Capital supports entrepreneurship at all stages. Because it operates without the limitations of traditional fund structures, this approach allows them to double down on their convictions and give founders the runway and resources they need to succeed.

Prior to founding Social Capital, Palihapitiya was an early member of Facebook's senior executive team and led the development and launch of new platforms that drove the company's tremendous global growth. Prior to Facebook, Chamath held leading roles at

The Mayfield Fund, AOL, and Winamp.

Palihapitiya was born in Sri Lanka, grew up in Canada, and graduated with a degree in Electrical Engineering from the University of Waterloo.

DANA SETTLE PRESENTING SONIA CHENG



Dana Settle is a Co-Founder and Managing Partner at Greycroft. As a member of Greycroft's management committee, she is responsible for the firm's operations, investment strategy, and vision. Dana is on the investment committee for all Greycroft funds and has been involved in all phases of Greycroft's growth.

Settle's active investments include Acorns, Anine Bing, Avaline, Bird, Citizen, Cloud Paper, data.ai, Goop, HamsaPay, Happiest Baby, Mayk, Merit Beauty, Mountain Digital, Pacaso, Seed Health, Tapcart, Thrive Market and Versed. Her notable exits include Bumble (IPO), Maker Studios (acquired by

Disney), Pulse (acquired by LinkedIn), The RealReal (IPO), Trunk Club (acquired by Nordstrom), and WideOrbit (interest sold to company management).

Settle is a board Director to IMAX Corporation and the National Venture Capital Association. She is a founding member of the non-profit Baby2Baby and the female mentorship collective, All Raise. She is also a member of the Fast Company Impact Council.

Prior to Greycroft, Settle spent several years as a venture capitalist and advisor to startups in the Bay Area, including six years at Mayfield, and investment banking at Lehman Brothers. Settle holds a BA in Finance and International Studies from the University of Washington and an MBA from Harvard Business School.

MAIA SHIBUTANI AND ALEX SHIBUTANI PRESENTING SPORTS TRIBUTE



Maia Shibutani and **Alex Shibutani** are two-time Olympic medalists, writers, producers, speakers, and consultants. In 2018, the siblings made Olympic history by becoming the first ice dancers of Asian descent and the first team of color to medal at the Winter Olympic Games. They are also the first sibling duo to win two Olympic medals in Ice Dance. Earlier this year, they were inducted into the U.S. Figure Skating Hall of Fame.

Maia is on the Advisory Council for AWE (Asian Women Empowered) and is the inaugural Winter Olympic Athlete Representative of the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Foundation NextGen Program.

Alex is on the LA28 Athletes' Commission and is a photographer. His first photographic exhibition is on display at the Leica Gallery in West Hollywood from May 4th – June 5th.

Together, they are Sports Envoys for the U.S. State Department. In their role, which they've held since 2017, they promote cross-cultural understanding, engage underserved communities, and empower the next generation of leaders through diplomacy.

Their first nonfiction children's picture book, *Amazing: Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders Who Inspire Us All* was released on April 18th, 2023. They first debuted as authors with their middle grade book series, *Kudo Kids*.

PERFORMERS & EMCEE



JOYA KAZI ENTERTAINMENT PERFORMER



Joya Kazi is a Telly Award Winning, World Choreography Award Nominated, and Universal Dance Award Nominated multi-hyphenated artist. A choreographer, actress, dancer, educator and entrepreneur having founded her company at just sixteen years old, her work has earned her a spot on the DissDash list of Coolest South Asians, and she is featured on a public mural at the Artesia Library of Los Angeles County representing the city's South Asian influence of art & culture. Kazi is a member of the Emmys/Television Academy, has served on the SAG (Screen Actors Guild) Awards Nominating Committee and has also served on countless judging panels including at the World

Choreography Awards. Behind the camera, she represents and casts the finest South Asian dance talent and consults on productions from stage to screen worldwide.

Her company, Joya Kazi Entertainment, was first founded in Kazi's Bay Area hometown in 2004 as Joya Kazi Unlimited, offering dance education through a multi-faceted curriculum incorporating both Classical & Contemporary dance studies of the East & West with a focus on technique, choreography and performance. Offerings expanded to Los Angeles in 2012 to include fitness training and dynamic shows presented by JKU's critically acclaimed Resident Dance Company known for elevating Indian Classical and Bollywood styles into the mainstream. JKU's unprecedented quality has brought about accolades for the award-winning Academy & Performance Company as Kazi was steering the company into new spaces with an increased focus on developing services in the Entertainment and Events Industries worldwide. JKU expanded into Joya Kazi Entertainment in 2021 to best reflect its services offered in TV & Film as an Entertainment Agency from stage to screen in Dance, Choreography, Casting, Consulting, Coaching, Rentals, Special Events, & Brand Partnerships.

Kazi's credits span Hollywood to Bollywood and include Mindy Kaling's Netflix *Never Have I Ever*, Disney, Dreamworks, FOX *New Girl*, International Indian Film Academy Awards, Grammys, DJ Snake, The Strokes, and Raja Kumari. She was Top 8 on Reality TV show *Dance Plus*, has trained actors like India's Jaqueline Fernandez, Disney's Avantika Vandanapu, and has performed with Bollywood stars, Priyanka Chopra Jonas, Madhuri Dixit, Hrithik Roshan, Ranveer Singh and Sidharth Malhotra.

KARA WANG EMCEE



Kara Wang is thrilled to be invited back as the Emcee for the ASSC Annual Gala. A Los Angeles native, Wang is a bilingual and bicultural actor who has returned back to L.A. after 5 years of working in Asia. During that time, she acted in over 20 Chinese film and television productions, including *Caught in the Web* by the renowned Chinese director Chen Kaige.

In 2015, Wang relocated back to L.A. She can currently be seen on Freeform's *Good Trouble* and Amazon's *Goliath*. Wang was also featured on the big screen as the lead of the Sony acquired independent feature *The Calm Beyond* as well as *Top Gun: Maverick*, and starred as the first ever Chinese American lead in the Hallmark Christmas film: *Christmas at the Golden Dragon*.

As always, Wang is thrilled to not only be a part of the Asia Society family, but is honored to hold the ASSC MVP title. She is looking forward to joining the conversation of deeper collaboration and engagement between the U.S. and Asia.

ASIA SOCIETY SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA



ASIA SOCIETY SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

ANJALI SHARAN
Acting Executive Director

NORIKO KANEKO
Program Officer

JORDAN KUCHARSKI
Executive Associate

ADVISORY COUNCIL

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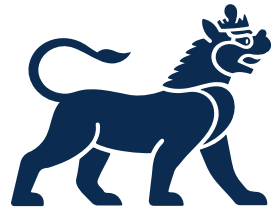
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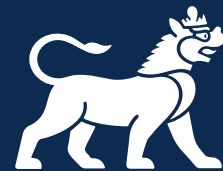


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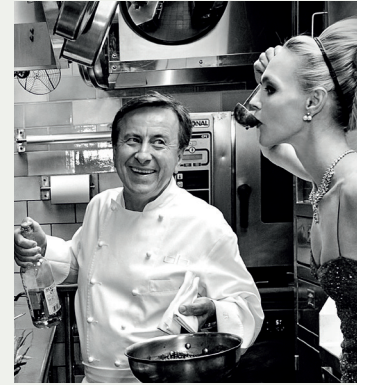
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Congratulations to our own Nikesh Arora and all of tonight's honorees.

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Congrats to Noriko, Nikesh and Sonia for your exceptional leadership in business

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For your Inspiration & Leadership

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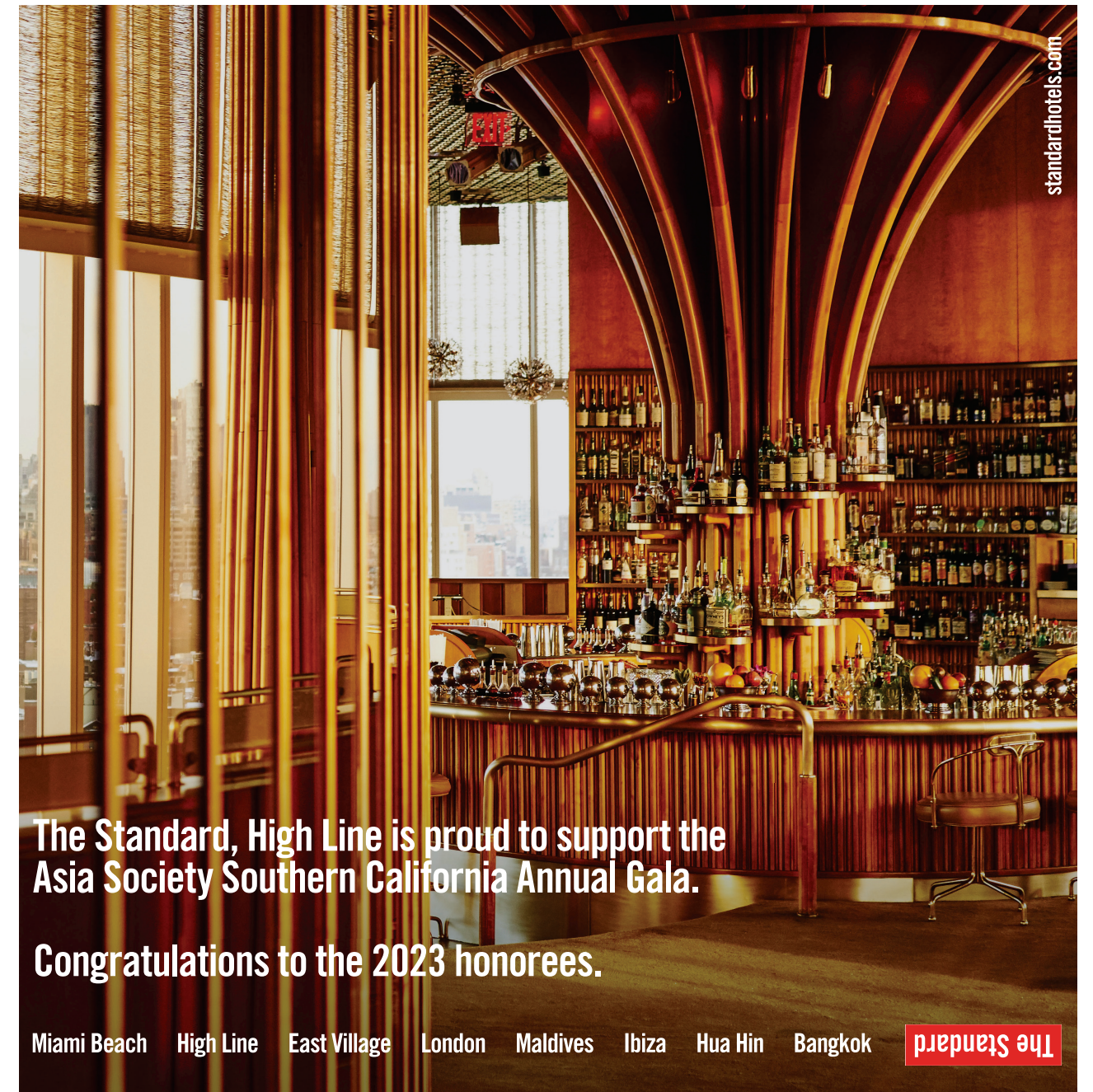
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