

THE **ASIAN COMMUNITY** FUND
AT THE BOSTON FOUNDATION

RISING TOGETHER

2025 Asian Community Fund Gala

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2025
5:30PM - 9:00PM

THE WESTIN COPLEY BOSTON
10 Huntington Avenue
Boston, MA 02116

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(as of September 22, 2025)

We express our sincere appreciation to the following institutions and leaders for making tonight's event possible.

GOLD

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RIISING TOGETHER

2025 Asian Community Fund Gala

The Asian Community Fund Gala is the signature event for Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) leaders and supporters in Massachusetts. We are delighted to celebrate the region's most prominent leaders and allies and help amplify AAPI visibility, representation, and narrative change.



5:30pm



Cocktail Hour

Featuring restaurant partners:

Myers+Chang, Lê Madeline, and The Treasury

Music provided by:

Model Peril Strings and Violinviiv

Live Portraits with:

Talia Connelly of *A Painting in the Park*

6:30pm



Dinner & Speaking Program

Honoring:

Yvonne Hao, Chief Operating Officer & General Partner at Flagship Pioneering and former Massachusetts Economic Development Secretary and **Reshma Kewalramani, M.D., FASN**, Chief Executive Officer & President at Vertex Pharmaceuticals

Performances by:

New England Tongan Community

Iskwelahang Pilipino

Suno

Boston University's South Asian/Western Fusion a cappella team

Featured Speakers:

Governor Maura Healey
Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Mayor Michelle Wu
City of Boston

Event Emcees:

Shirley Leung
The Boston Globe

Jim Braude
Boston Public Radio

8:30pm



Dessert Reception

WELCOME LETTER FROM

ACF LEADERSHIP

The Asian Community Fund was founded in 2020, at a time of crisis and clarity. In the midst of a global pandemic, a surge of anti-Asian violence, and staggering research exposing that less than 1% of all philanthropic giving goes to AAPI communities, ACF was born out of necessity and conviction. We were built for this—for moments when the very values of justice and belonging are being tested.

Five years later, we continue to rise to this challenge. Throughout the nation, and indeed across the world, we are witnessing threats to our humanity and fractures in our social safety net that threaten the well-being of our families and communities. In times like these, the need for strong, unified, and responsive leadership has never been greater.

That is why ACF exists. We are here to be the impact engine that amplifies our collective visibility, responds to rapidly evolving community needs, and galvanizes vital resources and connections for our local AAPI nonprofit, business, and cultural sectors. Tonight, as we gather for our 2025 Gala, we recognize not only how far we have come but also the

opportunity ahead. Our theme—*Rising Together*—is both a reflection of our history and a declaration of our future. In partnership with our donors, community partners, business and government leaders, and allies, we are building a movement where AAPI residents and our neighbors overcome systemic gaps in health and wealth, to thrive together.

Community has always been our greatest strength. We hope that you will join us in strengthening the social, economic, and cultural fabric of our region. Together, we will continue to rise—elevating our voices and stories, and reimagining a future defined not by division or scarcity, but by belonging, creativity, and shared prosperity.

Sincerely,



Paul W. Lee
Chair and
Co-Founder



Danielle Kim
Executive
Director

ABOUT THE ASIAN COMMUNITY FUND

The Asian Community Fund at the Boston Foundation is the first and only philanthropic fund in Massachusetts dedicated to activating, convening, and supporting the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community. Launched in 2020, ACF is a permanent resource designed to galvanize and unite the diverse ethnicities within the AAPI community, incubate new partnerships, and build a stronger advocacy voice.

ACF anchors vital community coalitions including the Asian Business Empowerment Council, the AAPI Arts and Culture Collaborative, and the AAPI Mental Health Collaborative. Together, we are working to elevate AAPI leadership and achieve belonging and prosperity for all who call Massachusetts home.



The Asian Community Fund does incredible work in the Commonwealth, and their work is a testament to the power of what we can achieve when we come together. The ACF's work to build connections, celebrate culture, and invest in leadership is helping to shape a welcoming and vibrant future.

Reshma Kewalramani, M.D., FASN
Chief Executive Officer & President,
Vertex Pharmaceuticals



IMPACT BY THE NUMBERS

\$1.6M

Grants distributed to AAPI nonprofits

600

Asian-owned businesses connected to a statewide coalition advocating for economic growth and success

285

AAPI arts and culture leaders mobilized to elevate AAPI visibility and narrative change

232

Donors and funders secured

65

Community convenings hosted

5

Research reports commissioned

GALA CO-CHAIRS



RAJA H. R. BOBBILI
Managing Director
Abrams Capital



CISSY YOUNG
Life Sciences
Leadership Advisor



THOMAS VO
Principal
Abry Partners

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GALA PLANNING COMMITTEE

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FEATURED SPEAKERS

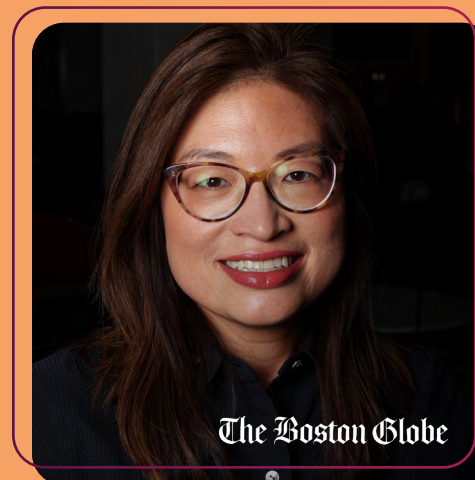


MAURA HEALEY
Governor,
Commonwealth of Massachusetts



MICHELLE WU
Mayor,
City of Boston

EMCEES



SHIRLEY LEUNG
Business Columnist and Associate Editor,
Host of Globe Opinion podcast "Say More",
The Boston Globe



JIM BRAUDE
Co-Host,
Boston Public Radio



2025 PAUL W. LEE AAPI LEADERSHIP AWARD

Reshma Kewalramani, M.D., FASN
Chief Executive Officer & President
Vertex Pharmaceuticals



Reshma Kewalramani, M.D., FASN, is the Chief Executive Officer & President at Vertex Pharmaceuticals, a Fortune 500, global biotechnology company. She trained in internal medicine and nephrology before entering the biopharmaceutical industry, where she has dedicated her career to discovering and developing new medicines. She joined Vertex in 2017, served as Chief Medical Officer and Executive Vice President of Global Medicines Development and Medical Affairs and became CEO in 2020.

Today, Vertex has multiple approved therapies that treat the underlying causes of cystic fibrosis (CF), sickle cell disease, transfusion-dependent beta thalassemia and acute pain. In addition, Vertex is advancing a clinical-stage pipeline that represents best in class and/or first in class approaches in multiple disease areas, including CF, pain, type 1 diabetes, myotonic dystrophy type 1 and select renal diseases, across multiple modalities including small molecule, mRNA, biologics, cell and gene therapies. Continuing the tradition of excellence in the workplace, under Dr. Kewalramani's leadership as CEO, Vertex has consistently been recognized as a best place to work, including by Science magazine, The Boston Globe and Fortune.

Dr. Kewalramani completed her internship and residency in internal medicine at

the Massachusetts General Hospital, and her fellowship in nephrology at the Massachusetts General Hospital and Brigham and Women's Hospital combined program. She received her medical degree, with honors, from the seven-year medicine program at the Boston University Chobanian & Avedisian School of Medicine and is a Fellow of the American Society of Nephrology. She is an alumna of the Harvard Business School, having completed the General Management Program.

Dr. Kewalramani has received a number of distinguished honors and awards for her leadership and contributions to science and innovation. She has been named to the TIME 100 Most Influential People in the World list, the TIME 100 Health list, and is one of Fortune's Most Powerful People, a Changemaker by CNBC, one of Boston Business Journal's "Power 50," one of Boston magazine's most influential Bostonians, a top CEO by Barron's, and one of Business Insider's "10 People Transforming Healthcare." She has received the Harvard Business School Alumni Achievement Award, the Distinguished Alumni Award from the Boston University School of Medicine, and the International Institute of New England Golden Door Award, among others.



2025 HELEN CHIN SCHLICHTE COMMUNITY BUILDER AWARD

Yvonne Hao
Former Economic Development Secretary
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Chief Operating Officer & General Partner
Flagship Pioneering

Yvonne Hao is Chief Operating Officer & General Partner at Flagship Pioneering, where she leads key functional pillars, contributes to strategic initiatives, and serves on Flagship's Resource Allocation Committee. Hao also works alongside Flagship's Growth Partners to help steward the firm's later-stage companies, drawing on her experience in company building, operating, and investing.

Most recently, Hao served as Secretary of the Executive Office of Economic Development for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, where she worked closely with the business community to drive job creation and foster economic growth. She was also co-chair of the Massachusetts AI Strategic Task Force where she initiated and led the state's efforts to become a global leader in applied AI. Prior to her role in public service, Hao has had more than 25 years of experience as a senior executive, including as Co-founder, Managing Director and Advisor at Cove Hill Partners, an investment firm with \$5 billion in assets under management, and as an Operating Partner at Pillar Ventures.

Previously, Hao was the Chief Operating Officer and Chief Financial Officer of PillPack, a national retail ecommerce pharmacy aimed at helping customers take their medications and stay healthy. Hao joined PillPack in January 2017 and helped lead the sale and integration with

Amazon in the Fall of 2018. Prior to PillPack, Hao was an operating partner at Bain Capital for more than eight years, serving on the boards of, working closely with, and taking interim CEO and COO roles with portfolio companies. Earlier in her career, she held leadership roles at Honeywell.

Hao has been a board member of several public and private companies including Gentherm, Flywire, CarGurus, ZipRecruiter, and Bose, as well as several nonprofits including Beth Israel Lahey Health System, Williams College, and the Commission on Presidential Debates. She earned her bachelor's degree in economics and Asian studies, summa cum laude, from Williams College; and an M.Phil. in development economics from Cambridge University, where she was a Herschel Smith Scholar. She lives in Cambridge, Massachusetts with her husband and two daughters.



ACF is charting a path where AAPI visibility and belonging go hand-in-hand with economic growth and strong communities. Our state is so grateful to have ACF investing in leadership, connection, and resources, so that our AAPI diaspora is not only seen, but celebrated here in Massachusetts and beyond.

Yvonne Hao
Chief Operating Officer & General Partner,
Flagship Pioneering



CULINARY EXPERIENCE

COCKTAIL HOUR PARTNER:
LÊ MADELINE



Peter Nguyen
Guest Chef

COCKTAIL HOUR PARTNER:
THE TREASURY



Harpal Singh Sokhi
Guest Chef

COCKTAIL HOUR PARTNER:
MYERS+CHANG



Ben Hoxsie
Guest Chef



Joanne Chang
Owner

BEVERAGE PARTNER:
90+ CELLARS



DESSERT PARTNER:
MELT IN YOUR MOUTH



CHAI PARTNER:
MADHRASI



SEATED DINNER

FIRST COURSE

Tandoori Cauliflower & Lentil Salad
*Watercress, Red Onion, Pickled Mango,
Tamarind Dressing*

SECOND COURSE

Slow Cooked Lamb Shank
*Basmati Rice, Sauteed Carrot, Crispy
Shallots, Micro Cilantro*

Miso-Buttered Poached Halibut
*Forbidden Rice Congee, Baby Bok Choy,
Crispy Mushroom, Sake Soy Reduction*

Stuffed Acorn Squash
*Coconut Beluga Lentils, Charred Broccolini,
Sunchoke Puree, Black Garlic Jus*

DESSERT RECEPTION

Mini Passion Fruit Cake
*Passion Fruit Mousse, Passion Fruit Center,
Yellow Cocoa Butter, Coconut,
Dried Orange Slice*

Mango Lassi
Fresh Mangoes, Greek Yogurt, and Milk



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The Asian Community Fund is leading the way in AAPI representation and narrative change in Boston, Massachusetts, and beyond.

Raj Sharma
ACF Supporter

PERFORMERS

violinviiv

MODEL
PERIL



VENDORS

*Chaba Florist, Floral Arrangements

*ChopValue, Awards

*Talia Connelly, Live Painter

Encore, Audio/Visual

*Nicole Loeb & *Karen Lane,
Photography and Videography

PEAK, Event Rentals

*Printing & Graphic Services, Printer

Saphier Events, Event Consultant |
Event Manager: *Jodie Martin

*TN Calligraphy, Table Numbers

The Westin Copley Place, Boston, Venue

*Raeanne Villongco, Graphic Design

*Denotes AAPI Vendors

LEADERSHIP DONORS

(as of September 22, 2025)

The Asian Community Fund is powered by the partnership and generosity of our donors. We are grateful for their support in uplifting AAPI and immigrant communities throughout Massachusetts. The following Leadership Donors have made gifts totaling \$10,000 or more since our founding in 2020.

\$500,000+

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\$25,000+

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\$10,000+

Anonymous (2)

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West Monroe

Sophy Yem & Richard Lo

ZipRecruiter

ASIAN COMMUNITY FUND ADVISORY COMMITTEE

We thank the following individuals for their steadfast leadership in overseeing the Asian Community Fund's strategy and operations.

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Asian American Studies Program
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Human Development

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Head of Global Alternative Product
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Sophan Smith
Former Executive Director, Lowell
EforAll (Entrepreneurship for All)

Sophy Yem
Sr Program Officer, Philanthropy
Surdna Foundation

Emily Yu
Vice President, Legal
BioMed Realty



OUR TEAM

The Asian Community Fund has a dynamic team of five full-time staff members working to elevate AAPI leadership and representation. Please reach out to learn more about opportunities for collaboration.



Danielle Kim
Executive Director
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Qingjian "Q.J." Shi
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Lizette Sta. Maria
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“The Asian Community Fund was created to be a permanent resource for our community, a permanent platform for our voices, a permanent launchpad for generations of leaders.

Mayor Michelle Wu
City of Boston

THE **ASIAN COMMUNITY** FUND AT THE BOSTON FOUNDATION

AAPI Arts & Culture
COLLABORATIVE

**ASIAN BUSINESS
EMPOWERMENT
COUNCIL**

Sustaining Sponsor



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- asiancommunityfund@tbf.org
- (617) 338-5881

SCAN TO VISIT
OUR WEBSITE



[www.tbf.org/
asiancommunityfund](http://www.tbf.org/asiancommunityfund)

“

This is our moment—we cannot allow the forces of hate and ignorance to divide us. Helping our fellow AAPI today will assure that future generations can stand on our shoulders to achieve what we all want—a decent life for our families. As the first of its kind in New England, we cannot afford to ignore the Asian Community Fund's call to action.

Liz Cheng
ACF Supporter



The poster features a vibrant background of stylized bamboo stalks in various shades of orange, red, and purple. A large, semi-transparent orange circle is centered in the background. In the foreground, there are several lotus flowers and bamboo leaves in shades of orange and red. The entire design is framed by a gold, textured border with decorative corner elements.

2025 GALA

THE **ASIAN COMMUNITY** FUND
AT THE BOSTON FOUNDATION

**DONATE IN HONOR OF
ACF'S 2025 GALA:**



tbf.org/donors/forms/acf-gala-fund