



**Asian American Federation
of New York**

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**Asian American Federation Celebrates
Accomplishments at Annual Gala**

New York, May 22, 2006-- The **Asian American Federation of New York** celebrated *Asian Pacific American Heritage Month* and three honorees at its May 9, 2006 *Spirit of Asian America* Gala. Honorees this year included- **Dow Kim**, Executive Vice President, Merrill Lynch, *Spirit of Asian America Award*, **Dinyar S. Devitre**, Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, Altria Group, Inc., *Spirit of Asian America Award*, and **Gina Lin Chu**, Philanthropist, *Philanthropist of the Year Award*. Each honoree had demonstrated the best of Asia America through their work, community service and their leading contributions – whether in business, culture, science, academia or philanthropic endeavors. **Connie Chung**, host, *Weekends with Maury and Connie*, **MSNBC**, was mistress of ceremonies.

Over 550 guests attended the fundraising dinner held at Cipriani 42nd Street. Guests included: Councilman John Liu, Consul Dong Wook Kim of the Consulate General of Korea, Honorable Jun H. Choi, Mayor of Edison, New Jersey, and Honorable Denny Chin, United States District Judge, Southern District of New York.

Entertainment provided by Soh Daiko and Asian Artists & Concerts, Inc. A live auction conducted by Christie's auctioneer, Dr. Hugo Weihe concluded the evening raising an additional \$41,000.

Pictures are available upon request or at our website: www.aafny.org

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About Asian American Federation of New York

The Asian American Federation of New York (www.aafny.org) is THE leading multi-issue, pan Asian, leadership organization in New York that works to meet the needs of all Asian Americans in the nation's largest metropolitan area.

The Federation also brings together the city's diverse Asian American communities and supports some 40 member agencies. It helps build these groups capacity, promotes more strategic philanthropy and strengthens delivery of community services to communities ranging from Korean-American youth to the Japanese elderly to the small businesses of Chinatown, still working to recovery from the effects of 9/11.