

# Asian Pacific American Month Culminates in Gala Ceremony

■ **Event May 26 at the Petersen Automotive Museum honors Asian Pacific American Heritage in Los Angeles.**

A gala event May 26 at the Petersen Automotive Museum honored celebrities and non-celebrities alike as part of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month.

"Los Angeles has the distinction of being one of the most culturally diverse cities in the nation," the Mayor said. "Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders enrich Los Angeles through social, educational, political, scientific and cultural contributions to our City."

"This year's theme, 'Arts, Entertainment and Technology,' highlights some of the core strengths of the community. I am honored to participate for the third year in a row in celebrating this great heritage."

Honorees included:

■ **Journalism:** Yet Lock, Vice President for City News Service

- **Business:** George Aratani, former owner of Mikasa & Kenwood
- **Sports:** Dr. Sammy Lee, Olympic Gold Medalist for diving
- **Health:** Dr. Gene Sekiguchi, first Asian American President of American Dental Association
- **Biotechnology:** Dr. Erlinda M. Gordon, Co-inventor of treatment for pancreatic cancer
- **Law:** Judge Lance Ito, Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge
- **Literature:** Helie Lee, Author, "Still Life With Rice" and "In the Absence of Sun"
- **Sports Entertainment:** Rob Fukuzaki, Sports Newscaster
- **Film Entertainment:** Lou Diamond Philips, Actor
- **Arts & Culture:** Dream Pets, stuffed animal designed by Japanese factory workers in 1957

Here are some photos of the event.



Thien Ho from the Los Angeles Dodgers receives award for contributing to the event.



Eric Robles, General Services.



From left: Terry Ogawa, Commission for Children, Youth and their Families; Lou Diamond Philips, Actor and Event Honoree; and Beverly Haro, City Employees Club Counselor.



Beverly Haro, City Employees Club Counselor, with Honorable Judge Lance Ito.



Mayor Jim Hahn, Honorary Chairperson, with Asian "princesses."



From left: Roella Louie, Retired CDD and Cultural Affairs; Jaime Troung, Building and Safety and President of the L.A. City Employees Asian American Association; Mei Ong, Dept of Sanitation; and Lillian Kawasaki, DWP Assistant General Manager.



Councilman Antonio Villaraigosa.



From left: Molly Dalva; Mei Ong, Dept of Sanitation; Maurice Dawkins, LAFD; and Jaime Troung, Building and Safety, President of the L.A. City Employees Asian American Association.

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