DON H. LIU SCHOLARS PROGRAM, INC.
ANNUAL REPORT
2017

CULTIVATING LEADERS.
INSPIRING THE FUTURE.
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OUR MISSION

Founded in 2014 by two past presidents of the Asian American Bar Association of New York (“AABANY”), the Don H. Liu Scholars Program, Inc. (the “Program”) seeks to identify, cultivate and inspire future Asian American leaders within the legal profession in order to address the single most important reality facing Asian American professionals today—the barrier to advancement.

Asian Americans remain grossly underrepresented in positions of influence, leadership and power within the legal profession. The number of Asian American partners in law firms and general counsel in our largest corporations do not reflect the diversity found in today’s law schools or the ranks of junior associates at law firms. It is the mission of the Program to increase these numbers.

In 2015, the Selection Committee of the Program chose two first year law students attending law schools in New York to each receive the $15,000 scholarship. In 2016 and 2017, the Selection Committee expanded the Program to provide the scholarships to three first year law students attending law schools in the Northeast Region. Going forward, the Selection Committee will select up to three first year law students in the Northeast Region who possess the greatest potential to both excel in the classroom and succeed at a top law firm or Fortune 500 corporation for the scholarship, and the Program will continue to provide its scholars with invaluable mentorship and assistance with career development—including identifying potential summer internship opportunities.

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Target Corporation

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Program Coordinator  
Assistant Counsel, Program & Contracts Manager, Minority Corporate Counsel Association
DHL SCHOLARS

2015

Keli Huang
Associate,
Kirkland & Ellis LLP
Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, 2017

Mingzhu “Michelle” Li
Associate,
Cravath, Swaine & Moore LLP
NYU School of Law, 2017

2016

Nora Boujida
St. John’s University School of Law, 2018

Jin U. Kim
Harvard Law School, 2018

Manleen Singh
Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, 2018

2017

Jaclyn Castelar
University of Pennsylvania Law School, 2019

Yahui “Ellie” Liang
Yale Law School, 2019

Quyen Truong
University of Connecticut School of Law, 2020
IN THE SPOTLIGHT:

2017 DHL SCHOLARS

Jaclyn Castelar graduated magna cum laude from New York University with a B.A. in politics and a minor in history. She received her degree with high honors, while graduating a year early and winning election to Phi Beta Kappa. During her time at NYU, Ms. Castelar was a Presidential Honors Scholar, a captain on the university’s top-ranked mock trial team, and the 2016 Ellie and David Werber Research Scholar in the Social Sciences. A first-generation immigrant from the Philippines, she moved to Irvine, California from Makati, Philippines at the age of 8. Ms. Castelar is a second-year law student at the University of Pennsylvania Law School, where she is the Symposium Editor of the Law Review. Her childhood passion for documentary filmmaking – through which she studied the impact of Lewis Hine’s work on child labor laws – sparked her interest in law. In the summer of 2017, Ms. Castelar was a 1L summer associate at the New York office of Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP. In the summer of 2018, she will split her time between Weil and Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP in New York.

Yahui “Ellis” Liang graduated summa cum laude from Princeton University with a B.A. in economics and minor in political economy. Born in Japan to Chinese immigrants, Ms. Liang came to the U.S. when she was five. Ms. Liang’s passion for journalism led her to take on freelancing positions and journalism courses at Princeton where she reported on issues like student and LGBT mental health, Black Lives Matter, and veteran rights. After graduating from college, she moved to Hong Kong to work as a journalist for South China Morning Post and The Wall Street Journal, where she covered the Taiwanese presidential elections and Hong Kong’s democracy movement. Ms. Liang is earning a JD-MBA at Yale Law School and Yale School of Management. She serves on the board of the Asian Pacific American Law Students Association, competed in the Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot, and is a research assistant for Justice Goodwin Liu on “A Portrait of Asian Americans in the Law,” a systematic analysis of how Asian Americans are situated in the legal profession. She will be 2018 summer associate at Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz.

Quyen Truong graduated Phi Beta Kappa and magna cum laude from Brown University with a B.A. in visual arts. As a first generation Vietnamese refugee who came to America at age seven, Ms. Truong has focused her career on improving healthcare access for Asian Americans, especially in relation to mental health and healthcare reform. Her interest in law arose from her professional career in healthcare policy, during which she wrote and executed two SAMHSA grants to promote statewide efforts for health insurance literacy in Connecticut and developed a keen interest in issues concerning HIPAA, ERISA, and the Affordable Care Act. Ms. Truong is currently a second-year evening law student at the University of Connecticut School of Law, and clerked for the Attorney General’s Office to assist with the Multi-state Opioid Investigation. This summer, she will work with Motley Rice, a plaintiff litigation firm based in South Carolina. In her spare time, Ms. Truong enjoys creating fine art paintings and training for ultra-marathons.
2017 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

For more detailed financial information, please refer to our most recently filed Form 990, which is available on our website at www.donhliuscholars.org.
KEY MILESTONES

2014
• Founded Don H. Liu Scholars Program.
• Hosted inaugural dinner at Vermillion.
• Raised $150,000 total.

2015
• Incorporated as a 501(3)(c) NY State non-profit.
• Selected 2 inaugural Don H. Liu Scholars.
• Raised $90,000 in additional funds.

2016
• Increased scholarship recipients from 2 to 3 scholars each year.
• Expanded eligible applicants from NY/NJ/CT to 4 more states plus D.C.
• Raised $70,000 in additional funds.

2017
• Established infrastructure for scholars program.
• Launched official Don H. Liu Scholars Program website.
• Launched social media presence and online fundraising campaign.

AABANY Annual Dinner photos courtesy of Corky Lee and Karen Zhou.
2017 DHL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

CONNECT

- Developed and launched www.donhliuscholars.org website in February 2017
- Launched social media presence and online fundraising campaign.

PROGRAMMING

- Hosted inaugural orientation program.
- Launched mentorship program.
- Conducted resume review and mock-interviews.
- Provided OCI bidding strategy guidance.

AABANY Annual Dinner photos courtesy of Corky Lee and Karen Zhou.
ACHIEVEMENT HIGHLIGHTS

Keli Huang
DHL Scholar, 2015

- Secured full-time associate position at Kirkland & Ellis LLP.

Mingzhu “Michelle” Li
DHL Scholar, 2015

- Secured full-time associate position at Cravath, Swaine & Moore LLP.

Jin U. Kim
DHL Scholar, 2016


Yahui “Ellis” Liang
DHL Scholar, 2017

- Selected as research assistant for Justice Goodwin Liu on “A Portrait of Asian Americans in the Law.”
2016-2017 DONORS & SUPPORTERS

FOUNDERS CIRCLE ($12,500 OR $15,000 OVER 3 YEARS)
Mark Fung and Qian Wu
Mike F. Huang and Quan Alison Gao
Michael Lewis
Clara Ohr
Teena-Ann V. Sankoorikal
Sullivan & Cromwell LLP

VISIONARY ($7,500-$12,499)
Levine Lee

BENEFACTOR ($3,000-$7,499)
Lee Cheng
Edward K. Lenci
Dwight Yoo

PATRON ($1,000-$2,999)
Lau Longsworth Charitable Fund
Jean Lee
Diana C. Liu
Liu Family Charitable Fund
Marianne Chow Newman

ADVOCATE ($500-$999)
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Fross Zelnick Lehrman & Zissu, PC
Andrew Hahn
Sahang-Hee Hahn
Erica and Kevin Klocek
Selena Lacroix
Carol Lee
Patricia Lee
Jung-Erh Lin
Kyoko Takahashi Lin & John C. Lin
Soren Lindstrom
Anthony Oliver

FRIEND ($50-$499)
Hon. Pamela Chen
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Delman, Jr.
in memory of Irene Chu
Michael Francis
Julie Kwon
Lusanna Ro
Robert Rosenberg and Rosemarie Amodio
in honor of Michael Lewis
Andrew Spaniol
Sean and Christine Syslo
Koon Wong

PRO BONO PARTNERS
Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP
Cravath, Swaine & Moore LLP
CONTACT US

DON H. LIU SCHOLARS PROGRAM, INC.

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