

Kwangtung Community Honolulu Lin Yee Hui

世界廣東同鄉檀香山聯誼會

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Mission: To promote and preserve the cultural identity of and friendship among those whose forbears immigrated to Hawai'i from the province of Kwangtung (*Guangdong* 廣東) in China.

History: In October, 1974, Chinese community leaders Yee Nung Lum and Kam Yew Young attended the meeting of the World Kwangtung Community Society held in Taiwan. They came home inspired to found a similar society in Honolulu. The Kwangtung Community Honolulu Lin Yee Hui (the Kwangtung Society) was begun in March, 1975, to provide mutual aid among Kwangtung immigrants and descendants in Hawai'i. Founder Yee Nung Lum served two terms as its first president.

Association presidents

- 1975-77 Yee Nung Lum
- 1978-79 Kenneth P. Chang
- 1980-81 Alfred K.Y. Mun
- 1982 Richard H.S. Leong
- 1983 Shing Yuen Ng
- 1984 Henry K.T. Sun
- 1985 Leroy M. Ching
- 1986 Hing Lin Chang
- 1987 Tong Trien Ly
- 1988 James L.H. Lum
- 1989 Hon Wa Wat
- 1990 Henry H.W. Lee
- 1991 Thomas B. Lau
- 1992 Joseph W.C. Young
- 1993-94 Walter T.Y. Lau
- 1995 Rod H.C. Tam
- 1996 Edmund Y.M. Lin
- 1997 William L.K. Wong
- 1998 David M.N. Hu
- 1999 Zhao Wang Chow
- 2000 Vernon K.S. Jim
- 2001 Lei S.P. Ahu Isa
- 2002 Douglas D.L. Chong
- 2003 Ronald T.C. Young





Membership:

Currently, there are 88 active members in the Society, all of whom have ancestral roots in Guandong Province. To become a member, a completed application form and a \$10 lifetime fee is required. Membership benefits include social interaction and mutual support/joint cooperation with other Chinese organizations.

Activities One of the first projects the Society undertook was to assist Taiwan's Kwangtung Society raise funds for its new building. Through the generosity of Honolulu members, \$7,500 was contributed to Taiwan, and the building was officially opened in October, 1975. To express its gratitude to the Hawai'i patrons, a Kwangtung Community Honolulu Lin Yee Hui Memorial Hall was dedicated on the fifth floor of the building.

From time to time, the Society recognizes a model Chinese Citizen of the Year. In May, 1978, Mr. Yee Nung Lum was selected the first Model Chinese Citizen of the Year for the Kwangtung Society. The second was Mrs. Laura Chew Ung Lum Sun, and the third was named on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the Society—Mr. Alfred K.Y. Mun.

The Society's 25th anniversary was celebrated on March 4, 2000, at a gala banquet held at Yong Sing Restaurant. The then Hawai'i Supreme Court justice Ronald T.Y. Moon installed incoming officers and presented awards to special honorees.

Many Kwangtung Society members serve or have served as presidents and officers of other Chinese societies, or have been honored by them. Individuals include the following:

Dr. Vernon K.S. Jim: Chinese Model Father, 2002

Mrs. Yun Soong Jim : Chinese Model Mother, 1982; Chinese Living Treasure, 1989; Chinese Citizen of the Year, 2000

Mr. Wah Chan Thom: Chinese Living Treasure, 1975; Chinese Model Father, 1983; Chinese Citizen of the Year, 1995

Mr. George C.K. Young:: Chinese Living Treasure, 1986; Noble Chinese Leader, 1996; Chinese Citizen of the Year, 1996

Dr. Joseph W.C. Young: Chinese Model Father, 1998

Mr. Ronald T.C. Young: President—Chinese Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii (1990-91); Sun Ming Ting Benevolent Association (1992); Hawaii Chinese Civic Association (1976); and Chairman—The Zhongshan Sister City Committee, composed of representatives from Honolulu's leading Chinese organizations whose efforts culminated on September 13, 1997, when Mayors Jeremy Harris and Huang Ziqiang signed an agreement making Honolulu and Zhongshan sister cities.