



G R E A T E R
AUSTIN ASIAN
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

2023 YEAR IN REVIEW

Serve local. Think *and act* global.

VISION

The Greater Austin Asian Chamber of Commerce is the leading partner for driving local economic growth and opportunity for businesses with ties to Asia and Asian Americans.



G R E A T E R
AUSTIN ASIAN
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

MISSION

Serve our members, champion the Pan-AAPI business community, enrich the community at large, and foster growth and opportunity through Advocacy, Connectivity, and Education.

OUR WORK



WE SERVE LOCAL

A fundamental value of the GAACC's work is building opportunity for local businesses to grow.

From mom'n'pops and startups to established regional players, we can help.



WE THINK GLOBAL

Austin is poised to take the next step building international business ties to strengthen our region's economy.

The GAACC is a leading local organization spearheading this work.



WE HELP YOU GROW

Whether through networking events, referrals, business development workshops, masterclass events, or marketing support, we create nurturing spaces to help your business bloom.

2023 GAACC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Guiding the direction and work of the GAACC takes a lot of talent. Our Board of Directors* and Advisory Board* bring that talent and mix it with dedication, experience, and leadership to grow our community's impact across Central Texas and the globe.



Jessica Chen, Chair
CFO
Achieve Integrative Health



Clifford Chiu
Senior Advisor and External
Corporate Director
Vista Equity Partners, Austin



Min Choe
CEO
Tso Chinese Takeout & Delivery



Naoko Cole
Membership Committee Chair
Director, Business Operations
Tokyo Electron



Shanaz Hemmati
Finance Committee Chair
COO & Founder
ZenBusiness



Rashed Islam, Past Chair
Advocacy Committee Chair
Senior Vice President,
Regional Transportation Director
HDR Engineering, Inc.



Kannan Kaliyur
CEO
ConnectTel Inc



Ali Khataw, Chair Emeritus
Advisory Board Chair
President and CEO
Encotech Engineering



Steve Ma
Ovation Committee Co-Chair
SVP, Commercial Lending
First United Bank



Ahmed Moledina, Immediate Past Chair
CEO
SOAL Technologies



Sharad Mudhol, Secretary
N&G Committee Chair
Founder & CEO
smartDigs Austin



Viviene Ngo
Ovation Committee Co-Chair
Commercial Real Estate Manager
Jefferson Bank



Minh Tran
Golf Committee Chair
Chairman/CEO
The Emmy and Evan Company



Yuen Yung, Past Chair
Development Committee Chair
Co-Founder & Partner
Halbar Partners



* - This page reflects GAACC Board of Directors members and committee assignments as of January, 2024.

2023 GAACC ADVISORY BOARD

Anbu Anbarasu
Managing Partner
Retex Investments

Angelos Angelou
Principal Executive Officer
Angelou Economics

Tamara Atkinson
CEO
Workforce Solutions Capital Area

Bradley Compere
CEO & President
Capstone Title

Geoffrey Connor
Former Texas Secretary of State
Attorney, Consultant

Jimmy Ferguson
Chairman
APIA Chamber

David Firestein
President & CEO (US-China)
George H.W. Bush Foundation

Michele Glaze
Community Affairs Director
Samsung Austin Semiconductor

Mojdeh Gharbi
Co-Owner
Certain Affinity

Larry Graham
Community Relations Manager
Texas Gas Service

Jeff Hahn
Principal
Hahn Public

Debbie Hiott
General Manager
KUT Public Media

Daniel Hodges
Market President
Spirit of Texas Bank

Mitch Jacobson
Executive Director
Innovation & Entrepreneur UT

Brandon Janes
Partner
Jackson Walker LLP

Samson Jesudass
Chief Clinical Officer
Ascension

Richard Jung
Director, Admin. Law & Regulatory
Compliance
Samsung Austin Semiconductor

Ali Khataw, Advisory Board Chair
President and CEO
Encotech Engineering
Advisory Board Chair

Paul Kim
CEO
ATX Environmental Solutions

Robert Lee, Advisory Board Co-Chair
Founder
Pearlstone Partners

Lee Leffingwell
Former Mayor
City of Austin

Ying McGuire, Advisory Board Co-Chair
President & CEO
National Minority Supplier Development
Council (NMSDC)

Rudy Metayer
Council Member
City of Pflugerville

Colin Pope
Editor
Austin Business Journal

Dr Richard Rhodes
President
Austin Community College

Eddie Rodriguez
Representative
Texas House of Representatives

Miguel Romano
President
Ascension Texas Foundation

Jeff Vice
Director, Local Govt Issues
Austin Energy

Lynn Yuan
Founder, Broker
REAL International



* - This page reflects GAACC Advisory Board members as of January, 2024.

2023 GAACC CORPORATE PARTNERS

Our Corporate Partners* make it possible for the Chamber to conduct our community engagement events and outreach programs. Through their generous support of the GAACC, they elevate the Asian business community in Central Texas. Thank you!

IMPACT, GOLD, AND SILVER PARTNERS



PROGRAM SPONSORS



* - This page reflects GAACC corporate partners and sponsors as of January, 2024.



Serve local.

We live here, so supporting small and local businesses with ties to the Asian community is a fundamental focus and value throughout our work.

The continued efforts of our Chamber and the Asian business community will help to advance regional economic equity across Central Texas.



LOCAL BUSINESS SUPPORT

From Master Classes to ribbon-cutting events, Austin's Asian Chamber supports startups and other local enterprises by providing them the information, resources, and connections they need to take their business to the next level.



APRIL

"Small Business Master Class"

Venue: Asian American Resource Center

MAY

"Project Rebuild Small Business Forum"

Venue: Austin Energy Headquarters

AUGUST

"DECA Small Business Opportunity Summit"

Venue: City of Austin Permitting and Development Center

SEPTEMBER

"Small Business Master Class"

Venue: Austin Community College Highland Campus



Our 2023 Master Classes were organized by our Small Business Development Committee, led by Captain Michelle Sledz (Insperity). Thank you!

GAACC WOMEN'S CLUB

The GAACC Women's Club provides an intimate space for our community's dynamic woman-identified leaders to network and learn from one another. Each meeting features a presentation given by a local entrepreneur or expert who shares her insights on topics ranging from business development to time management and self care.

FEBRUARY

"Creating an Inviting Abode that Reflects Your Style" with Lisa Kang

Venue: 1618 Asian Fusion Restaurant

APRIL

"How to Protect Yourself From a Skunk" with Laura Fowler

Venue: JOI Asian Bistro

JUNE

"Rising Through Resilience" with Vidhyu Rao

Venue: Fresh Bowl

AUGUST

"Personal Branding" with Emily Rollins

Venue: Town Square NW Austin

OCTOBER

"Work/Life Balance & Mental Health" with Renée Garcia and Susan Galvin

Venue: Peace Bakery & Deli

DECEMBER

"A Path of Entrepreneurship" with Danette Castañeda

Venue: Encore Bank



The 2023 GAACC Women's Club was programmed and organized by Women's Club Captain Emlyn Roesler (Solid Soaps). Thank you!



Diversity Ethnic Chamber Alliance
SERVING CENTRAL TEXAS

In March of 2022, the Austin City Council approved historic support for DECA, the Diversity Ethnic Chamber Alliance, a first-of-its-kind model of collaboration among ethnic and minority-focused chambers of commerce.



Throughout 2023, DECA worked with community stakeholders to execute components of the Regional Economic Equity Development (REED) plan, including the first-ever collaborative DECA small business event: the Small Business Opportunity Summit.



The Summit, conducted in August in collaboration with the City of Austin and Texas Capital Bank, gathered hundreds of small business owners, connecting them with critical business development expertise and resources



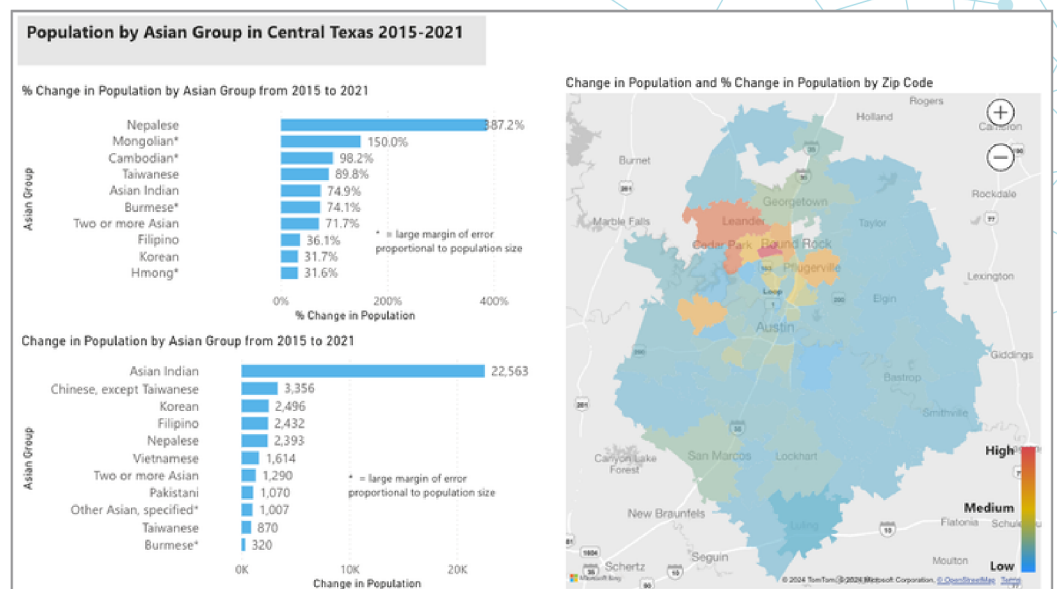
In 2024, DECA will produce and host yet more local business-oriented events and programs while working reduce barriers and create access to prosperity for our ethnic minority and LGBT communities. Learn more and get involved at www.decacentex.com.

CENTRAL TEXAS ASIAN IMPACT PROJECT

The goal of the Central Texas Asian Impact Project is to provide the most comprehensive set of actionable demographic and business insights on the Asian population here in the Greater Austin region.

Did you know that Central Texas' Asian population nearly doubled in the past decade? The social and economic impact of Asian American Pacific Islanders (AAPIs) in Central Texas is undeniable. Our diverse communities add talent and innovation, buying power, and dynamic cultural expression to our region. In many ways, this impact is just beginning.

Dynamic, interactive reports detailing the demographic and economic impact of Asian Americans in Central Texas are a primary result of the Impact Project. These reports, are available for public use for free on the GAACC website.



AN ECOSYSTEM OF KNOWLEDGE



Dr. Lila Valencia
Demographer, City of Austin



It takes a village to achieve the work of the Texas Asian Economic Impact Project. With the Asian Chamber serving in its established role as a "superconnector," a robust Ecosystem of Knowledge has formed around the project. None of this work would be possible without the assistance and expertise of the individuals, organizations, and companies who join this important effort. **Our deepest gratitude goes out to these talented and generous partners.**

MAY

"Impact Project VIP Launch"
Venue: Headliners Club

SEPTEMBER

"Impact/Insight"
Venue: UFCU Plaza Event Center



GAACC CONNECTION EVENTS

Member mixers. Appreciation parties. A golf tournament. An annual gala. The GAACC knows how to have fun. Engaging directly with our communities through in-person events drives the engine of our ongoing growth and success.



"Connection" is a core value of the GAACC. We express that value through a robust series of signature events, parties, ribbon cutting events, and more.

FEBRUARY

"Golfinity Grand Opening & Ribbon Cutting"
Venue: Golfinity

FEBRUARY

"State of the Chamber: Serve Local. Think Global."
Venue: Austin Energy Headquarters

MAY

"Tso Chinese Grand Opening & Ribbon Cutting"
Venue: Tso Chinese Takeout & Delivery - Round Rock

JUNE

"Baylor Scott & White Grand Opening & Ribbon Cutting"
Venue: Baylor Scott & White - Tech Ridge

SEPTEMBER

"2023 GAACC Advisory Board VIP Mixer"
Venue: City Post Chophouse - Georgetown

OCTOBER

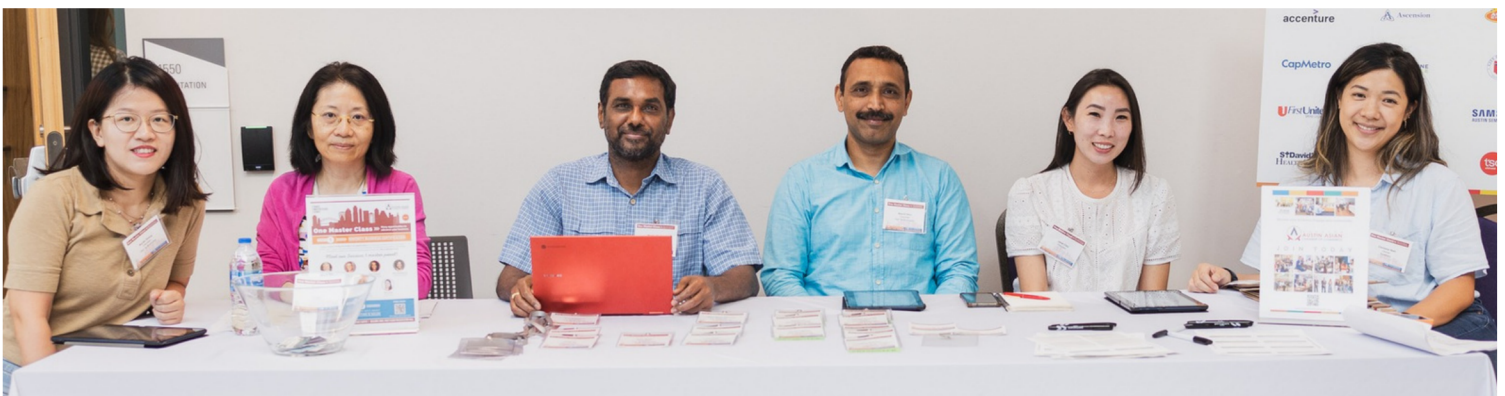
"10th Annual GAACC Fall Classic Golf Tournament"
Venue: Twin Creeks Country Club

NOVEMBER

"GAACC Ovation Gala: Bright Lights"
Venue: JW Marriott Austin

DECEMBER

"2023 Winter Member Appreciation Party"
Venue: Golfinity





Think *and act* global.

In just over two decades, Austin has evolved from a college town to a tech and startup hub to standing on the precipice of being a global destination for companies and capital investment.

We are now poised to take the next steps toward building international business ties in our city - and the Greater Austin Asian Chamber is hard at work.



GAACC INTERNATIONAL MARKETS SERIES

Austin's Asian Chamber works to connect Austin with the most robust international markets in Asia and beyond in a two-way highway of economic opportunity.



MARCH

"Next Stop: Hong Kong International Market Briefing"

Venue: Long Center for the Performing Arts

"Singapore Startup Pitch Competition"

Venue: GAACC Conference Center

"Taiwan's Startup Ecosystem"

Venue: GAACC Conference Center

SEPTEMBER

"Doing Business With Japan"

Venue: Asian American Resource Center - 2023 Oita Japan Festival

NOVEMBER

"Business Opportunity With Thailand"

Venue: Capital Factory Austin

"THINK GLOBAL" ORGANIZATIONAL PARTNERS

GAACC's "Think Global" Organizational Partners are local, regional, and international entities that, through active collaboration, facilitate our efforts to help make Austin global while cultivating regional economic equity.



We look forward to introducing our community to global influencers from new international markets throughout 2024.

THE GAACC STAFF

The Greater Austin Asian Chamber of Commerce staff* helps make things happen. This group of domain experts brings dedication, nimbleness, skill, humility, and a "can do" attitude to GAACC's critical work supporting Asian business.



Mark Duval
President & CEO



Mark Hanson
Operations
Manager



Marisol Klauer
Communication &
Marketing Assistant



Erich Pelletier
Communication &
Marketing Manager



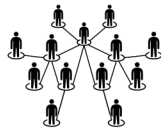
Albert Tinay
Events & Program
Coordinator

OUR LANDSCAPE



1,250+

MEMBERS
(COMPANIES & INDIVIDUALS)



4,600+

**MEMBER
REPRESENTATIVES**



25+
**GAACC EVENTS
IN 2023**



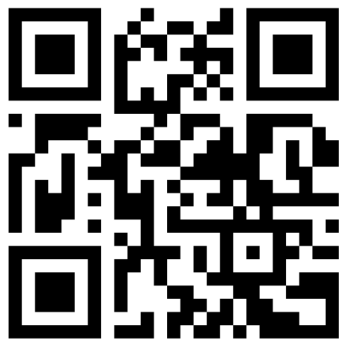
10,000+
**SOCIAL MEDIA
FOLLOWERS &
EMAIL SUBSCRIBERS**

* - This page reflects GAACC staff members as of January, 2024.



ENGAGE WITH US

SUBSCRIBE



bit.ly/GAACC-subscribe

BECOME A MEMBER



bit.ly/join-GAACC



ADVOCACY • CONNECTION • EDUCATION



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CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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