

The Westchester County Board of Legislators celebrates

ASIAN AMERICAN & PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH

Monday, May 5th , 2025 | 7PM

Welcoming Remarks & Acknowledgements

Board Chair Vedat Gashi

PRESENTATION OF PROCLAMATIONS



DR. BHAGWATI J. MISTRY

PRESENTED BY LEGISLATOR JEWEL WILLIAMS JOHNSON



JACLYN LIU

PRESENTED BY LEGISLATOR DAVID T. IMAMURA

[see back for more]

Live streamed from the Board Chamber westchestercountyny.legistar.com

Vedat Gashi
Board Chair
Legislator, 4th District

Colin D. Smith
Legislator, 1st District

Erika L. Pierce
Legislator, 2nd District

Margaret A. Cunzio
Minority Leader
Legislator, 3rd District

Benjamin Boykin II
Legislator, 5th District

Nancy E. Barr
Legislator, 6th District

Catherine F. Parker
Legislator, 7th District

Jewel Williams Johnson
Legislator, 8th District

Emiljana Ulaj
Legislator, 9th District

Judah Holstein
Legislator, 10th District

Terry Clements
Majority Whip
Legislator, 11th District

David Imamura
Legislator, 12th District

Tyrae Woodson-Samuels
Majority Leader
Legislator, 13th District

David J. Tubiolo
Legislator, 14th District

James Nolan
Minority Whip
Legislator, 15th District

Shanae V. Williams
Legislator, 16th District

José I. Alvarado
Vice Chair
Legislator, 17th District



Dr. Bhagwati J. Mistry is a distinguished pediatric dentist, community advocate, and holistic wellness leader whose life exemplifies excellence, compassion, and dedication to healing. Originally trained in India, Dr. Mistry earned her Doctorate in Dental Surgery and Master's in Pediatric Dentistry in New York, becoming a Diplomate of the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry. Her Tarrytown practice served generations of families for over 35 years, blending clinical expertise with warmth and cultural sensitivity.

A pioneer in integrative wellness, Dr. Mistry is a certified Kripalu yoga teacher and well-being coach for healthcare providers. She leads workshops on burnout prevention and mindfulness at prestigious institutions, including Columbia University and NYU Dental School. Her national leadership includes key positions with the American Dental Association and advocacy on Capitol Hill for dental equity. Her honors include the ADA Grassroots Advocacy Leadership Award and the Richard G. Spolzino Access to Care Humanitarian Award.

For 44 years, she has called Tarrytown home, where she has been actively involved in youth development, immigrant family support, and cross-cultural community building through organizations such as the Indian Cultural Association of Westchester, the Westchester County Youth Bureau, and multiple local advisory boards. In honoring Dr. Mistry, we recognize a visionary embodying service and empowerment. Her journey reflects the best of the AAPI experience: rooted in heritage, responsive to community, and dedicated to healing and wholeness.

Jaclyn Liu is a dedicated community leader whose efforts have significantly strengthened the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community in Westchester. As President of the Organization of Chinese Americans – Westchester & Hudson Valley Chapter (OCA-WHV) from 2023 to 2024, Jaclyn culminated more than a decade of board service with remarkable leadership. During her presidency, Jaclyn oversaw approximately 50 annual programs, including a Mental Health initiative that reached nearly 1,000 residents. Under her guidance, signature events like the Asian Heritage Festival and Lunar New Year celebrations attracted thousands of participants.

Jaclyn's leadership emphasized advocacy and relationship-building with residents, partner organizations, and allies to ensure better community representation. Her most enduring contribution was establishing a sustainable youth development pathway for Young OCA (YOCA), empowering youth leaders to manage key initiatives while creating a more efficient organization. The Summer Reading program engaged over 100 children, while the Teen Podcasting program gave high school students a platform to explore AAPI history, garnering more than 7,000 views.

Beyond OCA-WHV, Jaclyn co-founded the Chinese Academy of Greater New York, serving as Vice Principal and board member. She has volunteered extensively in the Edgemont School District and brings professional expertise from her 20-year career as a Software QA Manager. In 2016, she founded the Edgemont Enrichment Center LLC. Though her presidential term has concluded, Jaclyn remains committed to community service and the advancement of AAPI communities.