

Pearl Presidential Inaugural Gala

January 19, 2009 - Washington D.C. *2009*

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQS)

(updated November 17, 2008)

1. How much will individual tickets cost?

Individual tickets cost \$250 which includes admission to the Presidential Pearl Inaugural Gala and the morning conference. The Gala is now sold out.

2. What are the terms and conditions of the ticket sales?

1. TICKETS ARE SOLD ON A FIRST COME-FIRST SERVED BASIS.
2. TICKETS ARE NONREFUNDABLE.
3. PURCHASES ARE NOT TAX-DEDUCTIBLE.
4. ALL GUESTS WILL BE ASKED FOR A PHOTO ID TO GAIN ENTRANCE TO THE GALA.
5. TICKETS WILL NOT BE MAILED TO YOU. YOUR SALE CONFIRMATION IS YOUR E-TICKET. BRING THIS TO GAIN ENTRANCE TO THE MORNING CONFERENCE AND INAUGURAL GALA.
6. FOR NONPROFIT GROUP SALES, PLEASE PROVIDE YOUR TAX ID CONFIRMING THAT YOU ARE A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION.
7. FOR ALL GROUP SALES, THE NAMES OF THE 10 GUESTS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY DECEMBER 19, 2008. ANY CHANGES TO THE GUEST LIST AFTER THAT DATE MUST BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING AND THE SUBSTITUTE GUEST MUST BRING THE CONFIRMATION RECEIPT FROM US TO THE EVENT.

3. Is there a discounted rate for nonprofits?

Yes. Groups of 10 from nonprofit organizations may purchase tickets for \$2250. These discounted tickets must be purchased as a group. Nonprofit groups will be listed as "Supporting Organizations".

4. Can I buy 10 tickets for my group even if I am not a nonprofit?

Yes. The cost is \$2,500 for 10 tickets.

5. Who is involved in the Presidential Pearl Inaugural Gala?

Senator Daniel Inouye, Senator Daniel Akaka, Former Secretary Norman Y. Mineta and Cong. Mike Honda (DNC Vice-chair and Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus Chair) are the Honorary Gala Co-chairs. Belkis Leong-Hong (Chair, DNC APIA Caucus National Co-Chair, DNC Council AAPI Leadership Council) and Shekar Narasimhan (Co-chair of the DNC's Indo- American Council) serve as the Honorary Council co-chairs. The list of the Honorary Council members will be announced shortly.

Francey Lim Youngberg and Gloria T. Caoile are the co-chairs of the Pearl Inaugural Gala Team. They organized the first ever Asian Pacific American Inaugural Ball in 1996, which attracted a sold-out crowd of over 1200 guests.

Ms. Youngberg is a consultant on Asian American issues to the Smithsonian Institution, various federal and District of Columbia agencies, universities, and nonprofit organizations. She was the founding Executive Director of the Asian Pacific American Institute for Congressional Studies (APAICS), formerly the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus Institute. Prior to that, she worked as an attorney for Hogan & Hartson, Morgan Lewis & Bockius and the Commodity Futures Trading Commission. She has been named one of the 15 Washingtonians of the Year by *Washingtonian Magazine*, one of the 25 most influential Asian Americans by *A. Magazine* and one of the "25 Influential Minority Women in Business" by the Minority Business and Professional Network. She is a graduate of Wellesley College and Harvard Law School.

Ms. Caoile is a distinguished labor leader and community advocate in the United States. Ms. Caoile has been actively involved with the Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance (APALA), serving as the First National Vice President and subsequently as Executive Director. For over 30 years until her retirement recently, Gloria was an Assistant to the President of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), a 1.3 million-member labor

union. During the Clinton administration, Gloria was appointed to serve in the White House Commission for Asian Pacific Islander Americans. Gloria also invests time and energy mentoring and training community leaders as founding member of the Asian Pacific American Women's Leadership Institute and the National Federation of Filipino American Associations (NaFFAA). She was also instrumental in the creation of APIAVote. Gloria has also devoted a significant amount of her time promoting community and economic development programs that help the poor in the Philippines. In recognition of her work, Philippine President Fidel Ramos, in 1997, presented Gloria with one of the Philippines' highest civic award. In 2001, *Filipinas Magazine* presented Gloria its Achievement Award for Community Service.

They are assisted by key individuals involved in the presidential campaign, business leaders, public policy experts, community advocates, and Congressional staff. The Pearl Inaugural Team includes Irene Bueno, Christine Chen, Jocelyn Hong, Mark Keam, Thanh Thuy Nguyen, Chau Nguyen, Gautam Raghavan, Toby Chaudhuri and Neil Chatterjee.

How soon do I need to book a hotel for Inaugural Week?

Inaugural week is one of the premier events in Washington, D.C and it happens only every four years. We will have a limited block of rooms at the Mandarin Oriental available on a first come-first served basis. Call the Mandarin at 202-554-8588 and ask for the "pearl gala" rate which is \$800 night/ 4 night minimum. Hotels are almost gone and many of them require a 4 to 5 night minimum so plan ahead. If you can't find a hotel in D.C., look in the Northern Virginia and Maryland suburbs. There are also private residences that may be available through www.craigslist.com.

Will President Obama be attending the Pearl Presidential Inaugural Gala?

We have invited President Obama but we will not know for sure until shortly before January 19, 2009. We will update the website accordingly. We will also be working with the Presidential Inaugural Committee to designate the Pearl Presidential Inaugural Gala as an "official ball".

Will there be tables?

No, there will be food stations featuring various Asian cuisines, open bar (beer and wine) during dinner and a dessert reception.

What is the schedule for the 19th?

9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Briefings on voting trends, political appointment process and legislative issues for the new Congress.

7 p.m. to midnight: Presidential Pearl Inaugural Gala

All events will be at the Mandarin Oriental.