

2017 OCA-WHV Gala Master of Ceremonies

Baayork Lee (李寶玉)

Director, Performer, and Choreographer



Baayork Lee has performed in a dozen Broadway shows and created the role of Connie in *A Chorus Line*. As Michael Bennett's assistant choreographer on *A Chorus Line*, she has directed and choreographed many national and international companies in Klagenfurt, Austria, Santiago, Chile, Hollywood Bowl and Pace University.

Her directing and choreography credits also include; *The King and I* and *Bombay Dreams* (National tours), R&H's *Cinderella* (NYC Opera), *Barnum* (Australia), *Carmen Jones* (Kennedy Center), *Porgy and Bess* and *Jesus Christ Superstar* (European tours), *Gypsy* and *A New Brain*. She has also choreographed shows including; *Miss Saigon* (KC Starlight), *Mack and Mabel* (Shaw Festival), *Animal Crackers*, *South Pacific* (Helen Hayes nominations,) *Coconuts*, *Camelot*, and *Damn Yankees* all at Arena Stage in Washington, DC. She was the resident choreographer for the Washington Opera. *Goya* with Plácido Domingo, *Sly* with José Carreras and *The Merry Widow* are just a few of her opera credits. Baayork has restaged Michael Bennett's choreography for the Wynn Hotel's musical review *Show Stoppers* and choreographed *Goliath* and *David* for the season 5 of the *Good Wife*, for CBS.

Through her nonprofit organization, National Asian Artists Project, Baayorks' vision includes educating, cultivating, and stimulating audiences and artists of Asian descent through the many programs the company offers. The organization has produced *Oklahoma!*, *Carousel*, *Hello Dolly!*, *OLIVER!* and *Honor* (NAAP's first collaboration with Prospect Theatre Company) with all Asian-American casts. Using classical musical theatre shows, NAAP has made audiences more aware that talent goes beyond ethnicity.

Baayork has made it a large part of her mission to educate aspiring artists in musical theatre. She has created Musical Theater Schools in Seoul, Korea, Tokyo, Japan and a Theater Club at the Yung Wing Elementary School (PS124) in Chinatown, NY. Lee has also taught masterclasses at NYU, Pace University, Temple University, Tokyo Showa University, Stauffer Dance Center, Switzerland and The Triple Threat Program in Munich, Germany. She has received the 2014 Paul Robeson Award from Actors' Equity Association, the Asian Woman Warrior Award for Lifetime Achievement from Columbia College, Asian/Pacific American Heritage Association Achievement in Arts Award and Dynamic Achiever Award from OCA Westchester as well as others.

Most recently, Baayork Lee was the recipient of the 2017 Isabelle Stevenson Award. Ms. Lee is honored for her commitment to future generations of artists through her work with National Asian Artists Project and theatre education programs around the world.