



Name in English: Claudine Cheng
Name in Chinese:
Name in Pinyin: Use Pinyin for the Chinese name
Gender: Female
Birth Year: Year
Birth Place: Hong Kong S.A.R.
Current location: San Francisco, CA
Philanthropy: Yes

Profession(s): Lawyer, Civic Leader

Education: Bachelor of Arts, International Relations, University of Southern California; Juris Doctor, University of California Hastings College of the Law.

Awards: Asian Business League, Bay Area Labor Union Party, the Irish, Israeli, Italian Society, Raoul Wallenberg Jewish American Democratic Club, Charity Cultural Services Center, the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association and Chinese Consolidated Women's Association as well as chapters of OCA.

Contribution (s): Claudine Cheng was born in Hong Kong. Her father Cheng Kwei Sheng and mother Jessie Yu met in Shanghai and were married in 1948 and moved to Hong Kong in the mid- 1950s. With the early death of a parent leaving large families behind, both of Claudine's parents early on assumed great responsibilities for taking care of their siblings and remaining parent. This set an example for their daughter to follow in her public service throughout her career.

Claudine has been a strong advocate for civil rights and equal opportunity for many years. She was the first person from the West Coast to be elected national president of the Organization of Chinese Americans, a civil rights advocacy and education organization, where she served two terms of office from 1991-1992. During Claudine's tenure she led the fight for immigration reform and reauthorization of the Voting Rights Act, advocated against English-Only initiatives, published a handbook on anti-Asian violence as well as a National Report on the Glass Ceiling, addressing issues of mobility in the workplace. With her leadership of the capital fundraising campaign for OCA, the organization acquired a building in Washington D.C. and established the OCA National Center for Asian Pacific American Leadership in 2007, the first such headquarters for an Asian American organization established in the nation's capital. Claudine was also instrumental in the issuance of the first Chinese American commemorative stamp in 1992 for the Year of the Rooster.

She has held a succession of offices and titles including President and Chair of the Treasure Island Development Authority; Member, Board of Directors - San Francisco Planning and Urban Research Association, RENEW SF, North Beach Citizens, and Pathway for Kids; Delegate, California Democratic State Central Committee.

In 2008, Claudine unsuccessfully ran for the Board of Supervisors for San Francisco's 3rd District. She was endorsed by US Senator Dianne Feinstein and San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom.

Philanthropy: Claudine has donated over \$25,000 to the OCA, and was acknowledged by them as a "Community Mover. As director of North Beach Citizens, a small nonprofit, she has worked to find transitional housing for homeless people in the neighborhood; as a trustee of St. Francis Memorial Hospital, she developed community health programs serving seniors, children, and people living with HIV/AIDS. Claudine is also a founding member supporting the establishment of the San Francisco LGBT Community Center. She was also the founder of the Asian Pacific American Heritage Celebration Committee to organize the annual San Francisco event honoring Asian Pacific American Heritage Month

External Links:

<http://www.claudinecheng.com>

<http://www.oceanational.org>