

**You are invited to attend**

**The First Annual Lotus Award  
Celebrating Asian Pacific American Achievements**

**A Fund-Raising Gala presented by the Coalition of Asian Pacific Americans**

**Julie Azuma**

HONOREE

**Friday, April 27, 2007  
BLVD, 199 Bowery, New York, NY 10002**

**ASIAN-INSPIRED SMALL PLATES AND OPEN BAR  
FROM 7 - 10 PM**

**ENTERTAINMENT  
STARTS AT 8PM**

**SILENT AUCTION  
CLOSES AT 9:30PM**

**ALL PROCEEDS WILL BENEFIT THE APA HERITAGE FESTIVAL FUND**

## **BACKGROUND: THE FIRST ANNUAL LOTUS AWARD**

THE LOTUS IS A FLOWER THAT GROWS IN MUD YET BLOSSOMS UNSCATHED. THE LOTUS PARALLELS THE ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN EXPERIENCE, WHICH NEVER CEASES TO GROW AND OVERCOME INSURMOUNTABLE CHALLENGES WITH FORTITUDE, PATIENCE AND INDUSTRY.

## **ABOUT: JULIE AZUMA**

FOUNDER, DIFFERENT ROADS TO LEARNING & MIND AND MEMORY STORE

JULIE AZUMA IS THE FOUNDER OF DIFFERENT ROADS TO LEARNING, A COMPANY THAT CAME INTO EXISTENCE OUT OF THE OBSTACLES SHE WENT THROUGH RAISING A DAUGHTER DIAGNOSED WITH AUTISM. FOR 12 YEARS, SHE HAS GIVEN HOPE AND GUIDANCE TO FAMILIES OTHERWISE OVERWHELMED BY MAKING HARD-TO-FIND APPLIED BEHAVIORAL ANALYSIS (ABA) LEARNING AIDS AVAILABLE. TWO YEARS AGO, DRL HAS EXTENDED THE BUSINESS TO FORM THE MIND AND MEMORY STORE, WHICH PROVIDES A LINE OF AGE-APPROPRIATE MEMORY AIDS FOR THOSE WITH ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE.

ASIDE FROM BEING NAMED ONE OF THE MOST FASCINATING ENTREPRENEURS OF 2005 BY INC. MAGAZINE, JULIE AZUMA PLAYS AN ACTIVE ROLE IN VARIOUS ASIAN AMERICAN ORGANIZATIONS LIKE THE JAPANESE AMERICAN SOCIAL SERVICES INC., THE COALITION FOR ASIAN AMERICAN CHILDREN AND FAMILIES AND THE PAN-ASIAN REPERTORY THEATER. MOREOVER, SHE HOLDS BOARD POSITIONS WITH THE COALITION OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICANS AND ASIAN WOMEN IN BUSINESS.

## **Executive Committee**

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