



THIRD QUARTER HIGHLIGHTS

A New Home for Business Opportunity

AABAGP Opens South Philadelphia Office to expand support for businesses across the tristate region.



AABAGP leadership, elected officials, and supporters mark the opening of the new office.

The Asian American Business Alliance of Greater Philadelphia (AABAGP) marked an exciting milestone on July 28, 2026, with the grand opening of its new office at 1100 Washington Avenue, Unit D-2, in South Philadelphia. The new location provides a central hub for serving businesses and entrepreneurs throughout the tri-state region.

Councilmembers Mark Squilla and Jim Harrity joined AABAGP leadership, board members, business owners, and supporters for the ribbon-cutting ceremony and the presentation of a Philadelphia City Council Citation.

The office provides a dedicated place to meet with business owners, host workshops, and connect entrepreneurs with technical assistance, government contracting and procurement opportunities, and other critical resources.

It strengthens AABAGP's capacity to address gaps in information and access that can prevent businesses from pursuing opportunities.



Recognizing a new milestone with a Philadelphia City Council Citation

WHAT THE NEW SPACE MAKES POSSIBLE



**Business
Education
and Workshops**



**Connections
to Technical
Assistance**



**Government
Contracting and
Procurement
Resources**



Meet Our 2026 Golden Eagle Honorees



CÀPHÊ ROASTERS

Thu Pham, CEO & Co-Founder,
accepting

Philadelphia's first Vietnamese specialty coffee roaster and a 2025 James Beard Award semifinalist. Co-founded by Thu Pham and Raymond John, the Kensington business supports youth education and career opportunities through its partnership with 12+.



DR. STEPHEN TANG

Chairman, NOWDiagnostics

Former President and CEO of OraSure Technologies and the University City Science Center. Dr. Tang guided OraSure's COVID-19 testing response and launched the largest expansion in the Science Center's history.



DR. JOSEPH KIM

Founder & CEO, AGENTA Therapeutics

Former President and CEO of INOVIO Pharmaceuticals. A biotechnology entrepreneur advancing cancer treatments and vaccines, Dr. Kim led INOVIO as it grew to nearly 400 employees and a multibillion-dollar market capitalization.

DISTINGUISHED SPEAKERS AND EMCEES



Rich Lazer
CEO
PhilaPort



Kelvin A. Jeremiah
CEO
Philadelphia
Housing Authority



Denise Nakano
Co-Emcee



Madeleine Wright
Co-Emcee

Special presentations by Councilmembers Mark Squilla and Jim Harrity



2026 GOLDEN EAGLE AWARDS DINNER

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2026 • 5:00 – 9:00 P.M.

Live! Casino & Hotel Philadelphia • 900 Packer Avenue

Tickets \$125

Reserve your tickets or table at AsianBusinessPhila.com



AABAGP Welcomes Lois Kang as President



AABAGP is pleased to announce the appointment of Lois Kang as President, effective June 29, 2026. With more than 15 years of experience in economic development, public policy, nonprofit programs, and community engagement, Kang brings proven leadership and a strong commitment to advancing inclusive economic opportunity.

Kang served the City of Philadelphia for nearly 12 years, including as Chief of Staff to Councilmember David Oh. In this role, she advanced legislative priorities, expanded civic engagement, and developed international engagement strategies to support trade, investment, and economic growth.

Prior to joining AABAGP, Kang served as Director of Policy and Planning for the Maryland Department of Labor's Division of Unemployment Insurance. She led an 18-member team and helped secure passage of a \$33 million annual revenue proposal and a \$6 million federal grant extension to expand access to critical services.

"Lois's leadership experience, deep understanding of the region, and dedication to building inclusive economic opportunity make her uniquely qualified to guide AABAGP into its next phase of growth and impact," — said Board Chair David Oh.

Under Kang's leadership, AABAGP will build on its momentum by expanding entrepreneurial education, advocacy, international initiatives, and strategic partnerships. These efforts will address systemic barriers and connect AAPI businesses with the resources, opportunities, and relationships they need to grow and thrive. AABAGP will also strengthen its civic engagement, civil rights advocacy, and community bridge-building programs, creating greater opportunities for collaboration and helping communities across the region grow stronger together.

AABAGP Leadership Visits Subaru of America



AABAGP President Lois Kang & Board Chair David Oh visited Subaru of America's headquarters in Camden, NJ, where they met with President Jeff Walters, Vice President Lisa Quan, and DEIB Associate Director Ashley Estes. The visit reflects AABAGP's continued commitment to building meaningful relationships with regional business leaders.



Doing Business with DLA Troop Support:

75 Participants Explore Federal Contracting Opportunities



On August 5, AABAGP brought together 75 participants for a free workshop at American Heritage Credit Union to learn how to become suppliers to the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) Troop Support.

The scale of the opportunity is significant. In 2025, DLA purchased \$26 billion in products and services, including food products, clothing and textiles, medical supplies, construction materials, and equipment, creating substantial opportunities for qualified businesses.

Patrick Damico of DLA's Small Business Program and Beth Alboucq, Program Manager of the Southeast Pennsylvania APEX Accelerator, explained what DLA buys, how small businesses can become suppliers, and best practices for pursuing federal contracts. The Q&A session and networking gave participants direct access to representatives who could provide additional guidance.

For most small-business owners, the workshop offered their first introduction to DLA supplier opportunities and the federal contracting process. By bringing this information directly to the small-business community and connecting participants with procurement assistance, AABAGP made federal contracting more accessible and helped businesses take their first steps toward reaching new customers and competing for government contracts.





A Stronger Business Voice:

Connecting Business and Government at AABAGP's Civic Engagement Mixer



On September 10, AABAGP brought business owners, professionals, community leaders, and public officials together for a Civic Engagement Mixer at Bar-Ly in Chinatown. Participants met government leaders, strengthened relationships, and learned how elected officials and public offices can assist residents, workers, and businesses.

Philadelphia Councilmembers Mark Squilla and Jim Harry explained the distinct roles of district and at-large councilmembers and shared practical guidance on engaging with their offices. Speakers also included Pennsylvania State Senator Sherif Street, Razin Karu, Executive Director of the Governor's Advisory Commission on AAPI Affairs, and Deise Rodrigues, City of Phila Director of Language Access.

By combining civic education with direct access to officials, the mixer helped participants better understand local representation, identify available resources, and learn where to turn for assistance. These connections empower business owners to raise concerns, navigate challenges, and participate more effectively in decisions affecting their businesses and neighborhoods.

For AABAGP, civic engagement is an important part of business advocacy. By helping the AAPI business community better understand government, access essential resources, and build relationships with decision-makers, AABAGP is strengthening the collective voice of local businesses and expanding pathways to economic opportunity.





Financial Freedom on WURD Radio:

Inspiring Stories, Practical Lessons, and New Possibilities

ASIAN AMERICAN BUSINESS ALLIANCE
OF GREATER PHILADELPHIA

FINANCIAL FREEDOM
Sunday, August 2
5pm-6pm (1st Sunday of every month)
WURD RADIO 96.1FM / 900AM
Live Streaming: [HTTPS://WURDRADIO.COM](https://wurdradio.com)

Ricki Li is founder & owner of YD Home, a building supply company. She also has other businesses. Learn how she started and grew her business.



Hosted by: David Oh
AABAGP Board Chair

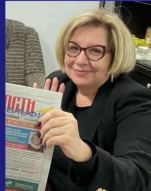


96.1FM / 900AM Black. Talk. Media.

ASIAN AMERICAN BUSINESS ALLIANCE
OF GREATER PHILADELPHIA

FINANCIAL FREEDOM
Sunday, September 6
5pm-6pm (1st Sunday of every month)
WURD RADIO 96.1FM / 900AM
Live Streaming: [HTTPS://WURDRADIO.COM](https://wurdradio.com)

Malvin Yakobashvili is Co-founder & Editorial Director of Philadelphia News (Russian language newspaper) serving the region's diverse Eurasian population. Learn how she started her business.



Hosted by: David Oh
AABAGP Board Chair



96.1FM / 900AM Black. Talk. Media.

AABAGP's Financial Freedom radio program brings entrepreneurial education and inspiration directly to the community. Hosted by AABAGP's Board Chair on WURD Radio, the program features engaging conversations with business leaders who share how they launched, developed, and grew their enterprises. Listeners gain practical guidance and firsthand perspectives from the region's diverse business community.

On August 2, Financial Freedom featured Ricki Li, founder and owner of YD Home, a building supply company. Li shared her journey of starting and growing her business, along with practical insights into real estate investment and the lessons she learned as an entrepreneur.

On September 6, the program welcomed Malvin Yakobashvili, Co-Founder and Editorial Director of Philadelphia News, a Russian-language newspaper serving the region's diverse Eurasian population. Her entrepreneurial story demonstrated how a business can strengthen communities by connecting people through news and information.

By bringing these stories to audiences on the radio and online, AABAGP extends learning beyond its in-person workshops, raises visibility of regional entrepreneurs, and encourages listeners to pursue new possibilities for their own businesses.



AABAGP Board Member Ricki Li, Founder & CEO of YD Home, was a key sponsor of Innovative Biopharmaceutical Association (IBA)'s major community event held on August 22, 2026, at Norristown Farm Park.





From South Philadelphia to Taiwan: Discovery Pathways Youth Earn Three Silver Medals



Discovery Pathways' youth dragon boat team took South Philadelphia to the world stage this September, earning three silver medals at the 15th International Dragon Boat Federation Club Crew World Championships in Hualien, Taiwan.

The team competed in the under-18 mixed small-boat division, securing silver in the 200-, 500-, and 2,000-meter events. The remarkable journey brought together 12 students, mainly from low-income immigrant and refugee families, whose dedication and teamwork earned them the opportunity to compete on the world stage.

AABAGP awarded Discovery Pathways a \$2,500 grant in support of its community programs. Through dragon boating, environmental education, and youth leadership activities, the organization helps young people build confidence, develop skills, and access experiences that might otherwise be out of reach.

Their outstanding achievement shows what is possible when young people are given the support and opportunity to realize their potential. AABAGP proudly congratulates the students and coach Adam Forbes on representing South Philadelphia with excellence, determination, and pride.



AABAGP Board Chair David Oh was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation from Vatan Global Alliance by Ambassador Furqat Sidikov during the special celebration commemorating the 35th anniversary of Uzbekistan's Independence. AABAGP is proud to provide leadership in strengthening cultural, business, and economic ties between Uzbekistan and the Greater Philadelphia region.



Coming Soon: Workshop on Doing Business with PHA



AABAGP is pleased to announce an upcoming workshop in cooperation with the Philadelphia Housing Authority (PHA), planned for early December. Tailored to our members' business interests, this informative session will highlight specific procurement opportunities and provide practical steps for doing business with PHA. The date and additional details will be announced soon, so stay tuned!

Commercial Real Estate

RECENTLY CLOSED

\$176.6M

Philadelphia, PA

DECEMBER 2025

Philadelphia Housing Authority



267 units



17-year term



Freddie Mac



Low Income Housing
Tax Credit equity
investment



May 26, 2026 AABAGP Lunch and Learn with PHA