

**EAST WEST  
PLAYERS**

120 Judge John Aiso St.  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Telephone 213.625.7000  
FAX 213.625.7111

website:  
www.eastwestplayers.org

email:  
info@eastwestplayers.org

Tim Dang  
PRODUCING ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Lynn Fukuhara Arthurs  
CHAIR

Wendy Fujihara Anderson  
CO-PRESIDENT

Hon. Robert M. Kawahara  
CO-PRESIDENT

John C. Louie  
VICE PRESIDENT

David Solin Lee  
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

Thao Le  
SECRETARY

Daniel M. Mayeda  
LEGAL COUNSEL

Thomas E. Backer, PhD  
Jacqueline Chiu  
Tim Dang  
Erwin Furukawa  
John Gong  
James E. Herr  
Teri T. Pham  
Paul Tanaka  
Jocelyn R. Wang

## COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS

George Takei  
CHAIR

George Aratani  
Sakaye Aratani  
Gareth C.C. Chang  
Terence Chang  
Gordon Davidson  
David Henry Hwang  
U.S. Senator Daniel Inouye  
Robin M. Kramer  
Edwin Kwoh  
Graham Y. Tanaka  
Dolores Wong  
John Woo

## ARTISTIC DIRECTORS EMERITI

Mako (d.)  
Nobu McCarthy (d.)

**For Immediate Release**  
March 3, 2010  
Los Angeles, CA

Contact: Christine Huynh  
(213) 625-7000 ext. 12  
[chuynh@EastWestPlayers.org](mailto:chuynh@EastWestPlayers.org)

**East West Players' 44<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Visionary Awards Dinner & Silent Auction  
Honors Fox Vice President Wenda Fong & Linkin Park's Mike Shinoda**

East West Players (EWP), the nation's premier Asian American theatre, celebrates its 44<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with its glamorous Visionary Awards Dinner & Silent Auction, and salutes those who have raised the visibility of the Asian Pacific American (APA) community through their artistic excellence and support of the Asian Pacific American performing arts. The acclaimed fundraising event will take place at the Hilton Universal City on Monday, April 19, 2010.

Proceeds from the gala will benefit East West Players' educational and artistic programs.

"Following the theme of our 44<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Season, the season's theme will be ART IS..." explains Producing Artistic Director Tim Dang. "EWP and the APA performing arts community have established a larger presence on the national landscape. We recognize these individuals who have utilized performance through music, dance, acting, voice, design and literature and have showed us the value of art and what it means to our community as a source of entertainment, education, civic pride, celebration and social consciousness."

Award-winning composer Nathan Wang (*Beijing Olympics/ShaoLin Monks*, Steven Spielberg's *The Last Days*) will lead the orchestra for the 8<sup>th</sup> year as the evening's Musical Director. The orchestra will be a combination of professional studio musicians and teenage students of the Olympia Youth Orchestra in San Gabriel Valley.

**2010 VISIONARY AWARD HONOREES** will include:

**Wenda Fong**, a well-respected producer and director of television and live events with a remarkable track record as an executive and community force. Wenda can claim credit on over 200 television programs ranging from all-star variety specials, award shows, live spectaculars, sitcoms, talk shows to documentaries. Wenda is co-founder and Chairperson of the Coalition of Asian Pacifics in Entertainment and has served as President of East West Players. She is a member of the Directors Guild of America and is founding co-chairperson emeritus of the DGA Asian-American Committee. Wenda joined FOX as its first Vice President of Creative Diversity Development Department in 2001 where she created and launched its successful diversity initiatives. In 2003, she was promoted to Vice President of

(more)

Alternative Entertainment and presently oversees *American Idol*, *So You Think You Can Dance*, *Hell's Kitchen* and the *NAACP Image Awards*.

**Michael Kenji Shinoda**, a Japanese American musician, record producer and artist from Agoura Hills, California – best known for his vocal and musical endeavors with two-time Grammy-winning, multi-platinum rock band **Linkin Park**. He has a hand in most artistic facets of Linkin Park's imagery, including album artwork, band merchandise, web design and on-stage production art. Shinoda is also involved in other projects including Fort Minor, non-profit organization Music For Relief, and Projekt Revolution. Shinoda was the youngest of his graduating class from Art Center College of Design in 1998 with a B.A. in Illustration, where he has created a fund in his name to benefit promising illustration and graphic design students with financial need. His museum shows *Glorious Excess (Born)* and *Glorious Excess (Dies)* opened at the Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles in 2008 and 2009, and this year he'll curate a collaborative group show in New York City. For more information, please visit [mikeshinoda.com](http://mikeshinoda.com).

Additional honorees will be announced.

Current major sponsors include: The Walt Disney Company, CBS, NBC Universal, and FOX as the evening's Platinum Circle sponsors and T. Rodd Bancroft as a Gold Circle sponsor.

East West Players' **44<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Visionary Awards Dinner and Silent Auction** will be held on Monday, April 19, 2010 at the Hilton Universal City, 555 Universal Hollywood Drive, Universal City, CA 91608. The no-host reception and silent auction will start at 6pm. The dinner and awards program will start at 7pm. Tickets are \$175 - \$1,250. Full table sponsorship packages are also available. For more information on East West Players' **44<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Visionary Awards Dinner and Silent Auction**, please visit [www.EastWestPlayers.org](http://www.EastWestPlayers.org) or contact Development Manager Lisa Tang at (213) 625-7000 x17 or [LTang@EastWestPlayers.org](mailto:LTang@EastWestPlayers.org).

As the event draws closer, special celebrity appearances, additional honorees, and performances will be announced.