



News Release

Vietnamese American National Gala (VANG)

For Immediate Release:
February 25, 2004

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Vietnamese American National Gala Recognizes The Contributions of Vietnamese Americans *“Celebrating Three Decades of Progress”*

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Hundreds of prominent Vietnamese Americans will gather in the nation’s capital in May 2004 to celebrate their achievements, to thank their adopted homeland, and to join other Asian American communities and America in the month-long celebration of the Asian Pacific American Heritage Month.

In the three decades since their arrival to the United States following the fall of Saigon, Vietnamese Americans have made considerable contributions in everything from aeronautics to engineering, from commerce to public service, from NASA to the NFL.

“Viet Nam is not just a distant place or a not-so-distant war, but a heritage for millions of Americans,” said Georgetown law professor and former U.S. Assistant Attorney General Viet D. Dinh. “Their achievements are a cause for celebration, and also a reminder of the opportunities afforded by America and the generosity of her people.”

The Vietnamese American National Gala (VANG) black-tie dinner will take place on May 10, 2004 in the Presidential Ballroom at the Capital Hilton. The gala is hosted by Viet Heritage Society, a non-profit organization based in California. VANG will be celebrating three decades of Vietnamese American progress and achievements and honoring distinguished individuals for their contributions to America. In addition, VANG will also be honoring a select group of non-Vietnamese individuals and organizations for their work in helping to enhance the quality of life for Vietnamese people in America.

Secretary of State Colin Powell has been invited to deliver the Keynote Address. Special guests include Secretary of Labor Elaine Chao and Secretary of Transportation Norman Mineta.

For additional information on the gala or any of the events being held by VANG, please visit www.vangUSA.com or contact Ryan Hubris, Executive Director, at info@vangUSA.com.

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