

FOSTER CITY

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Annual Meeting & impact!AWARDS 2020

COMMUNITY IMPACT SUMMIT

“COMMUNITY IS OUR BUSINESS”™

Foster City Chamber of Commerce
100 Grand Lane, Suite B | Foster City, CA 94404
(650) 573-7600
info@fostercitychamber.com

SPRING 2021

LIVE EVENT



Community Impact Summit 2021

May 18th, 2021 4 PM PDT

Host introductions and Welcome

Board of Directors Dan Demers and Joanne Bohigian

“Voices of Community”

Community Members and Leadership of Foster City and San Mateo County

“Sustainable Foster City”

*City Council Member and Chamber Liaison, Sam Hindi
City Manager, Dr. Peter Pirnejad*

A “Look Back. A Look Ahead”

impact!AWARDS 2020

Partner Awards, Leadership in Business, Make it Happen



Click Image and Replay Event!

THANK YOU

CHAIRMAN CIRCLE MEMBERS



VOICES OF



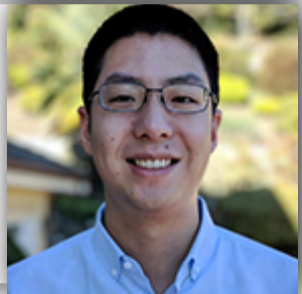
AsiaLink Language Services

As CEO of AsiaLink Language Services, Masako has been providing simultaneous interpretation services worldwide since 1996. Her clients include US and Japanese Governments, International Organizations, major corporations and renowned academic institutions. Born in Matsumoto, Japan and living in the US for many years, Masako has a deep understanding of the value of multi-cultural experiences. "I love my work because it allows me to help people communicate worldwide. The pandemic emphasized how much the world is connected. It is a privilege to be an active part of the international community."



Chess Corner
Foster City

Nathan Tsai is the Managing Director for the Foster City Hotel Group and is on the ownership team of several other hotels and retail spaces located in and around Foster City. An engineer by education, he worked in the technology industry in both San Francisco and Mountain View before returning to grow his family's local hospitality business. Nathan was on the team that completed the construction of the new TownePlace Suites and the adjacent Chess Corner Retail Center and is proud to see both properties serving customers and guests from Foster City and beyond.



David Melchner is a resident of Foster City since 1979. He attended Audubon, Foster City Elementary and Bowditch Middle Schools and delivered newspapers to the community as a youth. David has continued to serve this wonderful community in many ways with his efforts and volunteer work. David is a father of five and grandfather of one. As business owner in the field of construction, building custom homes in the peninsula, David is happy to be associated with the FC Chamber of Commerce as he represents his local Lions Club in serving the community.



Mary Lou originally joined Rotary to travel with her friends on an international humanitarian trip to South Africa and has subsequently made many humanitarian trips to distribute wheel chairs in Mazatlan, Mexico and to provide and install playgrounds at the Yurok Nation in Northern California. Mary Lou has participated in most of the Club projects and fundraisers. She assisted the Club Administrator, became Publicity Director and then Vocational Director and was elected President of the Rotary Club of Foster City for 2020 – 2021. She remains in Rotary to be of service to people in the community as well as internationally.



Marlene is Vice President of the Board of Directors in addition to being Membership Chair and Community Outreach Director for the Foster City Village (FCV), and was one of the original members of the formation team in 2012. Marlene was responsible for introducing Second Harvest Food Bank's distribution to Foster City. Marlene also started the Meals on Wheels program in Foster City. 5 days a week, full meals are delivered to residents in need by Marlene's team. She is an active part of all Village events, as well as a driver for seniors on a regular basis.



Supriya Singh is President of the Board of Directors of the Foster City Village (FCV), an organization which devotes itself to developing a dynamic community around older adults by creating social connections, fostering enriching opportunities and promoting overall well being. She joined Foster City Village in Fall 2017, and took over the helm in early 2018. She was instrumental in starting the 'WE CARE' program, one designed to reach home-bound older adults.



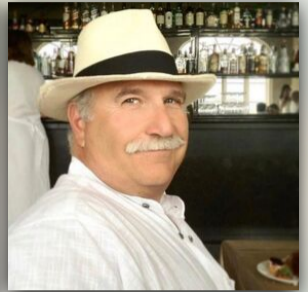
Sean Peng, a graduate of Texas A&M University, founded Oceanic Foot Spa in 2010. Over the last ten years in Foster City, the Oceanic team strove to be the best spa for Bay Area residents as well as travelers from all over the world. The Oceanic company values are: Mind, Body, Spirit, Emotion and Integrity. Oceanic Foot Spa has been a chamber member and an active participant in the Small Business roundtable sessions since the Pandemic. Sean is also an avid landscape photographer. His work can be found at dancewithlight.com



COMMUNITY



Sal Censoprano is a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) and tax practice owner for over 40 years. He was born and raised in Brooklyn, New York and earned his master's degree in taxation. After growing a thriving tax practice on the east coast, Sal eventually moved to California where he continues to serve both New York and California residents out of his Bay Area office. Sal has been a member of the Foster City Chamber of Commerce for many years and previously sat on the Board of Directors. Throughout the pandemic, Sal has graciously shared his expertise and knowledge on numerous "Ask Our Expert" roundtable sessions.



Bart Charlow, LMFT has been Chief Executive Officer of Samaritan House since 2014. Bart is a seasoned CEO, who has managed nonprofit, health care and human services organizations, and is a Licensed Family Therapist. His career spans diverse fields, including business administration, education, research, audio-visual media and information technology. In 44 years as a Bay Area executive, he has led regional nonprofits: Easter Seals Bay Area, Adult & Child Guidance Center, Silicon Valley FACES, Peninsula Volunteers and Peninsula Volunteer Properties, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, and more.



As President and CEO of SAMCEDA, Rosanne Foust directs conversations important to maintaining a strong local and regional economy, attracting and retaining major employers and jobs, and creating partnerships between business and government to address such critical issues as affordable housing, mobility improvements and maintaining quality of life. Ms. Foust has built SAMCEDA into an influential and highly regarded inclusive association with membership of Fortune 500 corporations including technology and social media, biotechnology and life sciences, banking and financial services, utilities and energy, construction and developers, as well as healthcare, education and non-profits.



Colleen Sullivan joined the SMFC Education Foundation in December 2015, serving as President since 2016. She served as an SMFC School District Trustee from 2007-2015. Colleen believes a strong EdFund impacts the entire community. She is committed to building partnerships to support all students in public education. Colleen has a B.A. in Mathematics from Carleton College and was born and raised on Oahu. She moved to the Bay Area in 1988 and has been a community volunteer since 1997. She is passionate about education and providing access and opportunity to every student in the district.



Sonja (Fuentes) Tappan is proud to be the part-time Executive Director of the San Mateo-Foster City Education Foundation. Sonja was born and raised in Foster City and has lived in the San Mateo-Foster City community for over 40 years. She is invested in this community and she and her four, now adult, children were educated in our SMFC School District schools! Sonja has over 30 years of design, project management, and operations experience. She is currently working at Bould Design in San Mateo, and previously at Genentech, Inc. She graduated from UCLA and her passion for making the world a better place through education continues to be her mission.



Dr. Eleanor Britter is a retired physician of Internal Medicine and Naturopathic Medicine. She has worked around the world in the practice of both Mercy workers and Doctors Without Borders to build clinics and bring medical help to areas where none existed. Today, as President of the Peninsula Special Interest Lions Club Charities, Inc., her mission is to bring free medical services to every person who has a need. Through her work with the Global Initiative for Health and Wellness she has actively continued in these efforts since the Club was founded in 2011.



Thai Interpreter
Translator
Cross-culture Counselor
Lecturer UC Berkley

A 40-year resident of Foster City, Supatra is an independent court certified Thai interpreter and translator, an inter-cultural relationship consultant, and former faculty member of the Dept. of South and Southeast Asian Studies, UC Berkeley, teaching Thai. Last summer, for the Chamber Cares Initiative, Supatra spear-headed "Operation Rear Support", a group that helps supply underserved frontline nursing homes in San Mateo county with PPE. The team is currently fundraising for communities in the largest COVID hot-spot in Bangkok, and translating materials for hate-crime and violence prevention, raising awareness among the Thai-American communities in California.



CONTINUED



A Bay Area native, Melvin Justice has been in the transportation industry for over 20 years. Melvin seeks to incorporate innovation with proven processes and best practices to challenge the status quo in his role as a Senior Project Manager, Transportation for Tesla. As a Board Director for the Foster City Chamber of Commerce, Melvin would like to continue to move the needle forward to ensure that local businesses (large and small) maintain a strong, active voice in the community.



Georgia is a passionate nonprofit executive and consultant with experience leading bold change throughout all life cycles of an organization. She has served as Executive Director of Thrive, The Alliance of Nonprofits for San Mateo County, for over three years. Her previous roles include CEO of the Boys & Girls Club of the Coastsides, Director of Education & Training and Senior Consultant for the Center for Volunteer & Nonprofit Leadership, and Director of the Center for Nonprofit Management at Stonehill College in Easton, Massachusetts.



ABOUT THE HOSTS



Joanne is a business development, market planning and strategy professional with over 20 years of experience leading for-profit and nonprofit organizations to develop and execute strategic plans for growth, foster and build strategic alliances, lead business and cultural change, promote volunteer and partnership involvement and raise funds to support an organizations mission, vision and values. Joanne has a reputation for sound business acumen as well as creative go-to-market insight and effective management of initiatives in both start-up organizations and Fortune 500 companies as well as nonprofit and municipal entities. Joanne brings proven ability to maximize the growth and profitability of an organization from her experiences serving such global companies as Gilead Sciences, SAP, IBM, Lotus Development and cc:Mail, Inc.



Dan Demers, a San Mateo native, is the Executive Artistic Director at Hillbarn Theatre. He has been working locally for more than 15 years in educational theatre, directing and acting all over the Bay Area. His diverse background in business management, graphic design, creative direction, coupled with his out- of-the-box thinking, brings a unique perspective to this award-winning theatre company. With a Bachelor's degree in Theatre Arts and Direction, Dan strives to change and grow the theatre to ensure that Hillbarn continues to be a beacon of the arts on the Peninsula.



FOSTER CITY CHAMBER STAFF



Marah Curry

Director of Operations & Administration

Contact Us Today

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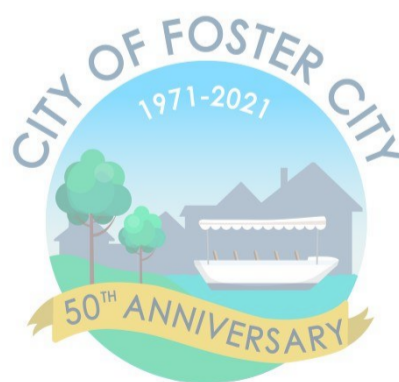
SUSTAINABLE



Foster City has a rich history. As a master planned community, strategic decisions have been made to engineer the necessary infrastructure to allow its community to thrive. Since its development in 1960, 50 years ago, Foster City has taken a proactive role in its own growth through continual cycles of analysis, planning and change. These changes have focused on the longer-term well-being and prosperity for economics, social equity, and environment.



COUNCIL MEMBER SAM HINDI



CITY MANAGER, DR. PETER PIRNEJAD

FOSTER CITY

A LOOK BACK...

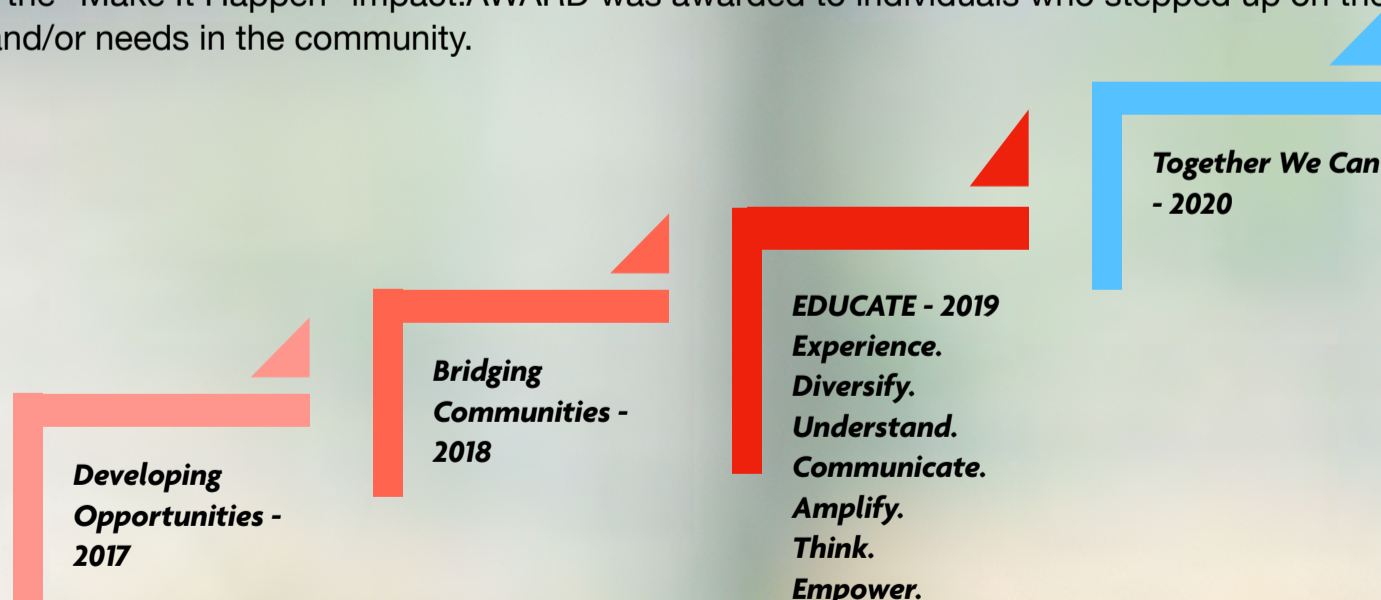
The Foster City Chamber of Commerce was excited to host its Annual Meeting and impact!AWARDS on May 18, 2021 in a fully digital format. The virtual program provided a unique opportunity to learn about the impact, advocacy, and strategic initiatives that the Chamber has, and will, embark upon. The Chamber took this opportunity to “look back” and reflect on its accomplishments and lessons learned as well as offer a “look ahead” to the priorities, areas of focus and commitments it will deliver for the continued evolution of our community. In this program, the Chamber empowered the voices of those in the community who shaped the Chamber in 2020. They took center stage together, sharing the extraordinary circumstances, challenges, and successes that impacted our community and region. Additionally, they offered their perspective on the continued priorities and needs for collaboration and recovery over the next months and years.



The Chamber continues to adapt and change as the community and region navigates a hopeful road to recovery. Through continued outreach, education and advocacy, the Chamber found its focus in the phrase “Community is our Business.”

With the Chambers’ experienced City Council Liaison and community’s new City Manager, the Chamber is working diligently to usher in a new era of leadership, collaboration and support. Council Member Sam Hindi, and City Manager, Dr. Peter Pirnejad, joined the program and shared their vision and mission for a “Sustainable Foster City”.

The program wrapped up with the announcement of the 2020 impact!AWARD recipients. There were three categories of impact!AWARDS this year. The “Partner” impact!AWARD recognized organizations and agencies who have been dedicated to serving the community through collaborative efforts and have had a noticeable impact! “Leadership in Business” impact!AWARD recognized corporations and businesses who have had an impact on their communities through designated grants, scholarships, and small business support services, resources and tools. And, lastly, the “Make It Happen” impact!AWARD was awarded to individuals who stepped up on their own, to address gaps and/or needs in the community.



CONVENE.EMPOWER.ACT

A LOOK AHEAD..

As 2020 and the pandemic ground our physical interactions to a halt, we all had an immersive & immediate crash course in virtual meetings, webinars, and presentations - moving our physical world into a virtual one. Looking ahead, we plan to strengthen & build on those newfound talents & assets. Discovering the value that we can deliver through online platforms has opened up a new world of opportunities! We plan to grow our presence in the virtual space to allow for even more access & engagement, encompassing a much wider audience & community, and enriching the experience for all. Without the constraints of geography, we can reach out to “experts” and businesses to pull in resources and support from across the country, even across the globe - building a larger, stronger & richer community!

And while we are excited for the opportunities to build on the digital & virtual spaces, we hope to balance that with a return to live and in-person events. As we emerge from the pandemic, and restrictions on gatherings ease, our employees & residents are gradually resuming “normal” operations. With this, we see an opportunity to reacquaint & reintroduce our residents /customers with the retail and restaurant businesses in our neighborhoods. We hope to engage with the City of Foster City, as we celebrate the 50th anniversary of our city, to promote & recognize the businesses that are a vital part of our community & have chosen to make Foster City their home! “Living local” is not just a hashtag – it’s a movement, it’s a mantra, it’s our rally cry for recovery!

Growing Inclusivity- 2021

We will continue to build & strengthen our collaborations and partnerships with the nonprofit & service organizations that play such an important role in our community. Never has it been so evident, that these organizations, largely made up of volunteers and individuals, united by a passion to serve, have stepped up and stepped in to fill voids and gaps that the crisis of a global pandemic had created. What a powerful force, and one perhaps, too little recognized for the incredible impact that they have in all our communities! We have grown a strong network of these groups & have seen the results of their collaborations and are excited to build on that for the future.

Know your Chamber Cares...

2021 - 2022 Board of Directors

Joanne Bohigian	whaddyathink, LLC.	Chair
Nathan Tsai	Chess Corner Retail Center	Past Chair
Daniel Brown	Entanglement Technologies	Vice Chair, Membership
Dan Demers	Hillbarn Theatre, Inc.	Vice Chair, Communications
Sonja Tappan	San Mateo Foster City Education Foundation	Vice Chair, Finance & Admin
Al DeGroot	Gilead	Director-At-Large
Constantinos Vorrises	Century 21	Director-At-Large
Cliff Berry	Visa	Director
George Fanourgiakis	Penelope's Coffee & Tea	Director
Melvin Justice	Tesla, Inc.	Director
Angie Krackeler	IBM	Director
Yazmin Mora	OnePiece Work	Director
Farzine Parelwalla	US Bank	Director

COLLABORATE.DISCOVER.STRENGTHEN.

impact!AWARDS 2020

“PARTNER” AWARD

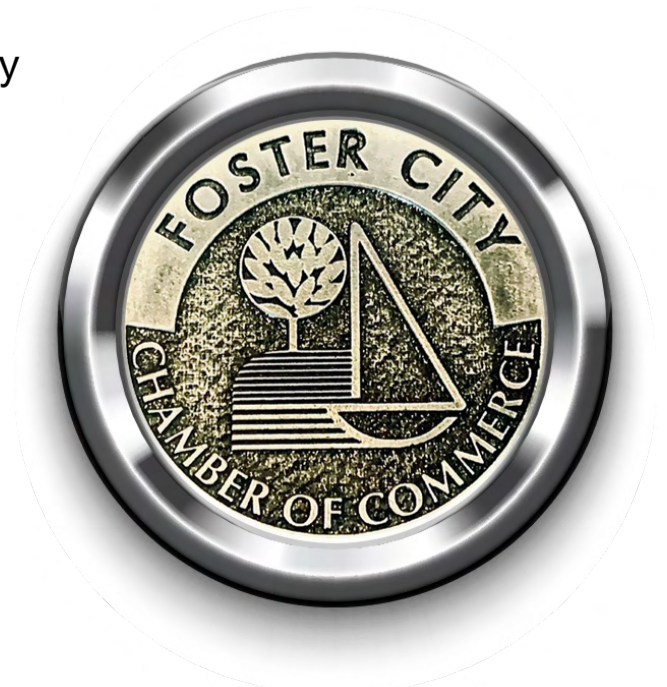
Bair Island Cyber Lions Club
City of Foster City
Foster City Lions Club
Foster City Village
Hillbarn Theatre & Conservatory
Peninsula Special Interest Lions Club
Rotary Club of Foster City
Samaritan House - San Mateo County
San Mateo County Economic Development Association (SAMCEDA)
San Mateo-Foster City Education Foundation
Thrive, The Alliance of Nonprofits for San Mateo County

“LEADERSHIP IN BUSINESS” AWARD

Zoox
Visa Inc.
Gilead Sciences Inc.
Amazon Inc.

“MAKE IT HAPPEN” AWARD

Vanessa Brannon, City of Foster City
Sal Censoprano, CPA
Supatra Chowchuvech
Jennifer Liu



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