



Dear HKGALA Members and Supporters:

We hope you are having an enjoyable summer.

In an effort to keep you informed about HKGALA's activities, we are delighted to launch this newsletter to highlight some of our recent and upcoming events.

In addition, we wanted to take this opportunity to thank all of our members and supporters, many of whom have been with us since our official launch in December 2013. We are proud to receive the support and sponsorship from **36 Supporting Firms** and approximately **500 individual members** consisting of lawyers, other legal professionals and law firm personnel, law students and other LGBT individuals and allies in Hong Kong. Earlier this year, we welcomed *Bank of America Merrill Lynch* as HKGALA's first Supporting Firm from the finance industry. You can view the full roster of Supporting Firms on our website at: www.hkgala.com.

Below are some of the highlights of our completed and upcoming events for 2016:

Completed 2016 Events:

- **Informational seminar on the EOC-CUHK Anti-Discrimination Study** hosted by **Skadden Arps** (February 16)
 - **HKGALA Second Anniversary Party and Fundraiser for Urban Light**, sponsored by **Davis Polk** (March 17)
 - **Panel Discussion on Non-Profit Board Representation** hosted by **Davis Polk** (March 22)
 - **Panel Discussion on Litigating Marriage Equality in U.S. and Hong Kong** hosted by **Ropes & Gray** (April 26)
 - **Anti-Bullying Workshop** hosted by **Freshfields** (April 28)
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- **XYZ Charity Ride for Urban Light** (May 21)
- **Private Consultation Meeting with Professor Albert Chan, Chair of the Hong Kong Equal Opportunities Commission** (June 2)

In addition, members of our Executive Committee participated on various panel discussions and presentations, including:

- **PILNet Workshop on LGBT Pro Bono Opportunities** hosted by **DLA Piper** (January 21)
- **Marriage Equality in Japan Panel Discussion** hosted at the **Embassy of the Netherlands in Tokyo** (February 16)
- **Rainbow Families Panel Discussion** hosted by **Morgan Stanley** (May 12)
- **Leading Lesbians Panel Discussion** hosted by **Standard Chartered Bank** (June 15)
- **Community Business Workshop on Driving Best Practice in LGBT Workplace Inclusion** (July 8)
- **Advisory Board Launch Meeting for The Economist's 2017 Pride and Prejudice Conference** (July 22)

Upcoming Events in the Second Half of 2016:

- **Fireside Chat with Professor Albert Chan, Chair of the Hong Kong Equal Opportunities Commission**
- **Women's Networking Event** sponsored by an Interbank member institution and a HKGALA Supporting Firm
- Other events, including the **Pride Parade, Pink Season** and **Pink Dot**, to be co-sponsored with our Supporting Firms and community partners such as the **LGBT Interbank Forum, Pink Alliance, Community Business, Les Peches**, and **OUT HK**
- We will be reaching out to key contacts at our Supporting Firms to take further steps to **institutionalize our governance structure** and actively **engage our membership**

Ideas, Suggestions and Feedback

As always, we welcome your ideas, suggestions and feedback. Please take a moment to share with us an idea for a future event or any suggestions on how we can continue to improve and grow the network. You can contact us at info@hkgala.com or reach out directly to any of our Executive Committee members.

We hope you enjoy the rest of the summer, and look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events this year.

Sincerely yours,

HKGALA Executive Committee

Wally, Marc, Mike, Dianna, Jenny, Su-Ming, and Ilan

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