

## **ACT AGAINST HATE ALLIANCE ANTI-HATE CRIME MEDIA FORUM**

*Part of the inaugural year ACT Against Hate Alliance initiative, this 10-segment program is provided as a critical response to the alarming rise in hate crimes in California and across the United States. It will bring ethnic media together with community leaders, government officials, educators, law enforcement experts, NGOs, and key stakeholders across communities statewide to define the issues and explore solutions.*

### **August 17, 2022 — INAUGURAL CEREMONY STATE CAPITOL, SACRAMENTO**

#### **CO-FOUNDERS & HOSTS:**

- **Senator Bob Huff**
- **Mei Mei Ho Huff**

#### **SPEAKERS:**

- **California Treasurer Fiona Ma**
- **Senator Josh Newman**
- **Senator Patricia Bates**
- **Senator Rosilicie Ochoa Bogh**
- **Senator Brian Dahle**
- **APAPA Founder CC Yin**
- **Bob Rose, National Diversity Council and the National Asian American Coalition, and Chimetv**
- **Corrin Rankin, Chair of CRP Outreach & Inclusion of Diverse Communities**
- **Darren Chan, Junior, The Citadel Military College of South Carolina**

### **September 14, 2022 — Program 1**

#### **PROGRAM SYNOPSIS:**

The rise in hate crimes across the US has created fear, isolation, and mistrust. Victims often report feeling re-victimized by the very institutions charged with protecting them. The Asian community has been especially impacted, raising the questions of why this is happening and what role our institutions may be unwittingly playing. This program will start with a clear definition of hate crime, followed by a look at the influence media and law enforcement can have on addressing it. Our speakers will discuss these topics through a solutions-centric lens and respond to audience questions at the conclusion.

#### **SPEAKERS:**

- **David McMurrin**, Orange County Deputy District Attorney, Special Prosecuting Unit
- **Detective Jan Wong**, LA County Sheriff's Department, Hate Crimes Coordinator
- **Regina Wilson**, Executive Director, California Black Media

- **Mei Mei Huff**, Executive Director, Act Against Hate Alliance – Host
- **Senator Bob Huff**, Former Senate Minority Leader - Moderator

### October 12, 2022 — Program 2

#### PROGRAM SYNOPSIS:

Hate Crimes and incidents have increased dramatically, while reporting these crimes often falls far short of the actual numbers. Immigrant communities often face language barriers and fear of retaliation that keeps them from reporting. When they do report, secondary victimization sometimes occurs because people processing their report have racial biases, don't have enough training or may just be insensitive to the victim's experience. Creating a supportive interface with law enforcement interaction is critical to facilitating accurate and open reporting if hate crimes are to be effectively addressed. The education system likewise offers key opportunities for interrupting the cycle of hate that can lead to hate crimes, by creating an atmosphere of respect and inclusion from the earliest age possible.

#### SPEAKERS:

- **Gloria Romero**, former Majority Leader California State Senate, advocate for school choice, education reformer and author
- **Natalie Salazar**, Executive Director for the Los Angeles Regional Crime Stoppers Program, a non-profit organization facilitating anonymous reporting of crime
- **Mei Mei Huff**, Executive Director, Act Against Hate Alliance – Host
- **Senator Bob Huff**, Former Senate Minority Leader - Moderator

### November 12, 2022 — Program 3

#### PROGRAM SYNOPSIS:

- *Hate Crimes and the Rising Threat to Our Democracy*
- *Law Enforcement Leader and Media Expert Discuss Solutions*

Far more than just the immediate harm, rising hate crimes and hate incidents throughout California and across the United States have deep implications for our democracy. These heinous acts ripple across entire communities, threatening ethnic groups, and attacking the elderly and vulnerable, causing a loss of confidence in who we are as a nation and what it is we truly stand for. To protect against continued erosion of our country's foundation, we must act decisively to identify solutions and vigorously implement them. Law enforcement must be part of any effective solution, and this requires properly educating and training every officer at every level. Fair, unbiased and accurate reporting on hate crimes and hate incidents is likewise an essential facet to any solution.

#### SPEAKERS:

- **Walter Allen III**, City of Covina Councilmember, Director of Rio Hondo Police Academy
- **Louis Freedberg**, Principal, California Media Directive, former Executive Director at EdSource
- **Mei Mei Huff**, Executive Director, Act Against Hate Alliance – Host
- **Senator Bob Huff**, Former Senate Minority Leader - Moderator

#### December 14, 2022 — Program 4

##### PROGRAM SYNOPSIS:

LA County's Commission on Human Relations recently issued its annual report documenting a 23% jump in County hate crimes from the previous year. While the official report noted that Asian hate crimes once again recorded the largest percentage increase, local news coverage only gave a glancing reference, without the dramatic percentage increase to the Asian community. Hate crimes affect all of us, some more than others. One major implication of all hate crime growth is on the state's economic vitality, as fear of being victimized can affect businesses by making them targets or by keeping customers away out of fear of being attacked. Act Against Hate Alliance goes beyond the talk to identify solutions, and to do so is bringing together stakeholders from every sector with a solutions-specific focus. This program will consider the economic impact of hate crimes and address their similarity to terrorism and will also explore a more historical view of hate crimes and their targeted communities, from the 1980's to present day.

##### SPEAKERS:

- **The Honorable Fiona Ma**, California State Treasurer
- **Adam Rose**, Research Professor of Price School of Public Policy and University of Southern California.
- **John Duran**, Civil Rights Attorney and LGBTQ+ Leader
- **Mei Mei Huff**, Executive Director, Act Against Hate Alliance – Host
- **Senator Bob Huff**, Former Senate Minority Leader - Moderator

#### January 18, 2023 — Program 5

##### PROGRAM SYNOPSIS:

##### **ACT Against Hate Alliance Rings in 2023 with an Education Focus for Hate Crime Solutions**

*Seeds of hate can take hold early; an astute education program can help eradicate them*

Act Against Hate Alliance (AAHA) was founded in 2022 to focus on finding and implementing solutions against hate crimes. With collaboration from government leaders, community members, experts, law enforcement, educators, policymakers, and thought leaders, AAHA progress is already notable with an honest dialogue commenced identifying root causes of hate crimes and the practices resulting in revictimization of hate crime

victims. One fundamental key to the AAHA solutions focus is programming for education institutions at all levels, from pre-school to university, programming that provides students with a nurturing platform for discussion, open expression, and a consistent, clear foundation that makes inclusion and diversity not something they do, but who they are. But just as important is getting students at different levels involved in minimizing hate crimes and hate incidents as part of their civic engagement while attending school.

Launching 2023 with education leading the AAHA agenda, the first Media program on Wednesday, January 18, will set the stage by bringing together trailblazers in several facets of education. We welcome Senator Josh Newman, who is introducing a State Resolution to declare January 28<sup>th</sup> the “Stand Against Hate Action Day”, the leader of a top national K-12 school executive recruiting and school training firm, a Trustee on a county board of education, a law enforcement leader whose California community took action against hate crime, and a high school and college student who are spearheading action in their schools to empower students to recognize and speak out against hate in all forms.

#### **SPEAKERS:**

- **Senator Josh Newman**
- **Denton Carlson**, San Ramon Chief of Police
- **Dr. Kevin O’Mara**, President of SCHOOL EXEC CONNECT
- **Tim Shaw**, Trustee, Orange County Board of Education
- **David Chan**, Sophomore, UC Berkeley, Political Science Major
- **Aidan Chao**, Junior, Flintridge Preparatory School
- **Josh Newman**, California State Senator, Senate District 29
- **Mei Mei Huff**, Executive Director, Act Against Hate Alliance – Host
- **Senator Bob Huff**, Former Senate Minority Leader – Moderator

#### **February 18, 2023 — Program 6**

#### **PROGRAM SYNOPSIS:**

##### **Law Enforcement's Role in Reducing Hate Crimes**

*AAHA Investigates Law Enforcement Collaboration as a Solution*

**CALIFORNIA: ACT Against Hate Alliance** will focus on the important role that law enforcement and criminal penalties can play to minimize hate crimes and hate incidents during a virtual news briefing scheduled for later today. The briefing, which will feature several California law enforcement leaders, will be held this this morning (**Wednesday, February 8th**). This will be a **Zoom meeting**. It is scheduled to begin at **11:00 AM**. Media desiring to provide coverage about the rising number of hate crimes in California and how law enforcement can be used to craft solutions are invited to attend this briefing and ask questions

*Seeds of hate can take hold early; an astute education program can help eradicate them*

## **SPEAKERS:**

- **Jim McDonnell:** Former LA County Sheriff, now Director of the Safe Communities Institute at USC's Price School of Public Policy
- **Walt Allen:** Former director of the California Youth Authority, currently running Rio Hondo Police Academy
- **Denton Carlson:** Chief of Police, City of San Ramon
- **Domingo Herraiz:** International Association of Chiefs of Police, Director of Programs
- **Mei Mei Huff:** Executive Director, Act Against Hate Alliance – Host
- **Senator Bob Huff:** Former CA Senate Minority Leader – Moderator

## **March 8, 2023 — Program 7**

### **PROGRAM SYNOPSIS:**

#### **Reducing Hate Crimes With the Arts and Entertainment Community**

*AAHA Brings Artists and Entertainers Together for a Collaborative Solution*

The topic of this segment of the Media Series is both timely and essential, as the 95th Academy Awards will be held the following week. This event brings a commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion in this industry.

The role of the arts and entertainment industry in creating equal opportunities for talented individuals from every corner cannot be overstated nor can the responsibility of the industry in promoting equality through its messages, themes, and portrayals.

This industry is an historically important source of world-wide connections. The platform they help foster can be used in both the message and lesson that all people are equal, and that any crime of hate is unacceptable.

## **SPEAKERS:**

- **Faith Bautista:** Founder and Owner ChimeTV
- **Carey Perloff:** Director, Playwright, Educator, Author
- **Carlos Benitez:** Art Dealer, Collector, Inventor, Entrepreneur, and Founder of ACCA Gallery of Fine Art in 2012
- **Adrienne Trewolla** (“Trew Love”): Artist
- **Mei Mei Huff:** Executive Director, Act Against Hate Alliance – Host
- **Senator Bob Huff:** Former CA Senate Minority Leader - Moderator

## **April 1, 2023 — Program 8**

### **PROGRAM SYNOPSIS:**

*A live and streaming press conference and event to mark the passage by SCR 15 sponsored by Senator Josh Newman, proclaiming January 28 STAND AGAINST HATE ACTION DAY in perpetuity in the State of California.*

## Live Press Event

ACT Against Hate Alliance (AAHA) and CA State Senator Josh Newman (*D-Fullerton*) have joined forces to fight against a rising tide of hate crimes in California. One part of this fight involves legislation introduced and passed by Senator Newman that establishes January 28 as the “Stand Against Hate Action Day.”

“Hate and hateful acts have no place in California,” said Senator Josh Newman during the introduction of SCR 15 on the Senate Floor. “They alter the course of the victim’s life, endanger public safety and attack the very notion of what it means to be an American.”

AAHA assisted Senator Newman by sponsoring SCR 15. The organization, led by former CA Senate Minority Leader Bob Huff and Mei Mei Ho Huff, formed in response to an alarming rise in hate crimes in California.

**April 19, 2023 — Program 9**

### PROGRAM SYNOPSIS:

#### THE VITAL ROLE OF RELIGIOUS LEADERSHIP IN COMBATING HATE CRIME

*All-faith collaboration, building community unity, and supporting an ongoing dialogue are all essential to progress.*

ACT Against Hate Alliance (AAHA) was established for the purpose of identifying solutions to stop the rise of hate crimes in California and across the United States, with these crimes threatening the very essence of democracy and unity of all who call this country home. In its monthly ACT Against Hate Alliance Media Forum, AAHA brings together experts from different sectors to focus on solutions to hate crimes. The April 19 program will highlight the essential role of religious leadership in helping to address causes and identify solutions for hate crimes. Religious leaders have a great opportunity to reach out to their communities and use their influence to bring people from all walks of life together.

### SPEAKERS:

- **Dr. Dawn Michele Whitehead**, Vice President, AAC&U
- **Rabbi Sarah Hronsky**, President of the Board of Rabbis of Southern California
- **Dr. Zuhdi Jasser**, President and Founder, American Islamic Forum for Democracy
- **Venerable Hui Dong**, Abbot, Fo Guang Shan, Hsi Lai Temple, Los Angeles
- **Mei Mei Huff**, Executive Director, Act Against Hate Alliance – Host
- **Senator Bob Huff**, Former Senate Minority Leader - Moderator

**May 17, 2023 — Program 10**

**PROGRAM SYNOPSIS:**

***The Importance of Organizational Collaboration in Combating Hate Crimes -  
Global Leaders Speak on How and Why Collaboration Must Take Place***

Hate crimes are motivated by prejudice and discrimination against a particular group of people based on their race, religion, ethnicity, sexual orientation, or other characteristics. These crimes create an environment of fear and intimidation, which can lead to social divisions and undermine the fundamental values of equality and respect for human rights. By working together, organizations can pool their resources, expertise, and influence to raise awareness, prevent hate crimes, and support victims. Collaboration can also send a strong message that hate crimes will not be tolerated and that everyone has a role to play in promoting tolerance, respect, and inclusion. Ultimately, by working together, organizations can help to create a safer, more equitable and more just society for all.

**SPEAKERS:**

- **Fiona Ma**, California State Treasurer
- **Tamás Berecz**, General Manager, Int'l Network Against Cyber Hate, Netherlands
- **Maria Daniella Marouda**, Chair, European Commission Against Racism & Intolerance
- **Dennis Santiago**, Chief Operating Officer, National Diversity Coalition
- **Laura E. Ellsworth**, Partner-in-Charge of Global Community Service initiatives, Jones Day
- **Mei Mei Huff**, Executive Director, Act Against Hate Alliance – Host
- **Senator Bob Huff**, Former Senate Minority Leader - Moderator

**June 8, 2023 — Program 11**

**PROGRAM SYNOPSIS:**

***Academia's responsibility in providing all students a safe, inclusive, respectful learning environment:  
Methods, Meaning, and Metrics***  
*The essential role of student leadership in addressing hate*

The academic environment is often considered to be ground zero for students developing social skills, learning to interact with peers in a respectful way, and ideally rising to their fullest potential in an environment that is positive, is embracing of differences, and open to diversity in all its forms. Students are regularly described as the “leaders of tomorrow” but some can and are choosing to step into leadership roles today at both the high school and university levels, promoting change at a critical time when outcomes can be favorably impacted, and unity and inclusion can be fostered.

This segment will include a conversation with emerging high school and university student leaders who are active in their own communities and/or institutions.

## **SPEAKERS:**

- **Chase Masterson**, Founder & CEO, The Heroic Journey
- **Utkarsh Jain**, Student, University of California Berkeley
- **Hailey Wells**, Student, Sacred Heart Schools, Atherton
- **Nicolas Hernandez**, Student, California State University, Fullerton
- **Remy Garcia-Kakebeen**, Student, Incoming Freshman, Princeton University
- **Aidan Chao**, Student, Flintridge Preparatory, La Canada Flintridge
- **Mei Mei Huff**, Executive Director, Act Against Hate Alliance - Host
- **Senator Bob Huff**, former Senate Minority Leader – Moderator

## **July 27, 2023 — Program 12**

### **PROGRAM SYNOPSIS:**

***The Rise of Cyber Hate and the Challenge of Stopping It***  
*A Clear Definition is Difficult to Articulate and to Identify*

A conversation hosted by Senator Bob Huff with Tamas Berecz, Director of International Network Against Cyber Hate, on the rising issue of cyber hate globally and the measures being taken in the European Union to combat it. With the rise of social media and instant connectivity worldwide, cyber hate becomes one of the most pressing problems, with a fundamental criterion in stopping it being to be able to identify exactly what it is.

### **PARTICIPANTS:**

- **Tamas Berecz**, Director, International Network Against Cyber Hate
- **Senator Bob Huff**, Director, ACT Against Hate Alliance

## **August 4, 2023 — Program 13**

### **PROGRAM SYNOPSIS:**

***Photography has the power to connect us and in doing so to help eradicate divisions and animosity.***  
*A camera in the hands of children is an immediate tool of inclusion*

- **Lynn Johnson**, renowned photographer for National Geographic, spoke with Senator Huff to talk about the power of photography in bringing to the fore challenging and painful subjects from America's past.

### **PARTICIPANTS:**

- **Lynn Johnson**, National Geographic
- **Senator Bob Huff**



**August 17, 2023 — Program 14**

**PROGRAM SYNOPSIS:**

***End of Inaugural Year Wrap-Up and ACT Against Hate Alliance Award Ceremony for Leadership***

To conclude this impactful year, we are establishing the Huff Strategies - ACT Against Hate Alliance Leadership Award to recognize nine individuals whose commitment to eradicating hate through their work has conferred a profound benefit on the world. There are so many deserving of this honor and our inaugural year recipients are representative of the larger population of those whose actions truly speak louder than any words or award can in demonstrating their immeasurable contribution.

The Huff-Strategies - ACT Against Hate Alliance Leadership award ceremony will be a part of our final year event on August 17, and will be live-streamed.

**SPEAKERS:**

- **California State Treasurer Fiona Ma**
- **California State Senator Josh Newman**
- **Carey Perloff**, Director, Playwright, Educator, Author
- **Dr. Zuhdi Jasser**, President and Founder, American Islamic Forum for Democracy
- **Walter Allen III**, Director, Rio Hondo Police Academy, Mayor, City of Covina
- **Students:**
  - **Aidan Chao**, Flintridge Preparatory, La Canada Flintridge
  - **David Chan**, Sophomore UC Berkeley, Political Science Major
  - **Nicolas Hernandez**, Sophomore, CSU Fullerton, Fullerton, CA
  - **Darren Chan**, Junior, Citadel