



# Formosan Association for Public Affairs Young Professional Group

<http://fapaypg.org>

January 2011

Vol. 1, Issue 1



## Coordinator's Corner

First of all, I would like to introduce the 2011 YPG Steering Committee members. We look forward to serving FAPA-YPG this year!

- \* Steven Chang (San Francisco, CA) - advocacy co-chair;
- \* Jenntyng Chern (Westfield, NJ) - advocacy co-chair;
- \* Henry Lin (Philadelphia, PA) - outreach chair;
- \* Richard Lin (Seattle, WA) - media/newsletter chair;
- \* Kevin Wu (Pomona, NY) - membership/fundraising chair
- \* Sean Su (New York City, NY) - webmaster
- \* Ketty Chen (Plano, TX), Jonathan Lee (Chicago, IL), Tony Lee (Los Angeles, CA), Eva Tseng (Newton, MA), Zoe Tseng (Newton, MA), Peter Chai (Providence, RI) and Carolyn Wu (Philadelphia, PA) will remain in the SC as advisors.

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Though this winter has been particularly cold, YPG members remained fired up to go on the streets and conducted nationwide outreach events in light of Hu Jintao's visit to Washington, D.C. on January 19. As you can see in the following chapter reports, the outreach activities took place in Washington, D.C., Boston, New York City and San Francisco. We shouted out five demands, gave out Taiwan bookmarks, and talked to bystanders about our cause. The five demands are:

1. Respect Taiwanese freedom and democracy;
2. Recognize the right of the Taiwanese people to self-determination;
3. Dismantle the 1,600 missiles and threatening weaponry pointed at Taiwan;
4. End Taiwan's international political isolation, particularly to international organizations such as the United Nations and the World Health Organization;
5. End Chinese economic and political manipulation of Taiwan.

### Upcoming Events

2/05 - Boston Comm.  
Workshop  
2/19 - Texas Regional  
Conference  
Last weekend of 2/28 -  
Nationwide 228  
Outreach

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## Coordinator's Corner (Continued)

In Washington, D.C., it was very exciting to see a coalition of Tibetans, Uyghurs and other groups get together to speak against the Chinese regime. My tears started running as Rabiya Kadeer spoke to the crowd about her jailed sons and my blood started boiling when Bob Yang made a statement on behalf of Taiwanese Americans. I was very touched by OPGers' attendance as many of them traveled from New York and their persistence to stand by the team even when their ankles hurt.

YPG Steering Committee plans to keep up this momentum by initiating more activities nationwide hoping to encourage more YPG members to participate in our cause in the immediate future. First, YPG plans to attend all three ITASA conferences this year in Princeton, Northwestern and Berkeley. Second, YPG will be conducting a regional advocacy conference in Texas in two locations: Dallas on February 19 and Houston on February 20 with goals to recruit more young members, establish YPG chapters, bring advocacy awareness and skills to local areas and to solidify connection and cooperation amongst OPG and YPG members in regional chapters. Last, we plan to conduct nationwide outreach events incorporating social media campaign in commemorating 228 Massacre on the last weekend of February.

So, who else is looking forward for the coming of Spring? Or cherry blossom?

Eileen Lin  
YPG Coordinator

## FAPA YPG Website

Be sure to check out the new website for FAPA YPG. Thanks to Sean S. who has completely redone the YPG website, including linking with social media sites, forum functionality, and much more! Visit the new website at <http://fapaypg.org>



## Boston FAPA YPG

In addition to local lobbying visits, speakers and workshops, the focus of the Boston FAPA YPG chapter more recently has been on our monthly outreach event in Harvard Square which occurs every second Saturday of the month. During the outreach event, we hold up signs and pass out Taiwan bookmarks which explain basic facts about Taiwan. We try to engage passerbys in discussion and have



had the opportunity to meet various people, some who have traveled to Taiwan before and others who know little about the issues but want to learn more.

In December we hosted a public movie screening event. The audience watched 眼淚, a recent Taiwanese film which touches upon transitional justice, and a Titan documentary titled "Leaving Fear Behind", which sheds light on Tibetan sentiments towards the 2008 Olympics Games in Beijing in the days lead up to the opening of the games. There were a few enthusiastic discussions following the films. The next event we're in the midst of planning is a communications workshop with the aim of strengthening our communications skills so that we can become better advocates for Taiwan.

For Hu Jintao's visit, we held a protest and outreach event that was joined by 20+ Tibetan activists. Several YPG members plus five FAPA members showed up, one of them brought his kid as well. One of our member's big green Taiwan flag caught the attention of one Taiwanese woman walking by, and she ended up staying to join us for about 40 minutes. Another 4-5 young Taiwanese professionals showed up to join us, saying that they read about the event on taiwaneseamerican.org and on facebook. None of us knew them previously, so that was great, we chatted with them to introduce FAPA and will be working to get them more involved in the future.

The Tibetan activists have been having the vigil every week at that time routinely for the past 3 years. They had a microphone/speaker set up with a program planned. We spoke briefly about Taiwan and the 5 demands towards China. After, the Tibetans read a letter to President Obama, recited a poem that was written by people in Tibet, and lastly a Tibetan elder sung a prayer. In the mean time people held signs and passed out bookmarks/flyers to pedestrians. The scene was pretty somber until close to the end of the event when everyone started to chant protest slogans. It was great for the participants to see that there are so many of us who stand together on these issues.

## San Francisco FAPA YPG

If you've ever been to San Francisco in the summertime you'll know that it can get COLD. Which explains the often uttered witticism, "The coldest winter I ever spent was a summer in San Francisco." So, after a brief period of hibernation, YPG-SF members came out of our caves just in time for Taiwan Film Days, an annual fall event which features screenings of the best of Taiwanese cinema. Many of our members turned out for a rainy day of movie-going fun that included the films "Tears" and "No Puedo Vivir Sin Ti," which was filmed mostly in Taiwanese. Along the way we had several organizational meetings which culminated in our recent demonstration against Hu Jintao at the San Francisco Chinese Consulate. Approximately 40 people, including members from FAPA, the Free Tibet movement and the Chinese Democracy Party came out to the rally on January 19th. Even a few of San Francisco's finest from the Police Department showed up with some barricades to contain the energy. (Really, though, we were not that rowdy). Currently, we are gearing up for a fantastic year of advocacy, including a Lunar New Year event, SF Taiwanese Cultural Festival, as well as the continuation of our Taiwanese Lecture Series.



## Los Angeles/Orange County FAPA YPG

FAPA-YPG LA/OC Chapter attended the Dr. Jerome Keating speech event, where he talked about his decade of experience living in Taiwan, the current political environment, as well as how Taiwan plays a role in peace and stability in Asia. FAPA-YPG members joined Dr. Keating after the event and mingled for another hour of Q&A session. The speech was titled, "Taiwan -The Crucial Keystone of Asia": Why Freedom, Identity, and Democracy Must be Preserved."

The LA/OC Chapter also hosted the annual Christmas Boat Parade - good times with food, laughter, and enjoyable discussions.



## **Seattle FAPA YPG**

The Seattle FAPA YPG chapter took a break for a couple months over the holiday season as many of our members were out of town and a lot of other activities were going on. Although we were not holding the bi-weekly meetings in Seattle, we continued to communicate online and finished up the initial stage of the project we had been working on.

In the last newsletter, we had mentioned an online advocacy project that we were working on in addressing the issue of the United States government not fully and formally recognizing Taiwan as an independent nation and Taiwanese' right to self-determination. We recently completed the project charter that will outline what needs to be done to get this large project off and running. We are hoping to get the basics of this project running by the spring of this year. If you are interested in learning more about this project, please contact the Seattle FAPA YPG Chapter Representative. We have high goals and hopes for this project, so be on the look out for more information on this project in the coming months!

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## **New York/New Jersey FAPA YPG**

The NY NJ chapter is planning some upcoming events, beginning with a bookmark giveaway and outreach event at Union Square at 3:00 pm on Saturday, February 12th, which will repeat every month on the second Saturday of each month, led by Will Chen. Anyone interested in helping is welcome to show up and help. No experience necessary, just your desire to help make people aware about Taiwan.

Secondly, the chapter is also proud to announce that Jennifer Han and Victor Lai have accepted the roles of Social Events Chair, and will be organizing some social events soon, so be on the lookout for the announcements.

Join the mail list at <http://groups.google.com/group/fapaypg-nynj> or search for our Facebook Group, "FAPA-YPG NY/NJ" to be informed about upcoming events. If you would like to join the NY/NJ chapter and/or get involved, please contact Kevin at [kwumail@aol.com](mailto:kwumail@aol.com).

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## **Comments, Questions, and Suggestions?**

If you have a comment, question, or suggestion regarding this newsletter or for future newsletters, please contact Eileen at [elin@fapaypg.org](mailto:elin@fapaypg.org). Also, if you are interested in submitting a piece as a guest post on a topic you feel would be interesting to readers, please feel free to submit your ideas to the FAPA-YPG Coordinator (Eileen) Thanks!