

2024 Central Committee Questionnaire

We expect the responses to be based on each candidate's individual lived experience.

Email *

malvarado.ad18@gmail.com

Basic Information

Endorsement Questionnaire



Thank you for your interest in being considered for an endorsement by the Asian Pacific American Democratic Caucus of Alameda County. Please answer each question in 250 words or less. Be honest and direct. Please note: your questionnaire will be posted on our [website](#) for Caucus members to review. Caucus members attending our Endorsement meeting on January 13 will be provided a ballot to vote. Only candidates who have submitted their completed questionnaire will be listed on the ballot. Questionnaires must be submitted by December 28 at 5 PM.

Personal Information

Candidate Name *

Mayra Alvarado

City and zip code of residence. *

Oakland, 94621

What is your campaign website address?

What is your campaign email address? *

malvarado.ad18@gmail.com

What is the office that you are seeking? *

- Central Committee AD 14
- Central Committee AD 16
- Central Committee AD 18
- Central Committee AD 20
- Central Committee AD 24

Are you an incumbent? *

- Yes
- No

Are you a registered Democrat? *

Yes

No

Are you on a slate? If so, please identify. *

Unified Voices for Democracy

Are you an APA Caucus member? *

Yes

No

Why are you seeking the Caucus's endorsement? *

The Asian Pacific American community plays a pivotal role in shaping our nation's cultural fabric and contributing to its prosperity. I am seeking your endorsement because I recognize the caucus's dedication to advocating for the rights and well-being of Asian Pacific Americans. By securing your support, I aim to amplify the voices of this vibrant community and address the unique challenges they face.

If we endorse you, will you use our name in your campaign materials? *

Yes

No

Maybe

How long have you lived in the district in which you are seeking to represent? *

9 years

Please list what experiences most qualify you to serve on the Central Committee (e.g., education, work, volunteer, life experiences, political campaigns) *

I am a 5th grade teacher in a diverse school that also serves Asian/Pacific American students. I want to work to ensure that those students and their families have someone on the Central Committee that cares about the needs of their communities. The school I teach at serves a population of 5% APA students. Education: First generation college graduate from the University of California, Santa Barbara, currently earning my masters in teaching reading from the University of San Francisco. Union involvement: Executive Board Member of the Oakland Education Association, CTA/ABC Committee Member, District C of the California Teachers Association, Member of the Racial Equity Affairs Committee of the California Teachers Association where, as Vice Chair of El Sol (formerly Hispanic) Caucus, I work in collaboration with the other ethnic caucus leaders of CTA, including the Pacific Asian American Caucus to monitors BIPOC representation within CTA and provide BIPOC input on CTA membership programs and policies.

CANDIDATE QUESTIONS - Central Committee

1. What percentage of the district in which you are running are of APA heritage? And what are top three Asian ethnic groups? *

According to March 5, 2024 primary data of eligible voters, 19.4% are APA with Chinese, East Indian, and Filipino being the top 3 Asian ethnic groups at 9.9%, 5.2%, and 4.8% respectively.

Specifically in AD18, APA folks make up 21.5% of the March 2024 voters with Chinese, East Indian, and Filipino being again the top 3 Asian ethnic groups at 8.4%, 5.2%, and 4.0% respectively.

2. Asian Americans are the fastest growing population in Alameda County and are in the majority in three cities. While the majority are Democrats, a growing number are registering as No Party Preference. How can the Central Committee be more relevant to these communities? *

The Central Committee can be more relevant to the APA community by authentically outreaching and engaging your community. In the next question, I go over what I believe authentic outreach and community looks like if I am elected onto the central committee.

3. List three ways in which you could help the CC promote a greater awareness of issues of concern to the A/PA communities and support greater representation on elected bodies. *

1. Community Outreach and Engagement:

I would actively engage with Asian/Pacific American communities through town hall meetings, cultural events, and community forums. By fostering active listening and authentic outreach, I aim to understand the specific concerns and priorities of these communities. Through this outreach, I would not only raise awareness about pertinent issues to the APA Community but also provide a platform for community members to voice their perspectives. This proactive engagement ensures that the Central Committee is well-informed about the diverse needs of the Asian/Pacific American population.

2. Build and Maintain Partnerships:

It is essential to build and maintain partnerships with local organizations, advocacy groups, and leaders within the Asian/Pacific American communities. By working collaboratively, we can create targeted campaigns, educational programs, and initiatives that promote awareness of key issues. Additionally, I would advocate for joint efforts to increase representation on elected bodies, supporting candidates from these communities and facilitating mentorship programs to encourage civic participation. Collaboration strengthens the impact of our collective efforts to achieve greater representation and address concerns effectively.

3. Policy Advocacy and Legislative Support:

To promote greater representation on elected bodies, I would actively advocate for and support policies that address the unique challenges faced by Asian/Pacific American communities. This includes advocating for fair redistricting, supporting initiatives that dismantle barriers to political participation, and promoting diversity in the candidates which we endorse. By leveraging my position within the Central Committee, I can advocate for and support legislation and candidates that align with the caucus's goals, ensuring that the concerns of the caucus are heard.

4. Please name local Asian American candidates the Central Committee has endorsed in the past 10 years. *

The Central Committee has endorsed the following Asian American candidates: Attorney General Rob Bonta, Oakland Mayor Sheng Thao, former Oakland Mayor Jean Quan. The CC has also endorsed for Councilmember for the city of Alameda Malia Vella, for Albany USD Director – Sadia Khan, for Berkeley Auditor – Hon. Jenny Wong, Oakland Councilmember – Dist. 2, Hon. Nikki Fortunato Bas; Dist. 4, Janani Ramachandran; State Controller (ret.) Betty Yee, US Rep. Ro Khanna, Oakland Mayor (ret.) Jean Quan, Alameda City Councilmember Malia Vella, State Senate Dist. 10 – Hon. Aisha Wahab State Assembly Dist. 24 – Hon. Alex Lee, Alameda USD Director – Hon. Gary Lym, Albany USD Director – Sadia Khan, Berkeley Auditor – Hon. Jenny Wong, Berkeley Councilmember – Dist. 1, Hon. Rashi Kesarwani; Dist. 7, Hon. Rigel Robinson, Dublin Councilmember – Kashef Qaadri, Livermore Councilmember – Dist. 2, Mel Chiong, New Haven USD Director – Area 4, Shruti Kumar, Pleasanton Councilmember – Dist. 3, Jamie Yee, Union City Councilmember – Dist. 4, Scott Sakakihara, A.C. Transit Director – At-Large, Alfred Twu, BART Director – Dist. 6, Lance Nishihira

5. Proposing and adopting resolutions is one of the main functions of the CC. Some of the resolutions over the past several years impacted members of the APA communities. Please comment on what you think of those resolutions. *

* Incumbents - response is required.

Though I haven't been a part of the CC, I can see how some resolutions were supportive of the APA community, such as resolutions addressing violence against the APA community like the "Stand Against Hate" resolution. I hope that our CC does more to address hate than simply passing a resolution and hope to be a part of the action towards change.

6. Do you believe that the vetting process for Resolutions is adequate? Please explain your response. *

I appreciate the work of the resolutions committee and think there are some ways that their vetting process can improve. One way the vetting process for Resolutions can be improved by having representation from various ethnic communities review Resolutions that are coming to the Central Committee. What at first may seem non-controversial may need more input from other communities.

7. How impactful have the past resolutions been on the quality of life for low-income Alameda County residents? *

Past resolutions have stood in solidarity with migrants, workers' rights, renters rights, standing against Asian hate -- issues that are of importance to low-income Alameda County residents.

Thank you for completing our questionnaire.

Please submit your responses by Dec. 28, 5 pm. Our Zoom Endorsement Meeting is scheduled for January 13 beginning at 10 am. Only those candidates completing the questionnaire will be on our endorsement ballot. No changes to your responses can be made after it is submitted.

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