NAMES IN THE NEWS

finalists



Rachel Yang and husband-chef Seif Chirchi, who is also a finalist.

On March 16, the James Beard Award announced its finalists for its first awards in two years. Only three Seattle chefs and restaurants are still in the running for awards out of the 11 chefs, four restaurants, and one baker from Washington who were 2022 James Beard Award semifinalists.

They include Rachel Yang

of Fremont's Joule—a Korean

restaurant famous for its beef

short rib kalbi with grilled

kimchi, and soba master Mutsuko Soma, whose

restaurant Kamonegi serves

soba noodles, local meat and

seafood, and creative desserts

like tempura Samoa Girl

The winners will be

honored during the James

Beard Restaurant and Chef

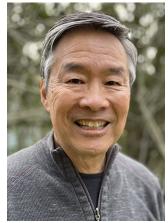
Awards ceremony on June 13

Scout cookies.

Mutsuko Soma

in Chicago.

Yang, Soma among James Beard Densho founder Tom Ikeda retiring



Tom Ikeda

Tom Ikeda, founding executive director and longtime leader of Densho, an online archive and public history organization that documents the stories of Japanese Americans incarcerated during World War II, recently announced his pending retirement.

Ikeda co-founded Densho in 1996, shepherding its growth from a small, volunteer-run oral history

project to a "gold standard" digital archive that reaches over a million people across the globe each year.

"Tom's a real trailblazer, not just in using digital technology to make this history more accessible, but also in keeping it relevant and engaging the next generation," said Board Chair Ron Tanemura.

A major national search for a dynamic new leader to take the helm is now underway.

Ikeda plans to stay on until a new executive director has been selected and to help guide the transition process.

Mae Ngai wins Bancroft Prize



Mae Nga

Mae Ngai won one of the most prestigious awards in the field of American history.

The Columbia University professor wrote "The Chinese Question: The Gold Rushes and Global Politics," which was published by W.W. Norton, and was praised by the jury as "an extraordinary

book" that "brilliantly shows us how much of the white Anglo-American world came to view the Chinese as a racially unassimilable and threatening people."

The Bancroft Prize, which includes an award of \$10,000, was established in 1948 by the trustees of Columbia University, with a bequest from the historian Frederic Bancroft.

Books are evaluated for "the scope, significance, depth of research, and richness of interpretation."

Bee Nguyen for GA Secretary of **State**



Bee Nguyen

Last week, AAPI Victory Fund announced their latest endorsement for the upcoming midterm elections: Bee Nguyen for Georgia Secretary of State.

Nguyen made history as the first Vietnamese American member elected to the Georgia General Assembly in 2017.

This year, if elected, Nguyen may make

history once more as Georgia's first AAPI Secretary of

AAPI Victory Fund President & CEO Brad Jenkins said, "Nguyen gained invaluable mentorship experience through a local nonprofit she founded to educate and empower young women and, over the decade she spent in the Georgia public school system, knows firsthand the best practices to organize and spark change for her community...as Secretary of State, we have no doubt Representative Nguyen will position the state of Georgia as a leader in our country for voting rights."

