HONORING
SUI CHUNG
RECIPIENT OF THE
2023 ELISABETH S. “LISA” BRODYAGA AWARD

NATIONAL IMMIGRATION PROJECT
RECEPTION & HAPPY HOUR
JUNE 21, 2023 | 4:30 PM ET
About 2023 Member Honoree

Sui Chung
Recipient of the Elisabeth S. “Lisa” Brodyaga Award

Sui Chung (she/her) is a relentless champion of immigrants. She has organized large service projects, engaging members of the Bar to serve immigrant communities, including pro bono initiatives for mentally incompetent respondents, victims of crime, unaccompanied minors from the border, and detained persons in ICE custody. Her efforts have reached countless indigent respondents and she continues to impact immigration practice for thousands of advocates by demanding government engagement and accountability. She balances her private practice with a high volume of pro bono service, keeping a watchful eye for cases that raise impactful issues of regional and national importance, while still dedicating significant time to public service and organizational leadership. Her deep crim-imm expertise, prolonged/indefinite detention case work, pro bono service, mentorship, and more, are a shining example within our movement and reflect the spirit of Lisa Brodyaga, for whom this award is named. Sui holds a JD from Georgetown University Law Center, and a BA and Bachelor of Music from Oberlin College.

About Elisabeth S. “Lisa” Brodyaga

Lisa Brodyaga was a beloved longtime member of the National Immigration Project whose career representing asylum seekers, other immigrants, and U.S. citizens spans more than 40 years. In 1985, Lisa co-founded Refugio Del Rio Grande, a non-profit refugee camp and law office on a 45-acre wilderness near Harlingen, Texas, where she served as a volunteer attorney. Lisa’s career was punctuated by numerous critical victories and pro-immigrant court decisions in tough cases and jurisdictions. She was known for her legal acumen, tenacious fighting spirit, humility, and generosity in sharing her wisdom and legal knowledge with the immigration legal community. In 2021, in recognition of Lisa’s incredible legacy, we named our annual member honor the Elisabeth S. “Lisa” Brodyaga Award. Lisa sadly passed away in October 2021, but she left our movement stronger thanks to her work. Tonight we celebrate Lisa Brodyaga’s legacy, and the courageous work of Sui Chung.
Congratulations Sui Chung!
We are proud of you.

From your Miami pals,
Kari Fonte,
Mary Kramer,
and
Linda Osberg-Braun

The Board of Directors of Catholic Legal Services
Extends its congratulations to
Sui Chung
for her inspiring leadership in championing the rights of immigrants
Dear Sui,

Heartfelt congratulations on your well-deserved recognition as the recipient of the 2023 Elisabeth S. “Lisa” Brodyaga Award. Your unyielding commitment to justice and the powerful change you bring about are not just a testament to your character, but a source of immense pride for our family. As your cousins, we are deeply honored and proud to witness the impact of your work. Your relentless pursuit of making a difference and your tireless efforts are truly inspiring. We are confident that you will continue to inspire and effect meaningful change. Here’s to your ongoing success, Noona/Unni. Your family, especially the two of us, could not be prouder.

Love, Jaewon and Yoon Jo

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Hughes Socol Piers Resnick & Dym, Ltd., a Chicago-based Law Firm dedicated to the defense of immigrants and immigrant communities is proud to support the National Immigration Project and to salute

**Sui Chung**

the 2023 Recipient of the Elisabeth S. “Lisa” Brodyaga Award

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**Van Der Hout Immigration & Nationality Law**

**Congratulations Sui!**

Thank you for all of your work defending the rights of the immigrant community!!

**All of us at Van Der Hout LLP**

Marc Van Der Hout | Zachary Nightingale
Beth Cohn-Mintz | Jennifer Shih | Johnny Sinodis | Avantika Shastri
Denise Flores | Navjot Khinda | Adriana Contreras | Gunther Chesnut
Amita Vasudeva | Rebecca Kutlow | Christine Raymond

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**NO MORE DETENTION, DEPORTATION, DEHUMANIZATION**

**Abolish ICE**

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Kurzban, Kurzban, Tetzel & Pratt, P.A.

Congratulates our dear friend, colleague and former associate.

Sui, you are a terrific lawyer, a wonderful mom, an outstanding organizer and a progressive champion for immigrants rights.

Congratulations on this well-deserved honor.

Ira Kurzban, Jed Kurzban, Helena Tetzel, John Pratt, Ed Ramos, Kevin Gregg and all the lawyers and staff at KKTP

131 Madeira Avenue Coral Gables, Florida 33134 305 444-0060

We celebrate your courageous work!

Sui
We congratulate you on your well-deserved honor.

Congratulations on the 2023 Lisa Brodyaga Award
In solidarity with gratitude,
Vera Weisz
Weisz Immigration Law Group

Sui Chung
You are an inspiration to all of us!

Maggie & Eddie

Congratulations, Sui!
Your professionalism, knowledge of the law, and dedication to the community are gifts that you have been generously sharing with all of us.
Thank you, thank you!

With gratitude and admiration,
Ilaria

Sui, congratulations on this most prestigious award.

With love,
Maggie & Eddie
Americans for Immigrant Justice is proud to congratulate Sui and honor her extraordinary commitment to equal justice. We are inspired by Sui’s diligence and dedication to pro bono service, ensuring that individuals receive the zealous representation they need and deserve. Sui is a shining example of the powerful, positive impact that one person—stepping up to the plate as a leader in the fight—can make in our community. We are lucky to have Sui as a representative of the Miami community and thankful for her immeasurable contributions to the fight to defend immigrants’ rights.

Congratulations Sui, my dear friend and brilliant former colleague. My entire family and I are extremely proud of you for earning the prestigious 2023 Elisabeth S. “Lisa” Brodyaga Award. You are most deserving of this award for many reasons including, but not limited to, your hard work, legal expertise, dedication and commitment to promoting human rights, and helping marginalized immigrant communities access quality, just and equitable legal representation. We celebrate you for the extraordinary and exceptional attorney you are and we wish you continued success in all your endeavors. May your stellar legal work continue to inspire and engage other attorneys to help underserved immigrant communities find justice and equality in immigration law.

-Michele Cabral-St. John

The National Immigration Project thanks the following AILA chapters for their partnership and support!

- Minnesota/Dakotas
- Southern California
- Texas/Oklahoma/New Mexico

Congratulations Sui
A well earned award for your hard earned victories

Best of wishes,
Javier N. Maldonado

Congratulations to Sui Chung
and profound thanks for following in the footsteps of Lisa Brodyaga.
- Cathy Potter

Sui: It is an honor to be your collaborator, ally, and friend.

Congratulations on the 2023 Lisa Brodyaga Award!

Denyse Sabagh

You set a great example for all of us, just like Lisa!

Rebecca Black Immigration congratulates Sui Chung on her well-deserved recognition!

Dear Sui!

We don’t know how you find the time to do all that you do. We applaud you for your dedication to our vocation. Keep fighting the good fight!

Love, Carmen Arce
NIPNLG UPCOMING SEMINARS

| AUGUST | Removal Defense Webinar: VAWA Cancellation of Removal |
| SEPTEMBER | Removal Defense Webinar (Topic TBD) |
| OCTOBER | Removal Defense 6-Week Course (Tues & Thurs from October 3 - November 9) |

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With much appreciation and admiration, the National Immigration Project Board of Directors Congratulates Sui Chung, Recipient of the 2023 Elisabeth S. “Lisa” Brodyaga Award
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Congratulations on your richly deserved honor!

We celebrate your courage and tenacity, and wish you continued success in all you do.

Best wishes from the National Immigration Project’s Past Member Honorees

Laila L. Hlass (2022)
Elora Mukherjee (2021)
Linus Chan (2020)
in Memoriam: Lisa Brodyaga (2019)
Raha Jorjani (2018)
Shoba Sivaprasad Wadia (2017)
Debbie Smith (2016)

Kathy Moccio (2015)
Zachary Nightingale (2014)
Atessa Chehrazi (2013)
in Memoriam: Elliott Ozment (2012)
Norton Tooby (2010)
Jeanne Butterfield (2009)
Hiroshi Motomura (2008)
Sonia Nazario Recognizes Sui Chung’s Heroism

I am a journalist (WSJ, LA Times, now NY Times) and author of what became the most read book about immigrants for a time, *Enrique’s Journey: The Story of a Boy’s Dangerous Odyssey to Reunite with his Mother*. I have met many villains and heroes in my work covering social issues, social justice, and immigration. Sui Chung is one of the biggest heroes I have known in four decades of this work.

The book I wrote is about a five year old boy, Enrique, whose mother leaves him behind in Honduras to come work in the U.S. She leaves him behind so she can earn enough to feed him and see him study past the third grade. Like many mothers, she plans for a short separation, but it stretches to 11 years. Enrique despairs, and like tens of thousands of children each year, he sets off on his own to find his mother. He makes a dangerous trek—a modern day odyssey—on top of freight trains through Mexico, and reaches her in North Carolina.

Years later, in 2012, he is arrested by police for driving without a license. He now faces deportation and separation from his daughter and newly born son in the U.S.

I reached out to Sui to ask if she would represent Enrique, who also lives in Florida. Sui did not hesitate. She offers to do it for free. In fact, at the time, half of the work Sui took on as an immigration lawyer was pro bono, often fighting for immigrants who are mentally incompetent. How many of us do half of our jobs out of the goodness of our hearts? To help desperate people in need?

Together with her husband Michael Vastine, Sui, the daughter of South Korean immigrants, would spend more than $100,000 in billable hours and years of their lives surmounting innumerable obstacles to win legalization for Enrique and two other family members.

I am thrilled you have chosen to recognize Sui Chung’s incredible skill, tenacity, and her big heart.
Congratulations SUI

We are honored to have you lead our Board of Directors. You are a beacon of light in this very complicated struggle. You inspire by having ambitious dreams, working hard, and using your voice to talk about injustices in our immigration system. You are also a humble and kind leader that encourages others through positive reinforcement.

Congratulations on your incredible success!

From the Board of Directors and Staff of the American Immigration Council

The National Immigration Project thanks the following people for their generous support of our reception in honor of 2023 Elisabeth S. “Lisa” Brodyaga Award recipient, Sui Chung!

Kate Melloy Goettel  Allen Orr  Helen Parsonage
Bill Hansen  Jayashri Srikantiah  Charlie Ann Syprett
Philip Hornik  Stacy Tolchin  Isaac Wheeler
Jeff Joseph  Tracie L. Morgan  Virgil Wiebe
Mahsa Khanbabai  Mark E. Nerenberg
Tracie L. Morgan
Mark E. Nerenberg

Your Friends at Immigration Clinic, UM School of Law

The National Immigration Project

honoring Sui Chung • June 21, 2023
Dear Sui,
We are immensely proud of your many brilliant accomplishments, your enormously generous spirit, and your deep and enduring love for justice, and for your family.

Nami Chung-Vastine, Michael Vastine & The Chung Family