

# YWCA IS ON A MISSION

**STAND  
AGAINST  
RACISM**

eliminating racism  
empowering women  
**ywca**

**For Immediate Release**

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## **YWCA Takes a Stand against Racism Events held in San Francisco and over 750 cities nationwide**

San Francisco + Marin, California, April 29, 2016 -- YWCA San Francisco & Marin welcomed fifty community members for an engaging event, **Stand Against Racism: Model Making and Breaking** last night at the Chinese Historical Society of America.

“Today our association recommits itself publicly to the work of eliminating racism by hosting our first community Stand Against Racism event. We are honored to lift up the voices of some of our fellow community advocates,” said YWCA San Francisco & Marin Executive Director, Jane Winter. “We want to engage in the racial justice conversation by creating space for the voices of those already doing the work.”

YWCA and panelists explored society’s perspective on Asian American identities and the historical and contemporary ways in which these identities have been formed, forced and reframed over time. Panelists invited audience members to participate in racial justice campaigns and provided resources for those curious to learn more. Winter led the audience in a pledge to stand against racism and discrimination of any kind, promoting peace, justice, freedom, and dignity for all people in their communities and in the world.

“It’s about the theory of change, and direct action can truly build tangible change,” explained Cynthia Fong, Stand Against Racism panelist.

Representing Asians4BlackLives, Cynthia Fong spoke about the diverse group of voices coming from the Philippines, Vietnam, India, China, Pakistan, Korea, Burma, Japan and other nations. Other panelists included Ben Fenkell, a third-generation Filipino-American who serves as lead interpreter for the U.S. Immigration Station at Angel Island, and Chinatown Pretty founders Andria Lo, photographer, and Valerie Luu, writer, who created their blog as a passion project that celebrates the street style of seniors in San Francisco’s Chinatown.

A signature campaign of YWCA USA, Stand Against Racism events continue across country through May 1. To learn more, visit: [standagainstracism.org](http://standagainstracism.org)

For more information about our work, or to learn how you can get involved, go to: [www.ywcasf-marin.org](http://www.ywcasf-marin.org)

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