



The American Immigration Law Foundation

# **Celebrating the Immigrant Experience**

**Friday, June 27, 2008  
Vancouver Convention and  
Exhibition Centre  
Vancouver, B.C., Canada**

# Table of Contents

Program ..... 3

Benefit Sponsors..... 4

About the Foundation..... 6

AILF Leadership ..... 7

“Celebrate America” Creative Writing Contest Winner ..... 8

Honorees..... 9

Master of Ceremonies ..... 9

Greetings..... 15

# **Celebrating the Immigrant Experience**

Friday, June 27, 2008

Opening Reception

Buffet Dinner

Welcoming Remarks

2008 “Celebrate America” Fifth Grade Essay Contest Winner

AILF Presentation

Awards Presentation

Closing Remarks

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# About the American Immigration Law Foundation



The American Immigration Law Foundation (AILF) was established in 1987 as a tax-exempt, nonprofit, educational, charitable organization. The Foundation is dedicated to increasing public understanding of immigration law and policy and the value of immigration to American society and to advancing fundamental fairness and due process under the law for immigrants. Working closely with leading immigration experts throughout the country, AILF has established four core program areas.

## Legal Action Center

AILF's Legal Action Center works to advance fundamental fairness in United States immigration law and to protect the constitutional and legal rights of immigrants, refugees, and other non-citizens. The LAC conducts national impact litigation; writes amicus curiae ("friend of the court") briefs; tracks and publicizes immigration litigation through the Litigation Clearinghouse; produces Practice Advisories on a wide variety of topics; conducts the Litigation Institute; organizes national and local litigation meetings; and provides technical support for lawyers litigating due process and fairness issues in family, removal and business immigration cases nationwide.

## Immigration Policy Center

The Immigration Policy Center is the research arm of the Foundation and is dedicated to analysis of the contributions made to the United States by immigrants. Together, the IPC director and staff have been a major voice in the national debate on comprehensive immigration reform. Their activities include testifying before Congress and publishing timely reports to provide lawmakers, the press and the public with critically important information about the need for sensible immigration reform—most recently through the newly launched, all-inclusive website [www.immigrationpolicy.org](http://www.immigrationpolicy.org).

## Curriculum Center

The Curriculum Center provides children the opportunity to learn about the importance of immigration to the United States. The Center works with teachers and with children's book authors to train teachers and provide lesson plans on immigration. The Center also presents training workshops and conferences nationwide; produces inclusive training manuals; and maintains a travelling exhibit on immigration.

## Exchange Visitors Program

The Foundation's Exchange Visitor Program facilitates American business to train young international professionals in career-enhancing skills to bring back to their countries of origin. The participating institutions and businesses benefit from exposure to ideas from differing parts of the world and the trainees benefit from exposure to American methodologies. The EVP also provides opportunities for Americans to travel overseas to explore immigration issues on a global scale.

## Additional Activities

In addition to these four core program areas, the Foundation conducts many other activities. They include organizing the "Celebration of America" Creative Writing Contest for fifth grade students and presenting Immigrant Achievement Awards in conjunction with the American Immigration Lawyers Association's (AILA) CLE conferences to honor the individual accomplishments of outstanding immigrants.

# The American Immigration Law Foundation

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# 2008 Creative Writing Contest Winner

## Cameron P. Busby

Age: 11

School: Whitmore Elementary School in Tucson, Arizona

Teacher: Sharon Keown Poem



## America is a Refuge

By Cameron Busby

A small child holds out a hoping hand,  
a crumb of bread,  
or even a penny just to be fed  
Hoping America is a refuge.

A child weeps over her mother's lifeless body,  
the tears streaming down her face  
Praying America is a refuge.

A child's torn sock blows in the wind,  
as a bomb explodes the tiny sock catches a flame and  
begins to  
burn to ash  
Can America be a refuge?

A thirsty father and son seeking shade from the  
blazing sun,  
all they want is a job  
and for America to be a refuge.

America can be a refuge for you.  
It can be a refuge for me.  
I am glad that America is a refuge for all.



The American Immigration Law Foundation

# Celebrating the Immigrant Experience



Glen Hanlon

## 2008 Honorees

**Mr. Glen Hanlon**

Former NHL Player and Coach

**Ms. Deepa Mehta**

Screen Writer, Film Director and Producer



Deepa Mehta

**Ms. Belle Yang**

Author, Artist and Activist

**The Microsoft Corporation**

Distinguished Public Service Award



Belle Yang

## Master of Ceremonies

**Mr. Ian Hanomansing**

Canadian Broadcasting Corporation



**Glen Hanlon**  
2008 Honoree

## Glen Hanlon

A native of Brandon, Manitoba, Glen Hanlon has had an all-star career playing and coaching professional hockey. He began as a two-time league all-star for the Brandon Wheat Kings and was named one of the top 40 Wheat Kings of all time in 2006-07. He was the recipient of the Central Hockey League's Ken McKenzie Trophy as the league's rookie of the year in 1978.

In his staggering 14 NHL seasons as a goaltender, Hanlon played 477 games for Vancouver, St. Louis, the New York Rangers and Detroit from 1977-91. He posted a career record of 167-202-61 with a 3.60 goals-against average and 13 shutouts. In 35 playoff games Hanlon compiled an 11-15-0 record, a 3.14 goals-against average and four shutouts.

Hanlon soon applied his talents as a player to coaching, spending eight seasons with the Vancouver Canucks' coaching staff. Working as the team's goaltending coach from 1991-94 and as an assistant coach from 1994-99, Hanlon helped lead the team to its first 40-win season (1991-92) and a trip to the Stanley Cup Finals in 1994.

Hanlon then moved to Portland, guiding the Pirates to an overall record of 110-94-29-7 and two playoff appearances. In 1999-00, his first campaign, Portland posted a mark of 46-23-10-1 for 103 points, marking the best point improvement in the league from the previous season (48 points). For his efforts, Hanlon was recognized as the AHL's Coach of the Year. When Hanlon was promoted and left for the Washington Capitals, he left Portland as the franchise's second-winningest coach, behind only Barry Trotz.

Hanlon joined the Washington Capitals in 2002-03 as an assistant coach. Prior to his arrival in Washington, D.C., he served three seasons as the head coach of the Portland Pirates, the Capitals' American Hockey League affiliate at the time.

Hanlon was named head coach of the Capitals on Dec. 10, 2003, becoming the 13th head coach in franchise history. In 54 games as the team's head coach in 2003-04, Hanlon posted a record of 15-28-9-2 (41 points), and followed that with a 70-point season in 2005-06, an 11-point improvement over the previous season. The 2006-07 Capitals, the youngest team in the NHL, were in eighth place in the Eastern Conference three months into the season and finished with a 28-40-14 record. Hanlon remained the head coach of the Capitals through the 2007-2008 season.

Hanlon also has extensive international experience, twice coaching Belarus at the IIHF World Championship. In 2006 he guided Belarus to a sixth-place finish in Latvia, the best finish in the nation's history, including a 2-0-1 record in the preliminary round. In 2005 he led Belarus to a 10th-place finish at the World Championship in Austria. Hanlon also served as an assistant coach for the Canadian National Team at the 1998 World Championship in Zurich, Switzerland. He is currently the head coach of the International Ice Hockey Federation's Jokerit Helsinki.



Deepa Mehta  
2008 Honoree

## Deepa Mehta

Deepa Mehta was born in India and received a degree in philosophy from the University of New Delhi.

In 1991, Mehta produced and directed her first feature film *Sam & Me*, which won the very first Honorable Mention by the Critics in the prestigious Camera D'Or category in the 1991 Cannes Film Festival. In 1993, Mehta directed her second feature film, *Camilla*, a Canadian / UK co-production starring (the late) Jessica Tandy and Bridget Fonda.

*Fire*, Mehta's third feature film, based on an original screenplay, was written, directed and produced by Mehta. *Fire* opened the Perspective Canada Program at the 1996 Toronto International Film Festival, where it tied with *Fly Away Home* for the Air Canada Peoples' Choice Award. In addition, it was one of twenty-nine films selected from over 1400 entries, world-wide, for the prestigious New York Film Festival. At the Vancouver International Film Festival, *Fire* won the Federal Express Award for Best Canadian Film as chosen by the audience. At the Chicago International Film Festival, it won two Silver Hugo Awards for Best Direction and Best Actress. In Mannheim, *Fire* won the Jury Award and in Paris, it was voted Favorite Foreign Film.

*Earth*, based on Bapsi Sidhwa's critically acclaimed novel, *Cracking India*, is the second film in Mehta's trilogy of the elements, *Fire*, *Earth* and *Water*. *Earth* was shot in New Delhi, India, in January of 1998. It had its World Premiere as a Special Presentation at the 1998 Toronto International Film Festival where it was received with a standing ovation and critical acclaim. *Earth* won the *Prix Premiere du Public* at the Festival du film Asiatique de Deauville, France in March, 1999 and the Critics' Award at the Schermi d'Amore International Film Festival, Italy in April of the same year.

Her film, *Bollywood Hollywood*, opened the Perspective Canada Program at the 2002 Toronto International Film Festival, and has remained in the top ten grossing movies since its Canadian opening on October 25, 2002. In 2003, Mehta co-wrote and directed *Republic of Love*, based on the novel of the same title by the world-renowned author, Carol Shields, starring Bruce Greenwood and Amelia Fox.,

In the same year, Ms. Mehta won the prestigious CineAsia "Best Director" Award - an acclaim awarded to Steven Spielberg in 2002.

*Water*, the third film in the "elements" trilogy, opened the 2005 Toronto International Film Festival. *Water* has played many film festivals in North America and internationally, winning festival awards in Sudbury, Edmonton, Valladolid, Bangkok and San Francisco. The film received the Taormina Arte Awards for Cinematic Excellence in 2006. *Water* received the Golden Kinnaree Awards for best picture from the Bangkok International Film Festival. The film was nominated for nine Genie awards, winning three. More recently, the film was nominated for Best Foreign Film at the 79th Annual Academy Awards. The Vancouver Film Critics Circle named Deepa Mehta the Best Director of a Canadian Film in 2006.

Mehta was recognized by *Variety* in its *Women's Impact'06* feature and was listed as one of the top fifty women in showbiz who have made an impact. In its definitive annual review of World Cinema, *Variety International Film Guide 2006* chose Deepa Mehta as one of its five directors of the year.

In 2008, Mehta received the Presidents Award from the YWCA at the annual Women of Distinction Award held in Toronto.



Belle Yang  
2008 Honoree

## Belle Yang

Belle Yang, subject of the PBS documentary, “My Name is Belle,” is frequently asked whether she is primarily a writer or a painter. Answer: “When I’m writing, I’m a writer; when I’m painting, I’m a painter.” She is also asked whether she is a children’s author or of adult books. Answer: “I write for children, adults and everyone in between. Now I am also a graphic novelist.”

Born in Taiwan, Belle Yang spent part of her childhood in Japan. At age seven she immigrated to the United States with her family. She attended Stirling University in Scotland, graduated from the University of California, Santa Cruz, in biology but went on to study art at Pasadena Art Center College of Design and the Beijing Institute of Traditional Chinese Painting.

She worked and traveled in China for three years and returned to the United States late in 1989 after the Tiananmen Massacre.

She returned with gratitude in her heart for the freedom of expression given her in America, certain she would firmly grasp this gift with both hands.



### Illustrated, adult nonfiction:

- *Baba: A Return to China Upon My Father's Shoulders*, 1994 Harcourt Brace
- *The Odyssey of a Manchurian*, 1996 Harcourt Brace
- *Forget Sorrow*, 2010 W.W. Norton

### Picture books:

- *Hannah Is My Name*, 2004 Candlewick Press
- *Always Come Home to Me*, 2007 Candlewick Press. Awarded Chinese American Librarian Association Best Picture Book of 2008
- *Foo the Flying Frog of Washtub Pond*, 2009 Candlewick Press
- *Chili-Chili-Chin-Chin*, 1999 Harcourt Brace

# Microsoft Corporation



Distinguished  
Public Service Award

It is easy to recognize The Microsoft Corporation as the worldwide leader in software, services and solutions that help people and businesses realize their full potential. Less commonly recognized, but invaluable to our field, is Microsoft's long history of leadership in increasing understanding of the importance of immigration and immigrants to our economy and to our country. Microsoft has played a leadership role before Congress, in the media, within the private bar, among the business community, and before the American public.

Microsoft for many years has been in the forefront of legislative advocacy for smarter immigration policies that better serve national interests. That leadership has only accelerated. Chairman Bill Gates has testified before Congress on immigration in each of the last two years, his Op-Ed pieces appear in the national press, and he meets regularly with key Congressional policymakers. These efforts draw tremendous public attention to the immigration debate, and Microsoft has been particularly emphatic that America's position as a world leader in innovation depends on access to the best minds from around the world.

Microsoft has also helped drive essential administrative changes. In the past year, Microsoft led the charge to persuade DHS to reverse course and honor the visa bulleting as it was initially issued last July. This cleared the way for many, many foreign workers and their families to apply for adjustment of status, when it had appeared that their hopes to do so would be dashed. Microsoft played a central role in prompting DHS to end its policy to delay permanent residence for innocent foreign nationals for many additional years because of FBI name check backlogs. Microsoft led the advocacy for the recent extension of optional practical training, permitting bright foreign students who have been educated in our universities to remain in this country and make their contributions here in the United States, rather than having to go elsewhere because of visa scarcities. With Congress deadlocked, these administrative changes have been among the precious few good news stories in immigration policy over the past year.

The Microsoft Corporation gives back. In Washington State, Microsoft created Volunteer Advocates for Immigrant Justice, a coalition of law firms, corporations and NGOs committed to providing pro bono legal resources to unaccompanied children. That project has been a tremendous success, and now Microsoft is taking the lessons from Washington State and Washington D.C. to the next level. It will soon launch Kids In Need of Defense (KIND, Inc.), an innovative new partnership among philanthropists, law firms and corporate contributors, dedicated to providing both pro bono representation and positive systemic changes to benefit unaccompanied immigrant and refugee children. KIND will launch in the fall of 2008 and will serve children in Seattle, Los Angeles, Houston, and in cities along the Northeast Corridor.

A central force behind Microsoft's active and intelligent contributions to our field is Lydia Tamez, the lawyer and AILA member who runs the company's substantial in-house immigration operation. Ms. Tamez is an innovative, energetic, and committed voice in the national immigration debate, and AILF is pleased to have her here to accept the Distinguished Public Service Award for The Microsoft Corporation.



Ian Hanomansing  
Master of Ceremonies

## Ian Hanomansing

Ian Hanomansing is a television journalist with the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC). He is the co-anchor of *CBC News: Vancouver*, CBUT's supper hour newscast. From 2000 to 2007, he was the anchor of the national segment of the newscast *Canada Now*. He has been a reporter with the CBC since 1986, and will be one of the network's main reporters for the 2008 Beijing Olympics.

Hanomansing was born in Trinidad and Tobago in 1961, then later moved to and grew up in Sackville, New Brunswick, Canada. He attended Mount Allison University for his undergraduate education, and then studied law at Dalhousie Law School. While in university, he was one of the country's most successful debaters and the top speaker at the Canadian National Debating Championship.

His broadcast media career began in the summer after his graduation at CKDH in Amherst, Nova Scotia, followed by work at KKCW in Moncton, NB and at CHNS in nearby Halifax, Nova Scotia. He later worked for CBC bureaus in the Maritimes and Toronto, Ontario before moving to Vancouver, where he was a network reporter and hosted the now-defunct programs *Pacific Rim Report* and *Foreign Assignment*.

As a reporter, Hanomansing has covered a number of stories, including the 1989 Exxon Valdez oil spill, the 1992 Los Angeles riots, the 1994 Stanley Cup riot, the handover of Hong Kong from Great Britain, and four Olympic Games (Atlanta, USA-1996; Nagano, Japan-1998; Salt Lake City, USA-2002; and Torino, Italy-2006). As an anchor, he led Canada-wide coverage of the 2003 North America blackout and most recently, the 2007 shootings at Dawson College in Montreal, Quebec.

In addition to his current news anchor duties, Hanomansing co-hosts *Hemispheres*, a weekly international documentary program on CBC *Newsworld*, co-produced by the Australian Broadcasting Corporation.

The AILA Chicago Chapter congratulates the  
2008 honorees and the ongoing efforts of The  
American Immigration Law Foundation in  
“Celebrating the Immigrant Experience”



# The New York Chapter of AILA

appreciates the unique and outstanding contributions  
of the honorees to society







Fragomen, Del Rey, Bernsen & Loewy, LLP.  
is pleased to join the  
American Immigration Law Foundation  
in congratulating this evening's honorees and in  
celebrating our heritage as a nation of immigrants.

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Congratulations to all  
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AILA Southern California Chapter  
Joins with AILF in Saluting  
Tonight's Honorees and the  
Many Contributions of Immigrants





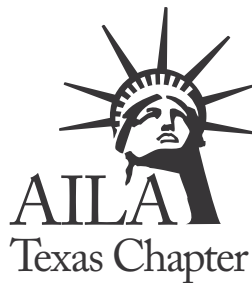
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Joins With AILF In Saluting  
Tonight's Honorees And The Many  
Contributions Of Immigrants.**



The AILA Texas Chapter  
is Proud to Salute the  
Important Contribution of  
Immigrants in Texas and  
Throughout the United  
States and Canada



**We applaud the accomplishments of**  
and proudly support American Immigration  
Law Foundation.

We join AILF in saluting Ms. Belle Yang,  
Ms. Deepa Mehta and Mr. Glen Hanlon  
for their many contributions to the United  
States and to Canada

And Microsoft Corporation  
for its distinguished public service.

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CONGRATULATIONS TO THE HONOREES  
FOR THEIR OUTSTANDING ACCOMPLISHMENTS



*Massachusetts • Rhode Island*  
*New Hampshire • Vermont • Maine*





# **Microsoft®**

Microsoft Corporation is deeply committed to increasing understanding in Congress, the media, the business community and the public of the importance of immigration and immigrants to our economy and to our country. The Microsoft Immigration Group salutes The American Immigration Law Foundation for its work in highlighting the role of immigrants and in increasing public awareness of the benefits of immigration.

Lydia Tamez

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Rob Neale

Carla O'Donoghue

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*The AILA Northern California  
Chapter congratulates the  
2008 honorees and the ongoing efforts of  
The American Immigration Law Foundation  
in “Celebrating the Immigrant Experience”*



AILA Southern Florida Chapter

Joins with AILF in Saluting Tonight's Honorees  
and the Many Contributions of Immigrants.



# **Congratulations to all of the 2008 AILF Honorees**

on behalf of  
Kuck Casablanca & Odom, LLC –  
The Immigration Law Firm  
[www.immigration.net](http://www.immigration.net)



Kuck Casablanca & Odom, LLC  
Also Congratulates  
Our Managing Partner  
Charles H. Kuck  
On his installation as  
National President of the  
American Immigration Lawyers Association

Goldman & Goldman, PC

## Congratulations to all the Honorees!

You have contributed a great deal by your successes and examples.  
You exemplify the value of immigration to our country.

*Cameron, you have made the state of Arizona very proud!*

Gloria, Mo and the entire office Staff  
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FRIED FRANK

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 Your Stories Are an  
 Inspiration to All Immigrants



*Stump & Associates congratulates*

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*on this first year as Executive  
 Director of the American  
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 to the State of Texas and congratulates our new Partner

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