



Oakland Mayor Jean Quan

Jean Quan is the first woman and the first Asian American to be elected Mayor of Oakland, California, one of the 50 largest cities in the country. A woman of many firsts, she was the first Asian American woman elected to the Oakland School Board and to the Oakland City Council.

Her family roots in Oakland date back to the 1906 San Francisco earthquake, when her great-grandfather, grandfather and his two brothers took the ferry across the Bay and became part of a new Oakland Chinatown. Jean's father died when she was five, and she was raised by a non-English-speaking mother. She received a scholarship to attend the University of California, Berkeley, where she helped found the Ethnic Studies Program and worked to recruit poor and minority students. Mayor Quan and her family have been ardent advocates for affordable, accessible health care for all. She started her working career as a patient advocate in New York City, led a statewide campaign in California to reduce case loads for child protection service workers, and worked on many campaigns organizing immigrant workers. The family has a strong tradition of service. Her husband, Floyd Huen, is the medical director of Lifelong Medical Care and the Over 60's Health Clinic, and currently a trustee of Highland Hospital. Her son is an Assistant Clinical Professor of Medicine at UCSF. Her daughter is an aide to Assembly member Sandre Swanson.