

## **JoAnn Lum**

**JoAnn Lum** is the Executive Director of the National Mobilization Against SweatShops, a community-based workers' center with a membership of workers of all races, genders, educational backgrounds and trades. While bringing together all working people in its organizing work, the New York-based group particularly targets and develops the leadership of those hardest hit by the expanding sweatshop system: women, immigrants and people of color. NMASS calls upon each and every one of us--whether we are overworked or unemployed, temp workers, garment workers, paralegals, students, workfareworkers, full-time mothers, or injured workers--to see how long work hours and other dimensions of the sweatshop system rob us of our health, time and lives, and to join forces to fight for control of our lives. Lum worked several years as a journalist and then as an Asian American liaison for Manhattan Borough President Ruth Messinger. After volunteering with the Chinese Staff & Workers' Association for many years, Lum was hired as an organizer and later as Program Director. She has worked with NMASS since 1997.