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 Subject: OAPIA Update - Apr 25, 2012
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OAPIA Update

News Updates from the DC Mayor's Office on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs

Dear Community Members,

What a joyous spring season it has been! For the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community, the month of May cannot come soon enough, as it is the [month designated](#) to celebrate and recognize the AAPI community. During May OAPIA is coordinating various cultural, educational, and social events that will celebrate and inform the District community on the diversity, contributions, and struggles of the District's AAPI residents and merchants.



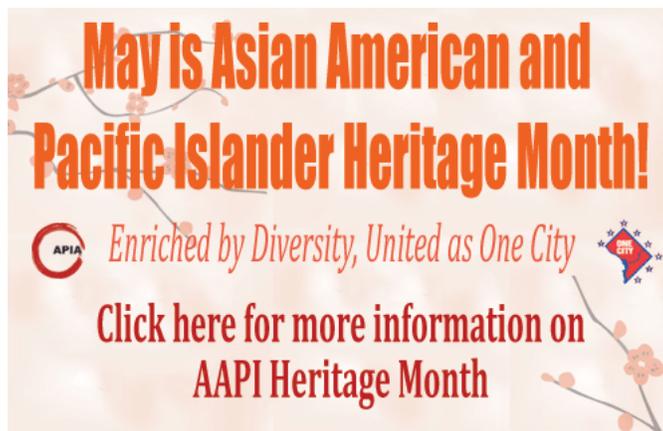
Please join Mayor Vincent C. Gray and the Office on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs (OAPIA) at our annual [AAPI Heritage Month Evening Celebration](#) on May 15 and take advantage of all the [other events](#) being held throughout the District.

We look forward to an exciting May and hope you can join us in celebrating AAPIs in the District!

Warm Regards,

Soohyun "Julie" Koo
 Director, DC Mayor's Office on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs

May is Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month!



OAPIA will be hosting the following events in celebration of [Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month](#), in addition to the various events happening in and around the District during the month of May.

[2012 Mayor Gray's Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month Celebration](#)

Join Mayor Gray for an evening of cultural performances, the Mayor's Community Service Awards, Asian refreshments, and more!

Tuesday, May 15, 2012
 6:30pm
 Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library
 901 G Street NW
 Washington, DC 20001

Asian Americana: Understanding Asian American and Pacific Islander Family Generations

An insightful panel discussion on the family dynamic and generational ties within Asian American and Pacific Islander families. Food and refreshments will be served.

Monday, May 21, 2012
 6:00pm
 American Association of Retired Persons Headquarters
 Brickfield Center
 601 E Street, NW
 Washington, DC 20049

Ward 7 "Building ONE Neighborhood" Cultural Dialogue

A dialogue to discuss ways to improve your business and invest in your vibrant community and increase understanding about the Asian American and Pacific Islander cultures. Food and refreshments will be served.

Thursday, May 31, 2012
 6:00pm
 Department of Employment Services
 4058 Minnesota Avenue, NE
 Washington, DC 20019

For more information, please email oapia@dc.gov or visit [here](#).

OAPIA Youth Health Workshop



OAPIA organized a Youth Health Workshop on Thursday, April 12, 2012, at the Vietnamese American Community Service Center. The event focused on obesity prevention, a promotion of healthy eating practices, moving more, and smoking abstinence. Twenty-nine youth actively participated in the workshop, which had a speaker from the Leadership for Healthy Communities. The event served to highlight Live Well DC, an initiative of the DC Department of Health intended to educate the public and increase public awareness of the importance of making healthy lifestyle choices by targeting individual behaviors that result in poor health outcomes.

Mayor's Budget Town Hall Schedule

Mayor Vincent C. Gray will be hosting multiple budget town halls in all the wards across the District. Please attend these town halls to learn more about the Mayor's upcoming plans for the District's budget. The list of upcoming budget town halls can be found below.

Eastern High School - Ward 6
 1700 East Capitol St, NE
 Contact: Mrs. Wilson-Ross, 202-698-4800
 Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Bell Multi-Cultural - Ward 1
 3101 16th St, NW
 Contact: 202-939-7700
 Monday, April 30, 2012



AAPI residents attend the Ward 2 budget briefing at Charles Sumner School on April 19, 2012.

OAPIA Mental Health Workshop

OAPIA organized a Mental Health Workshop on Tuesday, April 24, 2012, at the Asian Senior Center. The workshop was an opportunity for the Department of Mental Health (DMH) to engage Asian seniors who attend the center on the services they provide and how they can access those services. Interpretation was provided in both Mandarin Chinese and Cantonese Chinese by the staff at the Asian Senior Center. The presentation focused on the Multicultural Services division within DMH. This is the first in a series of efforts in reducing the stigma amongst Asian seniors in obtaining mental health services.



OAPIA FY2013 Budget Hearing

The Committee on Aging and Community Affairs is hosting a hearing on OAPIA's proposed FY 2013 Budget. The hearing will take place at 10:00 am on April 26, 2012 at the Wilson Building, 1350 Pennsylvania Ave, NW, Washington, DC 20004, Room 412.

If individuals wish to testify, they may contact Garrett King of the Committee on Aging and Community Affairs directly, at 202-724-8045 or email gking@dccouncil.us.

OAPIA's proposed FY 2013 budget can be found [here](#).

OAPIA Welcomes New Outreach Specialist Dian Herrman!



Dian Herrman recently joined the Mayor's Office on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs (OAPIA) as the community outreach specialist and public information officer. She will also be handling Housing matters. She brings to the office more than six years of experience in communications and strategy, and familiarity with the AAPI community since she moved to the DC area in 2004. Dian's first experience in DC was working at the Democratic National Committee as the Executive Director for the Asian Pacific Islander American Leadership Council, and since then has held numerous positions on political campaigns, advised non-profits and campaigns, and served as a communications specialist for a public sector labor union.

In her spare time, Dian enjoys competing in triathlons and marathons, and spending time outdoors with her two dogs. Dian is also a proud vegetarian. She has a B.A. in Government/Cultural Anthropology and a J.D.

Spotlight: Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month



The month of May commemorates [Asian American and Pacific Islander \(AAPI\) Heritage Month](#), which recognizes the AAPI community's legacy, culture, achievements, and contributions to our nation. In 1978, Congress passed a joint Congressional Resolution to honor Asian American Heritage Week during the first week of May. The date is notable as it is the anniversary of the arrival of the first Japanese immigrants in the U.S. on May 7, 1843, as well as the completion of the transcontinental railroad on May 10, 1869, which relied heavily on Chinese laborers. In 1990, Congress voted to expand the one week commemoration into a month-long celebration. Two years later, the month of May was permanently designated as "Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month."

For more information on Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month events in the District, contact OAPIA at (202) 727-3120 or oapia@dc.gov or visit www.apia.dc.gov.

DC Mayor's Commission on APIA Community Development

The DC Commission on APIA Community Development usually convenes monthly meetings to discuss current issues affecting the DC AAPI community.

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday, June 27, 2012 @ 6:30 pm at the OAPIA office located at 441 4th Street, NW, Suite 721N, Washington, DC 20001.

All commission meetings are open to the public. If you have any questions about the commission or its meetings, please contact oapia@dc.gov.

oapia@dc.gov | www.apia.dc.gov | Phone: (202) 727-3120 | Fax: (202) 727-9655



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