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OAPIA Bi-Weekly Newsletter

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

A Message from the Mayor



VINCENT C. GRAY
MAYOR

Dear Community Members,

I recently launched the One City Action Plan website, enabling District of Columbia residents and stakeholders to track progress on the commitments I made when I ran for mayor, ideas I have laid out in my State of the District Addresses, and important recommendations I have heard at countless meetings I've had across the District since I became mayor.

The One City Action Plan, which I released on July 2012, is a comprehensive strategy that describes in specific steps how my administration will achieve my vision of growing and diversifying the District's economy, educating and preparing the District's workforce for the new economy, and improving the quality of life for all. Organized by goals, strategies and actions, the Plan provides District residents, business leaders and stakeholders with a concrete roadmap to understand and measure progress, while ensuring accountability and transparency. The new website, at <http://ocap.dc.gov>, is user friendly and allows visitors to view status updates for each of the 66 specific action items and 19 long-term indicators outlined in my One City Action Plan.

I commend OAPIA for recently unveiling its new website, at www.apia.dc.gov, that utilizes the same enhanced features, along with language support, allowing the Asian American and Pacific Islander community to better access District government and community resources.

I encourage everyone to visit these innovative websites and to provide public feedback, as we build not only a more sustainable and prosperous city, but also a leader in technology and innovation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Vincent C. Gray".

Vincent C. Gray

OAPIA Events

OAPIA Fiscal Year 2014 Budget Hearing

The Committee on Workforce and Community Affairs is hosting a hearing on OAPIA's proposed Fiscal Year 2014 Budget. The hearing will take place at 10:00 am on April 19, 2013 at the Wilson Building, 1350 Pennsylvania Ave, NW, Washington, DC 20004, Room 120.

Call for 2013 Mayor's Community Service Award Nominations



The [Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs of the District of Columbia](#) seeks your help in submitting nominees for the annual Mayor's Community Service Award. Every May, during Asian American and Pacific Islander American Heritage Month, the Commission solicits nominations for the unsung heroes who have demonstrated extraordinary dedication to serving Washington DC's Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community.

The Commission is currently seeking nominations for 1) individuals or organizations, and 2) employees from DC government agencies that make significant contributions to the AAPI community.

This contribution can be expressed through a variety of ways: serving AAPI residents, volunteering in the community, promoting awareness of AAPI issues, or organizing projects that strive for the advancement of District AAPIs. While the organizations or individuals need not live in DC, their work must focus on the District's AAPI community.

The Mayor's Community Service Awards will be presented by Mayor Vincent C. Gray at the Asian American and Pacific Islander American Heritage Month Celebration in May.

Click [here](#) for the [Community Service Award Nomination Form](#).

The nomination deadline has been extended. Please submit all nominations by fax, mail, or email by 5pm on Wednesday, April 17, 2013, to the following address:

D.C. Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs
 Attn: May 2013 Award Nominations
 441 4th St. NW, Suite 721 North
 Washington, DC 20001
 Fax: (202) 727-9655

Email: andrew.chang@dc.gov

Click [here](#) to view [past award recipients](#). If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Andrew Chang at (202) 727-3120 or andrew.chang@dc.gov.

OAPIA is Celebrating 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 May.

MAYOR'S OFFICE ON ASIAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER AFFAIRS

SAVE THE DATES

STORIES ACROSS THE DINING TABLE

Tuesday | May 7, 2013 | 6:00 pm
 Goethe-Institut – 812 7th St NW, Washington, DC 20001
 RSVPs required. Join OAPIA and prominent local DC chefs in a panel discussion on how Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) identity is expressed through food. Light food and refreshments will be served.
 RSVP Link: <http://oapiafoodpanel.eventbrite.com>



HEALTHY DC FAIR

Saturday | May 18, 2013 | 10:00 am
 Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Library
 901 G St NW, Washington, DC 20001
 Come get all your health questions answered and receive vital information on health related issues, application assistance for low income insurance, and free screenings for diabetes, blood pressure, vision, dental, HIV, Hepatitis B & C.

MAYOR GRAY'S ASIAN AMERICAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH CELEBRATION

Thursday | May 30, 2013 | 7:00pm
 DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities (DCAH), Kollaboration DC
 Lincoln Theatre – 1215 U St NW, Washington, DC 20009
 RSVPs encouraged. Join Mayor Gray for an evening of DC's best performances presented by Kollaboration DC, the Mayor's Community Service Awards, networking opportunities, and more!
 RSVP Link: <http://2013aapihm.eventbrite.com>



Reasonable accommodations for individuals with disabilities are provided upon request. Please provide 7 days advance notice by calling (202) 727-3120.



Government of the District of Columbia
 Vincent C. Gray, Mayor



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

For more information:
 Tel: (202) 727-3120
 Email: oapia@dc.gov
<http://www.apia.dc.gov>

OAPIA Panel Discussion: Stories Across the Dining Table

Tuesday, May 7, 2013

6pm

Goethe-Institut

812 7th St NW, Washington, DC 20001

A discussion on how Asian American identity is expressed through food.
Light refreshments will be served after the event!

RSVP via EventBrite at <http://oapiafoodpanel.eventbrite.com>.

For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation for a disability, please call
202-727-3120.



Stories Across the Dining Table



A DISCUSSION ON HOW ASIAN AMERICAN IDENTITY IS EXPRESSED THROUGH FOOD

**6PM · TUES. MAY 7TH · GOETHE-INSTITUT
812 7TH ST NW, WASHINGTON, DC 20001**

Light refreshments will be served after the event!

Rsvp via eventbrite at: <http://oapiafoodpanel.eventbrite.com>

For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation for a disability, please call 202 727 3120

OAPIA Healthy DC Fair

Saturday, May 18, 2013

10am to 2pm

Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Library

901 G Street NW, Washington, DC 20001

Metro: Gallery Place-Chinatown (Red, Yellow, Green lines)

Free screenings for diabetes, blood pressure, vision, dental, HIV, Hepatitis B, and C, medication consultations, and more. Bring questions on Medicaid. Apply for low income insurance and other benefits on the spot.

Chinese, Korean, and Vietnamese Interpretation will be available. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation for a disability, please call (202) 727-3120.

MAYOR'S OFFICE ON ASIAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER AFFAIRS

HEALTHY DC FAIR

Saturday, May 18, 10 am to 2 pm
 Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Library
 901 G Street NW
 Metro: Gallery Place-Chinatown, Red, Yellow and Green line



FREE screenings for diabetes, blood pressure, vision, dental, HIV, Hepatitis B, C, medication consultation, and more.

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National Hepatitis Awareness Day

In Partnership With

- DC Mayor's Office on Community Affairs
- DC Department of Health
- DC Department of Human Services
- DC Public Library
- US Department of Health and Human Services
- Ascend Greater Washington Chapter
- Chinatown Service Center
- CVS
- Family Matters of Washington DC – Asian Service Center
- Hepatitis B Initiative of Washington DC
- Howard University Hospital
- Vietnamese American Community Service Center



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



Government of the District of Columbia
 Vincent C. Gray, Mayor

Chinese, Korean, and Vietnamese Interpretation will be available.
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OAPIA in the Community

University of the District of Columbia (UDC) and George Mason University (GMU) Asian Pacific American Law Students Association (APALSA) Public Interest Career Panel



Director Soohyun "Julie" Koo (left) speaks about public service.

Director Soohyun "Julie" Koo served as a panelist at the UDC APALSA and GMU APALSA public interest career panel on March 27, 2013. Director Koo spoke to law school students about the local Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community, her experience working in public service, and on issues affecting the AAPI community.

APALSA is an academic, political, community service, and social law student organization dedicated to fostering a supportive atmosphere for AAPI law students with many chapters across the country. APALSA provides a support network for the AAPI law community both locally and abroad and promotes a greater understanding of AAPI issues.

OAPIA April Bimonthly Community Meeting



Attendees at the OAPIA Bimonthly Community Meeting give updates within their community.

Director Kofman of the Health Benefit Exchange Authority (HBX) gave an overview of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and health coverage limitations and changes under the ACA at the OAPIA Bimonthly Community Meeting on April 2, 2013 to attendees.

The purpose of the bimonthly community meetings is to learn more about the issues affecting the Asian American and Pacific Islander community in the District. The group brings together community leaders, residents, and agency representatives. Bimonthly meetings are open to the public. OAPIA encourages everyone to participate.

For more information about HBX, the ACA, or general health coverage within the District of Columbia, please visit www.dchbx.com.

OAPIA Participates in the Mayor's Annual Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) Career Exploration Fair



OAPIA at the 2013 SYEP Career Exploration Fair.

OAPIA was in attendance at Mayor Vincent C. Gray's 2013 Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) Career Exploration Fair on April 4, 2013 at the DC Armory to recruit SYEP candidates for an office internship. Interns play an important role in the daily functions of the OAPIA office and assist staff with a variety of tasks ranging from research to community outreach.

SYEP is a locally funded initiative sponsored by the Department of Employment Services (DOES) that provides District youth ages 14 to 21 with enriching and constructive summer work experiences through subsidized placements in the private and government sectors. The Career Exploration Fair is an opportunity for Host Employers to meet with prospective youth for summer placements. OAPIA is serving as a Host Employer and providing structured job opportunities for local youth during the summer.

For more information about SYEP, please visit: <http://www.summerjobs.dc.gov>.

OAPIA News

OAPIA Welcomes New Staff Assistant Christina Truong



Christina Truong recently became the staff assistant for OAPIA, after previously serving as an intern during Spring 2013. During her time at OAPIA, Christina helped with various tasks such as data entry, community outreach, drafting proposals, and administrative duties. With this new position, she hopes to continue her work in serving the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community.

OAPIA Welcomes New Intern

Feng Huang was born and raised in Changzhou, Jiangsu Province, China. After he completed high school in China, Feng went to the United States for his undergraduate education in 2010. He is currently a junior majoring in political science at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA).

From his experience with student organizations and clubs, Feng knows how to work with other individuals to plan and promote events effectively.

At OAPIA, Feng Huang hopes to improve his interpersonal and communications skills, gain valuable work experience in the public sector, and develop a better understanding of the AAPI community. His long-term aspiration is to become a lawyer.



District News and Announcements

Mayor Vincent C. Gray's Budget Town Hall Schedule

Mayor Vincent C. Gray will be hosting multiple budget town halls in all wards across the District. Please attend these budget town halls to learn more about the Mayor's upcoming plans for the District's budget for fiscal year 2014, any current spending pressures, and how the budget will address any challenges facing the city. The list of upcoming budget town halls can be found below.

Luke C. Moore High School - Ward 5

1001 Monroe St NE, Washington, DC 20017
Wednesday, April 10, 2013
6:30pm - 8:30pm

Columbia Heights Recreation Center - Ward 1

1480 Girard St NW, Washington, DC 20009
Thursday, April 11, 2013
6:30pm - 8:30pm

Turner Elementary School - Ward 8

3264 Stanton Rd SE, Washington, DC 20032
Wednesday, April 17, 2013
6:30pm - 8:30pm

Brightwood Elementary School - Ward 4

1300 Nicholson St NW, Washington, DC 20011
Thursday, April 18, 2013
6:30pm - 8:30pm

Charles Sumner School - Youth

1201 17th St NW, Washington, DC 20036
Saturday, April 20, 2013
11am - 1pm

Charles Sumner School - Ward 2

1201 17th St NW, Washington, DC 20036
Saturday, April 20, 2013
2pm - 4pm

Logan School - Ward 6
215 G St NE, Washington, DC 20002
Thursday, April 25, 2013
6:30pm - 8:30pm

Alice Deal Middle School - Ward 3
3815 Fort Drive NW, Washington, DC 20016
Tuesday, April 30, 2013
6:30pm - 8:30pm

Department of Employment Services Community Room - Ward 7
4058 Minnesota Avenue NE, Washington, DC 20019
Thursday, May 2, 2013
6:30pm - 8:30pm



MAYOR VINCENT C. GRAY

Invites You To The

FY2014 BUDGET

TOWN HALL MEETINGS

Town Hall Schedule

<p>WARD 5 Wednesday, April 10th 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm Luke C. Moore Academy 1001 Monroe Street, NE</p>	<p>WARD 4 Thursday, April 18th 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm Brightwood Education Campus 1300 Nicholson Street, NW</p>	<p>WARD 6 Thursday, April 25th 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm Capital Hill Montessori @ Logan 215 G Street, NE</p>
<p>WARD 1 Thursday, April 11th 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm Columbia Heights Recreation Center 1480 Girard Street, NW</p>	<p>YOUTH Saturday, April 20th 11:00 am - 1:00 pm Charles Sumner School 1201 17th Street, NW</p>	<p>WARD 3 Tuesday, April 30th 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm Alice Deal Middle School 3815 Fort Drive, NW</p>
<p>WARD 8 Wednesday, April 17th 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm Turner Elementary School 3264 Stanton Road, SE</p>	<p>WARD 2 Saturday, April 20th 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm Charles Sumner School 1201 17th Street, NW</p>	<p>WARD 7 Thursday, May 2nd 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm Dept. of Employment Services 4058 Minnesota Ave, NE</p>

Come Listen; Come Learn; Come Voice Your Concerns.

☆☆☆ Government of the District of Columbia
 Vincent C. Gray, Mayor



For More Information or If You Require Translation or Interpretation Services: 202.442.8150

Spotlight: Vietnamese American Bar Association of the Greater Washington, DC Area (VABA-DC)



The Vietnamese American Bar Association of the Greater Washington, DC Area, Inc. (VABA-DC) serves to promote the professional growth and advancement of Vietnamese American attorneys, encourage and facilitate the entry of Vietnamese American students into the legal profession, and contribute to the public interest by serving as a voice for the local Vietnamese American community and assisting community members with legal concerns. As part of its mission, VABA-DC collaborates with other Asian American groups on issues that affect members and the community.

Conceived by a small group of Vietnamese American attorneys in Fall 2006, VABA-DC was formally incorporated in Spring 2007. VABA-DC is one of four VABAs in the nation, and the only one on the East Coast. As a professional association that understands that the strongest professional bonds are those that also contain elements of genuine friendship, VABA-DC is always welcoming new members who, regardless of ethnicity and background, share and contribute to its mission.

For more information about VABA-DC, please contact vabadc@gmail.com, or visit <http://www.vabadc.com>.

April is Language Access Month



On April 13, 2011, Mayor Vincent C. Gray declared April as [Language Access Month](#) in the District of Columbia. No matter where District residents are from or what language they speak, they have the ability and rights to interact with their community and with their government.

Seventeen percent of DC residents use a language other than English at home, and more than 130 languages are spoken by DC students and their parents. The District of Columbia is one of three jurisdictions in the country with a language-access law and is recognized nationwide for

its inclusive policies for immigrants and persons with Limited English Proficiency (LEP). Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) immigrants grew 38.6 percent between 2000 and 2010 in DC (according to the U.S. Census, 2010), and among them, 28 percent were identified as LEP persons.

The Office on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs (OAPIA) provides District agencies with technical assistance and guidance on providing language assistance to LEP Asian and Pacific Islander constituents. OAPIA also monitors the performance of these agencies in providing language access.

For more information about language access within the District of Columbia, please visit the following sources.

- DC Office of Human Rights: <http://ohr.dc.gov/>
- DC Language Access Coalition: <http://www.mlovdc.org/dc-language-access-coalition.htm>
- Language Access Month: <http://apia.dc.gov/service/language-access-month>

DC Mayor's Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs

The DC Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs usually convenes monthly meetings to discuss current issues affecting the DC AAPI community.

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday, April 24, 2013 at 6:30 pm in Conference Room 1114 at One Judiciary Square, 441 4th Street NW, 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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