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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 Director

Dear Community Members,

Next week marks the beginning of [Asian American and Pacific Islander \(AAPI\) Heritage Month](#).

AAPI Heritage Month is celebrated in May to commemorate the contributions of people of Asian and Pacific Islander descent in the United States. During the month, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders around the nation celebrate with community festivals, government-sponsored activities, and educational activities.



Every May, OAPIA organizes the [Mayor's AAPI Community Service Award & AAPI Heritage Month Evening Celebration](#) which attracts people from across DC and the greater DC area. The event is a celebration of the AAPI community and incorporates entertainment, the Mayor's Community Service Award ceremony, networking opportunities, and more.

As part of AAPI Heritage Month, OAPIA will also be hosting a [food panel discussion](#), a [health fair](#), a film screening, and will be a sponsor of a [forum on stress affecting the AAPI community](#). Please join us as we celebrate and recognize the contributions of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders!

Warm Regards,

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

OAPIA Events

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 (DCCA), 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>

Spotlight: Conference on Asian Pacific American Leadership (CAPAL)



The Conference on Asian Pacific American Leadership (CAPAL) was founded in 1989 to address the visibly low numbers of Asian Pacific Americans serving in the public sector. The founding members of CAPAL came together in Washington, D.C. to establish a forum for engaging and training the next generation of Asian Pacific American policymakers and public leaders.

CAPAL is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, nonpartisan educational and professional organization dedicated to building leadership and public policy knowledge within the Asian Pacific American (APA) community. Its mission is to promote Asian Pacific American interests and success in public service careers, to provide information and education on policy issues affecting the APA community, and to serve the APA community at large.

For more information about CAPAL, please visit www.capal.org.

April is National 9-1-1 Education Month

In the District of Columbia, the Office of Unified Communications (OUC) begins a month-long campaign to help District residents and visitors of all ages recognize the importance of 9-1-1 and the role they play in ensuring effective and efficient emergency response in times of crisis during National 9-1-1 Education Month.

OUC, which received 1.3 million calls for service in FY 2012, will maintain a vigorous community outreach effort in April. The OUC will partner with several District government agencies to promote 9-1-1 education and the District's Smart911 program.

OAPIA and OUC designed and distributed multilingual informational material promoting Smart911 to AAPI residents at community events and meetings and through online outreach efforts. OAPIA and OUC registered 80 District AAPI residents for Smart911 during two registration sessions held at the ASC and VACSC. Arrangements were also made for newly registered AAPI residents to receive in-language confirmation calls of their Smart 911 program registration.

Smart911 is a free service provided by OUC. With this service, residents can create a Safety Profile for their household that includes vital personal and medical information for each household member. In the event of an emergency, 911 emergency call takers and first responders will be able to access Smart911 Safety Profiles immediately to provide faster and more effective assistance. Residents with limited English proficiency may also identify their preferred language in their Safety Profiles, and thus be provided with quicker access to language interpretation during emergency situations.

For more information about National 9-1-1 Education Month, please visit the Office of Unified Communications: <http://ouc.dc.gov/>

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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