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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,

I hope everyone had a wonderful summer. It seemed like yesterday when we welcomed in the new year, and now we are marking the end of the 2013 Fiscal Year. The coming fall will present the Office on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs (OAPIA) with new opportunities to assist the District of Columbia community.



OAPIA has continually championed and worked with local AAPI community leaders and residents to find innovative solutions for our District's residents. We are delighted for the DC Health Link Asian American and Pacific Islander Leadership Summit to be held on Wednesday, September 18, 2013 at One Judiciary Square, 441 4th St NW, Room 1114S, Washington, DC 20001. This summit will aim to help the AAPI community in finding and accessing resources relating to health and human services. Additionally, the summit will raise awareness about patient rights and responsibilities, and experts from DC Health Link will provide important information on how to shop for affordable health insurance through the new health care insurance marketplace.

I would also like to encourage everyone to Facebook "[Like](#)" us to receive the latest updates regarding the AAPI community in DC through our [Facebook fanpage](#). As always, you may also visit us at our [website](#) and join our [mailing list](#) for future announcements and OAPIA updates within the community.

Sincerely,

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

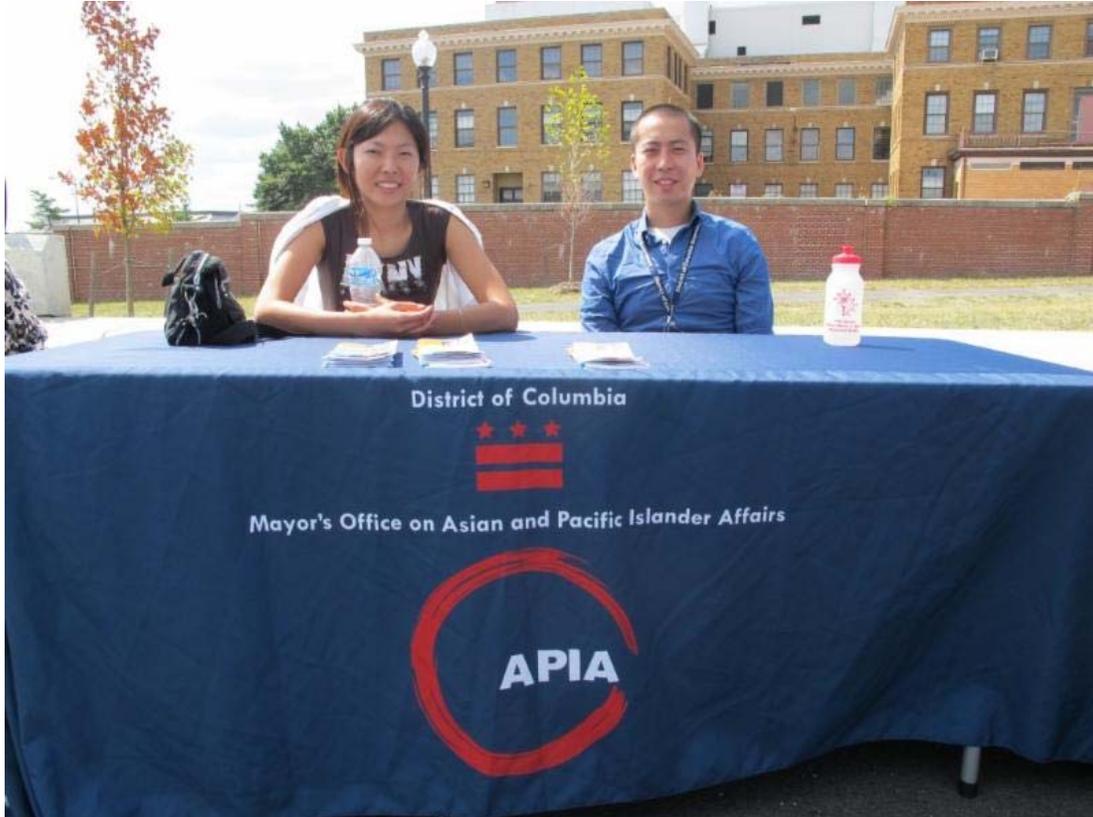
OAPIA in the Community

OAPIA Joins Mayor Gray and the District Department of Transportation

(DDOT) at the Local 11th Street Bridge Celebration: Bridging Communities "One City"



A side view of the 11th Street Bridge.



OAPIA on the bridge.



The 11th Street Bridge.



Mayor Vincent C. Gray speaking to attendees.

The DC Mayor's Office on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs (OAPIA) joined Mayor Vincent C. Gray, the District Department of Transportation (DDOT), and others at a community celebration marking the official opening of the 11th Street Bridge's span for local traffic. The 11th Street Bridge Project is the District's first river-bridge replacement in 40 years and the largest project in DDOT's history. The project is providing direct connections between DC-295 (Anacostia Freeway) and I-695.

For the press release regarding the event, please visit [here](#).

OAPIA Welcomes Fall Interns

Miriam Hyeon was born and raised in Argentina. She moved to South Korea at the age of 11 years old while in the 7th grade and later graduated from middle school and high school there. She came to the United States at the end of 2006 for her sister's wedding and decided to stay since then. Miriam enrolled at Fairfax Christian School as a senior in high school in 2007 and graduated in 2008. She went to Northern Virginia Community College (NVCC) for two years and transferred to Marymount University in 2010. Miriam worked at the Office of International Students at NVCC and as an office assistant to the Chair of History and Politics Department at Marymount University. She graduated from



Miriam Hyeon

Marymount University in May 2013 with a Bachelor of Arts in Politics. She also works part-time at the Hepatitis B Initiative of Washington, DC (HBI-DC) as a project coordinator and assistant.

Ruoxuan Hu was born and raised in Shanghai, China and lived in Singapore for four years before moving to the United States for college at St. John's College of Maryland in 2009. She recently graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts, with a concentration in Western philosophy and classical literature. Ruoxuan has

adopted a keen sense of cross-cultural understanding; however, as a native of China, she is strongly dedicated to preserving and promoting Chinese language, culture, and arts throughout the world while still valuing a multicultural community. Ruoxuan has painted Chinese paintings for 16 years and has won several national prizes in Chinese painting in China. She has four years of experience in Chinese and English tutoring, teaching, and translating, and one year of experience in working within an office environment. Her experiences have made her become an active listener who works hard to ensure her clients are understood and respected. As an adventurer in all aspects, Ruoxuan believes that life is full of possibilities and is willing to take whatever comes in life as a gift.



Ruoxuan Hu



Jayoung Lee

Jayoung Lee was born and raised in South Korea. As the youngest in her family, she received a great amount of affection from all of her family members, which led to a warm and positive childhood. Jayoung attends Sogang University in South Korea, and is currently an exchange student at American University. At Sogang University, she became involved in extracurricular activities such as the intercollegiate club and volunteering. These activities and involvement made her more active and sociable. Jayoung is not only in the United States for academic studies, but to also broaden her perspective on issues, especially as it relates to international relations and connecting with individuals from all walks of life.

District News and Announcements

The Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) Special Liaison Division Announces Community Outreach Coordinator

(Washington, DC) - The Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) Special Liaison Division (SLD)

is pleased to announce the addition of a Community Outreach Coordinator to the SLD team. Mrs. Yun Fei "Kay" Gibb is the newest addition to the seven existing Community Outreach Coordinators for the MPD.

She is responsible for the coordination and the implementation of outreach programs of the Special Liaison Division. She will play a key role in outreach efforts and promoting better police-community relations to the growing minority communities in Washington, DC. Prior to joining Metropolitan Police Department, Kay was as a Media Research Analyst for Georgetown University ISIS center, where she monitored open source media in East Asia providing trend analysis and reports to government sponsors. She also has a background as a Public Relations Officer.

Kay earned her MA from Georgetown University, where she focused her graduate work on community formation and identity, and how it is shaped by technology. Kay was born and raised in Taipei, Taiwan, and attended its National Chengchi University. There, she majored in Chinese literature with a minor in Education. Kay speaks native Chinese and Min-nan dialect. She enjoys running and cooking in her spare time.

METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT
Cathy L. Lanier
 Chief of Police



OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS
Gwendolyn Crump
 Director

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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September 6, 2013

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 300 Indiana Avenue, NW, Room 5126
 Washington, DC 20001
www.mpd.d.c.gov

 Government of the
 District of Columbia

Spotlight: North American Chinese Invitational Volleyball Tournament
 (NACIVT)



NACIVT in 1983 in DC Chinatown.

The North American Chinese Invitational Volleyball Tournament (NACIVT) is an annual volleyball tournament held on Labor Day weekend to bring together Chinese communities from around the United States and Canada. Since its inception in 1935, the tournament has grown considerably and has over 1,500 players participating in it each year.

The first North American Chinese Invitational Volleyball Tournament was held in Boston in 1944. The tournament is traditionally held outdoors on cement pavement with courts set up in parking lots and the street. Two-thirds of the team must be 100% Chinese and the remaining team members must be of Asian descent. Since then, teams from all over the country and Canada have participated, including New York City, Maryland, Los Angeles, Montreal, Philadelphia, San Francisco, San Diego, Toronto, and Washington DC. The tournament rotates between seven cities: Boston, Los Angeles, Montreal, Toronto, New York, San Francisco and Washington, DC.

Around 1946 or 1947, Washington D.C. joined the tournament. The participation of the Washington team initiated the three-city circuit which continued into the mid-1970's, except for the 1965, when Chicago participated and hosted the tournament. The 69th annual NACIVT was held in Washington, DC on Pennsylvania Avenue between 9th St NW and 13th St NW from August 31, 2013 to September 2, 2013.

For more information about the NACIVT, please visit [here](#).

September is Suicide Prevention Month



September is Suicide Prevention Month. Suicide is the third-leading cause of death for youth between the ages of 10 and 24 nationally. It results in approximately 4,400 lives lost each year in this age group. Washington, DC has the lowest suicide rate in the country (51st), with only 6 suicides per 100,000 people. In 2007, suicide was the fifth leading cause of death for youth ages 15-19; and the sixth leading cause of death for adults 20-44. Despite having a low rate of suicide deaths, youth in DC are struggling with thoughts of suicide at alarming rates.

The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline is a 24-hour, toll-free, confidential suicide prevention hotline available to anyone in suicidal crisis or emotional distress. By dialing 1-800-273-TALK (8255), the call is routed to the nearest crisis center in the Lifeline's national network of more than 150 crisis centers. The Lifeline's national network of local crisis centers provide crisis counseling and mental health referrals day and night.

For more information about suicide prevention, please visit:

- [I Am the Difference: DC Youth Suicide Prevention Program](#)
- [DC Department of Mental Health \(DMH\)](#)
- [National Suicide Prevention Lifeline](#)
- [National Alliance on Mental Illness](#)
- [Data on Suicide Among Asian Americans from the American Psychological Association](#)

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, September 25, 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.

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