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OAPIA Update

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

Dear Community Members,

As we wrap up our Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month (AAPIHM) celebrations, there is much to reflect upon. As an office, the Office on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs (OAPIA) remains committed to the goals of the month on a daily basis. In celebration of AAPIHM we hosted Mayor Gray's Asian American and Pacific Islander Community Reception, Asian Americana: Understanding AAPI Family Generations Panel, and most recently, the Mayor Gray's Asian American and Pacific Islander Community Celebration.



The success of our events had a lot to do with our partnerships, we partnered with government agencies, community organizations, residents, merchants, universities and restaurants embracing the spirit of cooperation.

OAPIA recognizes that in order to be a great City we must remain committed to ensuring that our entire populations needs are met. This is through hard work, dedication and partnerships. Our most recent event highlighted the importance of community activism by honoring individuals and organizations with the Mayor's Certificate of Appreciation and Community Service Awards. It is through mutual cooperation and passion that these individuals achieved this success.

Without the support of Mayor Gray and the continued coordination of community organizations we would not be where we are today.

We are very proud of what our office has become and look forward to building on our legacy of advocacy and outreach. Please continue to visit our website for frequent important updates.

Warm Regards,

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

Mayor Vincent C. Gray and OAPIA Celebrate AAPI Heritage Month with Community Service Award - Mayor Receives Tips on Korean Cooking



Mayor Gray practicing his cooking skills at the Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month Celebration.

(Washington, DC) - Mayor Vincent C. Gray and the Office on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs (OAPIA) honored community leaders by hosting an Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage (AAPI) Month celebration & the Community Service Award Ceremony. The event was held at The Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) at Johns Hopkins University. The evening began with a networking reception followed by local cultural performances. Mayor Gray delivered the keynote speech and presented his Community Service Award. OAPIA Director Soohyun "Julie" Koo and Dr. Jae H. Ku, Director of U.S. - Korea Institute at SAIS each gave welcoming remarks with an emphasis on community leadership. NBC 4's Eun Yang, served as the Mistress of Ceremonies.

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

OAPIA Takes Part in Department of Housing and Community Development Expo

OAPIA works with other agencies in conducting trainings, panels and workshops in accordance with its

mission statement. OAPIA was fortunate to take part in the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) Expo on Saturday, June 2, 2012. With more than 45 community members in attendance, the housing workshops provided valuable information on home ownership and financial literacy. DHCD provided interpretation in Chinese and Vietnamese.



Community members participate in a housing workshop.

Spotlight: Sulu DC

Sulu DC

[Sulu DC](#) provides emerging and established artists of the Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) diaspora

with an empowering space to nurture artistic growth, build the AAPI artist community, and raise awareness of issues relevant to AAPI communities at-large.

Named after Sulu of Star Trek (the first Asian American character in space) and a remote island in the Philippines, Sulu DC is an underground network and home for emerging and established artists of the Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) diaspora. On the third Saturday of every month, Sulu DC curates and produces a performance showcase of AAPI artists in poetry/spoken word, music, theater, comedy, film, and multidisciplinary performances.

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

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.

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