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David Do, Director



Muriel Bowser, Mayor

MOAPIA Update Newsletter

Agency Updates, Events and Announcements, Career Connections, and more from the DC Mayor's Office on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs (MOAPIA)

A Message from the Director

Dear Community Members,

I hope that everyone is ready to enjoy the beautiful weather we have ahead of us. Spring is right around the corner! My office is always working to improve the quality of life for AAPIs in the Metropolitan area and I am excited to share our most recent project with you.

Six months ago, MOAPIA hosted the Asian American and Pacific Islander Action Forum to give constituents the opportunity to express their concerns. We have taken your input and drafted the AAF (AAPI Action Forum) Implementation Plan. We need your help again to finalize the plan. Please join us on either Tuesday, March 15th or Thursday, March 17th so we can hear your thoughts! The links to RSVP are below.

- Tuesday, March 15 - aafimplementationplan.eventbrite.com
- Thursday, March 17 - aafleader.eventbrite.com

I look forward to hearing your contributions.

Warm Regards,

David Do

Director, DC Mayor's Office on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs



MOAPIA Welcomes New Staff!

Nam Joseph Do, Community Outreach Specialist

Nam (Joseph) Do works for the Mayor's Office on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs as a Community Outreach Specialist. As the Community Outreach Specialist, he will be assisting AAPI constituents at the Department of Human Services' Taylor Center and promoting government programs to the AAPI community. Before joining MOAPIA, Joseph was a relationship manager at Bank of America where he helped clients grow their businesses, establish or fix their credit, and save for the future. A native of Baltimore, he has been a long time organizer in the Vietnamese and Asian communities.



Feel free to say hello at nam.do@dc.gov!

3/15 & 3/17 - AAF Implementation Meetings



Last September, MOAPIA hosted a successful Asian American and Pacific Islander Action Forum (AAF) to solicit feedback from the AAPI community on issues we can address and solve. Now, we need your help again to finalize our AAF Implementation Plan. Come learn how

you can continue to be involved and contribute to make the AAPI community better at one of our two meetings!

Light fare and beverages will be provided.

Dates:

Tuesday, **March 15** | 7 - 9 pm (To RSVP for this meeting, click [here](#))

Thursday, **March 17** | 7 - 9 pm (To RSVP for this meeting, click [here](#))

Location:

One Judiciary Square

441 4th St NW, Room 1117

Metro: Judiciary Square (Red Line)

For questions or to request reasonable accommodations, please call (202) 727-3120.

March - Weekly Tai Chi Classes

MOAPIA is offering weekly Tai Chi classes at the Kennedy Recreation Center starting in March. Join us for this fun exercise to loosen up your body and mind!

Wednesdays, 11 am - 12 pm

Kennedy Recreation Center

1407 7th St NW, Washington DC 20001

For more information, email us at oapia@dc.gov or call (202) 727-3120.

TAI CHI CLASS

FREE AND OPEN TO PUBLIC

Kennedy Recreation Center

1401 7th St NW, Washington, DC 20001

Meeting location: Outside open area next to the playground
(*Will be held in the multipurpose room when there is inclement weather)



Community members doing Tai Chi at Shaw Community Day event in November 2015.

MARCH 2016 Class Schedule

Wed, 3/2, 11 AM - 12 PM
Wed, 3/9, 11 AM - 12 PM
Wed, 3/16, 11 AM - 12 PM
Wed, 3/30, 11 AM - 12 PM

Note: No class on 3/23



What is Tai Chi?

Tai Chi is a Chinese martial arts form that offers fun and gentle exercise for the body and mind. It's an enjoyable way to improve mobility, balance and overall well-being.



For more information, email us at oapia@dc.gov or call (202)-727-3120.

Calling Nominations for the Mayor's Community Service Award and Ajay K. Ojha Volunteer Service Award



2015 Mayor's CSA Recipient: Ben de Guzman

The Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs of the District of Columbia seeks your help. As May is Asian and Pacific Islander American Heritage Month, we would like to recognize those unsung heroes who have demonstrated extraordinary dedication to serving Washington DC's Asian and Pacific Islander (API) community.

We invite you to nominate an individual or an organization that makes extraordinary contributions to the API community for the Community Service Award. This contribution can be expressed through a variety of ways: volunteering, promoting awareness of API issues, or organizing projects that strive for the advancement of District APIs. While the organizations or individuals need not live in DC, their work must focus on the District's API community.



2015 VSA Recipient: John Tinpe

Also a Volunteer Service Award has been named in honor of Ajay K. Ojha, a former Commissioner who passed away while volunteering overseas on a community service project for local youth. This award may be given to an individual who displays the spirit of Commissioner Ojha through exceptional volunteerism in the DC community.

Both the Community Service Award and the Volunteer Service Award will be presented by Mayor Muriel Bowser at the Asian and Pacific Islander American Heritage Month Celebration to be held in May.

For information on how to submit your nominations, visit MOAPIA's website [here](#).

Events and Announcements

3/9 - Standing with our Muslim Neighbors: A Workshop for Allies in DC

Join the Office of Human Rights for a panel discussion with diverse Muslim faith and community leaders to better understand the Muslim faith, the experiences of Muslim DC residents, and how to be effective allies to the Muslim community.

RSVP online at allyworkshop.eventbrite.com

Wednesday, **March 9** | 6:00 - 8:00 pm
Old Council Chambers (441 4th St NW)



Standing with our Muslim Neighbors:

A Workshop for Allies in DC

Wednesday, March 9, 2016

6pm - 8pm

441 4th Street NW, DC - Old Council Chambers

Join us for a free panel discussion with diverse Muslim faith and community leaders to better understand the Muslim faith, the experiences of Muslim DC residents, and how to be effective allies to the Muslim community. Attendees will leave the training with concrete steps they can take to counter Islamophobia and increase mutual understanding and respect in the District.

RSVP online at allyworkshop.eventbrite.com

#StandWithDCMuslims

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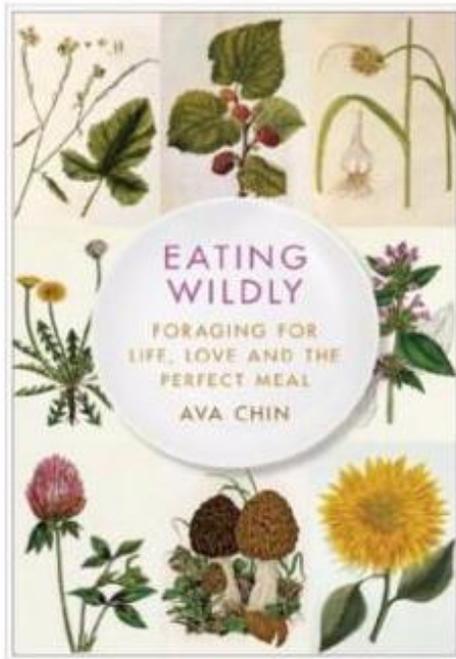


3/12 - Foraging for Life, Love, and the Perfect Meal

Ava Chin, the "Urban Forager," was raised in Queens, New York, by a single mother and loving grandparents. *Eating Wildly* examines family ties, romantic failures and self-discovery while revealing a world of edible/medicinal plants, with recipes and culinary information, to stir emotions and enliven taste buds - "a moving memoir about the importance of family, relationships, and food." - Review by Simon & Schuster

Saturday, **March 12** | 1:00 - 3:30 pm

Chinese Community Church (500 I Street NW)



Talk Story Event

FORAGING FOR LIFE, LOVE AND THE PERFECT MEAL

Author and urban forager Ava Chin explores the writing and meaning of *Eating Wildly*, a food kit and memoir.

When: Saturday, March 12, 2016, 1:00 to 3:00 PM

Where: Chinese Community Church
500 I (Eye) Street NW, Chinatown,
Washington DC

...I often tagged along with my grandparents down the aisles of Chinese supermarkets. ...Grandpa knew the secrets of the dried, preserved goods and vegetables tucked away into the stores' dusty corners. ...I'm not sure how Grandpa knew what he knew—whether his parents had taught him or he'd learned from the cooks at the restaurant—but I just chalked it up to his being more inherently Chinese than I was and that somehow the knowledge came with the territory. ...I followed my grandfather over to another bin."

Ava Chin, the "Urban Forager," was raised in Queens, New York, by a single mother and loving grandparents. *Eating Wildly* examines family ties, romantic failures and self-discovery while revealing a world of edible/medicinal plants, with recipes and culinary information, to stir emotions and enliven taste buds—"a moving memoir about the importance of family, relationships, and food," —review by Simon & Schuster.



Talk Story Events are monthly community gatherings in DC Chinatown to share stories and fellowship about Chinese American history, culture and identity. They are free, casual and open to all. Sponsored by the 1882 Foundation, Chinese American Citizens Alliance and OCA-Asian American Advocates with the Chinatown Service Center, Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association and the Chinatown Community and Culture Center. RSVP and info to: gongzi@1882.org or stangibkang@yahoo.com.



1882 FOUNDATION



Today is the Deadline to Nominate a Champion of Change for AAPI Art and Storytelling

As part of this year's Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage Month, the [White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders](#) and the White House will honor **Champions of Change for AAPI Art and Storytelling** who have raised the visibility of diverse AAPI experiences and created dialogue around issues the community faces.

Artists and advocates, through their unique channels and distinct platforms, have played a critical role in telling powerful stories, increasing awareness around key AAPI issues,

and encouraging diversity and inclusion in all sectors of society. The Champions of Change program honors individuals doing extraordinary things to empower and inspire members of their communities.

Nominees may include:

- Storytellers who have included and continue to include AAPI characters in their films, television shows, and literature to address pressing issues, including immigration, civil rights, economic opportunity, health, diversity and inclusion, and more;
- Poets and spoken word artists who highlight AAPI experiences in their work in order to advance pressing issues, including immigration, civil rights, economic opportunity, health, diversity and inclusion, and more;
- Musicians who use music as a tool to bring national attention to issues facing the AAPI community, including immigration, civil rights, economic opportunity, health, diversity and inclusion, and more.

Please check out our [Call for Nominations Blog](#) for instructions on nominating a leader in your community. Nominate a Champion of Change by midnight on Wednesday, **March 9, 2016**. Be sure to select "AAPI Art and Storytelling" as your "Theme of Service" on the nomination form. Please don't hesitate to contact WhiteHouseAAPI@ed.gov with subject line "Champions of Change" if you have any questions.

Private Security Camera Incentive Program



WE ARE DC GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA MURIEL BOWSER, MAYOR

Help make DC safer and stronger

Install a private security camera system and apply for a rebate

For more info visit ovsjg.dc.gov

The Office of Victim Services and Justice Grants want residents to improve public safety by participating in the Private Security Camera Incentive Program. This program encourages residents, businesses, nonprofits, and religious institutions to purchase and install security cameras.

The program provides a rebate of up to \$200 per camera, with a maximum rebate of up to \$500 per residential address and \$750 for all other addresses.

Information about the program and the application can be found on at www.ovsjg.dc.gov. For additional information, contact the Program at security.cameras@dc.gov (202) 727-5124.

National Building Museum Summer Camp Scholarship Information

The National Building Museum offers a variety of summer camp programs for students in grades 3-6. To learn more about their summer camp, visit their website [here](#). Scholarships are available to students based on financial need and submitted personal statements. To receive more information about their scholarships or for the application form, please email Ayana Bias at abias@upo.org.



DC Resident Snow Team Recruitment

Mayor Muriel Bowser hopes you can join the DC Resident Snow Team to help our neighbors who need help clearing snow this winter. Our seniors and neighbors with disabilities need help shoveling snow from their front walkways and sidewalks to get to medical appointments and to receive meals in their homes. Volunteer to shovel for a neighbor by signing up at snowteam.dc.gov.

Hands on Hearts CPR Training Program

"Hands on Hearts" is an initiative to provide free CPR and AED awareness training to District residents. When hands-only CPR is performed immediately during cardiac arrest, it may increase the chance of a person's survival. The District is committed to providing residents with the skills needed to help save a life. For more information or to sign up for "Hands on Hearts" CPR training, visit handsonhearts.dc.gov or call 311.



DC Mayor's Office on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs
oapia@dc.gov | (202) 727-3120 | www.apia.dc.gov

See what's happening on our social sites:

