

The content in this preview is based on the last saved version of your email - any changes made to your email that have not been saved will not be shown in this preview.



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

November 19, 2014

Dear Community Members:

Since the beginning of my administration, I have worked to enhance openness, transparency, and accountability of the government to the public. Pursuant to such objectives, my administration recently launched and advanced six initiatives to the public.

Among the new initiatives launched, we introduced: the 15-member Open Government Advisory Group, where members evaluate the District's progress towards meeting the requirements of transparency and make recommendations for improvements; the re-launch of the data.dc.gov website, which helps developers create new apps for the benefit of District residents; and a redesigned www.track.dc.gov, which allows residents to track and learn more about agency performance indicators, the budget, and city spending. These new open data projects complement other online applications that were previously launched, directing city agencies to provide increased information to the public and significantly widen opportunities for public feedback.

My Office on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs (OAPIA) has also worked to institutionalize a culture of transparency and open government to expand the opportunities for Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community participation and collaboration. OAPIA's online engagement efforts include, but are not limited to: outreach through the use of social media in Chinese, English, Korean, and Vietnamese; providing online access to budgetary and performance records pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA); and detailing implementation measures taken and to be taken through an Open Government report. Please visit www.apia.dc.gov to find out more about OAPIA's commitment to open governance and transparency.

I believe that an open and transparent government translates into a better government. We are moving the District forward by making government data more accessible and useful, and through innovative initiatives like www.grade.dc.gov, allowing residents to provide actionable feedback using social media. The new and improved initiatives my administration has pursued will have a lasting positive impact on how the public interfaces and learns about the workings of the District government.

Sincerely,

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

Vincent C. Gray

OAPIA in the Community

FY2015 AAPI Community Grantee Orientation



OAPIA staff with the FY15 AAPI Community Grantees.

OAPIA hosted the first grantee orientation for the FY2015 Asian American Pacific Islander Community Grant on November 5, 2014. The orientation provided grantees with information related to post-award management.

For more information on [OAPIA community grants](#), please visit www.apia.dc.gov or contact Neel Saxena at neel.saxena@dc.gov or (202) 727-3120.

OAPIA November Bimonthly Community Meeting



OAPIA Director Soohyun "Julie" Koo addressing meeting attendees.

OAPIA Director Soohyun "Julie" Koo and OAPIA staff, local community-based organizations, and other individuals presented community updates at the OAPIA Bimonthly Community Meeting on November 12, 2014.

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.

Spotlight: Dana Tai Soon Burgess Dance Company (DTSB&Co)

DANA TAI SOON BURGESS DANCE COMPANY

Choreographer Dana Tai Soon Burgess launched Moving Forward: Contemporary Asian American Dance Company as a non-profit modern dance company in 1992. The company recently rebranded to DTSB&Co. DTSB&Co provides quality dance performances and dance education within the context of exploring and expressing Asian American consciousness within the multi-faceted American experience. The company's goal, by focusing on the immigrant experience, historic events and personal stories, is to bridge cultures and reduce ethnic barriers. DTSB&Co is the only Asian American dance company of its stature nationally.

For more information on [DTSB&Co](#), please visit [here](#).

November is National Epilepsy Awareness Month



November is National Epilepsy Awareness Month. Epilepsy is a brain disorder characterized by recurrent seizures. Epilepsy affects approximately 2.3 million Americans, making it a common, yet poorly understood neurological disorder. The condition is a complicated spectrum of disorders and can have devastating effects on individuals and their families.

Measures that reduce the risk of head injury and trauma can prevent epilepsy related to traumatic brain injury. For example, increased use of seat belts and helmets, and good prenatal care can prevent brain damage that could potentially lead to epilepsy. The mainstay of epilepsy therapy remains anti-seizure medications. In more recent years, medications with better side effect profiles and safer long-term records have been introduced. For patients who do not respond to medications, alternative treatment methods include the vagus nerve stimulator and resective epilepsy surgery.

For those seeking treatment in the District, the DC Department of Health's Perinatal and Infant Health Bureau sponsors programs to raise epilepsy awareness in infants.

For more information or resources concerning epilepsy in the District, please visit:

- [DC Department of Health: Perinatal and Infant Health Bureau](#)
- [US Department of Health and Human Services' Health Resources and Services Administration: Epilepsy](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: Epilepsy](#)

oapia@dc.gov | www.apia.dc.gov | Phone: (202) 727-3120 | Fax: (202) 727-9655



[Forward email](#)



This email was sent to oapia@dc.gov by oapia@dc.gov | [Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Rapid removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).



OAPIA | 441 4th St NW | Suite 721 North | Washington | DC | 20001