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OAPIA Update Newsletter

Biweekly News Updates from the DC Mayor's Office on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs (OAPIA)

A Message from the Director

Dear Community Members:

It has been an enjoyable experience hosting community office hours in various wards across the District. I was excited to meet with some of you in Wards 1, 2, and 3. This evening, I'll be in Petworth in Ward 4 at Qualia Coffee, 3917 Georgia Ave NW, from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm. As always, please come by with your questions or concerns pertaining to your local neighborhood or community, or just stop by and chat in an informal setting.

Speaking of local community issues, at OAPIA we recently issued a Request for Applications (RFA) for the [Fiscal Year 2015 Asian American and Pacific Islander Capacity Building Grant](#). We encourage community-based organizations to apply for this grant in order to increase their linguistic and cultural capacity in providing direct services to low-income limited English proficient/non-English proficient (LEP/NEP) Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) residents and merchants. Additionally, organizations can [schedule 30 minute meetings](#) with us to discuss potential proposals.



And lastly, we are working to increase understanding of and cooperation between various communities, especially the AAPI and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning (LGBTQ) communities. That is why OAPIA and the Mayor's Office of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender (GLBT) Affairs have launched an [AAPI LGBTQ Task Force](#) to encourage conversation and discussion, with the first meeting to be held on March 24, 2015 at 6:00 pm at the DC Center for the LGBT Community located at the Reeves Center, 2000 14th St NW, #105.

As we spring forward for a fresh start, let us continue to be involved in our neighborhoods and communities, so that we can build a stronger and more unified city for all.

Warm regards,

David Do

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

OAPIA in the Community

OAPIA Announces a Request for Applications for the FY2015 Asian American and Pacific Islander Capacity Building Grant

2015 Asian American and Pacific Islander *Community Grant*



(WASHINGTON, D.C.) - The Mayor's Office on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs (OAPIA) issued its Request for Applications (RFA) for the FY2015 Asian American and Pacific Islander Capacity Building Grant. Copies of the RFA can be found at www.apia.dc.gov or at OAPIA's office located at 441 4th Street, NW, Suite 721N, Washington, DC 20001.

OAPIA is soliciting grant applications from qualified community-based organizations (CBOs) providing direct services to the District's residents for its FY2015 Asian American and Pacific Islander Capacity Building Grant. This grant funding is intended to be used for efforts that would increase the linguistic and cultural capacity of organizations seeking to provide direct services to low-income limited English proficient/non-English proficient (LEP/NEP) Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) residents and merchants. Such services would increase these populations' capacity for independence into the general community in the following areas: Strategic Planning and Leadership Development; Fundraising and Financial Management; Internal Operations; and Communications and Advocacy.

For the entire [press release](#), please visit [here](#). For more information on the [FY15 AAPI Capacity Building Grant](#), please visit [here](#).

OAPIA Director Do's Office Hours in the Community



OAPIA Director Do meets with community members in Ward 2.

OAPIA Director Do held public office hours in Chinatown in Ward 2 at the Joy Luck House cafe and bakery on February 25, 2015 and in Chevy Chase in Ward 3 at Politics and Prose bookstore on March 4, 2015. OAPIA Director Do is holding office hours in all eight wards across the District to stay connected with the community and to provide constituents with easy access to District government to share concerns and issues.

OAPIA Meets with Small Business Owners and Residents



OAPIA Director Do and Community Outreach Assistant Kangeun Jeong meet with a liquor store owner.

On Friday, February 27, 2015 and on Friday, March 6, 2015, OAPIA Director Do and staff met with Ward 1 Asian American and Pacific Islander small businesses and residents of Museum Square One Apartments one-on-one in order to remind them about OAPIA agency services and to address any concerns they may have. OAPIA has been visiting small business owners, local community based organizations, and meeting residents as part of continued outreach and engagement efforts.

OAPIA Attends Asian Senior Center Lunar New Year Celebration



OAPIA Director Do welcoming the Lunar New Year after feeding the lion.

On March 3, 2015, OAPIA Director Do and staff celebrated the Lunar New Year with local Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) and non-AAPI seniors at the Asian Senior Center.

OAPIA Participates in Fresh Start Outreach and Engagement

(WASHINGTON, D.C.) - The DC Mayor's Office on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs (OAPIA) is participating in a new hands-on approach to outreach and engagement. This fresh start allows OAPIA to stay directly connected with the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community to provide AAPI constituents with easy access to OAPIA to share their concerns and issues. As part of this new approach, OAPIA hosted a Fresh Start Open House, and will conduct weekly walkthroughs and have community office hours.

For the entire [press release](#), please visit [here](#). For photos from the [open house](#), please visit [here](#). Follow OAPIA's outreach activities on Twitter ([@dcoapia](#)) or visit the Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/dcoapia](#).

Mayor's Office on GLBT Affairs & Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs Announce AAPI LGBTQ Task Force

(WASHINGTON, D.C.) - On March 9, 2015, the Mayor's Office on GLBT Affairs and the Mayor's Office on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs have partnered to form a community led task force to engage the LGBTQ AAPI community.

The Asian-American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) LGBTQ Task Force will convene organizations serving the AAPI LGBTQ community, AAPI community leaders and others committed to serving the population. The group will meet on a monthly basis to make the

Mayor's Office on GLBT Affairs, Mayor's Office on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs (OAPIA) and other District government agencies accessible to the AAPI LGBTQ community.

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

Spotlight: KhushDC: South Asian LGBTQ Community



KhushDC is a social, support and political group that provides a safe and supportive environment, promotes awareness and acceptance, and fosters positive cultural and sexual identity for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning (LGBTQ) and additional gender or sexual minority South Asians in the Washington, DC metropolitan area.

KhushDC also fights for LGBTQ Asian/Pacific Islander visibility, and since 2004, has been a part of the DC "Pride and Heritage" coalition. KhushDC also takes part in DC Youth Pride and the DC Capital Pride Parade and Festivals, including the first independent KhushDC marching contingent in June 2005. KhushDC represents a broad array of ethnicities and nationalities including those of Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Iran, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka descent.

For more information about the [KhushDC](#) or ways to get involved, please visit [here](#).

March is Women's History Month



March is Women's History Month. Throughout our nation's history, women have led movements for social and economic justice, made groundbreaking scientific discoveries, and enriched our culture with stunning works of art and literature. Women's History Month, corresponding with International Women's Day on March 8, 2015, is an annual declared month that highlights and celebrates the many historic and contemporary contributions of women to society.

Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) women have been courageous and successful in making impacts in our country. Notable examples of AAPI women include Bernice Pauahi

Bishop, Congresswoman Patsy Mink, Sunita Pandya Williams, and the late Yuri Kochiyama.

For more information on Women's History Month or related resources, please visit:

- [DC Office on Women's Policy and Initiatives](#)
- [Women's History Month](#)
- [Smithsonian Education: Women's History Month](#)

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