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77 S. High Street, 30th Floor Columbus, OH 43215 www.governor.ohio.gov

May 21, 2022

To the Attendees of the 2022 Cleveland Asian Festival,

Congratulations on your 13th annual Cleveland Asian Festival!

As you work this year to educate Ohioans, promote Asian culture, unite Cleveland's Asian community, celebrate diversity, and honor Asian traditions, please know that my wife, Fran, and I are so proud of the great work your community is doing in Cleveland and all across Ohio.

Ohio is stronger when all of our communities work together. The Cleveland Asian Festival is a great example of this! The Cleveland Asian community shares my goals in trying to leave Ohio a better place for our children and Grandchildren.

Again, congratulations, good luck, and enjoy another successful Cleveland Asian Festival!

Very respectfully yours,

mile Dewin

Mike DeWine Governor



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May 21-22, 2022



Dear Friends,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the Cleveland Asian Festival as we celebrate the live return of this special two-day event. Since its inception 12 years ago, the Cleveland Asian Festival has marked the beginning of the summer festival season in our city. We look forward to participating in the festivities and enjoying all the wonderful food, music, culture, and art the festival has to offer.

May is Asian Pacific American Heritage month and this festival is a wonderful opportunity to learn about Cleveland's diverse and vibrant Asian community and discover and support our AsiaTown neighborhood.

One of Cleveland's greatest strengths is our diversity and this festival is an example of our multicultural city at its finest.

Special thanks to the sponsors, vendors, performers, volunteers, and supporters who have helped make this event possible and thank you for attending the Cleveland Asian Festival.

We hope you enjoy the celebration!

Mayor Justin M. Bibb

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Cleveland Asian Festival

Strengthening the identity and Supporting Economic Growth of AsiaTown
Educating and promoting Asian culture and traditions - Celebrating Asian Heritage Month

AsiatTown @ Payne Avenue & E.27th Street
May 21-22, 2022 / 11am – 7pm, No Pets/Free Parking @CSU

Welcome to the 2022 Cleveland Asian Festival! We're excited to return live and celebrate in person once again!

A lot has happened since we last saw you in 2019, a pandemic changed how we live and work. We are thankful for the health professionals, scientists and policy makers who continue to keep us safe. Your safety is paramount at CAF, which is why we not only follow all health guidelines, we encourage additional safety measures. While many of us are fortunate to be immunized, the littlest amongst us (< 5-year-olds), elderly and other vulnerable groups are still at risk. Let's keep everyone safe!

In addition, the source of this pandemic has unfortunately been politicized for the wrong reasons and there has been a rise in the number of hate crimes against Asian Americans. We LOVE our Cleveland community and are thankful for the overwhelming support, but we must acknowledge hate happens everywhere. We MUST continue to cultivate a KIND community that has no place for hate, violence, harassment, discrimination, shunning or bullying against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders and other communities of color.

Bringing all people together to celebrate our rich Asian cultures is a primary reason why we started the Cleveland Asian Festival back in 2010 and why we committed to having an in-person event this weekend - to bring all of Northeast Ohio back together. Enjoy the sounds and sights of the Asian performers, the aroma and sampling of Asian cuisine, the many family-friendly hands-on activities and games, the world marketplace booths and educational opportunities. Most importantly learn about, talk to and engage the Asian community and its people, not just this weekend, but year-round.

From all the organizations and individuals involved, creating CAF has been a truly rewarding experience that has united us as a community and provided us with a vehicle to collectively voice our opinions. We are proud of the Asian community's growing engagement and will continue to look after the interest of AsiaTown and its people and to work collaboratively with all interested parties to create a brighter Cleveland future.

Finally, a heartfelt thank you to our wonderful sponsors, vendors, performers, volunteers, and supporters who have helped make this event possible. We could not have reached this milestone without you!

Enjoy the 2022 Cleveland Asian Festival!

CAF Executive Committee

13th Annual Cleveland Asian Festival

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- Strengthening the identity of AsiaTown and supporting its economic growth
 - **Educating and promoting Asian culture and traditions**
- Celebrating Asian Pacific American Heritage Month and Cleveland's Diversity
 - **Uniting Cleveland's Asian Community**

The Cleveland Asian Festival (CAF) is the fastest growing festival in Ohio!

- 10,000 people attended the 1st Annual CAF in 2010 (one day)
- 31,060 people attended in 2011
- 42,240 people attended in 2012
- 38,380 people attended in 2013
- 38,000 people attended in 2014
- 45,000 people attended in 2015
- 48,800 people attended in 2016, over \$2 million spent
- 38,000 people attended in 2017
- 32,000 people attended in 2018
- 42,000 people attended in 2019
- 2020 was cancelled due to Covid-19
- 2021 was virtual

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- o 95% were very satisfied with the overall experience
- o 96% vendors of all kind had generated high sales volume
- o 96% would visit AsiaTown in the near future, 4% increase from 2017
- o 97% returned in 2017 CAF, 4% increase from 2015
- o 98% believed the festival would benefit Cleveland
- o 75% spent over \$20, 10% increase from 2015

About 2022 Cleveland Asian Festival

Welcome to the Thirteenth Annual Cleveland Asian Festival! The Cleveland Asian Festival is a collaborative effort by the organizations and communities in Greater Cleveland. The Cleveland Asian Festival foster economic growth to the neighborhood while highlighting Cleveland's AsiaTown, Asian Culture, and Diversity, while celebrating Asian American Heritage Month.

Cleveland Asian Festival is a landmark undertaking to unite the community through recognition of its culture, diversity, and people. The event is a pioneer grassroots festival with participation of many diverse and ethnic groups including: Chinese, Taiwanese, Korean, Japanese, Filipino, Indian, Vietnamese, Laotians, Indonesian, Malaysian, Thai, and others. In addition, committed organizations such as the OCA Greater Cleveland, Friendship Foundation of America, Federation of India Community Association, Vietnamese Community of Greater Cleveland, MotivAsians for Cleveland, Asian Services in Action, Cleveland Contemporary Chinese Culture Association, Cleveland Chinese Women Association, Chinese Professionals and Entrepreneurs Association, Midtown Cleveland, Korean American Association, Japanese Americans Citizens League, Cleveland Chinese Benevolent Association, Filipino Associations, St. Clair Superior Development Corp., Asia Plaza Inc., and AsiaTown Neighborhood Merchant organizations have enthusiastically committed to this festival.

The Festival features food and merchandise vendors, local and national performing artists, an activities area, games, competitions such as Asian Pop Dance Competition, and a health pavilion that focuses on diseases and medical conditions that affect Asian Americans. The festival is the first to bring recognition and economic growth to the AsiaTown neighborhood by introducing this ethnic neighborhood to tens of thousands of Clevelanders.



Cover Design by Mitzi Lai, with photos taken by volunteers at previous Cleveland Asian Festivals

Taft/

The Modern Law Firm.

Celebrating our diverse Asian community.



Phil Bautista
Executive Committee Member
Partner

Taftlaw.com





Cuyahoga County Council

The Council of Cuyahoga County, Ohio, takes profound pride and deep personal pleasure in recognizing the

2022 Cleveland Asian Festival Weekend

WHEREAS, Asian & Pacific Islander (API) individuals play an integral role in the enhancement of culture, economic, and civic life in Northeast Ohio. The 2022 Cleveland Asian Festival celebrates and recognizes the contributions of API's from May 21st through 22nd, 2022. The festival will bring an enhanced understanding of API culture, history and people to the residents of our region and has heightened awareness of the culture and traditions of Ohio's API Community and individuals of API decent; and

WHEREAS, The 2022 Cleveland Asian Festival is a significant milestone in the growth of the Asian Cleveland community. Never in the history of Cleveland have so many different Asian organizations come together to work side by side toward such a goal. The Cleveland Asian Festival is the fastest growing festival in Northeast Ohio; bringing over \$2 million dollars of economic growth to the AsiaTown neighborhood and attracting between 30,000 and 50,000 attendees; and

WHEREAS, The 2022 Cleveland Asian Festival activities include cultural and educational presentations, traditional dance, martial arts demonstrations, games, children's activities, vendors, entertainment and a health fair that focuses on diseases and medical conditions that affect Asian Americans. A special neighborhood tour via Lolly the Trolley will help promote the AsiaTown neighborhood as a whole, helping and stimulating economic growth within the area; and

WHEREAS, local residents may view and participate in these events and share in the traditional food, drink and crafts of the festival. All persons are encouraged to attend the festival in Cleveland's AsiaTown and experience Asian and Pacific Islander culture and traditions.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that District 7 Councilwoman Yvonne M. Conwell, on behalf of the Council of Cuyahoga County, Ohio, hereby proclaims Cleveland Asian Festival Weekend on May 21st and 22nd, 2022 in Cuyahoga County, and extends best wishes for a most successful event.

Yvonne M. Conwell, District 7
Cuyahoga County Council



Duly adopted this 20th day of May, 2022



In Honor of the

13th Annual Cleveland Asian Festival

Thank you for all you do to strengthen the bonds of the community, support economic growth, and promote Asian culture and traditions. Best Wishes for the Year Thead.



May 21, 2022



Cleveland Asian Festival Committees

Executive Committee

Vi Huynh

Deborah Yue

Michael Mendoza

Wayne Wong

Oanh Loi-Powell

Co-Producers

Vendor Committee

Carmen Guess

Lisa Wong Johnny Wu

Finance & Compliance Committee

Vi Huynh

Mike Mendoza

Safety & Logistic Committee

Ed Hom

Steve Hom

George Kwan

Johnny Wu

Lisa Wong

Marketing / Media Committee

Johnny Wu

Lisa Wong

Dan Hanson

Karis Tzeng

Nick Muhlbach

Loresa Novy

Lisa Wong

Ivan Ho

Naomi Jia

Mala Augoustidis

Health Pavilion Committee

Michael Mendoza

Flaine Tso Michael To

Sujata Burgess

Volunteer Committee

Aaron Baker

Alissa Marie

Jennifer Feierabend

Steve Jung Mike Gibbons

Activities Committee

Oanh Loi-Powell

Vera Boggs

David Huana

Michael Powell

Dorjan Scott Siu Yan Scott

Colors of Asia Sub-Committee

Oanh Loi-Powell

Tim Goodwin

Performance Committee

Wayne Wong

Oanh Loi-Powell

Raymond Bondad

Rohit Shastry

Jennifer Luu

Gabriel Kramer

Tim Goodwin

Lauren Puljic

A-Pop Sub-Committee Raymond Bondad

Judges

Sherron Gurepko

Krisha Castro

Lara Zavatchen

Javae Brown

Margaret Li

Green Team Sub-Committee

Siu Yan Scott

Lisa Wong



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ROB PORTMAN

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

FINANCE
FOREIGN RELATIONS
HOMELAND SECURITY
AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS
JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

May 21, 2022

Members of the Executive Committee Cleveland Asian Festival 2999 Payne Avenue #206 Cleveland, Ohio 44114

Dear Members of the Executive Committee,

I extend a warm welcome to all gathered at the 13th annual Cleveland Asian Festival. I commend the efforts made by the committee and community members to assemble a program to draw people together and unite Cleveland's Asian Community. I applaud your outstanding dedication to promoting Asian Culture in the area by highlighting Asia Town and supporting its economic growth.

Please accept my best wishes for an enjoyable and memorable festival.

Sincerely,

Rob Portman United States Senator

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Congressional Recognition

Presented

to

CLEVELAND ASIAN FESTIVAL

IN HONOR OF ASIAN-PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

MAY 21-22, 2022

"The more man meditates upon good thoughts; the better will be his world and the world at large." - Confucius

On behalf of all who reside in the Eleventh Congressional District of Ohio, I am pleased to acknowledge the $13^{\rm th}$ Annual Cleveland Asian Festival.

For 13 years, the Cleveland Asian Festival has been advocating for the importance of culture preservation and highlighting their cultural contributions to society. They have continued their mission of strengthening the identity of AsiaTown, as well as, educating and promoting Asian American and Pacific Islanders culture.

The commitment to preserving the Asian American and Pacific Islander culture and ensuring that AsiaTown Neighborhood remains culturally vibrant is commendable. Congratulations on this momentous occasion. May the community have continued success.

Regards,

Shontel M. Brown Member of Congress





Office of the Mayor

WHEREAS: the 2022 Cleveland Asian Festival will take place on May 21-22; and

WHEREAS: this fabulous event strengthens the identity of Asia Town, supports economic growth, educates and promotes Asian culture and traditions, celebrates Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, and unites Northeastern Ohio's Asian American Community; and

WHEREAS: when the volunteer founders of the Cleveland Asian Festival created the event thirteen years ago, their main goals were to showcase Asian culture and promote the Asia Town neighborhood of Cleveland; and

WHEREAS: now thirteen years later, the Cleveland Asian Festival has become an annual engine of economic growth for the area.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ron Falconi, the 12th Mayor of the City of Brunswick, on behalf of City Council and all the citizens, and as the first Filipino-American Mayor in the State of Ohio, do hereby give my highest commendation to the members and volunteers of the Cleveland Asian Festival for a positive and successful festival in 2022.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Brunswick to be affixed this 21st day of May, in the year of the Lord, twenty twenty-two.

Mayor Ron Falconi City of Brunswick, Ohio



Cleveland Asian Festival will be held in the heart of Cleveland's AsiaTown; and

WHEREAS, the Cleveland Asian Festival will host feature foods and merchandise vendors as well as performing artists, marital arts demonstrations, games, and activities;

WHEREAS, the 2022 Cleveland Asian Festival will have a health fair focusing on diseases and conditions and are prevalent in Asian American communities; and

WHEREAS, since its inception, Cleveland media outlets have called it "Best Festival," "Best New Ethnic Festival," "a must attend festival," "a display in excellent neighborhood marketing;" and

WHEREAS, the Cleveland Asian Festival hopes to strengthen the identity of AsiaTown, support AsiaTown's economic growth, educate and promote Asian culture, celebrate Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, and unite Cleveland's Asian Community.

NOW, THEREFORE, We, Mike DeWine and Jon Husted, Governor and Lieutenant Governor of the State of Ohio, do hereby recognize the

CLEVELAND ASIAN FESTIVAL

on this 21st day of March 2022.





WARD 7 COUNCILWOMAN Stephanie D. Howse



www.clevelandcitycouncil.org/ward-7

Greetings Cleveland Asian Festival,

I want to congratulate the 13th Annual Cleveland Asian Festival organizing committee and extend a warm welcome to everyone attending this year's festivities. As your newly elected Councilwoman, I hope to create and strengthen connections and relationships with Ward 7 residents, businesses, and community stakeholders. Collectively, we all have experienced the emotional and physical turmoil the global COVID-19 pandemic has caused, so I am excited our community is able to host and bring back the in-person experience of the Cleveland Asian Festival.

The two-day Cleveland Asian Festival, being held May 21 - 22, 2022, has become an economic engine for our community, bringing between 35,000 and 50,000 visitors to Ward 7 each year. Community members have the distinctive opportunity to enjoy live entertainment, a World Marketplace with over 100 vendors and exhibitors, over 25 local restaurants featuring authentic Asian cuisine, free health screenings, free activities, free games, a fashion show, and the Asian Pop Dance Competition. The festival continues to uplift the spirits of community members and helps to keep everyone informed and engaged in the resources our community has to offer.

My vision for Ward 7 is to ensure residents have access to resources, build family and neighbor relationships and create safe and vibrant neighborhoods. The 13th Cleveland Asian Festival is helping to fulfill our vision. I wish everyone a wonderful and enjoyable festival and would like to encourage you to make plans to come back to visit and shop in AsiaTown and our broader Ward 7 community after the Cleveland Asian Festival.

Yours in Service,

Stephani House

Councilwoman Stephanie D. Howse





RESOLUTION OF RECOGNITION

For Councilmember Stephanie D. Howse

By Councilmembers Bishop, Conwell, Gray, Griffin, Harsh, Hairston, Jones, Kazv. Maurer, McCormack, Mooney, Polensek, Santana, Slife, Spencer, Starr.

WHEREAS, the members of the Cleveland City Council are especially pleased and sincerely proud to recognize Asian Pacific American Heritage Month and its 13th Cleveland Asian Festival, held annually, in Cleveland's AsiaTown neighborhood, on Saturday, May 21 and Sunday, May 22, 2022; and

WHEREAS, since 2010, the Cleveland Asian Festival has united Asian American groups in Northeast Ohio and provided an opportunity to learn and experience Asian cultures, heritage, and traditions through performance arts, cultural displays, educational materials, and workshops; and

WHEREAS, organized by the community through volunteers, and a collaborative effort by a variety of organizations and businesses in the Greater Cleveland area. The festival celebrates Cleveland's diversity and Asian Pacific American Heritage, and includes ethnic organizations and associations across Northeast Ohio with leadership from the Chinese, Vietnamese, Filipino, Indian, Korean, Japanese, Laotian, Indonesian, Malaysian, Thai, and other Asian communities: and

WHEREAS, the Cleveland Asian Festival brings visitors and support to the AsiaTown neighborhood, a vibrant and culturally rich neighborhood that serves as a regional hub for Asians, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, and other immigrant communities. This diverse neighborhood is comprised of public art, Asian grocery stores, restaurants, gift shops, and wide-ranging dining options; and

WHEREAS, the annual festival offers free admission, free parking with free shuttle bus to and from the festival, live entertainment including cultural performances and demonstrations on two outdoor stages, a World marketplace of 100+ vendors and exhibitors, 25+ local restaurants, and caterers offering authentic Asian cuisines, free health screenings, free games, the Colors of Asia Fashion Show, and an Asian Pop Dance competition; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that Cleveland City Council takes great pride and pleasure in recognizing the 13th Annual Cleveland Asia Festival, which offers Cleveland residents a first-hand experience to one of Cleveland's neighborhood gems and experience Asian culture and traditions. Best wishes are extended for much success and enjoyment to all during the festival.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Clerk, Clerk of Council be and she is hereby requested to transmit a copy of this Resolution of Recognition to Councilmember Stephanie D. Howse for proper presentation.

Blaine A. Griffin, President of Council

I, Patricia J. Britt, City Clerk, Clerk of Council of the City of Cleveland, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of this Resolution of Recognition.

WITNESS my hand and seal at Cleveland, Ohio this First day of May, 2022.

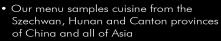
Patricia J. Britt, City Clerk, Clerk of Council





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City of Cleveland, Ohio

In recognition of

13th Annual Cleveland Asian Festival

May 21 - 22, 2022

Whereas, on behalf of the citizens of the City of Cleveland, I am honored to offer this Proclamation in recognition of the 13th Annual Asian Festival being held in Cleveland; and.

Whereas, the 13th Cleveland Asian Festival will take place May 21 and 22, 2022 and celebrates the contributions and culture of Asian Americans by including educational talks, traditional dance, martial arts demonstrations, games, children's activities, vendors, entertainment and a health fair in the festivities; and,

Whereas, the festival has also brought an enhanced understanding of the Asian culture, history and people to the residence of our region and has heightened the awareness of the culture and traditions of Cleveland's Asian community: and,

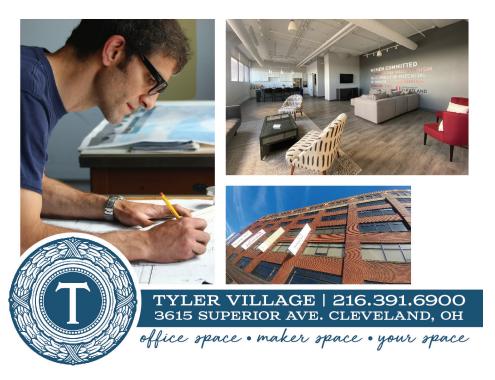
Whereas, the Asian American community truly has a deep passion for the commitment to the City of Cleveland and is dedicated to developing strong relations between all of the diverse cultures that make our city unique.

Now therefore, I Justin M. Bibb, the 58th Mayor of the City of Cleveland, do hereby offer this Proclamation in recognition of the 13th Annual Cleveland Asian Festival. I encourage all Cleveland's to experience the traditions and culture of the Asian community by attending this festival.

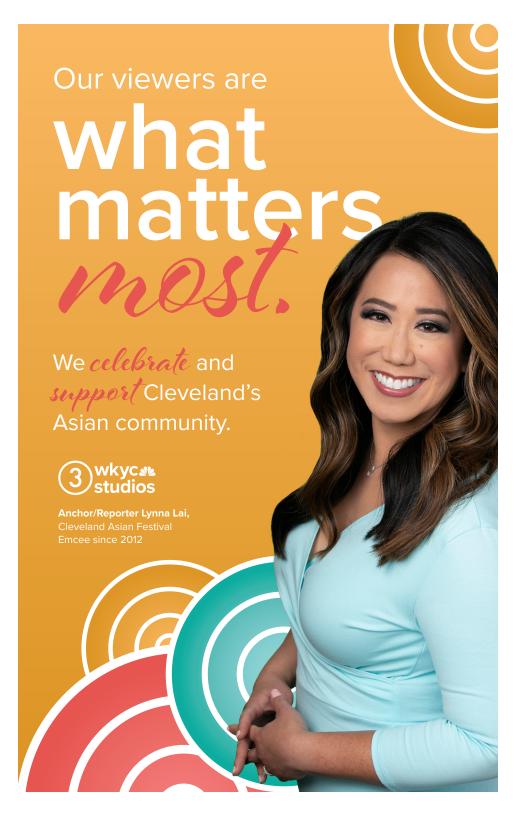
In witness thereof, I have set my hand and caused the

Corporate Seal of the City of Cleveland to be affixed on this 21st day of May in the year 2022.

Mayor Justin M. Bibb









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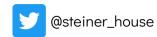
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The strength of our community is its greatest asset.



When people work together, anything is possible. It's why we support organizations that bring people within our community closer. They reinforce the bonds we share and help us celebrate the traditions we hold dear. It's just one part of our investment in our neighbors and the community.

KeyBank thanks the Cleveland Asian Festival for making a difference.



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Eva Fong

Dennis Glazer

Marianne Glazer

as of 4/20/2022

Recognitions

2022 Festival Volunteers:

Zenobein Adams Shiling Guo Ramarao Appana Jamie Hazev Brenda Barbarino Steve Hohman Benita Batulewick Bethany Horn Mark Horning Diane Billa Claire Billingsley TaViOnna Huff-Sales Tanesha Hunter Jayla Bridgewater Elizabeth Bulanda Van Jackson George Burke Meadow Jerome-Williams Michael Bustamante Nayoon Kim Martin King Vinodh Chandrasekaran Maggie Chen Janet Koerwitz **Evvie Chisler** Khutso Ledwaba Sharon Collins Steve Lewis Nick Crowe Esther Ling Sheryl Dajko Jessica Long Priya Datt Tony Louie Tom Malinchak Mia Dent Justin Elie Gene Mark Alex Enders Barbara Mason-McQueen Michael Enders Elois Mcelrath Wen Enders Lois Millman Ashley Flowers Colleen Moran

Brandon Ngo

Isabela Nguyen Joseph Rider Grace Romig David Schmenk Diane Schmenk Chinja Scott **Keyome Sims** Kennedy Smith Jo Ann Solnick Shelia Taylor Jeannette Thorpe Michelle Tirbaso John Wang

Solomon West Beverly C Williams Kitty Williams Jene Wilson Michelle Won Alexander Wong Lalaya Wright

Sharnae Wright Harvey Yan Glenda Yee Rachel Mulholland Jacob Yee Lena Nashold

Cleveland Asian Festival St. Patrick's Day Parade Volunteers:

Special thanks to Emperor's Palace, Asia Plaza, Li Wah Chinese Restaurant, Kwan Lion Dance, OCA Greater Cleveland, Glory Drum Team of Cleveland, Pacific Paradise Entertainment, and the following volunteers:

Vera Boggs Vinodh Chandrasekaran Annie Chen Xiao Coffee Xiangyang Dai Eva Fong David Ganzhorn Melissa Guo Mansi Gupta Steven Hohman Ed Hom Susan Horeis Kathy Huang Wensheng Huang Gam Irizarry

Yang Jun Tae Kim Martin King Christine Kwan Christopher Kwan

George Kwan Laureen Kwan Feng Laughlin Yan Liang Tina Lin Tony Louie Elaine Mai

Barbara Mason-McQueen Shannon Metelko

Kimberly Miranda Dalmacio Miranda III

Dan Ni

Zheng Ningfang Blake Popka Jessica Popka

Ying Pu Teresa Ronda

Dorjän Scott



Jason Strader John Wang Jason Strader II Alex Wong Sibley Strader Lisa Wong Sibyl Sin Wayne Wong Spencer Sin RuiYu Zheng Rita Tang

Additional thanks to:

AFSCME Allegheny Technologies Incorporated Asian Town Center Business Volunteers Unlimited (BVU) Cleveland 3rd District Polic Department Commander Dorothy Todd Cleveland Chinese Benevolent Association Cleveland Chinese Women Association Cuvahoga County Sheriff's Department Friendship Foundation of America Li Wah Chinese Restaurant MAGNET Peaks Assoc. Ltd. And Peaks Assoc. No. 1 Ltd.

Steve Leopold TDY Industries

United Way W. 78th St. Partners

All subject to change



Special Guest Emcees

Wayne Wong



Lead MC Wayne Wong is the recipient of the Asian American Engineer of the Year Award. Wayne is the Chief of the Thermal Energy Conversion Branch, Power Division, at the NASA Glenn Research Center where he is helping to develop future high-efficiency space power systems and was awarded the NASA Exceptional Achievement Medal for his work. Wayne is also an artist, actor, and scriptwriter, having pursued comic book illustration in the past and more recently wrote or acted in several films. He is the OCA Asian Pacific American Advocates, Greater Cleveland Chapter V.P. of Administration, and leads the OCA Dragon Dance Team. He enthusiastically volunteers his time and energy to further the goals of the Cleveland Asian Festival as Executive Committee member, Performance Chair, and Lead MC

Homa Bash



Born in Calcutta, India, Homa Bash is a reporter at WEWS-TV Channel 5 in Cleveland, Ohio. Previously, she worked at KTVZ in Bend, Oregon; KTAB in Abilene, Texas; KTUL in Tulsa, Oklahoma; WEWS in Cleveland, Ohio; KXAS in Dallas. Homa has a B.A. in Journalism, Middle East Studies & Political Sciences from the University of Arkansas; M.S. in Journalism from Northwestern University. Homa is happily married to her husband Daniel Ball and fans can read more about her and their Indian-American fusion wedding in the January issue of Cleveland Magazine. She can be found on Facebook and Instagram

Lynna Lai



Lynna Lai joined Channel 3 News in April 2012 and anchors the weekend editions of Channel 3 News at 6 p.m. and 11 p.m. She can also be seen reporting weeknights. Lynna brings to the job her broadcasting experience in major markets across the country. Her aggressive career pursuits began as a reporter at WMBD-TV in Peoria, Ill., which was quickly followed by a year at KGW-TV in Portland, Ore. She then became the first Asian-American television reporter in Cleveland at WJW-TV, but left to pursue anchoring and reporting jobs at WTSP-TV in Tampa, Fla. and WSB-TV in Atlanta, Ga. She has also served as a freelance correspondent for ABC News and the BBC. Lynna can be found on Facebook and Twitter @Lynna Lai.

Chris Tanaka



Chris Tanaka is excited to be back volunteering at the Cleveland Asian Festival

He is the Primary Evening Anchor for 19 News, and is passionate about advocating for the Asian American community.

He loves how the Cleveland Asian Festival represents all aspects of Asian culture—especially the food!

Isabel Lawrence



Isabel Lawrence is thrilled to call Cleveland home and join the talented team at 3News. Isabel comes to Northeast Ohio from Madison, Wisconsin, where she was a weekday morning anchor at the NBC affiliate. She graduated Cum Laude from Northwestern, where she majored in broadcast journalism and double minored in sociology and political science. Aside from telling stories, Isabel loves cooking, exploring restaurants and finding good food. One of her passions is traveling and experiencing new cultures, an interest that came from her parents. As the daughter of a woman who was born and raised in the Philippines, Isabel is proud of her Pinoy background.

Special Guest Emcees

Syeda Abbas



Syeda Abbas came to this country from as a child that spoke little to no English. That didn't stop her from dreaming. Abbas knew she wanted to be a Journalist when she was only 10 years old. She pursued her passion at West Chester University of Pennsylvania. There she worked for the University's Journalism Club called "The Quad." Even before graduating college Abbas was juggling many different hats. She was working as an on-air model at QVC and modelled for brands such as Becca cosmetics & josie maran. After her internship she was hired as a Traffic Producer for Good Day Philadelphia. In that same time period Abbas was doing freelance traffic reporting at the radio station WXPN in philly. She was soon offered a job at WJET- TV. There she was a General Assignment Reporter and anchored the weekend shows. Currently Syeda works at Cleveland 19 News in Cleveland, Ohio. She's a reporter and fill-in anchor. She's been a voice in the community for minorities. Story telling is her passion and in her free time she loves traveling & watching movies.



Asian Pop Cover Dance Competition



Following the success of 2017's Cleveland Asian Festival K-Pop Cover Dance competition and the 2018 Asian Pop Cover Dance competition, the community has called for its return. Dancers from throughout the region submitted video dance entries in the categories of Bollywood, C-Pop, J-Pop, K-Pop, and Nepali Pop.

The A-Pop finalists will compete live in Round 3 on Saturday May 21, 4:30pm at the Jack (Raised) Stage. Prizes at stake are 1st Place = \$1000, 2nd = \$500, 3rd = \$250.

Cleveland Asian Festival

FREE Public Parking at: E. 24th Street & Payne Ave.

MAP LEGEND:

- HANDICAP DROP-OFF /
 PARKING
- BIKE PARKING
- INFORMATION / LOST & FOUND / VOLUNTEER CHECK-IN AUTOGRAPH BOOTH
- FIRST AID
- PARKING SHUTTLE
- ASIAN FOOD BOOTHS & FOOD TRUCKS
- WORLD MARKET PLACE & EXHIBITORS
- PUBLIC TOILETS
- HEALTH PAVILION
- STAGES
- ROAD CLOSURES





| | Saturday - May | 21, 2022 | Sunday - May 22, 2022 | |
|----------------------|---|--|--|--|
| | JACK Stage (Raised) (on Payne Ave. at E. 27th) | Dragon Stage (Flat) (SW Parking Lot at Payne Ave & E. 30th) | JACK Stage (Raised) (on Payne Ave. at E. 27th) | Dragon Stage (Flat) (SW Parking Lot at Payne Ave & E. 30th) |
| 11:30 AM 11:45 AM | Cleveland's traditional Lion Dance Team | | JACK Stage sponsored by | Scan QR Code for Updated Schedule |
| 12:15 PM | CAF Welcome & Kickoff VIP greetings, Overview, CAF leadership | | ENTERTAINMENT | |
| 12:30 PM 12:45 PM | Kuchipudi - South Indian Classical Dance | Integrated School of Internal Studies Sifu John Cosma - Taijiquan / Tai Chi Chuan (Martial Arts) | CAF Welcome Shri Kalaa Mandir - Center for Indian | Ayusha's Dance Group Modern/Traditional (Nepali) |
| 1:00 PM | Unbyul Vocalist (Korean-American) | Cleveland Aikikai | Performing Arts Bharathanatyam - Classical Dance Form (Indian) | AsiaTown Square Dance Team (Chinese) |
| 1:15 PM 1:30 PM | Sandhyadipa Kar (SANSKAR) | Cleveland Alkikal Aikido (合気道) Japanese martial art (Martial Arts) | Sho-Jo-Ji Japanese Dancers Traditional dance & instruction (Japanese) | Pacific Paradise Entertainment Hawaiin, Tahitian, and Polynesian performances |
| 1:45 PM 2:00 PM | | Counterpoint Musical Performance (vocalist & pianist) (Chinese) | Nartanam Dance Academy Kuchipudi and Bharatanatyam - Classical Dance Form (Indian) | (Polynesian / Hawaiian) Coiling Dragon Chinese Kung Fu School |
| 2:15 PM 2:30 PM | (Chinese) | & acrobatic performances To be Announced | Taichi (Martial Arts) Chinese Academy of Cleveland | |
| 2:45 PM 3:00 PM | Stellar Acrobatic Dance Academy Dance & acrobatic performances | Martial Arts Demo: Forms, weapons, self defense (Martial Arts) | (Japanese) Wu Tang Center for Martial Arts 武壇國術推廣中心 | Indigenous Dance & Electric-Techno (Taiwan) Glory Drum Team of Cleveland Traditional waist drum performance (Chinese) |
| 3:15 PM 3:30 PM | Karen Culture Dance Academy (Karen & Burmese) | Shaolin Kung Fu Institute Northern Shaolin, Southern Hung Gar, Shuai Jiao & Tai Chi (Martial Arts) | CAF Colors of Asia Fashion Show | Stellar Acrobatic Dance Academy Dance & acrobatic performances (Chinese) |
| 3:45 PM 4:00 PM | Westlake Chinese Culture Association Cultural performances & Kung Fu (Chinese) | Janice Liu Studio Traditional Music - Erhu Instrument (Chinese) | Cleveland YoYo Club Styles (Philippines) Happy Every Day 天天乐 | Lingyun Rising Star Acrobats Dance & acrobatic performances (Chinese) |
| 4:15 PM | | Cleveland Contemporary Chinese | Flutes: DiZi (horizontal), and Xiao (vertical) (Chinese) | The Indian & Nepali Student Group CMSD (Indian and Nepali) |
| 4:30 PM 4:45 PM | CAF Asian-Pop Dance Competition | Culture Association Various cultural performances (Chinese) | Rosa's Guzheng & Janice's Erhu Studio Traditional Musical Instruments - Erhu & Guzheng (Chinese) | Shaolin Kung Fu Institute Northern Shaolin, Southern Hung Gar, Shuai Jiao & Tai Chi (Martial Arts) |
| 5:00 PM | A-Pop, K-Pop, J-Pop, All-Pop Finalists based on video submissions Compete Live for Cash Prizes: | Adrija Dance Academy Odissi Dance (Indian) | Asian-Pop Dance Encore & Invitational Performances | (Wartal Arts) |
| 5:30 PM 5:45 PM | 2nd = \$500 | Hanaka - Kabuki - Dance (Japanese) | Groups: Solar Dance Team, SoJu, Phoenix Q, Ineffable Heist, 5K | |
| 6:00 PM 6:15 PM | Phoenix Q, SoJu, Solar Dance Team | | Cleveland Asian Festival Performances Sponsored by OCA Greater Cleveland | |
| 6:30 PM 6:45 PM | Claveland Asian Eastival org | | Asian Pacific American Advocates through a grant from Cuyahoga Arts & Culture | cuyahoga arts & culture strengthening community |

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| F | Asian Town Center | 58 | Cuyahoga Job and Family Services |
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| I, J | Dr. Hibachi Food Truck | 2 | Federal Bureau of Investigation |
| 22 | Eastland Food Corp | 83 | Giant Eagle Asian American Business |
| O | Himalayan Restaurant | | Resource Group |
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| X | P&P Eggrolls Food Truck | 1 | Information Booth |
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| K | Tink Holl | 23 | Keybank |
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CAF Activities Committee

Cleveland Go Club

ClevelandPeople.com

CSU Office of Civic Engagement: NOVA Cleveland Department Public Health (Northeast Ohio Voter Advocates)

Margaret W Wong & Associates

The Land

Health Pavilion (Free Screening)

FIRST AID:

ICHC Office (Inside Asia Plaza)

ASIA Inc Health Screenings:

Blood Pressure BMI

Glucose Covid Vaccine

Mayfield Smiles, Maemie Chan:

Dental education and giveaways

Barsan Family Dental, Winnie Wong

Dental education and giveaways

Panther Pediatric Dentistry, Kari Cunningham

By appointment pediatric dental exams

Cleveland Eye Clinic

Education on eye care, LASIK, cataract

Sat: Moms First & Healthy Cleveland Sun: HIV Screenings & Minority Health





SATURDAYS FROM 7 PM TO 9 PM

A SPRINKLE OF SEOUL

WITH LAUREN & MATT

A Sprinkle of Seoul features Korean music, as well as music selected from a different Asian country each week. Each week has a theme, from R&B to techno, or classic folk to 90s throwback. There's more to Korean music than just K-pop... though we do play a lot of K-pop



SUNDAYS FROM 7 AM TO 8 AM

OCA ASIATOWN VOICE

WITH LISA WONG & JOHNNY WU

OCA AsiaTown Voice provides an inside look into the Asian Pacific American community, culture, and events happening in Northeast Ohio.

Third Federal is Proud to Support the Cleveland Asian Festival

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Additional Attractions



"Colors of Asia" Fashion Exhibition

The Cleveland Asian Festival will once again present the "Colors of Asia" Fashion Exhibition. Join us Sunday on the Jack Stage as the models show off the beautiful threads of Asian countries.

At the Jack Stage - Sunday Only at 3PM

An emcee will explain the names and styles of the outfits. After the fashion show, there will be photo opportunities with the models.

For a complete list of Performances and Booths, Scan the QR Code with your **Smartphone**







IETNAMESE CULTURAL GARDEN CULTURAL GARDEN

Celebrating the Annual Cleveland Asian Festival



The Vietnamese Cultural Garden, sponsored by Friendship Foundation of American Vietnamese, congratulates the Cleveland Asian Festival and all the participating organizations for this great Festival. Thank you for gathering together our many diverse communities for this wonderful cultural celebration.

Vietnamese Cultural Garden mailing address: 2234 West Blvd. Cleveland, OH 44102

Like Us On facebook

We also salute Mr. Joseph Michael Gyulay and Dr. Marisha Delores DeGuzman Agana for their continued support of all our endeavors.





What's happening in AsiaTown?

So many changes have happened in Asia Town since the last Cleveland Asian Festival! As part of MidTown's placemaking initiatives, several bike racks and lighting fixtures were installed around Asia Town in high traffic locations like Payne Commons. These bike racks and lights are part of a larger campaign to make Payne a central hub for the neighborhood! Along with designated signage, several murals have gone up including one on E. 40th street (top right) and on Good Harvest Market building (bottom right).

A group of dedicated Asiatown residents continues to gather weekly for public square dancing performances on Payne Avenue, a gathering that acts as both a public expression of Chinese culture and activation of a vacant parking lot. As we exit the Pandemic, we are so excited to see the AsiaTown community come together for even more exciting neighborhood





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ASIATOWN





AsiaTown Cleveland Directory

Shopping Centers

Asia Plaza, 2999 Payne Ave., 216-241-3553 Asian Town Center, 3820 Superior Ave., 216-621-1681 Golden Plaza, 3030 Superior Ave. Cleveland, Ohio Payne Commons, 3710 Payne Ave. Cleveland, Ohio

Restaurants

Asia Tea House, 3820 Superior Ave., 216-621-1681 Banh Mi & Noodles, 3820 Superior Ave., 216-266-0506 The Bake Shop & Cafe, 3615 Superior Avenuem, 216-505-0782 Bo Loong Chinese Restaurant (Dim Sum), 3922 St Clair Ave. NE, 216-391-3113 DAGU Rice Noodle, 3710 Payne Ave. Cleveland, Ohio, 216-862-8090 Emperor's Palace (Dim Sum), 2136 Rockwell Ave., 216-861-9999 Ha Ahn Korean Restaurant, 3030 Superior Ave. E, 216-664-1152 Han Chinese Kabob & Grill, 3710 Payne Ave., 216-769-8745 Koko Bakery, 3710 Payne Ave., 216-881-7600 Korea House, 3700 Superior Ave. E, 216-431-0462 Li Wah Chinese Restaurant (Dim Sum), 2999 Payne Ave., 216-696-6556 LJ Shanghai. (Soup Dumplings) 3142 Superior Ave., 216-400-6936 Mango Mango, | 3133 Payne Avenue, 216-417-8833 Map of Thailand, 3710 Payne Ave., 216-361-2220 Miega Korean Barbeque, 3820 Superior Ave., 216-432-9200 Mr. Hibachi, 3701 Payne Avenue, 216-962-1934 Number One Pho (#1 Pho) 3120 Superior Ave. E, 216-781-1176 Payne Cafe, 3528 Payne Ave. 216-361-9448 Phở Lee's Vietnamese Restaurant, 3820 Superior Ave. (entrance on E. 38th), 216-273-7093 Rising Grill Korean BBQ, 3709 Payne Ave., 216-465-3561 Siam Café, 3951 St Clair Ave. NE, 216-361-2323 Superior Pho, 3030 Superior Ave. E, #105, 216-781-7462 Superior Restaurant. 3701 Payne Avenue. 216-962-1934 Sichuan Hot Pot 九寨溝火川菜, 2162 Rockwell Ave., 216-523-1188 Szechuan Café, 2999 Payne Ave., 216-515-1111 Szechuan Gourmet, 1735 E 36th Street, 216-881-9688 Wonton Gourmet & BBQ, 3211 Payne Ave., 216-875-7000 Yonder Brunch & Vibes, 3859 Superior Avenue, 216-465-3046

Asian Market and Grocery Stores

Asia Food Co. in Asian Town Center, 3820 Superior Ave., 216-621-1681
Good Harvest Food Market, 3038 Payne Ave., 216-861-8018
Kim's Oriental Food, 3700 Superior Ave., 216-391-5485
Park to Shop Supermarket, 1580 E 30th Street, 216-781-3388
Tink Holl, 1735 E 36th Street, 216-881-6996

Other AsiaTown Businesses

A9 salon, 3240 Superior Ave., 216-526-8094 Anna Beauty Center (Shiseido Boutique), 3101 Superior Ave. 216-574-2288 Ace Taxi Service, Inc. 1798 E. 55th St. 216-361-4700 Ariel International Center, 1163 E 40th St #201, 216-344-9441 Ariel Pearl Center, 4175 Pearl Rd, 216-344-9441 Asia Plaza Pharmacy, 2999 Payne Ave., 216-862-9688 English, 216-539-0088 Chinese Bai Wei Herbal Store, 3820 Superior Ave., 216-696-1637 Bayon Jewelry, 2999 Payne Ave. 216-737-0808 Beauty 4 U. 3425 Payne Avenue, 216-432-0715 Blueprint Boutique, 3307 Superior Avenue, 216-675-4550 Cleveland Aikikai, 3820 Superior Avenue, 216-369-9292 EMZY Salon and Spa, 26735 Brookpark Rd Ext, 440-455-9415 Erie Chinese Journal, 3500 Payne Avenue, 216-324-2959 Flower City Gift Shop, 2999 Payne Avenue, 216-696-6628 Full Moon/Relax Zone, 1541 E 38th St #108, 216-361-1118 Galaxy KTV, 1593 East 30th St., 216-203-2222 He Loves Curves, 3303 Superior Avenue, 216-272-7468 Lenox Beauty Supply, 3820 Superior Ave, 216-361-1600 LG Auto Repair, 1383 E.34th Street, 216-881-0772 Luxury Nail Supply, 1738 E 30th St. 216-771-6010 Negative Space Gallery, 1541 E. 38th Street, 216-470-6092 Media Design Imaging, Cleveland, 216-539-4634 Margaret W. Wong & Associates, 3150 Chester Ave., 216-566-9908 MC Auto Service, 4313 Payne Ave, 216-391-8688 Payne Laundromat, 3216 Payne Ave, 216-515-1516 R & R Gift Shop, 2999 Payne Ave., 216-771-0088 Sisters Gift Shop. 2999 Payne Ave., 216-404-5185 Stefanec Brothers Barber Shop, 3227 Superior Avenue, 440-222-1372 Sun Hair Salon, 3710 Payne Ave, 216-361-9277 Target Auto Service & Body Repair, 5201 Carnegie Ave, 216-391-5858 Tak Yuen Tong (Herbal Store), 2999 Payne Ave. 216-781-1838 Viva Dance Studio, 1541 E. 38th Street, 216-361-1338



ASIATOWN WALKING TOUR

Stroll or bike through the decades in AsiaTown, home to many generations of New American families. Soak in all senses of home - smells of incense and cooking, sights of home gardens and door hangings. Fuel up with bubble tea, wontons, and sweet and savory buns along your tour!

2136 Rockwell Avenue

Historic Chinatown became the home for Chinese immigrants in 1931, after their original neighborhood on W. 3rd and Ontario Streets was razed. This remains the home to the On Leong Association and Temple, and Emperor's Palace Restaurant, in the place of the historic Shanghai Restaurant.

2999 Payne Avenue

Asia Plaza was created in 1988 by John Louie, then expanded by the Hom family in 1991. Explore restaurants and shops, including grocery store, dim sum restaurant, bakery, holistic health care purveyors, and gift shops. It is the home for the Cleveland Asian Festival, CHN Housing Partners, and Asian Services In Action's International Community Health Center. In December 2019, E. 30th Street was re-named Stanley Eng Way 伍灼培路 after a neighborhood leader.

Various, along Payne Avenue

Look out for murals and illustrations along Payne Avenue between E. 30th and E. 40th Streets. This artwork features local and national artists: Jordan Wong, Mitzi Lai, Dayzwhun, Kathleen Marcotte, Julia Kuo, Jet Martinez, Bob Peck, and Fade Resistant.

3843 Payne Avenue

Asian Evergreen is home to beloved Chinese and Korean elderly residents. The Cleveland Chinese Senior Citizens Association sponsors gatherings and activities, including calligraphy lessons, Bible studies, and a lunch program for seniors. Asian Evergreen incorporates feng shui elements for peace and harmony into its architecture and design.

3820 Superior Avenue

Asian Town Center is an indoor shopping center home to Asia Food Company grocery store, Negative Space Gallery, Viva Dance Studio, as well as a variety of restaurants, an herbal store, and services, such as a massage and spa center and tax preparation. The building opened in 2008, transforming an old lighting factory into the arts and culture center it is today.

3615 Superior Avenue

Tyler Village today houses over 50 businesses and organizations, including a Breakthrough School, Gotta Groove Records, Fount, and The Roaming Biscuit. Historically, this complex was home to Cleveland Wire Works and Tyler Elevator Products starting in 1913.

E. 40th and St. Clair Avenue

Bo Loong was one of the first restaurants in today's AsiaTown and sits across the street from Siam Cafe, another mainstay in the neighborhood. Travel north on E. 40th Street to Ariel International Center, a converted historic building, wedding venue, and center for business development.







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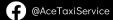


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- Federally Qualified Health
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ICHC Cleveland 2999 Payne Ave Ste. 140 Cleveland, OH 44114 (216) 361-1223

www.asiaohio.org





🚹 👩 🤟 @asiaohio

Fun Facts: Asian American a and Pacific Islander Heritage Month

The Start of Asian American and Pacific Islan ader Heritage Month

In 1978, a joint congressional resolution established Asian/Pacific American Herit itage Week. The first 10 days of May were chosen to coincide with two important milestones in Asian/Pacific Ame erican history: the arrival in the United States of the first Japanese immigrants (May 7, 1843) and contributions c of Chinese workers to the building of the transcontinental railroad, completed May 10, 1869. In 1992, Con. agress expanded the observance to a monthlong celebration that is now known as Asian American and Pa 'acific Islander Heritage Month.

What's the Age?

Roughly 35 - Median age of the Asian population in 2019.

Asian-Ow whed Businesses

555.262 or (9.9%) or About 1 out of 10 - The estimated number of Asian-owr ned businesses in the United States. (This number on an inly represents employer businesses.)

Educational Attainment

Of Asians 25 years and older, approximately...

- About 1 out of 10 (12%) have less than a high school diploma.
- About 2 out of 10 (15%) are high school graduates. (includes equivalency)
- About 2 out of 10 (19%) have some college or associate's degree.
- About 3 out of 10 (23%) have a bachelor's degree.
- About 2 out of 10 (24%) have a graduate or professional degree.

Occupations

Held by the Asian population 16 yay years and older:

- About 5 out of 10 (54%) w Nork in management, business, science, and arts o occupations.
- About 2 out of 10 (17%) we work in sales and office occupations.
- About 1 out of 10 (10%) we york in production, transportation, and material all moving occupations.
- About 1 out of 10 (3%) wor ork in natural resources, construction, and maintenar ance occupations.

• **About 2 out of 10** (17%) we work in service occupations.



Total Asian Population

About 7% or 22 million – The number of Asians in the United States in 2019. These states have among the highest and lowest percentages of Asian residents:

17% California had the largest Asian population.

2% Wvoming had the lowest Asian population.

Birthplace Populations of Famous Asian Americans

- Lucy Liu Queens, New York (Pop. 2,253,858) Award winning TV and film actress of Chinese descent.
- Bruce Lee San Francisco, California (Pop. 881,549) Famous martial artist, actor, and producer of Chinese descent.
- Michelle Kwan Torrance, California (Pop. 143,589) Professional U.S. women's figure skater and two-time Olympic medalist of Chinese descent.
- Mindy Kaling Cambridge, Massachusetts (Pop. 118,925) Actress, comedian, writer, producer, and director of Asian Indian American descent.
- Patsy Mink Paia, Hawaii (Pop. 2,249) First Asian American woman of Japanese descent elected to the U.S. Congress in 1964 and to seek the Democratic presidential nomination in 1972.
- Ellison Onizuka Kealakekua, Kona, Hawaii (Pop. 1,923) First Asian American of Japanese descent to fly in space.

Notes: All of the data on this page, except the business data and birthplace populations, is for Asian alone or in combination with other races. Data is is rounded for educational attainment and occupations and may not equal 100%. Sources: Census Bureau Quick Facts; 2019 ACS1-Year Estimates; 2016 Annual Survey of Entrepreneurs; https://www.biography.com/; https://www.bio bruce-lee/; and the U.S. House of Representatives.





Origins of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month

This is a national celebration established in 1977 with the participation of civil rights organizations such as the Japanese American Citizens League and Organization of Chinese Americans.

May is Asian Pacific American (APA) Heritage Month—a celebration of Asians and Pacific Islanders in the United States. Much like Black History and Women's History celebrations, APA Heritage Month originated in a congressional bill.

Congressional Bills Establish Celebration

In June 1977, Representatives Frank Horton of New York and Norman Y. Mineta of California introduced a House resolution that called upon the president to proclaim the first ten days of May as Asian/Pacific Heritage Week. The following month, senators Daniel Inouye and Spark Matsunaga introduced a similar bill in the Senate. Both were passed.



On October 5, 1978, President Jimmy Carter signed a Joint Resolution designating the annual celebration.

APA Becomes Month-long Celebration

In May 1990, the holiday was expanded further when President George H. W. Bush designated May to be Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. May was chosen to commemorate the immigration of the first Japanese to the United States on May 7, 1843, and to

mark the anniversary of the completion of the transcontinental railroad on May 10, 1869. The majority of the workers who laid the tracks were Chinese immigrants.

Asian Pacific American Heritage Month is celebrated with community festivals, government-sponsored activities, and educational activities for students. This year's theme is "Lighting the Past, Present, and Future."



Asian-American History:

From Chinese laborers in the 1800s to millions of U.S. citizens today by David Johnson

When they first arrived in the United States, Asian (usually Chinese) immigrants were welcomed, or at least tolerated. After the California gold rush brought thousands of Chinese to California, however, Asian immigrants faced restrictive laws and occasional violence.

In the late 1800s Chinese, and eventually other Asians, were excluded from citizenship. These laws were repealed during World War II, followed by further immigration-law changes, making it easier for Asians to enter the United States.

Today, Asian immigrants have a high rate of assimilation and participation in the American mosaic.

Origins of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month

Gold Rush Boom

The Chinese were the first Asians to arrive in large numbers. By the 1830s Chinese were selling goods in New York City and toiling in Hawaiian sugarcane fields.

Gold was discovered in California in 1848, eventually attracting thousands of Chinese miners and contract laborers. In 1850, just over 1,000 Asian immigrants



entered the U.S., but ten years later, the figure had jumped to nearly 37,000, mostly Chinese.

Violent Protests



In some quarters, Chinese workers were welcomed. The Central Pacific Railroad recruited Chinese to work on the transcontinental railroad in 1865. Three years later the Chinese and the U.S. ratified the Burlingame Treaty which facilitated Chinese immigration.

However, many people feared being "overwhelmed" by the

influx, which had swelled to nearly 65,000 in 1870, and over 107,000 in 1880. Some cities passed laws against Chinese and other Asians, often referred to as "Mongolians." Anti-Chinese riots erupted in Chico, California, in 1877 and in Rock Springs, Wyoming, in 1885.

Japanese Arrive

Meanwhile, increasing contact with Japan prompted Japanese to move to Hawaii and California to work in agriculture. In 1869 the Wakamatsu Tea and Silk Colony was established in California.



Contact with the Philippines

In 1899, following the Spanish-American War, the

Philippines came under U.S. control, prompting increased immigration. In 1902 the pensionado program, which allowed Filipinos to study in the U.S., was implemented.

Because most Filipinos are Roman Catholic, their integration into American life was somewhat easier than for other Asians. Though Filipinos faced the same prejudices as Chinese and Japanese laborers (as described in Carlos Bulosan's book America is in the Heart), Filipinos arrived with English skills, making assimilation easier.

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Origins of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month

Japanese Internment

During World War II, more than 100,000 Americans of Japanese ancestry were placed in internment camps. Even though many did not speak Japanese or have close ties to Japan, they were nonetheless regarded as wartime threats. Although the U.S. was also at war with Germany and Italy, Americans with ancestors from those countries did not face internment.

In 1988 Congress passed a measure giving \$20,000 to Japanese Americans who had been interned during the war. President George H.W. Bush signed it the following year.





Increasing Numbers

Although Asian immigration increased steadily through much of the 20th century, the region still contributed fewer newcomers than Europe, Latin America, and North America.

The McCarran-Walter Act of 1952 eliminated race as a barrier to immigration, and in 1965 national quotas were ended, thus facilitating Asian immigration.

A More Diverse Group

In 1979 the United States and China resumed diplomatic relations, making immigration easier for Chinese. But, new arrivals came from other Asian countries as well, including India and Pakistan. And in 1975 following the Vietnam War, more than 130,000 refugees fleeing from the Communist governments of Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos arrived on U.S. shores. Million of Asians arrived in subsequent years.







Congratulations to Cleveland Asian Festival bringing the AsiaTown community together!





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- September 20
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Asian Pacific American Advocates

Embracing the Hopes and Aspirations of Asian Pacific Americans







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