Heritage Month events & screenings

Organizations and others are holding events in celebration of Heritage Month. Some activities include:

"Oregon's Nikkei: An American Story of Resilience"

Currently on view, 11am-3pm (Fri-Sun), Japanese American Museum of Oregon at the Naito Center (411 NW Flanders St, Portland). View "Oregon's Nikkei: An American Story of Resilience," an exhibit that highlights the discrimination, resilience, and identity of the Japanese-American community in Oregon. The display begins in rural Oregon and the streets of Portland's Japaneous where Japanese immigrants embraced American ideals. What they built was abruptly taken away during World War II when people of Japanese descent were incarcerated in American internment camps. From early immigration through current day, the exhibit explores the Japanese-American experience and includes the rebuilding of communities and the ongoing fight for justice. For info, or to purchase tickets, call (503) 224-1458 or visit <www.jamo.org>.

"Beyond the Gate: A Tale of Portland's Historic Chinatowns"

Currently on view, 11am-3pm (Fri-Sun), Portland Chinatown Museum (127 NW Third Ave, Portland). View "Beyond the Gate: A Tale of Portland's Historic Chinatowns," a display of rare objects such as Chinese opera costumes, theatrical sets, bilingual text, audio-visual media, and more that tell a sprawling transnational story of contact and trade between China and the west, focusing on Portland's Old Chinatown (1850-1905) and New Chinatown (1905-1950). For info, or to purchase tickets, call (503) 224-0008 or visit www.portlandchinatownmuseum.org.

Roberta Wong: "Vincent"

Currently on view, 11am-3pm (Fri-Sun), Portland Chinatown Museum (127 NW Third Ave, Portland). View "Vincent," a display by Roberta Wong in memory of Vincent Chin, who was murdered in 1982 in Detroit. The art installation was first on view in 2018 as part of the museum's "Descendent Threads" exhibit. For info, or to purchase tickets, call (503) 224-0008 or visit www.portlandchinatownmuseum.org.

Cambodian Cultural Museum and Killing Fields Memorial

Currently on view, 10am-5pm (Wed-Sun), Wing Luke Museum of the Asian Pacific American Experience (719 S King St, Seattle). View the Cambodian Killing Fields Memorial exhibit, a collection of photographs and artwork that testifies to the atrocities of the Khmer Rouge holocaust and honors the rich, enduring culture of the Cambodian people. For info, or to purchase tickets, call (206) 623-5124 or visit <www.wingluke.org>.

"Be/Longing: Contemporary Asian Art"

Currently on view, 10am-5pm (Fri-Sun), Seattle Asian Art Museum (1400 E Prospect St, in Volunteer Park, Seattle). View "Be/Longing: Contemporary Asian Art," an exhibit featuring 12 artists who were born in different parts of Asia — Azerbaijan, Iran, India, Thailand, China, Korea, and Japan — and have all spent time or moved outside of Asia. Their experiences as both insiders and outsiders have compelled them to explore their Asian heritage from multiple perspectives. Their works, as a result, are at once Asian and global, and comment on fundamental concerns of who we are and where we belong. For info, call (206) 654-3100 or visit <www.seattleartmuseum.org>.

"Gerard Tsutakawa: Stories Shaped In Bronze"

Through May 8, 10am-5pm (Wed-Sun), Wing Luke Museum of the Asian Pacific American Experience (719 S King St, Seattle). View "Gerard Tsutakawa: Stories Shaped In Bronze," an exhibit exploring the inspiration, design, and fabrication process of public sculptures created by Seattle artist Gerard Tsutakawa. For info, or to purchase tickets, call (206) 623-5124 or visit

"Gifts from Japan: A Horticultural Tale Told through Botanical Art"

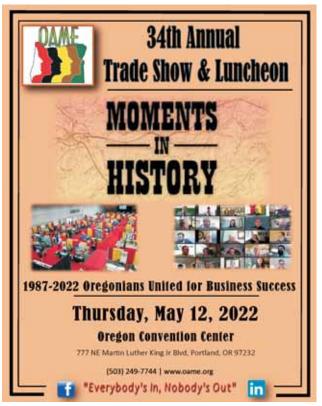
Through July 4, 10am-5:30pm (Wed-Mon), Portland Japanese Garden (611 SW Kingston Ave, Portland). View "Gifts from Japan: A Horticultural Tale Told through Botanical Art," a display featuring a selection of botanical illustrations from The Huntington Library, Art Museum, and Botanical Gardens, the Botanical Artists Guild of Southern California, and guest botanical artists from Japan. The exhibit illuminates the unique origin stories of many flowers that are now widely presumed as native to the United States. The artworks present a window into the Japanese-American experience, as immigrant families cultivated gardens and helped naturalize well-known flowers such as orchids, camellias, and irises. For info, or to purchase tickets, call (503) 223-1321 or visit <www.japanesegarden.com>.

"Embodied Change: South Asian Art Across Time"

Through July 10, 10am-5pm (Fri-Sun), Seattle Asian Art Museum (1400 E Prospect St, in Volunteer Park, Seattle). View "Embodied Change: South Asian Art Across Time," an exhibit featuring 16 artists. Spanning a period from the third millennium B.C.E. to today, the works in the display offer metamorphic and compelling images of the human body. Many of the artists — including Adeela Suleman, Humaira Abid, Naiza Khan, and Malavika Rajnarayan, among others — utilize female and feminized forms in a myriad of ways: as an object of veneration, as a mode of self-representation, and to question the safety of public spaces. For info, call (206) 654-3100 or visit <www.seattleartmuseum.org>.

"Na Omi Judy Shintani: Dream Refuge for Children Imprisoned"

Through Sep 4, 11am-3pm (Fri-Sun), Japanese American Museum of Oregon at the Naito Center (411 NW Flanders St, Portland). View "Na Omi Judy Shintani: Dream Refuge for Children Imprisoned," an installation exploring the trauma experienced by children who have been incarcerated. For the display, Shintani has arranged cots, life-sized drawings of children, space blankets, and woven fabrics into a circular formation in the museum, creating a sacred space for listening to the stories of those imprisoned. The piece draws parallels between Japanese-American children held during World War II, Native-American children who were denied their culture at Continued on page 15



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A Proclamation on Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, 2022

During Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, our Nation recognizes the innumerable contributions, vibrant cultures, and rich heritage of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders (AA and NHPIs). As some of the fastest-growing racial and ethnic groups in the Nation, AA and NHPI communities represent a multitude of ethnicities, languages, and experiences that enrich America and strengthen our Union.

AA and NHPIs have long played an essential role in writing the American story. From serving our country in uniform, advocating for civil rights, starting new businesses, and winning Olympic medals, the contributions of the AA and NHPI community touch the lives of Americans every day. AA and NHPIs serve with distinction at the highest levels of Federal, State, and local government. I am proud to have Vice President Kamala Harris, the first person of South Asian descent to serve as Vice President, and Katherine Tai, the first Asian American United States Trade Representative, in my Administration.

As we celebrate AA and NHPI communities, we must also redouble our commitment to combatting the surge of anti-Asian hate crimes. The First Lady and I shared the Nation's outrage as we witnessed these crimes increase by 339 percent last year compared to the year before in cities across America. Many other incidents of anti-Asian bias, xenophobia, and harassment that surfaced throughout the COVID-19 pandemic were not even reported. We cannot allow these horrific acts to continue threatening the safety of AA and NHPI Americans — especially women, girls, and the elderly. These acts are wrong; they are un-American; and they must stop.

In my first week in office, I directed all executive departments and agencies to combat xenophobia, hate, and discrimination against AA and NHPI communities. I also signed into law last May the COVID-19 Hate Crimes Act to provide law enforcement with resources to identify, investigate, and report hate crimes and ensure that hate crimes information is more accessible to AA and NHPI communities.

As we work to ensure that hatred has no safe harbor in America's future, we must confront shameful chapters in our history. That is why, for example, I signed into law the Amache National Historic Site Act — to memorialize the 10,000 Japanese Americans who were unjustly imprisoned at Amache during World War II. And we will continue to root out racial injustices of our past and advance equity for all Americans as we move forward.

Toward that aim, my Administration is making long-overdue investments in AA and NHPI communities. I reestablished and expanded the President's Advisory Commission and the White House Initiative on Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders. The American Rescue Plan helped reduce poverty among AA and NHPI families by approximately 26 percent. We have increased access to capital, training, and counselling for AA and NHPI entrepreneurs so their businesses can thrive. We are also working to ensure that healthcare resources are available to AA and NHPI communities. And we are rebuilding our immigration system so everyone is treated fairly and humanely — including AA and NHPI communities.

This month, we celebrate our fellow Americans from AA and NHPI communities and pay tribute to all they have done to help fulfill the promise of America for all. Together, let us recommit ourselves to building a country in which every American — regardless of who they are, where they come from, or what they look like — has an equal opportunity to thrive.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOSEPH R. BIDEN JR., President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim May 2022 as Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month. I call upon all Americans to learn more about the history of AA and NHPIs, and to observe this month with appropriate programs and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-ninth day of April, in the year of our Lord two thousand twenty-two, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-sixth.

— JOSEPH R. BIDEN JR.





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