

ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH 2025

CALENDAR AND
CULTURAL GUIDE



Presented by the City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs

ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH 2025

CALENDAR AND CULTURAL GUIDE



CITY OF LOS ANGELES

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ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH 2025 CALENDAR AND CULTURAL GUIDE



KAREN BASS

MAYOR
CITY OF LOS ANGELES

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the City of Los Angeles, it is my pleasure to join all Angelenos in celebrating Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month. Our Asian American and Pacific Islander communities form vital threads in the rich cultural tapestry of our city, making Los Angeles a remarkable and vibrant place to live.

Asian American and Pacific Islander Angelenos have been present in Los Angeles from its early history and have left a legacy that continues to influence every aspect of our city. Today – whether in the arts or academia, in business, science or civic engagement – these communities have made and continue to make invaluable contributions. And lifting up these contributions is part of the ongoing work to bring communities together and fight against discrimination.

I send my best wishes for a memorable celebration and for continued success.

Sincerely,

Karen Bass
MAYOR
CITY OF LOS ANGELES



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MARQUEECE HARRIS-DAWSON

PRESIDENT, LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL
COUNCILMEMBER, EIGHTH DISTRICT

On behalf of the Los Angeles City Council, it is my great honor to invite you to celebrate Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage Month—a time to recognize the extraordinary artistic, cultural, and historical contributions of the AAPI community to our city and our nation.

Los Angeles is shaped by its people—visionaries, leaders, and changemakers from every corner of the world who have come together to build one of the most diverse and dynamic cities on the planet. The AAPI community has played an essential role in this story, not only through its rich artistic and cultural traditions but also through its profound impact on civic life, social justice movements, and political leadership.

This special book, curated by the Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA), highlights the work of Asian American and Pacific Islander artists whose creativity continues to inspire and transform Los Angeles. Their contributions do more than sustain tradition; they push boundaries, innovate, and shape the cultural identity of our great city.

Beyond the arts, the AAPI community has been a force for progress, advocating for civil rights, representation, and policies that uplift all communities. As an elected leader, I deeply appreciate the enduring commitment of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders to civic engagement, coalition-building, and justice—values that resonate across all communities fighting for equity and opportunity.

I invite you to explore this guide and experience the festivals, performances, literary events, and cultural programs that honor AAPI Heritage Month and support the artists beyond this month. Let this be more than a moment of celebration—let it be a call to deepen our appreciation, expand our understanding, and reaffirm our collective commitment to a future where all voices are heard, and all cultures are honored.

With hope,

Marqueece Harris-Dawson
PRESIDENT, LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL
COUNCILMEMBER, EIGHTH DISTRICT



ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH 2025 CALENDAR AND CULTURAL GUIDE



JOHN S. LEE

**COUNCILMEMBER, TWELFTH DISTRICT
CO-CHAIR, ASIAN AMERICAN
PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH**



NITHYA RAMAN

**COUNCILMEMBER, FOURTH DISTRICT
CO-CHAIR, ASIAN AMERICAN
PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH**



YSABEL J. JURADO

**COUNCILMEMBER, FOURTEENTH DISTRICT
CO-CHAIR, ASIAN AMERICAN
PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH**

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the City of Los Angeles, it is our pleasure to invite you to celebrate Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month. As proud public servants at City Hall, this month holds special significance for us and for the journey of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPIs). We hope the programming we have planned brings life to this year's theme: **Lift as You Climb.**

Every May, communities across our City and our Nation pay a month-long tribute to the generations of AAPIs who have enriched our culture, economy, and history, and celebrate the millions of AAPIs leading the way today. As the fastest-growing ethnic group in America, AAPIs are increasingly influential in shaping America's identity and progress. The AAPI community is creating, leading, and innovating toward a brighter tomorrow.

Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month showcases a rich fabric in our City's diverse tapestry, and how our unique backgrounds and experiences make our City stronger. This is especially true in this moment as the AAPI community continues to experience a rise in hate crimes and incidents, and more than ever we must celebrate our diversity and stand together.

We encourage you to enjoy the amazing art and events showcased in this guide. We all benefit when we celebrate the cultures of Los Angeles and develop a closer understanding of what it means to be an Angeleno, an American, and a global citizen.

We are grateful for your support.

Sincerely,

John S. Lee

**COUNCILMEMBER, TWELFTH DISTRICT
LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL
CO-CHAIR, ASIAN AMERICAN
PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH**

Nithya Raman

**COUNCILMEMBER, FOURTH DISTRICT
LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL
CO-CHAIR, ASIAN AMERICAN
PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH**

Ysabel J. Jurado

**COUNCILMEMBER, FOURTEENTH DISTRICT
LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL
CO-CHAIR, ASIAN AMERICAN
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DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS
City of Los Angeles



DANIEL TARICA

GENERAL MANAGER
CITY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS

Dear Friends,

The Department of Cultural Affairs is pleased to present the *2025 Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month Calendar and Cultural Guide* celebrating the Asian American and Pacific Islander communities thriving in our unique city. In this calendar and cultural guide, we honor the extraordinary range of Asian American and Pacific Islander experiences and cultural contributions that commemorate Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month.

As a city, we all grow stronger, together, by listening to each other’s stories, learning from one another, and building bridges of understanding and compassion. This month, as we celebrate AAPI Heritage Month, let us take the opportunity to honor the diversity that makes our city vibrant and strong. United, let us stand in solidarity against hate and prejudice, and strive to create a city where every individual is valued, respected, and empowered to thrive.

I want to express my appreciation for the participation and commitment of the members of the 2025 Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month Committee, the Mayor’s Office, the Controller’s Office, the Office of the City Attorney, the City Council Offices, and the Board of Public Works. Their assistance in recruiting and recognizing the many nonprofit organizations, community groups, arts organizations, artists, and activists has helped create this informative and enjoyable guide full of fun, educational, and exciting events.

We are pleased to showcase a selection of contemporary art and poetry produced by our Los Angeles Asian American and Pacific Islander artists. Their vision pays homage to steps taken in the past toward progress, and looks ahead toward a future assuring freedom from discrimination for all.

With this guide, I hope you will enjoy fantastic art and celebrate our city’s great Asian American Pacific Islander heritage, all contributing to what makes Los Angeles thrive creatively and culturally. May this month be a time of joy, unity, and empowerment for all.

Sincerely,

Daniel Tarica
GENERAL MANAGER
CITY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS



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ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH COMMITTEE

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COMMUNITY AFFAIRS ADVOCATE



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DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS
City of Los Angeles



HONOREES CITY OF LOS ANGELES

This year's honorees, presented by the **City of Los Angeles**, the **City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs** (DCA), and the **Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month Committee**, honor the diversity and excellence of Asian American Pacific Islanders in Los Angeles.

This year's presentations will be made to the **2025 Honorees**: **Amy Homma**, President of the Academy Museum; **Shannon Lee**, Author, Producer, and Chairperson of the Bruce Lee Foundation; **Bhuvan Bajuj**, Senior Transportation Engineer of the Metro Area District Operations; and **Mia Yamamoto**, Criminal Defense Attorney and Civil Rights Activist. The honorees will receive their awards at the Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month opening celebration held at Los Angeles City Hall, on May 2, 2025. For more information about the Opening Ceremony, please view the event on page 16. The Ceremony is free to attend, and open to the public.



Unknown Artist, *High-level Armored Military Official*, Ceramic, 198 x 70 x 64 cm, Qin dynasty (221-206 BCE)



Unknown Artist, *Standing Archer Figure*, Ceramic, 194 x 100 x 70 cm, Qin dynasty (221-206 BCE)



Edmund Arevalo, *Babae ng Provincia Dulimaman 2*, Collage, paper transfer, acrylic on canvas, 24" x 20", 2024

ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH 2025

CALENDAR AND CULTURAL GUIDE



OFFICIAL EVENTS

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

This year’s official events, presented by the **City of Los Angeles**, the **City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs** (DCA), and the **Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month Committee**, honor the history and culture of Asian American and Pacific Islander’s in our city. The events are free, and open to the public. Please join us at one of the many wonderful celebrations taking place in Los Angeles this year.

ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH 2025 CALENDAR AND CULTURAL GUIDE

OFFICIAL EVENTS



Mary Lai, *The Shoulders We Stand On*, Acrylic and paste on canvas, 60" x 40", 2025

2025 ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH OPENING CEREMONY

Join Councilmember John S. Lee, Councilmember Nithya Raman, Councilmember Ysabel J. Jurado, the Los Angeles City Council, and the 2025 Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month Committee as we officially commemorate and celebrate the opening of Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month in the City of Los Angeles.

Enjoy Asian cuisine and boba, along with performances by two Asian performing groups.

WHEN: May 2, 2025, 12:00 p.m.

WHERE: City Hall Spring Court
Los Angeles City Hall, 200 N Spring St., Los Angeles

COST: Free

SPONSORS: Councilmember John S. Lee (Twelfth District), Councilmember Nithya Raman (Fourth District), Councilmember Ysabel J. Jurado (Fourteenth District), the Los Angeles City Council, the 2025 Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month Committee.

INFO: For questions, please contact Roger Quintanilla at 818.882.1212 or roger.quintanilla@lacity.org



ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH 2025 CALENDAR AND CULTURAL GUIDE

OFFICIAL EVENTS



John Kang, *Brainstorming*, Acrylic on canvas, 24" x 24", 2025

2025 ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH HAPA DAY PROCLAMATION

Councilmember Nithya Raman, Councilmember John S. Lee, Councilmember Ysabel J. Jurado, the Los Angeles City Council, and the 2025 Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month Committee proudly celebrate HAPA Day on May 16. The city of Los Angeles reflects the prevalence and modern evolution of HAPA Americans (Americans of partial Asian or Pacific Islander descent).

- WHEN:** May 16, 2025, 10:00 a.m.
WHERE: City Council Chamber
Los Angeles City Hall, 200 N Spring St., Los Angeles
COST: Free
SPONSORS: Councilmember John S. Lee, Twelfth District; Councilmember Nithya Raman, Fourth District; Councilmember Ysabel J. Jurado, Fourteenth District; and the 2025 Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month Committee; Hapa Nation One

ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH 2025

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OFFICIAL EVENTS

2025 ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH

AAPI SELF-DEFENSE CLASS

Councilmember John S. Lee invites you to a self-defense class led by experienced Taekwondo masters. In celebration of AAPI Heritage Month, this special session will introduce key self-defense techniques rooted in Taekwondo, one of Korea’s most renowned martial arts. Participants will learn practical skills to increase their confidence and safety in everyday situations. The Federal Taekwondo Association (FTA) will provide instruction on effective self-defense techniques for real-life situations. Participants of all ages, 4 and up, are welcome to join!

- WHEN:** May 24, 2025, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- WHERE:** Robert M. Wilkinson Multipurpose Center, 8956 Vanalden Ave., Northridge
- COST:** Free
- INFO:** If you have any questions, please contact Iris Seok at 818.882.1212 or iris.seok@lacity.org

SERVICE DAY LA – AAPI DAY OF SERVICE

In honor of Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, Mayor Karen Bass and City leaders invite you to Service Day LA - AAPI Day of Service. Angelenos from across the City will engage in a day of community service with family, friends, and neighbors. Join us as we beautify our neighborhoods from San Pedro to the San Fernando Valley. Volunteers will pick up loose litter, plant trees, remove graffiti, and more!

- WHEN:** May 31, 2025, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
- WHERE:** Chinatown (CD1), Reseda (CD4), Koreatown (CD5 & 10), Porter Ranch (CD12), Historic Filipinotown and Thai Town (CD13), Little Tokyo (CD14), and San Pedro (CD15)
- SPONSORS:** Office of Mayor Karen Bass; City of Los Angeles Board of Public Works, Office of Councilmember Eunisses Hernandez, Office of Councilmember Nithya Raman, Office of Councilmember Katy Yaroslavsky, Office of Councilmember Heather Hutt, Office of Councilmember John Lee, Office of Councilmember Hugo Soto-Martinez, Office of Councilmember Ysabel Jurado, Office of Councilmember Tim McOsker, Bureau of Sanitation, Bureau of Street Services, Office of Community Beautification, Department of Water and Power, Department of Recreation and Parks, LA Civil + Human Rights and Equity Department.
- INFO:** If you have any questions, please contact Board of Public Works Commissioner Steve Kang at steve.kang@lacity.org



Far left: Mary Lai, *The Shoulders We Stand On*, Acrylic paint and paste on canvas, 60" x 40", 2025; Middle top: Dan Nguyen, *Saigon Xua*, Acrylic, spray paint, 10' x 6', 2015; Far right: Tommy Vinh Bui, *Fruits of Our Labour*, Ink on grapefruit skin, 6" x 6", 2025; Bottom right: Vivian Wenhuey Chen, *Waltz 010*, Pencil, charcoal, graphite, acrylic and collage on paper, 14" x 17", 2000; Bottom left: Carole Kim, *Cascade*, Film still from video, 2023

INFLUENCES OF ASIAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER CULTURE IN THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES



GEOGRAPHY

As a major metropolitan area, Los Angeles is home to many Asian American Pacific Islander communities such as Little Tokyo, Chinatown, Koreatown, Thai Town, and Historic Filipino Town. Beyond the City of Los Angeles, a large number of Asian American Pacific Islanders call other areas of Los Angeles County their home, resulting in high concentrations in areas such as Hollywood, the beach communities, the valleys, and beyond—further diversifying the fabric of this great City.

ARTS AND CULTURE

The City of Los Angeles is enriched by the wealth of Asian American and Pacific Islander-influenced cultures. Its many museums, cultural centers, historical landmarks, theaters, and dance companies offer countless cultural resources that uniquely and excitingly represent the traditions of each Asian and Pacific Islander heritage.

FAMILY

The many Asian American Pacific Islander community centers throughout the City provide family programming to a growing population, ensuring that the traditions of the cultures and an appreciation of the histories are shared with our young people and carried into future generations.

HISTORY

Since the 19th century, thousands of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have migrated to America, making their homes throughout California and Los Angeles. Asian American Pacific Islanders represent a significant portion of the city's population, contributing not only culturally, but economically and politically.



ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER
HERITAGE INSTITUTE



This once flourishing neighborhood of

The Sang Yuen & Company store opened on the 300 block of Apablaza Street in the 1890s. The photo is from the Lisa See Collection housed at the Huntington Library. This photograph, and others, were found in the 1940s by donor Lisa See's father, Richard See, and her grandfather, Eddy See, in or around their family's antique business, F. Suie One Company. The store was located on one of the last blocks of Old Chinatown to be demolished.



CHINATOWN 1830–1939

THE WHERE YOU STAND EXHIBIT ARCHIVE HONORING LOS ANGELES'S ORIGINAL CHINATOWN

Our city boasts a wide-range of fascinating online exhibits, archives and resources. *Where You Stand: Chinatown 1830-1939* is one of those resources, originally an in-person exhibit on view at downtown LA's Union Station, now a multi-dimensional online experience.

The original Chinatown was a collection of alleyways, streets, and buildings that were home to thousands of Chinese residents. Union Station now stands at the site of the original Chinatown. It was a flourishing neighborhood of families, businesses, and associations with roots going back to the middle of the 19th century. The neighborhood's residents persisted, grew rapidly, and thrived. *Where You Stand* invites participants into the center of this once vibrant community.

The neighborhood was an enclave enforced by legal segregation. The area included the former Calle de los Negros and extended east across Alameda Street. In the Chinese massacre of 1871, 19 Chinese men and boys were killed by a mob of about 500 men in Calle de los Negros or Negro Alley,. It was one of the most serious incidents of racial violence that has ever occurred in the American West.

The first Chinatown, centered on Alameda and Macy Streets (now Cesar Chavez Avenue), reached its heyday from 1890 to 1910, the neighborhood grew to approximately fifteen streets and alleys containing some two hundred buildings. It boasted a Chinese Opera theater, three temples, a newspaper and a telephone exchange. Laws prohibiting most Chinese from citizenship and property ownership, as well as legislation curtailing immigration, inhibited future growth.

This Chinatown was described in a 1914 southern California guidebook created for visitors to the Panama-Pacific Exposition:

North of the old plaza, at North Los Angeles and Marchesault streets, is Chinatown, a fantastic bit of the Orient which furnishes the tourist with many interesting sights, both during the day and the evening. For the stranger, a guide is desirable, especially during the evening. Unless one is going merely for shopping, a guide will add much to the pleasure of the visit, since he will have access to places not open to everyone, and will explain the curious customs of the Chinese. The shops are filled with beautiful and attractive articles and the quaint dresses of the women and children are a neverending source of interest. For any festal occasion the costumes of the men and women are beautiful in quality and color and the effect is highly decorative.

In the early 1900s the area began to lose residents. As tenants and lessees rather than outright owners, the residents of Old Chinatown were threatened with impending redevelopment, and as a result the owners neglected upkeep of their buildings. Eventually, the entire area was sold and then resold, as entrepreneurs and developers fought over the area.

As the original neighborhood became less desirable, a spur of Old Chinatown grew up around the City Market at Ninth and San Pedro, sometimes called the City Market Chinatown. The market provided jobs and new opportunities so residents moved with the availability of jobs in the new area.



In 1890, Philippe Garnier, a settler from Gap, France, developed this building for Chinese tenants, his name appears on the front facade. The photo, above, is of the Garnier Building in the 1950s. The Sun Wing Wo Co. sign appearing on the right. Within walking distance of the Garnier Building are: the site of the Chinese Massacre; Chinatown; Olvera Street; Plaza Fire House; Pico House; and, the Merced Theatre.

CHINATOWN 1830–1939

LOS ANGELES'S ORIGINAL CHINATOWN

Old Chinatown was gradually demolished. A remnant of it persisted into the early 1950s, situated between Union Station and the Old Plaza. Several businesses and a Buddhist temple lined Ferguson Alley, a narrow one-block street running between the Plaza and Alameda. The most notable of the surviving buildings was the old Lugo Adobe. Some decades later, the Lugo Adobe became the original home of Loyola Marymount University, and later, it was rented to Chinese-Americans who ran shops on the ground floor and a lodging house upstairs. Christine Sterling, who had brought to fruition the Olvera Street and China City projects, argued that remaining buildings of Old Chinatown were an eyesore and advocated successfully for the razing of all the remaining structures between the Plaza and Union Station. The Garnier Building, now home to the Chinese American Museum, is the last remaining building of this once thriving area.

In the late 1950s the covenants on the use and ownership of property were removed, allowing Chinese Americans to live in other neighborhoods and gain access to employment. Old Chinatown is an example of the inexorable ebb and flow that remakes Los Angeles's neighborhoods.

Showcasing both the new and old Chinatown, the online exhibit features interactive maps, augmented reality, and fascinating oral histories told by people who were raised in Old Chinatown. The neighborhood is gone, but the memories of community remain. On the following pages we highlight two of the many intertwined business and family histories presented on the archive.

For more information and sources used for this article:

Chinatown on the Map

lapl.org/collections-resources/blogs/lapl/chinatown-map

Chinese American Museum

camla.org

Chinese in America

chssc.org/timeline

Chinese Historical Society of Southern California

chssc.org

Old Chinatown, Los Angeles

wikipedia.org/wiki/Old_Chinatown,_Los_Angeles

Old Chinatown and the Present Union Station: Transportation, Land Use, Race, and Class in Pre-WWII Los Angeles

californiahistoricalsociety.org/blog/old-chinatown-and-the-present-union-station-transportation-land-use-race-and-class-in-pre-wwii-los-angeles

Remembering Old Chinatown

lapl.org/collections-resources/blogs/lapl/remembering-old-chinatown

Visit the exhibit online: *Where You Stand: Chinatown 1830-1930*

storymaps.arcgis.com/collections/1e5f963472f4400da19fcb0e3ccfd5e?item=1

CHINATOWN 1830–1939

LOS ANGELES'S ORIGINAL CHINATOWN



William “Billy” Lew’s father, Lew Sing Jow, third from right, with his cousins during New Year’s time at Sun Wing Wo. Billy describes this photograph in his oral history; an excerpt from the history is available on the archive.

SUN WING WO / LEW FAMILY

Built in 1890, the Garnier Building, present home of the Chinese American Museum, is the oldest building connecting the Chinese community to the city of Los Angeles. Philippe Garnier, a French settler, built the brick structure for Chinese tenants. The building once housed shops, schools, temples, churches and businesses. The building was one of the most important buildings in Old Chinatown, regarded as the Chinese community’s “City Hall.” Many of the Chinese businesses and organizations formerly located in the Garnier Building are still active today.

Most of the original Chinatown was demolished in the 1930s to make way for construction of Union Station. During the 1950s construction of the Hollywood/Santa Ana Freeway, the southern half of the building was demolished. The middle section was rebuilt with a newly designed arcade on the south.

The Sun Wing Wo General Store and Herb Shop opened in the Garnier Building in 1891 and remained open until 1948. The store was a multi-purpose space that showed how self-sufficient the Chinese were and had to be due to racism and discrimination, while also being responsive to the needs of their community. Even though the store predominantly served the Chinese, there were European, Japanese, and Mexican Americans who also came to purchase Chinese merchandise.

One of the remarkable oral history excerpts available on the *Where You Stand* archive is that of William “Billy” Lew. Recorded in October 1979, he discusses Sun Wing Wo, which was his family’s store, and the other tenants of the Garnier Building.

The Chinese American Museum has created an exhibit that is a replica of Sun Wing Wo. The general store sold food, clothing, furniture, firecrackers, and dishes; as well as western products that were popular at the time such as cigars and perfumed soaps. The store also provided banking, postal, and letter writing services for the community.

The Museum has also recreated the herb shop where Chinese could practice their traditional form of healthcare – Chinese Medicine. There were acupuncture services and prescriptions of herbal remedies provided. To learn more about the store and how to visit, go to camla.org.

CHINATOWN 1830–1939

LOS ANGELES'S ORIGINAL CHINATOWN



The recreated Sun Wing Wo General Store and Herb Shop located in the Chinese American Museum in downtown Los Angeles.

SANG YUEN & COMPANY / LEUNG FAMILY

The SooHoo Leung family illustrates the rich family life experienced by residents of Old Chinatown. SooHoo Leung, a first-generation businessman, opened his mercantile store, Sang Yuen & Company, on the ground floor of a two-story brick building in the 300 block of Apablasa Street in the 1890s. He became a foundational member of Chinatown.

In 1895, Leung married Yee Oie (Annie) from Santa Barbara. Their wedding received a glowing and exotifying write up in the Los Angeles Times, “The intended bride came to the Angel City accompanied by one or two attendants, . . . closely veiled, she was taken to her future husband who had never before seen her. The marriage was accomplished and many firecrackers were exploded for the good luck of the young couple.”

Three generations of the SooHoo family lived and worked on Apablasa Street. Leung and Annie’s son, Peter SooHoo Sr. became the first Chinese American engineer hired by the Department of Water and Power (DWP). As a leader in Old Chinatown, he worked with many to plan and establish New Chinatown. His son Peter SooHoo, Jr. served in the U.S. Army in World War II, and followed his father’s footsteps at the DWP.

Peter Jr.’s son, Jon SooHoo, is the official photographer for the Los Angeles Dodgers. His granddaughter (fifth generation SooHoo in Los Angeles) Caitlin Bryant is a board member of the Chinese Historical Society of Southern California.

Most images are from the *Where You Stand: Chinatown 1880 to 1939* temporary exhibition, a collaboration among Metro Art, The Huntington-USC Institute on California and the West, the Chinese Historical Society of Southern California, USC Cinema, and the Huntington Library. Sang Yuen & Company photo (page 22) is courtesy of the Lisa See Collection at the Huntington Library. Garnier Building photo (page 24), and *Sun Wing Wo General Store and Herb Shop* exhibit photo (page 27) are courtesy of the Chinese American Museum. The Lew family photo (page 26) is printed with permission of the family.

To learn more and view the exhibition, please visit:

storymaps.arcgis.com/collections/1e5f963472f4400da19fcb0e3ccfdd5e?item=1



Kumiko Ruch, *Chinatown, DTLA*, Oil on canvas, 36" x 36", 2024

ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH 2025

CALENDAR AND CULTURAL GUIDE



DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS
City of Los Angeles

COMMUNITY EVENTS

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

This listing includes live and virtual/streaming events produced by Los Angeles's diverse arts and cultural community organizations. The Department of Cultural Affairs assumes no responsibility for postponed or canceled events or programming published in this Heritage Guide. Please contact the event organizer or venue prior to attending.



ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH 2025 CALENDAR AND CULTURAL GUIDE

COMMUNITY EVENTS

CHILDREN AND TEEN ACTIVITIES

ORIGAMI

Celebrate Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month with a hands-on STEAM Origami activity. Participants will explore the art of folding paper while learning about its cultural significance in a fun and engaging environment.

WHEN: May 1, 4:00 p.m.
SITE: Westchester - Loyola Village Branch Library, 7114 W. Manchester Ave., Los Angeles
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Los Angeles Public Library
INFO: 310.348.1096
lapl.org/branches/westchester

ORIGAMI FOR TEENS

Join in the fun and learn the art of origami in this interactive workshop. Participants will explore different folding techniques to create unique paper designs.

WHEN: May 6, 4:00 p.m.
SITE: Canoga Park Library, 20939 Sherman Way, Canoga Park
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Friends of Canoga Park Library
INFO: 818.887.0320
lapl.org/branches/canoga-park

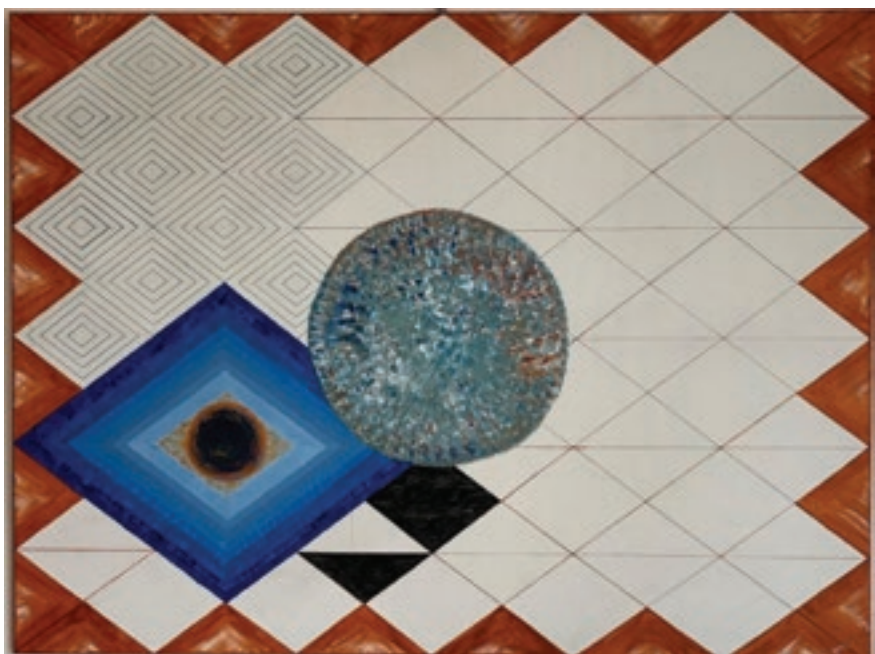
AAPI CERAMICS WORKSHOP FOR KIDS

Celebrate AAPI Heritage Month with a hands-on pottery experience for kids! Kids will create their own unique clay pieces, infusing their work with inspiration drawn from Asian culture. Due to limited supplies, we can only accommodate the first 25 children. Walk-ins only.

WHEN: May 7, 3:30 p.m.
SITE: West Valley Regional Branch Library, 19036 Vanowen St., Reseda
COST: Free
SPONSORS: West Valley Regional Branch Library, Racial Equity Action Board (REAB)
INFO: 818.345.9806
lapl.org/whats-on

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COMMUNITY EVENTS



Aziza Azizova, *Elements of Life*, Mixed media on canvas, 48" x 36", 2023

AAPI JOY: STORYTELLING, NARRATIVES, AND HISTORY

AAPI Joy celebrates the diversity of AAPI communities in Los Angeles through storytelling, history, and performances. The festival aims to inspire acceptance, cooperation, and cultural exploration while fostering connections within the greater Los Angeles community.

- WHEN:** May 17, 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
SITE: Central Library, 630 W. 5th St., Los Angeles
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Los Angeles Public Library
INFO: lapl.org/aapi-joy

VINTA BOAT RACES

Celebrate Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month by learning about the islands of the Philippines. Participants will hear a story about a young girl who dreams of going on a fishing boat with her grandfather and then will create traditional outrigger vinta boats out of paper. The program concludes with an exciting boat race.

- WHEN:** May 27, 3:00 p.m.
SITE: Alma Reaves Woods - Watts Branch Library, 10205 Compton Ave., Los Angeles
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Alma Reaves Woods - Watts Branch Library
INFO: 323.789.2850
lapl.org/branches/watts



Paul Batou, *Flute and Migratory Birds*, Acrylic on canvas, 14" x 28" x 1.5", 2024



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COMMUNITY RESOURCES AND SERVICES

CAL FRESH EBT ENROLLMENT

The CalFresh program offers support for free groceries and other expenses. Whether you're applying for the first time or need assistance with your current benefits, we're here to help. Assistance is available in English, Cantonese, and Mandarin.

WHEN: May 1, 15 (First and Third Fridays each month), 10:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.
SITE: Chinatown Branch Library, 639 N. Hill St., Los Angeles
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Chinatown Branch Library
INFO: 213.620.0925
lapl.org/whats-on

MANDARIN CHINESE CLASS

Learn Chinese with our experienced instructor. This class is for beginners.

WHEN: Check website for dates and times
SITE: Chinatown Branch Library, 639 N. Hill St., Los Angeles
COST: Free, RSVP via phone at 213.620.0925
SPONSOR: Chinatown Branch Library
INFO: 213.620.0925
lapl.org/branches/chinatown

ASIAN PACIFIC RESOURCE CENTER – LA COUNTY LIBRARY

Spend an afternoon with a special collection from the LA County Library. The collection focuses on the Asian American Pacific Islander American experience, with core holdings on history, art, and culture. The center has over 100 titles on microfilm of historical Asian immigrant newspapers published in the U.S.

WHEN: Ongoing Exhibition
SITE: Rosemead Library, 8800 Valley Blvd., Rosemead
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Los Angeles County Library
INFO: 626.573.5220
lacountylibrary.org/asian-pacific-resource-center

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Chung-Ping Cheng, *The Peony Lumen Print #44*, Experimental photography, lumen print, 24" x 20", 2025

YOUSTAR FOUNDATION WARM LINE

The YouStar Foundation offers a Warm Line service, providing a safe space for Korean Americans to share emotions, seek advice, and receive support. This non-crisis emotional support hotline addresses unique challenges such as cultural stigma around mental health, generational gaps, and stress from living in a multicultural environment. Staffed by trained volunteers and professionals fluent in both English and Korean, the Warm Line aims to bridge cultural understanding and offer empathetic listening for those dealing with stress, anxiety, depression, or other mental health concerns.

- WHEN:** Ongoing
- SITE:** YouStar Foundation, accessible via phone anytime 213.221.2813
- COST:** Free
- SPONSOR:** YouStar Foundation
- INFO:** 213.221.2813
youstarfoundation.org/warmline

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FREE CITIZENSHIP CLASSES

Free Citizenship classes, where you can learn the civics, government, interview and language skills needed for the Naturalization process. Students must have a green card.

WHEN: May 5 and May 7, (Ongoing, weekly Monday and Wednesday), 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.
SITE: Chinatown Branch Library, 639 N. Hill St., Los Angeles
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Chinatown Branch Library
INFO: 213.620.0925
lapl.org/branches/chinatown

SUPPORTIVE SERVICES FOR 60+

The Chinatown Service Center offers expanded support to LA County residents aged 60 and older through a Supportive Services Program (SSP). Free services include assessing needs and developing a care plan, referral services, follow-up services, and employment support.

WHEN: May 6 and June 3, 3:00 - 5:00 p.m.
SITE: Alhambra Civic Center Library, 101 S. First St., Alhambra
COST: Free, call to register, walk-ins are also welcome
SPONSOR: The Chinatown Service Center
INFO: 626.570.3212
alhambralibrary.org/events/7149

DEPRESSION AND DEMENTIA PREVENTION SEMINAR FOR KOREAN AMERICANS

The Seminar for Korean Americans aims to raise awareness about mental health, provide education on early prevention, and offer practical resources. This in-person event features expert-led lectures by neurologists and clinical psychologists, interactive Q&A sessions, and informational booths from mental health organizations. Participants will gain insights on managing depression and dementia while accessing community resources for ongoing support.

WHEN: May 17, 1:00 p.m.
SITE: Berendo Street Baptist Church, 975 S. Berendo St., Los Angeles
COST: Free
SPONSOR: YouStar Foundation
INFO: youstarfoundation.org

KOREAN CONVERSATION 1-2

Do you want to learn Korean? Join us and learn the Korean language and culture.

WHEN: Tuesdays at 2:30 p.m.
SITE: Central Library, 630 W. 5th St, Los Angeles
COST: Free, register by emailing language@lapl.org
SPONSOR: Central Library, King Sejong Institute Center
INFO: lapl.org/whats-on/events/korean-conversation-1-2-0

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Jon Ching, *Ho'oilina*, Oil on wood, 12" x 18", 2024

HOUSING RIGHTS LEGAL HELP CLINICS

Asian Americans Advancing Justice, Los Angeles offers free, in-person housing rights legal help clinics at their offices, assisting individuals with various housing-related issues, focusing on those affecting low-income and underserved communities. Appointments are required; please register in advance at 888.349.9695

- WHEN:** May 22, every 4th Thursday, 12:30 - 5:00 p.m.
SITE: Alhambra Civic Center Library, 101 S. First St., Alhambra
COST: Free, reservation required, call in advance
SPONSOR: Asian Americans Advancing Justice, Los Angeles
INFO: 626.570.5008
ajsocal.org/housing-preservation

LA CITIZENSHIP CLINICS

In partnership with local community organizations, Asian Americans Advancing Justice Southern California hosts free citizenship application workshops. Staff and volunteers help verify eligibility for citizenship, complete the citizenship application, and prepare a fee waiver request for individuals who qualify.

The first Thursday of every month is an in-person clinic at the Alhambra Library. The second and third Thursdays of every month are virtual. The fourth Thursday of every month is an in-person clinic at our LA office. An appointment is required to attend the Citizenship Clinic. To make an appointment, please call our offices – assistance is available in many languages, the numbers are listed on the website (URL provided below).

- WHEN:** May 22, Fourth Thursday, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
SITE: Asian Americans Advancing Justice Southern California, 1145 Wilshire Blvd, Los Angeles
COST: Free, reservation required, call in advance
SPONSOR: Asian Americans Advancing Justice Southern California (AJSOCAL)
INFO: 888.349.9695
ajsocal.org/event/la-office-citizenship-clinics-in-person



Ann Phong, *I Told You, The Earth Is Warming Up*, Acrylic with objects, 29" x 29" x 5", 2024



Tommy Vinh Bui, *Tilmahtli Crew Tessellations*, Photography, 5" x 7", 2025

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COMMUNITY EVENTS

FESTIVALS

CLOCKSHOP’S 5TH ANNUAL COMMUNITY & UNITY PEOPLE’S KITE FESTIVAL

This year’s festival is organized around the theme *Entangled in Community*. As part of our annual kite commission program, our 2025 artist, Maria Maea, will design and create two unique kites that draw upon the connective threads between Mexican and Samoan cultural traditions, adapting the emblem of the *Lau Lupe* bird in a woven sculptural form.

- WHEN:** May 17, 2:00 - 6:00 p.m.
- SITE:** Los Angeles State Historic Park, 1245 N. Spring St., Los Angeles
- COST:** Free, RSVP at the website
- SPONSOR:** Clockshop
- INFO:** clockshop.org/events

2025 US SUMO OPEN

North America’s top annual sumo event is back for the 25th year. Experience the live action and excitement of 150 back-to-back matches in one afternoon with elimination matches starting the event. Top Sumo champions are expected from Japan, Mongolia, Russia, Uzbekistan, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Poland, New Zealand, India, Egypt, Brazil, Venezuela, Canada, and the USA. Enjoy Japanese food and beverages while you watch the competition and listen to taiko drumming.

- WHEN:** May 10, 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
- SITE:** Water Pyramid @ Cal State Long Beach, 1250 N. Bellflower Blvd., Long Beach
- COST:** Check the website for ticket prices
- SPONSOR:** US Sumo Open
- INFO:** usasumo.com

HERITAGE OF ALOHA FESTIVAL

A two-day event celebrating the rich heritage of Hawai’i and Polynesia. Attendees can enjoy island cuisine, an outdoor marketplace, cultural workshops, and continuous music and dance performances on a big stage. Highlights include a spam musubi eating contest on Saturday at 12:15 p.m. and an ‘Ohana ‘ukulele contest on Sunday at 12:00 p.m.

- WHEN:** May 17 – 18, Saturday, 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., Sunday, 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- SITE:** Heritage Park, 12100 Mora Dr., Santa Fe Springs
- COST:** Free
- SPONSOR:** Ho’oilina Foundation Inc
- INFO:** heritageofaloha.com

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Unknown Artist, *Ornament*, Gold and turquoise, 5.6 x 4.7 cm, Mid-Spring and Autumn period (770-475 BCE)

PACIFIC ISLANDER FESTIVAL AT AQUARIUM OF THE PACIFIC

Everyone is invited to celebrate Pacific Islander cultures, including Chamorro, Fijian, Hawaiian, Māori, Marshallese, Tahitian, Tongan, and Samoan, at the Aquarium of the Pacific during its 22nd annual Pacific Islander Festival. This weekend festival will feature cultural displays, artisanal craft demonstrations, and live music and dance performances. The event will also include the annual Heritage Award ceremony.

- WHEN:** June 7 - 8, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
SITE: Aquarium of the Pacific, 100 Aquarium Way, Long Beach
COST: Check the website for ticket prices
SPONSOR: Aquarium of the Pacific
INFO: 562.590.3100
aquariumofpacific.org/events/info/pacific_islander_festival

SAN FERNANDO BUDDHIST TEMPLE OBON FESTIVAL

Join us for one of the largest Buddhist gatherings in Los Angeles. Attendees can participate in the tradition of Japanese *Obon Odori* dancing, enjoy other cultural and ethnic experiences, and explore various tasty foods.

- WHEN:** June 28 - 29, 4:30 – 9:00 p.m.
SITE: San Fernando Valley Japanese American Community Center, 12953 Brandford St., Pacoima
COST: Free
SPONSORS: San Fernando Buddhist Temple, San Fernando Japanese American Community Center
INFO: sfvibt.org/obon-festival





Jian Lee, *Hidden*, Charcoal, ink on paper, 18" x 24", 2023

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Vivian Wenhuey Chen, *Waltz 010*, Pencil, charcoal, graphite, acrylic and collage on paper, 14" x 17", 2000

44TH ANNUAL LOTUS FESTIVAL

Experience Korea at the 44th Annual Lotus Festival, celebrating the blooming of the sacred lotus flower and honoring the diverse Asian and Pacific Islander communities of Los Angeles. Enjoy cultural performances, dragon boat races, live entertainment, arts and crafts, food vendors, and family-friendly activities. The festival also features the Lights of Dreams event, where 3D-printed lotus flowers and traditional paper lanterns float across Echo Park Lake, symbolizing hope and community spirit.

- WHEN:** July 12 – July 13, 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
SITE: Echo Park Lake, 751 Echo Park Ave., Los Angeles
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Los Angeles Lotus Festival, Inc.
INFO: lalotusfestival.org



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COMMUNITY EVENTS

FILM & THEATRE

VISUAL COMMUNICATIONS ARCHIVES

Explore one of the largest photographic and moving image archives documenting Asian Pacific American experiences. The Visual Communications Archives offer a rich collection of films, videos, photographs, and exhibits that chronicle the cultural and historical narratives of Asian Pacific communities in America. Access is available online, providing an invaluable resource for researchers, educators, and the public.

WHEN: Ongoing
SITE: Streaming with Visual Communications
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Visual Communications
INFO: archives.vcmedia.org

41ST LOS ANGELES ASIAN PACIFIC FILM FESTIVAL (LAAPFF)

The festival will feature in-person film screenings, panels, and virtual programming to amplify Asian Pacific voices. As the largest festival of its kind in Southern California, the event brings together a diverse array of Asian Pacific Islander creatives to showcase their work and celebrate the power of storytelling.

WHEN: May 1 – May 8, Check website for times
SITE: Visual Communications, 120 Judge John Aiso St., Los Angeles
COST: Check the website for ticket prices
SPONSOR: Visual Communications
INFO: vcmedia.org/festival

SUNDAY JUMP

This is a community open mic series at the Pilipino Workers Center. The Center facilitates a safe space for marginalized voices to share stories and create genuine connections through the arts. This season, Sunday Jump celebrates its 12th anniversary as the longest-running Filipino-founded open mic series in Historic Filipinotown.

WHEN: May 4 and June 1, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.
SITE: Pilipino Workers Center, 153 Glendale Blvd., Los Angeles
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Pilipino Workers Center
INFO: sundayjump.com/programs
youtube.com/thesundayjump

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BiJian Fan, *Jump*, Paper on water, 8" x 8", 2024

WADA CHIREBANDI

Experience the acclaimed Marathi play, *Wada Chirebandi*. The play delves into the complexities of a traditional family’s transition amidst changing societal norms. This performance offers a poignant portrayal of generational conflicts and cultural shifts within a rural Indian setting.

- WHEN:** May 18, 5:00 p.m.
SITE: John F. Kennedy High School, 8281 Walker St., La Palma, CA 90623
COST: Check the website for ticket prices
SPONSOR: Five Dimensions Entertainment, Inc.
INFO: 5dimensionsinc.com/event/WadaChirebandi



Vanessa Morrow, *Whenever Takes You Home*, Acrylic on canvas, 30" x 40", 2024



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COMMUNITY EVENTS

GARDENS

EARL BURNS MILLER JAPANESE GARDEN

Come feed our playful koi, stroll the winding pathways, view the Tea House, or reflect at the Zen Garden.

WHEN: Ongoing Exhibition, Tuesday - Friday, 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Saturday - Sunday, 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
SITE: California State University, Long Beach, 1250 Bellflower Blvd., Long Beach
COST: Free, reservation required, tickets available at the website
SPONSOR: California State University, Long Beach
INFO: 562.985.8420
csulb.edu/earl-burns-miller-japanese-garden

JAPANESE GARDEN AT DESCANSO GARDENS

Explore this tranquil Japanese-style garden that blends design elements from four classic garden styles.

WHEN: Ongoing Exhibition, Mondays - Sundays, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
SITE: Descanso Gardens, 1418 Descanso Dr., La Cañada Flintridge
COST: General - \$15; Seniors 65 and over and Students with ID - \$11; Children (5 to 12 years) - \$5; Descanso members; Children under 5 - Free
SPONSOR: Descanso Gardens
INFO: 818.949.4200
descansogardens.org

JAPANESE GARDEN – KOI POND AT SOUTH COAST BOTANIC GARDENS

Listen to the calming sounds of water and take in the subdued palette of evergreen shrubbery embracing the Koi Pond. The garden features stone lanterns crafted of *okazaki* stone over 200 years ago and a bonsai display maintained by the South Coast Bonsai Association.

WHEN: Ongoing Exhibition, Mondays - Sunday, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
SITE: South Coast Botanic Gardens, 26300 Crenshaw Blvd., Palos Verdes Peninsula
COST: Adults - \$15; Seniors 65 and over and Students with ID - \$11; Children (5 to 12 years) - \$5; Foundation members and children under 4 – Free. Entry on the third Tuesday of each month. Advance purchase is required to attend on Saturdays and Sundays.
SPONSOR: South Coast Botanic Gardens
INFO: 424.452.0920
southcoastbotanicgarden.org/garden-highlights

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Minna Philips, *Potential and Kinetic Series*, Drawing and inkjet on paper, 8.5" x 11", 2022-23

THE JAPANESE GARDEN

The basic style of the garden is known as *Chisen-Kaiyushiki*, or “wet garden with promenade”, and is fashioned after those strolling gardens which were built during the Muromachi and Edo periods involving the visitors to traverse and experience. The 6.5-acre garden’s purpose was and is to demonstrate a positive use of reclaimed water. The garden is an authentic art form garden. Plant materials were selected to reflect Japan’s traditional horticulture and suit the San Fernando Valley environment.

- WHEN:** Monday - Thursday and some Sundays, 9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
SITE: Department of Public Works, LA Sanitation & Environment - Donald C. Tillman Water Reclamation Plant, 6100 Woodley Avenue, Van Nuys
COST: Free
SPONSOR: The Japanese Garden Office @ D.C. Tillman Plant
INFO: 213.791.0238
thejapanesegarden.com

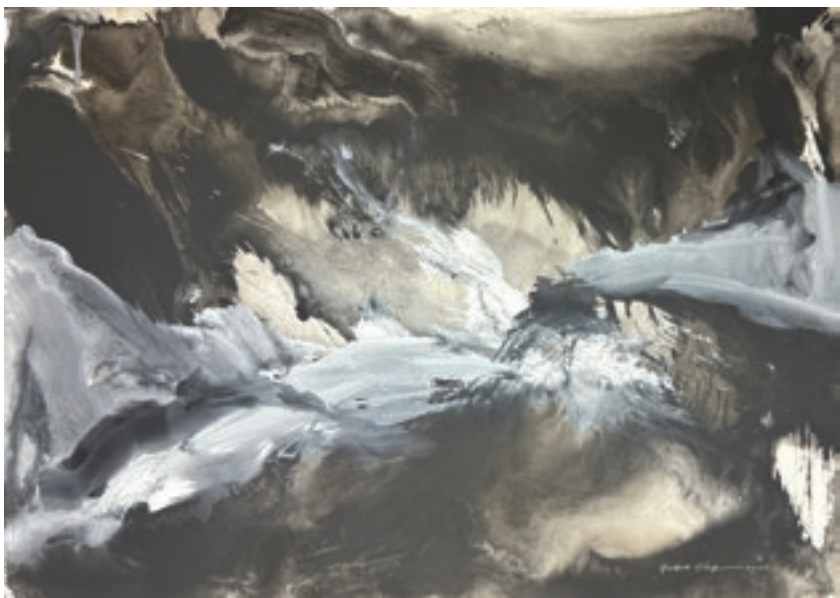
WALKING THE CHINESE GARDEN ON A SUMMER MORNING

The Huntington’s *Liu Fang Yuan*, or the Garden of Flowing Fragrance, is one of the finest classical-style Chinese gardens outside of China. Filled with Chinese plants and framed by exquisite architecture, the landscape is enriched with references to literature and art.

- WHEN:** Ongoing
SITE: Streaming with The Huntington Library, Art Museum, and Botanical Garden
COST: Free
SPONSOR: The Huntington Library, Art Museum, and Botanical Garden
INFO: 424.452.0920
[youtube.com/watch?v=R9LCH5GkSzQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R9LCH5GkSzQ)

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Yoshio Ikezaki, *Elucidation*, Mixed media on paper, 20" x 30", 2024

WALKING THE JAPANESE GARDEN ON A CRISP EARLY SPRING MORNING

For over a century, the historic Japanese Garden has been one of the most beloved and iconic landscapes at The Huntington, with its distinctive moon bridge, picture-postcard views of koi-filled ponds, and the historic Japanese House. One of the most popular spots at Huntington Gardens, the Japanese Garden has attracted millions of visitors and remains a site of both fascination and contemplation.

- WHEN:** Ongoing
SITE: Streaming with The Huntington Library, Art Museum, and Botanical Gardens
COST: Free
SPONSOR: The Huntington Library, Art Museum, and Botanical Garden
INFO: 424.452.0920
[youtube.com/watch?v=JBvIMONzyt4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JBvIMONzyt4)

STORRIER STEARNS JAPANESE GARDEN

This Japanese garden features a light hillside pond, a cascading 25-foot waterfall, and a formal teahouse designed by Kinzuchi Fujii. Many consider the garden a masterwork, and it demonstrates the adaptability of Japanese culture in modern America.

- WHEN:** Ongoing Exhibition, Fridays and Saturdays, 4:00 - 8:00 p.m., Sundays 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
SITE: Storrier Stearns Japanese Garden, 270 Arlington Dr., Pasadena
COST: \$15, register in advance at the website
SPONSOR: Storrier Stearns Japanese Garden
INFO: japanesegardenpasadena.com



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JAPANESE HERITAGE SHOYA HOUSE

Experience a beautifully restored home and agricultural compound from 18th-century Japan that provides a glimpse into rural life 300 years ago. Built around 1700, this 3,000-square-foot residence served as the center of village life in Marugame, Japan.

- WHEN:** Ongoing Exhibition, Wednesdays - Mondays, 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Sundays and Mondays, Wednesdays – Saturdays 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- SITE:** The Huntington Library, Art Museum, and Botanical Garden, 1151 Oxford Rd., San Marino
- COST:** Check the website for ticket prices. Reservations required
- SPONSOR:** The Huntington Library, Art Museum, and Botanical Garden
- INFO:** 626.405.2100
huntington.org/japanese-garden

THE HUNTINGTON'S CHINESE GARDEN - THE GARDEN OF FLOWING FRAGRANCE

Liu Fang Yuan, or the Garden of Flowing Fragrance, is one of the finest classical-style Chinese gardens outside China. Filled with Chinese plants and framed by exquisite architecture, the landscape is enriched with references to literature and art. Visitors can find physical relaxation and mental stimulation when exploring the dramatic 15-acre garden.

- WHEN:** Ongoing Exhibition, Sundays and Mondays, Wednesdays – Saturdays 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- SITE:** The Huntington Library, Art Museum, and Botanical Garden, 1151 Oxford Rd., San Marino
- COST:** Check the website for ticket prices. Advance reservations required
- SPONSOR:** The Huntington Library, Art Museum, and Botanical Garden
- INFO:** 626.405.2100
huntington.org/chinese-garden

CHINESE MEDICINAL GARDEN OPEN HOUSE

Discover the world of Chinese medicinal plants at an open house at The Huntington's Chinese Medicinal Garden. Experts will provide informal tours and share insights on plants used in traditional Chinese medicine for over 2,000 years.

- WHEN:** May 14 and June 11, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.
- SITE:** The Huntington Library, Art Museum, and Botanical Garden, 1151 Oxford Rd., San Marino
- COST:** Check the website for ticket prices, advance reservations required
- SPONSOR:** The Huntington Library, Art Museum, and Botanical Gardens
- INFO:** 626.405.2100
huntington.org/event/chinese-medicinal-garden-open-house



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HERITAGE

IT MATTERS: UNITED STATES V. WONG KIM ARK – A LEGACY REMEMBERED

The Chinese American Museum commemorated the 125th anniversary of *United States v. Wong Kim Ark* with a conversation with Frank H. Wu, President of Queens College. This was a Supreme Court decision determining that the 14th Amendment to the United States Constitution guaranteed citizenship to all persons born in the United States, regardless of the national origin of their parents. View the discussion on the historic Supreme Court case and the decision that protected citizenship rights for Asian Americans and BiPOC folks for the past 125 years.

WHEN: Ongoing
SITE: Streaming with Chinese American Museum
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Chinese American Museum
INFO: youtube.com/watch?v=3VFRc3axVFo&t=587s

A CONVERSATION —ONE FIGHTING IRISHMAN: WAYNE M. COLLINS AND THE TULE LAKE SEGREGATION CENTER

A conversation with George Takei, Sharon Yamato, and Wayne Merrill Collins, attorney and son of Wayne M. Collins, to discuss the documentary *One Fighting Irishman*, moderated by Brian Niiya. The documentary tells the story of attorney Wayne M. Collins, and what drove him to spend years representing over 5,000 of Japanese Americans who renounced their American citizenship under duress while imprisoned at the Tule Lake Segregation Center during World War II.

WHEN: Ongoing
SITE: Streaming with Japanese American National Museum
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Japanese American National Museum
INFO: youtube.com/watch?v=G43Fd-TPNkc

ANOTHER BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY - AAPI PODCAST INTERVIEW

Curator Dr. Jenny Lin and the artists of *Another Beautiful Country* discuss the exhibition. The featured artworks portray nuanced interplays between Chinese American identities and representations, challenging conventional notions of nationhood. Through cinematic strategies, exhibited artists present transnational relations, familial dynamics, and intimate tales of migration.

WHEN: Ongoing
SITE: Streaming with Pacific Asia Museum
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Pacific Asia Museum
INFO: youtube.com/watch?v=CtymIYwauil

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Arni Tecson, *El Tinikling En Ultratumba*, Watercolor on paper, 13” x 17”, 2019

FAE MYENNE NG READS

Best-selling author Fae Myenne Ng’s new memoir, *Orphan Bachelors*, offers a personal, timely portrait of San Francisco’s Chinatown and a family building a life in a country bent on their exclusion. Hua Hsu called *Orphan Bachelors*, “so many treasures at once: an enthralling memoir, an act of reckoning, a history of American exclusion and Chinatown resilience, an attempt to conjure the vast horizons that her forebears were never allowed to imagine.”

- WHEN:** Ongoing
SITE: Streaming with the Hammer Channel
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Hammer Museum, UCLA Department of English
INFO: channel.hammer.ucla.edu/video/1891/fae-myen-ne-ng-reads-may-2024

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Harpreet Kaur Sandhu, *Catnips and Crawling*, Collage with paintings and photographs, 2010

VOICES OF THE DIASPORA WITH CHARLES GAINES, GALA PORRAS-KIM, & MORE

In an afternoon organized by the Asian American Pacific Islander Arts Network, ARTNOIR, and The Here And There Collective, artists, art historians, and curators discuss the ways that their identity shapes their lives and creative practices. Panelists address how artists of various diasporas navigate existing systems and band together for cultural code switching, when excluded from the art market.

WHEN: Ongoing

SITE: Streaming with the Hammer Channel

COST: Free

SPONSOR: Hammer Museum

INFO: channel.hammer.ucla.edu/video/1879/voices-of-the-diaspora-with-charles-gaines-gala-porras-kim-more

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COMMUNITY EVENTS

CERTIFICATE OF IDENTITY: WHAT NOW, PART 2

From 1909 to 1928, the U.S. government required all Chinese people with legal status in the country to obtain certificates of identity. Li Wei Yang, curator of Pacific Rim Collections, explains how this document can help us understand our current immigration enforcement debates. This document is included in the exhibition *What Now: Collecting for the Library in the 21st Century*.

- WHEN:** Ongoing
SITE: Streaming with The Huntington Library
COST: Free
SPONSOR: The Huntington Library, Art Museum, and Botanical Gardens
INFO: [youtube.com/watch?v=QHclchqjyYU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QHclchqjyYU)

VISUAL COMMUNICATIONS ARCHIVES

Visual Communications (VC) Archives is one of the largest photographic and moving image archives on Asian Pacific experiences in America. Created by a group of artists and filmmakers to organize and empower communities through media, Visual Communications is the first media arts organization in the nation dedicated to the honest and accurate portrayal of Asian American and Pacific Islander peoples and communities. The VC Archives is a story of people in movement, reflecting imagination and adventure, desperation and courage, minds and bodies struggling towards new possibilities and futures.

- WHEN:** Ongoing
SITE: Streaming with Visual Communications
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Visual Communications
INFO: archives.vcmedia.org

UNDISCOVERED CHINATOWN WALKING TOUR

Visit a temple, an herbal shop, galleries, antique stores, and more. The tour will take visitors to several off-the-beaten-track locations and will guide those interested in shopping to some of Chinatown’s best bargains and trendiest shops. Wear comfortable walking shoes and be prepared to wind your way through a myriad of alleyways, plaza stalls, and classical courtyards to discover the charm of Chinatown.

- WHEN:** May 3 and June 7, 10:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
SITE: Los Angeles Chinatown, 947 N. Broadway, Los Angeles
COST: \$15 - \$20, RSVP required in advance via email: info@chinatownla.com
SPONSOR: Chinatown Business Improvement District
INFO: 213.680.0243
chinatownla.com/event



YOU TIAO LONG FRIED DOUGH



Sean Yang, *Hanya*, Ceramics, bunchung slip, oxides, 16" x 24" x 10", 2021

ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH 2025 CALENDAR AND CULTURAL GUIDE

COMMUNITY EVENTS



Young Il C. Kang, *Creation 2409*, Oil and acrylic on canvas, 22.5" x 47" x 2", 2024

RESTORE + EXPLORE: TAI CHI WITH KATHY CHYAN

Engage in a rejuvenating Tai Chi session amidst the serene surroundings of The Huntington's gardens. This practice aims to harmonize the mind and body, promoting relaxation and well-being. All skill levels are welcome.

WHEN: May 3 - June 21, see website for times
SITE: The Huntington Library, Art Museum, and Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Rd., San Marino
COST: See website for ticket prices
SPONSOR: The Huntington Library, Art Museum, and Botanical Gardens
INFO: 626.405.2100
huntington.org/calendar

LA MADE PRESENTS: KIMONO SHOW & KIMONO DRESSING DANCE

A kimono and obi fashion show. Akane will also perform a "Kimono dressing dance," which shows the kimono dressing process with music. Audiences will learn how to dress in formal kimono and obi.

WHEN: May 5, 4:00 p.m.
SITE: Angeles Mesa Branch Library, 2700 W. 52nd St., Los Angeles
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Angeles Mesa Branch Library, LA Made, National Endowment for the Humanities
INFO: 323.292.4328
lapl.org/whats-on/events



ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH 2025 CALENDAR AND CULTURAL GUIDE

COMMUNITY EVENTS

LA MADE PRESENTS: NOSSI BOJAGI WRAPPING WORKSHOP

Bojagi is a traditional Korean wrapping cloth with a rich history. In this class, we will delve into the art of wrapping and the myriad ways to use Bojagi, from adding an elegant touch to gifts to crafting fun, reusable, and sustainable market sacks. Attendees will learn four wrapping styles and take home a Bojagi.

WHEN: May 7, 4:00 p.m.

SITE: Sylmar Branch Library, 14561 Polk St., Sylmar

COST: Free

SPONSOR: Sylmar Branch Library, LA Made, National Endowment for the Humanities

INFO: 818.367.6102
lapl.org/whats-on

LA MADE PRESENTS: NOSSI BOJAGI WRAPPING WORKSHOP

Bojagi is a traditional Korean wrapping cloth with a rich history. In this class, we will delve into the art of wrapping and the myriad ways to use Bojagi, from adding an elegant touch to gifts to crafting fun, reusable, and sustainable market sacks. Attendees will learn four wrapping styles and take home a Bojagi.

WHEN: May 8, 4:00 p.m.

SITE: Vermont Square Branch Library, 1201 W. 48th St., Los Angeles

COST: Free

SPONSOR: Vermont Square Branch Library, LA Made, National Endowment for the Humanities.

INFO: 323.290.7405
lapl.org/whats-on/events

LA MADE PRESENTS: NOSSI BOJAGI WRAPPING WORKSHOP

Bojagi is a traditional Korean wrapping cloth with a rich history. In this class, we will delve into the art of wrapping and the myriad ways to use Bojagi, from adding an elegant touch to gifts to crafting fun, reusable, and sustainable market sacks. Attendees will learn four wrapping styles and take home a Bojagi.

WHEN: May 10, 2:00 p.m.

SITE: Robert Louis Stevenson Branch Library, 803 Spence St., Los Angeles

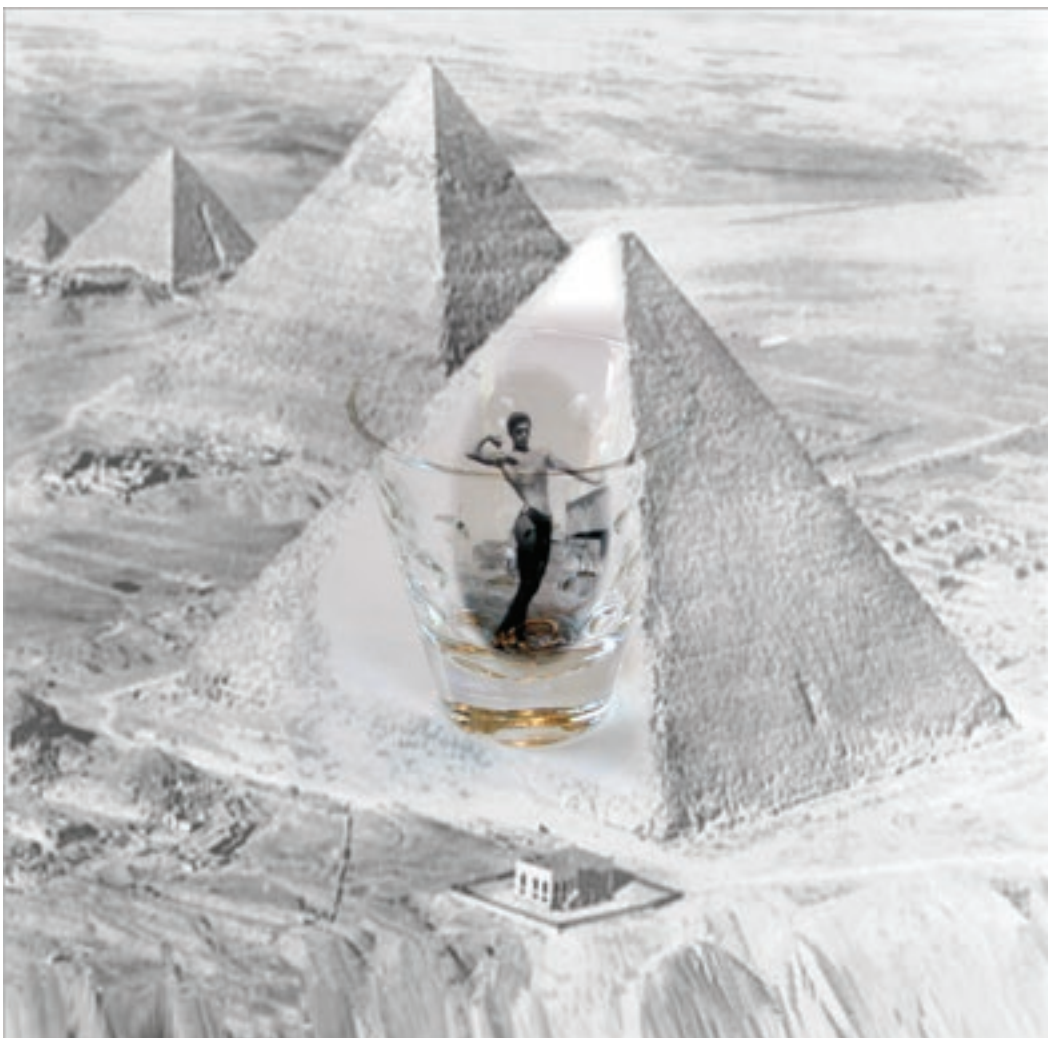
COST: Free

SPONSOR: Robert Louis Stevenson Branch Library, LA Made, National Endowment for the Humanities

INFO: 323.268.4710
lapl.org/whats-on/events

ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH 2025 CALENDAR AND CULTURAL GUIDE

COMMUNITY EVENTS



Doris Bittar, *Pappi in Egypt*, Photo shadow box, 16" x 16"x 3", 2005

LA MADE PRESENTS: HENNA ART WITH KHUSHBOO MANCHANDA

Participants will learn about the significance of Henna across cultures, the process of making Henna paste, and its application, and then create their own small Henna tattoos.

- WHEN:** May 22, 4:00 p.m.
- SITE:** Encino/Tarzana Branch Library, 18231 Ventura Blvd., Tarzana
- COST:** Free
- SPONSOR:** Encino/Tarzana Branch Library, LA Made, National Endowment for the Humanities
- INFO:** lapl.org/branches/encino-tarzana

ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH 2025 CALENDAR AND CULTURAL GUIDE

COMMUNITY EVENTS

EVENING FOR EDUCATORS – MUSEUM OF LATIN AMERICAN ART

MOLAA’s Evening for Educators is a six-part professional development series for K-12 educators based on the five principles of trauma-informed practice: safety, trustworthiness, choice, collaboration, and empowerment. Each session includes an after-work meal and a guest facilitator from a historically underrepresented community to invite questions, encourage discussion, and lead a collaborative art project to promote healing and empowerment.

WHEN: June 3, 4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
SITE: Museum of Latin American Art, 628 Alamitos Ave., Long Beach
COST: Free, register in advance at the website
SPONSOR: Museum of Latin American Art
INFO: 562.437.1689
molaa.org/evening-for-educators

FORUM FOR INTERGENERATIONAL CONFLICTS ANALYSIS AND FINDING SOLUTIONS FOR KOREAN AMERICANS

The forum will bring together experts, community leaders, and families to discuss generational challenges in immigrant households. Based on insights from a 2024 survey by YouStar Foundation and the Korean Consulate General in LA, the event will explore cultural misunderstandings, shifting family roles, and mental health impacts. Through open dialogue, real-life stories, and expert guidance, attendees will gain tools to foster understanding and communication across generations in Korean American families.

WHEN: June 21, 4:00 p.m.
SITE: Berendo Street Baptist Church, 975 S. Berendo St., Los Angeles
COST: Free
SPONSOR: YouStar Foundation
INFO: youstarfoundation.org

KOREAN LANGUAGE PROGRAM

Join Korean Cultural Center’s in-person Korean Language Program designed for learners of all levels. Classes focus on improving reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills while immersing students in Korean culture. Register two weeks prior for summer sessions.

WHEN: July 22 - August 19, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.
SITE: Korean Cultural Center Los Angeles, 5505 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles
COST: Free, register by phone
SPONSOR: Korean Cultural Center Los Angeles
INFO: 323.424.3235
kccla.org/koreanlanguageprogram



Tommy Vinh Bui, *Kith and Kin and Kintsugi*, Ceramic plate and gold epoxy, 8" x 8", 2025

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COMMUNITY EVENTS

MUSEUMS & EXHIBITIONS

WAKAJI MATSUMOTO - AN ARTIST IN TWO WORLDS: LOS ANGELES AND HIROSHIMA, 1917-1944

This exhibition highlights an artist's photographs of the Japanese American community in Los Angeles before World War II, and of urban life in Hiroshima before the 1945 atomic bombing of the city.

WHEN: Ongoing exhibition
SITE: Streaming via Japanese American National Museum
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Japanese American National Museum
INFO: 213.625.0414
janm.org/exhibits/wakaji-matsumoto

MY HANDS ARE MONSTERS WHO BELIEVE IN MAGIC

An exhibition featuring works by Asian diasporic artists exploring the process of unmaking and remaking the self. Focusing on art as a site of radical reimagination, the exhibition presents a cross-generational conversation about the liberatory possibilities inherent in the continuous, messy, and sometimes contradictory process of forming social identity.

WHEN: Through August 3, Mondays – Fridays, 12:00 noon - 5:30 p.m.
SITE: Armory Center for the Arts, 145 N. Raymond Ave., Pasadena
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Armory Center for the Arts
INFO: 626.792.5101
armoryarts.org/exhibitions/2025/monsters

ANCIENT ARTS OF CHINA: A 5000 YEAR LEGACY

Explore 5,000 years of Chinese history through artifacts ranging from Neolithic pottery to 19th-century silk robes. Curated by scholars from the Shanghai Museum, this exhibition highlights the evolution of Chinese art and culture.

WHEN: Ongoing, Tuesdays – Sundays 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
SITE: Bowers Museum, 2002 N. Main St., Santa Ana
COST: Check the website for ticket prices
SPONSOR: Bowers Museum
INFO: 714.567.3600
bowers.org/exhibitions

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COMMUNITY EVENTS



Zoe Congyu Liu, *Palace 2*, Archival inkjet print, 24" x 30", 2023

ART OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS

Experience exquisite masterpieces and dynamic objects from the Pacific Islands. Spanning the geographic region of Oceania, this comprehensive exhibition highlights masterworks from the three cultural regions of Micronesia, Melanesia, and Polynesia with a focus on New Guinea.

WHEN: Ongoing Exhibition, Tuesdays – Sundays 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

SITE: Bowers Museum, 2002 N. Main St., Santa Ana

COST: Check the website for ticket prices

SPONSOR: Bowers Museum

INFO: 714.567.3600
bowers.org/exhibitions

ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH 2025 CALENDAR AND CULTURAL GUIDE

COMMUNITY EVENTS



Mary Cheung, *On the Other Side #1*, Conceptual art, 16" x 20", 2024

MIAO: MASTERS OF SILVER

Explore over 250 intricate works of silver jewelry and textiles crafted by the Miao people of China's Guizhou Province. Male silversmiths employ techniques such as casting, smelting, repoussé, forging, and engraving to create ornaments that express concepts like beauty, unity, fortune, and pride through geometric motifs.

WHEN: Ongoing, Tuesdays – Sundays 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

SITE: Bowers Museum, 2002 N. Main St., Santa Ana

COST: Check the website for ticket prices

SPONSOR: Bowers Museum

INFO: 714.567.3600
bowers.org/exhibitions

ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH 2025 CALENDAR AND CULTURAL GUIDE

COMMUNITY EVENTS



Kio Griffith, *Snake Sheddings 01*, Digital painting, 14" x 12", 2025

SACRED REALMS: BUDDHIST PAINTINGS BY SHASHI DHOJ TULACHAN

Explore the monumental works of Shashi Dhoj Tulachan, a second-generation *thangka* artist from Nepal. This exhibition features nine immense paintings that blend traditional Tibetan motifs with the artist's imaginative compositions, using vibrant natural mineral pigments. These works offer insight into Buddhist teachings, deities, and mythologies, serving as objects of meditation and reflection.

- WHEN:** Permanent Exhibition, Tuesdays – Sundays 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
SITE: Bowers Museum, 2002 N. Main St., Santa Ana
COST: Check the website for ticket prices
SPONSOR: Bowers Museum
INFO: 714.567.3600
bowers.org/exhibitions

ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH 2025

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COMMUNITY EVENTS

JOURNEYS

A narration of Chinese immigration to the U.S. with an emphasis on the community settlement in Los Angeles. The exhibition is outlined into four distinct time periods, each period defined by an important immigration law and event, accompanied by a brief description and a short personal story.

- WHEN:** Ongoing Exhibition, Tuesdays - Sundays, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., Tuesdays – Sundays 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
- SITE:** Chinese American Museum, 425 N. Los Angeles St., Los Angeles
- COST:** Adults – \$3; Seniors and Students – \$2; Museum Members – Free
- SPONSOR:** Chinese American Museum
- INFO:** 213.485.8567
camla.org/current-exhibits

ORIGINS: THE BIRTH AND RISE OF CHINESE AMERICAN COMMUNITIES

A permanent exhibition celebrating the growth and development of Chinese American enclaves from Downtown Los Angeles to the San Gabriel Valley.

- WHEN:** Ongoing Exhibition, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., Tuesdays – Sundays 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
- SITE:** Chinese American Museum, 425 N. Los Angeles St., Los Angeles
- COST:** Adults – \$3; Seniors and Students – \$2; Museum Members – Free
- SPONSOR:** Chinese American Museum
- INFO:** 213.485.8567
camla.org/current-exhibits

SUN WING WO GENERAL STORE AND HERB SHOP

This exhibition is a recreation of a store housed in the Garnier Building in the 1890s; the Sun Wing Wo store was open from 1891 until 1948. The store was a multi-purpose space that showcased Chinese self-sufficiency. Even though the store predominantly served the Chinese, people from every facet of society were customers.

- WHEN:** Ongoing Exhibition, Tuesdays – Sundays 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
- SITE:** Chinese American Museum, 425 N. Los Angeles St., Los Angeles
- COST:** Adults – \$3; Seniors and Students – \$2; Museum Members – Free
- SPONSOR:** Chinese American Museum
- INFO:** 213.485.8567
camla.org/current-exhibits

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COMMUNITY EVENTS

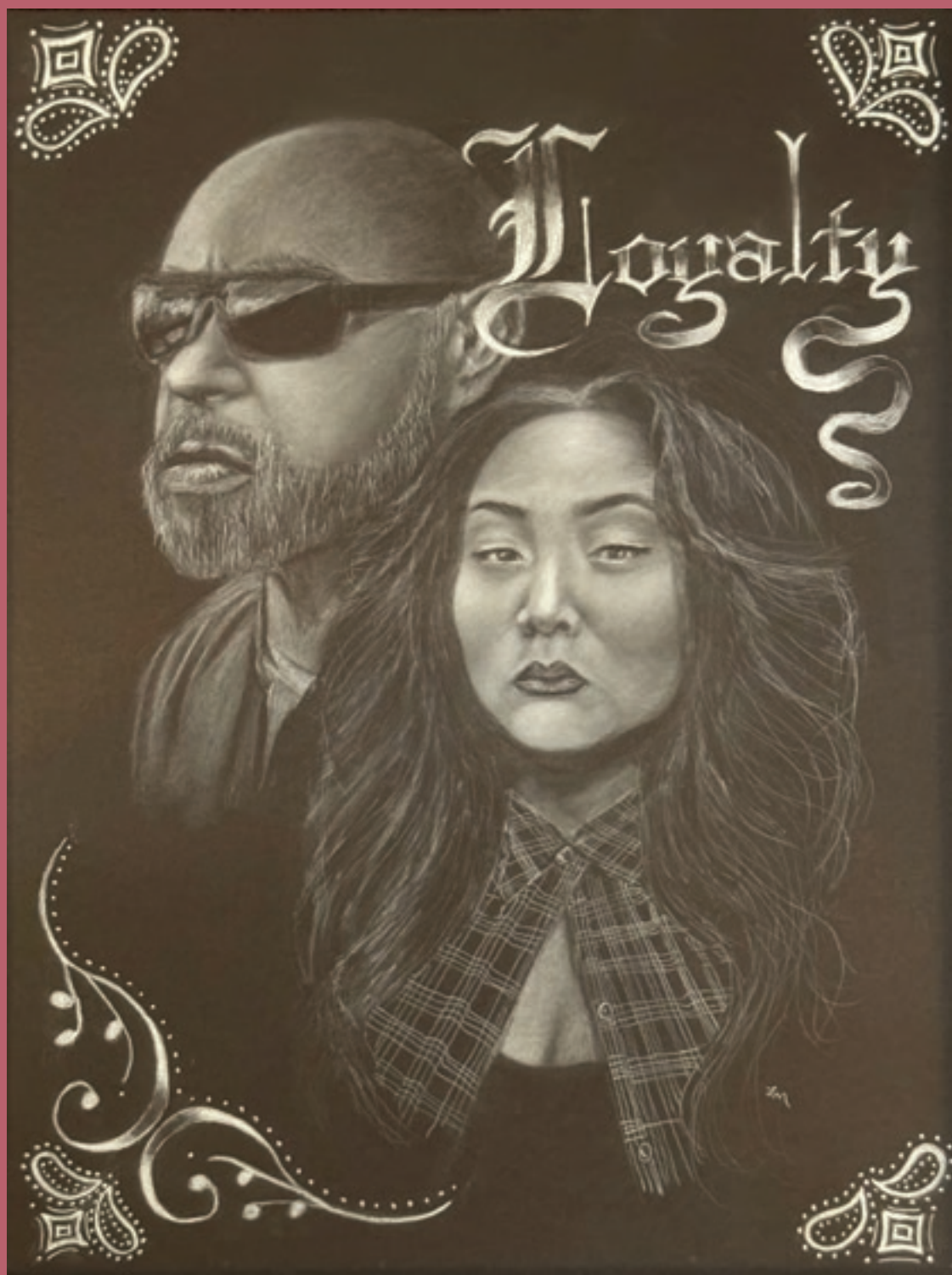


Samuel Youn, *Red Lady*, Digital painting, 13" x 13", 2025

AHREE LEE: HOME MAKER SPACE

Experience Home Maker Space, a thought-provoking exhibition by Ahree Lee that explores the intersection of weaving, video, and electronic textiles. The installation reimagines technology’s evolution through hand-woven textiles and projected visuals, inviting visitors to engage with the connections between domestic spaces and innovation.

- WHEN:** Through May 4. Tuesdays – Sundays 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
SITE: Craft Contemporary, 5814 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles
COST: Adults - \$9; Students, Teachers, and Seniors - \$7; CAFAM members - Free; Sunday – Free entry for all
SPONSOR: Craft Contemporary
INFO: 323.937.4230
craftcontemporary.org/exhibitions



Liza Macawili, *Loyalty*, Pastel chalk, pencil on paper, 18" x 24", 2022

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COMMUNITY EVENTS



Yoshio Ikezaki, *Insight*, Sumi ink on paper, 11.5" x 15.5", 2024

HAMMER PROJECTS: LAP-SEE LAM

Stockholm-based artist Lap-See Lam presents *Tales of the Altersea*, an immersive video installation inspired by the ruins of a dragon-shaped ship visible from her art school studio. The ship, which sailed from Shanghai to Gothenburg in 1990, intending to serve Chinese cuisine to European patrons, was eventually abandoned. Lam’s work delves into loss, memory, and resilience themes, using the vessel’s history as a narrative foundation.

WHEN: February 1 – June 29, Tuesdays –Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays, 11:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., Fridays, 11:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

SITE: Hammer Museum, 10899 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles

COST: Free

SPONSOR: Hammer Museum

INFO: 310.443.7000
hammer.ucla.edu/exhibitions

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COMMUNITY EVENTS



Lyn Pacificar, *Moringa Malunggay*, Pen on Bristol paper, 14" x 17", 2025

AI WEIWEI'S CIRCLE OF ANIMALS / ZODIAC HEADS

This exhibition references a long and ongoing story of cross-cultural exchange and collision between China and the West, beginning with a mid-18th century fountain at Yuanmingyuan, the Old Summer Palace in Beijing.

WHEN: Ongoing Exhibition, Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays,
Check the website for time

SITE: Los Angeles County Museum of Art, 5905 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles

COST: Check the website for ticket prices

SPONSOR: Los Angeles County Museum of Art

INFO: 323.857.6010
lacma.org/art/exhibitions/current

ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH 2025

CALENDAR AND CULTURAL GUIDE

COMMUNITY EVENTS

LINE, FORM, QI: CALLIGRAPHIC ART FROM THE FONDATION INK COLLECTION

This exhibition features experimental works of modern and contemporary calligraphic art, highlighting innovations in the art form. The exhibition explores the evolution of pictographs, the relationship between content and form, the development of new scripts, and the abstraction of the written word.

- WHEN:** April 6 – August 24, Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays, Check the website for time
- SITE:** Los Angeles County Museum of Art, 5905 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles
- COST:** Check the website for ticket prices
- SPONSOR:** Fondation INK
- INFO:** 323.857.6010
lacma.org/art/exhibition/line-form-qi-calligraphic-art-fondation-ink-collection

ZHENG CHONGBIN: GOLDEN STATE

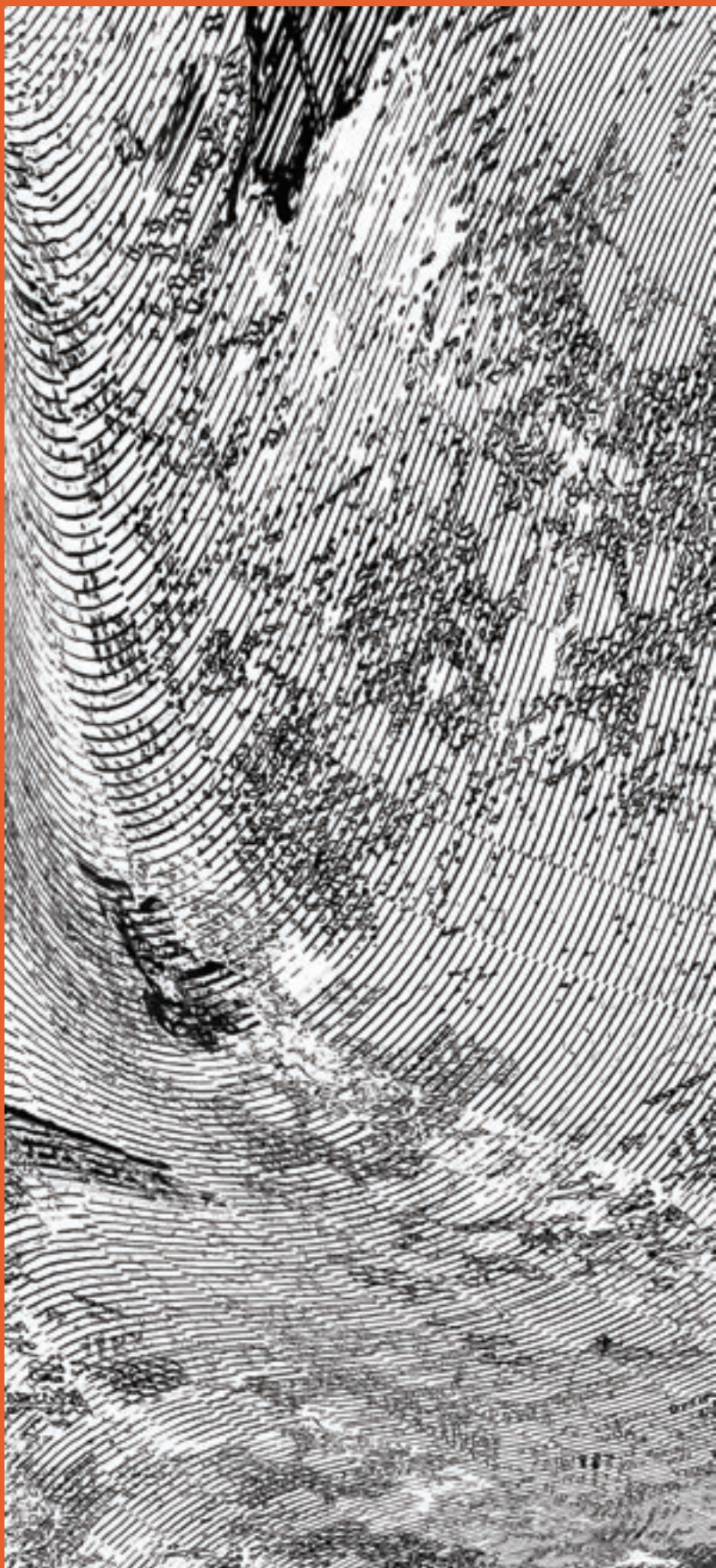
Explore the innovative works of Shanghai-born, Marin County–based artist Zheng Chongbin, who blends the aesthetics of the Light and Space movement with East Asian ink painting traditions. This focused presentation features two video installations alongside painted and printed works, offering abstract interpretations of California’s natural landscapes through exploration of water, light, and movement.

- WHEN:** Through January 4, 2026, Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays, Check the website for time
- SITE:** Los Angeles County Museum of Art, 5905 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles
- COST:** Check the website for ticket prices
- SPONSOR:** Los Angeles County Museum of Art
- INFO:** 323.857.6010
lacma.org/art/exhibition/zheng-chongbin-golden-state

SOUTH AND SOUTHEAST ASIAN PAINTINGS AND SCULPTURE

The Norton Simon Museum houses a world-renowned collection of South and Southeast Asian art, including examples of the rich sculptural and painting traditions that developed in this region over 2,000 years.

- WHEN:** Permanent exhibition, Wednesdays – Mondays, 12:00 noon – 5:00 p.m., Fridays and Saturdays, 12:00 noon – 7:00 p.m.
- SITE:** Norton Simon Museum, 411 W. Colorado Blvd., Pasadena
- COST:** Adults - \$20; Seniors - \$15; Children (ages 18 and under) free
- SPONSOR:** Norton Simon Museum
- INFO:** 626.449.6840
nortonsimon.org/art



Kanata Yamayoshi, *Incline*, Marker on wallpaper, 24" x 72", 2022



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COMMUNITY EVENTS

NEVER FORGET: LA 1871

LA 1871 operetta explores the history of the Chinese Massacre of 1871 and reflects upon the tragedy’s lasting impact on present-day Los Angeles. This performance is part of a collaborative series of public programs presented by the Chinese Americans, supported by the ‘Smithsonian’s Our Shared Future: Reckoning with Our Racial Past initiative’ and in partnership with the Japanese American National Museum and LA Plaza de Cultura y Artes (LA Plaza).

WHEN: Ongoing Exhibition

SITE: Streaming with Chinese American Museum

COST: Free

SPONSOR: Chinese Americans, Smithsonian’s Our Shared Future: Reckoning with Our Racial Past initiative, Japanese American National Museum, LA Plaza de Cultura y Artes (LA Plaza), Chinese American Museum

INFO: youtube.com/watch?v=npp47x7gkUM

GIANT ROBOT BIENNALE 5—JAMES JEAN AND ERIC NAKAMURA

James Jean and Eric Nakamura came together in conversation around art and community regarding the Giant Robot Biennale, an art exhibition that highlighted diverse creative works celebrating the ethos of Giant Robot—a staple of Asian American alternative pop culture and an influential brand encompassing pop art, skateboard, comic book, graphic arts, and vinyl toy culture.

WHEN: Ongoing Exhibition

SITE: Streaming with Japanese American National Museum

COST: Free

SPONSOR: Japanese American National Museum

INFO: youtube.com/watch?v=9DuWAYya_pc

NIKKEI UNCOVERED IV: A POETRY READING | FEAT. CHRISTINE KITANO, MIA AYUMI MALHOTRA & MATTHEW MEJIA

Discover Nikkei held our fourth virtual poetry reading, with a powerful lineup of poets previously featured in Discover Nikkei’s “Nikkei Uncovered: a poetry column.” Hosted by traci kato-kiriyama, author of *Navigating With(out) Instruments*, this year’s reading featured Christine Kitano, Mia Ayumi Malhotra, and Matthew Mejia.

WHEN: Ongoing Exhibition

SITE: Streaming with Japanese American National Museum

COST: Free

SPONSOR: Japanese American National Museum

INFO: youtube.com/watch?v=vctEwEY5n68

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COMMUNITY EVENTS



Harpreet Kaur Sandhu, *Pedagogy*, Oil painting on cardboard mounted on hand woven cotton cords, 8.5" x10.5", 2022

EMIKO OMORI & CHIZUKO OMORI DISCUSS “RABBIT IN THE MOON” RESTORYING

As part of the forced incarceration of American citizens of Japanese descent in the United States during World War II, filmmaker Emiko Omori was held at the Poston American concentration camp at the border of California and Arizona. Fifty years later, Omori asked her family and fellow former inmates to reflect on the personal and political consequences of the camps, rendering a poetic and illuminating picture of a deeply troubling chapter in American history.

- WHEN:** Ongoing Exhibition
SITE: Streaming with the Hammer Channel
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Hammer Museum
INFO: channel.hammer.ucla.edu/video/1899/emiko-omori-chizuko-omori-discuss-rabbit-in-the-moon

MONICA YOUN READS, JANUARY 2024

Monica Youn, an associate professor of English at UC Irvine and former constitutional lawyer, reads from her latest volume, *FROM FROM*, a finalist for the 2023 National Book Award. The book’s poems tackle issues of racism faced by Asian Americans and other communities in the United States.

- WHEN:** Ongoing Exhibition
SITE: Streaming with the Hammer Museum
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Hammer Museum
INFO: channel.hammer.ucla.edu/video/1873/monica-youn-reads-january-2024

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COMMUNITY EVENTS



Young Summers, *Remnants of Memories*, Paper collage, 26" x 32" x 3", 2024

SYMPOSIUM: AN ENCOUNTER WITH THE KOREAN AVANT-GARDE

This recorded symposium, created in partnership with GYOP0, explores the historical, political, and cultural contexts of *Only the Young: Experimental Art in Korea, 1960s–1970s*. The event examines the lasting influence of Korea's Experimental Art movement and its impact on the global art scene, featuring discussions with artists, historians, and scholars. The program includes a keynote by art historian Joan Kee, panel discussions, and a performance by artist Sung Neung Kyung.

WHEN: Ongoing Exhibition

SITE: Streaming with the Hammer Museum

COST: Free

SPONSOR: Hammer Museum in collaboration with GYOP0

INFO: channel.hammer.ucla.edu/video/1884/symposium-an-encounter-with-the-korean-avant-garde



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COMMUNITY EVENTS



C. Ryu, *are you listening to me?*, Archival print, 40" x 28", 2017

STORIES AND VOICES FROM LA CHINATOWN

Explore the rich history of Los Angeles's Chinatown through the online exhibition *Stories and Voices from LA Chinatown*. This exhibition delves into the creation of New Chinatown in 1938, highlighting its community members' vision, resilience, and traditions. Featuring historic photographs, documents, and maps from The Huntington and Los Angeles Public Library collections, the exhibition is organized into themes such as Exclusion, Resilience, Vision, Opportunity, Community, and Tradition.

WHEN: Ongoing Exhibition

SITE: Streaming with the Los Angeles Public Library

COST: Free

SPONSORS: The Huntington Library, Art Museum, and Botanical Gardens, Library Foundation of Los Angeles, Los Angeles Public Library

INFO: exhibits.lapl.org/chinatown

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COMMUNITY EVENTS



Kathy Yoshihara, *Gaman*, Cone 10 Stoneware and Porcelain, 14" x 24" x 17", 2023

SU YU-XIN: SEARCHING THE SKY FOR GOLD

Los Angeles–based artist Su Yu-Xin presents her first solo museum exhibition outside Asia. She explores the materiality of color by transforming natural and synthetic materials into pigments. Her work delves into how pigments are extracted from the Earth and challenges modern color systems by investigating their origins, functions, and potential futures.

- WHEN:** Through May 25, Wednesdays – Sundays, 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
SITE: Orange County Museum of Art, 3333 Avenue of the Arts, Costa Mesa
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Orange County Museum of Art
INFO: 714.780.2130
ocma.art/exhibitions

UNEARTHED

This exhibit explores ceramics as a natural medium shaped by the Earth’s crust through heat and time. Featuring works by Alex Anderson, Shuyi Cao, Tony Marsh, Keita Matsunaga, Yuji Ueda, and Masaomi Yasunaga, the exhibition examines the intrinsic connection between land, place, and geology. These artists work, and choice of materials, reflect on the transformation of ceramics, reimagining its role in recording geological and territorial change.

- WHEN:** Through May 25, Wednesdays – Sundays, 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
SITE: Orange County Museum of Art, 3333 Avenue of the Arts, Costa Mesa
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Orange County Museum of Art, Lugano Diamonds
INFO: 714.780.2130
ocma.art/exhibitions/uneearthed

ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH 2025 CALENDAR AND CULTURAL GUIDE

COMMUNITY EVENTS



popolino, *Oblivion*, Digital Image, 2025

KINSHIP: TRANSLATIONS OF PLACE-BASED MEMORY

This is an iteration of *Art 25: Art in the 25th Century*, a collective founded by artists Lisa Jarrett, Lehua M. Taitano, and Jocelyn Kapumealani Ng. The exhibition explores Indigenous and Black art's place in contemporary and future contexts, questioning historical access, curation, and preservation. As part of this ongoing commitment, works by Weshoyot Alvitre, a Tongva descendant, will also be in ceremony.

WHEN: Ongoing Exhibition, Wednesdays – Sundays, 11:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

SITE: Pacific Island Ethnic Art Museum, 695 Alamitos Ave., Long Beach

COST: Adults - \$5; Seniors and Students - \$3; Members and Children under 12 - Free

SPONSORS: Pacific Island Ethnic Art Museum, SoCal PICRT, The Center for Cultural Power, California Arts Council

INFO: 562.216.4170
pieam.org



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COMMUNITY EVENTS

PACIFIC ISLAND ETHNIC ART MUSEUM – PERMANENT COLLECTION

Explore the permanent collection of the Pacific Island Ethnic Art Museum, celebrating the diverse cultures of the Pacific Islands. The exhibition features traditional crafts, textiles, and ceremonial objects, including Samoan kava bowls, Fijian masi (tapa cloth), and intricately woven textiles from Fais Island.

WHEN: Ongoing Exhibition, Wednesdays – Sundays, 11:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
SITE: Pacific Island Ethnic Art Museum, 695 Alamitos Ave., Long Beach
COST: Adults - \$5; Seniors and Students - \$3; Members and Children under 12 - Free
SPONSOR: Pacific Island Ethnic Art Museum
INFO: 562.216.4170
pieam.org/permanent

RE STORYING PASIFIKA HISTORIES: IMPERIAL “POSSESSIONS” AND THE TREATY OF 1898

Join historian and educator Melodie Turori for a thought-provoking discussion on the Treaty of 1898 and its lasting impact on Pasifika communities. This session explores the historical narratives of imperial “possessions” and the ongoing efforts to reclaim and restore Pasifika histories.

WHEN: Ongoing Exhibition, Wednesdays – Sundays, 11:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
SITE: Pacific Island Ethnic Art Museum, 695 Alamitos Ave., Long Beach
COST: Adults - \$5; Seniors and Students - \$3; Members and Children under 12 - Free
SPONSOR: Pacific Island Ethnic Art Museum
INFO: 562.216.4170
pieam.org

THE LIFE AND WORK OF GEORGE HOSHIDA

This project honors the spirit and talent of George Hoshida, an incarcerated artist who documented life with pencil and brushwork in a series of notebooks he kept between 1942 and 1945. Through examples of Hoshida’s artwork and personal correspondence with his family, this site hopes to provide insight into an individual’s incarceration experience.

WHEN: Ongoing Exhibition
SITE: Streaming at the Japanese American National Museum
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Japanese American National Museum
INFO: 213.625.0414
janm.org/exhibits/hoshida

ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH 2025

CALENDAR AND CULTURAL GUIDE

COMMUNITY EVENTS

YAYOI KUSAMA’S INFINITY MIRROR ROOMS

Experience Yayoi Kusama’s *Infinity Mirrored Room—The Souls of Millions of Light Years Away*, an immersive installation of endless reflections and shifting lights. This timed-entry exhibit requires reservations. Additionally, *Longing for Eternity*, a mirror-lined chamber with dazzling LED lights, is on view on the third floor, with no reservation required.

- WHEN:** Ongoing Exhibition, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays – 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.,
Thursdays – 11:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
- SITE:** The Broad, 221 S. Grand Ave., Los Angeles
- COST:** Free, reservation required, tickets available at the website
- SPONSOR:** The Broad
- INFO:** 213.232.6200
thebroad.org/visit

PACIFIC RIM COLLECTIONS AT THE HUNTINGTON

Explore The Huntington Library’s extensive Pacific Rim collections, encompassing materials highlighting the diverse cultures and histories of regions including California, China, Hawaii, Japan, and the Philippines. The exhibition features notable subjects such as European exploration in Asia from the 16th century onward, 19th-century anti-Chinese movements in California, and Chinese immigration to the United States.

- WHEN:** Ongoing Exhibition, Wednesdays – Mondays, 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- SITE:** The Huntington Library, Art Museum, and Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Rd., San Marino
- COST:** Check the website for ticket prices. Advance reservations are required
- SPONSOR:** The Huntington Library, Art Museum, and Botanical Gardens
- INFO:** 626.405.2100
huntington.org/pacific-rim

MINEO MIZUNO: HOMAGE TO NATURE

Mineo Mizuno presents a site-specific sculpture crafted from fallen timber gathered in the Sierra Nevada forests. The work explores the fragility of Earth’s ecosystem, highlighting the destruction of forests and their potential for regeneration. Utilizing yakisugi (shou sugi), a traditional Japanese method of wood preservation, the charred surfaces of the reclaimed timbers symbolize fire’s destructive and transformative power.

- WHEN:** Through May 2029, Wednesdays – Mondays, 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- SITE:** The Huntington Library, Art Museum, and Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Rd., San Marino
- COST:** Check the website for ticket prices. Advance reservations are required
- SPONSOR:** The Huntington Library, Art Museum, and Botanical Gardens
- INFO:** 626.405.2100
huntington.org/exhibitions

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COMMUNITY EVENTS



Sandra Low, *Chinese Enough (Nezha Cheesy)*, Oil on canvas, 50" x 40", 2024

A MOMENTOUS MOMENT IN TIME OF PASSAGE AND LANDING

This mural celebrates diasporic communities' journeys when leaving their homes to find new places to nest. Muralist Dave Young Kim's work imagines over 30 birds traveling together in harmonious flight. Each bird pictured is an official national bird from Asia and the Pacific Islands, representing diverse communities that now call Southern California home.

WHEN: Ongoing Exhibition, Wednesdays – Sundays, 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

SITE: USC Pacific Asia Museum, 46 N. Los Robles Ave., Pasadena

COST: Check the website for ticket prices

SPONSOR: USC Pacific Asia Museum

INFO: 626.449.2742
pacificasiamuseum.usc.edu/whats-on-view



Dave Young Kim, *Kim's Smog*, Lightbox sign, latex, acrylic paint on wood panel, 27.5" x 34" x 2.5", 2023

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COMMUNITY EVENTS



Shan Wu, *Prosperity and Auspiciousness*, Embroidery patches, silk, 32" x 48", 2024

CAI GUO-QIANG: A MATERIAL ODYSSEY

Explore the works of artist Cai Guo-Qiang, who uses gunpowder and pyrotechnics to create dynamic drawings, paintings, and explosion events. This exhibition delves into the nature and properties of gunpowder, chronicling its use in Cai's artistic process. Accompanying programs include videos on fireworks creation, interactive displays, and film screenings.

WHEN: Through June 15, Wednesdays – Sundays, 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

SITE: USC Pacific Asia Museum, 46 N. Los Robles Ave., Pasadena

COST: Check the website for ticket prices

SPONSOR: USC Pacific Asia Museum

INFO: 626.449.2742
pacificasiamuseum.usc.edu/whats-on-view

CROSSROADS: EXPLORING THE SILK ROAD GALLERY

Journey through Dunhuang, an ancient oasis connecting peoples and cultures, where the sights and sounds come to life through stories, music, objects, an interactive discovery map, an intergenerational reading area, and highlights from the museum's collection. *Crossroads* aims to inspire curiosity, build empathy, and catalyze connections.

WHEN: June 15, Wednesdays – Sundays, 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

SITE: USC Pacific Asia Museum, 46 N. Los Robles Ave., Pasadena

COST: Check the website for ticket prices

SPONSOR: USC Pacific Asia Museum

INFO: 626.449.2742
pacificasiamuseum.usc.edu

ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH 2025 CALENDAR AND CULTURAL GUIDE

COMMUNITY EVENTS



Amy Lyu, *Wonder*, Acrylic and mixed media on canvas, 38" x 38", 2024

PERMANENT COLLECTION OF PACIFIC ASIA MUSEUM

The collection includes art and artifacts from across the Asian and Pacific regions – including items over 5,000 years old. Visit the newly installed galleries to discover these treasures.

- WHEN:** June 15, Wednesdays – Sundays, 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
SITE: USC Pacific Asia Museum, 46 N. Los Robles Ave., Pasadena
COST: See website for ticket prices
SPONSOR: USC Pacific Asia Museum
INFO: 626.449.2742
pacificasiamuseum.usc.edu

ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH 2025 CALENDAR AND CULTURAL GUIDE

COMMUNITY EVENTS



Miki Yokoyama, *Towards the Light*, Acrylic and acrylic pen on canvas, 24" x 36", 2025

BEFORE YOU NOW: CAPTURING THE SELF IN PORTRAITURE

The exhibition explores the enduring theme of the artist's self-portrait through photographs, prints, drawings, videos, and installation art from LACMA's collection. Featuring over 50 artists, it examines how American artists present themselves through realism, symbolic tropes, humor, or conceptual methods.

- WHEN:** May 2 – May 26, 11:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m.
SITE: Millard Sheets Art Center / Fairplex, 1101 W. McKinley Ave., Pomona
COST: Check the website for ticket prices
SPONSOR: Fairplex
INFO: fairplex.com/tlcfairplex/tlc-msac

EXHIBITION TOURS @ PAM – CAI GUO-QIANG: A MATERIAL ODYSSEY

Join USC's Pacific Asia Museum curator Dr. Rebecca Hall and guest curator Rachel Rivenc for an in-depth tour of *Cai Guo-Qiang: A Material Odyssey*. Explore the innovative use of materials in Cai's work and discover connections between different cultural perspectives on the cosmos.

- WHEN:** May 3, 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Wednesday – Sunday, 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
SITE: USC Pacific Asia Museum, 46 N. Los Robles Ave., Pasadena
COST: \$20. RSVP at website
SPONSOR: USC Pacific Asia Museum
INFO: 626.449.2742
pacificasiamuseum.usc.edu/calendar

ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH 2025

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COMMUNITY EVENTS

THE SILENCE

Rachel Bridges explores her Filipino and Chinese heritage through painting, using family photos, public archives, and historical sources to reconstruct her family’s past. As a second-generation Filipina American, Bridges was unaware of her Chinese ancestry until recently, despite subtle clues like the use of Chinese spices in her family’s Philippine meals. Through this exhibition, she examines colonial influences and the impact of lost histories on personal identity.

- WHEN:** May 10 – June 28, Saturdays, 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
SITE: Art in the Park, 5568 Via Marisol Ave., Los Angeles
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Bed and Breakfast and Art in the Park
INFO: artintheparkla.org

REALMS OF THE DHARMA: BUDDHIST ART ACROSS ASIA

This exhibition presents an international survey of Buddhism and Buddhist art, beginning with the religion’s origins in India and following its spread through mainland and island Southeast Asia, the Himalayas, and East Asia. Incorporating 150 masterpieces of pan-Asian Buddhist art, the exhibition introduces key concepts of Buddhist thought and practice viewed through rare and extraordinarily beautiful Buddhist sculptures, paintings, and ritual objects. Drawn from LACMA’s permanent collection, with several significant loans from private collections, the exhibition explores the life of the Buddha, the role of the bodhisattva, Buddhist cosmology, and key concepts such as dharma, karma, nirvana, mantra, mudra, and mandala.

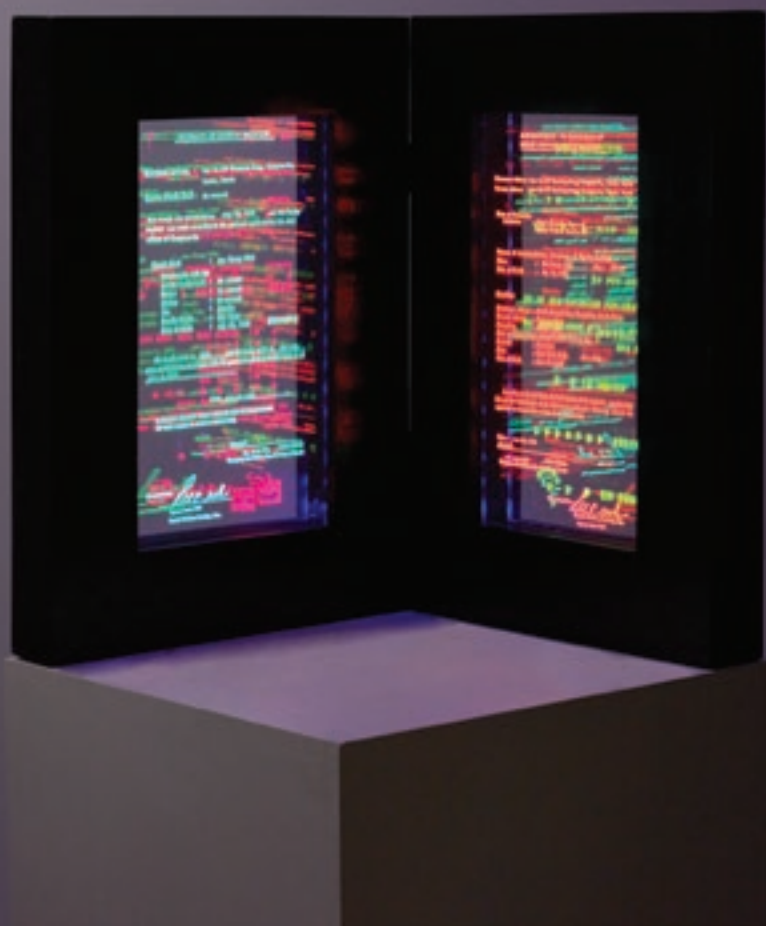
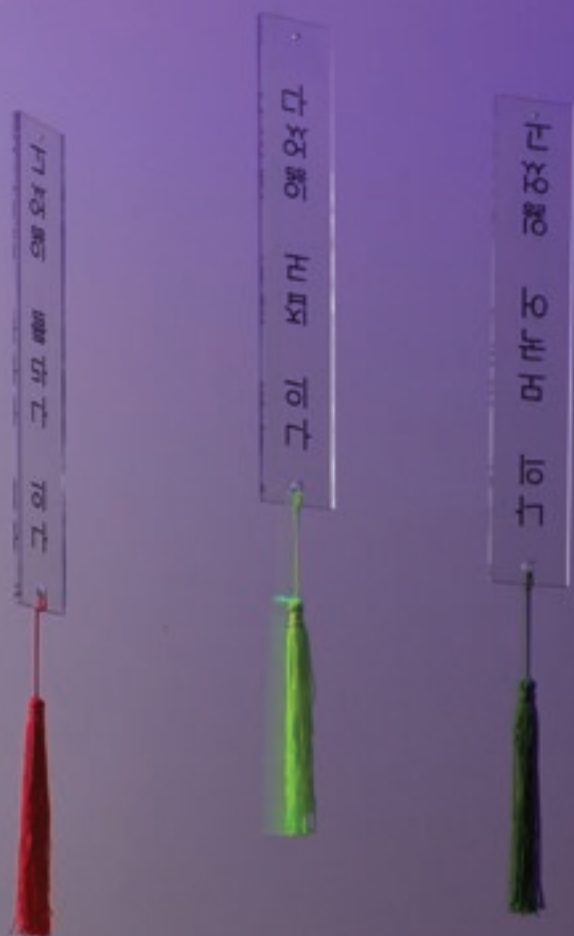
- WHEN:** May 11 – July 12, 2026, Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays, Check website for time
SITE: Los Angeles County Museum of Art, 5905 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles
COST: Check the website for ticket prices
SPONSOR: Los Angeles County Museum of Art
INFO: lacma.org/art/exhibition/realms-dharma-buddhist-art-across-asia

FREE 2ND SUNDAY @ PACIFIC ASIA MUSEUM

This monthly event celebrates cultures and themes presented in our exhibitions. Each program features art-making workshops, storytime, tours, performances, screenings, and more.

- WHEN:** May 11, 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Wednesday – Sunday, 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
SITE: USC Pacific Asia Museum, 46 N. Los Robles Ave., Pasadena
COST: Check the website for ticket prices
SPONSOR: USC Pacific Asia Museum
INFO: 626.449.2742
pacificasiamuseum.usc.edu/calendar

At right, both: Kayla Noriko Tange, At top, *I Lost My Country, I Lost My Home, I Lost My Mother Tongue*, Acrylic, acrylic paint, nylon, 6 ¼"x12"x1¼", 2024, at bottom, *No Record (Bought and Sold series)*, Wood, acrylic, acrylic paint, LED, adoption documents in Korean and English, 16" x 24" x 2", 2024



ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH 2025

CALENDAR AND CULTURAL GUIDE

COMMUNITY EVENTS

CONVERSATION @ PAM: CAI GUO-QIANG: THE ARTIST’S MATERIALS

Join author Rachel Rivenc to discuss her book *Cai Guo-Qiang: The Artist’s Materials*. Discover the life, methods, and unique materials used by Cai Guo-Qiang, a groundbreaking figure in contemporary art.

- WHEN:** May 17, 11:00 a.m. Wednesday – Sunday, 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
SITE: USC Pacific Asia Museum, 46 N. Los Robles Ave., Pasadena
COST: \$20, reservation required
SPONSOR: USC Pacific Asia Museum
INFO: 626.449.2742
pacificasiamuseum.usc.edu/calendar

WORLD OF THE TERRACOTTA WARRIORS: NEW ARCHAEOLOGICAL DISCOVERIES IN SHAANXI IN THE 21ST CENTURY

Explore newly uncovered treasures from China’s Shaanxi Province in *World of the Terracotta Warriors*. This exhibition features over 120 artifacts, including terracotta warriors, chariot regalia, jade and gold adornments, and bronze vessels. Discover the evolution of China’s political and artistic landscape, from early walled cities to the Qin dynasty’s legendary warriors. This exhibition is presented in collaboration with leading Chinese museums and archaeological institutions and offers a rare glimpse into the ancient past.

- WHEN:** May 24 – October 19, Tuesdays – Sundays 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
SITE: Bowers Museum, 2002 N. Main St., Santa Ana
COST: Check the website for ticket prices
SPONSOR: Bowers Museum, Shaanxi Provincial Cultural Heritage Administration, Shaanxi Cultural Heritage Promotion Center, Emperor Qinshihuang’s Mausoleum Site Museum
INFO: 714.567.3600
bowers.org/exhibitions/upcoming-exhibitions

MOCA FOCUS: TAKAKO YAMAGUCHI

MOCA presents the first solo museum exhibition in Los Angeles for artist Takako Yamaguchi. Her work integrates diverse influences, including Mexican muralism, Renaissance art, Japanese Nihonga, and Art Nouveau, resulting in ornate paintings that challenge rigid notions of ethnic identity and cultural ownership. At seventy-two, Yamaguchi synthesizes motifs developed over four decades into archly stylized oil-and-bronze-leaf seascapes.

- WHEN:** June 29 – March 1, 2026, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays, 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.,
Sundays, 11:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., Thursdays, 11:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
SITE: MOCA Grand Avenue, 250 S. Grand Ave., Los Angeles
COST: Check the website for ticket prices
SPONSOR: MOCA Global Council
INFO: 213.626.6222
moca.org/exhibitions



Jian Lee, *Metal*, Charcoal, pastel on paper, 18" x 24", 2018



Mataniu Kiara Ulale, *Another day in Hawai'i*, Acrylic on canvas, 22" x 28", 2025

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COMMUNITY EVENTS

MUSIC AND DANCE

ISLAND BLOCK JAM SESSIONS

The Pacific Island Ethnic Art Museum (PIEAM) presents Island Block Jam Sessions, six live contemporary music performances by seasoned Pasifika artists, available online. The Virtual Backstage provides an inside look into the artists' backstories. Their music is a gift for our ancestors and all the little spirits of the human journey. This is where music and mana meet.

WHEN: Ongoing Exhibition
SITE: Streaming at Pacific Island Ethnic Art Museum
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Pacific Island Ethnic Art Museum, Island Block Network, Robert Gumbiner Foundation and The RuMBa Foundation of Long Beach
INFO: pieam.org/virtual-backstage

LIFE'S SENYAWA

LIFE'S Senyawa presents a digital performance by the experimental Indonesian band Senyawa, known for blending traditional Javanese sounds with contemporary noise and industrial influences. Originally created as part of *LIFE*, a Hammer Museum exhibition exploring speculative futures, this video performance captures Senyawa's powerful musical language and its intersection with themes of resistance, ritual, and technology.

WHEN: Wednesdays – Mondays
SITE: Streaming with the Hammer Museum
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Hammer Museum
INFO: channel.hammer.ucla.edu/video/1721/lifes-senyawa

HWARANG SORI KOREAN DRUM PERFORMANCE

The youth *nanta* team blends traditional Korean folk music, drum rhythms, and dance movements with modern pop songs to showcase the beauty and energy of Korean culture. This engaging performance is designed for audiences of all ages to experience the vibrancy of Korean drumming and dance.

WHEN: May 3, 12:00 p.m.
SITE: Frances Howard Goldwyn - Hollywood Regional Branch Library, 1623 Ivar Ave., Los Angeles
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Library Foundation of Los Angeles
INFO: 323.856.8260
lapl.org/branches/hollywood

ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH 2025

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COMMUNITY EVENTS

LOS ANGELES AND THE ‘UKULELE: A 130-YEAR-OLD LOVE STORY

Historian and author Jim Tranquada (*The ‘Ukulele: A History*) explores Los Angeles’s long and often surprising connection to the ‘ukulele. Before its recent resurgence, the city was already a hub for ‘ukulele culture, being one of the first places outside Hawai’i where the instrument could be purchased, learned, and enjoyed in performances.

- WHEN:** May 3, 2:00 p.m.
SITE: North Hollywood Amelia Earhart Regional Library, 5211 Tujunga Ave., North Hollywood
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Los Angeles Public Library
INFO: 818.766.7185
lapl.org/branches/north-hollywood

SUNIDHI CHAUHAN – I AM HOME

Experience the dynamic performance of Bollywood’s renowned playback singer, Sunidhi Chauhan, as she brings her “I Am Home” tour to Los Angeles. Known for hits like *Sheila Ki Jawani*, *Kamli*, and *Desi Girl*, Sunidhi promises an evening of electrifying music and entertainment.

- WHEN:** May 4, 6:00 p.m.
SITE: Long Beach Arena, 300 E. Ocean Blvd., Long Beach
COST: Check the website for ticket prices
SPONSOR: Stage Paint Productions
INFO: 562.436.3636
events.sulekha.com/sunidhi-chauhan

LA MADE PRESENTS: GUZHENG AND VOCAL PERFORMANCE – AN EXPLORATION OF ASIAN AMERICAN MUSIC

Experience a captivating performance of the ancient Chinese guzheng, paired with vocals sung in English, Cantonese, and Mandarin. This program explores the history and contemporary applications of the guzheng, demonstrating traditional, modern, and extended playing techniques. Attendees will appreciate how non-Western instruments are integrated into contemporary music, reflecting the cultural diversity that shapes Los Angeles.

- WHEN:** May 7, 3:30 p.m.
SITE: Chinatown Branch Library, 639 N. Hill St., Los Angeles
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Chinatown Branch Library, LA Made, National Endowment for the Humanities
INFO: 213.620.0925
lapl.org/branches/chinatown

ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH 2025 CALENDAR AND CULTURAL GUIDE

COMMUNITY EVENTS



C. Ryu, *The Throne*, Archival photograph, 80" x 54", 2017

MUSIC IN THE CHINESE GARDEN

Enjoy traditional Chinese music on Wednesday afternoons in the Garden of Flowing Fragrance. A different solo musician performs each week, playing unamplified melodies on classical instruments, including the *dizi*, *pipa*, and *erhu*. Let the music transport you to another time and place as you stroll through a magical landscape.

WHEN: May 7, Wednesdays, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

SITE: The Huntington Library, Art Museum, and Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Rd., San Marino

COST: Check the website for ticket prices

SPONSOR: The Huntington Library, Art Museum, and Botanical Gardens

INFO: 626.405.2100
[huntington.org/event/music-chinese-garden](https://www.huntington.org/event/music-chinese-garden)

ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH 2025 CALENDAR AND CULTURAL GUIDE

COMMUNITY EVENTS



Edmund Arevalo, *Mano Po Collage*, Paper transfer, acrylic on canvas, 18” x 24”, 2024

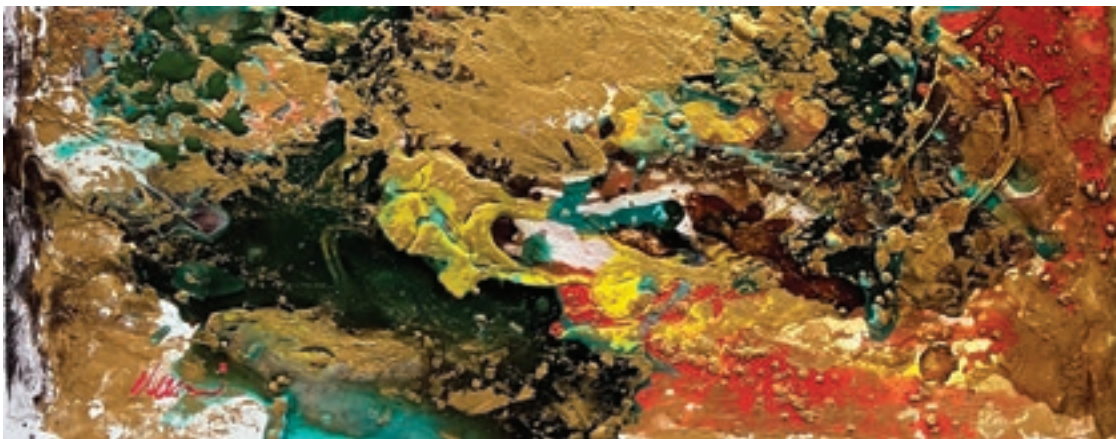
LA MADE PRESENTS: GUZHENG AND VOCAL PERFORMANCE: AN EXPLORATION OF ASIAN AMERICAN MUSIC

Experience a captivating performance featuring the ancient Chinese *guzheng* accompanied by English, Cantonese, and Mandarin vocals. This program not only showcases the *guzheng*’s dynamic sounds but also delves into its history and contemporary uses. You will explore various traditional, contemporary, and extended playing techniques. Our goal is to encourage the audience to rethink how non-Western instruments can be integrated into modern music and to appreciate the diverse cultures that contribute to the vibrant tapestry of Los Angeles.

- WHEN:** May 8, 4:00 p.m.
SITE: Cypress Park Branch Library, 1150 Cypress Ave., Los Angeles
COST: Free
SPONSOR: Cypress Park Branch Library, LA Made, National Endowment for the Humanities.
INFO: lapl.org/branches/cypress-park

ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH 2025 CALENDAR AND CULTURAL GUIDE

COMMUNITY EVENTS



Nami Yang, *Golden Pond #A*, Mixed media, 7" x 14", 2024

LA MADE PRESENTS: GUZHENG AND VOCAL PERFORMANCE: AN EXPLORATION OF ASIAN AMERICAN MUSIC

Experience a captivating performance featuring the ancient Chinese *guzheng* accompanied by English, Cantonese, and Mandarin vocals. This program not only showcases the *guzheng*'s dynamic sounds but also delves into its history and contemporary uses. You will explore various traditional, contemporary, and extended playing techniques. Our goal is to encourage the audience to rethink how non-Western instruments can be integrated into modern music and to appreciate the diverse cultures that contribute to the vibrant tapestry of Los Angeles.

WHEN: May 10, 4:00 p.m.

SITE: Arroyo Seco Regional Branch Library, 6145 N. Figueroa St., Los Angeles

COST: Free

SPONSOR: Arroyo Seco Regional Branch Library, LA Made, National Endowment for the Humanities

INFO: 323.255.0537

lapl.org/branches/arroyo-seco

LA MADE PRESENTS: SOUNDS OF WINDS

This entrancing program of traditional Korean music (rooted in shamanic rituals and agrarian life), and contemporary music influenced by Korean culture, is led by the engaging multi-instrumentalist Gamin. Gamin's extensive credits include being a principal player at the National Gugak Orchestra for a decade, performing in the Silk Road concert with Yo-Yo Ma in Seoul, and touring the world.

WHEN: May 17, 2:00 p.m.

SITE: Mid-Valley Regional Branch Library, 16244 Nordhoff Street, North Hills

COST: Free

SPONSOR: Mid-Valley Regional Branch Library, LA Made, National Endowment for the Humanities

INFO: 818.895.3650

lapl.org/branches/mid-valley

ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH 2025

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COMMUNITY EVENTS

CELEBRATING PIERRE BOULEZ 1925–2025

Celebrate the centennial of Pierre Boulez, the unparalleled French composer, conductor, and cultural visionary, with a captivating duo piano recital. Pianists Gloria Cheng and Ralph van Raat pay homage to Boulez’s legacy, performing his solo and duo compositions alongside works by John Cage, Morton Feldman, Frank Zappa, and Magnus Lindberg.

- WHEN:** May 30, 8:00 p.m.
SITE: The Nimoy, 1262 Westwood Blvd., Los Angeles
COST: Check the website for ticket prices
SPONSOR: Palihotel Westwood Village, LAist
INFO: cap.ucla.edu/event/celebrating-pierre-boulez

RIANTO: MEDIUM

Indonesian dancer Rianto presents *Medium*, a performance that delves into the traditional dance form of Lengger, exploring themes of gender fluidity and spiritual embodiment. Through this solo piece, Rianto intertwines contemporary movement with classical Javanese dance, offering a profound commentary on identity and cultural heritage.

- WHEN:** June 7, 8:00 p.m.
SITE: The Nimoy, 1262 Westwood Blvd., Los Angeles
COST: Check the website for ticket prices
SPONSOR: CAP UCLA
INFO: cap.ucla.edu/event/rianto

TEAM TAIKO JAPANESE DRUM LESSONS

Taiko is a drumming practice originating in Japan that has become a global phenomenon over the last several decades. World-renowned taiko artist ManMan Mui teaches drumming patterns over 8-week sessions. Lessons include developing rhythm, body awareness, and technique as students make music together as a team. Team Taiko is open to all, from beginners to seasoned musicians.

- WHEN:** June 30 - August 18, Mondays, 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.
SITE: Grand Annex, 434 W. Sixth St., San Pedro
COST: \$5 - \$25 per class in person or online
SPONSOR: Grand Vision Foundation
INFO: 310.833.4813
grandvision.org/community-classes



Tommy Vinh Bui, *Fruits of Our Labour*, Ink on grapefruit skin, 6" x 6", 2025

ambayan

hibition of Filipino American Artists



ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER
HERITAGE MONTH 2025

IN THE STUDIO AND IN THE COMMUNITY

AAPI ARTISTS SHAPING CULTURE

As we celebrate Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month, we're proud and honored to uplift and highlight a small but powerful cross-section of artists whose work reflects the depth, diversity, and dynamism of our communities.

Selected at random from the artwork featured in this publication are the voices of artists who offer unique perspectives that span genres, disciplines, and cultural expressions. While their stories are just a glimpse into the richness of AAPI artistic voices, each one invites us to reflect, connect, and celebrate. These spotlights are just a few of the many voices shaping our shared cultural landscape. For a full listing of artists featured, please see page 185.

For more information about arts and culture in Los Angeles:



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ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH 2025

TOMMY VINH BUI



Everything that I create is a direct percolation of my personal history and cultural upbringing. A swirling stew of hard wrought lessons garnished with a strong sense of family and community values. My artwork is a roadmap of all the people, places, dire straits, and daydreams that I've accumulated over the decades. And it's a privilege to be able to create. To grip a pencil as a rudder and attempt to navigate the merry maelstrom that is living in this vibrant and vivacious city. I best create in the thick of things.

Bui's art can be found on pages 40, 68, 107, 128, and a poem on page 153.

KATHY YOSHIHARA



My practice honors friends, relatives, and those no longer with us, who endured racism, social injustice, and incarceration from Executive Order 9066. During World War II, American citizens of Japanese descent were imprisoned in US government concentration camps. Their stories are revealed from a personal perspective, by combining traditional Japanese objects, historical content, and memorabilia. My ceramic/multi-media dioramas question attitudes that are still prevalent today. As my practice continues to evolve, my focus is to create pieces that honor my ancestors' stories and to educate the viewer of injustices committed by the government based on race, nationality, and language.

At right, Kathy Yoshihara's piece *Sensei*, Hand built stoneware, cone 10 underglazes, left: 10" x 4" x 5", middle: 7" x 3.5" x 4", right: 8" x 4" x 5", 2025. Images of her work are on pages 86 and 171.



foto's birth story

I am prepared for giving birth to my son, foto. I am calm. I am prepared. Mahigold is with somebody I trust. I first lie in a bath, feeling grounded. I am mentally in the zone. I am capable of giving birth. I am flexible and mobile to naturally have my body ready for foto to be delivered safely. I smell lavender. I see my babies smiling. I am surrounded by people are having a great day and have my best intentions when preparing for birth. My doula advocates for me. Donald and I are in sync. I hear the acoustics of songs that help me feel focused. I have no stress in my mind. Everyone that loves me give me the aura of love and light. My spiritual guide assist me in transforming me to someone who knows exactly how to naturally give birth. I am healthy. My baby is healthy. I'm alive. We are alive. Thank you God!

powerful

foto saint Vincent

ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH 2025

EDMUND AREVALO



My artistic practice is deeply rooted in the Filipino American experience, serving as both a celebration and exploration of my heritage, community, and values. Through the dynamic processes of collaging and decollaging, I investigate identity as a layered, ever-evolving narrative—one that mirrors the complexities of navigating and balancing two cultures.

Infused with Filipino symbols, historical references, and everyday cultural artifacts, my work functions as a visual archive of memory, migration, and transformation. By incorporating diverse textures, imagery, and mixed media elements, I aim to evoke a sense of connection and recognition for those who share this dual heritage.

Above, detail from Edmund Arevalo's work *Self Portrait Collage*, Paper transfer, acrylic on canvas wood panel, 60" x 40", 2023. Additional works can be found on pages 15, 101, 120, and 171.

KATHLEEN ANN VINCENT



I really consider myself more of a storyteller than anything. I am surrounded by creativity in my personal life. I'm an art collector so I'm very inspired in spaces. The specific piece I submitted was written because I come from a family that isn't expressive of emotions. I try to break that generationally with my daughter by being overly expressive, talking about feelings, expressing myself through journaling through poetry through all sorts of media art and performing arts. In a way, to liberate that shame I felt as a child when I didn't have the right words or movements to express how I truly felt.

At left, a handwritten and decorated page from one of Vincent's journals. Her poem *I am Nanay I am Mamma, I am Marigold* is on page 144.

ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH 2025

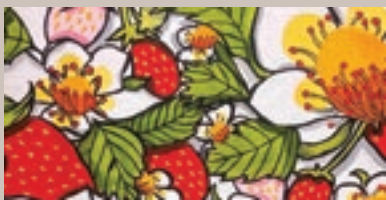
PAUL BATOU



I belong to Indigenous people of Iraq, descendants of the Mesopotamian people who faced persecution. I attended school and became a pharmacist. I didn't bother to apply for the art academy because it was only open to members of the government. We were unable to practice our culture or do anything related to our culture because it was prosecuted. My painting came from the journey of struggle of constant relocation, my service as pharmacist and medic in the Iraqi army during the Iran-Iraq War and as a refugee. The persecution of my people, lack of freedom, all these affect my art. Here I have a choice now. This country provided me with full freedom to express what's in my mind. I paint my suffering... the beauty of our world, beautiful human life, beauty in each human... All my art is me searching for peace and freedom and to expose the beauty of colors, beauty of nature, beauty of the human being.

You can find another of Paul Batou's works on page 33.

VANESSA MORROW



Cultural heritage, community, family, and values, I feel like all those are interwoven for me through my art. My art is an expression of a lot of the natural world. I connect a lot of flowers and plants to my heritage. I like to study my ancestors who are a reflection of, interconnected to, the natural landscape of the Philippines with what I grew up here in California. I like to reflect on the interwoven nature of nature and people, and how plants are connected to people.

At right, the artist at work in her studio. Above, detail from *Summer Dreams*, the artist's work can be found on page 48.

Contributed by Erin Aguilar

Conversations may have been edited for clarity.





Wakana Kimura, *After Inara Mi Snake*, Handmade Japanese paper, watercolor, sumi ink, marker, acrylic and vinyl color, gold leaf on paper; Scroll: silk brocade, Japanese paper, enamel rods, wood, glue, 53" x 21", 2024



Wakana Kimura, *After Joutai Bosatsu*, Handmade Japanese paper, watercolor, sumi ink, marker, acrylic and vinyl color, gold leaf on paper; Scroll: silk brocade, Japanese paper, enamel rods, wood, glue, 53" x 21", 2024



ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH 2025

CALENDAR AND CULTURAL GUIDE



DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS
City of Los Angeles

BIBLIOGRAPHY

SELECTED READING FOR CHILDREN

In celebration of this year's Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month, we present the following bibliography representing fictional and non-fictional works from a variety of Asian and Pacific Island cultures. These books are recommended for young readers, ages 10 to 12, and most are available through the Los Angeles Public Library.

Many books, music periodicals, and films can be downloaded for free from the Los Angeles Public Library website, lapl.org. Live in Los Angeles but don't have a library card? You can get immediate access to digital collections with an [e-card](#) that you can obtain at the lapl.org website. The e-card gives you immediate, unlimited, and free access to Los Angeles Public Library online resources.

Bibliography compiled by:

Gabriel Cifarelli
City of Los Angeles
Department of Cultural Affairs

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ASIAN AMERICAN LITERATURE

A SUITCASE OF SEAWEEED AND OTHER POEMS

By Janet S. Wong; Decorations by the author

With a sense of pride in her Korean, Chinese, and American background, Janet Wong's poetry reflects some of the differences between Chinese and Korean customs and culture and the American way of life. Divided into three sections—Korean, Chinese, and American—and with the author's explanation as to how the poems developed from experiences in her own life. These poems speak directly and simply to young people of many ethnic backgrounds, providing insights into the different kinds of prejudice many children confront today.

AMERICAN EYES: NEW ASIAN-AMERICAN SHORT STORIES FOR YOUNG ADULTS

By Lori M. Carlson, Editor

In this unique collection of touching and heartfelt short stories, ten young Asian American writers recreate the conflicts that all young people feel living in two distinct worlds: one of memories and traditions, and one of today. Whether it includes dreams of gossiping with the prettiest blond in the class, not wanting to marry the man your parents love, or discovering that your true identity is ultimately your decision, these extraordinary stories by writers of Asian descent explore the confusion and ambivalence of growing up in a world different from the one their parents knew.

EXTRAORDINARY ASIAN AMERICANS AND PACIFIC ISLANDERS

By Susan Sinnott

This volume spotlights a diverse group, ranging from pioneering immigrants to Hawaii's last queen, and on to present-day notables such as architect Maya Ying Lin and Yahoo cofounder Jerry Yang. Their achievements reflect a broad range of endeavor, from labor leaders and politicians to writers, athletes, scientists, actors, and artists. In addition to such well known figures as Tiger Woods, Amy Tan, and Bruce Lee, this text includes information on architect Minoru Yamasaki, artist Nam June Paik, cinematographer James Wong Howe, and actress Anna May Wong. As well as group entries on Chinese railroad and laundry workers, Hawai'ian sugarcane workers, prisoners of Angel Island, Japanese-American internees and three individuals who fought internment, Vietnamese boat people, and Hmong refugees.

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BiJian Fan, *Bubbles*, Paper on water, 8" x 8", 2024

ASIAN PACIFIC ISLANDER LITERATURE

OUR VOICES, OUR HISTORIES: ASIAN AMERICAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER WOMEN

Edited by Shirley Hune and Gail M. Nomura

Our Voices, Our Histories brings together thirty-five Asian American and Pacific Islander authors in a single volume to explore the historical experiences, perspectives, and actions of Asian American and Pacific Islander women in the United States and beyond. The contributions present new research on diverse aspects of Asian American and Pacific Islander women’s history, from the politics of language to the role of food, to experiences as adoptees, mixed race, and second generation, while acknowledging shared experiences as women of color in the United States.

PORTRAITS OF ASIAN-PACIFIC AMERICANS

By Kim Sakamoto Steidl

Illustrated by Franz Steidl

This book presents the achievements of Asian Pacific Americans and includes language arts activities, geography, and history. There are more than 20 sketches on a variety of well-known people as well as historical timelines, to put things in perspective.

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Jann Louvise Realica, *The Three Ladies*, Digital illustration, 3500 x 2500 pixels, 2024

PRINCESS LEILANI AND THE LANU TREE

By Juliann T Anesi and Genielysse Reyes

In this coming-of-age story, Leilani is a girl training to become a healer. With her little brother, Kea, by her side, she is determined to heal others with the plants and trees that grow in the wondrous Healing Forest. When loss shatters Leilani's world, she must learn how to overcome her grief and heal herself. This story teaches readers about Pacific Islander culture, the damage caused by greed, and the importance of forgiveness.

ROLE MODELS WHO LOOK LIKE ME: ASIAN AMERICANS & PACIFIC ISLANDERS WHO MADE HISTORY

By Jasmine M. Cho

Rhymes and watercolor illustrations walk you through the stories of various Asian American and Pacific Islander changemakers who are largely missing from U.S. history classes and textbooks. This book intends to inspire and comfort. It was created to fill what was missing from Jasmine's childhood; to give representation to the underrepresented and to raise the visibility of the invisible.

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Joseph Kang, *Game Changer*, Watercolor on watercolor paper, 17" x 14", 2024

CAMBODIAN LITERATURE

CAMBODIAN FOLK STORIES FROM THE GATILOKE

By Muriel Paskin Carrison,
From a translation by The Venerable Kong Chhean

This book presents fifteen tales that are translations from the *Gatilo*ke, an ancient literary tradition from Cambodia. The stories concern simple villagers, monks, lords, kings, and talking animals. It includes an appendix with factual information on Cambodia.

THE CLAY MARBLE

By Minfong Ho

In the late 1970s, twelve-year-old Dara is separated from her family and her best friend by war, becoming a refugee. She finds the courage to survive as she struggles to reunite with the people she loves.

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Nellie Le, *Double-Headed Salted Pretzel Snake*, Acrylic gouache, 7" x 5", 2025

LITTLE BROTHER

By Allan Baillie

Brothers Mang and Vithy, having escaped the *Khmer Rouge*, are being pursued through the Cambodian jungle. When the younger boy sprains his ankle, Mang leads their recent captors away from him. A single shot rings out and he does not return. Vithy, about eleven, now sets out to accomplish the brothers' original plan of escaping to the Thai border, hoping to be reunited with Mang. This excellent tale of courage and survival lends real-life flesh to textbook facts and will be welcomed in most collections.

SILENT LOTUS

By Jeanne M. Lee

Young Lotus was born deaf and unable to speak. Her days are filled with basket-weaving, swimming, and walking among the wild birds, "joining them in their graceful steps." Although she is good-natured and beautiful, the other children run from Lotus, leaving her lonely and heavy-hearted. Seeking solace from the gods, the girl and her parents travel to "the temple in the city," where Lotus, imitating the temple dancers, exhibits the extraordinary talent that eventually wins her favor with the king and queen. Set in Cambodia, Lee's tender tale intertwines universal childhood concerns with intriguing elements of a rich and unfamiliar culture.



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CHINESE LITERATURE

THE ANCIENT CHINESE

By Virginia Schomp

Focusing mainly on the Shang, Zhou, Qin and Han dynasties, this book explores ancient China through its social structure. It takes a look at its people and details the duties of an emperor, the activities of a merchant, and much more. It also describes some of the discoveries and writings that have led to our present-day understanding of this fascinating civilization.

MAYA LIN

By Bettina Ling

This book describes the life and work of the Chinese American architect who designed the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., and the Civil Rights Memorial in Montgomery, Alabama.

TIES THAT BIND, TIES THAT BREAK: A NOVEL

By Lensey Namioka

Third Sister in the Tao family, Ailin has watched her two older sisters go through the painful process of having their feet bound. In China in 1911, all the women of good families follow this ancient tradition, but Ailin loves to run away from her governess and play games with her male cousins. Knowing she will never run again once her feet are bound, Ailin rebels and refuses to follow this torturous tradition.

TOFU TAKES TIME

By Helen H. Wu, Illustrated by Julie Jarema

Lin and her grandma, NaiNai, are making tofu from scratch! When NaiNai goes through each step, from blending soybeans with water to molding curd into shape, Lin gradually becomes impatient. But she soon discovers that making tofu not only takes time, but also takes the whole universe! It takes the seed from soil and sunshine, the cloth from thread and fiber, weight and space, books of words and pictures. And most of all, it takes spending lovely time with her beloved grandmother.

WHEN YOU TRAP A TIGER

By Tae Keller

This book is a Newbery Medal winner as well as winner of the Asian/Pacific American Award for Children's Literature. When Lily and her family move in with her sick grandmother, a magical tiger straight out of her *halmoni's* Korean folktales arrives, prompting Lily to unravel a secret family history. Long, long ago, *halmoni* stole something from the tigers. Now they want it back.

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FILIPINO LITERATURE

GROWING UP FILIPINO: STORIES FOR YOUNG ADULTS

Collected and Edited by Cecilia Manguerra Brainard

These short stories offer a highly textured portrait of Filipino youth. Tough but relevant topics addressed include a gay youth’s affection for his supportive mother, the role of religious didacticism in the formation of a childhood perception, consumer culture as it is experienced by modern teens in Manila, and coping with bullies. There are more Filipinos living in the U.S. than most people realize, but finding literature reflective of their experiences is difficult.

FILIPINOS IN CALIFORNIA (CALIFORNIA CULTURES SERIES)

By Michelle Motoyoshi

Once called the “forgotten Asian Americans,” Filipinos have become the largest Asian American group in California. Through a brief historical overview and biographies of notable people, this book describes the influence Filipino Americans have had on California. *Filipinos in California* includes biographies on Carlos Bulosan, writer; Vicki Manalo Draves, Olympic diver; Robert Kikuchi-Yngojo, performance artist; Emil Guillermo, broadcast journalist; and others. It also includes demographic information, a list of resources, and other interesting facts.

THE PHILIPPINES, ROOTS OF MY HERITAGE: A JOURNEY OF DISCOVERY BY A PILIPINA AMERICAN TEENAGER

By Melissa Macagba Ignacio

The reminiscences of a thirteen-year-old Filipino American girl, who spent one year in the Philippines, introduce the islands’ history, people, culture, and industry.

WHEN LOLA VISITS

By Michelle Sterling

Illustrated by Aaron Asis

For one young girl, summer is the season of no school, of days spent at the pool, and of picking golden limes off the trees. But summer doesn’t start until her *lola*—her grandmother from the Philippines—comes for her annual visit. Lola fills the house with the aroma of mango jam, funny stories of baking mishaps, and her quiet sweet singing in Tagalog. And in turn, her granddaughter brings Lola to the beach, to view fireworks at the park, and to catch fish at their lake.



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Alex Chow, *Run Club*, Digital painting, 10" x 8", 2025

INDIAN LITERATURE

A BRAHMIN’S CASTLES IN THE AIR

Written and illustrated by **Rashmi Sharma**

Adapted from the ancient Panchatantra fables, this is the story of a young Brahmin who preferred to lie back and dream his big dreams, and even though he is quite poor in material wealth, he is very rich in his imagination.

DIWALI (CELEBRATIONS)

By **Chris Deshpande**
Photographs by **Prodeepta Das**

This book describes how Hindu children prepare for and celebrate Diwali, the Hindu festival of light, and share their holiday traditions with a multi-cultural group of classmates.

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Julia Wolinsky, *Banchan Bowls*, Colored pencil and watercolor, 10" x 10", 2024

NAMASTE IS A GREETING

By Suma Subramaniam

Illustrated by Sandhya Prabhat

What is *namaste*? It's found in a smile, a friendship, a celebration. It exists in silence; it can be said when you're happy or when you're feeling low. For one small girl in a bustling city, *namaste* is all around her as she and her mother navigate a busy marketplace—and when she returns with a little plant and chooses to give it to an elderly neighbor, it can be seen in the caring bond between them.

PASHMINA

By Nidhi Chanani

Priyanka Das has so many unanswered questions: Why did her mother abandon her home in India years ago? What was it like there? And most importantly, who is her father, and why did her mom leave him behind? But Pri's mom avoids these questions—the topic of India is permanently closed. In this heartwarming graphic novel the author tells a tale about the hardship and self-discovery that is born from juggling two cultures and two worlds.

TALE OF INDIA: FOLKTALES FROM BENGAL, PUNJAB, AND TAMIL

Edited and Illustrated by Svabhv Kohli and Viplov Singh

This collection of 16 traditional tales transports readers to the beguiling world of Indian folklore. Transcribed by Indian and English folklorists in the nineteenth century, these stories brim with wit and magic. Fans of fairy tales will encounter familiar favorites—epic quests and talking animals—alongside delightful surprises—an irreverent sense of humor and an array of bold, inspiring heroines.



Jon Ching, *Adaptive Radiation*, Oil on wood, 20" x 24", 2023

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Shan Wu, *Little Pink*, 3D printed polylactic acid (PLA), 5" x 2" x 2", 2020

JAPANESE LITERATURE

JAPANESE ART & CULTURE (WORLD ART & CULTURE)

By Kamini Khanduri

When does a poem become a picture? What is the tea ceremony? How were the first color woodblock prints made? This book offers a window into Japanese culture, reflecting its history, technology, beliefs, and everyday life. Every piece of Japanese art tells us something about the environment and the culture it was developed in, so that we can see how and why people make their art.

PASSAGE TO FREEDOM: THE SUGIHARA STORY

By Ken Mochizuki

Illustrated by Dom Lee

Afterword by Hiroki Sugihara

This inspiring book tells the true story of Chiune Sugihara, the “Japanese Schindler,” who saved thousands of Jews during World War II.

SWORDS AND SAMURAI: THE ANCIENT WARRIOR CULTURE OF THE EAST

By Philip Steele

This colorful, informative book explains the amazing civilizations of ancient China and Japan, cultures that existed for thousands of years before Europe was developed or began exploring the New World.

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Julia Wolinsky, *Korean Corn Cheese*, Colored pencil and watercolor, 8.5" x 11", 2025

SWORD OF THE SAMURAI : ADVENTURE STORIES FROM JAPAN

By Eric A. Kimmel

Readers who delight in stories of knights will discover this collection of eleven tales about the medieval Japanese warriors whose exploits rival those of their European counterparts. These well-documented stories of adventure and misadventure are not only good tales, but they also provide a look at a way of life bound by ironclad tradition. Though the stories vary in tone and intent, the book offers a serious and respectful look at a fascinating aspect of the countries history.

YOKO LEARNS TO READ

By Rosemary Wells

Yoko wants to learn to read! Mama is eager to help, even though as a native-born Japanese she can't read English herself. She takes Yoko to the library, where they pick out lots of books with appealing pictures. Soon, Yoko is ready all by herself! In a poignant ending, Yoko begins to teach her mama how to read in just the same way.

YOKO'S SHOW-AND-TELL

By Rosemary Wells

Yoko sneaks an antique Japanese doll to school for show-and-tell, it is injured in an unfortunate accident. Hopefully, a quick trip to the doll hospital will set things right!

At right: Nellie Le, *Cup Noodle Kitty*, Ink and watercolor, 5" x 7", 2024



Nellie

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Dan Nguyen, *Nature's Rules*, Pen and ink, 1' x 2', 2024

KOREAN LITERATURE

THE GIRL-SON

By Anne E. Neuberger

Based on the life of Induk Pakh, a Korean educator whose widowed mother disguised her as a boy at the age of eight in order for her to attend school, a choice forbidden to girls in the early twentieth century in that country.

PEACEBOUND TRAINS

By Haemi Balgassi

Illustrated by Chris K. Soentpiet

Sumi's grandmother tells the story of her family's escape from Seoul during the Korean War, while they watch the trains which will eventually bring her mother back from army service.

THE SHOES FROM YANG SAN VALLEY

By Yong-ik Kim

Decorations by Park Minja

Alone in his war torn homeland, a young Korean boy has only the memory of a special pair of silk brocade shoes to remind him of the good days of the past and give him hope for the future.

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Amy Lyu, *Great Job*, Watercolor on paper, 16" x 20", 2025

SO FAR FROM THE BAMBOO GROVE

By Yoko Kawashima Watkins

A fictionalized autobiography in which eleven-year-old Yoko escapes from Korea to Japan with her mother and sister at the end of World War II.

A STEP FROM HEAVEN

By An Na

In this first novel, a young girl describes her family's experience in the United States after their emigration from Korea. While on the flight from Korea to California, four-year-old Young Ju concludes that they are on their way to heaven! After she arrives, however, she and her family struggle in the new world, weighed down by the difficulty of learning English, their insular family life, and the traditions of the country they left behind.



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LAOTIAN LITERATURE

DIA'S STORY CLOTH

By Dia Cha

The story cloth made for Dia Cha by her aunt and uncle chronicles the life of the author and her family in their native Laos and their eventual immigration to the United States.

A HMONG FAMILY

By Nora Murphy

This book makes the refugee experience more meaningful by relating personal stories that reveal why families fled their native countries and how they seek to preserve their culture while assimilating into modern life in the United States. This book features 11-year-old Xiong Pao Vang; his family tells of wars in Laos and the involvement of this country that led to their eventual emigration.

A MIEN FAMILY

By Sara Gogol

The Mien family, the Saechaos, were refugees from Laos. The parents, Farm On and Ta Jow, met in a refugee camp in Thailand, and the story of their eventual settlement in Portland, Oregon, makes for interesting reading. The culture shock they experienced and the tensions between the parents and their Americanized children are described.

MALI UNDER THE NIGHT SKY: A HMONG STORY OF HOME

Written and Illustrated by Youme

The true story of Lao American artist Malichansouk Kouanchao. Due to wars that were not contained by borders, she and her family had to leave their home in Laos. But when she was five years old, her family had to cross the Mekong River into Thailand to be safe. She remembers the journey, as well as the beauty and strength of Lao culture.

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VIETNAMESE LITERATURE

HOANG ANH: A VIETNAMESE-AMERICAN BOY

By Diane Hoyt-Goldsmith
Photographs by Lawrence Migdale

Using the New Year celebration of Tet as their unifying theme, the collaborators on this book weave myriad details about Vietnamese history, customs, folklore, and family life into the text, and effectively convey the international political context surrounding emigration.

LEE ANN: THE STORY OF A VIETNAMESE-AMERICAN GIRL

By Tricia Brown
Photographs by Ted Thai

Emigrating from Vietnam, the Trangs have become exactly what this photo-essay’s subtitle implies: an Americanized family that enjoys traditional Asian goals, foods, and holidays such as Tet. Old and new ways are cleverly juxtaposed, and both creators have captured the universal essence of childhood.

VIETNAMESE CHILDREN’S FAVORITE STORIES

Retold by Tran Thi Minh Phuoc
Illustrated by Nguyen Thi Hop & Nguyen Dong

Vietnamese Children’s Favorite Stories is a charming collection of fifteen tales beloved by Vietnamese children for generations, retold here for Western children. Experienced storyteller Tran Thi Minh Phuoc vividly recounts such favorites as the story of Tam and Cam (the Vietnamese version of Cinderella), the legend of the Jade Rabbit, the legend of the Mai Flower, and many others. Children and adults alike will be enchanted by the legends of bravery and beauty, fables about nature, and stories in which integrity, hard work, and a kind heart triumph over deception, laziness, and greed. Gods, peasants, kings, and fools spring to life to celebrate Vietnam’s rich cultural heritage, forging bonds with people around the world, and bringing us all together in ways that only great stories can do. The illustration by artists Thi Hop Nguyen and Dong Nguyen capture the charm and flavor of traditional Vietnamese culture.

WHY VIETNAMESE IMMIGRANTS CAME TO AMERICA

By Lewis K. Parker

This book explores Vietnamese immigration to the United States from the 1960s to the present, and looks at the contributions of Vietnamese Americans to the culture of the United States.



Kaoru Mansour, *Pat Pat 4*, Colored pencil, graphite pencil and acrylic, on paper, 12.5" x 9.5", 2025



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DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS
City of Los Angeles

LITERATURE

POETRY AND PROSE

The Department of Cultural Affairs is pleased to present the works of several fine writers in the *2025 Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month Calendar and Cultural Guide*. The writers are: **Tommy Vin Bui**, **hamsa fae**, **Frankie Noh**, **Christian “Soulstuf” Perfas**, **Irene Soriano Saxon**, **Kathleen Ann Vincent**, and **Pam Ward**.

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I AM NANAY, I AM MAMA, I AM MARIGOLD

By Kathleen Ann Vincent

I am Nanay, the embrace of morning,
My love is true, forever enduring.
I am Mama, a light in the night,
With every touch, warmth shines bright.

I am Marigold, a golden glow,
Through life's storms, I stand and grow.

I am beautiful, I am strong, I am kind,
With a noble heart and a steadfast mind.

I am beautiful, like the sunrise glow,
My spirit shines, wherever I go.

I am strong, like roots of a tree,
Through storms and trials, I stand free.

I am kind, my love runs deep,
A guiding light for those who weep.

I am Nanay, I am Mama,
I am Marigold—forever a beacon, never gone.

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LITERATURE

MY BROTHER, MY BODY

By Christian “Soulful” Perfas

my body is a migrant worker.
I act America,
demand my body labor
endlessly, however I see fit.
though my body may wish to weigh in.
I pay him little mind.
see him as the anxious parent,
backseat driver always tryig to navigate.
it’s just one more drink,
this fast food’s affordable!
why he always gotta grumble when I change up the fuel?
it feels like my body and I are always in domestic dispute.
but my body hears this
and all my complaints
with the patience of a partner who’s seen my better days.
my body has seen this all before,
has watched me grow into our skin
and witness my every flaw,
every time I’ve felt irreparably broken
and been there to help me put my pieces back together.
when the candlelight
of my life
finally reaches the end of the wick,
my body will be
the last one there.
playing me a slideshow
of my life’s greatest hits.

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LITERATURE

PASALUBONG #5

11/19/2018

THOUSAND OAKS, CA, USA

34°10'14.02"N, 118°50'15.32"W

By Irene Soriano Saxon

Delia remembered that this was about the same time each year when Anne's adult children would leave the same message on her voicemail: *Work is too much, mom – your grandchildren have extra-curriculars that they have to stay put for...there is just no way to make Thanksgiving at the ranch this year, we're so sorry Anne.* Delia often thought about how children of old people in this country were never given their due, replacing their time and love with low-wage caregivers 24/7, every day, all year. Knowing this lamentable state of affairs, Delia Romo thanked God nightly for getting her this job 10 years ago, it allowed her to send money back to her children and grandchildren in the Philippines...she always shook her head and whispered to herself daily, *"upside down world."*

It was different this year...only last week, same time of day, the embers that landed in the backyard burned through Anne's beautiful flower patch and swallowed whole, the shed where all her angel garden statues were stored. When the fires took a turn for the worse, Delia was furiously texting back and forth with Anne's family in Connecticut, Tampa & Houston. *"It's so near, I must take your mother away from here!"* TV news was their constant companion until the heavy knocks for the Woolsey evacuation orders came and they were made to leave. There was no time to bring anything of value. The last thing 80-year-old Anne McMurphy saw of her house of 45 years was the black smoke and orange blaze that lit up her backyard bright, almost beautiful.

It was different this year...within a week of the evacuation, Anne was in a retirement-planned community in Florida with new caregivers...safe but far away. Her eldest son flew in from Texas to carry out what he called *"the recovery project"*—he hired out all that was needed, shipped very little of what was left belonging to his mother and got all of it done in three days. Delia was permitted to return to the house to see if the *banig* she had gifted Anne, almost 6 years ago from one of her rare home visits to *Basey, Samar*, had survived. Anne fell in love with the mat's beautiful patterned colors and had it framed to hang in the small concrete garden enclosure beside her bedroom. It was the only wall of the house that was left standing. Delia found the frame lying flat on the ground, the glass cover broken, and the mat ruined by soot, smoke, and water. Delia's chest tightened just for a second as she took a picture with her cell phone and made a note to send it by text to Anne.

Pasalubong = Gift

banig = Weaved mat made of blade-like pandan leaves

Basey, Samar = A province in the Eastern Visayas region of the Philippines



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SAVORING SUEHIRO* AT 3AM FOR MARI AND HANA

by Pam Ward

When I was pregnant, growing
a Japanese & Black melon between my legs,
I loved going to “Little Tokyo,” to get something
to eat. My favorite was Suehiro on 2nd St.
I remember your greeting, “Irasshaimase!”
shouted from waitresses in back
making me feel wanted, welcomed or at home
way before I ever snagged a seat.
Did my embryos know, sense your glow
in their egg yolk sacks? Feel mountainous
clouds of sticky Calrose dreams? Feel cooks
sweating at woks just to feed or feel me
swallowing waterfalls of green tea?
Oh, Suehiro! With your American
girly name and a hero’s kick!
Strong as wasabi, warm as a late
night kiss. Bold as mothers
braving streets at 3am.

You gave, and you gave, and we ate
as good as it gets. Historical bowls of noodles
Van Gogh spinach vibrant green
as green as Saturday’s fresh-cut grass.
And me, anxious as mackerel under a flame.
Ready to blow my top. Rubbing my belly while I ate.
Holding a nose, elbow, foot or fist, awaiting
scents of gyoza inside a choir of rice paper walls.
Oh, Suehiro! If only your wood tables talked.
If only sage booths translated five decades feasts
where friends become lovers or moms and pops
and so on, and so on, and on and on.
I think of my daughters, eying “Econo-plate,” mom.
Basking in big, salty broths of womb bliss. Savoring
green tea ice cream, speaking metal spoon songs
eating inside me, outside but right at home.

ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH 2025

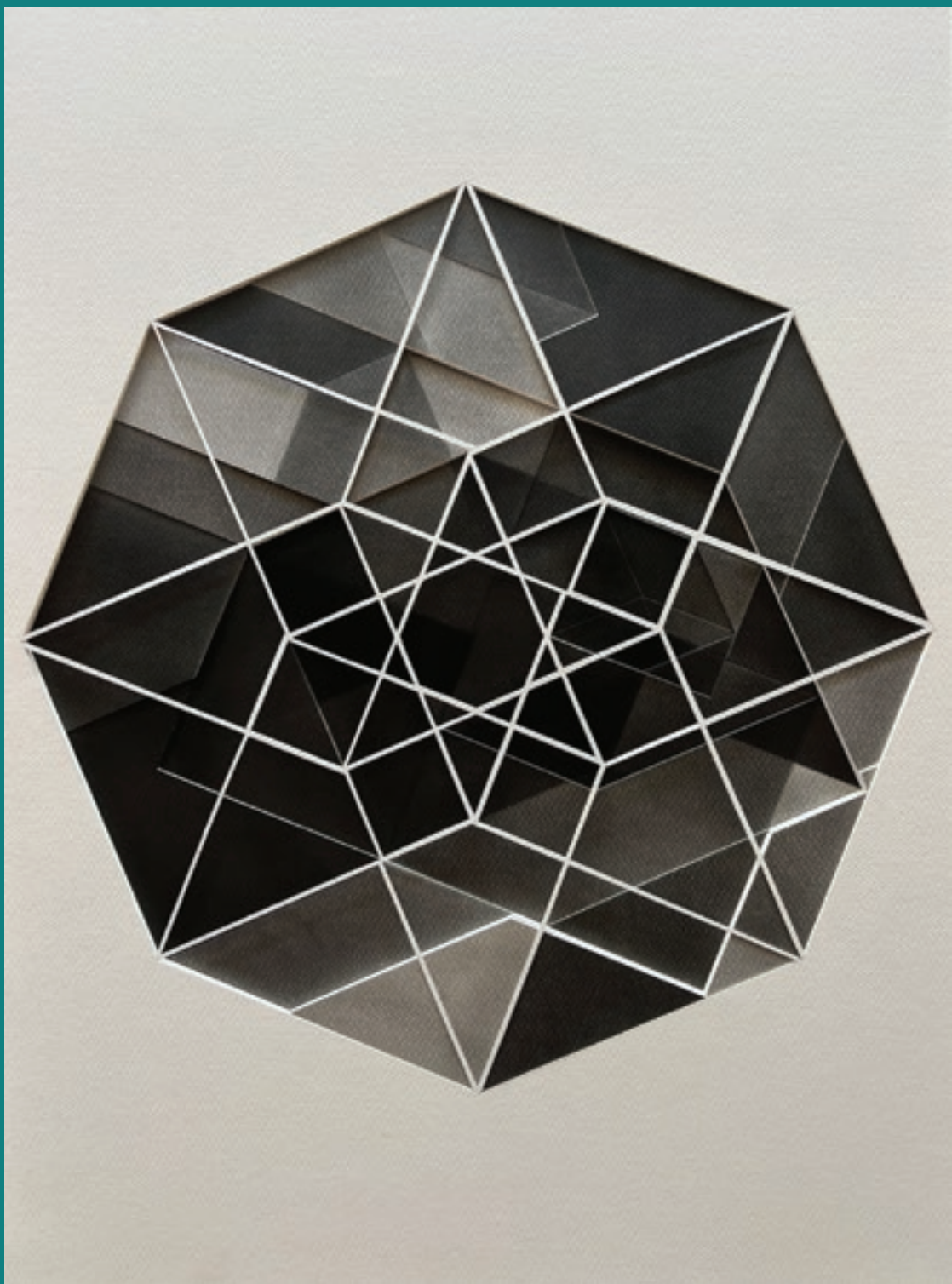
CALENDAR AND CULTURAL GUIDE

LITERATURE

CODEBREAKER

By Christian “Soulstuf” Perfas

They always seemed out of reach. The golden few, side eye flashing: a`luent tones only. Respect was a currency I couldn't a`ord from them, so I pleaded. their response: So what? They were the basis of my upbringing, teaching me about my less than and how they can easily change what constitutes as toll for passing, though I'll never quite understand. We, my brown folk and I, are simply trying to survive, despite all their attempts to derive meaning from our blood and blessings, while demanding we return to where we came from, the irony is not lost, even if many of us are. Asking for room, only for them to give us space in the ground. They say we need “perspective,” without realizing the worlds we travel between. We are a nation of drifters, dreamers— trying to hold on to anything to keep us afloat and learn how to hold our breath until it is safe to come up for air. Yet, we are also being asked to decipher all of this hate speech into something discernible, easier for allyship to digest before we become forgotten again in the midst of everything more palatable. Then, no one will ask. Why? Because even in social justice, we spotlight victors over victims more often than we should.



Minna Philips, *And He Built a Crooked House*, Graphite on paper. 18" x 24", 2024

ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH 2025 CALENDAR AND CULTURAL GUIDE

LITERATURE

THROUGH THE PEPPER TREES

By Frankie Noh

I am apostle to this gray september sky;
you know me so well, & how I unsettle
in the darker months

it becomes too heavy an endeavor
to let you free
hearing the wind blow, whistling
through the same fallen pepper trees;

I will admit I love you now
as much as before
if but the way a pin is dulled
by rock--

in the dusky catacombs of my mind
I will bury us
together, yet apart;
but my one & terrible darling
you will never know the fruitful kingdom
that for years you will keep in my heart

ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH 2025

CALENDAR AND CULTURAL GUIDE

LITERATURE

don't worry, it's just like 1975

by hamsa fae

I wonder if my parents will evacuate. No one gets their nails done when fingers are clenching soot and steering wheels. I am evacuating with two dozen egg rolls in the passenger seat. One veggie, one meat. One as mẹ and one as ba.

A Vietnamese man is riding his bicycle. Winds blow back his efforts, like he is in slow motion. Somewhere between resilient and lethargic. One hand grips a handle bar. The other feeds a cigarette. Smoke relieves smoke. I wonder if he sees the land exhaling behind him. I wonder if my parents are him.

ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH 2025 CALENDAR AND CULTURAL GUIDE

LITERATURE

LOS ANGELES INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT: WAYLAID BUT WIDE-EYED

By Tommy Vinh Bui

A flight arrives from Hanoi and Guadalajara
at the same time
and spilling onto the linoleum of LAX,
hauling their shrink-wrapped hopes
on bent backs or squeaky wheels
they emerge.
Everyone is my father for a moment with
histories heaped on their bodies
like nettles
and baggage exceeding the
designated weight limit.
Di ði mau and no mames güey.
Here is scrawled the glorious glossary
that portends the last egregious apostrophe
of our unproven cosmic calculus.
Nearby the sea tolls its terrible bells
and the whistle of our
waterlogged pores
steam and stir
the consommé that comports
with the palate of the cosmos.
Under their fingernails foam
a seething ecosystem of fond fires
that flicker
on weekend stubble
as we consider the tetch

of the native scrub jay's serenade.
Chiseled stone stacked high
does not an empire make
but for the stamp of feet
on an Arrival Terminal concourse.
Forfeit your palm fronds
and surrender the glowing sand
as we and us and all
have been poor stewards of paradise.
We've taken our halos
and forged manacles
around our tan and rickety wrists.
Shake the jar
to disturb the hope
that's settled as sediment
on the bygone bottom banks of
bottled last chances.
These rivers still speak in psalms legible
to ears that might translate
thunder and clay.
Yesteryear's dreams sit unclaimed so
inert on the baggage carousel
as the frenetic curb outside
swallows another midnight cigarette.



Charlene Shih, *Steps of Serenity*, Encaustic on wood, 16" x 16", 2024

ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH 2025

CALENDAR AND CULTURAL GUIDE

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

STRENGTH THROUGH COMMUNITY

ABS-CBN INTERNATIONAL, NA

632.415.2272
abs-cbn.com

AMERICAN COALITION OF FILIPINO VETERANS, WESTERN REGION (ACFV)

213.626.0485
usfilvets.tripod.com

AMERICAN RED CROSS LOS ANGELES REGION

redcrossla.org

ASIAN AMERICAN DRUG ABUSE PROGRAM

323.293.6284
aadapinc.org

ASIAN AMERICANS ADVANCING JUSTICE - LOS ANGELES

213.977.9500
advancingjustice-la.org

ASIAN BUSINESS ASSOCIATION (ABA)

213.628.1222
abala.org

ASIAN BUSINESS LEAGUE OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

213.624.9975
ablsocal.org

ASIAN PACIFIC AIDS INTERVENTION TEAM (APAIT)

213.375.3830
ssg.org/divisions/apait

ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY (APABALA)

213.386.3114
apaba.org

ASIAN PACIFIC COMMUNITY FUND (APCF)

213.624.6400
apcf.org

ASIAN PACIFIC COUNSELING AND TREATMENT CENTERS (APCTC)

213.252.2100
apctc.org



ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH 2025 CALENDAR AND CULTURAL GUIDE

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

ASIAN PACIFIC DISPUTE RESOLUTION CENTER (APADRC)

213.250.8190
apadrc.org

ASIAN PROFESSIONAL EXCHANGE (APEX)

apex.org

ASIAN PACIFIC ISLANDER MENTAL HEALTH ALLIANCE

213.236.9388
866.616.8377

ASIAN PACIFIC ISLANDER SMALL BUSINESS PROGRAM (API-SBP)

213.473.1604
apisbp.org

ASIAN PACIFIC POLICY AND PLANNING COUNCIL (A3PCON)

323.293.6284
aanhpihealth.org/directory/a3pcon-asian-pacific-policy-and-planning-council

ASIAN PACIFIC RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT PROGRAM

323.731.3534

ASIAN PACIFIC RESOURCE CENTER (APRC), COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES PUBLIC LIBRARY

626.573.5220
lacountylibrary.org/asian-pacific-resource-center

ASIAN PACIFIC WOMEN'S CENTER (APWC)

213.250.2977

ASIANS FOR MIRACLE MARROW MATCHES (A3M)

888.236.4673
facebook.com/a3mHOPE.org

CENTER FOR ASIAN-AMERICANS UNITED FOR SELF-EMPOWERMENT (CAUSE) VISION 21

626.356.9838
causeusa.org

CHINESE AMERICAN MUSEUM (CAM)

213.485.8567
camla.org

CHINATOWN BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

213.680.0243
downtownla.com/go/chinatown-bid

CHINATOWN SERVICE CENTER (CSC)

213.808.1700
cscla.org

CHINESE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF LOS ANGELES

213.617.0396
lachinechamber.org

COALITION OF ASIAN PACIFICS IN ENTERTAINMENT

capeusa.org

EAST WEST PLAYERS

213.625.7000
eastwestplayers.org

FILIPINO AMERICAN COMMUNITY OF LOS ANGELES (FACLA)

213.908.5780
facebook.com/facalalosangeles

FILIPINO AMERICAN SERVICE GROUP, INC. (FASGI)

213.908.5050
fasgi.org

ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH 2025 CALENDAR AND CULTURAL GUIDE

COMMUNITY RESOURCES



John Kang, *The Boxer*, Acrylic on paper, 22" x 30", 2024

**FILAM ARTS/ASSOCIATION FOR
THE ADVANCEMENT OF PHILIPPINE
ARTS & CULTURE**

filamarts.org

GABRIELA USA

gabrielausa.org

JAPAN AMERICA SOCIETY

310.965.9050

jas-socal.org

**JAPANESE AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION OF
GREATER LOS ANGELES COUNTY (JABA)**

jabaonline.org

JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE (JACL)

jacl.org

**JAPANESE AMERICAN CULTURAL
AND COMMUNITY CENTER (JACCC)**

213.628.2725

jaccc.org

JAPANESE AMERICAN LIVING LEGACY

310.467.17853

jalivinglegacy.org

**JAPAN INFORMATION AND
CULTURE CENTER (JICC)**

213.617.6700

ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH 2025 CALENDAR AND CULTURAL GUIDE

COMMUNITY RESOURCES



Unknown artist, *Ritual Wine Vessel (Zun)*, Bronze, 32.3 cm, Late Shang to Early Western Zhou dynasty (c.1250–950 BCE)

**JAPANESE AMERICAN NATIONAL MUSEUM
(JANM)**

213.625.0414
janm.org

**JUSTICE FOR FILIPINO
AMERICAN VETERANS**

213.241.0995
facebook.com/jfavla

**KOREAN AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION OF
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**

kabasocal.org

KOREAN AMERICAN BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

213.368.0848

**KOREAN AMERICAN CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE**

213.480.1115

**KOREAN AMERICAN COALITION
OF LOS ANGELES (KAC)**

213.365.5999
kacla.org

**KOREAN AMERICAN FEDERATION
OF LOS ANGELES**

323.732.0700
kafla.org

KOREAN AMERICAN FESTIVAL COMMITTEE

213.487.9696
lakoreanfestival.org

KOREAN CULTURAL CENTER (KCC)

323.936.7141
kccla.org

KOREAN RESOURCE CENTER (KRC)

323.937.3718
krcla.org



Mary Cheung, *Sylvia's Hope*, Conceptual art, 16" x 20", 2024

ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH 2025 CALENDAR AND CULTURAL GUIDE

COMMUNITY RESOURCES



Nami Yang, *Golden Pond #A*, Mixed media, 7" x 14", 2024

KOREATOWN YOUTH & COMMUNITY CENTER

213.365.7400
kycccla.org

LEADERSHIP EDUCATION FOR ASIAN PACIFICS (LEAP)

213.485.1422
leap.org

LITTLE TOKYO SERVICE CENTER (LTSC)

213.473.1680
ltsc.org

LOS ANGELES COUNTY ASIAN AMERICAN EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION

lacaaea.com

LOS ANGELES FILIPINO ASSOCIATION OF CITY EMPLOYEES (LAFACE)

laface.us

LOTUS FESTIVAL

213.485.1310
laparks.org/lotusfestival

MIDCITY KOREAN AMERICAN SENIOR ASSOCIATION

323.201.3211

NATIONAL ASIAN PACIFIC CENTER ON AGING

213.365.9005
napca.org

ORGANIZATION OF CHINESE AMERICANS (OCA)

213.250.9888
facebook.com/OCAGreaterLA

PACIFIC ASIAN CONSORTIUM IN EMPLOYMENT

800.716.2218 (multi-lingual line)
pacela.org

PACIFIC ASIA MUSEUM

626.449.2742 x10
pacificasiamuseum.usc.edu

PACIFIC ASIAN ALCOHOL AND DRUG PROGRAM

213.738.3361
ssg.org/divisions/pacific-asian-alcohol-drug-program-paadp



Chiho Harazaki, *Ingrained – Sashiko Seigaiha*, Washi tape, graphite, washi paper on canvas, 20" x 20", 2024

ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH 2025 CALENDAR AND CULTURAL GUIDE

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

PALS FOR HEALTH

213.553.1818 (English)
800.228.8886 (Multi-lingual line)
palsforhealth.org

PEOPLE'S COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION FOR REFORM AND EMPOWERMENT (PEOPLE'S CORE)

213.241.0904
actaonline.org/profile/peoples-core

PHILIPPINE AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION (PABA)

email: info@pabala.org
philippineamericanbar.org

PHILIPPINE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS (PASCPA)

310.646.4903
pascpa-la.org

PILIPINO WORKERS CENTER (PWC)

213.250.4353
pwcsc.org

RADIO KOREA

213.487.1300
radiokorea.com

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY CHINESE CULTURAL ASSOCIATION

sfvcca.org

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY FILIPINO AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

818.472.0544
email: sfvfacc@yahoogroups.com

SEARCH TO INVOLVE PILIPINO AMERICANS (SIPA)

213.382.1819
sipacares.org

SOUTH ASIAN BAR ASSOCIATION, SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER (SABA)

949.760.0404
sabanorthamerica.com/our-chapters

SOUTH ASIAN NETWORK (SAN)

562.403.0488
southasiannetwork.org

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHINESE LAWYERS ASSOCIATION (SCCLA)

310.791.8567
sccla.org

SPECIAL SERVICE FOR GROUPS (SSG)

213.553.1800
ssg.org

TAIPEI ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL OFFICE

213.389.1215

TAIWANESE CENTER OF GREATER LOS ANGELES

626.307.4388
taiwancenter.org

TAIWANESE AMERICAN CITIZEN'S LEAGUE

626.810.9101
tacl.org

THAI ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

323.722.3350
facebook.com/ThaiSoCal

THAI COMMUNITY ARTS AND CULTURAL CENTER

310.827.2910
thaiculturalcenter.org

THAI COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (THAI CDC)

323.468.2555
thaicdc.org

ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH 2025 CALENDAR AND CULTURAL GUIDE

COMMUNITY RESOURCES



Kaoru Mansour, *Muzzle*, Colored pencil, graphite pencil, acrylic and thread, on paper, 12.5" x 17", 2024

**THAI HEALTH AND INFORMATION
SERVICES, INC.**

323.466.5966
thaihealth.org/newsite

TONGAN COMMUNITY SERVICE CENTER

310.327.9650
locator.lacounty.gov/lac/Location/3174741/tongan-community-service-center

UCLA ASIAN PACIFIC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

alumni.ucla.edu/alumni-networks/apaucla

UCLA ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES CENTER

310.825.2974
aasc.ucla.edu

UCLA PILIPINO ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

alumni.ucla.edu/alumni-networks/pilipino-alumni-association

**USC ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN
STUDENT SERVICES**

213.740.4999
apass.usc.edu

VISUAL COMMUNICATIONS

213.680-4462
vconline.org

At right: Young Summers, *No Man's Land*, Mixed-media 3-D collage, 18" x 24" x 5", 2025





Edwin Ushiro, Above: *Maui*, Ink and ballpoint pen on Duralar mounted on Plexiglas, 7" x 5", 2025





ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH 2025 CALENDAR AND CULTURAL GUIDE

ABOUT THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS

As a leading, progressive arts and cultural agency, DCA empowers Los Angeles’s vibrant communities by supporting and providing access to quality visual, literary, musical, performing, and educational arts programming; managing vital cultural centers; preserving historic sites; creating public art; and funding services provided by arts organizations and individual artists.

Formed in 1925, DCA promotes arts and culture as a way to ignite a powerful dialogue, engage LA’s residents and visitors, and ensure LA’s varied cultures are recognized, acknowledged, and experienced. DCA’s mission is to strengthen the quality of life in Los Angeles by stimulating and supporting arts and cultural activities, ensuring public access to the arts for residents and visitors alike.

DCA advances the social and economic impact of arts and culture through grantmaking, public art, community arts, performing arts, and strategic marketing, development, and design. DCA creates and supports arts programming, maximizing relationships with other city agencies, artists, and arts and cultural nonprofit organizations to provide excellent service in neighborhoods throughout Los Angeles.

For more information, please visit culture.lacity.gov or follow us on Facebook at facebook.com/culturela, [@culture_la](https://Instagram), [@culturela](https://YouTube), and X/Twitter [@culture_la](https://X).

Presented by:



DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS
City of Los Angeles

201 North Figueroa Street, Suite 1400
Los Angeles, California 90012

TEL 213.202.5500

FAX 213.202.5517

WEB culture.lacity.gov

X / TWITTER [@culture_LA](https://X)

INSTAGRAM [@culture_LA](https://Instagram)

FACEBOOK [cultureLA](https://facebook.com/cultureLA)



Edmund Arevalo, *Babae ng Provincia Dulimaman 1*, Collage, paper transfer, acrylic on canvas, 30" x 40", 2021

ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH 2025 CALENDAR AND CULTURAL GUIDE

ABOUT THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS



Ann Phong, *Looking Back, Looking Forward*, Acrylic with objects and ink drawing, 30"x 40", 2024

DCA FACILITIES (36 TOTAL)

- DCA manages and programs 24 Neighborhood Arts and Cultural Centers including: 9 Arts and Cultural Centers, 6 Performing Arts Theaters, 2 Historic Sites, and 7 Galleries.
- DCA oversees an additional 9 Public/Private Partnership Arts Facilities.
- DCA also manages 4 Prop K Facilities in Development.

ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH 2025 CALENDAR AND CULTURAL GUIDE

ABOUT THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS

DCA NEIGHBORHOOD ARTS AND CULTURAL CENTERS

DCA’s neighborhood facilities offer high-quality instruction for young people and adults in the performing, visual, and new media arts. The Arts and Cultural Centers offer after-school and summer arts programs, produce solo and group art exhibitions, create outreach programs for under-served populations, and produce a variety of festivals during the year that celebrate the cultural diversity of the community.

DCA MANAGED ARTS AND CULTURAL CENTERS (9)

**Barnsdall Arts Center and
Barnsdall Junior Arts Center
Barnsdall Park**
4800 Hollywood Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90027
323.644.6295 Barnsdall Arts Center
323.644.6275 Barnsdall Junior Arts Center

Canoga Park Youth Arts Center
7222 Remmet Avenue
Canoga Park, CA 91303
818.346.7099

Lincoln Heights Youth Arts Center
2911 Altura Street
Los Angeles, CA 90031
323.224.0928

**Sun Valley Youth Arts Center
(The Stone House)**
8642 Sunland Boulevard
Sun Valley, CA 91352
818.252.4619

**Watts Towers Arts Center and
Charles Mingus Youth Arts Center**
1727 East 107th Street
Los Angeles, CA 90002
213.847.4646 Watts Towers Arts Center
323.566.1410 Charles Mingus Youth Arts Center

William Grant Still Arts Center
2520 South West View Street
Los Angeles, CA 90016
323.734.1165

At right: Charlene Shih, *Load of Life*, Encaustic on wood, 16” x 12”, 2024





ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH 2025 CALENDAR AND CULTURAL GUIDE

ABOUT THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS



Dave Young Kim, *Displaced*, Latex, spray paint, 8' x 8', 2020

DCA MANAGED PERFORMING ARTS THEATERS (6)

Through its professional theater facilities, DCA serves the performing and media arts community by offering below-market theater rentals. In turn, the arts community presents year-round dance, music, theater, literary, and multi-disciplinary performances; supports the development of emerging and established Los Angeles-based performing and media artists; and offers workshops for playwrights and writers of all ages.

Barnsdall Gallery Theatre
Barnsdall Park
4800 Hollywood Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90027
323.644.6272

Lankershim Arts Center
5108 Lankershim Boulevard
North Hollywood, CA 91602
818.752.7568

Madrid Theatre
21622 Sherman Way
Canoga Park, CA 91303
818.347.9938

Taxco Theatre
7242 Owensmouth Avenue
Canoga Park, CA 91303
818.347.9938

Vision Theatre
3341 West 43rd Place
Los Angeles, CA 90008
213.202.5508

Warner Grand Theatre
478 West 6th Street
San Pedro, CA 90731
310.548.7672



Chiho Harazaki, *Mandala - Spider*, Washi tape, acrylic on canvas, 30" x 40", 2022

ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH 2025 CALENDAR AND CULTURAL GUIDE

ABOUT THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES
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C. Ryu, *Born | Lost in Translation*, Multimedia installation, 2022-2023

DCA MANAGED HISTORIC SITES (2)

DCA provides conservation services and educational programming and tours for two of LA's most treasured historic sites, Hollyhock House and the Watts Towers. Conservation efforts are coordinated through DCA's Historic Site Preservation Office. DCA's Museum Education and Tours Program coordinates tours and interpretive programs for both young people and adults.

Hollyhock House is Frank Lloyd Wright's first Los Angeles project. Built between 1919 and 1921, it represents his earliest efforts to develop a regionally appropriate style of architecture for Southern California. Barnsdall Park, including the iconic Hollyhock House, was awarded landmark status in 2007 and listed on the National Register of Historic Places. As the nation's highest historic landmark designation, the site has been formally recognized for its role in interpreting the heritage and history of the United States. Hollyhock House was inscribed on UNESCO's World Heritage List in 2019.

Hollyhock House
Barnsdall Park
4800 Hollywood Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 9002
323.913.4031

The **Watts Towers**, built over 34 years by Simon Rodia, are a Los Angeles icon. Built from found objects, including broken glass, sea shells, pottery, and tile, the Towers stand as a monument to the human spirit and the persistence of a singular vision. The Watts Towers, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, are a National Historic Landmark, a State of California Historic Park, and Historic-Cultural Monument No. 15 as previously designated by the City of Los Angeles Cultural Heritage Commission.

Watts Towers
1765 East 107th Street
Los Angeles, CA 90002
213.847.4646



Stephanie Han, *Palindrome*, Mixed media, 6" x 8", 2024

ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH 2025 CALENDAR AND CULTURAL GUIDE

ABOUT THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS



Nami Yang, *Beach*, Acrylic, 7" x 14", 2024

DCA MANAGED GALLERIES (7)

DCA's Galleries serve to promote the visual arts and artists of the culturally diverse Los Angeles region.

The **Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery (LAMAG)** at Barnsdall Park is the City's primary exhibition venue and is devoted to showcasing the work of local emerging, mid-career, and established artists in group and individual presentation formats.

Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery (LAMAG)

Barnsdall Park

4800 Hollywood Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90027
323.644.6269

The **Barnsdall Junior Arts Center Gallery** supports smaller exhibitions, many displaying works created in classes at Barnsdall Park.

Barnsdall Junior Arts Center Gallery

Barnsdall Park

4800 Hollywood Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90027
323.644.6275

DCA's Henry P. Rio Bridge Gallery at

City Hall showcases the work of young people, adults, and seniors enrolled in City art programs, as well as themed exhibitions celebrating the City's Heritage Month Celebrations.

DCA's Henry P. Rio Bridge Gallery at City Hall

200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

The galleries at the **Watts Towers Campus** include:

Noah Purifoy Gallery

Charles Mingus Gallery

Dr. Joseph and Bootsie Howard Gallery

1727 East 107th Street
Los Angeles, CA 90002
213.847.4646

Engaging exhibitions can also be viewed at DCA's gallery at the **William Grant Still Arts Center**:

William Grant Still Arts Center Gallery

2520 South West View Street
Los Angeles, CA 90016
323.734.1165



Simonette David Jackson, *Gumamela*, Inkjet prints of original pen + ink drawings, paper diorama, 24" x 19", 2025

ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH 2025 CALENDAR AND CULTURAL GUIDE

ABOUT THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES
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Mary Lai, *Representation Social*, Acrylic paint and paste on canvas, 60" x 40", 2025

DCA PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP ARTS FACILITIES

ARTS AND CULTURAL CENTERS (5)

Art in the Park

5568 Via Marisol
Los Angeles, CA 90042
323.259.0861

Eagle Rock Community Cultural Center / Center for the Arts Eagle Rock

2225 Colorado Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90041
323.561.3044

Encino Arts and Cultural Center (Previously the Center for Folk Music)

16953 Ventura Boulevard
Encino, CA 91316

McGroarty Arts Center

7570 McGroarty Terrace
Tujunga, CA 91042
818.352.5285

William Reagh - LA Photography Center

2332 West Fourth Street
Los Angeles, CA 90057
213.382.8133

ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH 2025 CALENDAR AND CULTURAL GUIDE

ABOUT THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES
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DCA PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP ARTS FACILITIES

PERFORMING ARTS THEATERS (2)

Los Angeles Theatre Center /
The NEW LATC
514 South Spring Street, 2nd Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90013
213.489.0994

Nate Holden Performing Arts Center
4718 West Washington Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90016
323.964.9768

DCA PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP ARTS FACILITIES:

DCA PROP K FACILITIES IN DEVELOPMENT (4)

Downtown Youth Arts Center
(Fire Station # 23)
225 East 5th Street
Los Angeles, CA 90013

Highland Park Youth Arts Center
111 North Bridewell Street
Los Angeles, CA 90042

Manchester Youth Arts Center
5730 South Crenshaw Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90043

Oakwood Junior Youth Arts Center
(Vera Davis McLendon Youth Arts Center)
610 California Avenue
Venice, CA 90291

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Jian Lee, *The Invisibles*, Acrylic paint on wood panel, 10" x 12", 2022



ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH 2025

CALENDAR AND CULTURAL GUIDE



DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS
City of Los Angeles

CALENDAR ARTISTS

The City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs gives special thanks to our calendar artists for generously allowing us to showcase their work in this publication.

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[azziart.gallery](https://www.azziart.gallery)

Paul Batou
[paul-batou.pixels.com](https://www.paul-batou.pixels.com)

Doris Bittar
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Chung-Ping Cheng
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Mary Cheung
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Alex Chow
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Wakana Kimura
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Mary Lai
[marylai.com](https://www.marylai.com)

Nellie Le
[nelliele.com](https://www.nelliele.com)

At left: Bella Chen, *Heart of the Angels*, Oil on canvas, 30" x 40", 2024

ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH 2025

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CALENDAR ARTISTS

Jian Lee
jjanstudio.com

Robert S. Lee
instagram.com/robertsleeart

Zoe Congyu Liu
congyuliu.com

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sandra-low.com

Amy Lyu
amylyustudio.com

Liza Macawili
instagram.com/sketchyoldbroad

Kaoru Mansour
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Nami Yang
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Sean Yang
instagram.com/seanyang_art

Miki Yokoyama
mikiyokoyama.com

Kathy Yoshihara
kyoshiharadesign.com

Samuel Youn
Instagram.com/samuelyounart

Liang Zhang
liangzhang.art

Courtesy of
Bowers Museum
bowers.org

Unknown Artists from the exhibit
*World of the Terracotta Warriors:
New Archaeological Discoveries in
Shaanxi in the 21st Century*

Courtesy of
Creative Love Network
instagram.com/POETLARRYLOVE

Christian “Soulstuf” Perfas

Courtesy of
Kylin Gallery
kylingallery.com

Yoshio Ikezaki



Kio Griffith, *Medusa Constellation 01*, Digital painting, 12" x 12", 2025

ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH 2025 CALENDAR AND CULTURAL GUIDE

COVER ARTIST SPOTLIGHT



WAKANA KIMURA

I use visual communication to express unification and individuality. I start with a mark and continue to build on it as an expression. Each mark has its own unique identity, and each mark interacts with another mark in its own unique way. All of the marks together represent an individual conceptual structure. It is only when I complete the piece that I am able to attach a verbal word to enable communication. I use art as a medium to openly communicate the individual differences among us. Ideally, there is a ripple effect. As with drops of rain in a pond, each drop forms a concentric circle that joins with another concentric circle, and this intertwining has a larger effect. Each individual marks I create enables communication and creates conversation.

Wakana Kimura (@wakanakimurastudio) is an artist originally from Shizuoka, Japan. She holds a BFA in Oil Painting from Tokyo University of the Arts and an MFA from Otis College of Art and Design. In 2023, she received the City of Los Angeles Individual Master Artist Project (COLA IMAP) grant.

Kimura’s practice merges traditional and contemporary techniques, often collaborating with artisans. As an artist-in-residence in Echizen, Japan, she worked with paper craftsmen to create the Echizen Mandala. She was also commissioned by Zenshuji Soto Mission Los Angeles to paint Nehanzu: Parinirvana for its 100th anniversary. Other major projects include a 2,700 sq/ft mural at the Robertson Recreation Center for the City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs and the Through the Eyes of the Artist poster series for LA Metro.

Her work has been exhibited at Union Station Los Angeles, Pomona College Museum of Art, Japan Foundation Los Angeles, Torrance Art Museum, and more.



Chung-Ping Cheng, *The Peony Lumen Print #45*, Experimental photography, lumen print, 24" x 20", 2025



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