

The Asian Reporter

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Asian Heritage Month Special Issue



HONORING OUR HERITAGE. During the month of May, we celebrate Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander heritage. The idea of celebrating the achievements and contributions of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in the United States began in mid-1977, when a resolution first appeared in the House of Representatives to proclaim the first ten days of May as Asian-Pacific American Heritage week. Soon after, a similar bill was introduced in the senate. Both passed on October 5, 1978 and U.S. President Jimmy Carter signed a Joint Resolution designating the annual celebration. In 1990, the observance was extended from a week to a month. This year's heritage month special section begins on page 8. (Illustration by Jonathan Hill)



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Celebrating Asian Heritage

The Asian Reporter celebrates Asian Heritage Month with this special edition. In this issue, we mark heritage month with a visit to New Year in the Park 2023, a free family-friendly celebration of the Cambodian, Lao, Thai, and Burmese New Year that took place at Glenhaven Park in late April. On a beautiful day with sunny weather, the event featured area businesses, restaurants, organizations, and performers. In addition to watching the entertainment stage, festival-goers enjoyed papaya salad, lotus cookies, and fried bananas; purchased clothing, jewelry, and other goods; and learned about important information available to the community.

The section continues with numerous programs, shows, and documentaries scheduled to air during heritage month on Oregon Public Broadcasting (OPB) and OPB World. More than three dozen films focusing on the experiences of Asian Americans are featured.

The issue also highlights a new book written by Renee Macalino Rutledge and illustrated by Lauren Akazawa Mendez. *The ABCs of Asian American History* introduces readers to amazing inventors, artists, athletes, comics, and others, whose accomplishments benefit all of us. The book also contains interesting facts while empowering the Asian community.

Finally, our expanded events calendar provides a monthlong guide to Asian art, history, culture, and entertainment.

While celebrating heritage month, we continue to stand with our fellow Asian Americans across the country who have experienced unprovoked racial attacks and hate crimes. Please stay safe and remain alert while also looking out for each other.



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#STOP ASIAN HATE



CULTURAL CELEBRATION. New Year in the Park, a free family-friendly celebration of the Cambodian, Lao, Thai, and Burmese New Year, took place at Glenhaven Park on a sunny Saturday in late April. The event featured traditional music, cultural dance (pictured), Asian cuisine, items for sale, and more. Some people attended for a couple hours while others partied all day. (AR Photos/Jan Landis)

Thousands attend 2023 New Year in the Park

By Jody Lim
The Asian Reporter

While waiting at the red light to turn west onto N.E. Siskiyou Street from 82nd Avenue, I could smell the celebration. On a sunny spring day that reached at least 80°, thousands of people attended the 2023 New Year in the Park in northeast Portland over the weekend.

Just beyond the trees lining Glenhaven Park were too many tents to count. Small pop-up tents shaded businesses, restaurants, and organizations. Two huge tents covered the performance stage and attendees.

At least 10 restaurants, such as Burmese Delight, Mekong Bistro, Thip Khoa, Sandy's Myanmar Cuisine, and Ding Tea PDX, sold fried rice, papaya salad, skewers, micola bowls, pad see ew, crazy wings & rice, Burmese tea, lotus cookies, fried bananas, and much more. Festival-goers patiently waited in line for their delightfully delicious cuisine.

Outreach booths included organizations — the Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization (IRCO), the Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon (APANO), and the Cambodian-American Community of Oregon (CACO) — as well as businesses and government agencies — the Multnomah County Library, DHS's API Net, the Oregon Department of Justice's Civil Rights Unit, the OHSU BEFAST program, and the Multnomah County Circuit Court, among others. Anyone seeking information could find someone willing to provide helpful pamphlets and resources.

Plenty of freebies were also available — candy, pens, buttons, calendars, flyers, bookmarks, and band-aids. The BEFAST (Balance. Eyes. Face. Arm. Speech. Time.) booth educated attendees who stopped by



about the signs to be aware of in case someone is experiencing a stroke. The Civil Rights Unit distributed information about its Stand Against Hate program.

Many vendors, including one from up north in Bellevue, Washington, offered sashes, hats, small sculptures, handbags, wallets, scrunchies, shampoo, lotion, jewelry, and more for sale. Youth were invited to participate in arts and crafts at the New Year in the Park table.

The booths, which surrounded the tall performance tents, were bustling. I noticed smiles everywhere. Celebration organizers were also selling colorful New Year in the Park t-shirts for only \$20 as a fundraiser.

And, of course, there were performers and speakers onstage during the daylong festival. Groups, individuals, and families representing Lao, Myanmar, Thai, Iu

Continued on page 13

SCAN ME

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Chúng tôi muốn lắng nghe ý kiến từ quý vị!

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Get the 411 with Nonpartisan Info

- Written ballot measure explanations:
 - M26-238: Legal Services for Tenants Facing Eviction
 - M26-239: Gresham Public Safety Levy
 - M26-240: Renews Portland Children's Levy
- Candidates' written answers to questions
- Videos & podcasts of candidate interviews
- Videos & podcasts of League Voter Forums:
 - Portland Public Schools Board, Zone 3
 - Multnomah County Commissioner Dist. 3
 - Measure 26-238 Pros + Cons

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Oregon Public Broadcasting to feature shows with an Asian focus throughout Heritage Month

Oregon Public Broadcasting (OPB) has released its schedule of Asian-related programs, shows, and documentaries airing during Asian Heritage Month. The organization is featuring pieces created by the Center for Asian American Media (CAAM), Oregon Experience, Pacific Heartbeat, America ReFramed, Independent Lens, and others.

The list of features include premieres of *Nam June Paik: Moon Is the Oldest TV* on Tuesday, May 16, and *Fanny: The Right to Rock* on Monday, May 22. *Nam June Paik: Moon Is the Oldest TV* traces the life and work of the avant-garde artist best known as the father of video art who coined the term “electronic superhighway.” *Fanny: The Right to Rock* tells the story of the first all-women band to release an album with a major record label.

Locally produced shows, such as episodes of Oregon Experience, include *Oregon’s Japanese Americans* on May 8 and *Massacre at Hells Canyon* on May 15. In addition, segments of *Asian Americans*, the five-part series released in 2020, traces the epic story of Asian Americans spanning 150 years of immigration, racial politics, international relations, and cultural innovation.

The programming is scheduled to air on both OPB and OPB World. Several shows are also streaming online through various services, including <www.pbs.org>. For more information, call (503) 293-1982. To learn more, or to view the full schedule online, visit <www.opb.org>.

Below is a partial schedule:

Asian Americans: “Breaking Ground”

May 1, 9:00pm, OPB World

May 2, 11:00pm, OPB

In an era of exclusion, new immigrants arrived in the U.S. from China, India, Japan, the Philippines, and elsewhere. Eventually barred by anti-Asian laws, the first show in the epic five-part *Asian Americans* series that premiered in 2020 — titled “Breaking Ground” — tells how newcomers became America’s first “undocumented immigrants” even as they built railroads and dazzled on the silver screen. They also took the fight for equality to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Stories From the Stage: “Asian Voices”

May 1, 11:30pm, OPB World

Every day, millions of people create their own definitions of what it means to be Asian American. And to do this, they rely on history, culture, family, and friends to deal with their dual identities. In “Asian Voices,” an episode of Stories From the Stage, storytellers share tales that speak to the richness and variety of the Asian-American experience.

Rising Against Asian Hate: One Day in March

May 2, 10:00pm, OPB



May 3, 10:00pm, OPB World

In March 2021, a 21-year-old man murdered eight people, including six women of Asian descent, at three spas in Atlanta, Georgia — a horrific attack in a year of widespread anti-Asian violence. *Rising Against Asian Hate: One Day in March* pays tribute to the lives lost, examines the rise of anti-Asian racism, and documents a growing movement to fight back and stop the hate. The one-hour documentary takes a deep dive into this critical moment of racial reckoning while exploring the need for better hate crime legislation, demanding accountability from law enforcement, and chronicling a community as they break their silence to rise up against hate. Ultimately, the film asks the crucial question of what’s next for Asian Americans — in the courts, in the voting booth, and in the streets.

Barakan Discovers: “Ainu, a New Generation”

May 3, 9:00pm, OPB World

May 24, 11:00pm, OPB

Learn about the Ainu, an indigenous people in northern Japan, in “Ainu, a New Generation,” an episode of Barakan Discovers. The Ainu were once subjected to cultural assimilation policies and many of their traditions were lost, but now, young Ainu are spearheading a movement to restore their heritage. In the show, host Peter Barakan meets an artisan who re-creates old craft items; performers with a new take on traditional singing and dancing; and a YouTuber who presents language lessons. He also looks at the oppression of the past and the possibilities that exist in the future.

POV Shorts: Where I’m From

May 4, 8:00pm, OPB World

Where I’m From, a POV Short, tells stories about home and how it shapes us. A segment of the show, “Sing Me a Lullaby,” which spans 14 years and two continents, follows a daughter as she searches for her mother’s birth parents in Taiwan, unravelling complex tensions between love and sacrifice.

Mr. Tornado

May 4, 11:00pm, May 5, 7:00pm &

May 8, 7:00pm, OPB World

Mr. Tornado tells the remarkable story of Tetsuya Theodore “Ted” Fujita, whose groundbreaking work in research and applied science saved thousands of lives and helped Americans prepare for and respond to dangerous weather phenomena. Fujita devoted his life to unlocking the mysteries of severe storms.

Oregon Art Beat: “Fabric of Life”

May 4, 8:00pm & May 7, 6:00pm, OPB

“Fabric of Life,” an episode of Oregon Art Beat, focuses on Fuchsia Lin, an artist, costume designer, and filmmaker. Lin’s designs have become fantastical, otherworldly costumes that have graced stages from Broadway

FIVE-PART SERIES. Pictured is Bhagat Singh Thind as a young man wearing his U.S. Army uniform and holding a rifle at Camp Lewis in 1918 during World War I. Thind, a Sikh American, was the first U.S. serviceman to be allowed for religious reasons to wear a turban as part of their military uniform. Thind is featured in the five-part Asian Americans series. (Photo courtesy of Dr. Bhagat Singh Thind Spiritual Science Foundation)

to the Oregon Ballet Theatre. Now, she is creating films to highlight her work. “I just love seeing my costumes in motion, in performances, and in film,” says Lin. “They really just come to life.”

America ReFramed: Jaddoland

May 4, 9:00pm, May 6, 7:00pm & 11:00pm, OPB World

Nadia Shihab’s *Jaddoland* is an intimate portrait of the work and process of the director’s visual artist mother, Lahib Jaddo. The film offers a fresh look at the immigrant story in America. Through an exploration of her mother’s art and connections to her life in Texas, Shihab also drafts a unique picture of how art can help both the creator and the audience make sense of familial and cultural connections, loss, perseverance, and life.

And Then They Came for Us

May 5, 10:00pm, OPB World

Inspired by the book *Un-American: The Incarceration of Japanese-Americans During World War II* by Richard Cahan and Michael Williams, *And Then They Came for Us* brings history into the present, retelling the difficult story of Executive Order 9066, which paved the way to the profound violation of constitutional rights that resulted in the forced incarceration of 120,000 Japanese Americans and the Japanese-American activism that followed, with community members speaking out against the Muslim registry and travel ban. The 50-minute documentary features George Takei and many others who were incarcerated, as well as recently rediscovered photographs of Dorothea Lange.

Try Harder!

May 6, 5:00pm & May 6, 9:00pm, OPB World

Try Harder!, an episode of Independent Lens, takes place at Lowell High School, San Francisco’s academic pressure cooker, where the kids are stressed out. With a majority Asian-American student body, high-achieving seniors share their dreams and anxieties about getting into a top university.

“Bloodline”

May 6, 6:30pm & 10:30pm, May 14, 8:30pm, OPB World

“Bloodline” is a profile of Vietnamese-American chef Tu David Phu and the evolution of his culinary aesthetic. The program follows Tu as he returns home to Oakland, California, after competing on the cooking series “Top Chef.” From the son of refugees growing up in West Oakland to a professional chef, Tu’s acclaimed culinary creations are heralded as the next wave of Asian fusion representing Vietnamese culture.

Oregon Experience: Oregon’s Japanese Americans

May 8, 9:00pm, OPB

In *Oregon’s Japanese Americans*, an episode of Oregon Experience, viewers discover the history of Japanese Americans in Oregon, from their early beginnings to forced incarceration during World War II and beyond. By the 1920s, Japanese-American communities in Portland and Hood River were thriving. Immigrant pioneers managed businesses, farms, and orchards with their American-born children. The attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941 changed everything.

Asian Americans: “A Question of Loyalty”

May 8, 9:00pm, OPB World

May 9, 11:00pm, OPB

An American-born generation straddles their country of birth and the homelands of their parents in “A Question of Loyalty,” an episode of the five-part series *Asian Americans*. Those loyalties are tested during World War II when families are imprisoned in detention camps and brothers find themselves on opposite sides of the battle lines.

America ReFramed: Blurring the Color Line

May 11, 9:00pm, May 13, 7:00pm &

11:00pm, OPB World

Blurring the Color Line follows director Crystal Kwok as she unpacks the history behind her grandmother’s family, who were neighborhood grocery store owners in the Black community of Augusta, Georgia, during the Jim Crow era. By centering women’s experiences, Kwok poses critical questions around the intersections of anti-Black racism, white power, and Chinese patriarchy in the American South.

Reel South: Seadrift

May 11, 10:00pm & May 13, 8:00pm, OPB World

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Several Asian Heritage Month
programs are streaming online at
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Oregon Public Broadcasting to feature shows with an Asian focus throughout Heritage Month

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In 1979, a fatal shooting ignited a maelstrom of hostilities against Vietnamese refugee fishermen along the Gulf Coast. Set during the early days of Vietnamese refugee arrival in the U.S., *Seadrift* examines this turbulent yet little-seen chapter of American history and explores its consequences that continue to reverberate today.

Shinmachi: Stronger Than a Tsunami

May 11, 11:00pm & May 12, 7:00pm, OPB World

On the morning of April 1, 1946, a deadly tsunami reduced Shinmachi to rubble. In *Shinmachi: Stronger Than a Tsunami*, discover the resilience of a unique Japanese community in Hilo, Hawai‘i. Their stories bring to life the once-thriving small business district founded by Japanese immigrant plantation laborers who made the bold decision to establish their economic independence from the sugar industry.

Tyrus Wong

May 12, 9:00pm, OPB World

Tyrus Wong, a show by American Masters, tells the story of the renowned painter. Until his death at the age of 106, Wong was America’s oldest living Chinese-American artist and one of the last remaining artists from the golden age of Disney animation. The quiet beauty of his eastern-influenced paintings had a pioneering impact on American art and popular culture.

Hidden Letters

May 13, 5:00pm & 9:00pm, OPB World

In *Hidden Letters*, an episode of Independent Lens, the bonds of sisterhood and the parallels of struggles among generations of women in China are drawn together by the once-secret written language of Nushu, the only script designed and used exclusively by women.

Doc World: Ganden: A Joyful Land

May 14, 7:00pm & 11:00pm, OPB World

Likened by Buddhists to the Vatican City, Ganden is considered the most influential monastery of Tibetan Buddhism. Monks lived in the monastery for more than 500 years before a brutal invasion drove them to India. *Ganden: A Joyful Land* is a look at the lives and remembrances of the remaining generation of monks to have studied at the monastery in Tibet where the Dalai Lama’s lineage began.

Massacre at Hells Canyon

May 15, 9:30pm, OPB

Massacre at Hells Canyon, an episode of Oregon Experience, details an 1887 incident in which as many as 34 Chinese gold miners were massacred on the Oregon side of Hells Canyon in what was likely the nation’s worst massacre of Chinese people. Though the culprits — a gang



AMBASSADOR OF ALOHA. Waterman: Duke, Ambassador of Aloha, which tells the inspiring story and considerable impact of five-time Olympic medallist Duke Kahanamoku, airs on Saturday, May 20 on OPB World. Kahanamoku shattered swimming records and globalized surfing while overcoming racism in a lifetime of personal challenges. (Photo courtesy of American Masters)

of Wallowa County men — were well known, no one was ever convicted and the crime was largely forgotten. Chinese immigrants were instrumental in building the west, but they faced unprecedented legalized discrimination and violence.

A Tale of Three Chinatowns

May 15, 10:00pm & May 16, 7:00pm, OPB World

A Tale of Three Chinatowns, presented by Local, USA, explores the survival of urban ethnic neighborhoods in three American cities: Washington, D.C., Chicago, and Boston. Through the voices of residents, community activists, developers, and government officials, the film looks at the forces altering each community and the challenges that go with them, including the pressing issue of urban development and gentrification.

Asian Americans: “Good Americans”

May 15, 9:00pm, OPB World

May 16, 11:00pm, OPB

Part of the five-part series *Asian Americans*, “Good Americans” addresses the Cold War years, when Asian Americans are simultaneously heralded as a model minority and targeted as a perpetual foreigner. Bold

ambition also emerges, as Asian Americans aspire for the first time to national political office and a coming culture-quake simmers beneath the surface.

Nam June Paik: Moon Is the Oldest TV

May 16, 9:00pm, OPB

May 19, 10:00pm & May 22, 7:00pm, OPB World

Nam June Paik: Moon Is the Oldest TV, an episode of American Masters, premieres on Tuesday, May 16 during Asian Heritage Month. The feature traces the life and work of the avant-garde artist best known as the father of video art. Narrated by Oscar nominee Steven Yeun, viewers see the world through the eyes of Nam June Paik, who saw a future in which “everybody will have his own TV channel.” With the advent of social media and the rise of platforms such as YouTube and TikTok, Paik’s vision of the future looks startlingly like the present. Born in Japan-occupied Korea, Paik went on to become a pillar of the American avant-garde and transformed modern image-making with his sculptures, films, and performances. Paik also coined of the term “electronic superhighway.”

“First Peoples: Asia”

May 16, 10:00pm, OPB World

In “First Peoples: Asia,” viewers discover the ancient humans living across Asia when *Homo sapiens* arrived. Our ancestors mated with them and their genes found a home within our DNA. More than that, they’ve helped humans face down extinction.

Finding the Virgo

May 18, 11:00pm & May 19, 7:00pm, OPB World

Finding the Virgo, a documentary, follows the Vuong family through their post-war years in Vietnam, including the family patriarch’s imprisonment, their harrowing escape and rescue at sea, and their daughter’s decades-long search for their saviors.

America ReFramed: Far East Deep South

May 18, 9:00pm & May 20,

7:00pm & 11:00pm, OPB World

Far East Deep South follows Charles Chiu and his family as they travel from California to Mississippi to find the grave of Charles’ father, K.C. Lou. The search leads to stunning revelations about their family, and they receive a crash course on the history of Chinese immigrants in the segregated South. Through encounters with local residents and historians, this Chinese-American family not only discovers their family’s important role in the Mississippi Delta, but they also learn about the symbiotic relationship between the Black and Chinese communities during the Jim Crow era.

Vanishing Chinatown:

The World of the May’s Photo Studio

May 18, 10:30pm, May 20, 8:30pm &

May 31, 9:00pm, OPB World

In the early- to mid-1900s, Leo and Isabella May Chan Lee, owners of The May’s Photo Studio in San Francisco’s Chinatown, turned out one-of-a-kind photos of Chinese-

Continued on page 14

CASCADE BOOKSELLERS ASSOCIATION PRESENTS

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Children & adults will learn something new in *The ABCs of Asian American History*

The ABCs of Asian American History

By Renee Macalino Rutledge

Illustrations by Lauren Akazawa Mendez

Bloom Books for Young Readers, 2023

Hardcover, 48 pages, \$14.95

By Jody Lim

The Asian Reporter

Children age five and older — and adults, too — have a new book to learn about the many accomplishments of Asian Americans, as well as interesting facts, holidays, cuisine, and more.

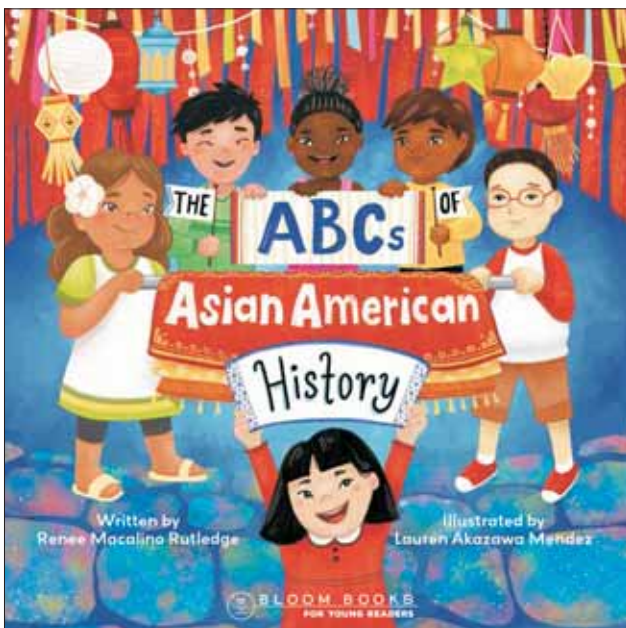
Published just last month, *The ABCs of Asian American History* is not only a great book for learning words, phrases, and facts — such as “tashi delek,” which is said during Losar, the Tibetan New Year, to wish luck and good cheer, or bola bekel, a game which is similar to jacks but with shells to pick up — it also introduces readers to Asian American inventors, artists, athletes, and so much more.

There’s Eugene Trinh, who was the first Vietnamese American to travel to space, and Sal Khan, who founded the Khan Academy to help children learn on a website that’s free. There is also Jacqueline Nguyen, “once a refugee in a military fort,” but now a judge “on the federal court,” as well as 8-year-old Mamie Tape, who with her parents in 1885 filed a lawsuit to fight against anti-Chinese sentiment — and won.

There are far too many awesome Asian Americans highlighted in the book to list all of them here. Readers will need to find a copy of the book to peruse them all.

The many words presented in the order of the alphabet to describe Asian people, items, and efforts — Activists, Daring, Forward-thinking, Heroes, Noble, Pioneer, Sacrifice — are inspiring and amazing.

*A is for Activists,
who fight to end wrongs
Helping farm workers strike*



there was Larry Itliong

*For H is for Heroes
doing acts big and small
Some get all the limelight,
others hardly any at all*

The ABCs of Asian American History also informs of traditions, instruments, and holidays:

Kimono — A thousand-year-old traditional Japanese garment

Kse diev — A Cambodian musical instrument with a gourd and one string to strum

Tihar — A five-day-long exuberant festival filled with worship and song

Yi Peng — A floating lantern festival celebrated in Thailand by thousands of people

I also thoroughly enjoyed reading the glossary at the end of the book, which is full of names and items with
Continued on page 13



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Heritage Month events

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

“Reorient: Journeys Through Art and Healing”

Through May 14, 10am-5pm (Wed-Sun), Wing Luke Museum of the Asian Pacific American Experience (719 S King St, Seattle). View “Reorient: Journeys Through Art and Healing,” an exhibit of non-traditional media by four artists — Victor Kai Wang, Suchitra Mattai, Jean Isamu Nagai, and Tuan Nguyen — who address stories of immigration where art is a sanctuary, resulting in regeneration and innovation. For info, or to purchase tickets, call (206) 623-5124 or visit <www.wingluke.org>.

Where the Mountain Meets the Moon

Through May 28, 2pm & 5pm (Sat), 11am & 2pm (Sun), Newmark Theatre (1111 SW Broadway, Portland). Watch *Where the Mountain Meets the Moon*, a musical adapted from a book by author Grace Lin. Presented by Oregon Children’s Theatre, the production of the Chinese folktale features an all Asian-American local cast. The show, which has a runtime of 75 minutes, is recommended for children age six and older. For info, or to purchase tickets, call (503) 228-9571 or visit <www.octe.org>.

“Subtle Intimacy: Here and There”

Through June 12, 10am-6pm (Wed-Mon), Portland Japanese Garden (611 SW Kingston Ave, Portland). After two seasonal residencies in Portland, the Japan Institute’s inaugural artist-in-residence, Rui Sasaki, is showing her site-specific works inspired by the natural beauty of the Portland Japanese Garden. Entitled “Subtle Intimacy: Here and There,” Sasaki’s new works have created an immersive experience where transparent impressions of the garden’s foliage are forever preserved in panes of clear glass. The glass panels feature plants from Portland and Sasaki’s neighborhood in Kanazawa, Japan. The garden is closed on Tuesdays. For info, or to purchase tickets, call (503) 223-1321 or visit <www.japanesegarden.com>.

“Hito Steyerl: This is the Future”

Through June 18, 10am-5pm (Wed-Sun), Portland Art Museum (1219 SW Park Ave, Portland). View “Hito Steyerl: This is the Future,” an exhibit that explores a vibrant, imagined garden through an immersive environment of video projection, sculpture, and spatial intervention. Filmmaker and writer Steyerl is one of the foremost artists offering critical reflections on the complexities of the digital world, global capitalism, and the implications of artificial intelligence (AI) for society. For info, or to purchase tickets, call (503) 226-2811 or visit <www.portlandartmuseum.org>.

Cultural performances at the Portland Japanese Garden

May 3, 5 & 6, 1:15-2:15pm, Portland Japanese Garden (611 SW Kingston Ave, Portland). Attend afternoon cultural performances held at the Portland Japanese Garden. The performances feature *koto* on May 3 and 6, and *shinobue* flute & piano by Mado Mind on May 5. For info, or to purchase tickets, call (503) 223-1321 or visit <www.japanesegarden.com>.

Oregon Rises Above Hate

May 6, 10am-3pm, Flanders Festival Street (between NW Third & Fourth Avenues and NW Flanders & Glisan Streets, Portland). Join Oregon Rises Above Hate for a day of activities. The event kicks off at 10:00am with community leaders and elected officials addressing attendees. From 11:00am to 4:00pm, booths and tables for organizations are open to the public. Performances begin at noon and run until 3:00pm. Some of the scheduled artists include Alex Dang, Devigals Filipino Dance, DJ Anjali, Swiggle Mandela, Paul Susi, Mitch Iimori, Ken Yoshikawa, Portland Taiko, and others. Food carts will be onsite from 11:00am to 4:00pm. Another highlight of the day is free admission to Lan Su Chinese Garden (2:00pm to 6:00pm), the Japanese American Museum of Oregon (11:00am to 6:00pm), and the Portland Chinatown Museum (11:00am to 6:00pm). For info, visit <www.oregonrisesabovehate.com>.

Continued on page 15

Children & adults will learn something new in The ABCs of Asian American History

Continued from page 12 descriptions:

Awkwafina: Nora Lum, known as “Awkwafina,” is a Chinese and Korean American rapper and Golden Globe-winning actress.

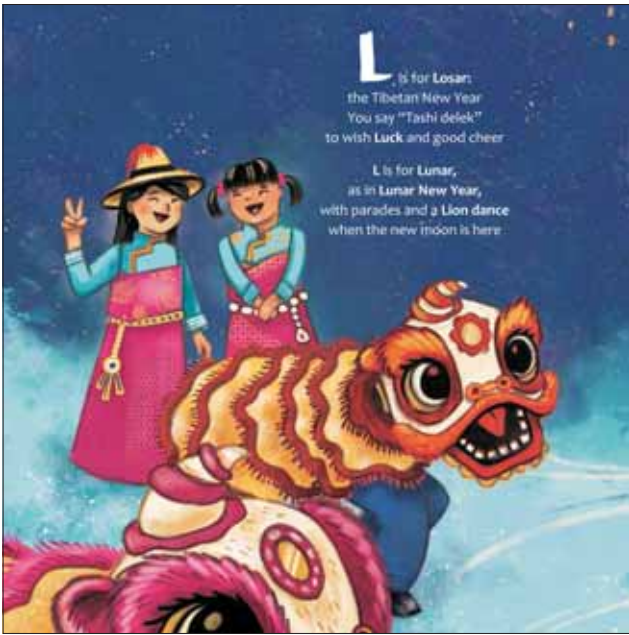
Fitbit: Korean American entrepreneur James Park co-founded and is the CEO of this fitness technology company.

H.E.R.: Gabriella Wilson, known as “H.E.R.,” is a Filipina and Black American R&B artist whose music has won a Grammy and an Academy Award.

Mountain Brothers: The first Asian American rap group to sign with a major label (1996).

Thingyan: This water festival of Myanmar celebrates the new year.

Yuri Kochiyama: Yuri



was a Japanese American civil rights activist dedicated to social change.

There is so much to be learned within *The ABCs of*

Asian American History. I’ve already read it to my five-year-old nephew; it’s a book we’ll return to over and over again.

Thousands attend 2023 New Year in the Park

Continued from page 9

Mien, Hmong, Kachin, Zomi, and Karen communities and cultures graced the stage.

Anyone who also wanted to enjoy some of the amenities at the park — the play structures, skate park, or just shade from the trees — could find what they needed. Organizers also set up three volleyball courts in the grass for attendees to use.

Attending New Year in the Park was a great way to welcome the upcoming Asian Heritage Month. Some people attended for a couple hours while others were there all



AR Photo: Jan Landis

day. Remember to mark your calendar for late April for the 2024 celebration.

To learn more, visit <www.newyearinthepark.com>.

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- State Representative Thuy Tran
- State Representative Hoa Nguyen
- Dr. Van Truong, co-founder of the Vietnamese Dual Language Program
- Michael Liu, business leader Fubonn Shopping Center
- Mari Watanabe, Partners in Diversity Executive Director (retired)
- Eddie Wang, business owner/PPS School Board candidate
- Community leaders Sean Egusa and Bobby Lee
- Former Governors Barbara Roberts, Ted Kulongoski, and Kate Brown

and many, many more at: www.JuliaBrim-Edwards.com



"Julia Brim-Edwards has been a leader in our East Portland community for decades. She helped build and has supported the Vietnamese, Mandarin, and Japanese language immersion programs in our schools, and been an advocate for our small and locally owned businesses in the heart of 82nd Avenue's Jade District. Local businesses and working families are in desperate need of an advocate for our neighborhoods and families. We know we can count on Julia to be that strong, effective voice."

- Michael Liu
Owner of Fubonn Shopping Center
on SE 82nd Avenue

Julia Brim-Edwards

for Multnomah County Commission District 3

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Oregon Public Broadcasting to feature shows with an Asian focus throughout Heritage Month

Continued from page 11

American immigrants. *Vanishing Chinatown: The World of the May's Photo Studio*, by director Emiko Omori, tells the story of hundreds of photographs, serendipitously rescued from a San Francisco Chinatown garbage dumpster, that were almost lost to time. The arresting images, which utilized collage, double exposure, and more, are a rare and intimate look at an immigrant people taken by The May's Photo Studio. The body of work presents a vibrant community that flourished despite racial discrimination and severely restrictive laws.

Behind the Strings

May 19, 9:00pm, OPB World

When Mao's Cultural Revolution ended, China's door cracked open, and four young, classical musicians seized the opportunity to flee to the west as classical music was banned. *Behind the Strings* explores how the Shanghai Quartet began a lifetime adventure — studying with great masters, attending Juilliard, and performing at major music festivals and top classical music venues such as Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, and The Kennedy Center. When the quartet's cellist decided to leave, they invited a young American grad student from New York City's Spanish Harlem to join the quartet. He was a highly praised cellist but also had a New York City "attitude" that the three Chinese musicians had never encountered.

Waterman: Duke, Ambassador of Aloha

May 20, 5:00pm & 9:00pm, OPB World

Waterman: Duke, Ambassador of Aloha, by American Masters, tells the inspiring story and considerable impact of five-time Olympic medallist Duke Kahanamoku, who shattered swimming records and globalized surfing while overcoming racism in a lifetime of personal challenges. As a dark-skinned Pacific Islander, Kahanamoku broke through racial barriers with athletic accomplishments before Joe Louis, Jesse Owens, and Jackie Robinson; yet relatively few outside of Hawai'i know the details of his inspiring story and considerable impact. Narrated by Jason Momoa, *Waterman* reveals Kahanamoku's influence on surfing's global spread, his life-saving achievements, and the obstacles he conquered both within and outside the sporting world.

Asian American Stories of Resilience, Volume 1

May 22, 11:00pm & May 23, 7:00pm, OPB World

Asian American Stories of Resilience, Volume 1, presented by Local, USA, reflects on the complexities of Asian-American experiences. In the program, queer filmmaker Quyen Nguyen-Le recovers and articulates the legacy of their mother's nail salon for their refugee family, and Filipino-American filmmaker Frances Rubio records and captures the experience of being distanced from her sick father, who has been isolated in his facility during the pandemic.

Asian Americans: "Generation Rising"

May 22, 9:00pm, OPB World

May 23, 11:00pm, OPB

Episode 4 of the of the five-part *Asian Americans* series is "Generation Rising." The show highlights a time of war and social tumult, when a young generation fighting for equality in the fields, on campuses, and in the culture, claim a new identity — Asian Americans. In the aftermath of the Vietnam War, new immigrants and refugees expand the population and the definition of "Asian America."

Fanny: The Right to Rock

May 22, 11:00pm, OPB

May 24, 9:30pm, OPB World

Fanny: The Right to Rock tells the story of the first all-women band to release an album with a major record label (Warner/Reprise, 1970). The group was co-founded in California 50 years ago by Filipina-American and queer teenagers. Fanny bandmates expertly played their own instruments and penned original songs that were ahead of their time, with lyrics exploring themes of sexual freedom, war, relationships, and identity. According to pbs.org, Fanny is "the most groundbreaking rock group you've never heard of ... yet."

Asian Americans: "Breaking Through"

May 22, 10:00pm, OPB World

May 30, 11:00pm, OPB

"Breaking Through," part of the *Asian Americans* series, revisits the turn of the millennium, when the U.S. is tackling conflicts over immigration, race, economic disparity, and a shifting world order. A new generation of Asian Americans empowered by growing numbers, rising influence, and more diversity faces a reckoning of what it means to be an American in an increasingly divided society.



BETRAYED. *Betrayed: Surviving an American Concentration Camp*, which airs May 28 on OPB World, tells the story of a group of Japanese Americans and their forced incarceration by the U.S. government during World War II. Several Asian Heritage Month programs are also streaming online at <www.opb.org> and <www.pbs.org>. (Photo courtesy of Oregon Public Broadcasting)

America ReFramed: First Vote

May 25, 9:00pm, May 27, 7:00pm & 11:00pm, OPB World

First Vote is a character-driven verité documentary with unparalleled access to a diverse cross section of politically engaged Chinese Americans: a gun-toting Tea Party-favorite candidate courting GOP votes in the South; a podcaster in Ohio who became a citizen in order to vote for Trump; a long-haired journalist confronting Chinese Americans for Trump after moving to a battleground state; and a University of North Carolina professor teaching about race and racism in the U.S. A verité look at Chinese-American electoral organizing in North Carolina and Ohio presented by America ReFramed, the film weaves their stories from the presidential election of 2016 to the 2018 midterms, and explores the intersections between immigration, voting rights, and racial justice.

China: Frame by Frame

May 25, 10:00pm & May 27, 8:00pm, OPB World

When Emmy Award-winning filmmaker Bill Einreinhofer arrived in China more than 30 years ago, he had no idea it was the first of many visits. He would spend much of his professional career making stories in and about China, locating rare historical footage. He interviewed countless people about China, its culture, and its history. Many of those people are now gone, but their stories live on through him in *China: Frame by Frame*.

Alternative Facts:

The Lies of Executive Order 9066

May 25, 11:00pm & May 26, 7:00pm, OPB World

Alternative Facts: The Lies of Executive Order 9066 tells the untold story of false information and political influences which led to the World War II forced incarceration of more than 120,000 Japanese Americans. The film also examines the parallels to the targeting of groups today and similar attempts to abuse the powers of the government.

Plague at the Golden Gate

May 26, 9:00pm, OPB World

In *Plague at the Golden Gate*, a documentary screening held as part of American Experience, viewers discover how an outbreak of bubonic plague in 1900 set off fear and anti-Asian sentiment in San Francisco, California. The episode tells the gripping story of the race against time by health officials to save the city from the deadly disease.

Amy Tan: Unintended Memoir

May 27, 5:00pm & 9:00pm, OPB World

Amy Tan: Unintended Memoir, an episode of American Masters, tells the story of the author whose debut novel, *The Joy Luck Club*, was published in 1989 to great commercial and critical success. With the 1993 blockbuster film adaption that followed, as well as additional best-selling novels, librettos, short stories, and memoirs, Tan firmly established herself as one of the most prominent and respected American literary voices working today. *Amy Tan: Unintended Memoir* is an intimate portrait of the groundbreaking author that interweaves archival imagery, including home movies and personal photographs; animation; and original interviews to tell the inspiring story of Tan's life and career.

Happy
Mother's
Day!

Armed With Language

May 28, 6:00pm & 10:00pm, OPB World

Minnesota was home to a little-known military intelligence school during World War II that trained Japanese Americans to be translators. Primarily recruited from concentration camps on the West Coast, these men and women served while many of their families remained imprisoned. For their efforts, it is said that the translators "shortened the Pacific War by two years and saved possibly a million American lives." *Armed With Language*, an episode of Minnesota Experience, airs on May 28.

Betrayed: Surviving an

American Concentration Camp

May 28, 7:00pm & 11:00pm, OPB World

Discover the story of a group of Japanese Americans and their forced incarceration by the U.S. government during World War II in *Betrayed: Surviving an American Concentration Camp*. Through the compelling voices of survivors of Minidoka, a concentration camp in the Idaho desert, the film tells a universal story about unjust incarceration and the loss of civil rights.

The Registry

May 28, 8:00pm, OPB World

The Registry breaks open the hidden history of the U.S. Army's Military Intelligence Service (MIS) during World War II — a story made possible because of a few aging Japanese-American veterans with a little internet savvy and a lot of determination.

"Tokyo Hula"

May 29, 9:00pm, OPB World

Today it is estimated there are nearly 2 million people dancing hula in Japan — a figure greater than the entire population of Hawai'i. "Tokyo Hula," an episode of Pacific Heartbeat, examines how tourism, economics, and a love for all things Hawaiian have fuelled this cultural phenomenon by focusing on the personal stories of Japanese and Hawaiian master teachers who are now living and teaching in Japan.

"American Aloha: Hula Beyond Hawai'i"

May 29, 10:00pm, OPB World

"American Aloha: Hula Beyond Hawai'i," an episode of Pacific Heartbeat, tells the stories of three *kumu hula* (master instructors) who direct hula schools based in California. The film explores the challenges they face trying to perpetuate hula faithfully, from the traditional to the contemporary, as it evolves on distant shores.

Asian American Stories of Resilience, Volume 2

May 29, 11:00pm & May 30, 7:00pm, OPB World

Asian American Stories of Resilience, Volume 2, presented by Local, USA, tells the story of two Filipinx cousins, one of which is filmmaker Bree Nieves, who grapples with what remains of their hometown dreams after the loss of one of their fathers during the pandemic. "Malditas" explores the possibilities of growing deeper in faith through grief while in the most conservative county in North Florida. In J.P. Dobrin's "The Lookout," Chanthon Bun, who was convicted of second-degree robbery at age 19 and lost his legal protection to live in the U.S., must tread carefully as he attempts to legally reintegrate into society after being released from prison. If ICE were to locate him, he would be detained and slated for deportation.

The Donut King

May 29, 11:00pm, OPB

May 31, 9:30pm, OPB World

The Donut King, an episode of Independent Lens, tells the story of a Cambodian refugee who built a multi-million-dollar donut empire. An immigrant story with a (glazed) twist, the documentary film follows the journey of Ted Ngoy, who arrived in California in the 1970s and, through a mixture of diligence and luck, built a donut empire up and down the West Coast.

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Heritage Month events

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Asian Pacific Islander Heritage Month Celebration in Seattle

May 6, 11am-5pm, Seattle Center, Armory Food & Event Hall (305 Harrison St, Seattle). Attend an Asian Pacific Islander Heritage Month Celebration presented by Seattle Center Festál. The festival features food, music, vendors, performances, and a cultural display of nations. Seattle Center Festál is a year-round series of 24 free cultural festivals, produced in partnership with community organizations. In 2022, Festál celebrated 25 years of stories and traditions. For info, call (206) 684-7200 or visit <www.seattlecenter.com>.

“Celebrate Our Stories”

May 6-28, 10am-6pm (daily), Lan Su Chinese Garden (239 NW Everett St, Portland). Attend “Celebrate Our Stories,” special events planned at Lan Su Chinese Garden during Asian Heritage Month. The festivities begin Saturday, May 6 with free admission between 2:00pm and 6:00pm. Cultural Immersion Days, which are scheduled for May 7, 13, 20, and 27, allow visitors to explore cultural history, traditions, and art. Another feature during the month (May 6 to 28) is “Threading Together,” an exhibit of traditional clothing and attire. For info, or to purchase tickets, call (503) 228-8131 or visit <www.lansugarden.org/CelebrateOurStories>.

Kodomo no Hi

May 7, 10:30am-3:30pm, Portland Japanese Garden (611 SW Kingston Ave, Portland). Celebrate children or being a child at the Portland Japanese Garden’s Children’s Day event, *Kodomo no Hi*. The family festival features a host of activities and entertainment including the raising of the *koi nobori* (carp banner), taiko drumming (10:45am & 11:45am), a treasure hunt, and more. For info, or to purchase tickets, call (503) 223-1321 or visit <www.japanesegarden.com>.

“Celebrate 2023 — IRCO Gala”

May 11, 5-9pm, Embassy Suites Hotel, Portland Airport (7900 NE 82nd Ave, Portland). Attend “Celebrate 2023 — IRCO Gala,” an event highlighting 47 years of the Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization (IRCO) empowering refugee and immigrant communities in Portland and beyond. The event features cultural performances, dinner, an online and live auction, and speeches from community leaders. Contributions raised during the celebration directly benefit families and clients of IRCO. A free livestream is also available for viewers. For info, call (503) 234-1541. To reserve a space, call (503) 234-1541 or visit <www.irc.org>.

“A Glimpse of China”

May 20, Seattle Center, Armory Food & Event Hall (305 Harrison St, Seattle). Attend “A Glimpse of China: Chinese Culture & Arts Festival” presented by Seattle Center Festál. The event illuminates the colorful and ancient palette of Chinese arts with dance, painting, calligraphy, workshops, and more. For info, including hours, call (206) 684-7200 or visit <www.seattlecenter.com>.

AANHPI Heritage Month Festival in East Portland

May 20, 2-4pm, East Portland Community Center, Gymnasium (740 SE 106th Ave, Portland). Attend the AANHPI Heritage Month Festival, an event featuring an afternoon of traditional dance performances, crafts, and refreshments presented by the Multnomah County Library. The celebration includes origami crafts, balloon art, and performances by the White Lotus dance group and the Joyful Dance Team. The festival is the first big event held since the temporary construction closures of the Midland and Holgate libraries. For info, call (503) 988-5123 or visit <events.multcolib.org>.

Oregon AAPI Food + Wine Fest

May 20-21, Stoller Family Estate Experience Center (16161 NE McDougall Rd, Dayton, Ore.). Plans are underway for the first Oregon AAPI Food + Wine Fest. The mission of the event is to uplift Asian American Pacific Islander food and wine businesses, promote diversity, and educate the public regarding non-traditional food and wine pairings. Tickets include a souvenir cup, passport to



“CELEBRATE OUR STORIES.” During Asian Heritage Month, Lan Su Chinese Garden in Portland is holding several “Celebrate Our Stories” events. Offerings include free admission on Saturday, May 6 between 2:00pm and 6:00pm; Cultural Immersion Days on May 7, 13, 20, and 27 to explore cultural history, traditions, and art; and an exhibit of traditional clothing and attire called “Threading Together.” (Photo courtesy of Lan Su Chinese Garden)

tastings, ten bites from five chefs, and ten wine tasters from five wineries. For info, visit <www.oregonaapifoodandwine.com>.

Asian & Pacific Islander Leadership Night

May 31, 6-8:30pm, Legacy Emanuel Hospital, Lorenzen Conference Center (303 N Graham St, Portland). Attend Asian & Pacific Islander Leadership Night, a networking event with guest speakers. The theme for the evening is “Health Equity in Today’s Social Climate.” Online registration is open. For info, call (503) 862-6853 or e-mail <loreleihosmillo@pacco.org>. To purchase tickets, visit <www.pacco.org>.

Pagdiriwang Philippine Festival

June 3-4, 11am-6pm (Sat), noon-6pm (Sun), Seattle Center, Armory Food & Event Hall and Mural Amphitheatre (305 Harrison St, Seattle). Attend the Pagdiriwang Philippine Festival, a celebration of Filipino culture, history, and heritage presented by Seattle Center Festál. The free event observes Philippine independence from colonial rule and the strength of Filipino identity and imagination through art exhibits, songs, spoken word, film, and more. For info, call (206) 684-7200, or visit <www.seattlecenter.com> or <www.festaltagdiriwang.com>.

For timely information about upcoming events, visit <www.facebook.com/TheAsianReporter>.



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