Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month Resource Toolkit 2021

Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month recognizes the contributions and influence of Asian Americans and Pacific Islander Americans to the history, culture, and achievements of the United States. The National Women's History Museum celebrates AAPI women who have made, and are making, history as trailblazers, leaders, storytellers, and artists, both nationally and around the world. This toolkit, curated by the National Women's History Museum, offers a variety of resources to use throughout this month and beyond, including biographies, events, and programming. Happy Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month!



May 3-7

May 3

Read about the origin of Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month!

Click Here

May 4

#KnowHerName and #KnowHerStory! Learn about the life and work of trailblazing physicist Dr. Chien-Shiung Wu.

Click Here

May 5

Enjoy an exciting evening from Talk Stories: An Asian American/Asian Diaspora Storytelling Show! The virtual event is a collaboration with the Chinese American Museum of Chicago, HANA Center, Japanese American Service Committee, National Cambodian Heritage Museum, and OCA Chicago.

Click Here

May 6

Join the Library of Congress to celebrate the life work of DC Comics' chief creative officer & publisher, Jim Lee! Lee will be joined by illustrator Bernard Chang ("Generations Forged") and writers Sarah Kuhn ("Shadow of the Batgirl") and Minh Lê ("Green Lantern: Legacy") on a panel moderated by former National Ambassador for Young People's Literature Gene Luen Yang ("Superman

Click Here

Smashes the Klan").

May 7

#KnowHerName and #KnowHerStory! Discover the entrepreneurial talent of Toni Ko, named one of *Forbes* magazine's "Richest Self-Made Women."

Click Here

Pictured above via Getty Images for NWHM, by Todd Williamson.





May 10-14

May 10

Register to attend an event in the 2021 Legislative Leadership Summit of the Asian Pacific American Institute for Congressional Studies! Sessions during the fourday summit include a panel on "Realizing the Power of Representation: AAPI Women Elected Officials."

May 11

#KnowHerName and #KnowHerStory! Learn about the life and work of war internee and artist Miné Okubo, who depicted Japanese and Japanese American internment during World War II.

Click Here

May 12

Join the Chinese Historical Society of America for a community roundtable on how we remember, preserve, and celebrate shared history.

Click Here

May 13

Read about Anandibai Joshee, the first Indian woman to earn a medical degree in western medicine in the United States!

Click Here

Pictured above via wikimedia commons.

May 14

Check out Heritage iRL, a web series engaging Asian American heritage administered by the Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Center.

Click Here

Click Here





May 17-21

May 17

Don't miss Question 27, Question 28, a play written by Chay Yew and directed by Jully Lee to tell the experiences of Japanese American women during the World War II concentration camps. This presentation has been shortened and edited for families.

Click Here

National Women's History Museum Celebrating 25 Years

May 18

#KnowHerName and #KnowHerStory! Learn about Anna May Wong, the first Chinese American film star in Hollywood.

Click Here

May 19

Listen to a conversation with Mai Nguyen, an innovative grain farmer in California and co-founder of the Asian American Farmers Alliance, in this podcast episode from Cal Ag Roots.

Click Here

May 20

#KnowHerName and #KnowHerStory! Read about Patsy Mink, the first woman of color elected to the U.S. House of Representatives and the first Asian American woman to serve in Congress.

Click Here

Pictured above via LIFE photo collection, by Ralph Crane.

May 21

Learn about Queen
Mele Le'iato Tuiasosopo
Muhammad Ali,
an award-winning
American Samoan
film director working
to combat negative
images and stereotypes
of original people.

Click Here



May 24-31

May 24

Watch AFTEREARTH, a
14-minute short film by
director Jess X. Snow that
features the stories of
women like Hina WongKalu, Isabella Borgeson,
Kayla Briët, and WangPing Oshiro fighting to
preserve the land for
future generations.

Click Here

May 25

#KnowHerName and #KnowHerStory! Learn more about Hawaii's last reigning monarch, Queen Lili'uokalani.

Click Here

National Women's History Museum Celebrating 25 Years

May 26

Join researcher Najiba Choudhury & filmmaker Mika Yatsuhashi as they discuss the legacy of Yamanaka & Company, founded by Japanese American art dealers who endured discrimination and forced sales of their property during World War II. The event, hosted through the Asian Art Museum, will also include a screening of Yatsuhashi's short film, An Uninterrupted View of the Sea.

Click Here

Pictured above via Vimeo

May 27

Tune in to the National Book
Festival Presents series for
a discussion with Cathy Park
Hong (Minor Feelings: An
Asian American Reckoning)
and novelist Wayétu Moore
(The Dragons, the Giant, the
Women) as they discuss
how their memoirs, both
nominees for the 2020
National Book Critics Circle
Award in Autobiography, give
voice to history and speak
to the present moment.

Click Here

May 28

Celebrate South Asian American women's stories with this article from the South Asian American Digital Archive!

Click Here

May 31

Learn about Cristeta Comerford, one of the most revered Filipino chefs in the world! She became the first woman and first Asian American to serve as White House executive chef in 2005.

Click Here