

# 2022 ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH CELEBRATION

Wednesday,  
May 18, 2022  
Starting at 5:30 p.m.

At:  
**The Center for Social Change**  
**6600 Amberton Drive Elkridge, MD**

**The Governor's Office of Community Initiatives**

*Spring Medley 4 by Maryland's First Lady Yumi Hogan*  
Mixed Media on Hanji Paper, 2019



# THE YUEN FOUNDATION



Funding for this event is provided in part by Koo and Patricia Yuen through the Yuen Foundation—committed to bridging cultural differences in our communities.



## We Change Lives

### **Mission**

Our Mission is to provide services of the highest quality for people with cognitive and developmental disabilities and related disorders including autism that optimize each individual's independence and capabilities, ensure self-determination and rights and, with partnerships in the community, enhances their opportunities to live healthy, safe and valued lives.

### **Vision**

Our Vision is to provide programs and services to individuals with developmental disabilities and related disorders including autism to live and work in the community and exercise their rights, choice and freedom and to live independent of institutional life through integrated efforts of change agents who are passionate about changing lives of people with disabilities throughout the world.



## 2022 ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH CELEBRATION

**Welcome:**

**Christina Poy** - Host - *Administrative Director*  
Governor's Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs  
Governor's Commission on South Asian American Affairs

**National Anthem:**

**Ashwin Hazarika**, Soloist

**Cultural Performance:**

**Korean Drum Dance: The Buk**  
Performer: Angela Woo and Emily Woo

**Opening Remarks and Introduction  
of Guest Speaker:**

**Steve McAdams**, *Executive Director*  
Governor's Office of Community Initiatives

**Guest Speaker:**

**John C. Wobensmith**, *Secretary of State*  
Office of the Secretary of State for Maryland

**Introduction of Keynote Remarks:**

**Jasdip “Jesse” Singh**, *Chairman*  
Governor's Commission on South Asian American Affairs

**Keynote Remarks:**

**Yumi Hogan**, *First Lady of Maryland*

**Proclamation Presentation:**

**Yumi Hogan**, *First Lady of Maryland*  
**Christina Poy**, *Administrative Director*

**Dinner Break for All and Photo Shoot for the Commissions with The First Lady, Secretary John C. Wobensmith, Executive Director Steve McAdams and Director Christina Poy.**

**Cultural Performance:**

**Chinese Beijing Opera: Farewell, My Lady**  
Performer: DC Beauty of Beijing Opera

**Introduction of Korean Instrumental:**

**Henry S. Kim**, *Chairman*  
Governor's Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs

**Cultural Performance:**

**Korean Flute: Amazing Grace & Arirang**  
Performer: In Ge Kim



**Cultural Performances:**

**Indian Dance:** *Bihu Dance*

Dancer: Moushumi Phukan

**Balinese Dance:** “Puspawesti” Dance

Performer: Bali Jegeg Lestari Group

**Indonesian Angklung Instrumental:**

Performer: Asian American Center of Frederick

**Tribute to Commissioner Dr. Sovan Tun:**

**Elizabeth Chung** – Commissioner

Governor’s Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs

**Sophally “Ly” Tun**

Daughter of Dr. Sovan Tun

**Cultural Performances:**

**Cambodian Khmer Dance:** *Robam Choun Por*

Performer: Cambodian Buddhist Society Culture Committee

**Japanese Martial Art:** *Naginata Jyoshinkai*

Performer: Maryland Kendo Club

**Chinese Yoyo:**

Performer: Jessica Lee and Thomas Lin

**Bangladeshi Dance:** *Rongoboti Dance*

Performer: Shristee Nrityangon School of Dance

**Bangladeshi Dance:** *Amar Shonar Bangla Ami*

*Tomay Bhalobashi Dance*

Performer: Shristee Nrityangon School of Dance

**Uighur Dance:** *Beat Your Drum and Sing Your Song*

Performer: Zhong Sheng Dance Group

**Mongolian Dance:** *four year old – Hailiu horse*

Performer: Zhong Sheng Dance Group

**Poetry Recitations:**

**Chinese:** *Suitcase, Tiger*

Poet: *Lucia Liang*

**Korean:** *To Tumbleweeds*

Poet: *Lydia Im*

**Bangladeshi:** *Poetry of Love*

Poet: *Shahana Shoily Ali*

**Cultural Performance:**

**Chin Bamboo Dance:**

Performer: Chin Youths of Maryland





STATE OF MARYLAND  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

LARRY HOGAN  
GOVERNOR

Dear Friends,

Welcome to this year's Asian Pacific American Heritage Month celebration, hosted by the Governor's Office of Community Initiatives, the Governor's Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs, and the Governor's Commission on South Asian American Affairs.

Maryland is home to more than 400,000 Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, who number among our state's most rapidly growing ethnic groups and who provide invaluable economic, entrepreneurial, and academic contributions to our state.

Since 2015, our administration has been dedicated to creating a strong, community-based relationship, built on collaboration and support, in order to understand and to help address the unique needs and challenges that face Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders throughout Maryland.

While the COVID-19 pandemic has made the past few years difficult for all Marylanders, we know that it has been especially hard for our Asian American and Pacific Islander communities. However unity is stronger than any divisive force—and we will continue to proudly stand with you not only today, but every day.

We recognize Asian Pacific American Heritage Month to honor the contributions that Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have made both to our great state and to this nation, but more importantly, to demonstrate our unity and to share in the rich history and culture that makes our communities more vibrant and prosperous. We are stronger together and by working together we will help ensure legacies for generations to come.

On behalf of the State of Maryland, thank you to our dedicated community advocates and partners—we are grateful for your tireless efforts. Please accept my best wishes for a memorable event and success in the years to come.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Larry Hogan".

Larry Hogan  
Governor

# The State of Maryland



## Proclamation

*From the Governor of the State of Maryland*

### **ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH MAY 2022**

**WHEREAS,** *The State of Maryland is deeply enriched by the diversity of its residents, and seeks to further promote tolerance, acceptance, and equality of opportunities for all; and*

**WHEREAS,** *The US Census counts a rapidly growing population of more than 310,000 Asian Pacific Americans in the State of Maryland; and*

**WHEREAS,** *Asian Pacific American Heritage Month was first celebrated in May 1990 to commemorate the arrival of the first Japanese immigrants in the United States in May 1843, and to honor the contributions of Chinese Americans in building the Transcontinental Railroad, which was completed on May 10, 1869; and*

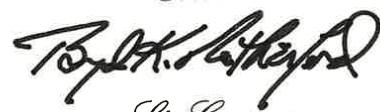
**WHEREAS,** *Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders continue to make impressive and lasting contributions to every facet of society in our state.*

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, LAWRENCE J. HOGAN, JR., GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim MAY 2022 as ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH in Maryland, and do command this observance to all of our citizens.**

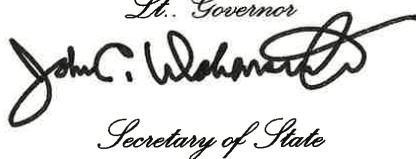


**Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland,  
this 1st day of May  
Two Thousand and twenty-two**

*L.J. Hogan Jr.*  
Governor



*Boyd K. Lohr*  
Lt. Governor



*John C. DeJernette*  
Secretary of State

# Maryland's First Lady Yumi Hogan

Maryland's First Lady, Yumi Hogan, is the first Korean-American First Lady in the United States. Mrs. Hogan is a first-generation Korean-American, an accomplished artist, and an adjunct professor at Maryland Institute College of Art. Mrs. Hogan grew up on a farm in the South Korean countryside as the youngest of eight children. She immigrated to the United States over 40 years ago, and raised her three daughters, Kim, Jaymi, and Julie, in Howard County.



In 2016, Mrs. Hogan received the Inspirational Leader Award from the International Leadership Foundation, which recognized her as a trailblazing political and community leader and a role model to the Asian-Pacific American community and all Americans.

Among other reputable recognition, Mrs. Hogan is the recipient of the 2017 Ellis Island Medal of Honor, a highly-prestigious, nationally-recognized award by the National Ethnic Coalition of Organizations, which recognizes her accomplishments in leadership and inspired service to the state and nation; all while maintaining the traditions of their ethnic heritage as they uphold the ideals and spirit of America.

Her artwork, created on traditional Hanji paper with Sumi ink and mixed media, has been featured in art shows and museums in Maryland, Virginia, the District of Columbia, South Korea and more, including an exhibit at the National Museum of Women in the Arts.

In addition to her work as an artist, Mrs. Hogan has juried numerous art exhibitions, including statewide and national competitions by the Maryland Federation of Art. In 2016, she served as jury chair for the new Concourse D Gallery at the BWI Thurgood Marshall Airport where artists from Maryland and Washington D.C. were selected to feature their work.

As First Lady, Mrs. Hogan has made it a priority to share her love of the arts with Marylanders of all ages through arts education. Since November 2015, Mrs. Hogan has served as the Honorary Chair of the Council for Arts and Culture at the University of Maryland, Baltimore, working with the University and Baltimore City to promote the arts.

Following Governor Hogan's diagnosis with Stage 3 non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma in 2015 and their family's battle with the disease, Mrs. Hogan has become a vocal advocate for cancer awareness and devoted much of her time to visiting Marylanders battling cancer, especially children, and their families. In 2016, Mrs. Hogan was recognized for her role as a caregiver and her work raising awareness with the Pheo Para Alliance's Dr. Cyrus Katzen Humanitarian Award.

Through her work teaching art classes to patients with cancer and people with disabilities, Mrs. Hogan has become a strong proponent of art therapy and the positive impact it can have on health and wellbeing. She plans to continue to support the arts community and work to bring the joy of art to all Marylanders.

**Thank You  
Maryland Governor Hogan and  
First Lady Yumi Hogan for Recognizing  
Asian Pacific American Heritage Month**



**Best Wishes from  
Sharad N Doshi**

Commissioner Governor's Commission on South Asian American Affairs

**Sonal Doshi**

**Affiliated Organization:**

**Arihant LLC**

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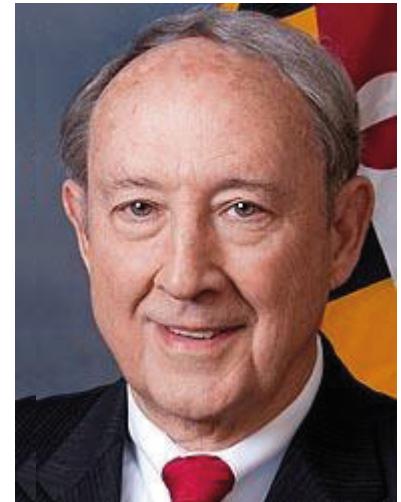
**Supernova Consultants**

**Inking4You**

**[sharad@sharaddoshi.com](mailto:sharad@sharaddoshi.com)**

# **John C. Wobensmith**

## **Maryland Secretary of State**



John C. Wobensmith was appointed as the Secretary of State by Governor Hogan in January 2015 and confirmed by the Maryland State Senate in February 2015.

The Secretary of State is responsible for handling certain executive functions including Executive Orders, extraditions and requisitions, pardons and commutations, public disclosures with persons doing business with the State, certifying candidates for nomination by a principal political party on the presidential primary ballot. The Secretary of State chairs the Governor's Subcabinet on International Affairs, which is responsible for evaluating the State's international activity, devising a coordinated strategy that enhances Maryland's competitiveness in world markets, and overseeing protocol functions. The Maryland Sister States Program is also conducted under the auspices of the Office of Secretary of State.

A retired Senior Cryptologic Executive Service (SCES) IV, Secretary Wobensmith has over 45 years of experience in the national security field. He served in the National Security Agency from 1967 to 1993, with various critical assignments, including three tours in the White House. From 1993 to 1997, he was the senior U.S. Department of Defense representative in Turkey. Secretary Wobensmith has also served as a Senior Advisor and Vice President for Development of the American Foreign Policy Council (2005-08), Vice President for External Affairs and Lecturer in Intelligence for the Institute of World Politics (1999-05), and Vice President for International Marketing for Sensys Technologies, Inc. (1997-98).

In addition, Secretary Wobensmith has served on numerous Maryland boards and commissions including: President, Board of Education, Anne Arundel County, 1983-87 (member, 1978-87); Member, Board of Trustees of the State Universities and Colleges, 1987-88; Governor's Advisory Board for Justice Assistance, 1987-91.

Secretary Wobensmith received a Bachelor of Arts in English from the University of Pennsylvania, served in the U.S. Navy, and is a graduate of the National War College. He is a recipient of the National Intelligence Distinguished Service Medal, the Secretary of Defense Meritorious Civilian Service Award, and the National Security Agency Meritorious Civilian Service Award. In 2016, he was awarded the prestigious Ellis Island Medal of honor by the National Ethnic Coalition of Organizations (NECO). The Secretary resides in Annapolis and has been married to his wife, Judi, for 55 years. He has two children and four grandchildren.

# GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF COMMUNITY INITIATIVES LEADERSHIP



## **Steven J. McAdams, Executive Director**

Steven J. McAdams was appointed the Executive Director of the Governor's Office of Community Initiatives by Governor Larry Hogan in January 2015.

A lifelong resident of Maryland, McAdams has more than 25 years of professional experience as a real estate broker and appraiser. Before joining the Hogan administration, McAdams and his real estate appraisal firm assessed the value of more than 75,000 single family homes across Maryland.

In February 2003, then Governor Robert Ehrlich appointed McAdams to The Maryland Real Estate Appraisers and Home Inspectors Commission. McAdams was reappointed to the Commission for two additional terms by former Governor Martin O'Malley.

McAdams was raised in Prince George's County and graduated from High Point High School. He then went on to Prince George's Community College, Wor-Wic Community College, and the University of Maryland at College Park, where he studied Real Estate and Business Administration.



## **Christina Wong Poy, Administrative Director**

Christina Wong Poy (王佩蓮) was appointed by Governor Larry Hogan in September 2015 as the Administrative Director of the Governor's Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs and the Governor's Commission on South Asian American Affairs, which are a part of the Governor's Office of Community Initiatives.

As a third generation Maryland native, Poy feels she can be an advocate and a liaison for those in her own communities, as well as a conduit to the state of Maryland's resources and services. Her interests include promoting academic excellence, intercultural respect, healthcare, and business opportunities for marginalized communities.

Before joining the Hogan administration, her professional career and volunteer activities were grounded in improving educational, leadership and social access for minority low-income students. She served as the global ambassador and director of scholar relations for the GatesScholars.com Think Tank and Global Community, which was founded by alumni of the Gates Millennium Scholars Program. From 2000 to October 2014, she was the senior relationship manager of the Gates Millennium Scholars Program's communications and outreach team.

Christina received her B.A. in East Asian Languages/Literature, as well as certificates in East Asian Studies and Business, from the University of Maryland.

# MESSAGES FROM THE COMMISSIONS' LEADERSHIP



Dear Friends,

On behalf of the Governor's Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs, I welcome you to this year's celebration of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month.

Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have always strived for excellence in technology and innovation, research and science, business, and education. Many of us have succeeded in many of these areas ourselves and are passing along our drive for success to our children and grandchildren, ensuring that they too will continue to make great strides in those fields and many others.

I hope you attend and enjoy the various activities being held throughout May in Maryland. We must be glad and hopeful that what we have successfully endured the last few years with COVID-19. As the pandemic continues to evolve, we must remain diligent in taking care of ourselves and our Asian community, to help contain any new strain.

Luckily there also has been much improvement due to education and clarification that has helped with a decline in Anti-Asian sentiment. To be successful in eradicating it completely, we must continue to teach and learn more about each other's cultures, allowing us to move forward together with more understanding and peace.

I wish that you all will celebrate this year's Asian Pacific American Heritage Month to the fullest and to also enjoy the public gatherings, events, and activities once again.

Sincerely,

Henry S. Kim, CPA  
Chair, Governor's Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs



Dear Friends,

On behalf of the Governor's Commission on South Asian American Affairs, I invite you to join us in this year's celebration of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month.

This program is jointly organized by the Governor's Commission on South Asian American Affairs and the Governor's Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs. These past couple of years have been an extremely difficult for our nation and for our communities due to the global pandemic and anti-Asian hate, but we have held strong working together. It is a matter of immense pride as we join now in person to celebrate the vibrant and diverse traditions and contributions of our communities.

We hope you will participate in many of the various heritage activities throughout May that acknowledge the contributions that Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have made to American history and society. We share this evening a sampling of the rich diversity of art, dance, music, poetry, food, and other talents of our heritage.

We look forward to your participation and hope you will enjoy the evening. I thank the organizers for their hard work and dedication for putting together this event.

Sincerely,

Chanhok Jas dip "Jesse" Singh  
Chair, Governor's Commission on South Asian American Affairs



Greetings,

It is a sincere privilege to be a committee member of the 2022 Asian Pacific American Heritage Month Celebration Event. I am proud to serve the State of Maryland for the past 25 years and I wish everyone a Happy Asian Pacific American Heritage Month.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Madigan  
Project Coordinator for the Ethnic Commissions  
Governor's Office of Community Initiatives

# **ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN AFFAIRS COMMISSIONERS**

Henry Sangtai Kim, Chair (Korean, Howard County)

Hung-Bin Ding, Ph.D., Vice Chair (Taiwanese, Howard County)

May Chan Anderson (Chinese, Montgomery County)

Kyong "Ken" Yol Baik (Korean, Baltimore County)

Hyun-Sook Choi (Korean, Montgomery County)

Mitsuhiro "Micky" Saito Choi (Korean/Japanese, Howard County)

Elizabeth L. Chung (Chinese, Frederick County)

George P. Dang (Vietnamese/Chinese, Montgomery County)

Hyun S. Helen Han (Korean, Montgomery County)

Mi C. Schill (Korean, Howard County)

Dottie Tiejun Li (Chinese, Prince George's County)

Robert Manankil (Filipino, Baltimore County)

Chau Nguyen (Vietnamese, Montgomery County)

Mie Mie Joe Strickler (Chinese/Indonesian, Cecil County)

Chiling Tong (Chinese, Montgomery County)

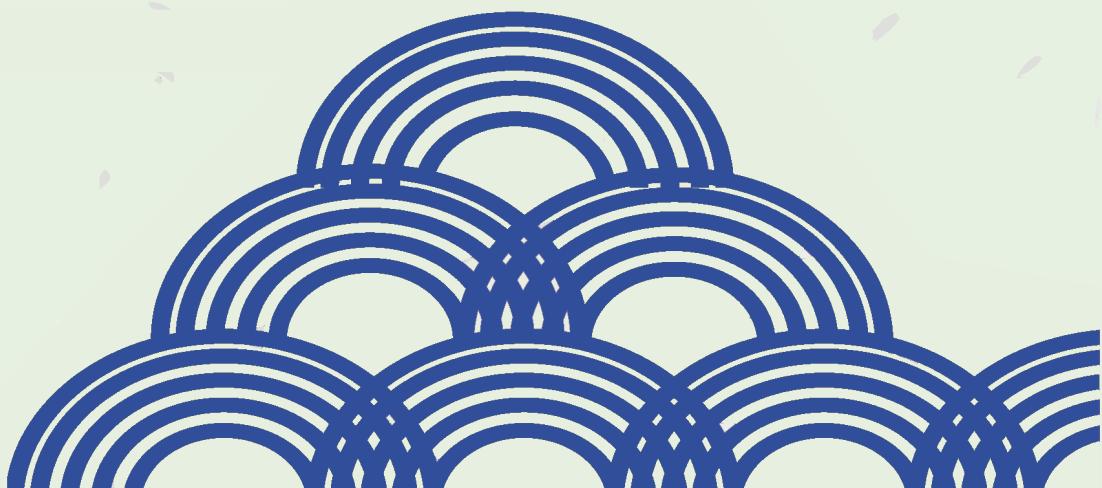
Meki Toalepai, Sr. (Polynesian, Anne Arundel County)

Edward Wan (Chinese, Montgomery County)

Bethsaida Amigable-Wong (Filipino, Montgomery County)

Bob Zhang (Chinese, Howard County)

Lili Zhang (Chinese, Howard County)



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Sajid "CJ" Tarar, Vice Chair (Pakistani, Baltimore)

Arthur Pavan Bezwada (Indian, Montgomery)

Kawaljit Bhutani (Indian, Montgomery)

Nipika Borah (Indian, Montgomery)

Anjana Bordoloi (Indian, Howard)

Ishani Chowdhury (Indian, Montgomery)

Sharad Doshi (Indian, Frederick County)

Mohan L. Grover (Indian, Anne Arundel)

Arundhotee Goswami (Indian, Montgomery)

Upendra Gupta (Indian, Montgomery)

Shyam D. Karki (Nepali, Baltimore)

Gurpreet K. Kaur (Indian, Frederick)

Ram Mohan Konda (Indian, Montgomery)

Mayur Mody (Indian, Montgomery)

Sonal Patel (Indian, Montgomery)

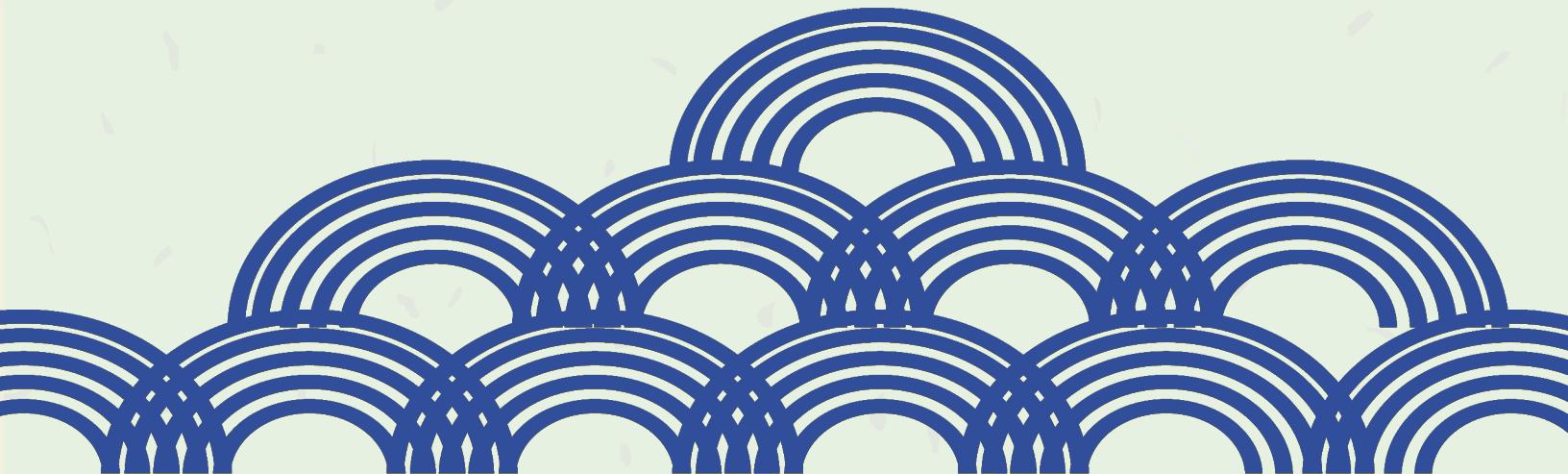
Darshan S. Saluja, M.D. (Indian, Baltimore)

Harshid Shah (Indian)

Rana J. Shaikh (Kashmiri/Pakistani, Montgomery)

Kanishk Sharma (Indian, Howard)

Baljinder Singh (Indian, Baltimore)



# **MARYLAND'S ASIAN AMERICAN & PACIFIC ISLANDER LEGISLATIVE MEMBERS**

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## Maryland Sister States Program

The Maryland Sister States Program, a program in the International Division of the Office of the Secretary of State, was established to provide a forum for the promotion of international cooperation and understanding. Through broad-based citizen participation in a wide variety of exchanges in areas of mutual interest, the Sister States Program offers countless opportunities to develop partnerships around the world. The Maryland Sister States Program was established in 1980 and currently includes 20 relationships in 17 countries.

The Maryland Sister States Program partners with the Sister States of Maryland, Inc., a private, not-for-profit corporation organized under the laws of Maryland. The Maryland Sister States Program relies on the Sister States of Maryland, Inc.'s extensive network of representative volunteer committees for development of Maryland's Sister State relationships. Together with the Sister States of Maryland, Inc., the Maryland Sister States Program draws upon the expertise and experience of individuals from institutions, businesses, and organizations across Maryland to support these important subnational partnerships. When added to their overseas counterparts, these committees form a powerful network both at home and abroad for fostering public/private cross-fertilization and social and economic growth.

Sister States relationships are significant in an age in which state and regional governments have an increasingly greater role in events. By giving access to policy makers, the people-to-people contacts of the Sister States Program add a human dimension to governmental interaction. They help to create a friendly and receptive climate for developing multi-faceted ties in today's closely integrated but highly competitive environment.

For questions or information, <http://www.marylandsisterstates.org/>, or please contact Mary E. Nitsch, [mary.nitsch@maryland.gov](mailto:mary.nitsch@maryland.gov).

### Maryland's Sister State Relationships:

<b>Anhui Province, China</b> 1980	<b>County Cork, Ireland</b> 2013
<b>Kanagawa Prefecture, Japan</b> 1981	<b>Ondo and Cross River States, Nigeria</b> 2013
<b>Nord-Pas de Calais, France</b> 1981-2019	<b>KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa</b> 2015
<b>Walloon Region, Belgium</b> 1989	<b>Negev Administrative District, Israel</b> , 2016
<b>Gyeongsangnam-Do, Korea</b> 1991	<b>Jeollanam-Do, Korea</b> 2017
<b>Lodz Region, Poland</b> 1993	<b>Piura, Peru</b> 2018
<b>State of Jalisco, Mexico</b> 1993	<b>Estonia</b> 2019
<b>Rio de Janeiro, Brazil</b> 1999	<b>Hauts-de-France, France</b> 2020
<b>Bong and Maryland Counties, Liberia</b> 2007	
<b>Ninh Thuan Province, Vietnam</b> 2011	
<b>Kocaeli Municipality, Turkey</b> 2012	



## Exploring new perspectives.

At Constellation we embrace our differences. We believe that leveraging diverse backgrounds and perspectives allow us to adapt, enhance and innovate. We all succeed when we work together toward a common goal.

Constellation is proud to support the observance of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month throughout Maryland.



RELI Group is a technology consulting firm that supports government programs in the health, safety and security sectors. We pride ourselves on providing innovative, collaborative and RELIable solutions that serve our agency partners and improve the lives of the American people.

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# We're in Your Corner

People today can spend nearly half their lives over the age of 50. That's a lot of living. So, it helps to have a wise friend and fierce defender like AARP in your corner and in your community so your money, health and happiness live as long as you do.

AARP offers opportunities for volunteering, social engagement and fun with purpose for all to enjoy. We organize food drives, host shred events to protect against fraud and advocate in Annapolis on issues of importance to Marylanders age 50-plus.

Find us at [aarp.org/md](http://aarp.org/md)

 /aarpmd  
 @AARPMMD



**Thank You  
Governor Larry Hogan and First Lady Yumi Hogan  
for recognizing  
Asian Pacific American Heritage Month!**

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Flyer  
Hang Tag  
Invitation  
Label  
Letterhead  
Magazine  
Menu

Newsletter  
Notepad  
Poster  
Postcard  
Presentations Folder  
Rack card  
Rolodex Card  
Roll Label  
Special Shapes  
Staggered cut flyer  
Sticker  
Table Tent  
Tent Card  
Stamps  
Signage/Banners  
Banner  
Window cling  
Window Decals  
Yard Sign  
Foil stamping

Pens & Writing Tools  
Medals & Flags  
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The Governor's Office of Community Initiatives extends special appreciation to this celebration's Event Organization Committee for bringing participation and support from our diverse communities

## Event Organization Committee

Arthur Pavan Bezwada, Governor's Commission on South Asian American Affairs  
Anjana Bordoloi, Governor's Commission on South Asian American Affairs  
Hyunsook Choi, Governor's Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs  
Elizabeth Chung, Governor's Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs  
Hung-bin Ding, Governor's Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs  
Mohan Grover, Governor's Commission on South Asian American Affairs  
Helen Han, Governor's Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs  
Shyam Karki, Governor's Commission on South Asian American Affairs  
Gurpreet Kaur, Governor's Commission on South Asian American Affairs  
Cheryl Madigan, Governor's Office of Community Initiatives  
Christina Poy, Governor's Office of Community Initiatives  
Bob Zhang, Governor's Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs



"This month is a special time to remember how the rich history of the AAPI community has impacted this great nation. It's a month to be proud, positive, and visible."

**Bob Manankil**  
**Financial Advisor**  
**Private Wealth Management**



# OUTREACH BY THE GOVERNOR'S COMMISSIONERS





# PERFORMANCES



## BALINESE DANCE "PUSPAWRESTI"

The Balinese dance "Puspawresti" combines the movement pattern of several ceremonial dances. Puspa = flower; wresti = rain. The performance is danced by male and female dancers. Female dancers carry bowls or cups filled with colorful flowers, which are escorted by male dancers carrying spears. Performed by the **Bali Jegeg Lestari Group**.



## BANGLADESHI DANCE - AMAR SHONAR BANGLA AMI TOMAY BHALOBASHI SONG

Meet Bangladesh: Amar Shonar Bangla Ami Tomay Bhalobashi Song: "My Golden Bangladesh I Love you" are the first lines to Bangladesh's National anthem written by: Rabindranath Tagore. This song starts with the same words, but it is a modern-day song sung by a Bangladeshi Artist named James. He describes his love for the country, the monuments, and the people who created change within the nation. He speaks about the freedom fighters during the liberation war that brought independence to Bangladesh, the families who lost their sons, and the blood shed that took place. He speaks on the martyrs who were shot during the language movement who gave us the right to speak our language freely and talks about the maternal connection each of us have with our country. This song paints a picture of some moments in Bangladesh's history and touches the hearts of many. Performed by **Rosemary Rebeiro and Christine Rozario from the Shristee Nrityangon School of Dance**.



## BANGLADESHI DANCE - RONGOBOTI SONG

Meet Bangladesh: Song-Rongoboti: Rongoboti literally means "colorful one." This song describes the bold feelings a young male has for the most beautiful girl in the town and how coy and shy the girl feels about his compliments. In this song the girl is praised for her beautiful bangles, her nose ring, and her beauty in general. The girl doesn't speak to the boy, but he is still drowning in love with her. Let's watch as these beautiful Rongobotis bring color to the stage, without their words but through their dance. Performed by **Emily Gomes and Megha Purification from the Shristee Nrityangon School of Dance**.



## BIHU DANCE

An ardent and passionate Bihu dancer **Moushumi Phukan** who also performs other folk dances fluently. She has been performing Bihu since her childhood and has also participated in many different festivals in India such as Mondei, Antaragni, Octave, Kharavella, Republic Day in New Delhi, Dussehra festival, Virasat Utsav, etc. She represented her country India in several other countries under the leadership of Mukut Bora like Australia, New Zealand, Germany, Malaysia and Russia. In addition she has performed at several places in the USA including 'Surati's Holi Hai' festivals several times in New Jersey; Namghar Association Festival, New Jersey; the United Nations India's Republic Day celebration; the 69th Indian Republic Day Celebration organized by National Council of Asian Indian Associates; Bihu dance in Consulate General of India, New York; Surati's Diwali Festival, New Jersey; the Assam Convention in 2018 Washington, D.C., APAP Conference at Hilton, New York; Mosaic Dance Festival, New Jersey; Bihu Dance in Embassy Around the World Tour, Washington, D.C., Parampara2, New York; Art's and Music Festival with Surati in New York, etc. She has received many awards in the dance competitions in Assam and in the United States.



## CAMBODIAN DANCE - ROBAM CHOUN POR - THE BLESSING DANCE - CBSCC

Robam Choun Por, also known as the Wishing Dance, is a traditional Khmer (Cambodian) dance. Performed on special occasions, this dance reflects the universal ideals of unity, harmony, and compassion. From the heavenly gates, the celestial dancers, adorned in intricately designed costumes and gold headpieces, grace the audience carrying golden trays filled with fresh flower petals. Before returning to heaven, they bless the audience with these petals, a gesture of offering good wishes, peace, happiness, and prosperity to the audience and the world. All the while, singing:

"We gather here united as a whole"  
"Together we find a brilliant future and flowering prosperity"  
"With our flowers, we wish you eternal happiness"  
"May you flourish and grow with everlasting peace"

Performed by **Cambodian Buddhist Society Culture Committee.**

## CHIN BAMBOO DANCE

This is the Chin Bamboo dance. Long ago, the Chin tribes (an ethnic minority) of Myanmar performed this dance to welcome distinguished guests. Now, it is performed during ceremonial functions such as Chin National Day on February 20, Chin New Year in April, and the Chin Harvest Festival. The dancers dance among the bamboo poles which are constantly hitting each other. This dance is very difficult, requiring a very coordinated timing between the dancers and the bamboo holders. One wrong move and your ankle will be hit hard with a bamboo pole. This is performed by **The Chin Youths of Maryland.**



### CHINESE BEIJING OPERA - DCBBO

As the most widespread and influential musical theater form in ancient China and nationally dominant performing art for over 200 years, Beijing Opera is a UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity. It fuses song, speech, dance, music, and acrobatics simultaneously into an integrated performance with the overriding principle of beauty. Beijing Opera Masterpiece, Farewell My Lady (or Ba Wang Bie Ji in Chinese), tells the legend of King of Xichu and Lady Yuji in ancient China about 2,500 years ago. In this frequently performed piece, Lady Yuji sung and danced with double swords for the last time for the king with an intention to cheer him up prior to the fatal battle that the King had to face later. Performed by the **DC Beauty of Beijing Opera**.



### CHINESE YOYO - JESSICA LEE AND THOMAS LIN - INFINITE DIABOLO

Chinese Yoyo is performed with upbeat music and flashy movements. Chinese Yoyo is a traditional sport consisting of a yoyo controlled with strings and sticks. By tossing, spinning, and manipulating the yoyo in different patterns, a variety of tricks can be performed. Please cheer loudly as our performers perform their tricks. This is performed by **Jessica Lee and Thomas Lin, c/o Infinite Diabolo**.



### INDONESIAN ANGKLUNG INSTRUMENTAL - AACF VOLUNTEERS

Angklung is a traditional Indonesian musical instrument made of bamboo. The angklung ensemble is unique as the bamboo creates a harmony of sounds through different notes. This is performed by **Volunteers** from the **Asian American Center of Frederick, Maryland**.



### JAPANESE MARTIAL ART - NAGINATA JYOSHINKAI - MARYLAND KENDO CLUB

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**Rhythm Naginata** - perform naginata movements with music.



### JAPANESE TEA CEREMONY - UNIVERSAL PEACE FEDERATION

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## KOREAN DRUMS - BUK DANCE - ANGELA AND EMILY WOO

**Angela Woo** and **Emily Woo** are currently attending Northwest High School in Germantown, MD. They have been doing Korean dance and drums for about six years with Peace Mission Korean Dance Group. Performing at events, such as the Maryland State Folk Festival and Asian Pacific American Heritage Celebration as Korean representatives have been an honor to them. Today, they will perform the Korean Drums, or the Buk, and through their performance, they will be showing tenacity and unity. They hope everyone enjoys and feels the excitement they intend to bring.



## KOREAN FLUTE INSTRUMENTAL - IN GE KIM

**In Ge Kim** is a poet and a bamboo flute player. The instrument is called 'PIRI' in Korean. He is also an advisor of The Korean Literary Society of Washington. He is going to play 'Amazing Grace' and the Korean folk song 'Arirang'. Arirang songs speak about leaving and reunion, sorrow, joy and happiness. The various categories differ according to the lyrics and melody used. Like other traditional Korean folk songs, Arirang was taught and transmitted orally and aurally.



## MONGOLIAN DANCE - ZHONG SHENG DANCE GROUP

Mongolian ethnic group is one of the 56 ethnic groups in China. Today's Mongolian dance: the four-year-old Hailiu horse vividly shows the newly mature horse galloping on the grassland, breathing the fresh air and tasting the green lawn. It symbolizes the enthusiasm and joy of young people and the infinite hope for a better life. This is performed by the **Zhong Sheng Dance Group**.



## NATIONAL ANTHEM - ASHWIN HAZARIKA

**Ashwin Hazarika**, he is a ninth grader at Atholton High School. His passion is singing, playing soccer and writing poems. He is a singer and songwriter who can sing Bollywood, Western and Assamese songs. Ashwin received the Best Image award in the Vocal Star competition held at the Kodak Theater in Hollywood, CA in August 2019. He is also trained in Hindustani classical music. He is the son of Anjana Bordoloi and Krishna Hazarika from Columbia, Maryland. He will be performing the National Anthem for the United States of America to start the event.



## UIGHUR DANCE - ZHONG SHENG DANCE GROUP

Xinjiang is a province in Northwest China, where the Uighur people (an ethnic minority also spelled "Uyghur") dance lively. It is original with its clever use of brisk pace and the distinctive movement of each part of the body, especially the changes of the wrist, elbows, and eyes. Xinjiang dance style has a strong Western influence. "Play a Tambourine and Sing a Song" is a song rich in the characteristics of Xinjiang folk songs. The dance is cheerful, and the tune is beautiful, showing a dynamic picture of a good life. It also expresses the joy and longing of the people and shows the pride of loving the hometown and building the motherland. This is performed by the **Zhong Sheng Dance Group**.

# POETS & POEMS



**Shahana Shoily Ali** was born in Bangladesh and lives in Bethesda, MD. She has published four poetry books and currently working as a lawyer and human rights activist.

ভালোবাসার কাব্যশৈলী

Poetry of Love

শাহানা শৈলী আলী

Shahana Shoily Ali

মনের উড়াউড়ি !

1. প্রথম দেখা

তোমার সাথে প্রথম দেখা  
শীতের শেষ বিকেল,  
বাইরে ছিলো হিমেল হাওয়া  
ভেতরে ছিলো উষ্ণতায় উদ্ধেল!

1. First Sight

I saw you first time  
In a Winter late afternoon,  
It was cool windy outside  
It was warm mine inside!

2. সুবন্ধু

সুবন্ধুরে তুই যে আমার  
সঙ্গী বিহীন সাথী,  
বন্ধুত্বে কী প্রয়োজন  
বয়স কিংবা জাতি !

2. Good Friend "Shubondhu"

Hey my friend Shubondhu,  
You are mine Partner without companion  
Why need age or race in friendship!

3. বন্ধু তোমাকেই বলছি....

চাঁদ পুরোনো হলে  
জোৎস্যার ঘৌবন,  
বন্ধু পুরাতন ভালো ;  
তাই মন বলে  
তোমাকেই বেশী প্রয়োজন !

3. Telling you my friend...

As the moon gets old  
Transforms moonlight young,  
Old friend is good;  
So the mind says  
Need you more!



**Lucia Liang was born in China and lives in North Potomac, MD. She teaches Spanish at the Walter Johnson High School. Her poem was published on a literary website.**

### Suitcase, Tiger

Lucia Liang

That old canvas suitcase,  
half open,  
as a hungry baby tiger  
waiting for food, for dream,  
for the waves, Pacific....Atlantic  
the blue air waving to the East.

1986

A capsule of Amoy's soils  
a red packet of rice, grandma's kitchen,  
a handkerchief soaked with  
her tears, the parting, the unbearable pain.

"Pour the water and rice into your first bowl in America".  
Let Yangtze River kiss Potomac,  
let Island's palm seed dig into the field,  
awaiting for your baby's cry!

36 years,

From icy loneliness  
I woke up everyday  
to mockingbird's songs,  
to the symphony of "Good morning", 'Bonjour",  
"Buenos días",  
to a land that extends its warm arms,  
embracing me, an adventurer, a journeyer, a  
dreamer.

At the hill of Sugarloaf,  
azaleas bloomed fiercely  
as that fearless ocean bay  
washed day after day the long nights ink,  
witnessing the harvest of love, of hope,  
of the joy of climbing and falling.

The tiger suitcase,  
fully packed,  
firecrackers,  
sleigh's silver bells,  
endless joy  
endless hope!

虎年的大皮箱

—梁旭華

那只磨損萬分的大皮箱，  
張着合不攏的嘴巴，  
有如一隻嗷嗷待哺的小虎崽，盼着食物、盼着酣睡，  
盼着一波波的海濤，太平洋...大西洋，  
那向東搖曳、藍色的風。

1986

盛着一撮海島故土的小玻璃瓶，  
小紅袋袋外婆米缸裡的糙米，  
還有那方浸滿淚水、  
鑲滿別離痛楚的小手綢。

"把水和米倒進第一鍋異鄉的飯"  
讓揚子江湧入波多馬運河，  
讓小島的棕櫚扎進你家的後院，  
靜待小女兒一聲聲啼哭。

三十六年

天天，從黑夜刺骨的寒風中，  
在知更鳥啼唱的晨曦里，  
我，孤獨的冒險家、懷夢的流浪兒  
迎着"Good morning, Bonjour, Buenos días."  
緩緩醒來，撲進這片張開雙臂的大地，  
融入它溫暖的懷抱。

在高聳的Sugarloaf脚下，  
杜鵑花放肆地綻放，有如那無知無畏的海潮，  
日復一日洗刷着長夜的黑暗，與我收獲友誼、  
收穫希望，還有那登高、跌落的悲與悅。

虎年的大皮箱，

盛滿了爆竹的炸響，雪橇銀鈴的叮噹，  
還有那無盡的喜悅，  
無邊的希望！



**Lydia Im was born in Seoul, South Korea. She received an Honorable Mention at the 24th annual prize of the KLSW – Korean Literary Society of Washington in the poetry section.**

## To Tumbleweeds

Lydia Im

Under a nonchalant autumn sky,  
Clouds of dust mutter your impending death.  
Yet, with burning thirst and in pale brown,  
You throw away your roots, like a tattered  
blanket.  
You, a skeleton of twigs curled up into a ball, are  
determined,  
To die -- like a vagabond.  
As the winds, angel of death, sing their  
lamentations,  
And blow you across the plains,  
Yet, you plant seeds for tomorrow with your final  
breath.  
Are you nothing, but a mere weed?  
  
Instead of coveting seductive green grass,  
Your shrewd senses search for barren fields  
suitable for your seeds.  
When the callous sky sheds tears,  
Swift are you to release your seeds.  
Are you nothing, but a mere weed?  
  
While we, with warm blood, become islands,  
Running like a pack of wolves,  
As flying orbs of kindling for wildfire,  
As obstacles in our driveways and highways,  
Causing vehicles to swerve and humans to panic,  
Are you nothing, but a mere weed?

## 회전초

임정현

숨죽인 가을 하늘 아래  
너의 죽음을 메캐하게 훑조리는 먼지구름들  
아메리카 대륙을 구르려고  
목마름도 삼킨 체  
빛바랜 가지들을 실타래처럼 엮어 입고  
낡은 담요인 듯 뿌리도 던져 버린 체  
객사를 자원해 떠나는 회전초

죽음의 천사인 듯 바람이 부르는 애도의  
노래를 타고  
평원을 가로질러 구르다  
마지막 숨결로 수천수만 씨앗을 심는 회전초

상큼한 풀의 유혹에는 눈길도 주지 않고  
너를 맑은 목마른 대지에 이르러  
하늘이 찔끔 눈물만 뿌려도  
재빨리 씨를 뿌리는 회전초

검붉고 따뜻한 피가 흐르는 사람들이  
섬처럼 떠다니는데  
늑대의 무리처럼 떼를 지어  
불쏘시개처럼 날아다니다  
사람과 자동차도 가로막는 회전초  
한낱 잡초가 불사조처럼 피어난다.

# A TRIBUTE TO DR. SOVAN TUN, COMMISSIONER OF THE GOVERNOR'S COMMISSION ON ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN AFFAIRS (2001-2021)

Born in Battambang, Cambodia in 1940, before the civil wars, Sovan Tun completed high school in the capital of Phnom Penh in the late 1950s. Later, he received a scholarship from the United Nations to pursue a master's degree in the United States. Before the Khmer Rouge took over the country in 1975, he was teaching at various public universities in Phnom Penh while earning a French law degree. In 1972, he escaped the Khmer Rouge genocide with his family when he was awarded a fellowship by the United Nations to continue his graduate studies in the U.S. He received his Ph.D. in Economics at the University of Tennessee in 1977.



Dr. Tun devoted decades of his life to civil service through federal government positions at the Department of Agriculture, the U.S. Mint, and the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC). Highly respected for his leadership and advocacy in many communities --especially the Asian American, Cambodian, and Buddhists communities of the Greater Washington area that four governors of Maryland appointed him to the Governor's Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs. Starting with his first appointment by Governor Parris Glendening in 2001, Dr. Tun served 20 straight years as a commissioner. Appointed by Governor Larry Hogan in 2015, Commissioner Tun volunteered to serve as the chair of the Arts, Culture and Interfaith subcommittee and co-chair of the annual Asian Pacific American Heritage Month celebration.

We miss him greatly! Dr. Tun's concerns for social inequalities, racial disparities in healthcare, anti-Asian hate sentiment, and teaching Khmer language and cultural heritage to the generations to follow fueled his passion to serve on the Governor's APA Affairs Commission. In addition to his distinction as the longest-serving commissioner --appointed by four Maryland governors, Sovan was dedicated to the Khmer and Buddhist communities throughout the Greater Metropolitan Area. An active Cambodian American leader in Montgomery County, he was honored by The Cambodian Buddhist Society, Inc. and bestowed the title President Emeritus of the Cambodian Temple upon his retirement in 2018. He served on the CBS board from 1981 until his retirement as president (2006-2018), sponsored and/or filed for the green cards of over 20 monks from Cambodia, formed Cambodian dance and music classes at the temple, and raised funds to build the temple and stupa in Silver Spring. I am very privileged to have spoken on behalf of Governor Hogan recognizing Sovan's contribution on the Commission, as well as his many community efforts and accomplishments at his Ceremony of Blessing on September 23, 2018.



With Metta,  
Christina Poy  
Administrative Director  
Governor's Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs  
Governor's Commission on South Asian American Affairs  
Governor's Office of Community Initiatives



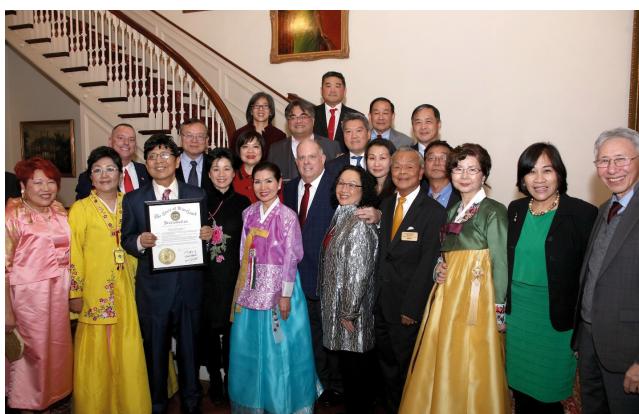
My family and I attended the beautiful Cambodian New Year's celebration at your gorgeous temple. We appreciate your profound contribution to spread Buddhism and love for all people. We miss you greatly.

Sincerely,  
Chairman Henry S. Kim, CPA  
Governor's Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs



Sovan was the old sage in the Governor's Asian Pacific American (APA) Affairs Commission. He knows everyone and everything about the APA Commission because of his long tenure as a commissioner. Asian culture, or Cambodia culture to be precise, was his passion. It's impossible not to see the glitters in his eyes when he talked about the Cambodian dances, Cambodian Day, and the Cambodian Buddhist Temple in Silver Spring.

~ Vice Chairman Hung-bin Ding  
Governor's Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs



Commissioner Sovan Tun is truly and immensely missed. He has been more than a colleague on our Asian Pacific American Affairs Commission, he was a big brother, a coach, and a leader with wisdom as well as compassion. His conviction to promote harmony with firm belief of inclusion and diversity will always be that beacon of light for the APA Commission.

~ Commissioner Elizabeth Chung  
Governor's Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs



What Sovan was able to accomplish for the Cambodian and the AAPI community is remarkable! He always shared a positive attitude, kindness and willingness to help with others. It was truly an honor to serve with him during the 2+ terms. He will be missed as the longest-serving commissioner, a community leader, and as a dear friend.

~ Commissioner Bob Zhang  
Governor's Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs

I've known Sovan for many years as we worked together on the Governor's APA Commission during two gubernatorial administrations. Sovan was a man of action and not just words, he was the person who does something and steps up if no one volunteers. He rallied our Asian American communities to work together in order to accomplish our role in the commissions. His passion and drive made him a respected leader in the Cambodian American communities. We will always remember you Sovan.

~ Commissioner Beth Wong  
Governor's Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs

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### WORKING WITH PURPOSE AND BUILDING LEGACY FOR THE ASIAN AMERICAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER COMMUNITY



#### MISSION STATEMENT

Potomac Valley's mission is to bridge the gap and break all barriers in healthcare disparities. Promoting inclusion, diversity, culture, language, and quality care.

#### TEAM FOCUS

Patient Satisfaction, Discharge Planning Services, Rehabilitation Strengthening, Pain Management, Reducing Falls

Multilingual and Multicultural Healthcare Team, Multicultural Activities and Programs and Multicultural Dietary Menus "Always available for patients request"



Asian American  
Center of Frederick  
*Enhance. Empower. Enrich.*



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