

## **Grand Valley State University presents 2010 Asian Pacific American Heritage Celebration**

### **The Year of the Tiger Exhibit**

February 8-April 26

Holland Area Arts Council, 150 E 8th St., Holland

The Holland Area Arts Council, in conjunction with the Cambodian, Laotian and Vietnamese communities, will host an exhibit to celebrate the Asian New Year and highlight the diverse arts, costumes, foods, music and entertainment of the Cambodian, Laotian, and Vietnamese cultures. The exhibit will be on display from February 8 through April 26 and a celebration will take place on April 24.

### **Japanese Tea Ceremony**

Tuesday, February 9, 3-4 p.m.

0072 Kirkhof Center, Allendale Campus

Presenters: Fumiko Murakami and Megumi Wessely

The grand tea masters, dressed in kimonos, will perform an artistic ritual of preparing and serving green tea called Macha. Preparing tea means pouring all one's attention into the predefined movements. The whole process is about aesthetic, preparing a bowl of tea from one's heart. The objective of the Japanese tea ceremony is to create a relaxed communication between the host and his/her guests and all other elements that coexist in harmonious relationship with the ceremony. Its ultimate aim is the attainment of deep spiritual satisfaction through the drinking of tea and through silent contemplation. Come, enjoy a cup of tea and learn about the meaning and philosophy of a tea ceremony.

### **Walking the Talk of Diversity**

(Lecture followed by a book signing reception)

Wednesday, February 10, 4-6 p.m.

Cook- DeWitt, Allendale Campus

Presenter: Phoebe Eng, corporate attorney, national lecturer and author.

As our society becomes more diverse, how can we enhance communications and develop a deeper understanding of the histories, cultures, and perspectives so that we create meaningful programs, and "walk the talk" of diversity? Join Phoebe Eng as she describes the concept of "cultural fluency," the ability to understand, and be understood, across perceived boundaries and among many communities. She will illustrate how workplace practices, policy, program goals, and definitions of leadership change when we truly embrace "fluency" fundamentals. In her lectures, Eng will tackle the most difficult issues plaguing our society. With humor and heart, she empowers audiences with her uplifting message of the individual's ability to create social change.

### **Asian New Year Festival**

Thursday, February 11, 6-9 p.m.

Grand River Room, Kirkhof Center, Allendale Campus

Join us for a spectacular festival showcasing the traditional Asian New Year celebration. The program highlights the richness and diversity of Asia by featuring samples of Asian cuisines and traditional performances from different Asian ethnic groups including a dragon dance, Tai Chi Chinese martial arts, national dance and cultural fashion show.

### **Virtual Equality: The Mainstreaming of Gay and Lesbian Liberation**

Tuesday, February 16, 4-6 p.m.

Grand River Room, Kirkhof Center, Allendale Campus

Presenter: Urvashi Vaid, civil rights activist, attorney, author and lecturer.

Urvashi Vaid will present a brief historical perspective of the political movement of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community. She asserts that movement is in a state of "virtual equality." Like computer-generated virtual reality that presents an image to the viewer, the LGBT movement's acceptance by the larger population is also seen only on the surface; a more in-depth look reveals that gays are marginally accepted (politically, economically, and legally). Urvashi believe that this type of inequality is holding the movement back. She thinks the movement will not be able to achieve its goals alone and calls for the gay and lesbian movement to broaden its focus to include other movements seeking equality (ie. race, gender, class, etc.).

### **Osteoporosis – Understanding How it is Diagnosed and Treated**

Wednesday, February 17, noon – 1 p.m.

Room 2266 Kirkhof Center, Allendale Campus

Presenter: Dr. Anu Garg, MMPC – a member of Spectrum Health

According to the National Asian Women's Health Organization, more than one-fifth of Asian American women suffer from osteoporosis and 65 percent of Asian American women have low bone mineral density, one of the major signs of the onset of the disease. Understanding osteoporosis, including how it is diagnosed and treated can play an important role in living well.

### **Marriage Equality and LGBT**

Tuesday, February 23, noon – 1:00 p.m.

Room 1240 Kirkhof Center, Allendale Campus

Presenter: Curtis Chin, political activist, movie producer, former Asian American Leadership Council Advisory member for President Obama

Curtis Chin and his partner were among the 18,000 couples in California who got married before the passage of Proposition 8. Chin will share ~~his~~their personal experiences and thoughts on this hot-button issue. Chin also will lead discussion on the recent passage of the anti-discrimination ordinance in Kalamazoo, which prohibits discrimination against LGBT individuals in the areas of hiring, housing and public accommodation

### **Hate Hurts – “Vincent Who?”**

Tuesday, February 23, 4-6 p.m.

Room 2204 Kirkhof Center, Allendale Campus

Presenter: Curtis Chin, political activist, movie producer, former Asian American Leadership Council Advisory member for President Obama

A documentary movie that won the 2009 award from the National Association on Multicultural Education, “Vincent Who” will be shown. In 1982, Vincent Chin, a Chinese American, was murdered in Detroit by two white autoworkers at the height of anti-Japanese sentiments. For the first time, Asian Americans around the country galvanized to form a community and movement. This documentary, inspired by a series of town halls organized by Asian Pacific Americans for Progress on the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the case, features interviews with the key players, as well as a whole new generation of activists. "Vincent Who?" asks how far Asian Americans have come since then and how far we have yet to go.

### **R.I.C.E. Conference, Realizing and Addressing Issues in our Culture and Education**

Saturday, March 27, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Loosemore Auditorium, Building E, Robert C. Pew Grand Rapids Campus

RICE Conference offers three relevant tracks, including culture, education and health to educate and raise awareness on Asian issues that matter to our community.

Complimentary breakfast and lunch will be served. The conference is free and open to the public. Workshop information and online registration are available at

<http://www2.gvsu.edu/~asu/rice.htm>.

Sponsors: Asian Student Union, College of Education, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Delta Phi Lambda, Honors College, Housing, Human Resources Office, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender (LGBT) Resources Center, Office of Multicultural Affairs, Padnos International Center, Student Services - Pew Campus

All events are free and open to the public. If you require special assistance or accommodations, please call the Office of Multicultural Affairs at (616) 331-2177. Community guests need to obtain a parking permit at the Public Safety Services. For event information, contact Connie Dang at [dangc@gvsu.edu](mailto:dangc@gvsu.edu).