

Grand Valley State University 2012 Asian Pacific American Islander Heritage Celebration

Asian Pacific Islanders in Michigan

Rona M. Lum, Law Offices of Rona M. Lum, P.C.

Wednesday, January 25, 4-5 p.m., Kirkhof Center, Grand River Room, Allendale Campus

From 2000-2050, Asian Pacific Islanders are projected to be the fastest growing ethnic group in the U.S., expanding from 10.7 million in 2000 to 33.4 million in 2050, a 213 percent increase. Census 2010 reveals that in Michigan, APIs are the second fastest growing ethnic group next to Hispanics.

Using the Census and the migration history of Asians to the United States, this presentation will heighten the awareness and understanding of the demographic, economic, education, social and housing characteristics of APIs who live in Michigan.

Asian New Year Festival

Thursday, January 26, 6-9 p.m., Kirkhof Center, Grand River Room, 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 cuisine and traditional performances from ethnic groups. Enjoy a dragon dance, Chinese martial arts, national dances and a cultural fashion show.

“First Person Plural”

Award Winning PBS Documentary

Monday, January 30, noon-1p.m., Kirkhof Center, Grand River Room, Allendale Campus

In 1966, Deann Borshay Liem was adopted by an American family. She moved from Korea to her new home in California. There the memory of her birth family was nearly obliterated, until recurring dreams led her to investigate her own past, and she discovered that her Korean mother was very much alive. Bravely uniting her biological and adoptive families, Borshay Liem embarks on a heartfelt journey in this acclaimed movie. “First Person Plural” is a poignant essay on cultural identity, race, gender and family. It explores the topic of transnational adoption and the impact of globalization on families.

“In the Matter of Cha Jung Hee”

PBS Documentary

Tuesday, January 31, noon-1 p.m., Kirkhof Center, Grand River Room, Allendale Campus

“In the Matter of Cha Jung Hee” is the search to find the answers, as acclaimed filmmaker Deann Borshay Liem (*First Person Plural*) returns to her native Korea to find her “double,” the mysterious girl whose place she took in America.

Her passport said she was Cha Jung Hee. She knew she was not. So began a 40-year deception for a Korean adoptee who arrived in the United States in 1966. Told to keep her true identity secret from her new American family, the girl quickly forgot she had ever been anyone else. But why had her identity been switched? And who was the real Cha Jung Hee?

Aesthetic and Moral Ideals in Chinese Calligraphy

Peimin Ni, Grand Valley professor of philosophy

Wednesday, February 8, 1-2:30 p.m., Kirkhof Center, Pere Marquette Room, Allendale Campus

Calligraphy is a highly respected form of art in China. The evolution of Chinese written characters parallels the history of Chinese calligraphy art. Calligraphy was conceived by all major Chinese philosophical traditions — Confucianism, Daoism, and Buddhism — as a way of cultivating the person and of reaching and expressing one's moral and aesthetic ideals. It also became a way political powers were demonstrated. This session will walk participants through the long history and illustrate how the art embodies rich layers of aesthetic and moral implications.

The Rising Voices of Asian Pacific Islanders in the 2012 Election

Stephanie Chang, President of Asian Pacific Islander American Vote – Michigan

Thursday, February 9, 5-6 p.m., Kirkhof Center, Room 2270, Allendale Campus

Why should a younger generation of Asian Pacific Islanders get involved in the 2012 presidential election? What do issues of immigration, jobs, economy, health care and education have to do with the election? Join Stephanie Chang's interactive presentation and learn about the voting process and ways you can exercise your civic engagement by voting and mobilizing others to register and vote!

R.I.C.E. Conference: Realizing and Addressing Issues in Our Culture and Education

Saturday, March 31, 8 a.m.–5 p.m.

Loosemore Auditorium, DeVos Center, Pew Grand Rapids Campus

RICE Conference offers three relevant tracks — culture, education and health — to educate and raise awareness of Asian issues that impact our community. Complimentary breakfast and lunch will be served. The conference is free and open to the public. Workshop information and registration are available at www2.gvsu.edu/~asu/rice.htm. (I checked and this website isn't working??)