



# Asian American Festival

## 2006 Daley Center Plaza / Chicago

In Celebration of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month  
Hosted by the Chinese American Community / May 22-26

TO: Asian Pacific American (APA) Community Leadership; APA Community Media; Major Media; Arts, Corporate; Governmental, Political and Student Outreach Distribution Lists (Midwest Regional)  
FROM: Irene Cualoping, Chair, 2006-2007 Asian American Coalition of Chicago Media Committee and Director of Communications  
FOR: Asian American Coalition of Chicago (AAC)

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### MEDIA AND COMMUNITY REMINDER ADVISORY

**ASIAN AMERICAN COALITION OF CHICAGO ANNOUNCES CELEBRITY EMCEE APPEARANCES;  
HOSTS 8th ANNUAL ASIAN AMERICAN FESTIVAL 2006 AT DALEY CENTER PLAZA**

**CULTURAL IMMERSION, FOOD COURT, DYNASTY MARKETPLACE  
MAY 22ND - 26TH 10 A.M. - 5 P.M. (RAIN OR SHINE)**

**L. MADIGAN, DEVINE, PAPPAS, BROWN AMONG VIP'S ATTENDING  
RIBBON-CUTTING CEREMONIES MONDAY, MAY 22ND AT NOON**

**TUESDAY, MAY 23RD SENIORS DAY; WEDNESDAY, MAY 24TH CHICAGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS DAY**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE CONTACT: GENERAL INQUIRIES**  
May 21, 2006 [info@aacchicago.org](mailto:info@aacchicago.org)  
(312) 635-0888 (MEDIA ONLY)  
[info@enericom.net](mailto:info@enericom.net)

CHICAGO, IL - - Final plans are busily underway for the 8<sup>TH</sup> Annual Asian American Festival 2006, presented by the Asian American Coalition of Chicago and proudly hosted this year by Chicago's Chinese American Community. In celebration of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month during the month of May, the Festival takes place May 22 - 26, 2006 at Daley Center Plaza, at Clark and Washington Streets in downtown Chicago Loop. This year's weeklong celebration will feature Cultural Immersion Performances, a Food Court, a Dynasty Marketplace, a Community Tent, and fun activities for various ages. Come for the food and stay for the entertainment or come for the entertainment and have some food! Either way, the rich color, sounds, and sights of many Asian cultures all in one place, is a unique experience not to be missed.

Themed "Celebrating Asians in America," this year's festival is free and open to the public and is expected to attract thousands of people each day. The Asian American Festival celebrates approximately 16 different cultures. Over the years, the Coalition has included representatives of the Bangladeshi, Burmese, Cambodian, Chinese, Filipino, Indian, Indonesia, Japanese, Korean, Laotian, Malaysian, Nepalese, Pakistani, Sri Lankan, Thai and Vietnamese communities. Every year a different Asian

(MORE)



### Asian American Coalition of Chicago

c/o 2141 South Tan Court, Chicago, Illinois 60616.1998 tel 312.791.0418 fax 312.791.0509  
[www.aacchicago.org](http://www.aacchicago.org) [info@aacchicago.org](mailto:info@aacchicago.org)



**- - ADD ONE**

**8<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL ASIAN AMERICAN FESTIVAL MAY 22-26, 2006**

community takes turn playing host of the Festival and of the Coalition's Lunar New Year Celebration. This year it is the Chinese American community, who is hosting the Asian American Festival for the first time.

The Asian American Festival is open daily from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. with cultural performances on-stage from 12 Noon – 1:30 p.m. each day, except for Wednesday, May 24, 2006, Chicago Public Schools Day, when there is an extended performance time of 10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Students from 17 Chicago Public Schools will perform song and dance. (See Exhibit "A" for list.) Tuesday, May 23, 2006 is Seniors Day.

Dignitaries scheduled (*as of presstime*) to appear at Monday's 12 Noon ribbon-cutting ceremonies include: **Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan; Cook County State's Attorney Richard A. Devine; Cook County Treasurer Maria Pappas; and Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois Dorothy Brown** (*pending final scheduling for others.*)

The following popular celebrity broadcast personalities are scheduled to appear as emcees at the 8th Annual Asian American Festival:

- \* **Judy Hsu**, Morning Anchor/Reporter, ABC 7 Chicago News;
- \* **Ellee Pai Hong**, Morning Anchor/Reporter, NBC 5 Chicago News;
- \* **Nesita Kwan**, Weekday 4:30 p.m. Anchor/Health Watch Reporter/Editor, NBC 5 Chicago News;
- \* **Nancy Loo**, Morning and Noon Anchor/Reporter, FOX Chicago TV News;
- \* **Joanie Lum**, Reporter, CBS 2 Chicago News;
- \* **Alpana Singh**, Host of "Check, Please!" seen on PBS WTTW 11; and Master Sommelier;
- \* **Judy Wang**, Weekend Morning Anchor/Reporter, CLTV News; and
- \* **Linda Yu**, 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. Anchor/Reporter, ABC 7 Chicago News.

Also appearing as celebrity emcees will be:

- \* **Cheryl Hamada**, Equity Actress and Pledge Host, PBS WTTW 11; and
- \* **Lisa Tejero**, Equity Actress, Currently Appearing in Lookingglass Theater Company's Adaptation of Charles Dickens' "The Old Curiosity Shop"

For more information and the latest schedule information, please visit the website **[www.aacchicago.org](http://www.aacchicago.org)**.

**FESTIVAL FOOD COURT**

A variety of delicious authentic Asian foods will be available at the Asian American Festival from the following vendors:

Golden China Buffet (Chinese), Carol Stream, Illinois  
Joy Ribs (Korean), Chicago, Illinois  
Moonsun Sushi (Japanese), Glendale Heights, Illinois  
Penang (Malaysian), Chicago, Illinois  
Quang Noodle Restaurant (Vietnamese), Chicago, Illinois  
Star of Siam (Thai), Chicago, Illinois  
Zam Zam Restaurant (South Indian), Chicago, Illinois

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**DYNASTY MARKETPLACE**

Festival attendees are advised to be sure to bring their money to take advantage of the Vendor Showcase in the Dynasty Marketplace. One can experience an open market and the hustle and bustle of an Asian marketplace by strolling through exhibits of art, gift items, jewelry, beautiful traditional clothing, Asian furniture and much more!

The following vendors will be featured at the 2006 Asian American Festival in the Dynasty Marketplace:

Annapurna Treasure, St. Paul, Minnesota  
Bolivian Imports, Rosemont, Minnesota  
Bourdage Pearls, Chicago, Illinois  
Carol Akiyama, Chicago, Illinois  
Danish Fashion, Inc., Park Forest, Illinois  
Dichroic Jewels, Bloomington, Indiana  
Giftland, Inc., Chicago, Illinois  
Jen-Way, Elmwood Park, Illinois  
Makomo, Chicago, Illinois  
Pacific Realm Imports, Chicago, Illinois  
Sisters, Inc., Hoffman Estates, Illinois  
V.W. Too Cute, Chicago, Illinois

The Asian American Coalition of Chicago is pleased to announce the following program lineup for the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Asian American Festival (rain or shine) at Daley Center Plaza:

**8<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL ASIAN AMERICAN FESTIVAL PROGRAM**

**MONDAY, MAY 22, 2006, 12 NOON – 1:30 P.M.**  
**VIP RIBBON-CUTTING AT NOON**

*(Attending as of presstime: Joining Festival Chair **Esther Wong**; State of Illinois Attorney General **Lisa Madigan**; Cook County State's Attorney **Richard A. Devine**; Cook County Treasurer **Maria Pappas**; and Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois **Dorothy Brown**)*

Celebrity Emcees: **Joanie Lum**, Reporter, CBS 2 Chicago  
**Judy Wang**, Anchor/Reporter, CLTV News  
**Linda Yu**, Anchor/Reporter, ABC 7 Chicago (12:25 p.m.)

- **The National Anthem**, Kelly Uchima, St. Therese Chinese Catholic School, Chicago (12:10 p.m.)
- **Welcome Address** – Esther Wong, Chair, 2006 Asian American Festival (12:15 p.m.)

**CULTURAL IMMERSION PERFORMANCES**

- **Traditional Chinese Lion Dance**, St. Therese Chinese Catholic School, Chicago (12:25 p.m.)
- **Ensemble Taiko Works** (12:30 p.m.)  
Presented by Japanese American Service Committee - Tsukasa Taiko, Led by Hide Yoshihashi (12:30 p.m.)  
Performed by Hide Yoshihashi, Amy Homma and Tatsu Aoki
- **Chinese Martial Arts Demonstration** (12:40 p.m.)

(MORE)

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**8<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL ASIAN AMERICAN FESTIVAL MAY 22-26, 2006**

**MONDAY, MAY 22, 2006, 12 NOON – 1:30 P.M.**

Presented by the Chinese Kung Fu and Championship Martial Arts Academy of Chicago, Libertyville and Naperville

- **“Bhangra” An Indian Folk Dance** (12:50 p.m.)  
Performed by “SARGAM” and Presented by the Punjabi Cultural Society of Chicago and Choreographed by Shamila Khetarpal Performers: Shamila Khetarpal, Nisha Thyle, Ingrid Breitfelder, Lucinda Scharach, Pooja Rajput, Minila Shah  
With **Live Dhol (Punjabi Drum)** by Sukhi Basati, Coordinated by Mohinderjit Singh Saini
- **“Dai Zu” A Traditional Chinese Lunar New Year Dance** (1:10 p.m.)  
Presented by St. Therese Chinese Catholic School, Chicago

**TUESDAY, MAY 23, 2006, 12 NOON – 1:30 P.M.**

**HONOR OUR SENIORS DAY**

Celebrity Emcees: **Ellee Pai Hong**, Anchor/Reporter, NBC 5 Chicago  
**Nancy Loo**, Anchor/Reporter, FOX News Chicago (1:15 p.m.)

- **Traditional Korean Fashion Show** (12 Noon)  
Fashion Designs by Gue Y. Lee; Coordinated by Myung Shin Kim  
Presented by the Lee Gue Yung Hanbok Gallery Meot and Korean Traditional Dress Institute in Chicago
- **“Saman Dance”** (12:30 p.m.)  
Performed by Indonesian Dance Groups; Choreographed by Shamila Khetarpal; Coordinated by Roosy Miller  
Presented by the Indonesian American Community
- **“Tri Colour”** (12:40 p.m.)  
Performed by Maya Guruswamy, Vikram Guruswamy, Vanitha Raguveer, Nithya Garg, Divya Nagendran, Suraj Nagendran, Vikram Nagendran; Choreographed by Divya Nagendran  
Presented by Naperville Rhythms
- **“Tai Chi 8 Form and 22 Tai Chi Swords” Tai Chi Demonstration** (12:45 p.m.)  
Performed by Master Wai-Yu Kuan and her Tai Chi Class  
Presented by the Chinese American Service League, Inc.

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 24, 2006, 10:30 A.M. – 1:30 P.M**

**CHICAGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS DAY – CPS DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGE AND CULTURE**

Celebrity Emcees: **Cheryl Hamada**, Equity Actress and Pledge Host, PBS WTTW 11 (10:30 a.m.)  
**Nesita Kwan**, Anchor/Health Watch Reporter, NBC 5 Chicago (12 Noon)  
**Lisa Tejero**, Equity Actress, Currently Appearing in Lookingglass Theater Company's  
Adaptation of Charles Dickens' "The Old Curiosity Shop"

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**8<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL ASIAN AMERICAN FESTIVAL MAY 22-26, 2006**

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 24, 2006, 10:30 A.M. – 1:30 P.M**  
**CHICAGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS DAY – CPS DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGE AND CULTURE**

Coordinated by Sylvia Acierto and Mark Armendariz, CPS  
C.W. Chan and Dr. Evelyn Natividad, Asian American Festival Committee

- **Welcome Remarks** by Sylvia Acierto, Director, World Language Programs, Chicago Public Schools (10:30 a.m.)
- Opening Remarks by Manuel J. Medina, Chief Officer, Office of Language and Cultural Education, Chicago Public Schools
- Remarks by Gene Lee, Deputy Chief of Staff, City of Chicago Office of the Mayor Richard M. Daley
  
- **“By the River Bank” (Vietnamese Dance)** (10:40 a.m.)
- **“Tinikling” (Filipino Dance)**  
Presented by Albany Park Academy - Mary Lee Taylor, Principal  
Ana Retamal, Teacher
  
- **“Daandiya Raas” (Indian Classical and Folk Dance Combination)** (10:50 a.m.)  
Presented by Volta Elementary School - Dr. Nancy L. Wallace, Principal  
Naseem Umar, Teacher
  
- **“Victory at Golden Mountains” (Chinese Dance)** (11 a.m.)
- **“Girls from Tianshan Mountains” (Chinese Dance)**
- **“Traditional Chinese Lion Dance”**  
Presented by Healy Elementary School - Mary Ellen Ratkovich, Principal  
Soo Lon Moy, Teacher
  
- **“Peacock” Dance (Chinese Dance)** (11:10 a.m.)
- **“Fan” Dance (Chinese Dance)**  
Presented by Alcott Elementary School - David J. Domovic, Principal  
Hongwei Yu, Teacher
  
- **“Ribbon” Dance (Chinese Dance)** (11:20 a.m.)
- **“Martial Arts” Dance (Chinese Dance)**  
Presented by Bell Elementary School - Robert Guercio, Principal  
Bin Qiao, Teacher
  
- **“Tinikling” (Filipino Dance)** (11:30 a.m.)  
Presented by Sabin Magnet School - Christine Arroyo, Principal  
Dr. Evelyn Natividad, Teacher
  
- **“Subli” (Filipino Dance)**  
Marisol Alcala, Teacher  
Bob Rezek, Teacher
  
- **“Golden Ring” (Chinese Dance)** (11:40 a.m.)  
Presented by McCormick Elementary School - Virginia Rivera, Principal  
May Cheung, Teacher
  
- **“Martial Arts Fan Dance” (Chinese Dance)**  
Ming Yeh, Teacher

(MORE)

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**WEDNESDAY, MAY 24, 2006**

- **“Yosakoi” (Japanese Folk Dance)** (11:50 a.m.)  
Presented by L. Hughes Elementary School - Earl L. Ware, Principal  
Sandy Satsu, Teacher
  
- **“Sorani Bushi” (Japanese Folk Dance)**  
Mitsuko Rokuhira, Teacher
  
- **“Folk Dance” (Indian Folk Dance)** (12 p.m.)
- **“Folk Dance” (Pakistan Folk Dance)**  
Presented by Clinton Elementary School - Teresa Moy, Principal  
Fareesa Khan, Teacher
  
- **“Fan Dance” (Chinese Dance)** (12:10 p.m.)
- **“Xingjian” (Chinese Dance)**  
Presented by Oriole Park Elementary School - Elias Estrada, Principal  
Rosita Chan, Teacher
  
- **“Chiftetelli” (Turkish Dance)** (12:20 p.m.)  
Presented by Holden Elementary School - Andrew Wawrzyniak, Principal  
Kathleen Cantone, Teacher
  
- **“Fan” Dance (Chinese Dance)** (12:30 p.m.)
- **“Fan” Dance (Korean Dance)**  
Presented by Northside College Prep - Dr. James C. Lalley, Principal  
Haiyan Fu, Teacher
  
- **“Miruku Munari” (Japanese Dance)** (12:40 p.m.)
- **“Sorani Bushi” (Japanese Dance)**  
Presented by Burr Elementary School - Vinita Scott, Principal  
Laura McGlone, Teacher
  
- **“Ribbon and Fan Dance” (Vietnamese Dance)** (12:50 p.m.)  
Presented by Mather High School - John A. Butterfield, Principal  
Sara Wong, Teacher
  
- **Dance (Korean Dance)**  
Elena Indman, Teacher
  
- **“Tinikling” (Filipino Dance)** (1 p.m.)
- **“Hula” Dance (Filipino Dance)**  
Presented by Roosevelt High School - Dr. Alejandra Alvarez, Principal  
William Meyer, Teacher
  
- **“Folk” Dance (Chinese Dance)** (1:10 p.m.)
- **Song (Chinese Song)**  
Presented by Juarez Community Academy - Natividad Loreda, Principal  
Shan Wang, Teacher
  
- **“Taal” (Indian Dance)** (1:20 p.m.)  
Jones College Prep - Dr. Donald Fraynd, Principal  
Marlita Sanders, Teacher

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 24, 2006

- **“Teacup, Umbrella, and Ribbon” (Chinese and Japanese Combination Dance)**  
Xiaobao Li, Teacher

THURSDAY, MAY 25, 2006, 12 NOON – 1:30 P.M.

Celebrity Emcee: **Judy Hsu**, Anchor/Reporter, ABC 7 Chicago

- **“Gih Xian Ru Yi” Chinese Dance Performance** (12 Noon)  
Performed by Linda Yuan, Haishan Wang and I-Hsun Jan  
Presented by the Chinese Culture Center Yuangi Dance Group; Coordinated by I-Hsun Jan
- **Traditional Indian Dances** (12:10 p.m.)  
Presented by The Nrithyanjali School of Dance; Led by Artistic Director Sushimita Arunkumar
- **“Guzheng” Chinese Musical Instrument Performance** (12:30 p.m.)  
Performed by Allen Yunging Pan
- **“The Silk Blossom” A Traditional Chinese Fan and Ribbon Dance Performance** (12:40 p.m.)  
Presented by St. Therese Chinese Catholic School
- **“Sun’s 26 Tai Chi and Kung Fu” Tai Chi and Kung Fu Demonstration** (12:50 p.m.)  
Presented by Master Xue -Zhi Sun

FRIDAY, MAY 26, 2006, 12 NOON – 1:30 P.M.

Celebrity Emcee: **Alpana Singh**, Host, “Check, Please!” seen on PBS WTTW 11; Master Sommelier

- **“Tinikling,” “Sayaw sa Bangko,” “Pandango sa Ilaw,” “Itik-Itik,” “Salakot,” and “Sakuting” Philippine Cultural Dances** (12 Noon)  
Presented by Samahang Kapatid, Filipino American Youth Group, Led by Ruben Salazar
- **Manohra Dance** (12:30 p.m.)  
Presented by The Thai Community of Illinois and the Thai Cultural and Fine Arts Institute,  
Coordinated by Poxie Ximsai
- **“An Elegant Evening” and “Home on the Range” (12:40 p.m.) Chinese Erhu Musical Solos**  
Performed by Kerry Leung, Member, Chinese Music Society of North America
- **TBA** (12:50 p.m.)
- **Passing of the Torch to Asian American Festival 2007 Host – The Pakistani American Community**, Accepted by Dr. Tariq Butt (1 p.m.)

(MORE)

**- - ADD SEVEN  
8<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL ASIAN AMERICAN FESTIVAL MAY 22-26, 2006**

**EVENT SPONSOR**

This year's program is generously underwritten by corporate sponsor American Family Insurance.

**AAC... WHO WE ARE**

According to the latest Census, the Asian Pacific American population in Illinois numbers approximately 428,213, or 3.4% of the statewide population. Approximately 71,469 Asian Pacific Americans reside in DuPage County, comprising 7.9% of DuPage County's population, with the bulk of the other 262,731 residents of Cook County, comprising 4.8% of Cook County's population. The 2000 Census shows that Asian Pacific Americans reside in Chicago in communities including West Rogers Park, Albany Park, Uptown, Armour Square and Bridgeport, and in suburban Cook County in communities including Schaumburg, Hoffman Estates and Skokie.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

General inquiries should be directed to [info@aacchicago.org](mailto:info@aacchicago.org).

**MEDIA**

Media is invited to cover. Media requests should be directed to ENERI Communications, LLC at [info@enericom.net](mailto:info@enericom.net) or (312) 635-0888.

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**2006 ASIAN AMERICAN COALITION OF CHICAGO  
8<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL ASIAN AMERICAN FESTIVAL**

e-mail address: [info@aacchicago.org](mailto:info@aacchicago.org)

web site: [www.aacchicago.org](http://www.aacchicago.org)

**MEDIA CONTACT**

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**FOR: 2006 Asian American Coalition of Chicago  
Asian American Festival Planning Committee**

Esther Wong, Chair

C.W. Chan, Co-Chair

Leonard M. Louie, Co-Chair

Roosy Miller, Co-Chair

Denise Lam, Treasurer

Ricky Lam, Secretary

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Note: If you wish to be removed from this list, just reply to [info@enericom.net](mailto:info@enericom.net) and state "remove" in the subject line.

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8<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL ASIAN AMERICAN FESTIVAL MAY 22-26, 2006**

**EXHIBIT "A"**

**2006 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Asian American Festival of Chicago  
List of (17) Participating Chicago Public Schools and Principals - CPS Day – May 24, 2006**

Albany Park Academy - Mary Lee Taylor  
Alcott Elementary School - David J. Domovic  
Bell Elementary School - Robert Guercio  
Burr Elementary School – Vinita Scott  
Clinton Elementary School - Teresa Moy  
Healy Elementary School - Mary Ellen Ratkovich  
Holden Elementary School - Andrew Wawrzyniak  
L. Hughes Elementary School - Earl L. Ware  
Jones College Prep – Dr. Donald Fraynd  
Juarez Community Academy - Natividad Loredo  
Mather High School - John A. Butterfield  
McCormick Elementary School - Virginia Rivera  
Northside College Prep - Dr. James C. Lalley  
Oriole Park Elementary School -Elias Estrada  
Roosevelt High School - Dr. Alejandra Alvarez  
Sabin Magnet School - Christine Arroyo  
Volta Elementary School - Dr. Nancy L. Wallace