



Calendar of Events

<http://capa-mi.org/main.php?p=calendar105>

Articles Inside: (Updates)

- ★ DINGELL – MAPAAC HONORED AT APIA
- ★ APACC – PARTNERSHIP WITH REHMANN ROBSON (MBT)
- ★ APIA VOTE DINNER
- ★ LISTEN, LEARN & LIVE (SUMMER CAMP FOR TEENAGERS)
- ★ OCA RECEIVES \$25,000 GRANT
- ★ OBAMA PUSH ON IMMIGRATION

SAVE THE DATE(S)

**JULY 16 – TASTE OF ASIA (PACCM)

**A THEMATIC DANCE PRODUCTION CREATED & CHOREOGRAPHED BY CHAULA THACKER - RENAISSANCE MAN – JULY 30, 2011 @ 7PM (FORD COMMUNITY PERFORMING CENTER – DEARBORN)

**CHINA CORPS SUMMER CAMP FREE OF CHARGE THIS YEAR FOR MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS
AUGUST 1-19, M-F, FROM 9 AM TO 3 PM
<http://www.clas.wayne.edu/unit-inner.asp?WebPageID=2277>

**AUGUST 20 – MRS. PHILIPPINES PAGEANT

AAJA NATIONAL CONVENTION - **TIME TO ENGAGE
AUGUST 10-13, 2011
DETROIT MARRIOTT AT RENAISSANCE CENTER & COBO CENTER, DETROIT, MI

**DETROIT CONCERT OF COLORS
GREAT LAKES TAIKO CENTER - RAION TAIKO (SOE PERFORMER)
SATURDAY, JULY 16 · 4:30PM - 6:00PM
ORCHESTRA HALL, DETROIT
3711 WOODWARD AVE.
DETROIT, MICHIGAN

SOE 2012 Connections – What is next?

Staying In-Touch
2012 Theme Release

A Three Part Sequel

CASTING CALL IN OCTOBER

2011 VIDEO IS AVAILABLE (\$10)

Contact Bob Riparip: rdriparip@sepanet.com

Shared 2011 SOE Photos
Follow the Link

Cultural - <http://capa-mi.blogs.com/photos/soe-2011/>
VIP Reception - <http://capa-mi.blogs.com/photos/soe-2011-vip/>
After glow - <http://capa-mi.blogs.com/photos/soe-2011-afterglow/>

http://www.flickr.com/photos/jawa_photo/collections/72157626670497226/

Message from Public Relation Chair – Angela Wang:

As a Michigan resident for fourteen years, I joined CAPA in 2005. I was born and raised in China and currently hold the chairmanship of Public Relations. My goal is to utilize my knowledge, experience and passion to make a positive impact to people's life by building communication channels in merging culture, to foster global innovative collaborations and to spread the vision of harmony within the community. I would like to encourage all marketing experts and anyone who believes in uniting not only Asia Pacific Americans but the community at large through culture, education and community service. Please join CAPA and help us reach out to more people to better serve our community.

As part of our CAPA family, please come to our July event "Taste of Asia" and enjoy the cuisine, culture, and diversity of Asia through an exotic dining experience! The evening will feature surprise performances and networking. You can tour to each station to taste fine foods from various Asian countries: Korea • China • Philippines • Japan • India and More! Admission is FREE for all CAPA members and \$25 for new members. Another upcoming event is CAPA 2011 **Statewide Leadership Conference** on October 15, 2011 focusing on building bridges and fostering growth between the Asian Pacific American community and other organizations with the goal of bringing about positive social change. We look forward to your attendance and connect with new members.

CAPA's annual 'Taste of Asia' set on July 16 at PACCM

The Council of Asian Pacific Americans (CAPA) will hold a cultural event called "Taste of Asia" on July 16, 2011 in the Philippine-American Community Center of Michigan (PACCM) at 17356 Northland Park Court, Southfield.

CAPA President Arcie Gemino said that "Taste of Asia" is an annual festival that features diverse Asian cuisines and cultures. CAPA members and their guests will be treated to "an afternoon of exotic dining experience" by partaking, among others, favorite dishes that originated from Korea, China, Philippines and Japan, she said.

"Taste of Asia" will start at 3 p.m. and will end at 6 p.m. Aside from the food sampling, a special cultural program will be presented, Gemino said.

Amy Khoeler, chairperson of CAPA's membership committee, said non-CAPA members are welcomed to join the festive event but they would be asked to pay each \$25, which would be applied as payment of the fee for lifetime membership of CAPA.

Membership privileges include participation in future CAPA taste fests and other important events, Khoeler said.

Those intending to join the event are asked to make reservations on or before July 11. For further information, interested individuals or groups may call Arcie Gemino at tel. 586-954-9711 or email Amy Khoeler at amykhoeler@capa-mi.org.

On behalf of the Board, CAPA President & the Cultural Production we are excited to release...

2012 Splendor of the East Theme

"TRIBUTE TO MOTHER EARTH"

(PART I OF THE SEQUEL)

Next year's theme is the start of a three part sequel for 2012 - 2014

*Casting Call is scheduled in **October (date - tbd)***

Presentations must fit into the SOE 2012 theme. We look forward to your participation.

WE ARE LOOKING TO CAST NEW TALENTS!

Qualified and Committed Singer, Dancer, Instrumental Player & Actor come to the casting call

We promote diversity and encourage cross-training between cultural groups & individual performers. Choreographers & Performers who are interested, contact SOE Production Chair

troy@capa-mi.org

Theme synopsis see the last page of Enews



Dingell, MAPAAC honored at APIA Vote-Michigan's dinner event

US Congressman John Dingell (Michigan), an outstanding young man and the Michigan Asian Pacific American Affairs Commission (MAPAAC) were honored last June 24 at the First APIA Vote-Michigan Annual Dinner held in the Troy Marriott Hotel in Troy.

APIA Vote Michigan President Stephanie Chang said Congressman Dingell was honored with the Legislative Champion Award, while Mohammed Ashraf, a young man, received the Rising Star Award.

MAPAAC headed by Commissioner Sook Wilkinson was be presented the Advocacy Award.

"Building Community: Empowering APIA Voices" was the theme of the fund-raising event whose proceeds are to be used to fund APIA Vote-Michigan's advocacy programs.

Sayu Bhojwani, founding executive director of the New American Leaders Project (NALP), was the keynote speaker.

Ms. Bhojwani served as the New York City's first commissioner of Immigrant Affairs under Mayor Bloomberg. She formed the South Asian Youth Action (SAYA), which is tasked to develop the leadership potentials of immigrant youth in Queens, New York.

Frank Witzil emceed the event. He works for the Detroit Free Press's web desk and is a member of the governing board of the Asian-American Journalists Association.

APIA Vote-Michigan is a nonpartisan, non-profit 501 (c) (3) organization that serves the Asian Pacific Islander American community through participation, advocacy and education. It aims to empower Asian and Pacific Islander American people to become fully engaged in addressing community issues.

In her message, APIA Vote-Michigan President Chang said that the APIA community grew faster in population than any other group in Michigan from 2000 to 2010, noting that the increase was 34.9 percent.

She said there are 293,766 Asian-Americans and Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders in Michigan. "The rapid growth of the APIA community presents a unique opportunity to all of us," she also said.

She reported that this month, "we are launching a groundbreaking community-needs assessment project for the Asian American community in Southeast Michigan.

This is being done in collaboration with Wayne State University's Center for Urban Studies.

"Our hope is to learn about the education, employment, immigration/citizenship and civic participation needs of our community and use this information to not only develop a policy guide but also to inform the future work of our organization," Chang said.

She expressed enthusiasm over "our new partnership with the New American Leaders Project (NALP)."

APACC in partnership with Rehmann Robson present

Michigan's New Corporate Income Tax Seminar

Wednesday, July 13, 2011

7:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

Rehmann Robson Troy Office

5750 New King Street, Suite 200, Troy, MI

The repeal of the Michigan Business Tax (MBT) includes many changes that affect both businesses and individuals. Join us for a discussion on the new Michigan Corporation income tax (MCIT), changes being made to the Michigan individual income tax (including the tax on pension income and elimination of certain individual income credits), as well as flow-through reporting.

7:30 a.m. - 8:00 a.m. Check-in, Continental Breakfast, Networking
8:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. Presentation by Rehmann Robson's Principals

9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Q & A and Networking

Complimentary Admission - Advance Reservation Required Due to Limited Seating
Registration please call **248-844-4100**

APIA Vote dinner Asian-Americans' role in national US politics is minimal, says NALP founder

APIA Vote speaker seeks a more representative Congress
Sayu Bhojwani, founding executive director of the New American Leaders Project (NALP), said there is pride and great feeling of acceptance in knowing that Asian and Pacific Islander Americans (APIAs) are being acknowledged as integral members of the mainstream American society.

Delivering the keynote speech at APIA Vote-Michigan's first annual dinner held on June 24, 2011 at the Troy Marriott Hotel in Troy, Bhojwani said that she felt pride and joy when she attended, together with few other Asian-American leaders, a recent event in the White House that marked the observance of Asian-American Heritage Month.

The event means that APIAs are being welcomed and embraced as citizens of America, she said.

Bhojwani, who was New York City's first immigrant affairs commissioner under Mayor Michael Bloomberg, recalled past incidents in which she felt that mainstream American society does not welcome and accept immigrants from Asia.

One such incident happened to her a few days after she was appointed as New York City's immigrant affairs commissioner, said Bhojwani, who is of Indian descent and who grew up in Belize, Central America.

She recalled that on her way to City Hall aboard a subway train, another passenger accosted her and asked if she



could speak English. The euphoric sense of accomplishments and acceptance she had been feeling as a result of her City Hall appointment vanished when she realized the implication of the incident, she said.

It implied that because she belongs to a minority ethnic group, she was not fully accepted as an American, she said. "This feeling of not being accepted and welcomed sometimes interferes in our ability to participate in public affairs," she also said.

Bhojwani said that the participation of Asian Americans in the political process is still minimal, noting that there are only 10 Asian Americans who are incumbent members of the US House of Representatives. This is a very small number compared to the total number of Asian Americans all over the US, she said. "In California alone, there are almost one million Asian-American voters," she said.

She encouraged the members of the audience to go out and vote when there is election. The goal, she said, is to establish a more responsive and representative government.

Bhojwani said the NALP, which she had founded, conducts training on leadership for second-generation Asian-Americans, noting that it is the only national organization of its kind.

She was introduced by Hamtramck City Councilman Kazi Miah, who said he is one of the beneficiaries of NALP's leadership-training program. With NALP, Miah said, "you (Bhojwani) will make a lot of difference in the lives of young people."

In her speech, APiA Vote-Michigan President Stephanie Chang also praised Bhojwani for her achievements. She announced that NALP and APiA Vote-Michigan have forged a partnership that will implement a joint project.

Chang also reported APiA Vote-Michigan's various accomplishments which included a campaign that resulted

in the registration of almost 1,000 APiA voters in 2008; sending through the mail of 10,000 "Get Out and Vote" letters in 2008; holding of four voters education events; mobilization of 1,000 election-day volunteers; and participation in the conduct of the decennial census in 2010.

She likewise thanked the event's major sponsors which included Comcast, Miller Canfield, DTE Energy and Michigan Roundtable.

State Senator Hoon-Yung Hopgood, who also spoke at the event, lauded APiA Vote-Michigan for its accomplishments since it was formed in 2007. He said that the first APiA Vote-Michigan annual dinner is significant as it came in the heels of a Census Bureau report that the population of APiAs in Michigan has increased to 230,000.

Willie Dechavez and Ahmar Iqbal, co-chairpersons of the event, expressed their gratitude to those who in one way or another helped in the planning and preparations of APiA Vote Michigan's first annual dinner.

Listen, Learn, & Live (LLL) Summer Camp for Teenagers

We are looking for five primary things to partner with the communities to help our LLL Summer Camp succeed, they are:

- four (4) to five (5) Filipino teenagers (ages 12-15) who will participate in the camp;
- sponsorship of participating teens (either just communication with those participating to insure that they participate daily and/or financial assistance with their camp fees);
- a college aged person (or young leader) from the Filipino who will provide a 90 minute-to- 2 hour lecture on Filipino History, Immigration to America, and Culture;
- lunch for 35 to 50 people providing participants a "taste of the Philippines"; and perhaps a cultural

presentation (dance, etc.) to enhance verbal presentation.

Rev. Michail T. Curro, Executive Director Interfaith Center for Racial Justice (ICRJ) (586) 530-0501 (cell)
* curroicrj@sbcglobal.net

OCA receives \$25,000 grant from Comcast Foundation

WASHINGTON, D.C. - OCA, a national organization dedicated to advancing the social, political and economic well-being of Asian Pacific Americans (APAs), announced it received a \$25,000 grant from the Comcast Foundation.

The grant will be utilized in 2011 to support OCA's goals of education and leadership by funding OCA's Internship Program.

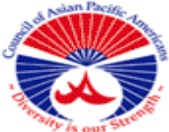
"With the generous support given by the Comcast Foundation for the 2011 Internship Program, OCA will be able to expand its ongoing programs and continue to educate, organize, and serve its constituency comprised of APAs, youth, and the communities that need the most assistance," said Ken Lee, OCA national president.

Established in 1989, the OCA Internship Program has grown into a year-round program benefiting over 20 undergraduates each year. OCA has provided internship opportunities to over 400 APA college students to learn about public policy issues that are affecting the APA community as well as leadership development tools, including networking and workforce development.

OCA interns are placed in congressional offices, federal agencies, the OCA National Center and other prominent non-profit organizations for 10 weeks.

In 2010, OCA placed 26 interns at positions that included the Speaker of the House, the Minority Business Development Agency, and the White House Initiative on Asian American and Pacific Islander. This year, OCA will be welcoming 24 students to the summer internship class.

"Comcast's commitment to diversity and to the communities we serve is an important part of our day-to-day culture.



We are very pleased to be able to partner with OCA to help deliver its mission and goals that impact the community in a positive and real way. We look forward to a year of growth for OCA and our partnership in 2011 and beyond," said Johnnie Giles, executive director of external affairs of Comcast Corporation and vice president of external affairs for Comcast Cable.

The Comcast Foundation was founded by Comcast Corp. in June 1999 to provide charitable support to qualified non-profit organizations.

The Foundation primarily invests in programs intended to have a positive, sustainable impact on the communities. It has three community investment priorities — promoting community service, expanding digital literacy and building tomorrow's leaders. Since its inception, the Comcast Foundation has donated more than \$90 million to organizations in the communities nationwide that Comcast serves.

Obama asked to use his executive power to push immigration reforms

CHICAGO – From "Yes, We Can" to "Yes, You Can."

This slogan resonated at the "Unity Rally" held last June 30 at Chicago's near southwest side as advocates had grown frustrated over the failure of the US Congress to pass the DREAM Act.

The snail-pace action on the proposed legislation prompted Jose Antonio Vargas, a Filipino Pulitzer Prize winner, to come out in the open and confess he is an undocumented immigrant.

In an interview, Congressman Luis V. Gutierrez (Dem.-IL-4th) told this reporter that Vargas is "very courageous, brave, and his story is compelling. I thank him for coming forward. He showed that in America, wherever you look, there could be a likelihood that you care for someone or worked with illegal immigrants, who are not criminals but Pulitzer Prize winners. I'm thankful for him and we owe him a great deal of gratitude."

It was noted, however, that the members of the House of Representatives, who overwhelmingly passed the DREAM Act last December, are no longer there to support it.

The proposed legislation, S. 952, would grant conditional permanent resident status to children of illegal aliens who came to the United States under 15 years old, had been in the US in the last five years, have not committed any offense under Federal or State Law punishable by maximum of more than one year or three offenses on different dates and imprisonment of 90 days or more and completed high school education or GED or joined the military for two years and honorably discharged. Douglas G. Rivlin, press secretary of Congressman Gutierrez (Dem.-IL-4th), told this reporter in an interview that of the 208 Democrats in the House who voted for the DREAM Act last December, only 198 remain. Of the eight Republicans, who favored the bill, only four remain. It needs 218 votes to get a simple majority for a legislation to pass in the House.

In the Senate, of 58 Democrats, who voted last December, 52 remain but five of them were against the DREAM Act. Supermajority votes of 60 are needed to pass a bill in the Senate without debate.

In effect, the DREAM Act that was re-introduced in the US Senate by Assistant Majority Leader Dick Durbin (Dem.-IL) last May 11 with 34 co-sponsors is now dead in the water.

Mr. Gutierrez presented two families during the rally, whose members were deported. Because he was able to make a case to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) that the families be reunited, the DHS used its discretion to let the family members return to the United States without waiting for 10 years.

It was the culmination of Gutierrez's 23-city tour during which he appealed to President Obama to "stop deporting DREAM-qualified students, stop separation of families, and reform Secure Communities" procedures.

"If the US government allowed these two families to be reunited, President Barack Obama can do these to the millions similarly situated," Gutierrez said.

He said the President has an "immense and broad power" to issue an executive order. He said 22 senators, including Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, Sen. Durbin and Sen. Patrick Leahy, chairman of the Senate judiciary committee, had written President Obama, telling him that he can stop deportation of "dreamers," by using his "prosecutorial discretion and granting them deferred action with work permits until US Congress settles the immigration issue."

Last June 22, Senator Leahy joined Senators Robert Menendez (D-NJ), Reid, Durbin, Chuck Schumer (D-NY), John Kerry (D-Mass.) and Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY) in reintroducing a comprehensive immigration reform bill aimed at addressing the broken immigration system with "tough, smart, and fair measures."

These are expected to strengthen border security, enhance worksite enforcement of immigration laws and require that the estimated 11 million undocumented immigrants present in the US register with the government, pay their taxes, learn English, pay a fine, pass a background check and wait in line for permanent resident status.

But Gutierrez reported that Rep. Lamar Smith (Rep.-TX-21st), House judiciary committee chair, is introducing a "legislation that would take away executive prerogative from President Obama on matters of immigration legislation while President Obama is in office." Gutierrez said (it) is the same (bromide) that he (President Obama) can't be president, can't be trusted, not a Christian and not qualified."



2012 SPLENDOR OF THE EAST *presents*
"TRIBUTE TO MOTHER EARTH"
(Part I of the Sequel)

A compilation of the different cultural appreciation to our environment. Performances will showcase different genre depicting the symbolic meaning of the cultural animals, fire, water, rain, flowers, plants, & many more. The show will also highlight the creation of heavens and earth in 7 days with a surprise ending that will transition to the Part II of the sequel in 2013 Theme – Crossroads.

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. God made two great lights one to rule the day (sun) and a lesser light to rule the night (moon & stars). He gathered the waters under the heaven unto one place and dry land appeared (earth). He fills the earth with vegetation and land creatures. After the entire world was prepared, He created Man and woman last. Then, God rests on the seventh day – the final day of creation.

Do not forget to check out the 2011 SOE photos!

Stay connected – subscribe to Enews

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Please visit the website: www.capa-mi.org for more information
Public Relations/Media Contact, Angela Wang at angela@capa-mi.org

Join CAPA sponsorship

Phil Chan (Fund-Raising Chairman) Email: phil@capa-mi.org



DTE Energy



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Please send us articles and/or events you would like to share.

Send email to: troy@capa-mi.org