

Proclamation

- WHEREAS, Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islanders (AA and NHPIs) Heritage Month is an annual celebration every May that recognizes the historical and current contributions of individuals and groups of Asian, Hawaiian and Pacific Islander descent within the United States. The AA and NHPI umbrella term includes communities from the entire Asian continent, including East, Southeast and South Asia, the Hawaiian Islands, and the Pacific Islands of Melanesia, Micronesia and Polynesia. As of last year, there were about 24.3 million people of Asian, Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander descent in the United States; and
- WHEREAS, the City of Vancouver recognizes the innumerable contributions, vibrant cultures, and rich histories of AA and NHPI. As some of the fastest-growing racial and ethnic groups in the Nation and Vancouver, AA and NHPI communities represent a multitude of ethnicities, languages, and experiences that enrich our community; and
- WHEREAS, On June 27, 2002, the U.S. Senate passed a resolution recognizing the 100th anniversary of Korean immigration to the United States. In accordance with the resolution, then President Bush issued a proclamation recognizing Korean Americans for their "important role in building, defending, and sustaining the United States of America;" and
- WHEREAS, Clark County men and women served in the Korean War and their names are inscribed on the Clark County Veterans Memorial in The Historic Reserve; and
- WHEREAS, the Korean Society of Vancouver was established in 1976 and throughout those years, they have been committed in providing cultural education and resources to their community, such as delivered meals for their elderly on Chuseok (Korean Thanksgiving Day), delivering food and masks to their community during the Covid Pandemic; and
- WHEREAS, the Korean-American Society of Vancouver celebrates the Korean Independence day each August 15th in Vancouver and the Independence Movement on March 1st; and
- WHEREAS, the Society also sponsors the Korean School of Vancouver to share their virtues to make this world a better place for all; and
- WHEREAS, this month we proudly celebrate the rich culture and history of Asian American, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islander heritage and history in the City of Vancouver, as we dedicate ourselves to working together to address the challenges that still face so many of our neighbors and members of the Vancouver community.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Anne McEnery-Ogle, Mayor Vancouver, Washington, do hereby proclaim May 2023 as:

Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander Heritage Month

and urge all members of our community to learn more about Korean heritage and join us in striving to make our community vibrant, safe, prosperous and inclusive for all.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and cause the seal of the City of Vancouver to be affixed this 15th day of May, 2023.

Anne McEnery-Ogle
ANNE McENERY-OGLE, MAYOR