

# 10th Asian American Festival

## 2008 Daley Center Plaza / Chicago

In Celebration of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month

Hosted by the Korean American Community / May 19-23

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, ENERI Communications  
FOR: Asian American Coalition of Chicago (AACC)/10<sup>th</sup> Annual Asian American Festival

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### MEDIA AND COMMUNITY ADVISORY

**ASIAN AMERICAN COALITION OF CHICAGO  
ANNOUNCES CELEBRITY EMCEE APPEARANCES  
HOSTS 10th ANNUAL ASIAN AMERICAN FESTIVAL 2008 AT DALEY CENTER PLAZA  
CULTURAL IMMERSION, FOOD COURT, DYNASTY MARKETPLACE, ACTIVITY TENT**

**MAY 19th – 23th 9 A.M. – 5 P.M. (RAIN OR SHINE)**

**THURSDAY, MAY 22nd CHICAGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS DAY**

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 16, 2008 (Rd3r2Corrected May 18, 2008)

### CONTACT: GENERAL INQUIRIES

c/o Korean American Association of Chicago  
(773) 878-1900

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

[asianfest08@gmail.com](mailto:asianfest08@gmail.com)

**MEDIA ONLY: ENERI Communications**

(312) 635-0888 or [info@enericom.net](mailto:info@enericom.net)

**SCHEDULE POSTED: [www.enericom.net/blog](http://www.enericom.net/blog)**

CHICAGO, IL - - Final plans are busily underway for the 10th Annual Asian American Festival 2008, presented by the Asian American Coalition of Chicago and proudly hosted this year by Chicago's Korean American Community. In celebration of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month during the month of May, **The Asian American Festival takes place Monday through Friday, May 19 – 23, 2008 from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. at Daley Center Plaza, at Clark and Washington Streets in downtown Chicago's Loop.**

The Asian American Festival **VIP Ribbon-Cutting** is scheduled for **Monday, May 19, 2008 at 11:30 a.m.** Cultural performances take place on-stage over the lunch hour beginning at **12 Noon** each day, except for **Thursday, May 22, 2008**, Chicago Public Schools Day, when there is an extended performance time of **10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.**

(MORE)



### Asian American Coalition of Chicago

5941 N. Lincoln Ave., Chicago, IL 60659 tel: 773-878-1900 fax: 773-878-9075  
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- - ADD ONE

10th ANNUAL ASIAN AMERICAN FESTIVAL MAY 19 - 23, 2008/ENERI (312) 635-0888

Students from 13 Chicago Public Schools will perform song and dance. (See Exhibit "A" for participant list.)

Themed "Cultural Thread Woven into the Fabric of a United Future," this year's festival is free and open to the public and is expected to attract thousands of people each day. The weeklong celebration will feature Cultural Immersion Performances, a Food Court, a Dynasty Marketplace, an Activity Tent, 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.

The Asian American Festival celebrates approximately 17 different cultures. Over the years, the Coalition has included representatives of the Bangladeshi, Burmese, Cambodian, Chinese, Korean, Filipino, Indian, Indonesia, Japanese, Korean, Laotian, Malaysian, Nepalese, Pakistani, Sri Lankan, Thai and Vietnamese communities. Every year a different Asian community takes turn playing host of the Festival and of the Coalition's Lunar New Year Celebration. This year it is the Korean American Community, who is hosting the Asian American Festival for the second time.

*"It is with the utmost honor and privilege that we welcome everyone to visit the 10th Annual Asian American Festival: "Cultural Thread Woven into the Fabric of a United Future," said Kay (KiHwa) Rho, 2008 Festival Chair." In commemoration of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, this event is an opportunity to highlight the deep tradition and legacy each ethnic community brings. Yet, as we live in an age of globalization, there is an inevitable convergence of history, language and culture. It is the goal for this year's Festival to celebrate our past and move towards a united future," said Rho.*

For the latest schedule information, please visit the website [www.aacchicago.org](http://www.aacchicago.org) or [www.enericom.net/blog](http://www.enericom.net/blog).

The following popular celebrity major media broadcast personalities are scheduled to appear as emcees at the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Asian American Festival:

- \* **Ravi Baichwal**, Weekend Anchor/Reporter, ABC 7 Chicago TV News;
- \* **Ellee Pai Hong**, Weekend Morning Anchor, NBC 5 Chicago TV News;
- \* **Jan Jeffcoat**, Morning Anchor/Reporter, FOX Chicago TV News,
- \* **Joanie Lum**, Reporter, CBS 2 Chicago TV News;
- \* **Mai Martinez**, Weekend Anchor/Reporter, CBS 2 Chicago TV News;
- \* **Judy Wang**, Weekend Morning Anchor/Reporter, CLTV News; and
- \* **Linda Yu**, 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. Anchor/Reporter, ABC 7 Chicago TV News

(MORE)



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- - ADD TWO

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Also appearing as emcees will be:

- \* **Lily Kim**, Journalist and Media Personality; Producer and Host, Fishbowl Media Chicago Productions;
- \* **Cynthia Jeon**, Chair, Asian American Festival Volunteer Committee;
- \* **Elanor A. Kish**, Freelance Artist; and
- \* **Shana Siap**, Performing Artist

As always, the Festival has offered an array of top-notch food, merchandise, and cultural performances. The Festival will also host a "hands-on" activity tent. It will also showcase workshops, which includes Korean calligraphy, Thai fruit carving, and Indian turban-tying.

The Korean Society has helped bring in to the Festival the "Advertising a Dream: Movie Posters from Post-War Korea" exhibition and the Chicago Children's Museum is bringing, "Illuminations!: Paper Lanterns." Students in attendance for Thursday's Chicago Public School Day are in for a real treat!

### FESTIVAL FOOD COURT

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

1. **Amarit (Thai)**, Chicago, Illinois
2. **Lai Lai Korean Restaurant**, Chicago, Illinois
3. **Manee Thai**, Chicago, Illinois
4. **Quang Noodle (Vietnamese)**, Chicago, Illinois
5. **Star of Siam (Thai)**, Chicago, Illinois
6. **The Little India Restaurant**, Chicago, Illinois

### DYNASTY MARKETPLACE

Festival attendees are advised to be sure to bring their money to take advantage of the Merchandise 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, and much more!

The following 18 Merchandise Vendors will be featured at the 2008 Asian American Festival in the Dynasty Marketplace:

1. **Amber Treasures**, Prospect Heights, Illinois

(MORE)



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2. **Annapurna Treasures**, St. Paul, Minnesota
3. **Black Thai Inc.**, Chicago, Illinois
4. **Carol Akiyama**, Chicago, Illinois
5. **Danish Fashions**, Bolingbrook, Illinois
6. **Designs by Gina**, Chicago, Illinois
7. **Dress Magic**, Lakeland, Florida
8. **EKA Marchese**, Miami Beach, Florida
9. **Ella Jewelry**, Chicago, Illinois
10. **Fashion House**, Chicago, Illinois
11. **Happy Sister**, Hoffman Estates, Illinois
12. **Kit Enterprises**, Oak Park, Illinois
13. **Makomo Ltd.**, Chicago, Illinois
14. **Natural Wonders**, Glenview, Illinois
15. **Paper Origin**, Chicago, Illinois
16. **Solola**, Chicago, Illinois
17. **Temple Bell**, Chicago, Illinois
18. **VW Too Cute**, Chicago, Illinois

The Asian American Coalition of Chicago is pleased to announce the following program lineup for the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Asian American Festival (rain or shine) at Daley Center Plaza:

*(All ending times shown are approximate.)*

**10th ANNUAL ASIAN AMERICAN FESTIVAL PROGRAM SCHEDULE** *(As of 5/18/08 a.m.)*

**MONDAY, MAY 19, 2008, 11 A.M. – 1:15 P.M.**

**VIP RIBBON-CUTTING AT 11:30 A.M.**

**EMCEES: Jan Jeffcoat, Morning Anchor/Reporter, FOX Chicago TV News and Judy Wang, Anchor/Reporter, CLTV News**

11:10 – 11:30 Pre-Opening Samul-Nori/Sunban (Korean Drumming) – ULSSU (University of Wisconsin-Madison)

11:30 Ribbon-Cutting

11:45 National Anthem - Jennifer Hwang and the Korean American Women's Association Choir

12:00 Welcome Address - Kay (KiHwa) Rho, Charlie Jung, Honorary Chair, Chair 2008 Asian American Festival

12:10 Introduction of VIP's

12:30 Tae Kwon Do Demonstration - Bally Total Martial Arts

(MORE)



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12:40 Tinikling (Bamboo Dance) – Samahang Kapatid, Filipino American Community

12:50 Han Ma Dang; Artistic Collaboration - Chicago Korean Music Ensemble,  
Keun Seu Park (Live Traditional Korean Painting Demonstration), Jennifer Hwang, Korean  
American Women's Association Choir

**TUESDAY, MAY 20, 2008, 12 NOON – 1:30 P.M.**

**EMCEES: Ellee Pai Hong, Weekend Anchor, NBC5 Chicago TV News (12 NOON – 1 P.M.)  
and Cynthia Jeon, Chair, Asian American Festival Volunteer Committee (1 P.M. – 1:30 P.M.)**

12:00 Korean Traditional Dance – Choom Sarang Traditional Dance Group

12:20 “Bhangra” Punjabi Folk Dance from India - “Balle Bhangra Group” (University of Chicago)  
Presented by Punjabi Cultural Society of Chicago

12:40 Indonesian Traditional Moderns

1:00 – 1:30 Pakistani Fashion Show - Pakistani Arts Council

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 21, 2008, 12 NOON – 1 P.M.**

**EMCEES: Mai Martinez, Weekend Anchor/Reporter, CBS2 Chicago TV News and Shana Siap,  
Performing Artist**

12:00 Shaolin Kung Fu – Chinese American Community (*Listing corrected from prior version*)

12:15 Lion Dancing – St. Therese Chinese Catholic School (*Listing corrected from prior version*)

12:30 Solo Dance from India – Shamila Khetarpal of “Sargam Group” by Punjabi Cultural Society of  
Chicago

12:45 Belly Dancing – Marci (till 1 P.M.)

**THURSDAY, MAY 22, 2008, 10:30 A.M. – 1:30 P.M.**

**EMCEES: Linda Yu, 11 A.M. and 4 P.M. Anchor, ABC7 Chicago TV News; Joanie Lum, Reporter,  
CBS2 Chicago TV News; and Shana Siap, Performing Artist**

10:30 – 1:30 Chicago Public Schools Day – 13 Chicago Public Schools

**FRIDAY, MAY 23, 2008, 12 NOON – 1:15 P.M.**

**EMCEES: Ravi Baichwal, Weekend Anchor/Reporter, ABC7 Chicago TV News; Lily Kim, Journalist  
and Media Personality; Producer and Host, Fishbowl Media Chicago Productions; and Elanor A.  
Kish, Freelance Artist**

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- - ADD FIVE

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### FRIDAY, MAY 23, 2008, 12 NOON – 1:15 P.M.

12:00 Korean Traditional Dance – Choom Sarang Traditional Dance Group

12:20 Thai American Community

12:30 “UIC BHANGRA” dance from India by Punjabi Cultural Society of Chicago (University of Illinois at Chicago)

12:45 – 1:00 JASC Tsukasa Taiko; Japanese Drumming Ensemble - JASC Tsukasa Taiko

1:00 Turn-Over Ceremony, Korean American to Filipino American Community

### WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

#### MONDAY, MAY 19, 2008

9:00 – 11:00 Artist Workshop by Fred DeAsis, Filipino American Community

1:00 – 3:00 Korean Calligraphy and Painting – Mook Mee Hoi

#### TUESDAY, MAY 20, 2008

1:00 – 3:00 Japanese Origami – Japanese American Community

1:00 – 3:00 Thai Fruit Carving – Thai American Association of Illinois

#### WEDNESDAY, MAY 21, 2008

1:00 – 3:00 Sports Dance – Marci

#### THURSDAY, MAY 22, 2008

10:00 – 2:00 “Illuminations!: Paper Lanterns” - Chicago Children’s Museum Staff

*Different Asian cultures decorate and use lanterns in different ways. Decorate and design your own paper lantern. Watch how light interacts with your creation. How will you use your lantern?*

#### FRIDAY, MAY 23, 2008

1:00 – 3:00 Indian/Sikh Turban-Typing Demonstration – Punjabi Cultural Society of Chicago

#### MONDAY, MAY 19, 2008 – FRIDAY, MAY 23, 2008 DAILY

1:00 – 3:00 Henna Tattoo – Pakistani American Community

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### EVENT SPONSORS

This year’s program is generously underwritten by corporate sponsors American Family Insurance,

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- - ADD SIX

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Korean Air, LG Electronics USA, Inc. and Foster Bank; and major sponsor, Korea Tourism Organization.

**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 (312) 878-1900 or [asianfest08@gmail.com](mailto:asianfest08@gmail.com). Media is invited to cover. Media requests should be directed to ENERI Communications at [info@enericom.net](mailto:info@enericom.net) or (312) 635-0888.

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**2008 10th Annual Asian American Festival of Chicago**

**List of (13) Participating Chicago Public Schools - CPS DAY – THURSDAY, MAY 22, 2008**

Sylvia Acierto, CPS Dept. of Language and Culture

Dr. Evelyn de Asis Natividad, Chair, Asian American Festival Chicago Public Schools Day

1. Albany Park Multicultural Academy
2. Alcott Elementary School, Louisa May
3. Burr Elementary, Jonathan
4. Clinton, DeWitt
5. Healy Elementary, Robert
6. Mather High School, Stephen T.
7. McCormick, Cyrus H.
8. Northside College Prep High School
9. Oriole Park Elementary
10. Roosevelt High School, Theodore
11. Sabin Magnet, Albert R.
12. Volta, Alessandro
13. Von Steuben Metro Science Center

(MORE)



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**- - ADD SEVEN**

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**10<sup>th</sup> Annual Asian American Festival**  
**Sponsors, Organizations, Businesses, and Individual Resources**

**American Insurance Family**

Chicago Children's Museum

Chinese American Community

City of Chicago, Mayor's Office of Special Events

Foster Bank

Fred L. Martin

Gene Lee, City of Chicago Mayor's Office

Korean Air

Korean American Women's Association of Chicago

Korean Consulate General, Office in Chicago

Korea Tourism Organization

LG Electronics USA, Inc.

Punjabi Cultural Society

Royal Thai Consulate General of Chicago

Thai Association of Illinois

**2008 ASIAN AMERICAN COALITION OF CHICAGO**

**10th ANNUAL ASIAN AMERICAN FESTIVAL**

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**MEDIA CONTACT**

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**FOR: 2008 Asian American Coalition of Chicago**

**10<sup>th</sup> Annual Asian American Festival Planning Committee**

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