



County Commissioners of Charles County

PROCLAMATION 2023-34

National Asian Pacific Heritage Month

WHEREAS, Asian Pacific Heritage observance began in 1977 as Pacific/Asian Heritage Week and was expanded by Congress to the entire month of May in 1992; and

WHEREAS, the month of May was chosen to commemorate the immigration of the first Japanese to the United States on May 7, 1843, and to mark the anniversary of the completion of the transcontinental railroad on May 10, 1869; and

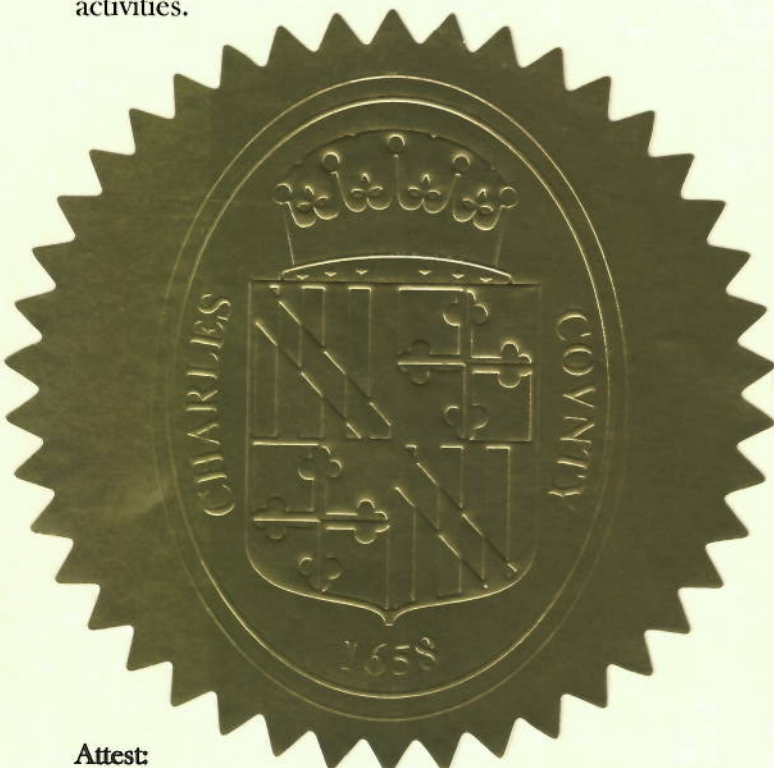
WHEREAS, Asian/Pacific encompasses all of the Asian continent and the Pacific islands of Melanesia (New Guinea, New Caledonia, Vanuatu, Fiji, and the Solomon Islands), Micronesia (Marianas, Guam, Wake Island, Palau, Marshall Islands, Kiribati, Nauru and the Federated States of Micronesia) and Polynesia (New Zealand, Hawaiian Islands, Rotuma, Midway Islands, Samoa, American Samoa, Tonga, Tuvalu, Cook Islands, French Polynesia, and Easter Island); and

WHEREAS, an estimated 22.9 million residents in the United States identify as Asian Pacific; and

WHEREAS, we celebrate the contributions of Asian Pacific culture and languages in our Charles County community and nationwide; and

WHEREAS, we continue to look for opportunities to fight against discrimination and exclusion experienced by cultural groups and cultivate a shared understanding of respect for diversity and focus on equity and inclusion and embrace this year's theme, "Advancing Leaders Through Collaboration."

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim May 2023 as **Asian Pacific American Heritage Month** in Charles County and encourage all residents to observe this month with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.



Attest:

Carol A. DeSoto, Clerk to the Commissioners

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND

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