



Under the Microscope

Magnifying Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Efforts in BE



What is AAPI Heritage Month?

With violence against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPI) on the rise, it's more important than ever to recognize the contributions and struggles of the AAPI members of our community this month. We thank all of you for helping make our AAPI members feel welcome and safe in this difficult year.

A bit of history... AAPI Heritage Month (officially Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month) began as just a single week in 1979, from May 4 to 10. It wasn't until 1992 that Congress permanently established the full month of May as AAPI Heritage Month, to honor the fact that they have "contributed significantly to the arts, sciences, government, military, commerce, and education in the United States".

How can I get involved? MIT is hosting two events this month for AAPI employees and allies of the AAPI community. These events are organized by MIT's Employee Resource Groups and Human Resources Center for WorkLife and WellBeing.

- **May 12, 2021 from 12:00 - 1:30pm: Coping as an Asian Pacific American.** This event is intended for MIT AAPI employees to discuss their unique experiences with systemic racism. Learn more and register [HERE](#).
- **May 26, 2021 from 12:00 - 1:30pm: Allying with the Asian Pacific American Community.** This event is intended for both MIT AAPI employees and allies of the AAPI community to provide cultural context and guidance about supporting our AAPI colleagues. Learn more and register [HERE](#).

How can I find out more? Interested in learning about AAPI history in the United States? Start your research with this list of AAPI-related scholars and terms, compiled by BE graduate students Elizabeth Choe and Ellen Kan!

- **Scholars:** Mari Matsuda, Bianca Mabute-Louie, Nadia Y. Kim, Michelle Kim (Awaken), Mary Lui
- **Terms:** Anti-Asian American history, Japanese internment camps, Chinese Exclusion Act, The Page Act, Myth of the Model Minority, Asian immigrant women militarism, anti-Asian white supremacy, Asian American Black solidarity history, Asian internalized racism, Asian American women fetishization (or docility, exploitation, misogyny), Yellow Peril, anti-Asian violence (Tacoma riot of 1885, Rock Springs massacre, Pacific Coast race riots of 1907), Asian American citizenship (*Ozawa v. United States*, *United States v. Bhagat Singh Thind*)

Upcoming Events

- May 12th **Coping as an Asian Pacific American**
12:00pm [RSVP here](#)
- May 13th **Shifting Higher Education: Creating Inclusive Spaces in Elite Institutions**
12:30pm [RSVP here](#)
- May 13th **BGSA Campus Advocacy: What Makes a DEI Strategic Plan Meaningful and How Can We Make Our Campus Feel Holistically Safer For All?**
2:00pm [JOIN here](#)
- May 18th **Out In Industry: Panel on LGBTQ+ Industry Experiences and Allyship**
4:30pm [JOIN here](#) (password: LGBTQ)
- May 26th **Allying with the Asian Pacific American Community**
12:00pm [RSVP here](#)

Contact Us

Feedback? Upcoming events? Want to get involved?

Get in touch at: be-dei-comms@mit.edu

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