

COLUMBIA HEIGHTS

PROCLAMATION

Asian and Pacific Islander Minnesotan Heritage Month: May 2026

The month of May was chosen by Congress to commemorate the arrival of the first Japanese immigrant to the United States on May 7, 1843. In Minnesota, the first Asian person noted on record came to Duluth, Minnesota, in 1875.

Asian and Pacific Islander Minnesotans continue to make Minnesota home, with more than 300,000 Asian and Pacific Islander Minnesotans representing over 40 different nationalities, making this the fastest-growing community in the state.

The Asian and Pacific Islander Minnesotan community's long and deeply rooted legacy reminds us of both proud and painful chapters of our history.

We honor the irreplaceable roles Asian and Pacific Islander Minnesotans have played in our past, including the rich diversity they brought to the state through waves of migration. We celebrate the valuable contributions of generations of immigrants and refugees who have left an indelible mark on the State of Minnesota's economy, culture, and communities. We also recommit to ensuring opportunities exist for generations of Asian and Pacific Islander Minnesotans to come.

We celebrate Asian and Pacific Islander Minnesotan Heritage Month to ensure that the cultures, histories, and stories of this community are seen, heard, and honored.

I, Amáda Márquez Simula, Mayor of Columbia Heights, do hereby proclaim the month of **May 2026 to be Asian and Pacific Islander Heritage Month** in the City of Columbia Heights, County of Anoka, State of Minnesota, U.S.A.

Amáda Márquez Simula, Mayor
May 26, 2026