



City of Mercer Island, Washington *Proclamation*

WHEREAS, More than 24 million Americans proudly identify themselves to be of Asian, Native Hawaiian, and/or other Pacific Island heritage.

Asian and Pacific Island Americans have lived and worked in Washington State for over 160 years and have played a part in the rich cultural heritage of this state. The diverse Asian Pacific American population in Washington State numbers more than 674,000 and is representative of more than eleven Asian and seven Pacific Island nations.

Approximately 22.2% of Mercer Island's population is comprised of Asian or Pacific Islanders

Asian Pacific American Heritage Month acknowledges and celebrates the contributions made by Asian Pacific American in the arts, education, and sciences and to our state's economic, social, and democratic institutions.

Asian Pacific American Heritage Month provides the opportunity to educate the public on the Asian Pacific role in American history and is a time to celebrate the advancement of civil rights and equal opportunity for all people of this state.

The 2024 Asian Pacific American Heritage Month theme is *Advancing Leaders Through Innovation* and pays homage to the visionaries and trailblazers who have shaped Asian Pacific American history and continue to influence the collective future, through Innovation, resilience, and pioneering spirit.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Salim Nice, Mayor of the City of Mercer Island, do hereby proclaim May 2024 as

Asian Pacific American Heritage Month

on Mercer Island and encourage all to celebrate the many contributions of Asians and Pacific Islanders to our community.

APPROVED, this 21st day of May 2024.

Mayor Salim Nice

Proclamation No. 333