

COUNTY OF SUFFOLK



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Steven Bellone

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Dr. Jim Yih-Jin Young
Chairman
Asian American Advisory Board

Rev. Roderick A. Pearson
Executive Director
Office of Minority Affairs

May 9, 2015

Dear Friends,

It is my pleasure and honor to welcome all of you to attend today's Seventh Annual Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month Celebration (AAPIHMC). This is the seventh year that the Suffolk County Executive's Asian American Advisory Board is hosting this most meaningful annual celebration for Asian Pacific Americans at Charles B. Wang Center, Stony Brook University.

Each May, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders across the United States celebrate the Heritage Month to remember our immigration history to this country and to cherish our rich traditions. It is also a time to recognize the outstanding contributions of the Asian Pacific Americans to America.

I am honored to co-chair this year's Suffolk County Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month Celebration Committee. Our Committee Chair, Mr. Zillur Rahman, has spent countless hours in making today's celebration a successful one. I thank him for his altruistic contribution to the Board. In addition, all committee members worked extremely hard over the past few months to put today's program together. I thank each member for his/her dedication and contribution.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our County Executive Steve Bellone for forming this Board. Furthermore, I extend my deepest appreciation to Rev. Roderick Pearson for his unconditional support of AAAB in all its functions. I am also indebted to our Emeritus Chair, Mr. Ramon Villongco, for his continued support, leadership and vision for the Board.

I hope this year's celebration will enrich your understanding and appreciation of the diverse Asian Pacific traditions. I look forward to seeing you next May and at our other AAAB-sponsored programs.

Let's celebrate our heritage and enjoy the diversity of cultures in America.

Sincerely yours,

Jim Young, Chairperson

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