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Contact: Susan Lendroth
slendroth@lapl.org

**Los Angeles Public Library's AAPI Joy Festival Celebrates
Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month
*Central Library Hosts Free Public Event Saturday, May 17***

LOS ANGELES (May 14, 2024)—The Los Angeles Public Library will host AAPI Joy: Narratives, Storytelling, and History this Saturday, May 17, a free festival to celebrate Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage Month. The event will run 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. at Central Library, 630 W. Fifth St. in downtown Los Angeles.

AAPI Joy celebrates the diversity of Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander communities in Los Angeles. Numerous performances, workshops, crafts and presentations will explore the City's vibrant AAPI heritage, helping forge a shared future of acceptance, cooperation, and inspiration within the city.

"With AAPI Joy: Narratives, Storytelling, and History, Los Angeles Public Library will once again serve as a community hub to celebrate our city's cultural heritage," said City Librarian John F. Szabo. "Our AAPI Joy Festival will draw Angelenos from across the city, welcoming them to a joyous, creative gathering for all ages."

Highlights will include Japanese and Korean drumming; Hmong, Indian, and Cambodian dance performances; pineapple pastry and pickling demonstrations; an outdoors New Wave dance party; author talks; storytelling; and more.

"The Library has a longstanding commitment to honor the cultural contributions of our city's diverse communities, and we are delighted to host our annual AAPI Joy festival to mark Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month," said Valerie Lynne Shaw, President of the Board of Library Commissioners.

The Library Foundation of Los Angeles and Hyundai have contributed support for Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month programming.

For more information about AAPI Joy: Narratives, Storytelling, and History, visit the Los Angeles Public Library website at lapl.org/aapi-joy.

A recipient of the nation's highest honor for library service—the National Medal from the Institute of Museum and Library Services, the Los Angeles Public Library serves the largest and most diverse urban population of any library in the nation. Its Central Library, 72 branch libraries, collection of more than eight million books, state-of-the-art technology accessible at lapl.org and thousands of public programs provide everyone with free and easy access to information and the opportunity for lifelong learning.

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