



STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

# Proclamation

WHEREAS, New Jersey takes great pride in its rich ethnic diversity and recognizes the more than 725,000 Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders that call our State home; and

WHEREAS, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders encompass all the ethnic groups of the Asian continent as well as the Pacific islands of Melanesia, Micronesia and Polynesia; and

WHEREAS, since the first large-scale immigration of Asians into the United States in the mid-19th century, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have played a significant role in the development of American culture and society into what it is today; and

WHEREAS, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have demonstrated remarkable achievements in all professions and have made vital and lasting contributions to the cultural, political and economic fabric of our State and Nation; and

WHEREAS, May holds particular significance in that it is the month that the first Japanese immigrants arrived in the United States in 1843, and the month that the Central Pacific Railroad, a portion of the First Transcontinental Railroad that was primarily constructed by Chinese immigrants, was completed in 1869; and

WHEREAS, this month-long observance will feature many events, activities and exhibits throughout New Jersey that highlight and celebrate the many ways that Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have shaped our past and how they continue to influence our lives daily;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, CHRIS CHRISTIE, Governor of the State of New Jersey, do hereby proclaim:

**MAY 2011**

AS

**ASIAN AMERICAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER  
HERITAGE MONTH**

in New Jersey.



GIVEN, under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of New Jersey, this sixth day of May in the year two thousand eleven, the two hundred thirty-fifth year of the Independence of the United States.

Lt. GOVERNOR

GOVERNOR