

# Press Release



## Contact Info:

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## **RE: Celebration of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month (APAHM), May, 2011**

For most citizens, it is easy to know that February is Black History Month, and March is Women's History Month. What about May? Very few people know that May is Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. Asian Pacific American Heritage Month (APAHM) is celebrated in May to commemorate the contributions of people of Asian and Pacific Islander descent in the United States. APAHM was approved by the USA Congress and signed by President Bush into law in 1992 because "the month of May was chosen to commemorate the immigration of the first Japanese to the United States on May 7, 1843, and to mark the anniversary of the completion of the transcontinental railroad on May 10, 1869. The majority of the workers who laid the tracks were Chinese immigrants." (<http://asianpacificheritage.gov/about.html>)

**To celebrate Asian American Heritage Month this May, the Honorable United States Congresswoman Judy Chu** (California's 32<sup>nd</sup> District) **has been invited to speak** on May 28 at 7:30pm in the Little Theater in the Toledo Museum of Art (2445 Monroe St. Toledo, OH 43620 (419) 255-8000, [www.toledomuseum.org](http://www.toledomuseum.org)). Dr. Judy Chu is one of the very few Asian American women now in the United States Congress and is the first Chinese American woman elected to the United States Congress. She will talk about empowering Asian American communities, current issues and future directions.

This event is free and open to the public. Dr. Chu's talk is sponsored by the 80-20 NW Ohio Chapter of Asian Americans that also works with other Asian American organizations, including Asian Indian Americans, Chinese Americans, Filipino Americans, Korean Americans, Japanese Americans, and Southeast Asian Americans. 80-20 NW Ohio Chapter of Asian Americans is part of the national 80-20 organization (<http://www.80-20initiative.net/>) dedicated to advocating for equal opportunities, social justice and civil rights for all APAs at the local and state level (<http://www.80-20initiative.net/about/chapters.asp>).