



PROCLAMATION
ASIAN AMERICANS AND PACIFIC ISLANDERS HERITAGE MONTH
MAY 1, 2023-MAY 31, 2023

WHEREAS, Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage Month is observed during May to recognize the contributions and influence of AAPI persons as part of the whole history, culture, and achievements of the United States; and,

WHEREAS, AAPI Heritage in the United States was celebrated at least as early as 1978 and was made into a month-long event in 1992. ***Advancing Leaders Through Opportunity*** is the theme for 2023; and,

WHEREAS, Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders make our community more vibrant through the diversity of cultures, languages, and religions. There is no single story of the AANHPI experience, but rather a diversity of contributions that enrich America's culture and society and strengthen the United States' role as a global leader. The American story as we know it would be impossible without the strength, contributions, and legacies of AANHPIs who have helped build and unite this country in each successive generation. From laying railroad tracks, tilling fields, and starting businesses, to caring for our loved ones and honorably serving our Nation in uniform, AANHPI communities are deeply rooted in the history of the United States, and,

WHEREAS, We also celebrate and honor the invaluable contributions the AANHPI communities have made to our Nation's culture and the arts, law, science and technology, sports, and public service—including the courageous AANHPIs who have served on the front lines of the *COVID-19* pandemic as health care providers, first responders, teachers, and other essential workers; and,

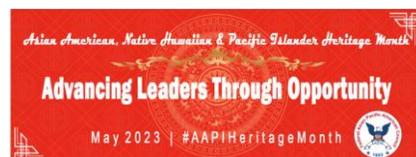
WHEREAS, we celebrate the achievements and contributions of AAPI that enrich our history, society, and culture, we must also acknowledge a darker aspect of the AAPI experience in America —including *painful stereotypes, structural discrimination, injustices, and periods of hate and violence*. These actions come at the cost of the mental health of the AAPI community and distort the larger community's ability to recognize the humanity in us all.

Now, Therefore, I, *Rocio Treminio-Lopez*, Mayor of The Town of Brentwood, MD, along with the Town Council formally designate May 2023, as **ASIAN AMERICANS AND PACIFIC ISLANDERS HERITAGE MONTH** in the Town of Brentwood, MD.

ATTEST:

Rocio Treminio-Lopez, Mayor

Giselle Richards, Town Clerk



Monday, May 1, 2023