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### National Museum of Asian Pacific American History and Culture Act Signed by President



On June 13, 2022, the President signed Congresswoman **Grace Meng's** [H.R. 3525](#), the “Commission To Study the Potential Creation of a National Museum of Asian Pacific American History and Culture Act,” into law. The newly enacted legislation will establish a commission to study the potential creation of a National Museum of Asian Pacific American History and Culture in Washington, DC, and comes amid increased calls to ensure that AA and NHPI history is taught as a means to combat anti-Asian hate and promote greater inclusion and belonging of Asian American (AA), Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander (NHPI) communities. The White House released [these remarks](#) by President Biden and Vice President Harris at the signing of the bill.

According to [NBC News](#), the law creates the Commission to Study the Potential Creation of a National Museum of Asian Pacific American History and Culture, which will research and submit a plan that would establish a museum dedicated to the community in Washington, D.C. The commission will be made up of eight people with backgrounds in museum planning or Asian Pacific American history and culture. They would help develop plans to fundraise and acquire general information before submitting a plan to Congress to move forward with the museum.

According to [CNN](#), “[Asian American history] is also American history,” Vice President **Kamala Harris** said. “And we must teach it as it really happened so that we can learn from our best moments and learn from our darkest moments.” “We must teach it as it really happened ... so that we can fight ignorance, dispel misinformation, and work toward a future where all people can live without fear,” she said.

Despite the President signing the bill into law, it will likely be years before a national museum of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders opens for visitors. Congress approved a plan to establish the National Museum of African American History and Culture in 2003, but it was not until 2016 that the museum opened its doors to the public.

APA Justice is tracking the teaching of Asian American history at the state level here: <https://bit.ly/3tAcxiB>

## We Miss You, Norm, as He Returns to San Jose One Last Time



"I did not see 'You were not a hero' for one week on Point Milla. They're a lot of people who are missing."

*John Cunningham, former Governor of California*  
 (AP/Wide World)

"Norm Mineta is a whole life to him in extraordinary ways. In his 20th Anniversary of the 9/11 attacks, he gave the 10th anniversary of the September 11 attacks in a way that was so powerful."

*President George W. Bush*  
 (AP/Wide World)

"Norm made me understand that he was a really kind of a different kind of person, an extraordinary person, and he was a champion of innovation and public service."

*President Bill Clinton*  
 (AP/Wide World)

"Throughout his long and distinguished public service, Norm was a role model for us all. He was a man of integrity, a man of courage, and a man of faith. He was a man who was always there for us, and he was a man who was always there for us."

*President George W. Bush*  
 (AP/Wide World)

"Norm was a remarkable man of character, a man of integrity, and a man of faith. He was a man who was always there for us, and he was a man who was always there for us."

*President George W. Bush*  
 (AP/Wide World)

"He did not just live his life, he lived it with a purpose, a purpose of serving others. He was a man of integrity, a man of courage, and a man of faith. He was a man who was always there for us, and he was a man who was always there for us."

*President George W. Bush*  
 (AP/Wide World)

"Norm was a man of integrity, a man of courage, and a man of faith. He was a man who was always there for us, and he was a man who was always there for us."

*President George W. Bush*  
 (AP/Wide World)

**Norman Y. Mineta**  
*A Life Well Lived*



November 12, 1935 - July 3, 2022  
 Born: 11, 1935 \* 1935 in San Jose, California  
 \*Norman Y. Mineta Collection, U.S. House of Representatives  
 \*Washington, D.C.

An over-capacity crowd paid "A Life Well Lived" tribute and said goodbye to former Secretary of both Commerce and Transportation Norman Yoshio Mineta on June 11, 2022, at the National United Methodist Church in Washington DC. Norm passed away on May 3, 2022, at the age of 90. He is survived by his wife Deni and four sons.

Five out of six living presidents wrote tributes on Norm:

- **Joe Biden.** “Beyond his remarkable lifetime of accomplishments, I will remember Norm for his steadfast commitment to a belief he held dear: that America can accomplish anything when we come together.”
- **Barrack Obama.** “Norm experienced firsthand one of the most shameful betrayals of constitutional values in our country’s history: the internment of Japanese Americans. Yet he went on to become one of our nation’s most distinguished public servants and fiercest defenders of civil liberties.”
- **George W. Bush.** “Norm Mineta’s whole life has been an extraordinary journey... He has given his country a lifetime of service and he’s given his fellow citizens an example of leadership, devotion to duty, and personal character.”
- **Bill Clinton.** “Norm made our union more perfect. He was a staunch defender of civil liberties and civil rights, an important voice for science and technology, and a champion of infrastructure and public transit.”
- **Jimmy Carter.** “My faith has taught me that, ‘I have one life and one chance to make it count for something ... ‘Norm Mineta lived by the same creed, and we have all benefited from his leadership, ideas, dedication, courage, and friendship.”

Former Michigan Governor **James J. Blanchard**, community leader **Karen Narasaki**, U.S. Coast Guard Admiral **James M. Loy** (Ret), House Speaker **Nancy Pelosi**, and former U.S. Senator **Alan K. Simpson** gave personal remembrances. Norm's four sons gave the family reflections.

The services were live-streamed here: <https://bit.ly/3NQeZcF> (2:29:52)

Norm's ashes will return to San Jose, California, where he was born and served as mayor from 1971 to 1975.

On Wednesday, June 15, 2022, accompanied by his wife, Deni, and members of the family, Secretary Mineta’s remains will be carried by a Coast Guard Admiral aboard a commercial flight arriving at the Norman Y. Mineta International Airport at approximately 11:30AM PDT. There they will be met by an honor guard and proceed by motorcade to San Jose City Hall.

The motorcade route will include brief stops of honor and remembrance in San Jose’s historic Japan Town. Stops will include the San Jose Buddhist Church Betsuin, the Mineta family home, and across from Wesley Methodist Church, where Rev Keith Inouye, the choir and congregation will honor Norm and his family with their presence. The next stop will be at the railroad tracks, where the Minetas and hundreds of other San Jose residents of Japanese ancestry were forced, at gun point, onto trains taking them to prison camps early in World War II.

The motorcade will end at San Jose City Hall, where Norm’s remains will again be entrusted to a Coast Guard Honor Guard and taken into the Rotunda, there they will Rest in Honor, believed to be the first such ceremony in the city’s history. Read more: <https://bit.ly/3MOKG9E>

A public ceremony honoring Norman Y. Mineta will be held in San Jose on Thursday, June 16, 2022, at the San Jose Civic auditorium at 10:30AM. [RSVP HERE](#) for San Jose.

A celebration of the life of Board of Trustees Chair Norman Y. Mineta will be held by the Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles, CA on Saturday, June 25, 2022, at

10:30am. The public is welcome to join in person or via livestream. [RSVP HERE](#) for Los Angeles

**White House Tribute.** On May 6, President **Joe Biden** paid tribute to the late Secretary Mineta and signed a bill to name the U.S. Department of Transportation Headquarters Building in his honor. The President and Vice President Harris also spoke about Secretary Mineta's impact during a White House AA and NHPI Heritage Month reception on May 17, while the White House Initiative on AANHPI and the White House Office of Public Engagement honored him with a special tribute video that can be viewed here: <https://bit.ly/3zBFU7y> (2:15:10)

## Catching Up with the News

**Nature.** On May 30, 2022, *Nature* published "The number of researchers with dual US–China affiliations is falling." The decline might be another sign of politics affecting cross-country scientific collaborations. According to the report, the number of scholars who declare affiliations in both China and the United States on research papers has dropped by more than 20% over the past 3 years, an analysis conducted for *Nature* has found. That slump seems to be part of a pattern of waning US–China collaboration that is starting to show up in research databases. The number of papers that were collaborations between authors in the United States and China — the world's two largest research producers — also fell for the first time last year. Read more: <https://go.nature.com/3Ho5ajS>

**National Committee on U.S.-China Relations.** In an interview conducted on April 13, 2022, Professor **Gang Chen** talks about his case and his reaction to the end of the China Initiative, what it means to him and the broader scientific community. Watch the video at <https://bit.ly/3apR30G> (41:31)

**Purdue University.** On June 10, 2022, Purdue University announced its unanimous election of Dr. **Mung Chiang**, currently the John A. Edwardson Dean of Engineering and Executive Vice President for Strategic Initiatives, as the university's next president. Dr. Chiang will replace current president **Mitch Daniels** effective Jan. 1, 2023. Daniels has served as President since January 2013. Read more: <https://bit.ly/3aYPIE4>

**Unity March.** According to its website, The UNITY MARCH is an Asian American-led, multicultural event to advance socioeconomic and cultural equity, racial justice, and solidarity. The June 25 mobilization aims to bring together Asian Americans, in lockstep with our Black, Indigenous, Latinx, Pacific Islander, LGBTQ+, Muslim, Sikh, Arab, and Jewish allies, to reimagine the future for our communities and break the cycle of violence together. Read more: <https://bit.ly/3OfHVua>

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