



City of Bellevue | Proclamation

- Whereas:** More than 24 million Americans proudly identify themselves to be of Asian, Native Hawaiian and/or other Pacific Island heritage; and
- Whereas:** Asians and Pacific Islanders form an American community of some 25 major ethnic groups, who speak over 15 different languages and belong to a wide variety of religions and cultures; and
- Whereas:** Approximately 36 percent of Bellevue's population is comprised of Asians or Pacific Islanders, one of the highest percentages among Washington cities; and
- Whereas:** The region's Asian-American community has supported efforts to slow the spread of COVID-19, with donations of personal protective equipment and food for essential workers; and
- Whereas:** Japanese immigrants played a key role in Bellevue's historical place as an agricultural center, and Asian and Pacific Islander Americans continue to enrich our region's culture through excellence in technology, the arts and design; and
- Whereas:** Asian and Pacific Islander American entrepreneurs strengthen our economy and our communities through their dedication and ingenuity, inspiring the next generation of American innovation by example; and
- Whereas:** May of 2021 marks the 43rd anniversary of the annual celebration that has become *Asian Pacific American Heritage Month*.

Now, therefore, I, Lynne Robinson, Mayor of the City of Bellevue, Washington, and on behalf of its City Council, do hereby proclaim the month of **May 2021** as:

Asian Pacific American Heritage Month

in Bellevue, and encourage residents to celebrate the many contributions of Asians and Pacific Islanders to our community, reflect on the challenges they have faced in our past, support them against hate now.

Lynne Robinson, Mayor
City of Bellevue