

Asian American Studies Celebrates Asian Pacific American Heritage Month

Asian American Community Oral History Project Celebration, co-sponsor with the Multicultural Center 1/8, 7 pm, Multicultural Center

The Ohio State University Asian American Studies Program in conjunction with the Digital Archive of Literacy Narratives is initiating an oral history and mapping project.

Our goals are to:

- Record and archive the experiences of Asian Americans in central Ohio. During our first phase, we will focus on community leaders and advocates.
- Train students, staff, and faculty to conduct and record oral histories
- Foster university-community collaboration
- Create a web-based map that makes visible the significant community institutions as well as residential and business centers of Asians in Central Ohio
- Re-envision the “heartland” of America to include the history, communities, and activism of Asian Americans

Please join us to view these student recorded interviews with Asian American community leaders in Central Ohio. Refreshments will be served. For more information, please contact Prof. Lynn Itagaki (itagaki.5@osu.edu)

Baki Mani, Swathmore College, “Becoming Miss America: South Asians, Beauty Pageants, and Cultures of Citizenship,” co-sponsored with Women’s, Gender, & Sexuality Studies and the Multicultural Center 1/15, 7 pm, Cartoon Room-The Ohio Union



What does it mean to be Miss America? In this talk, Baki Mani examines the central role that beauty pageants hold for first- and second-generation South Asian Americans. For young South Asian women onstage, pageants are a means to proclaim their sense of belonging - as racial minorities and as women - to normative ideals of U.S. citizenship. For first-generation South Asian audience members and pageant sponsors, these young women represent the class mobility of an established immigrant group. This talk discusses the iconic figure of the beauty queen in relation to the annual Miss India U.S.A. pageants in New York and California, as well as in relation to the Miss India pageants in India. Delineating these transnational networks of beauty, culture and capital enables us to understand why Miss America 2013, Nina Davuluri, is celebrated and condemned for her embodiment of what it means to be American.

For more information, please contact Prof. J. Wu (wu.287@osu.edu)

Other Events

- **1/16, 12-1:30 pm, 168 Dulles:** Workshop and discussion with Prof. Baki Mani. To RSVP and to receive a copy of the readings, please email aas@osu.edu.
- **1/27, 6 pm, Campbell 206:** Kimberly McKee, Grinnell College, Screening and Discussion of Transnational Adoption and *Somewhere Between*, co-sponsored with Kappa Phi Lambda Sorority
- **1/29, 7 pm, Traditions Room-The Ohio Union:** “What’s going on in Asian America?” Co-sponsored with GradPAC
- **2/6, 4 pm, 168 Dulles Hall:** Richard Kim, UC Davis, Institute for Korean Studies, “What does the Korean Diaspora have to do with Korean History”
- **2/27, 12-1:30 pm, 168 Dulles:** Daniel Kim’s Manuscript Workshop for Lynn Itagaki’s *Racial Burnout: The 1992 Los Angeles Crisis and the Cultural Politics of the Post-Civil Rights Era*, co-sponsored with the Institute for Korean Studies
- **2/27, 4-5:30 pm, Multicultural Center:** Daniel Kim, “Neocolony or Model-Minority Nation?: The Case of South Korea and Empire”
- **3/3, 4 pm, Multicultural Center:** Judy Tzu-Chun Wu, What’s Your Story?: Faculty Lecture Series, *Radicals on the Road: Internationalism, Orientalism, and Feminism* (Cornell 2013)