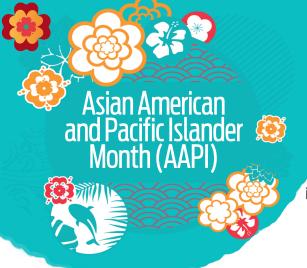


"On April 20, 2006, President George W. Bush proclaimed that May would be Jewish American Heritage Month. The month of May was chosen due to the highly successful celebration of the 350 th Anniversary of American Jewish History in May 2004, which was organized by the Commission for Commemorating 350 Years of American Jewish History. The Jewish people have advocated for other minorities and their rights in America, participating in the Civil Rights Movement, and supporting voter registrations, rallies, sit-ins, and other Civil Rights initiatives.

Albert Einstein and Ruth Bader Ginsburg are two prominent Jewish American figures. Einstein was born in Germany, and moved to the United States in 1933, during the rise of the Nazi regime. He became a U.S. citizen seven years later. In spite of all his ground-breaking scientific accomplishments, Einstein expressed his views on antisemitism in American academia in a letter written to Austrian Jewish pianist Bruno Eisner: "I am not informed (of a vacancy) even when it falls under my own specialty.", Ruth Bader Ginsburg was another prominent Jewish American and the first Jewish woman on the Supreme Court. While she excelled in law school, Bader Ginsburg initially struggled to find a job due to sexism and antisemitism. However, she overcame these obstacles and was at the forefront on many important Supreme Court decisions, as well as being a huge advocate for equal rights and civil liberties. Both of these Jewish American individuals persevered through their struggles and are considered icons to many Americans today.



May marks Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, which celebrates the histories of Americans hailing from across the Asian continent and from the Pacific Islands of Melanesia, Micronesia, and Polynesia. "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. Most workers who laid the tracks were Chinese immigrants." We honor these people for their contributions to our diverse country and appreciate the hardships they've had to endure to be American.

"The effort to officially recognize Asian American and Pacific Islander contributions to the United States began in the late 1970s. In 1977, New York Representative Frank Horton introduced a House Joint Resolution, which proposed proclaiming the first 10 days of May as Asian/Pacific American Heritage Week. After the House and the Senate passed the Resolution, President Jimmy Carter signed it into Public Law on October 5, 1978. In 1990, Congress expanded the observance from a week to a month.", The U.S. is home to millions of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, representing a diverse array of cultures and traditions. In 2021, Kamala Harris became "the first woman, the first Black American, and the first South Asian American to be elected Vice President, as was the case with other offices she has held."

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