

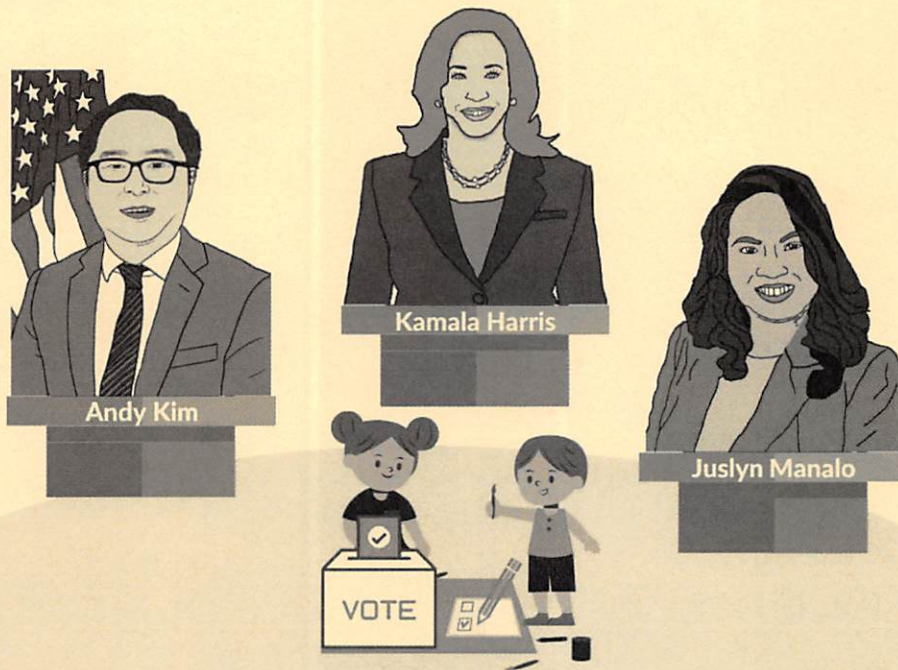


ASIAN PACIFIC ISLANDER  
**AMERICAN**  
APIA BIOGRAPHY PROJECT

# ***HOW THEY GOT HERE***

**10th Anniversary**

**Asian Pacific Islander American (APIA) Heritage Month Celebration**



Portraits drawn by (left to right): Jocelyn Chung, Clyde Pineda, Joyce D. Bantugan

Designed by Michelle Lee

## ***APIA Politicians Past and Present An Activity Book***

APIA Biography Project  
Asian American Studies Department  
College of Ethnic Studies  
San Francisco State University  
©2023

# How They Got Here APIA Politicians Past and Present

## An Activity Book

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## THE APIA BIOGRAPHY PROJECT



**Lorraine Dong and Jeannie Woo, Directors**

The Asian Pacific Islander American (APIA) Biography Project began in 2012 under Asian American Studies Professors Lorraine Dong and Jeannie Woo at San Francisco State University. The project's primary mission is to provide free and accessible APIA resources for children and adults through events and a website. It is a Community Service Learning project based mainly on the works created by AAS 512 (Asian American Children's/Adolescent Literature) students at San Francisco State. It is funded by donations and the University's Instructionally Related Activities grant.

email: [apiabiography@gmail.com](mailto:apiabiography@gmail.com) // website: [apiabiography.sfsu.edu](http://apiabiography.sfsu.edu)



## 2023 APIA Event Cosponsors

### SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC LIBRARY (SFPL)



*San Francisco Public Library*

Established in 1878, the San Francisco Public Library, a 27-branch library system, serves San Francisco through its diverse and extensive collections, programs, and exhibits. In 2013, the APIA Biography Project launched its inaugural event at the Merced Branch Library. In subsequent years, the Magazines and Newspapers Center at the Main Library collaborated with the APIA Biography Project to celebrate APIA Heritage Month. Then in 2022, the Library's Children's Center and Chinese Center joined to support this annual program. SFPL champions community engagement in its mission to provide "free and equal access to information, knowledge, independent learning, and the joys of reading for our diverse community."

website: [sfpl.org](http://sfpl.org)

### THE ASSOCIATION OF CHINESE TEACHERS (TACT)



Founded in 1969, The Association of Chinese Teachers (TACT) is a non-profit organization in San Francisco. Over the years, it has been involved in issues such as affirmative action, bilingual education, curriculum development, and educational advocacy for the APIA community. TACT awards scholarships to high school seniors and holds yearly professional development events. Beginning in 2013, TACT has been cosponsoring the annual APIA Heritage Month celebration with the Asian American Studies Department at San Francisco State University and the San Francisco Main Public Library.

website: [tactsf.org](http://tactsf.org)

### SQUARE AND CIRCLE CLUB



Square and Circle Club was founded in San Francisco Chinatown in 1924 by seven teenage girls to aid flood and famine victims in China. Since that compassionate beginning and to this day, the Club has continued its tradition of supporting and caring for the needs of the community. Through the years, in addition to volunteering and assisting numerous community organizations and individuals, Square and Circle has grown and evolved as a multi-tasking philanthropic organization. It is the oldest Chinese/Asian American women's service organization in the nation. The Club became an APIA Heritage Month cosponsor in 2016 and is now also serving as the Project's fiscal agent.

website: [squareandcircleclub.org](http://squareandcircleclub.org)

# **How They Got Here: APIA Politicians Past and Present**

## **Preface**

**Joyce D. Bantugan**

Understanding how Asian Pacific Islander Americans (APIAs) emerge as politicians begins with the history of APIA voting rights and citizenship. In the United States, voting rights are tied to citizenship status. Without citizenship, it is almost impossible to vote and become a politician. In the 1700s (e.g., the Naturalization Act of 1790), voting rights were restricted to only white men. In the 1800s, the United States slowly saw voting barriers recede. However, centuries of racism and discrimination prevented the naturalization of Asian Pacific Islanders (APIs) and communities of color, making the right to vote challenging.

In the mid-1800s, Chinese laborers began immigrating to the United States, working in gold mines, agricultural fields, and factory industries. In the 1870s, Japanese laborers also began to arrive. Unfortunately, in 1882, the Chinese Exclusion Act banned Chinese laborers from entering the country. Following this Act, other API groups were stopped from coming to America, and court rulings prevented the API population from becoming naturalized citizens. Therefore, APIs could not vote despite their considerable contributions to American history. In 1920, Congress passed the 19th Amendment, which granted women the right to vote. However, despite API participation from pioneering suffragists such as Komako Kimura, the movement failed to eliminate voting barriers against women of color. Not until 1943 and beyond did federal policies preventing APIs from naturalization begin to lift (e.g., McCarran-Walter Act of 1952), thus enabling eligible APIs to become citizens. Filipinos living in the United States could naturalize and vote when the Philippine Islands became independent in 1946. Then in 1959, when Hawai'i became a state, its citizens also gained the right to vote. As a result, all eligible APIAs can vote and run for office in the United States today.

In 1965, Congress passed the Voting Rights Act (VRA), which prohibited racial discrimination in voting. A decade later, Congress added protections for voters with limited English skills to VRA, which was later expanded in 1992. However, the 2013 *Shelby v. Holder* decision took away key sections of VRA, one of them requiring state and local governments to have voting law changes reviewed before passing. Following this decision, rallies and organizational efforts stepped up to protect voter rights. Unfortunately, in *Brnovich v. Democratic National Committee* (2021), the Supreme Court ruled that voting restrictions that heavily



affected APIAs and communities of color did not necessarily violate VRA, therefore, weakening VRA and making it unable to stop voter discrimination.

Today, securing voting rights for APIAs and communities of color remains an ongoing battle. However, it is crucial to acknowledge how we have progressed from the 1700s to 2023. Obtaining citizenship and voting rights led to some outstanding pioneering APIA politicians: Patsy Mink, the first Asian American woman to serve in Congress in 1964; Mike Gabbard, the first Hawaiian senator of Samoan descent and his daughter, former Hawaiian congresswoman, Tulsi Gabbard; Mark Takano, the first openly gay Asian American elected to Congress in 2012; and Kamala Harris, the first African-Asian American woman to become Vice President of the United States in 2020. According to the 2020 US Census Bureau, the turnout of APIA votes hit a record 59.7%, and APIAs made up 0.9% of elected officials, the highest numbers recorded at the time of this publication. Gradually, more APIAs are entering politics, and APIA voter participation is increasing.

This activity book for elementary school students is created by Asian American Studies students at San Francisco State University to honor some of the many past and present APIA politicians and to understand the voting process that made their elections possible. This year's commemoration marks the APIA Biography Project's 10th Annual Asian Pacific Islander American Heritage Month Celebration at the San Francisco Main Public Library on April 30, 2023. Then for the entire month of May 2023, with the full collaboration of the San Francisco Main Public Library, our annual APIA Wall of Fame is displayed at the Children's Center in addition to a separate Chinese American display at the Chinese Center. In addition to these APIA library events, the APIA website ([apiabiography.sfsu.edu](http://apiabiography.sfsu.edu)) features activities and a variety of resources. This year's cosponsoring community partners include the San Francisco Main Public Library (SFPL), The Association of Chinese Teachers (TACT), and the Square and Circle Club (S&C).

#### **2022-23 APIA BIOGRAPHY PROJECT PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Lorraine Dong (SFSU; Square and Circle Club) and Jeannie Woo (SFSU), Directors  
Nolan-Kyle Sumala (Square and Circle Club), Website Manager  
Nick Bartel and Anita Wu (TACT Curriculum Committee)  
Jerry Dear (SF Main Public Library, Magazines and Newspapers Center Librarian)  
Emily Salcido (Square and Circle Club)  
Joyce D. Bantugan (Square and Circle Club Intern), Social Media Manager  
Michelle Lee (SFSU Student Assistant; Square and Circle Club Intern)  
Maxwell Quan (George Washington High School), SFSU Student Intern

**APIA (Asian Pacific Islander American) Voting Rights Timeline**  
**Compiled by Joyce D. Bantugan**

1700s	Voting rights are limited to white property owners.
1790	The <b>Naturalization Act of 1790</b> limits naturalization to immigrants who are free white persons of good stature, thus excluding APIs from citizenship and voting.
1866	The <b>14<sup>th</sup> Amendment</b> is passed, which outlines the rights and protections applied to citizens of the United States, the three key points being the granting of equal protection, birthright citizenship, and due process. In 1868, the <b>14<sup>th</sup> Amendment</b> is ratified, second of the three Reconstruction Amendments.
1869	The <b>15<sup>th</sup> Amendment</b> is passed, preventing the federal government and each state from denying a citizen's right to vote "on account of race, color, or previous conditions of servitude."
1882	The <b>Chinese Exclusion Act</b> bans Chinese laborers from entering the United States for 10 years, which is then renewed every 10 years until made indefinite in 1904. Following this Act, other Asian groups are also prevented from coming to America and banned from naturalization a
1898	In <i>United States v. Wong Kim Ark</i> , the Supreme Court rules that any person born in the United States is a citizen by birth (birthright citizenship). This case reaffirms that the <b>14<sup>th</sup> Amendment</b> applies to all.
1920	The <b>19<sup>th</sup> Amendment</b> is passed, giving women the right to vote. However, this does not include APIs and women of color.
1922	In <i>Takao Ozawa v. United States</i> , the Supreme Court rules that people of Japanese descent cannot become naturalized citizens, therefore, they cannot vote.
1923	In <i>United States v. Bhagat Singh Thind</i> , the Supreme Court rules that people of Indian descent cannot become naturalized citizens, therefore, they cannot vote.
1924	The <b>Immigration Act of 1924</b> enacts a national origin quota system that further restricts immigration from Asia to the United States. The few who are able to immigrate cannot become naturalized citizens and therefore cannot vote.
1925	Congress prevents Filipinos from becoming US citizens unless they have served three years in the US Navy during World War I.
1943	Federal policies barring immigrants of Asian descent from naturalization begin to lift, making them eligible to become citizens. This includes the <b>Chinese Exclusion Act</b> which ends in 1943 with the <b>Magnuson Act</b> .

1946	<p>The Philippines becomes an independent nation, thereby allowing Filipinos living in the United States the right to naturalize and vote.</p> <p>The <b>Rescission Act of 1946</b> denies Filipino soldiers and sailors who fought with US forces against Japan the benefits of citizenship, which was promised during World War II.</p>
1952	<p>The <b>McCarran-Walter Act of 1952</b> grants people of Asian descent the right to become naturalized citizens and, therefore, the right to vote.</p>
1959	<p>Hawai'i becomes the 50<sup>th</sup> state of the United States, thus allowing its citizens the right to vote.</p>
1964	<p>The <b>24<sup>th</sup> Amendment</b> bans poll taxes to be required for voting in a federal election.</p>
1965	<p>The <b>Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965</b> removes the national origin quota system from the <b>Immigration Act of 1924</b>, enabling many APIs to immigrate.</p> <p>The <b>Voting Rights Act (VRA)</b> is passed by Congress, which prohibits racial discrimination in voting.</p>
1971	<p>The <b>26<sup>th</sup> Amendment</b> passes to reduce the voting age from 21 years and older to 18 years and older.</p>
1975	<p>The <b>Voting Rights Act (VRA)</b> adds accommodations for voters with limited English skills (Section 203). This is further expanded in 1992.</p>
1982	<p>The <b>Voting Rights Act (VRA)</b> is extended with new voting protections for people with disabilities.</p>
2000	<p>A federal court rules that residents of US territories, like American Samoa, the US Virgin Islands, Guam, and Puerto Rico, cannot vote in federal elections.</p>
2004	<p>The <b>Voting Rights Act (VRA)</b> is renewed.</p>
2013	<p>In <i>Shelby County v. Holder</i>, the Supreme Court strikes down a key provision of <b>VRA</b>, Section 4(b). This section requires state and local governments to review voting law changes to prevent discriminatory voting practices.</p>
2015	<p>In the wake of the <i>Shelby County v. Holder</i> decision, rallies and organizational efforts step up to protect voter rights. One rally takes place in Roanoke, Virginia to demand that Congress restore the voting rights stripped by the Supreme Court in 2013.</p>
2021	<p>In <i>Brnovich v. Democratic National Committee</i>, the Supreme Court rules voting restrictions that disproportionately affect racial minority groups do not violate Section 2 of the <b>Voting Rights Act (VRA)</b>.</p>

## **APIA Politicians Past and Present**

### **Selected Resources for Elementary School**

Compiled by AAS 512 Students at San Francisco State University  
with Lorraine Dong, Jerry Dear, and Nick Bartel  
May 2023

#### **GENERAL BOOKS OF INTEREST**

- Chin-Lee, Cynthia. *Women and the Right to Vote*. Children's Press, 2020. One of 5 books in the series: *A True Book: Women's History in the US*. Scholastic, 2020.
- Frith, Alex, and Louie Stowell. *Understanding Politics and Government*. EDC/Usborne, 2018. Understanding.
- Harper, Gregg, et al. *Asian and Pacific Islander Americans in Congress 1900-2017*. US Government Publishing Office, 2021.
- MacLeod, Elizabeth. *Get Out and Vote! How You Can Shape the Future*. Illustrated by Emily Chu, Orca Book Publishers, 2023.
- Pittman, Portia Bright, and Calvin Mercer. *There Ought to Be a Law: A Bright Day at the State Capitol*. Illustrated by Harry Aveira, Portia Bright Pittman, 2020.

#### **BOOKS ABOUT AND RELATED TO SOME OF OUR APIA POLITICIANS**

##### **Tammy Duckworth**

- Cham, Stephanie. *Tammy Duckworth*. Capstone Press, 2018. Great Asian Americans. SFPL call no.: jB Duck
- Jopp, Kelsey. *Tammy Duckworth*. Focus Readers, 2020. Groundbreaking Women in Politics. Available as eBook (Hoopla)
- Sarantou, Katlin. *Tammy Duckworth*. Illustrated by Jeff Bane, Cherry Lake Publishing, 2019. My Early Library Series: My Itty Bitty Bio Series. Available as eBook (Hoopla)
- Read-Aloud (3:16): [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M\\_hHvOTdcHA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M_hHvOTdcHA)
- Soontornvat, Christina. *A Life of Service: The Story of Senator Tammy Duckworth*. Illustrated by Dow Phumiruk, Candlewick 2022. SFPL call no.: jB Duck



### March Fong Eu

Harris, Duchess, and Samantha S. Bell. *March Fong Eu: Activist and Politician*. Core Library, 2019. Freedom's Promise.

### Kamala Harris

Anderson, Kirtsen. *Who Is Kamala Harris?* Illustrated by Manuel Gutierrez, Penguin Workshop, 2021. Who HQ Now. SFPL call no.: jB HARR

Grant, Tonya. *Kamala Harris*. National Geographic Kids, 2022. National Geographic Readers Level 2. SFPL call no.: jB HARR

Grimes, Nikki. *Kamala Harris: Rooted in Justice*. Illustrated by Laura Freeman, Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2021. SFPL call no.: jB HARR

Harris, Kamala. *Superheroes Are Everywhere*. Illustrated by Mechal Renee Roe, Philomel Books, 2019. SFPL call no.: j179.9 HARR

Read-Aloud (9:19): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oU4tVXU3dt0>

---. *The Truths We Hold: An American Journey*. Philomel Books, 2019. Young Readers ed.

Harris, Meena. *Kamala and Maya's Big Idea*. Illustrated by Ramírez González, Balzer + Bray, 2020. SFPL call no.: jPS HARR

Hence, Nia. *Meet Kamala Harris*. Illustrated by Winda Mulyasari, Blomie Publishing, 2021. Biography Books for Kids.

Read-Aloud (5:10): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VsNTndzmB6c>

Read-Aloud (5:20): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vLys2YGopLM>

Read-Aloud (5:33): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B2MfRXMdO1w>

Read-Aloud (7:28): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HL-LNNPYKGO>

Read-Aloud (8:41): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sFyi3vSa45k>

LaRocca, Rajani. *Kamala Harris*. Illustrated by Ashley Evans, Golden Books, 2021. My Little Golden Book About.

Leslie, Tonya. *The Story of Kamala Harris: A Biography Book for New Readers*. Illustrated by Juanita Londoño, Rockridge Press, 2021. The Story Of: A Biography Series for New Readers. SFPL call no.: jB HARH

Neuenfeldt, Elizabeth. *Kamala Harris: Vice President*. Bellwether Media, 2022. Women Leading the Way: Blastoff! Readers, Level 2.

Vergara, Maria Isabel Sánchez. *Kamala Harris*. Illustrated by Lauren Semmer, Frances Lincoln, 2021. Little People, Big Dreams.

### Daniel Inouye

Goodsell, Jane. *Daniel Inouye*. Illustrated by Haru Wells, Thomas Y. Crowell Company, 1977. Crowell Biographies. SFPL call no.: jB Inou

Walters, Marino Jennifer. *Daniel Inouye: World War II Hero and Senator*. Illustrated by Scott R. Brooks, Red Chair Press, 2020. Beginner Biography Look! Books.

### Norman Mineta

Warren, Andrea. *Enemy Child: A Story of Norman Mineta, A Boy Imprisoned in a Japanese American Internment Camp during World War II*. Holiday House, 2019. SFPL call no.: jB MINE

### Patsy Mink

Becker, Helanie. *An Equal Shot: How the Law Title IX Changed America*. Illustrated by Dow Phumiruk, Henry Holt and Co., 2021. SFPL call no.: j344.7307 BECK

Bryant, Jen. *Fall Down Seven Times, Stand Up Eight: Patsy Takemoto Mink and the Fight for Title IX*. Illustrated by Toshiki Nakamura, Quill Tree Books, 2022. SFPL call no.: jB MINK

Cham, Stephanie. *Patsy Mink*. Capstone Press, 2018. Great Asian Americans. SFPL call no.: jB MINK

Glaser, D. Jeanne. *Patsy Mink and Title IX*. Houghton Mifflin, 2009. Houghton Mifflin Leveled Books.

Loh-Hagan, Virginia. *Patsy Mink*. Illustrated by Jeff Bane, Cherry Lake Publishing, 2022. My Early Library: My Itty-Bitty Bio. Available as eBook (Hoopla)

Keller, Tae. *She Persisted: Patsy Mink*. Illustrated by Gillian Flint, Philomel Books, 2022. SFPL call no.: jB MINK

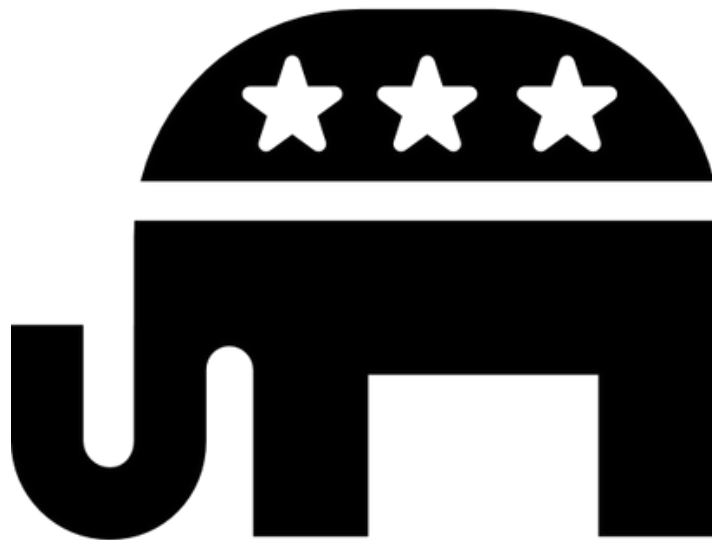
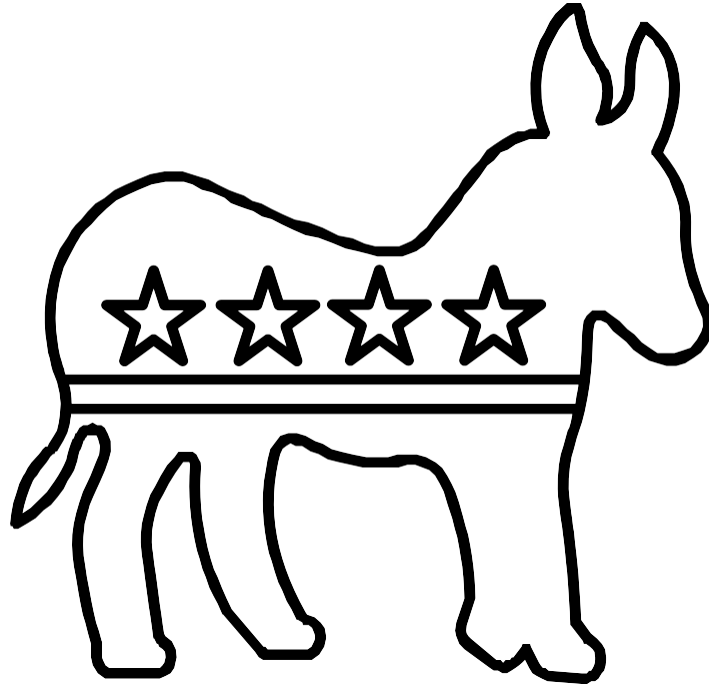
Louie, Ai-Ling. *Patsy Mink, Mother of Title 9*. Illustrated by H. Rick Pettway, Dragoneagle Press, 2018. Amazing Asian Americans.

### **MEDIA**

*Patsy Mink: Changing the Rules*. Driving Force Institute for Public Engagement, Makematic, n.d. (2:03 min.)  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V6S1y92LewE>

*Vice President Kamala Harris: Chase the Dream*. Directed by Nick Randall, Legacy Distribution, 2021. (2:23 min.) Available on Kanopy

# PAST APIA POLITICIANS





Maya Enriquez (SFSU 2021)

**Ethnicity:** Filipino

**Place of Birth:** Kalihi, HI

**Party Affiliation:** Democratic

**Highest Elected Position:**

Governor of Hawai'i (1994-2002)

**Other Positions:**

Lieutenant Governor of Hawai'i (1986-94); Hawai'i State Senate (1979-86); Hawai'i House of Representatives, Pearl City (1975-78)

**Benjamin Jerome Cayetano**  
(b. November 14, 1939)

Ben was raised by his single father in Hawai'i and grew up as a latchkey child. He almost flunked out of high school and later moved to California because of unfair hiring practices. Ben attended UCLA after realizing a college degree would help him in the future. In 1971, he earned a law degree from Loyola Law School. Ben returned to Hawai'i and eventually became the first Filipino American to be elected as both lieutenant governor in 1986 and governor in 1994. During his time in office, he was challenged by many economic problems and made education one of his priorities. A three-week union strike in 2001 halted Hawai'i's educational system. Nevertheless, Ben's administration built thirteen new schools and extended the school year by seven days. Ben is currently retired with his wife and five children.



Sarah Huang (SFSU 2022)

**Ethnicity:** Chinese

**Place of Birth:** Boston, MA

**Party Affiliation:** Democratic

**Highest Elected Position:**  
California State Assembly,  
16<sup>th</sup> Assembly (2000-06)

**Other Positions:**

California State Assembly  
Majority Leader (2002-04);  
California State Assembly  
Majority Whip (2001-02);  
Alameda County Board of  
Supervisors, 3rd District  
(1995-2000)

## **Wilma Chan**

**(October 5, 1949–November 3, 2021)**

Wilma was influenced by watching documentaries about the Civil Rights Movement when she was young. In 2002, she became the first woman and first APIA to become California State Assembly Majority Leader. With her background in education (a Master's in Education Policy from the Stanford Graduate School of Education), she fought for children throughout her political life. She led Alameda County to become the first county in the nation to connect all eligible children to healthcare coverage. In November 2021, Wilma died from a car accident, and the people of Oakland dedicated the Wilma Chan Park in honor and remembrance of her service to the people.





Trinity Loftus (SFSU 2021)

**Ethnicity:** Chinese

**Place of Birth:** Oakdale, CA

**Party Affiliation:** Democratic

**Highest Elected Position:**  
California Secretary of State  
(1974-94)

**Other Positions:**

US Ambassador to the Federated  
States of Micronesia (1994-96);  
Alameda County Board of  
Education (1954-1964)

## **March Fong Eu**

**(March 29, 1922–December 21, 2017)**

March's grandparents immigrated from China, and her parents ran a hand-wash laundry in California's San Joaquin Valley. She worked as a dental hygienist before embarking on a political career. March was elected California's Secretary of State five times and became the first APIA woman elected to a state constitutional office in the United States. She was the first person to pass a notary law to stop fraud and identity theft, and she introduced voter registration by mail. March was also famously known for campaigning against pay toilets because it was unfair for women to pay to use a restroom while men could use urinals for free. In 2019, the California Secretary of State Building in Sacramento was named after March Fong Eu, becoming the first state-owned building named for an APIA woman.



Maxine Claire Abergas (SFSU 2021)

**Ethnicity:** Chinese

**Place of Birth:** Honolulu, HI

**Party Affiliation:** Republican

**Highest Elected Position:**

US Senate (1959-77)

**Hiram Leong Fong**  
**(October 15, 1906-August 18, 2004)**

Hiram was the seventh of eleven children of Chinese immigrant plantation workers. His birth name was Yau Leong Fong, which he later changed to Hiram Fong. Hiram was Hawai'i's first US senator and in 1964, became the first APIA to receive the Republican Party's delegate votes to be nominated for president of the United States. Before Hiram became senator, he testified in 1950 in favor of Hawaiian statehood. (Hawai'i became the fiftieth state in 1959.) He supported the Vietnam War, civil and voting rights legislation, and immigration reform. Among the many legislations Hiram supported and passed while in office was the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965 that enabled more Asians to immigrate to the United States.



Matthew Medina (SFSU 2022)

**Ethnicity:** Japanese

**Place of Birth:** Honolulu, HI

**Party Affiliation:** Democratic

**Highest Elected Position:**

US Senate (1963-2012)

**Other Positions Held:**

US Senate President Pro

Tempore (2010-12); Hawai'i

Territorial House of

Representatives (1959-1963)

## **Daniel Inouye**

**(September 7, 1924-December 17, 2012)**

Dan's parents arrived in Hawai'i as laborers. In World War II, Dan lost an arm while serving in the US Army and decided to not pursue a career in medicine. He became one of the first state representatives for Hawai'i and the first Japanese American member in Congress. Dan actively supported both international and domestic legislation, such as the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the War Powers Act of 1973. He was a leading member of the Senate Watergate Investigation Committee that eventually led to the resignation of President Richard M. Nixon. Dan received many military medals including the Distinguished Service Cross, the Bronze Star, and the Purple Heart with Cluster. He is the first and only senator to receive both the Medal of Freedom and Presidential Medal of Honor.



Michelle Lee (SFSU 2022)

**Ethnicity:** Chinese

**Place of Birth:** Seattle, WA

**Party Affiliation:** Democratic

**Highest Elected Position:**  
Mayor of San Francisco (2011-17)

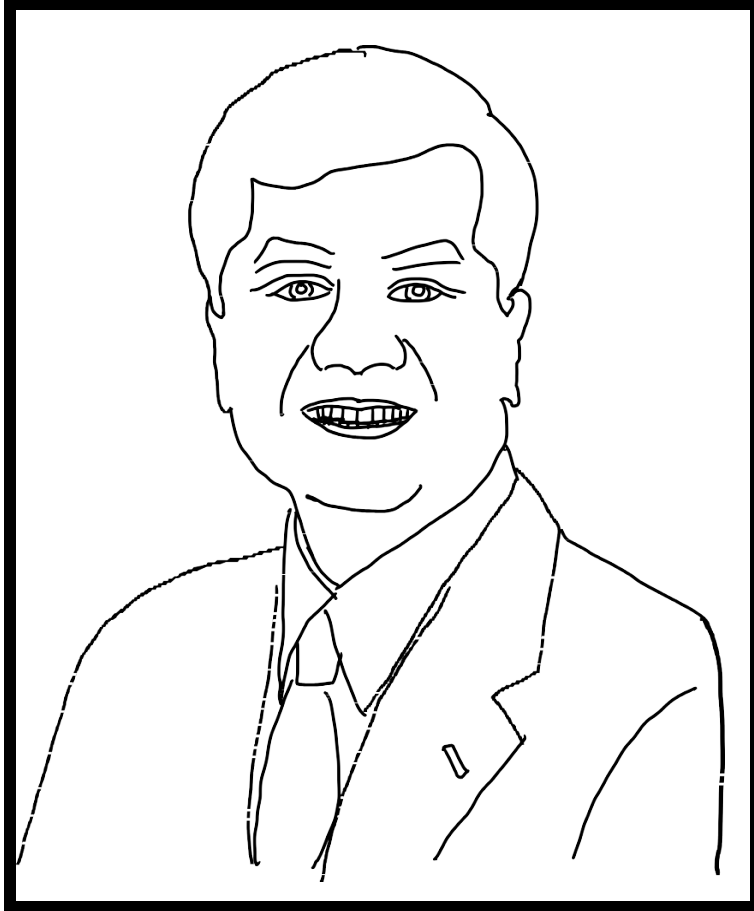
**Other Positions:**

SF City Administrator; SF Human Rights Commission, Director

### **Edwin Mah Lee**

**(May 5, 1952-December 12, 2017)**

Edwin, better known as "Ed," was the fourth of six children of working-class immigrant parents from Toishan, China. He was interim San Francisco mayor when then-Mayor Gavin Newsom stepped down in 2011 to be the Lieutenant Governor of California. In 2015, Ed ran for mayor and became the first elected APIA mayor of San Francisco. He was also considered the first nonpolitician serving in office. While advocating the rise of high-tech companies in the city, Ed was also committed to affordable housing and ending homelessness. The Golden State Warriors' arena in Mission Bay was his "legacy project." Numerous public sites are named after Ed, such as the Edwin M. Lee International Airport Departures Hall at the SF International Airport.



Thu Ngo (SFSU 2021)

**Ethnicity:** Chinese

**Place of Birth:** Seattle, WA

**Party Affiliation:** Democratic

**Highest Elected Position:**

Governor of Washington (1997-2005)

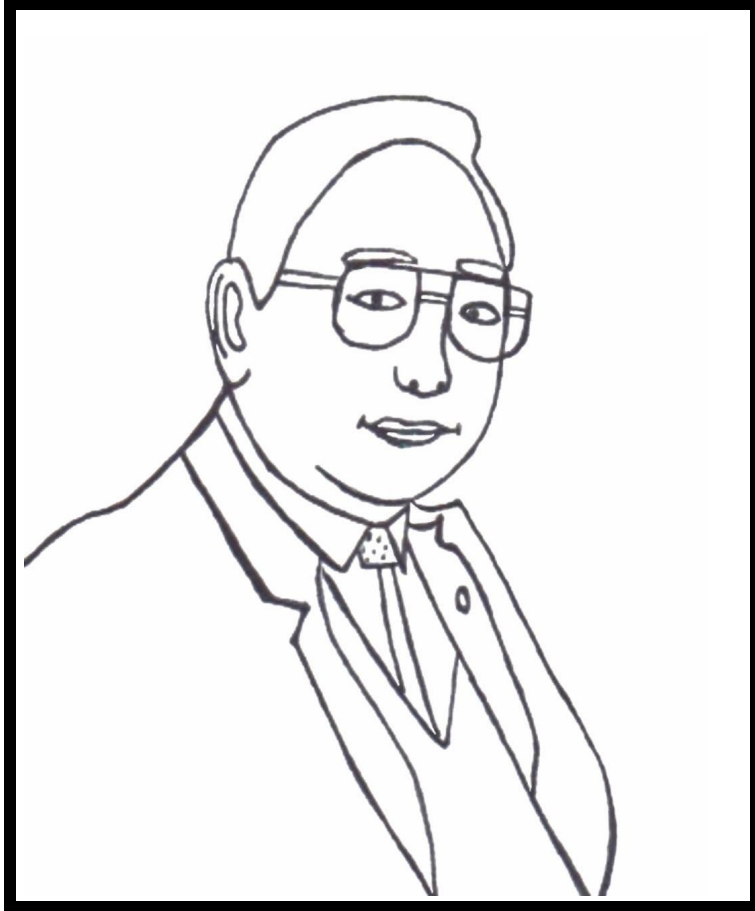
**Other Positions:**

US Ambassador to China (2011-14); US Secretary of Commerce (2009-11); Washington State House of Representative, 37<sup>th</sup> District (1983-94)

**Gary Faye Locke**  
(b. January 21, 1950)

Gary's family in America began when his great-great-grandfather immigrated to work as a houseboy in Olympia, Washington. Being accepted as Americans was not easy. Once at an airport, an American soldier blamed Gary's parents and him for the Vietnam War. Gary is the first APIA in the United States to be elected governor and the first Chinese American to be appointed Ambassador to China. Under Gary's administration, Washington became the first state to ban the word "Oriental" from its statutes, codes, rules, and regulations. He promoted affirmative action and abortions rights, sponsored a gay rights bill, and approved benefits for same-sex partners. Gary currently serves as interim president of Bellevue College, the third largest higher education institution in the state of Washington.





Ma. Isabella Chingcuangco (SFSU 2021)

**Ethnicity:** Japanese

**Place of Birth:** Kukuiula, Kauai, HI

**Party Affiliation:** Democratic

**Highest Elected Position:**

US Senate (1977-90)

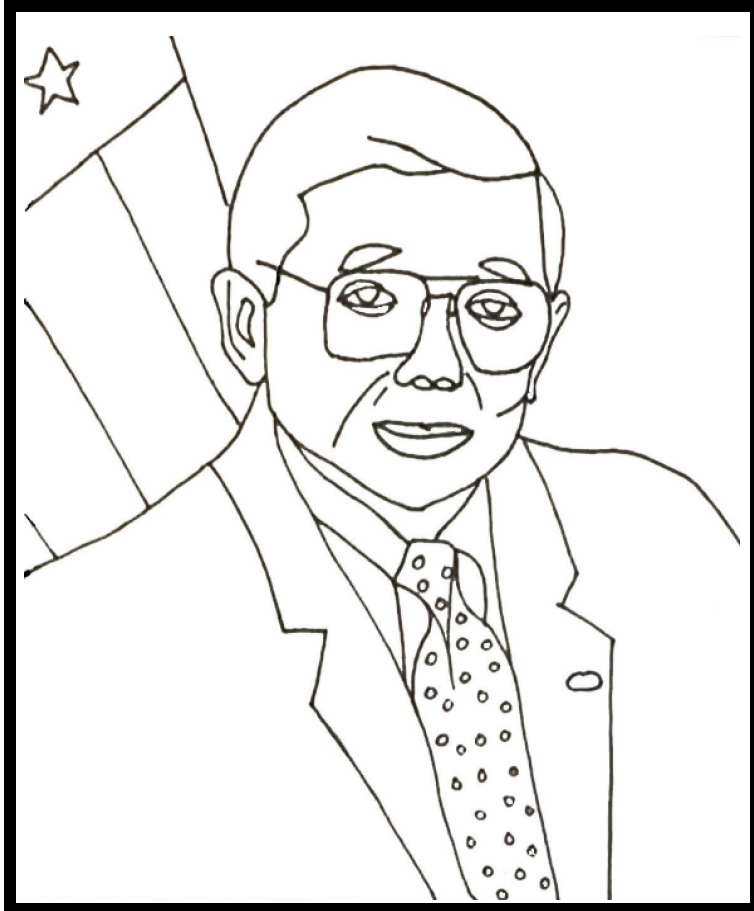
**Other Positions:**

US House of Representatives, HI (1963-77); Hawai'i Territorial Legislature Representative (1954-59)

### **Spark Masayuki Matsunaga**

**(October 8, 1916–April 15, 1990)**

Because Masayuki often finished last in races when he was young, he was teased with the nickname "Sparky," a slow horse from a comic. This resulted in "Spark" becoming his legal name. Spark was the son of a very poor plantation worker and became a World War II Bronze Star hero serving in the US Army. During his congressional years, he advocated for peace and the end of the Vietnam War. He focused on space exploration and alternative energy sources. Most significantly, Spark campaigned for the civil rights of Japanese Americans, which succeeded in the redress for Japanese Americans interned during World War II. After Spark's death, the United States Institute of Peace was renamed the Spark M. Matsunaga Institute of Peace and Conflict Resolution.



Maya Enriquez (SFSU 2021)

**Ethnicity:** Japanese

**Place of Birth:** San Jose, CA

**Party Affiliation:** Democratic

**Highest Elected Position:** US House of Representatives, 15<sup>th</sup> District (1993-97)

**Other Positions:**

US Secretary of Transportation (2001-06); US Secretary of Commerce (2000-01); US House of Representatives, 13<sup>th</sup> District (1975-93); Mayor of San Jose, CA (1971-75); San Jose City Council (1967-71)

**Norman Yoshio Mineta**  
(November 12, 1931–May 3, 2022)

Norman was the son of Japanese immigrants and was ten years old in 1942 when he and his family were interned at Heart Mountain, Wyoming. Years later, he became the first person of color to serve on the San Jose City Council and the first APIA to be mayor of a major city (San Jose) in the United States. When in Congress for 21 years, he authored the important 1988 legislation that compensated Japanese Americans interned during World War II. Norman is also known for being the first APIA to serve in the President's Cabinet, first as Secretary of Commerce under Democratic President William Clinton, and then as Secretary of Transportation under Republican President George W. Bush. In honor of Norman, San Jose named its airport in 2001 to the Norman Y. Mineta International Airport.



Jennalynne Laquindanum (SFSU 2021)

**Ethnicity:** Japanese

**Place of Birth:** Paia, HI

**Party Affiliation:** Democratic

**Highest Elected Position:**

US House of Representatives,  
Hawai'i (1965-77; 1990-2002)

**Other Positions:**

Honolulu City Council (1982-87);

Hawai'i State Senate (1962-

1964); Territory of Hawai'i House  
of Representatives (1956-1962);

Territory of Hawai'i Senate  
(1958-59)

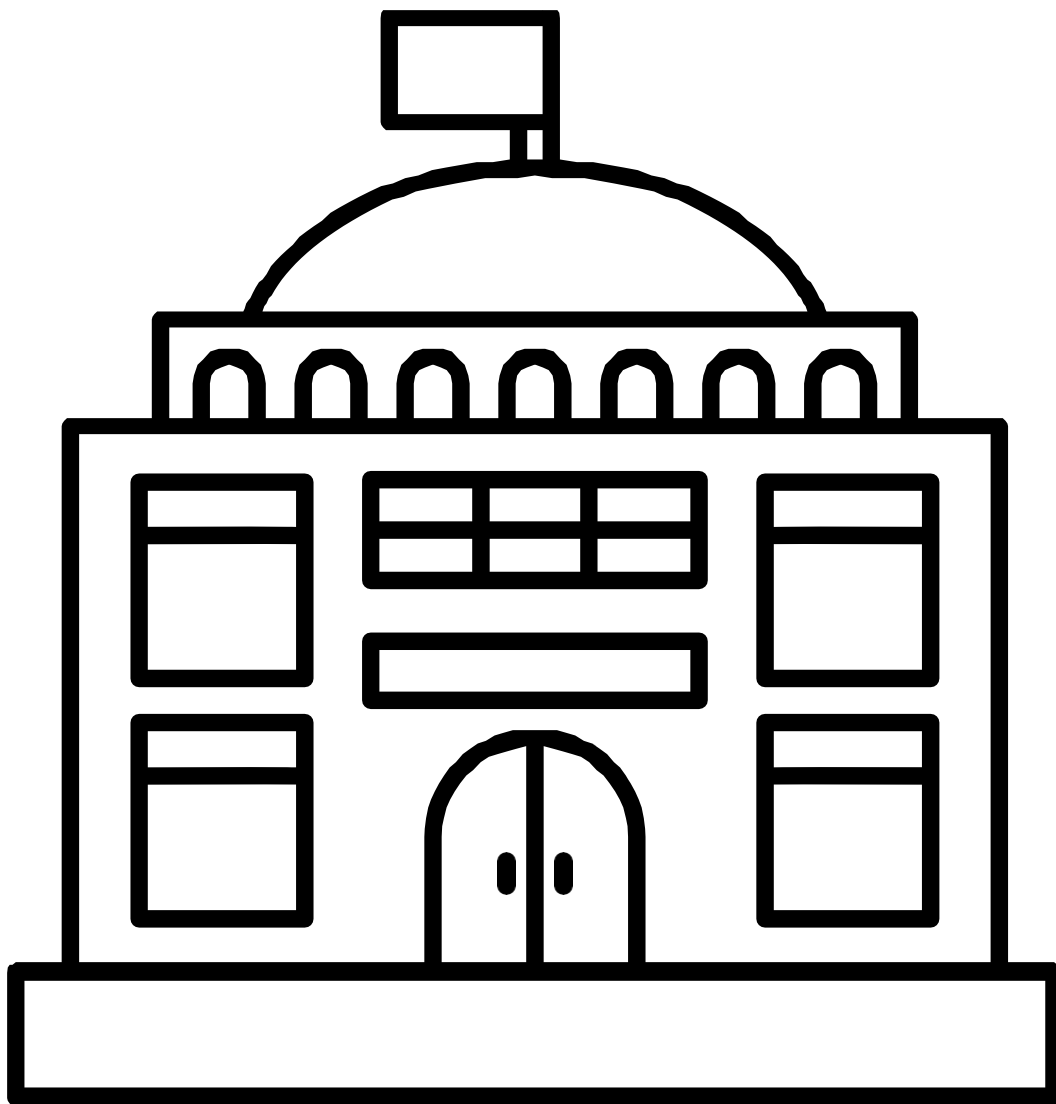
## **Patsy Takemoto Mink**

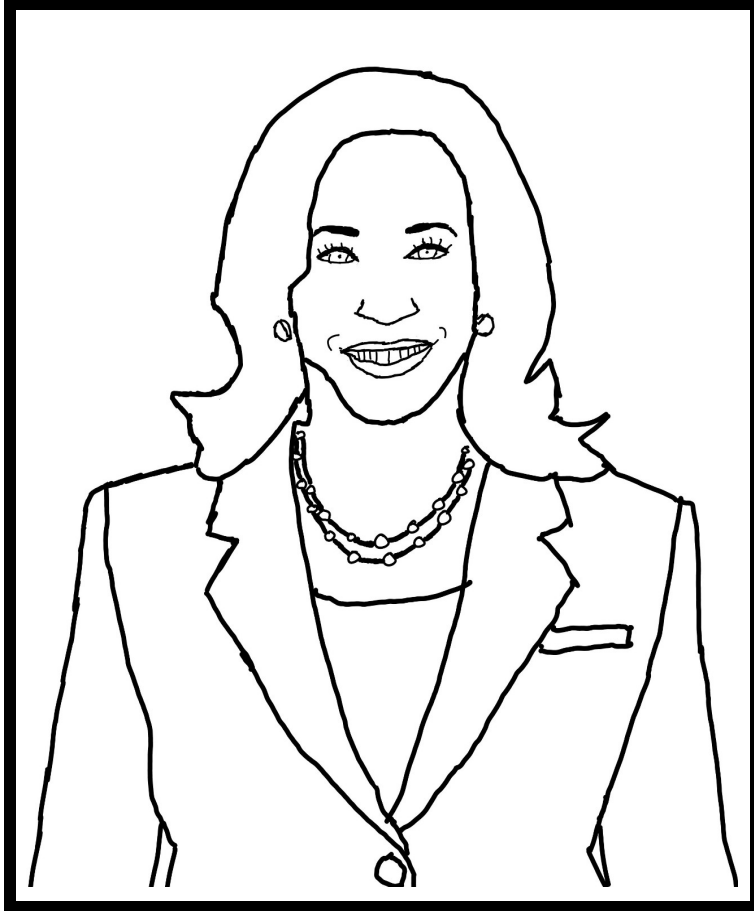
**(December 6, 1927-September 28, 2002)**

Born in Hawai'i, Patsy tried to be a doctor and lawyer, but women were not offered those kinds of jobs at the time. Driven to make a change, she eventually became the first woman of color and APIA woman in Congress. In the 1972 Oregon primary election, she was the first APIA woman to run for a Democratic presidential nomination. Patsy played a major role in the passages of Title IX that prohibited gender discrimination; the Early Childhood Education Act that provided quality childhood services for children; the Women's Educational Equity Act; and the Immigration and Nationality Act that removed inequities against Pacific Islanders. Patsy received the Presidential Medal of Freedom posthumously, and Title IX was renamed the Patsy Mink Equal Opportunity in Education Act.

# PRESENT APIA POLITICIANS

## FEDERAL





Clyde Pineda (SFSU 2021)

**Ethnicity:** African Jamaican and Indian

**Place of Birth:** Oakland, CA

**Party Affiliation:** Democratic

**Highest Elected Position:**

Vice President of the United States (2020-present)

**Other Positions:**

US Senate, California (2017-21);

California Attorney General

(2011-17); San Francisco District

Attorney (2004-11); Oakland

Deputy District Attorney (1990-98)

## **Kamala Harris**

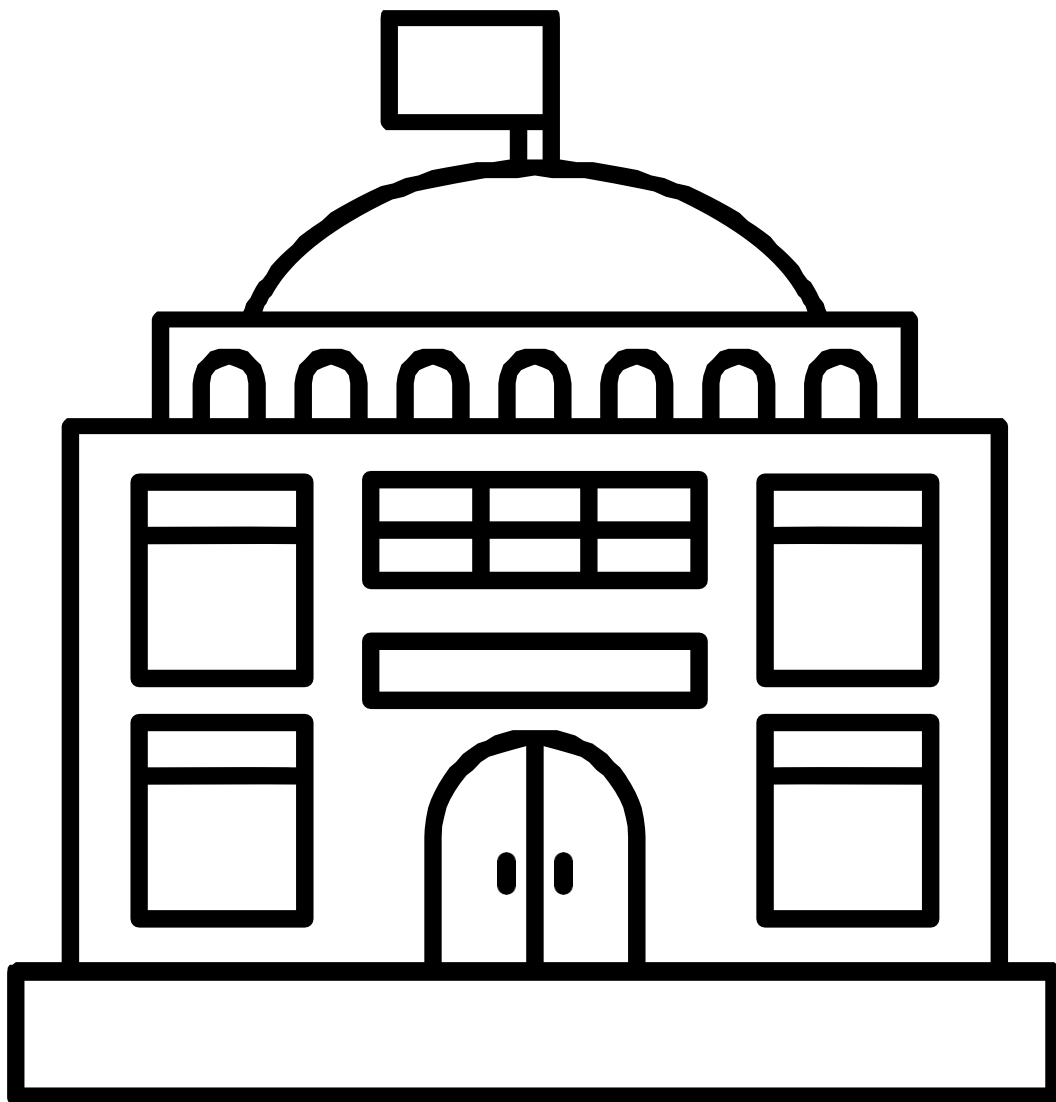
**(b. October 20, 1954)**

Kamala's father was from Jamaica and her mother was from India. Both activist parents took Kamala to civil rights demonstrations that influenced her sense of justice. After her parents divorced, her single mother (d. 2009) raised the two daughters in Oakland, California. Kamala earned a law degree from UC Hastings (1989) and eventually embarked on a political career of public service. She has achieved many firsts: she is the first African-Indian American woman to be elected as Oakland's Deputy District Attorney, San Francisco's District Attorney, California's Attorney General, California State Senator, and Vice President of the United States. Kamala has fought for immigration and criminal justice reform, same-sex marriage, and the reproductive rights of women.



# PRESENT APIA POLITICIANS

## STATE





Junhao Lin (SFSU 2021)

**Ethnicity:** Chinese

**Place of Birth:** Los Angeles, CA

**Party Affiliation:** Democratic

**Highest Elected Position:**

US House of Representatives,  
28<sup>th</sup> Congressional District  
(2013-now)

**Other Positions:**

US House of Representatives, 32<sup>nd</sup>  
Congressional District (2009-13);  
California Board of Equalization,  
4<sup>th</sup> District (2007-09); California  
State Assembly, 49<sup>th</sup> District  
(2001-06); Mayor of Monterey  
Park, CA (1988-2001); Garvey  
Unified School District Board of  
Education (1985)

**Judy May Chu**  
(b. July 7, 1953)

Judy grew up in south Los Angeles, a predominantly African American neighborhood. She became mayor of Monterey Park, California for three terms from 1988 to 2001. Subsequently, she was the first Chinese American woman to be elected to Congress in 2009. Among her many accomplishments while serving in office are introducing the Congressional resolution of regret for the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882 that passed in 2012; advocating for the San Gabriel Mountains to be a national monument; and requiring the Department of Defense to address military hazing. In 2018, the Grammys honored her as a legislator who advocated for music creators' rights. Judy's top priorities are immigration reform, women's rights, civil and voting rights, and healthcare.



Kelly Nicole Lopez (SFSU 2021)

**Ethnicity:** British American and Chinese Thai

**Place of Birth:** Bangkok, Thailand

**Party Affiliation:** Democratic

**Highest Elected Position:**

US Senator, IL (2017-now)

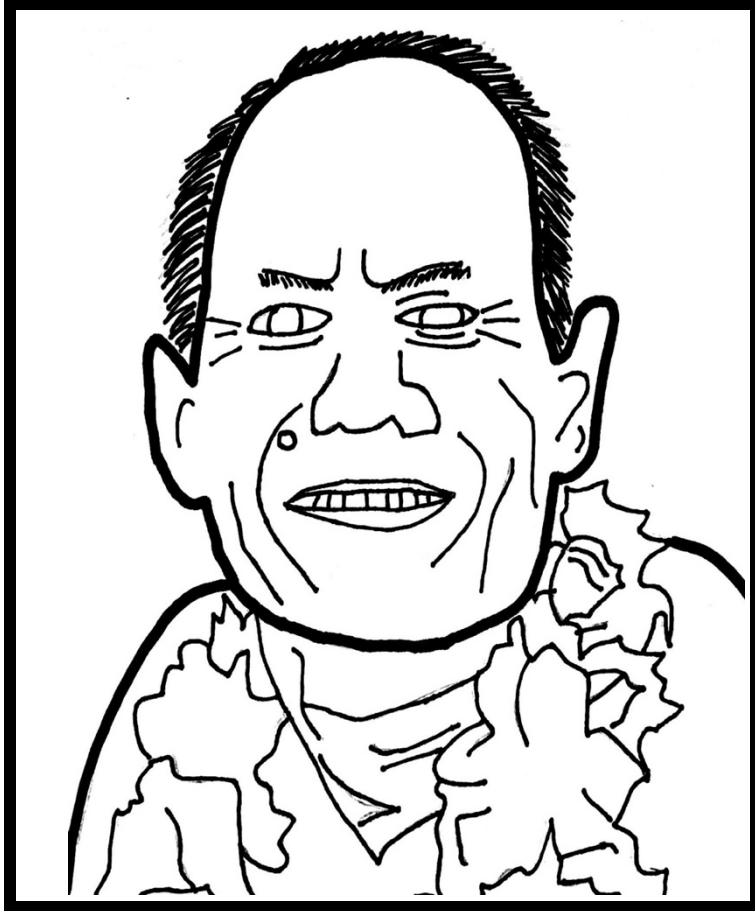
**Other Positions:**

US House of Representatives, IL (2013-17)

## **Tammy Duckworth**

**(b. March 12, 1968)**

Tammy was born in Thailand and grew up in Hawai'i. Her father was an American of British descent, and her mother, a Thai of Chinese descent. When Tammy was a helicopter pilot for the National Guard during the Iraq War, her helicopter was shot down. She lost both her legs and the ability to move her right arm. She received the Purple Heart and retired as a lieutenant colonel. Tammy became the first Thai American woman and the first woman with a disability elected to Congress. She is credited for saving the Americans with Disabilities Act, and has supported immigration reform, abortion rights, gun control, and the environment. In 2011, the Daughters of the American Revolution erected a statue of Tammy's likeness in Mount Vernon, Illinois.



Brandon Porcioncula (SFSU 2021)

**Ethnicity:** Samoan and European  
**Place of Birth:** Fagatogo,  
American Samoa

**Party Affiliation:** Democratic  
**Highest Elected Position:**  
US Senate, Hawai'i (2006-now)

**Other Positions:**  
Honolulu City Council (2003-5)

**Gerald Michael Gabbard**  
(b. January 15, 1948)

Known as Mike, Gerald Michael Gabbard is the fourth of seven children growing up in a US Air Force family who eventually moved to Hawai'i. As a child, he was a bit of a troublemaker, and eventually grew to love music and tennis. Mike started in the local city council, then became the first person of Samoan descent to serve in the Hawai'i State Senate in 2006. He has authored over sixty bills that became law, including legislation related to the environment, marriage and family, renewable energy, and agriculture. In 2001, Mike and his daughter, former Congresswoman Tulsi Gabbard, co-founded Healthy Hawai'i Coalition (HHC), that is dedicated to protecting the environment. He switched from the Republican to Democratic party in 2007.



Dylan Nishi (SFSU 2021)

**Ethnicity:** Japanese

**Place of Birth:** Fukushima, Japan

**Party Affiliation:** Democratic

**Highest Elected Position:**

US Senate (2013-now)

**Other Positions:**

US House of Representatives,  
2nd District (2007-13);

Lieutenant Governor of Hawai'i  
(1994-2002); Hawai'i House of  
Representatives (1980-94)

### **Mazie Keiko Hirono**

(b. November 3, 1947)

Mazie was eight years old when she fled Japan with her mother and brother to start a new life in America. Her college years opened her eyes to advocacy and public service. In 2013, Mazie became the first elected female senator in Hawai'i and the first APIA woman elected to the Senate. She has championed civil rights policies for underrepresented communities, Native Hawaiian education, early child nutrition programs, and healthcare. Mazie founded the Patsy T. Mink Political Action Committee in 2004 to support other women running for office, and she led the movement to establish January 30 as the "Fred Korematsu Day of Civil Liberties and Constitution." In April 2021, Mazie introduced a bill to decrease hate crimes against Asian Americans that was passed by the Senate.





Mukti Dharod (SFSU 2021)

**Ethnicity:** Punjab Indian

**Place of Birth:** Philadelphia, PA

**Party Affiliation:** Democratic

**Highest Elected Position:**

US House of Representatives, CA  
17<sup>th</sup> Congressional District (2017-  
now)

**Other Positions:**

House Committee on Oversight and  
Accountability; Congressional Asian  
Pacific American Caucus; Co-chair,  
CAPAC Economic Development  
Taskforce; Co-chair, Congressional  
Caucus on India and Indian Americans;  
Deputy Whip, Congressional  
Progressive Caucus; Assistant Whip,  
Democratic Caucus; Co-founder,  
Congressional War Powers Caucus

## **Rohit "Ro" Khanna**

**(b. September 13, 1976)**

"Ro" is short for Rohit. He was born with activism in his blood as his grandfather was involved in the Indian Independence Movement. Ro was originally more interested in playing baseball, but a writing assignment in 9th grade about the first Gulf War deepened his interest in activism and politics. Ro promotes American manufacturing and technology leadership, clean energy, and US leadership in climate, human rights, and diplomacy around the world. He is credited with co-authoring the 2021 Endless Frontier Act, a \$250 billion tech investment bill, and authoring the 2018 Internet Bill of Rights Initial Draft. Ro has also advocated for the engagement of the APIA community to support an accurate counting of APIAs in the 2020 census.



Jocelyn Chung (SFSU 2021)

**Ethnicity:** Korean

**Place of Birth:** Boston, MA

**Party Affiliation:** Democratic

**Highest Elected Position:**

US House of Representatives,  
New Jersey 3<sup>rd</sup> Congressional  
District (2019-now)

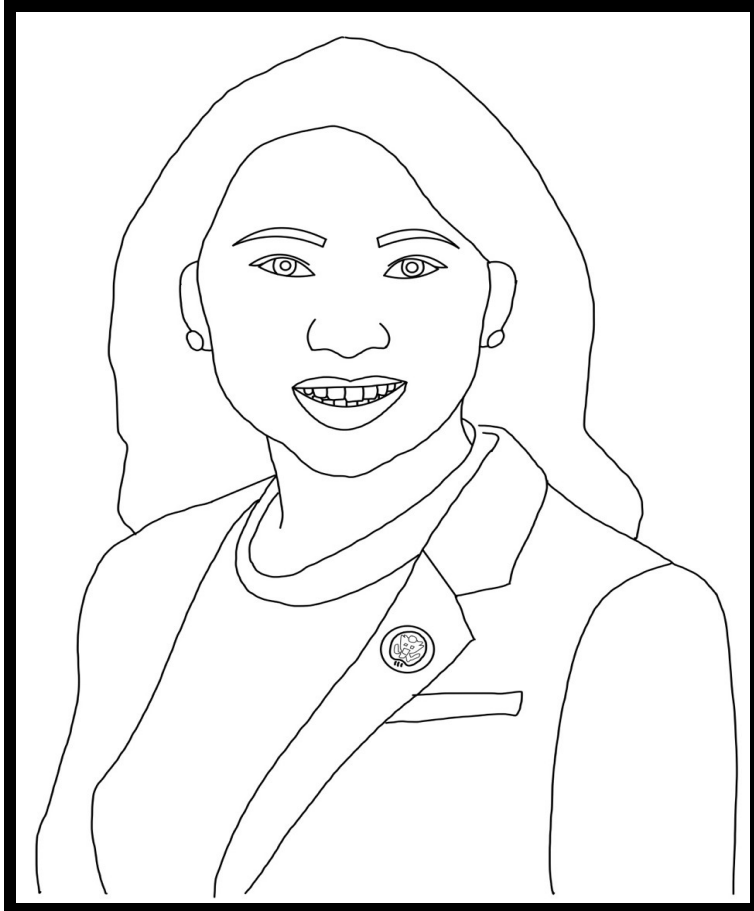
**Other Positions:**

House Armed Services  
Committee; Subcommittee on  
Military Personnel; Subcommittee  
on Cyber, Innovative  
Technologies, and Information  
Systems; House Foreign Affairs  
Committee; Congressional  
Progressive Caucus; Congressional  
Asian Pacific American Caucus

## **Andy Kim**

**(b. July 12, 1982)**

Andy grew up in South Jersey with his South Korean immigrant parents. He is the first APIA lawmaker to represent New Jersey in Congress and the first Democrat of Korean descent elected to Congress. Andy promotes national and economic security, investing in small businesses and innovation, working families, and honoring military families and veterans. He helped introduce the 2019 SAVE (State Allowance for a Variety of Exchanges) Act, which later became a bill to lower prescription drug costs for Americans. After the January 6 attack on Washington, DC, images of Andy went viral as he spent hours on his hands and knees cleaning up the US Capitol Building. The blue suit that he wore on that day has now been donated to the Smithsonian Institution to tell the story of January 6, 2021.



Chezlaine Barrero (SFSU 2021)

**Ethnicity:** Vietnamese

**Place of Birth:** Ho Chi Minh City,  
Vietnam

**Party Affiliation:** Democratic

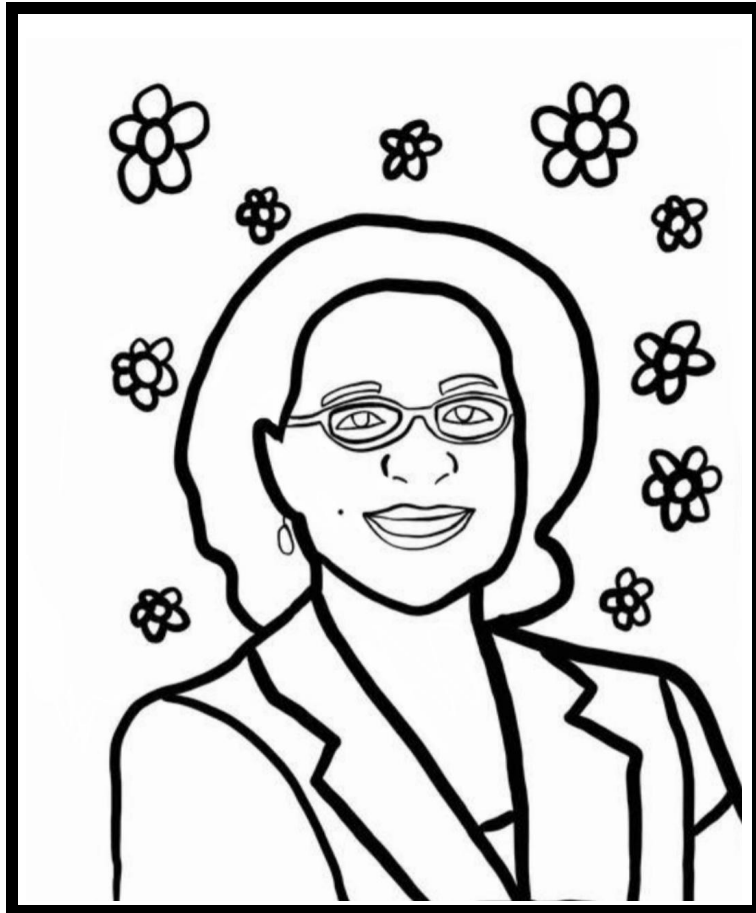
**Highest Elected Position:**  
US House of Representatives, 7<sup>th</sup>  
Congressional District (2017-now)

**Other Positions:**

US House Select Committee on  
the January 6 Attack (2021-22);  
Chief Deputy Whip of the House  
Democratic Majority (2021-22)

**Stephanie Murphy**  
(b. September 16, 1978)

Born Đặng Thị Ngọc Dung in 1978, Stephanie was only six months old when she fled from communist Vietnam by boat with her parents. The US Navy rescued them on sea to a Malaysian refugee camp before they were sponsored to America. Stephanie graduated from college with the help of government grants and loans. After the 9/11 attacks motivated her to enter public service, she worked as a national security specialist for the US Department of Defense. In 2017, Stephanie became the first Vietnamese American woman elected to Congress. She has supported gun violence research, APIA women advancement in entrepreneurship, and trade and national security policies. In 2021, Stephanie served on the US House Select Committee to investigate the January 6, 2021 attack on Washington, DC.



La Raine Gonzalez (SFSU 2021)

**Ethnicity:** African and Korean  
**Place of Birth:** Seoul, South Korea

**Party Affiliation:** Democratic  
**Highest Elected Position:**  
US House of Representatives,  
Washington's 10<sup>th</sup> Congressional  
District (2021-now)

**Other Positions:**  
Mayor of Tacoma, WA (2010-18);  
Tacoma, WA City Council Member  
(2008-09)

**Marilyn Sun-Ja Strickland**  
(b. September 25, 1962)

Marilyn was born in South Korea and grew up in Tacoma, Washington. Her father is African American and fought in WWII and Korea, where he met his Korean wife. Her parents faced discrimination and hardships, which taught her to fight for what is right and to stand up for the underdog. She began her political career serving in the City Council of Tacoma and later as its mayor. In 2021, Marilyn became the first African-Korean American elected to Congress in Washington State and the first American woman of Korean descent in Congress. When she took the oath of office, she proudly wore her traditional Korean outfit. Marilyn has introduced and legislated numerous bills in support of military families, children's nutrition, and the teaching of APIA history in schools.



Zuni Moon (SFSU 2021)

**Ethnicity:** Japanese

**Place of Birth:** Riverside, CA

**Party Affiliation:** Democratic

**Highest Elected Position:**

US House of Representatives, CA  
39<sup>th</sup> Congressional District  
(2023-now)

**Other Positions:**

US House of Representatives, CA  
41<sup>st</sup> Congressional District (2013-  
23); Board President, Riverside  
Community College District Board  
of Trustees (1991)

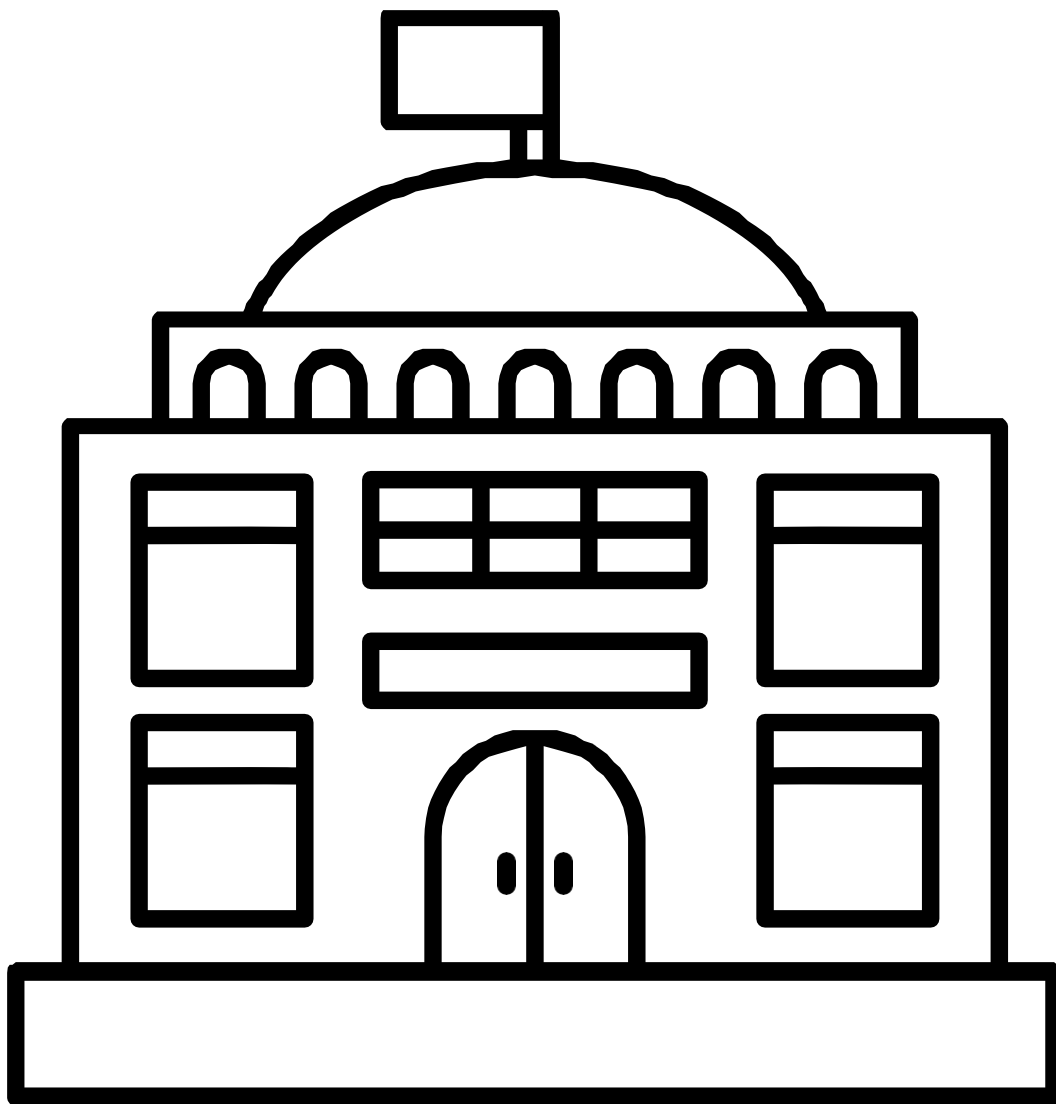
## **Mark Allan Takano**

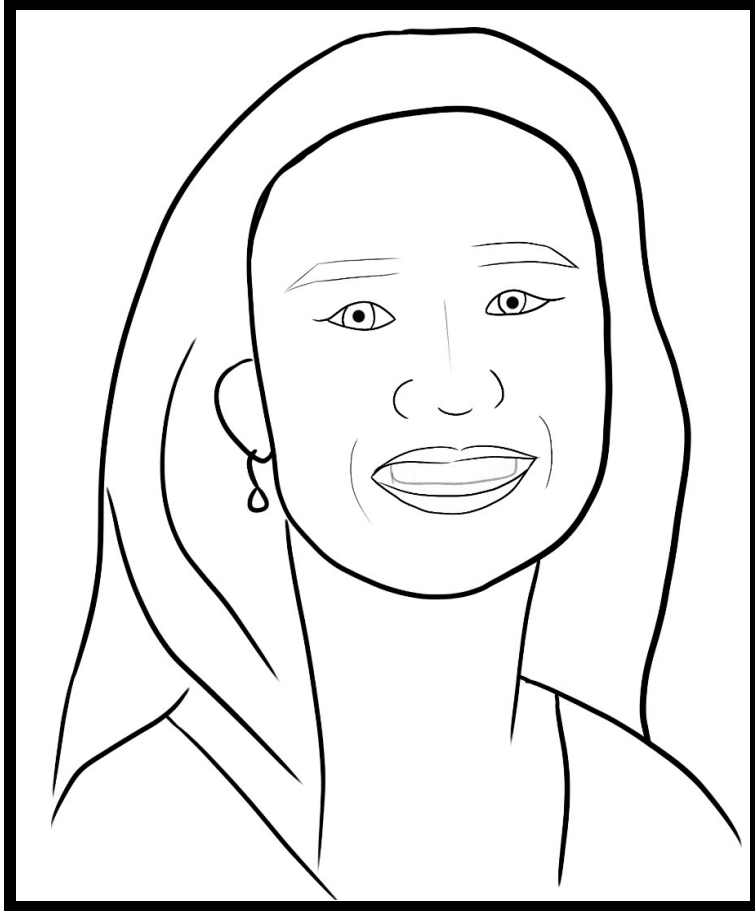
(b. December 10, 1960)

Mark was born and raised in Riverside, California. He would bus tables in school to make ends meet, and later worked as a teacher before entering politics. During World War II, his parents and grandparents were sent to Japanese American internment camps which initiated an early awareness of injustice and public service. Mark was the first openly gay person elected to Congress in 2012 and championed legislation on education, LGBTQ+ issues, energy and environment, healthcare, housing, and national security. Together with Senator Mazie Hirono in 2019, and after renewed efforts in 2021, Mark introduced legislation to award Fred Korematsu the Congressional Gold Medal for his fight for civil liberties and against Japanese American World War II incarceration.

PRESENT APIA POLITICIANS

SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA





Thanh Nguyen (SFSU 2021)

**Ethnicity:** Chinese

**Place of Birth:** Hong Kong

**Party Affiliation:** Democratic

**Highest Elected Position:**

San Francisco Board of  
Supervisors, District 1  
(2021-25)

**Other Positions:**

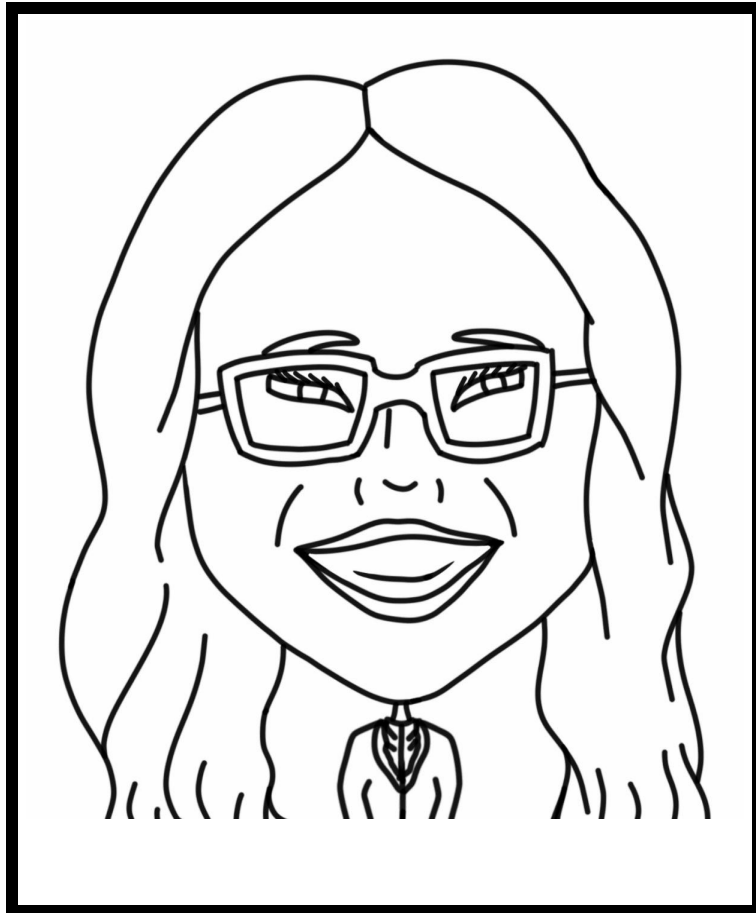
Chair, SF Budget and  
Appropriations Committee  
(2023); Chair, SF Budget and  
Finance Committee (2023)

### **Connie Chan**

**(b. October 3, 1978)**

Connie immigrated to America at the age of thirteen. She stayed with her mother and brother in a San Francisco Chinatown apartment. Connie attended Galileo High School and after graduating from UC Davis, returned to work in the community as a volunteer interpreter, community organizer, and later as the Deputy Director of Communications to then-District Attorney Kamala Harris. Connie advocates for affordable housing, expanding wage workers' protection, and small business assistance programs. Her favorite thing about San Francisco is the fog.





Arnel Noquez (SFSU 2022)

**Ethnicity:** Chinese and Jewish

**Place of Birth:** Boston, MA

**Party Affiliation:** Democratic

**Highest Elected Position:**  
San Mateo City Council (2019-24)

**Other Positions:**

Mayor of San Mateo, CA (2023);

Vice-Chair of the San Mateo

Parks and Recreation Commission;

Founding member of the San

Mateo County Asian American

Pacific Islander Task Force;

San Mateo County API Caucus

### **Amourence "Amo" Lee**

(b. unknown)

Amourence, aka Amo, grew up in a diverse family with five Chinese adopted sisters and an African American godmother. Her father is Chinese Hawaiian and her mother is Ashkenazi Jew. Amo's path to local politics began when she became president of the Home Association of North Central San Mateo. In 2023, she was the first APIA woman and Jew of color appointed by the San Mateo City Council as mayor. With her background in public policy and public health (a Master's from Columbia University), she focused on building strong and empowered communities through economic vibrancy, affordable housing, strong infrastructure, and diversity inclusion policies. In 2022, she received the San Francisco Foundation's Koshland Civic Unity Award for her contributions to the North Central neighborhood of San Mateo.



Maxwell Quan (SFSU 2022)

**Ethnicity:** Chinese

**Place of Birth:** San Jose, CA

**Party Affiliation:** Democratic

**Highest Elected Position:**

California State Assembly, 26<sup>th</sup>  
Assembly District (2014-now)

**Other Positions:**

Assistant Majority Whip (2014-16); Co-founder and co-chair, California Legislative Tech Caucus; Chair, California Asian American and Pacific Islander Legislative Caucus; Chair, California Legislative LGBT Caucus (2017-18, 2021-22); Legislative Technology and Innovation Caucus; Mayor of Campbell (2010-14); Campbell City Council Member (2006-10)

### **Evan Low**

**(b. June 5, 1983)**

Evan is a fourth generation Californian born and raised in San Jose. At the age of 26 in Campbell, he became the youngest openly gay APIA mayor in the country, and in 2014, the youngest elected legislator in California state history. He faced backlash for his ethnicity and sexuality, but that did not stop him from becoming a representative for the LGBTQ+ and APIA communities. Among the many legislations he has introduced while in office was the 2016 bill to ban California state-funded travel to states with discriminatory laws based on sexuality. Evan continues to support job creation, environmental protection, marriage equality, civil rights, transparency in government, and fiscal reform.



Joyce D. Bantugan (SFSU 2022)

**Ethnicity:** Filipina

**Place of Birth:** San Francisco, CA

**Party Affiliation:** Democratic

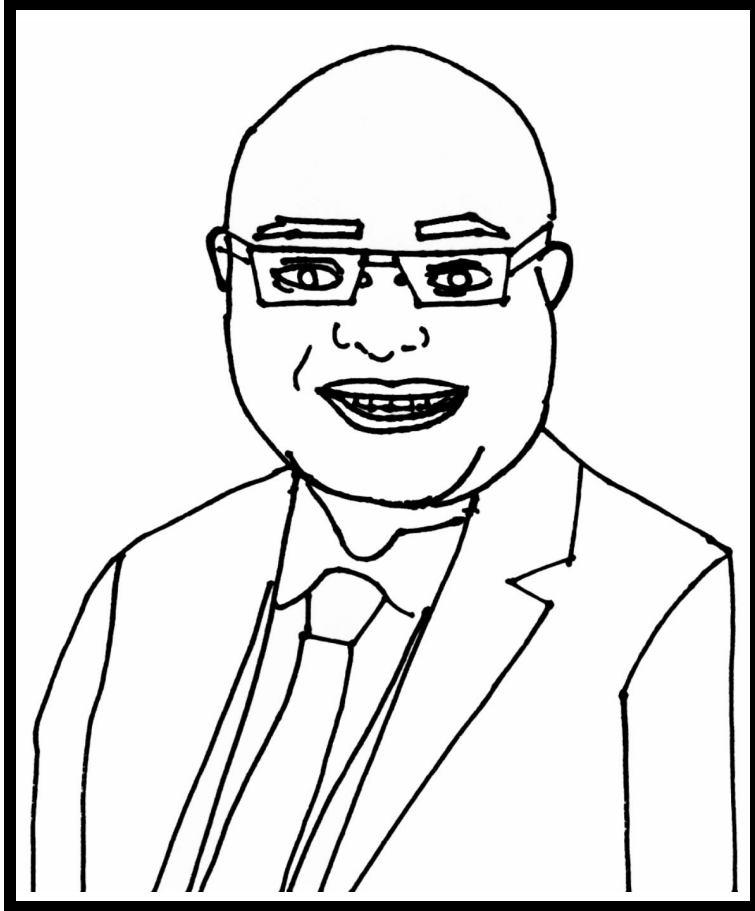
**Highest Elected Position:**  
City Council of Daly City, CA  
(2016-20, 2020-24)

**Other Positions:**

Vice Mayor of Daly City, CA  
(2023); President, League of  
California Cities Asian Pacific  
Islander Caucus (2022-23);  
Mayor of Daly City, CA (2018,  
2021)

**Juslyn Cabrera Manalo**  
(b. 1980)

Juslyn was eight years old when her family moved from San Francisco to Daly City. She grew up in a multiethnic community that shaped her work as a community service worker fighting for Filipino World War II veterans, affordable housing, and youth development opportunities. An alumna of SF State University, she earned her BA in Asian American Studies and later a Master's in Public Administration. Juslyn was Daly City's first Filipina American elected in 2016 to City Council before becoming mayor in 2018 and 2021. She is currently the city's Vice Mayor. Raised in Daly City as a child, she continues to serve that community to champion community development opportunities and APIA representation.



Michelle Lee (SFSU 2022)

**Ethnicity:** Filipino

**Place of Birth:** Manila,  
Philippines

**Party Affiliation:** Democratic

**Highest Elected Position:**  
South San Francisco City Council  
(2018-24)

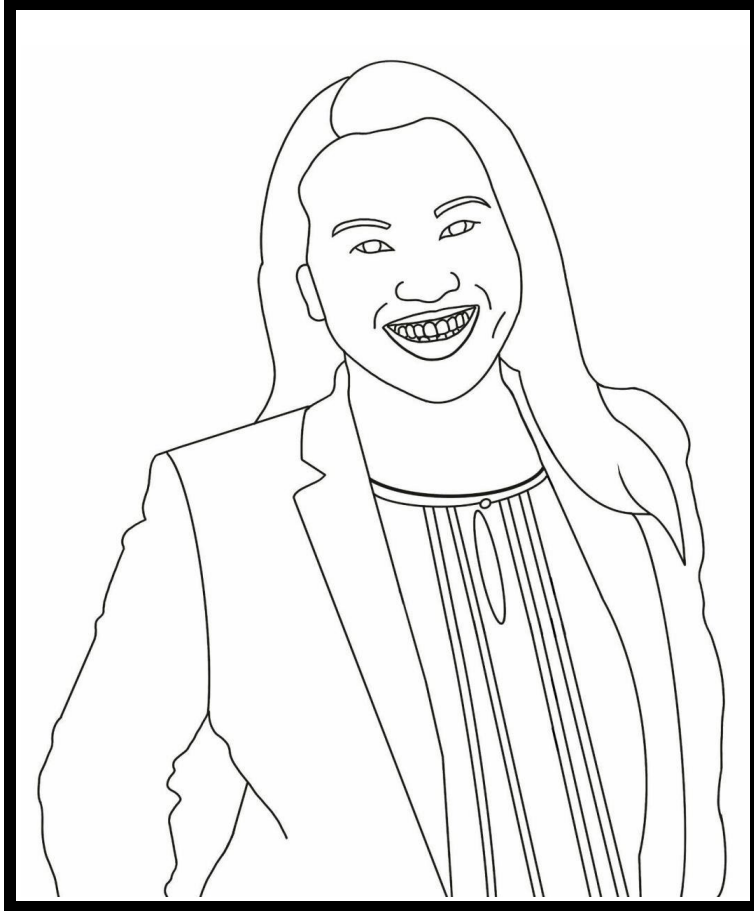
**Other Positions:**

Vice Mayor of SSF (2023); Mayor  
of SSF (2022); SSF Planning  
Commissioner (2015-18), Chair  
(2018); SSF Parks and  
Recreation Commissioner  
(2008-14), Chair (2013)

## **Mark Nagales**

(b. unknown)

Mark grew up in South San Francisco (SSF) playing baseball from Little League to high school. Inspired by his history and government teacher to understand how government works, he eventually earned his college degree in History and Political Science from SF State University. Mark served as an aide to several elected officials before being elected to the City Council of SSF. In 2022, he became the city's first Filipino American mayor. Mark and his family shared a one-bedroom apartment until they purchased a home with a government-supported housing assistance program. His personal life experiences have influenced his support of parks and recreation programs, affordable housing, and guaranteed income programs.



Mikaela Cuaresma (SFSU 2022)

**Ethnicity:** Hmong

**Place of Birth:** Stockton, CA

**Party Affiliation:** Democratic

**Highest Elected Position:**

Mayor of Oakland, CA (2023-now)

**Other Positions:**

Oakland City Council, District 4  
(2018-23)

## **Sheng Thao**

(b. 1985)

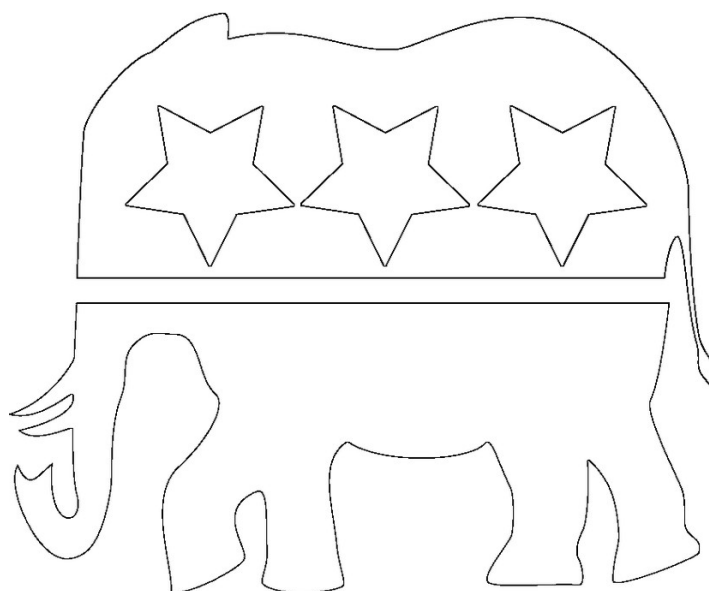
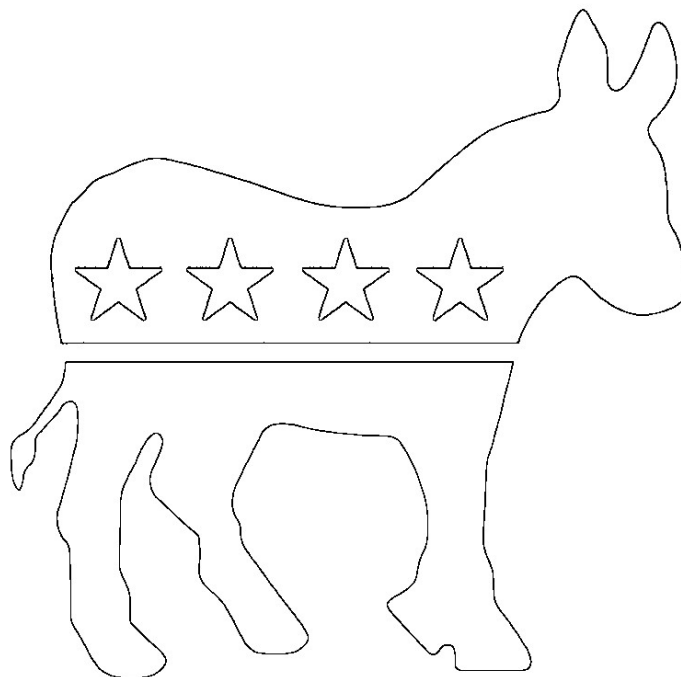
Sheng Thao is the seventh of ten children in a family of Hmong refugees who fled Laos. Her parents met in a Thailand refugee camp before immigrating and settling in Stockton, California. Sheng Thao grew up in poverty and depended on social services for housing and food. As a single mother, she fled an abusive relationship and relied on public service for support and higher education. In 2018, Sheng Thao became the first Hmong American elected to Oakland's City Council. Five years later, she made history again by becoming the first Hmong American mayor of a major US city (Oakland). Sheng Thao champions issues and legislation around affordable housing, homeless services, family development, and marginalized youth, all of which reflects her own upbringing and experiences.

# ACTIVITIES



# Color the Political Party Mascots

There are two main parties in the government, the Democratic Party and the Republican Party. The donkey mascot symbolizes the Democratic Party, and the elephant mascot symbolizes the Republican party.



Michelle Lee (SFSU 2023)

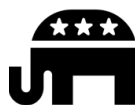


# 2020 Presidential Election Results (Guide)

US presidential elections are held every four years. The last one was in 2020. Below is a list of which states and the District of Columbia voted Democratic and which voted Republican in 2020.



Arizona (AZ)  
California (CA)  
Colorado (CO)  
Connecticut (CT)  
Delaware (DE)  
District of Columbia (DC)  
Georgia (GA)  
Hawai'i (HI)  
Illinois (IL)  
Maine (ME)  
Maryland (MD)  
Massachusetts (MA)  
Michigan (MI)  
Minnesota (MN)  
Nevada (NV)  
New Hampshire (NH)  
New Jersey (NJ)  
New Mexico (NM)  
New York (NY)  
Oregon (OR)  
Pennsylvania (PA)  
Rhode Island (RI)  
Washington (WA)  
Wisconsin (WI)  
Vermont (VT)  
Virginia (VA)

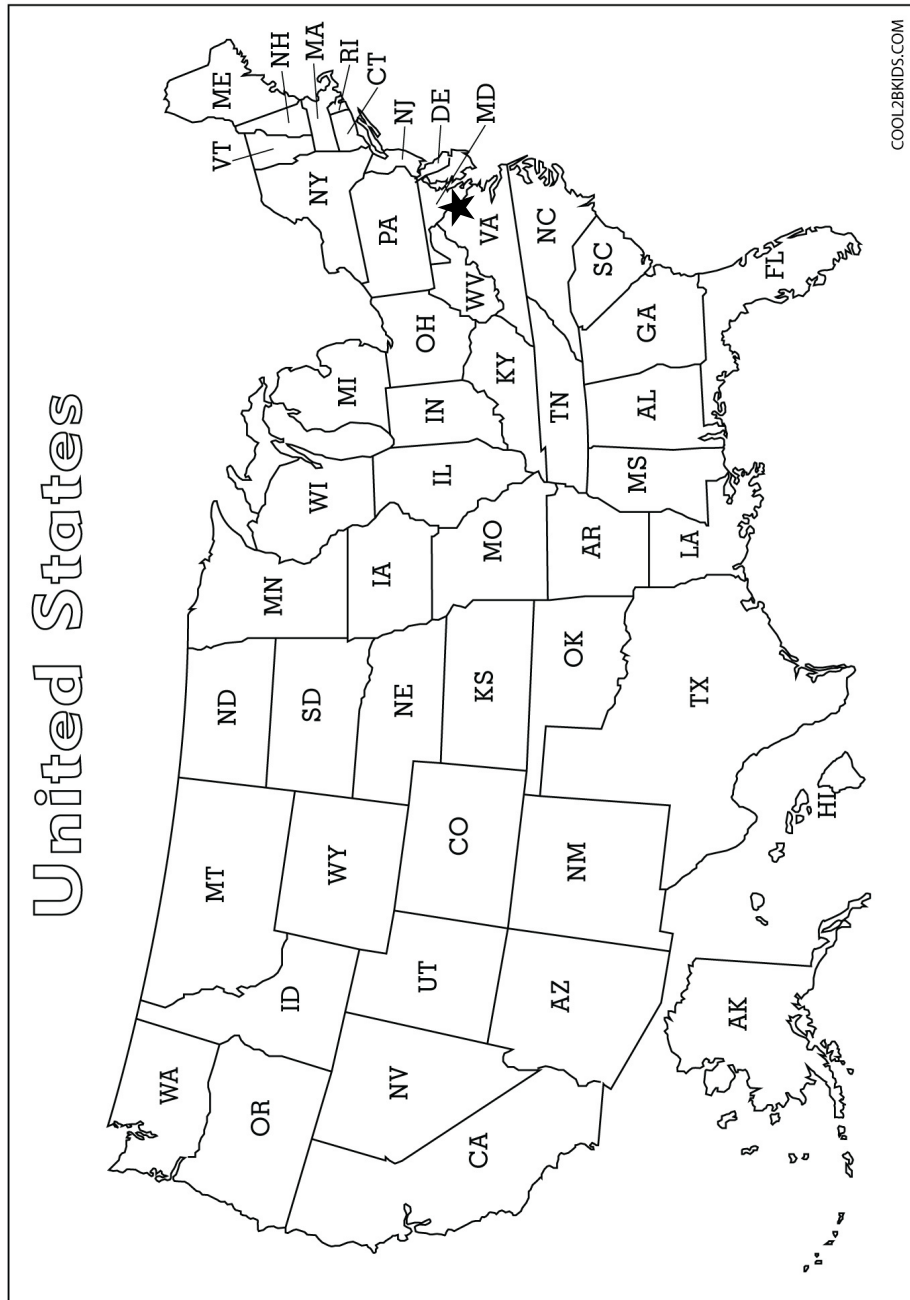


Alabama (AL)  
Alaska (AK)  
Arkansas (AZ)  
Florida (FL)  
Idaho (ID)  
Indiana (IN)  
Iowa (IA)  
Kansas (KS)  
Kentucky (KY)  
Louisiana (LA)  
Mississippi (MS)  
Missouri (MO)  
Montana (MT)  
Nebraska (NE)  
North Carolina (NC)  
North Dakota (ND)  
Ohio (OH)  
Oklahoma (OK)  
South Carolina (SC)  
South Dakota (SD)  
Tennessee (TN)  
Texas (TX)  
Utah (UT)  
West Virginia (WV)  
Wyoming (WY)

Concept by Seki Takano (SFSU 2021); Adapted by Michelle Lee (SFSU 2023)

# 2020 Presidential Election Results

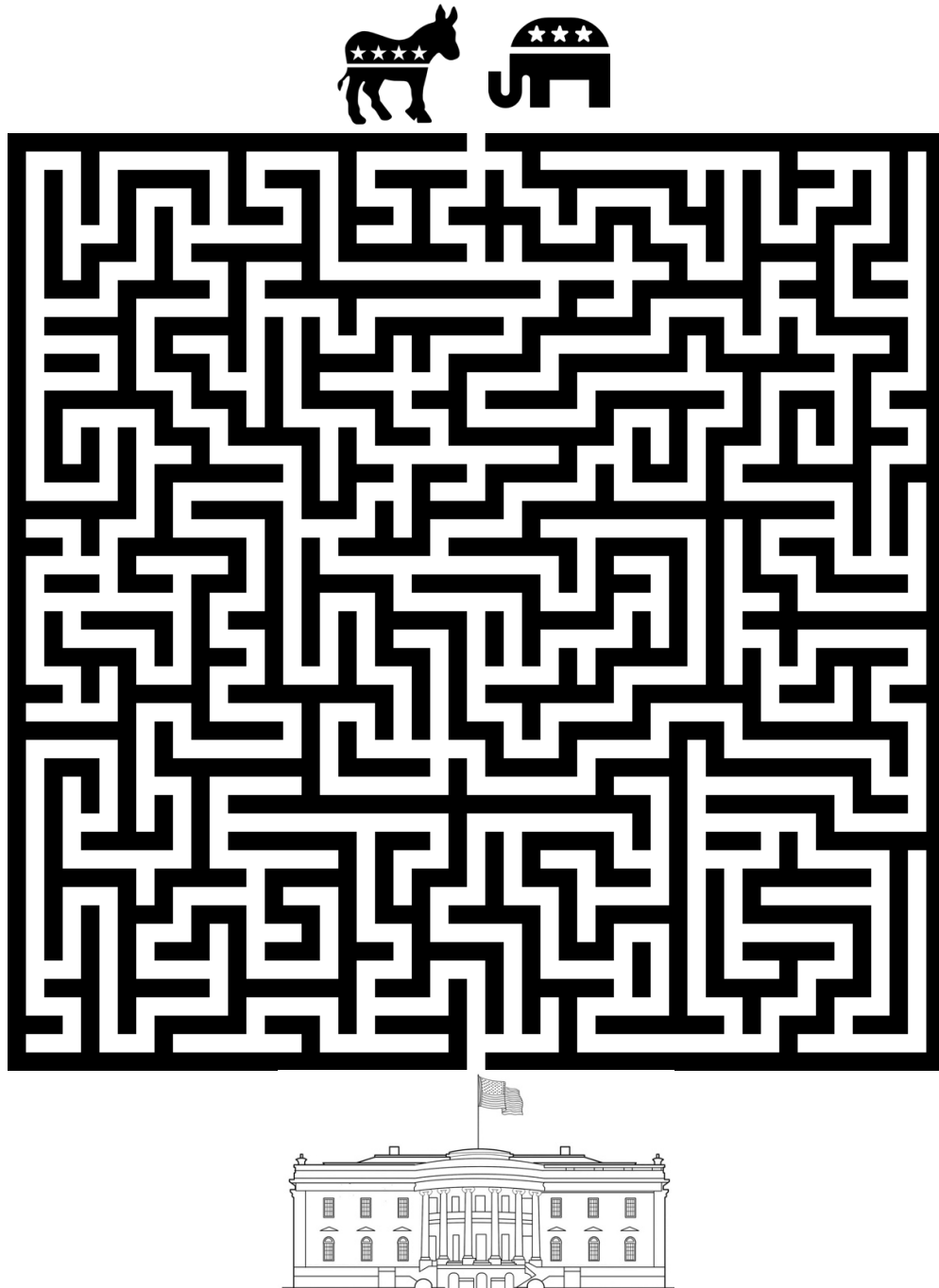
Instruction: Using the guide provided on page 42, color Democratic states blue and color Republican states red.



Concept by Seki Takano (SFSU 2021); Adapted by Michelle Lee (SFSU 2023)

# Maze to the White House

Instruction: Help the Democratic and Republican party mascots move from start to arrive at the White House.



Concept by Jordan Anderson (SFSU 2021); Adapted by Michelle Lee (SFSU 2023)

# Government and Politics Match-Up

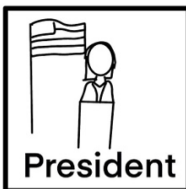
Instruction: Match the picture and word to the correct definition.



A public official in court who presides over cases and makes up the judicial branch.



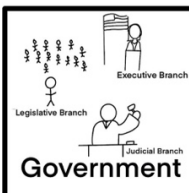
Head of the country and represents the executive branch.



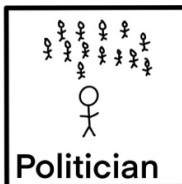
A ceremonial item used in political events.



A person who is involved in politics or looking to be elected to office in government.



The government is broken down into these three branches.



An important act of voicing your own opinion to help determine important decisions in the government.

# Voting Match-Up

Instruction: Read each word on the left column and match it with the correct definition.

- |                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| 1. _____ APIA       | a. Making a decision                              |
| 2. _____ Politician | b. Asian Pacific Islander American                |
| 3. _____ Candidate  | c. A vote to decide who will be in office         |
| 4. _____ Campaign   | d. Government by the people                       |
| 5. _____ Vote       | e. Where candidates are listed and votes are made |
| 6. _____ Office     | f. A person active in party politics              |
| 7. _____ Ballot     | g. A person running for office                    |
| 8. _____ Election   | h. An influence in decisions of government        |
| 9. _____ Lobby      | i. An organized action to achieve a goal          |
| 10. _____ Democracy | j. An elected job (local, state, or national)     |

Kyla Young (SFSU 2021)

# Political Word Search

Instruction: Find the hidden words that are related to APIA politics.

M N B V L O U P O L I T I C S  
S T V A N H Z A S D V J K R L  
Q W E O F F I C E Z O A W I N  
P O I U Y T R I E W T C T G M  
D F R G Y S A F H M I O Y H H  
E L E C T E D I R L N B K T F  
M V P B P N P C O N G R E S S  
O A U A L A J I F M O M O E R  
C M B R K T H S F X N T M D G  
R P L O J E F L T W E N T Y F  
A Z I N H Y D A M E R I C A N  
T J C G X E H N O N E F E S R  
Z M A Y N O K D B A P B V I G  
I H N D E T Y E A C E T A A T  
U G U M K W Q R E X O S V N Y

OFFICE  
VOTING  
POLITICS

ELECTED  
RIGHTS  
ASIAN

REPUBLICAN  
SENATE  
AMERICAN

DEMOCRAT  
CONGRESS  
PACIFIC ISLANDER

Maxine Abergas (SFSU 2021)

# APIA Politician Word Scramble

Instruction: Read about APIA politicians in the Activity Book to unscramble the names of APIA politicians below.

1. ILDNA OIYEUN \_\_\_\_\_
2. NEB OYTNECAA \_\_\_\_\_
3. MEAI RNIOOH \_\_\_\_\_
4. MRAK AANSEGL \_\_\_\_\_
5. IMAHR NGOF \_\_\_\_\_
6. APTSY NKIM \_\_\_\_\_
7. YJDU CUH \_\_\_\_\_
8. AAKLM SRAHRI \_\_\_\_\_
9. MATMY TKDOWCHUR \_\_\_\_\_
10. YDNA IKM \_\_\_\_\_
11. ENGSH HOAT \_\_\_\_\_
12. NYLSUJ MNAAOL \_\_\_\_\_

Word Box		
HIRAM FONG	DANIEL INOUE	PATSY MINK
KAMALA HARRIS	BEN CAYETANO	JUDY CHU
TAMMY DUCKWORTH	MAZIE HIRONO	ANDY KIM
JUSLYN MANALO	MARK NAGALES	SHENG THAO

Michelle Lee (SFSU 2023)



# Learn about APIA Senators

Instruction: Answer the questions below using this chart:

Senator Name	Political Party	State they Represent	Years Served
Tammy Duckworth	Democrat	Illinois	2017-Present
Hiram L. Fong	Republican	Hawai'i	1959-1977
Gerald Michael Gabbard	Democrat	Hawai'i	2006-Present
Kamala D. Harris	Democrat	California	2017-2021
Samuel I. Hayakawa	Republican	California	1977-1983
Mazie Hirono	Democrat	Hawai'i	2013-Present
Daniel K. Inouye	Democrat	Hawai'i	1963-2012
Spark M. Matsunaga	Democrat	Hawai'i	1977-1990

1. Who is the first APIA senator? What years did he serve?
2. Which APIA senators are still serving?
3. Which APIA senators are from Hawai'i (HI)?
4. Which APIA senators are from California (CA)?
5. Which APIA Senator is from Illinois (IL)?

Concept by Ma. Isabella Santos Chincuangco (SFSU 2021); Adapted by Michelle Lee (SFSU 2023)

# My Proposed Law

Instructions: What law would you like to propose? Write why you are proposing this law. Then draw a campaign picture for your proposed law.

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The Title of My Proposed Law

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Jennifer Contreras (SFSU 2021)

# Letter to a Politician

Instructions: After My Proposed Law, write a Letter to a politician to "lobby" the politician to support your proposed law. Choose an APIA politician from the Activity Book. First, write your proposed law. Then write why you are proposing your law. You can write what you want to happen or a statement/suggestion you have for the politician to support your proposed law. Start the letter with a greeting. After the greeting, the letter should be broken down into three components: introduction, questions/concerns, and statements/suggestions.

Dear, \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of APIA Politician                      Position of APIA Politician

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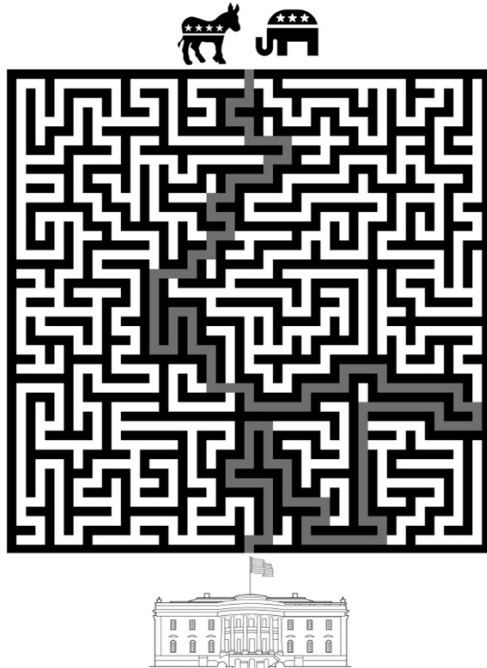
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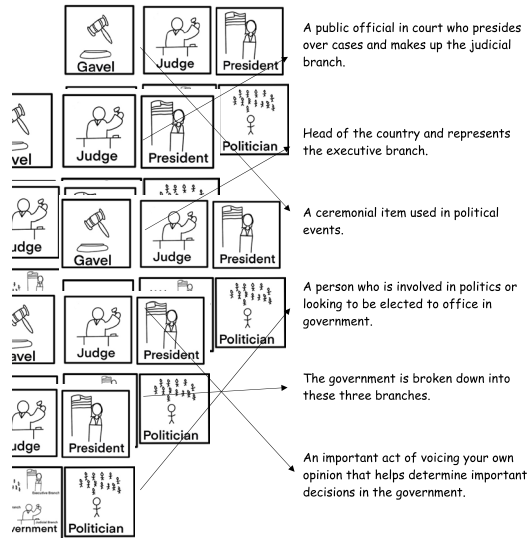
Sincerely, \_\_\_\_\_

# Answer Key

## Page 44: Maze to The White House



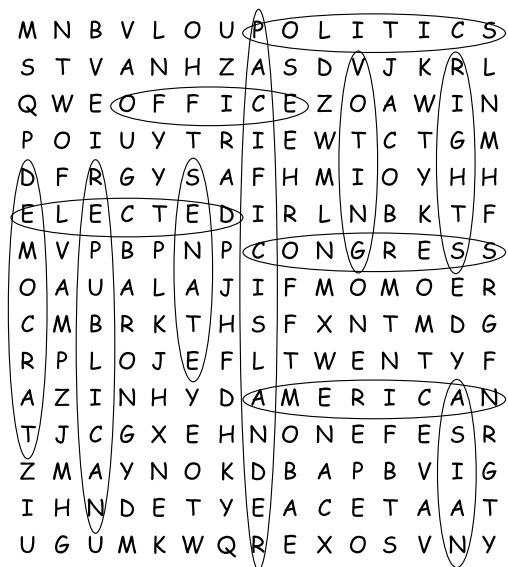
## Page 45: Government and Politics Match-Up



## Page 46: Voting Match-Up

1. \_\_\_\_ b \_\_\_\_ APiA
  2. \_\_\_\_ f \_\_\_\_ Politician
  3. \_\_\_\_ g \_\_\_\_ Candidate
  4. \_\_\_\_ i \_\_\_\_ Campaign
  5. \_\_\_\_ a \_\_\_\_ Vote
  6. \_\_\_\_ j \_\_\_\_ Office
  7. \_\_\_\_ e \_\_\_\_ Ballot
  8. \_\_\_\_ c \_\_\_\_ Election
  9. \_\_\_\_ h \_\_\_\_ Lobby
  10. \_\_\_\_ d \_\_\_\_ Democracy
- a. Making a decision
  - b. Asian Pacific Islander American
  - c. A vote to decide who will be in office
  - d. Government by the people
  - e. Where candidates are listed and votes are made
  - f. A person active in party politics
  - g. A person running for office
  - h. An influence in decisions of government
  - i. An organized action to achieve a goal
  - j. An elected job (local, state, or national)

## Page 47: Political Word Search



## Page 48: APIA Politician Word Scramble

1. ILDNA OIYEUN Daniel Inouye
2. NEB OYTNECAA Ben Cayetano
3. MEAI RNIOOH Mazie Hirono
4. MRAK AANSEGL Mark Nagales
5. IMAHR NGOF Hiram Fong
6. AOTSY NKIM Patsy Mink
7. YJDU CUH Judy Chu
8. AAKLM SRAHRI Kamala Harris
9. MATMY TKDOWCHUR Tammy Duckworth
10. YDNA IKM Andy Kim
11. ENGSH HOAT Sheng Thao
12. NYLSUJ MNA AOL Juslyn Manalo

## Page 49: Learn about APIA Senators

1. Who is the first APIA senator? What years did he serve?  
Hiram L. Fong was the first APIA senator. He served from 1959-1977.
2. Which APIA senators are still serving?  
Tammy Duckworth, Gerald Michael Gabbard, and Mazie K. Hirono
3. Which APIA senators are from Hawai'i (HI)?  
Hiram L. Fong, Gerald Michael Gabbard, Mazie K. Hirono, Daniel K. Inouye, and Spark M. Matsunaga
4. Which APIA senators are from California (CA)?  
Kamala D. Harris and Samuel I. Hayakawa
5. Which APIA Senator is from Illinois (IL)?  
Tammy Duckworth