

NASSAU COUNTY

2025 NEWSLETTER

BRUCE A. BLAKEMAN

NASSAU COUNTY EXECUTIVE



NASSAU COUNTY
OFFICE OF
ASIAN AMERICAN AFFAIRS



The Office of Asian American Affairs is a department of Nassau County tasked with serving as the liaison between the county government and its Asian population. Our mission is to coordinate resources for the Asian community with the goal of educating, empowering and developing integration initiatives that will foster greater participation in Nassau County's social, economic, and civic life. Our staff works with the County Executive's Office and other County agencies on the research, analysis, and implementation of policy to ensure that the Asian community is afforded equal opportunities, meaningful engagement, and access to Nassau County government services.

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Nassau County Office of
Asian American Affairs



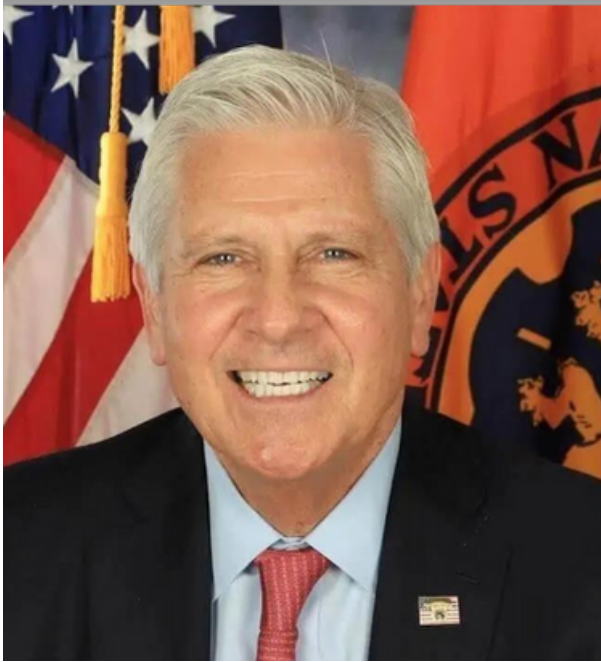
@NCAsianAffairs



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A MESSAGE FROM OUR COUNTY EXECUTIVE



Bruce A. Blakeman
Nassau County Executive

Nassau County remains committed to ensuring that every resident has fair and equal access to county services and resources. Our Asian American community is an essential part of the cultural, economic, and social fabric of Nassau County, and we take great pride in supporting its continued growth and success.

The Nassau County Office of Asian American Affairs plays a vital role in strengthening this connection. The department serves as a bridge between Asian American residents and all county agencies, promoting awareness, opportunity, and community engagement. It is efforts like these that make Nassau County the safest county in the United States.

The Office of Asian American Affairs will continue to provide meaningful support to our Asian communities by assisting residents, connecting them with county departments, and helping them celebrate their ethnic, religious, civic, and national traditions throughout the year.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Own M. Naqvi
Executive Director

As Executive Director, I am honored to serve the Asian American community of Nassau County, one of the fastest-growing and most dynamic populations in our region. Our office is dedicated to ensuring that residents have access to the information, services, and resources they need to thrive. By keeping our community informed and connected, we help strengthen one of the most resilient and vibrant minority communities in the county.

We are deeply grateful for the strong support of Nassau County Executive Bruce Blakeman, whose commitment and investment have empowered our Asian residents to grow, succeed, and enjoy an enhanced quality of life here in Nassau County. The Office of Asian American Affairs remains fully committed to serving as a bridge between our Asian communities and county government, supporting residents, fostering engagement, and celebrating the rich cultural diversity that makes our county exceptional.

Together, we look forward to continuing our partnership with the Asian American community as we work to uphold and advance the excellence of Nassau County.

LUNAR NEW YEAR AT TILLES CENTER

The second Lunar New Year celebration in Nassau County took place at the Tilles Center at LIU Post on February 1st, attracting over 4000 attendees. The event featured a variety of exciting giveaways, including lanterns and baby lion dolls. We also recognized the semifinalists from the Lunar New Year art competition, presenting awards and trophies to the top six young artists in each age group. The event showcased cultural exhibits such as Chinese calligraphy, sugar-wrapped fruit skewers, and traditional jewelry assembly. Attendees enjoyed over two hours of continuous performances from local dance and music schools. A special thanks to Nassau County Executive Bruce Blakeman, Elaine Phillips, Nassau County Comptroller Supervisor Jennifer DeSena, Assemblyman Jake Blumencranz, NYS Assemblyman Daniel Norber, and Cultural Counselor Ji Yuan Shang from the Consulate General of China. Great appreciation also goes to all the sponsors, dance studios, and volunteers who contributed to making this event a success. Your presence and support are deeply appreciated by the Chinese community.



N A S S A U C O U N T Y

LUNAR NEW YEAR ART COMPETITION

Lunar New Year Art Contest and Exhibition

The Nassau County Museum of Art partnered with the Office of Asian American Affairs for the second time to celebrate Lunar New Year. Thanks to Laura Lynch, Director of Education, and Beth Horn, Executive Director, we were able to showcase the semifinalists' artworks from the Lunar New Year art competition at the museum. Additionally, performers from Tzu Chi Academy of Long Island, Little Swan Dance Studio, and Long Island Musical Conservatory were invited to take part in the celebration.



March 2025

NASSAU COUNTY

RAMADAN IFTAR 2025

Nassau County Ramadan Iftar

Nassau County Office of Asian American Affairs organized one of the biggest iftars in the nation at Nassau police academy Garden city. An overwhelming number of Muslim community members supported and attended this blessed, beautiful evening.

Special thanks to the Nassau County Executive Bruce Blakeman for all the support to help organize such a mega event for the Muslim community. Thanks to all the top Muslim Scholars, Islamic center reps and community leaders for attending and sharing your wisdom with the community.



International Wushu Championships in Nassau

The 2025 International Wushu Championship, held in Nassau County Community College, brought together hundreds of talented athletes from around the US and Canada to celebrate the strength, discipline, and artistry of traditional Wushu. Competitors showcased outstanding skills, created an exciting and inspiring atmosphere to the participants and audiences. The championship not only promoted cultural exchange but also strengthened the global Wushu community through excellence, dedication, and unity.



Luncheon Meeting

Nassau County Executive Bruce Blakeman hosted a luncheon meeting with leaders from more than 20 Chinese local associations and non-profit organizations. The gathering provided an important forum to discuss upcoming community events, share insights and identify opportunities for collaborations.



N A S S A U C O U N T Y

May 2025

VAISAKHI EVENTS

Nassau County Vaisakhi Festival

6th Annual Vaisakhi Mela 2025

A vibrant celebration of culture, tradition, and community spirit! The Vaisakhi Mela in Long Island, organized by the Long Island Punjabi Circle in collaboration with the Office of Asian American Affairs, Nassau County, was a tremendous success, bringing together thousands for a day of joy, music, and cultural pride. Special thanks to Onkar Singh, Rajeev Mani, Jay Singh, and Deepak Bansal for their outstanding leadership.

Nassau County Executive Bruce Blakeman attended as Chief Guest, joining other distinguished officials in celebrating this meaningful festival. Nearly 5,000 community members gathered, many traveling from across the United States, reflecting the unity and strength of the Punjabi community.

From vibrant traditional attire and delicious cuisine to energetic live performances, the event was truly unforgettable. Community leaders were also honored on stage by County Executive Bruce Blakeman for their dedicated service, making the celebration even more special..



VAISAKHI EVENTS

Vaisakhi by American Punjabi Society

The American Punjabi Society, in collaboration with the Office of Asian American Affairs, proudly celebrated the 4th Annual Vaisakhi Mela at the Nassau County Legislature Building with vibrant colors, rich traditions, and a powerful spirit of unity. The celebration beautifully showcased Punjabi culture through traditional performances, delicious cuisine, and heartfelt speeches that brought families and community members together in joy and pride.

This remarkable event was made possible with the full support of Nassau County Executive Bruce Blakeman. The Punjabi community extended special appreciation to Harry Singh (Bolla Market), Chaudhry Akram (Senior Advisor to Nassau County), and Own Murtaza Naqvi (Executive Director, Office of Asian American Affairs, Nassau County) for their dedication, and tireless efforts in ensuring the success of this celebration.

A heartfelt thanks to everyone who attended and supported this wonderful gathering. The Vaisakhi Mela once again demonstrated the strength, unity, and cultural richness of the Punjabi community in Nassau County, making the evening truly memorable for all.



ASIAN AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL NIGHTS

Bangladesh American Night Bangladeshi American Night hosted by Office of Asian American Affairs aimed to highlight the rich cultural tapestry and significant contributions of the Bangladesh American community. The evening featured traditional music, dance, and cuisine, offering a glimpse into the vibrant heritage of Bangladesh culture and traditions.



Pakistani American Night The Pakistani American Night, the biggest international night attracting over 10,000 Pakistan community members. It is a vibrant celebration of the rich Pakistani culture, heritage, and contributions of the Pakistani American Community. This special event brings together people to experience the colorful tradition of Pakistan through music, dance, traditional cuisine. The event showcases traditional and contemporary performances, it also serves as an opportunity to honor the achievements of Pakistani Americans who has excelled in various fields, fostering a sense of pride and unity.



Turkish American Night The Turkish American Night is a lively celebration of turkey's rich cultural heritage and the contributions of the Turkish American community. It is also an occasion to honor the achievements of Turkish Americans who have made significant impacts in various fields, fostering a spirit of unity and pride by vibrant.



NASSAU COUNTY

ASIAN AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL NIGHTS

Indian American Night Office of Asian American Affairs hosted the Indian American Night, celebrating the rich cultural heritage, traditions, and contribution of the Indian American community. The event featured vibrant performances, mesmerizing folk dancing and singing, displaying rich Indian culture.

Chinese American Night

Chinese American Night was an evening filled with cultural festivities to celebrate the Chinese heritage, which's including traditional dance, performances, culinary delights, and a showcase of the deep historical impact of the Chinese American community. The event served as a bridge, connecting generations and promoting understanding and respect for the rich Chinese culture.

Korean American Night

OAAA celebrated the vibrant culture and history of the Korean American community through dynamic performances, authentic cuisine, and storytelling. The event highlighted the contributions of Korean Americans, fostering a greater sense of unity and cultural pride within our diverse community in Nassau County.



Imam Hussain Day

Nassau County's Office of Asian American Affairs organized a groundbreaking event, the second Imam Hussain Day in the county's 100 years history. Second Annual at government level in entire Nation. Imam Hussain, Prophet Muhammad's (PBUH) grandson, gave his life for a righteous cause in Karbala 1400 years ago. This sacrifice is honored annually by millions of Muslims during the Islamic month of Muharram. The event, which took place in the legislative chambers of the Executive Building, drew a huge crowd from the Muslim community and featured esteemed religious scholars extolling the remarkable sacrifice of Imam Hussain and his family and his message of unity, peace and standing up for the truth..



August 2025

Pakistan Flag Raising Ceremony



The Pakistan Flag Raising and 78th Independence Day Celebration, hosted by the Nassau County Office of Asian American Affairs in collaboration with the Village of Valley Stream, was held at Bandshell Park. A substantial number of Pakistani community members attended the event, with children dressed in national attire. The celebration started with a cultural ethnic breakfast, including a live Halwa Puri breakfast, which was well-received by guests. The official flag raising ceremony was a significant part of the event. Distinguished guests, including Ed Fare, Mayor of Valley Stream and village board of trustees attended the celebration. Attendees celebrated the occasion in a festive mood, dressed in national attire, singing patriotic songs, and waving green flags. The Nassau County Police Department's color guard presentation and the playing of the US and Pakistani national anthems were highlights of the event, along with cultural performances by children.

COMMUNITY DISTRIBUTIONS AND SUPPORT

FREE BACKPACKS/SCHOOL SUPPLIES DISTRIBUTION

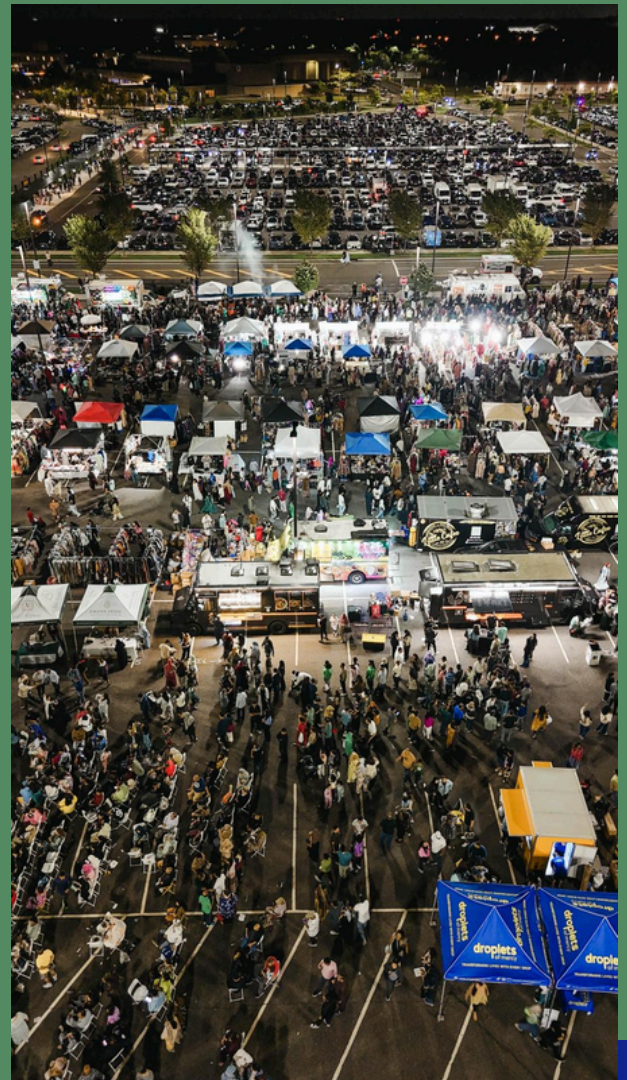


A free backpack drive was co-hosted by the Nassau County Office of Asian American Affairs, Office of Hispanic Affairs and Office of Minority Affairs. Nassau County Executive Bruce Blakeman distributed approximately 1000 backpacks to support Nassau County families. An ice cream truck sponsored by Office of the Asian American Affairs enhanced the event with smiles from the children.

HALAL GUIDE FOOD FESTIVAL



The Halal Guide Food Festival 2025, in collaboration with the Office of Asian American Affairs Nassau County, Bello Poultry, and Droplets of Mercy, this year's festival turned out to be the **BIGGEST** halal food festival in America! Over 150+ vendors came together offering mouthwatering food, shopping, and cultural stalls that brought the community closer than ever. Thousands of people poured in to enjoy not just the food, but the vibrant entertainment, from the powerful Dabka Palestinian dance, soulful Nasheed, to the mesmerizing Qawwali by Asif Ali Khan Santo. Huge shoutout to the Nassau County officials and all the organizers who worked tirelessly to make this event a grand success. And of course, **THANK YOU** to every single person who came out and supported, you made this festival truly unforgettable!



Eid Milad-un-Nabi Walk



Fatima Masjid Elmont organized an Eid Milad-un-Nabi parade to celebrate the birth of Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him). The event brought community members together in a spirit of unity, peace, and celebration.



The Office of Asian American Affairs assisted Fatima Masjid with securing all necessary permits and worked closely with local authorities to ensure the parade was well coordinated and smoothly conducted.



The Nassau County Police Department provided security to ensure the safety of all constituents and attendees. The parade management expressed sincere gratitude to Nassau County Executive Bruce Blakeman, Nassau County Office of Asian American Affairs and the Nassau County Police Department for their continued support and cooperation in making this annual parade a success.



MID-AUTUMN MOON FESTIVAL

Nassau County Office of Asian American Affairs was delighted to present the 3rd County Mid-Autumn Festival on October 5th at Lakeside Theatre. Thanks to the tremendous support of County Executive Bruce Blakeman, Nassau County Department of Parks, Recreation and Museums, the Department of Public Works, and Nassau County Police Department, the event was a huge success, welcoming over 10,000 guests.

We would also like to extend our heartfelt appreciation to Nassau County Executive Bruce Blakeman, Nassau County Comptroller Elaine Phillips, North Hempstead Town Supervisor Jennifer DeSena, NYS Senator Steve Rhoads, NYS Assemblyman Jake Blumencranz and Deputy Consul General Ma Xiaoxiao of China for joining us and celebrating with our community.

This year's highlights included professional performances, riddle lanterns, lacquer fan painting, hanfu demonstrations, 2,500 free water lanterns, and many fun giveaways, all bringing joy and excitement to the festival. We were also honored to feature two national intangible cultural heritages of China: the magnificent Jewelry Dragon Boat and a 35-meter-long dragon exhibition.



COMMUNITY DISTRIBUTIONS AND SUPPORT

THANKSGIVING FREE TURKEY DISTRIBUTION



The Nassau County Office of Asian American Affairs and the Office of Hispanic Affairs, in collaboration with Goayeb, successfully organized a free turkey distribution drive in Freeport. The event was warmly attended by many families, and more than 1,000 turkeys were distributed to community members in need.

The drive brought joy to families and children alike, as toys and other giveaways put bright smiles on young faces. Community members expressed heartfelt appreciation for this wonderful initiative led by Nassau County Executive Bruce Blakeman, which truly reflected compassion and care for the community.



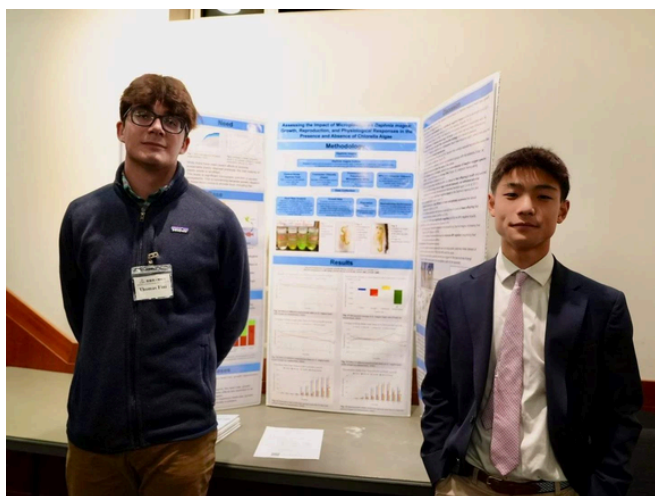
In addition to turkeys, families were also provided with fresh vegetables and winter coats, making this initiative even more meaningful during the colder season. The event stood as a beautiful example of unity, generosity, and service to the people of Nassau County.



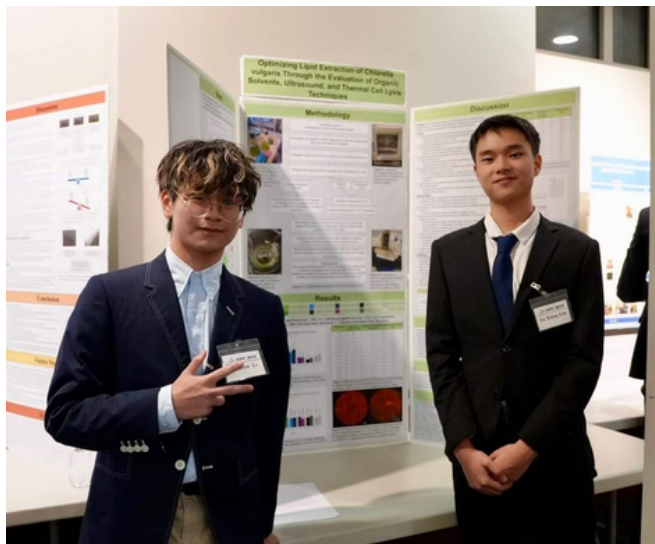
SCIENCE FAIR AWARD CEREMONY



The 8th ACAP Science Fair Award Ceremony just wrapped up, and it was an awesome success! Thanks to special approval from Nassau County Executive Bruce Blakeman, the awards ceremony was held right inside the Nassau County Legislative Chamber, such a cool experience for the students!



Huge congrats to the 29 talented kids who stood out with their amazing research projects and took home top awards. The room was full of excitement and inspiration, our community's young scientists are seriously impressive!

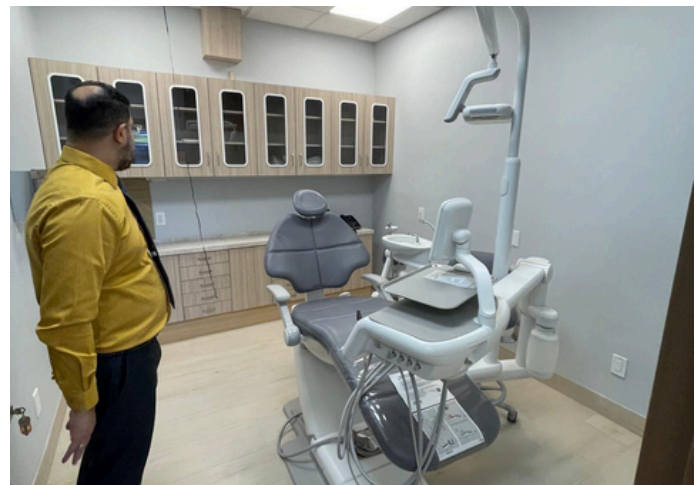


GRAND OPENING OF NASSAU COUNTY LOCAL BUSINESSES

RAS MED Medical Office - Valley Stream



Floral Obstetrics - Everlasting Smiles Dental Office - Valley Stream



HealthWell Physical Therapy & Acupuncture Center - Syosset



GRAND OPENING OF NASSAU COUNTY LOCAL BUSINESSES

Davinci Flower Shop - Plainview



Central Care Pharmacy - Valley Stream



COMMUNITY EVENTS

BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir Diwali Celebration



New York Kali Mandir Diwali Celebration



COMMUNITY EVENTS

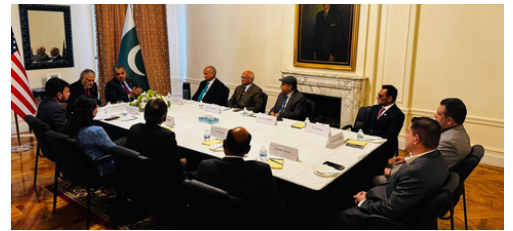
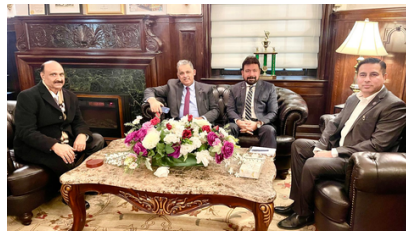
NCPD Pre Ramadan Safety Conference



Eid Prayer at Five Towns



Meet and Greet with Deputy Prime Minister of Pakistan



Health Seminar (OAAA and DOH) / Tea and Talk



Nassau County Asian American Advisory Council Members Oath Taking Ceremony



COMMUNITY EVENTS

Ghandhra Art Exhibition at Pakistan Consulate General New York -



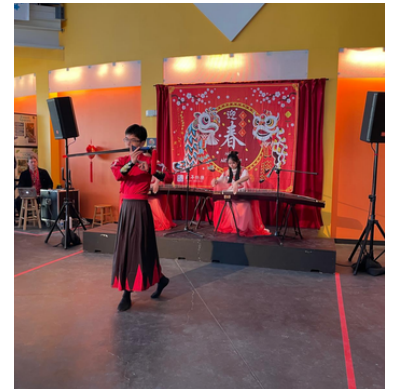
Domestic Harmony Foundation 14th Annual Gala Dinner -



Honoring Pakistani Youth Icon / Media Celebrity Ali Raza



Lunar New Year Festival at LI Children's Museum



Christmas Dinner Hosted by Pakistani Christian Association of New York

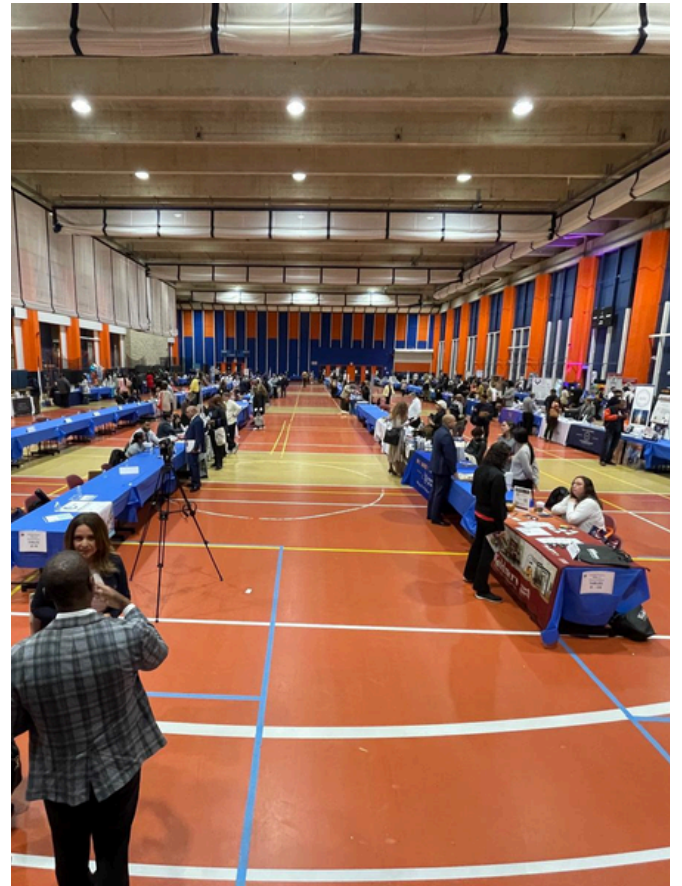


COMMUNITY EVENTS

PACUSA Thanksgiving Food Distribution



Office of Minority Affairs Business Expo 2025



COMMUNITY EVENTS

Mental Health Seminar by POWER



Nassau County Career Expo 2025



COMMUNITY EVENTS

Khyber Society of America Fundraiser for Pakistani Flood Victims



APPAC Annual Dinner



New York Turkish Muslim Community Iftar Dinner



COMMUNITY EVENTS

Bonalu Festival



3rd Inauguration Ceremony of the Committee of Asian



Exhibition of Tangkas



High school speech competition, co-hosted by the New York Youth Roundtable, the International Leadership Foundation, and the Chinese American Youth Civil Service



COMMUNITY EVENTS

Yue Sai Khan Book Signing Event



Free Toy Distribution by Toys 4 Eid



Sufi Musical Concert at LIU Post



APPAC Meet and Greet with Pakistani Hockey Star Samiullah Khan

