

Event Title: *An Appreciation of Asian Americans Through Storytelling*

Event Description:

In honor of Asian American Awareness Month, a diverse panel of storytellers will share stories exploring both the challenges and blessings of being Asian American. Storytelling will be followed by facilitated discussion among the audience and our storytellers. We will explore both the current and historic roots of anti-Asian sentiment and how we can improve our human relations and create greater equity for us all.

When: Tuesday, May 24, 2022, @7pm to 9pm Pacific Time

Where: Online

Confirmed Storytellers:

1. Jomeline D. Balatayo, Ph.D.

Philippina American, 1st generation.

ELD and English Teacher, ELD Instructional Coordinator at Culver City High School

2. Tasneem Noor

Indian/Pakistani American, 1st generation.

Author, Speaker, Interfaith Facilitator.

Culver City Resident.

3. Tahlil Sharma

Indian American, 2nd generation.

Interfaith Activist

4. Aileen Poehls

Chinese American...

Agenda Outline:

* Welcome (10 mins)

– pledge of allegiance

-- Roll call for committee members...

-- Share the agenda for the day....

- * The panel of keynote storytellers will share their stories (25-30 mins)
- * Keynote storytellers react/reflect on each other's stories to model deep listening & reflection for the audience (20 mins)
- * Q&A and facilitated discussion on the stories with the audience (25 mins)
- * Concluding remarks (5 mins)

Storyteller Bio's & Pics

Dr. Jomeline Balatayo is a first-generation immigrant from Manila, Philippines. Her immigrant roots and childhood experiences catalyzed her zeal for lifelong learning. As such, she earned a Ph.D. in Education from UC Santa Barbara, where she specialized in Language, Literacy, and Composition Studies. Jomeline's various teaching experiences at the K-12 and university levels reflect her passion for addressing the diverse needs of multilingual learners. Currently, she serves as an English teacher and English Language Development (ELD) Instructional Coordinator at Culver City High School. She is also a member of the Committee on Accreditation for the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC). Apart from her professional roles, Jomeline is most proud of her job of helping raise her 3-year old son Grayson, who is learning to become bilingual in English and Tagalog.



Tasneem Noor is the award-winning author of *The Faith Connection: Your Journey Starts with Knowing Yourself*; and the founder of Noor Enterprises: SOULful Transformations. As the Programs Director for NewGround: A Muslim Jewish Partnership for Change Tasneem has trained over 200 community leaders through 8 month long conflict transformational programs for healthy relations, productive engagement and social change. Tasneem uses compassion and curiosity to resolve conflict and make difficult conversations easy. Authenticity and honesty are her most cherished values in building stronger relationships and sustainable community. Tasneem is an Interfaith-Minister-in-Residence with the Episcopal Diocese.



Tahil Sharma

Aileen Poehls