



# Newsletter

Issue 002

31 March, 2026/Vol. 001

## First Quarter Highlights

### AABAGP Lunch & Learn Meeting Series

On January 21, 2026, the Asian American Business Alliance of Greater Philadelphia (AABAGP) hosted an engaging Lunch & Learn with business and community leaders. The session featured **Joe DeFelice**, Assistant Deputy Secretary at the **U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)**, who shared timely, practical insights into recent developments at HUD. He highlighted programs and resources that expand affordable housing, revitalize neighborhoods, and create economic opportunities for small businesses and residents.



Joining the session for an in-depth Q&A were **Thomas Rossomando**, Director of National Affairs for the Office of Advocacy; **Carlyn Crawley**, Chief of Staff to Councilmember **Quetcy Lozada**; and **Bruce Trimmer**, Southeast Regional Representative for U.S. Senator **David McCormick**. Their insights helped attendees better understand federal and local priorities and how they affect housing policy, economic opportunity, and community development in the region.

### Strengthening Regional Partnerships

On February 6, 2026, **AABAGP** members met with Mayor **Victor Carstarphen** of Camden, New Jersey, to explore new opportunities for collaboration, economic development, and regional partnerships. The discussion focused on ways to strengthen connections between Camden and the Greater Philadelphia region to create pathways for business expansion, support diverse entrepreneurs, and attract investment. The meeting reaffirmed the critical role of collaboration among government, business, nonprofit organizations, and community stakeholders in driving inclusive economic growth across the region.



# 2026 Korean American Day at Philadelphia City Hall

On January 13, **AABAGP** board members joined the Korean American Community and Councilmembers **Jim Harrity** and **Nina Ahmad** to celebrate National Korean American Day.

**AABAGP** was presented with official city citations, and the occasion served as an important opportunity to educate City Council members, the broader public, and younger generations about the history and heritage of Korean Americans, as well as their achievements, contributions, and growing impact across all sectors of American society.



## AABAGP Financial Freedom Radio Series

**AABAGP** hosts a monthly Financial Freedom Radio Series, a powerful program that helps aspiring entrepreneurs gain practical guidance, proven strategies, and inspiring success stories grounded in real-life experience. Each episode features accomplished business leaders who share candid lessons learned from starting, growing, and sustaining successful ventures. The series is designed to equip listeners with actionable tools to navigate challenges, strategies for starting and growing their businesses, and insights to build long-term financial independence. Listen live on **WURD** the first Sunday of each month. This quarter's program featured two exceptional guests.

**Peter Groverman**, co-founder of Grovara, a Philadelphia-based import-export company that helps U.S. brands—particularly in the food, beverage, and wellness sectors—reach retailers in more than 50 countries worldwide. Groverman shared insights into how his company simplifies the complex export process and connects U.S. brands with international buyers.

**Hector Serrano**, owner of Boricua, an award-winning Puerto Rican restaurant in Philadelphia. A resilient entrepreneur, Serrano has turned major setbacks into opportunities and now manages two successful restaurants. He is also known for his strong engagement with the local community.

**Nakia Dillard**, an actor, writer, director & entrepreneur. Coming April 5<sup>th</sup> on the radio show.



## AABAGP held its first quarterly board meeting on March 3, 2026.



*The meeting focused on the financial status of the Asian American Business Alliance of Greater Philadelphia (AABAGP), reporting on recent events, and discussing future investment opportunities, particularly from **Uzbekistan**.*

### **Uzbekistan Investment & Trade Opportunities:**

- **Uzbekistan Delegation:** Vice Chairman **Delair** (a former deputy mayor in Uzbekistan) highlighted a massive **\$135 billion** investment commitment from Uzbekistan into the U.S.
- **Opportunities discussed:** Data centers, real estate, construction and infrastructure projects. There is an upcoming delegation of governors & investors looking for U.S. partnerships. Members noted that data centers could be a major investment area.
- **Strategic Government & Regional Outreach:** AABAGP is engaging state and local government officials regarding support for these investment opportunities..
- **Purpose:** Attract foreign investment and Identify development opportunities and Promote Asian-American business participation.



# International Investment & Innovation



*Korea-Philadelphia Bio & Medtech Delegation Dinner. In January 2026, a delegation from Korea visited Philadelphia to explore the region as a potential location for their U.S. headquarters.*

## South Korean Bio & Medtech Delegation Visits Philadelphia

**AABAGP** Secretary **Susan Noh** organized a high-impact Bio & Medtech Dinner, welcoming a visiting delegation from South Korea exploring Greater Philadelphia as a potential location for their U.S. headquarters and future investments.

The gathering:

- Showcased Greater Philadelphia's strengths in **life sciences, medical technology, and innovation sectors**.
- Facilitated relationship-building with international executives and investors
- Created meaningful opportunities to attract new capital, jobs, and partnerships to the region

**AABAGP**, along with the **Chamber of Commerce for Greater Philadelphia**, the **Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development**, and the **Philadelphia Department of Commerce**, supported this visit to promote Greater Philadelphia as a destination for international investment and innovation.

# 2026 AAPI Heritage Month Gala

## Celebrating 250 Years of American Independence

Join the Asian American Business Alliance of Greater Philadelphia for a special evening celebrating **AAPI Heritage Month** and the **250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of American Independence**.

This milestone event will highlight the enduring contributions of Asian American and Pacific Islander communities to our city, region, and nation.

### Event Details:

**Friday, May 8, 2026 at 5:30 PM**  
**Live! Casino & Hotel**  
**900 Packer Avenue, Philadelphia, PA**

**An evening of recognition, connection, and celebration**

### Guests will enjoy:

- An **inspiring program** recognizing leaders in business, civic engagement, and community development
- **Opportunities to network** with top regional leaders, innovators, and civic changemakers
- A **powerful celebration of AAPI heritage**, resilience, and shared progress across Greater Philadelphia

Tickets and sponsorship information are available at:

<https://asianbusinessphila.com/>

**AAPI Heritage Month Gala**



**Hon. Cherelle Parker**  
Mayor of Philadelphia

**SPEAKER**

FRIDAY, MAY 8, 2026  
LIVE CASINO & HOTEL  
900 PACKER AVE, PHILA.  
5:30-9:00PM

TICKETS ARE \$125

Get your tickets or tables at [www.AsianBusinessPhila.com](http://www.AsianBusinessPhila.com)

ASIAN AMERICAN BUSINESS ALLIANCE OF GREATER PHILADELPHIA (501C3)

**AAPI Heritage Month Gala**



**Nydia Han**  
Emmy Award winning television journalist; 6ABC News co-anchor

**SPEAKER**

FRIDAY, MAY 8, 2026  
LIVE CASINO & HOTEL  
900 PACKER AVE, PHILA.  
5:30-9:00PM

TICKETS ARE \$125

Get your tickets or tables at [www.AsianBusinessPhila.com](http://www.AsianBusinessPhila.com)

ASIAN AMERICAN BUSINESS ALLIANCE OF GREATER PHILADELPHIA (501C3)

**AAPI Heritage Month Gala**



**Loraine Ballard Morrill**  
iHeart Radio, Director of News & Community Affairs, Phila Region

**EMCEE**

FRIDAY, MAY 8, 2026  
LIVE CASINO & HOTEL  
900 PACKER AVE, PHILA.  
5:30-9:00PM

TICKETS ARE \$125

Get your tickets or tables at [www.AsianBusinessPhila.com](http://www.AsianBusinessPhila.com)

ASIAN AMERICAN BUSINESS ALLIANCE OF GREATER PHILADELPHIA (501C3)

**AAPI Heritage Month Gala**



**Camille K**  
Singer-Songwriter  
Daydreamer - #2 iTunes Top Dance Albums Chart

**ARTIST**

FRIDAY, MAY 8, 2026  
LIVE CASINO & HOTEL  
900 PACKER AVE, PHILA.  
5:30-9:00PM

TICKETS ARE \$125

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ASIAN AMERICAN BUSINESS ALLIANCE OF GREATER PHILADELPHIA (501C3)

**AAPI Heritage Month Gala**



**Oceane Qian-Feuillat**  
Miss New Jersey Teen USA

**CO-EMCEE**

FRIDAY, MAY 8, 2026  
LIVE CASINO & HOTEL  
900 PACKER AVE, PHILA.  
5:30-9:00PM

TICKETS ARE \$125

Get your tickets or tables at [www.AsianBusinessPhila.com](http://www.AsianBusinessPhila.com)

ASIAN AMERICAN BUSINESS ALLIANCE OF GREATER PHILADELPHIA (501C3)

# SAVE *the* DATE

## 2026 AAPI HERITAGE MONTH GALA



Join the Asian American Business Alliance of Greater Philadelphia for a special evening celebrating the 250th anniversary of American Independence and AAPI Heritage Month, highlighting the enduring contributions of Asian American and Pacific Islander communities to our city, region, and nation.



Friday, May 8, 2026 at 5:30 PM

Live Casino & Hotel  
900 Packer Avenue,  
Philadelphia, PA

An evening of recognition,  
connection, and celebration.  
*Details and registration coming soon.*

 [AsianBusinessPhila.com](http://AsianBusinessPhila.com)



# AAPI HERITAGE MONTH 250<sup>TH</sup> AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE

## *Celebration*

### SPONSORSHIP PACKAGE

**TITLE  
SPONSOR  
\$30,000**

- Name listed with event Title
- VIP table for 10 guests
- Logo featured on all digital, print, and email promotional materials
- Logo featured on stage banner
- Welcoming remarks from the stage
- Recognition from the stage
- Full-page, full color ad in the program booklet
- Promotional items included in attendee gift bags
- One-minute ad aired on the Financial Freedom radio show on WURD Radio (12 shows x 3 = 36 total airings)

#### **GOLD SPONSOR: \$20,000**

- VIP table for 10 guests
- Logo featured on all digital, print, and email promotional materials
- Recognition from the stage
- Full-page, full color ad in the program booklet
- Promotional items included in attendee gift bags
- 30-second ad aired on the Financial Freedom radio show on WURD Radio (12 shows x 3 = 36 total airings)

#### **SILVER SPONSOR: \$10,000**

- VIP table for 10 guests
- Logo featured on all digital, print, and email promotional materials
- Recognition from the stage
- Full-page, full color ad in the program booklet
- Promotional materials included in attendee gift bags
- 30-second ad aired on the Financial Freedom radio show on WURD Radio (12 shows x 2 = 24 total airings)

#### **BRONZE SPONSOR: \$5,000**

- Table for 10 guests
- Recognition from the stage
- Full-page, full color ad in the program booklet
- Promotional materials included in attendee gift bags
- 30-second ad aired on the Financial Freedom radio show on WURD Radio (12 shows x 1 = 12 total airings)

#### **EVENT BOOKLET ADVERTISEMENT**

- Full page ad (full color) \$500.00
- Half-page ad (full color) \$300.00

#### **INDIVIDUAL TICKETS: \$125.00**

Ten Seats Per Table



To purchase sponsorships, visit:  
<https://asianbusinessphila.com/>