

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE March 10, 2021

FROM: Wing Luke Museum of the Asian Pacific American Experience

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## Wing Luke Museum on Anti-Asian Hate Crimes

**Seattle, WA:** The Wing Luke Museum denounces the violence against Asian immigrants and expresses our sympathy and solidarity with the victims and families of those who have suffered from these hate crimes in Seattle, San Francisco, New York City, and all across the country. These violent assaults feel especially poignant after a year of xenophobia fueled by the COVID-19 pandemic, the former president's racist rhetoric, and the economic devastation that immigrant communities nationwide, like Chinatowns, have had to face.

As Asian Pacific Americans (APA), our strength lies in solidarity with QTBIPOC communities working to stop violence in all forms. We must reflect on the ways in which our communities responds to anti-Asian hate and seek out solutions that center with the humanity of our collective QTBIPOC communities. We believe we can achieve safety and continue to advance racial and social equity through educational resources and investments in our communities.

As storytellers, the museum is constantly learning and pushing to consider the richness and importance of the American story. We understand that all our histories and futures are intertwined and acknowledge the biases of the model minority myth and anti-Blackness within our own community. A lack of understanding of these realities only reinforce the discriminatory and colonial powers that pit QTBIPOC communities against each other. Through transformative and lasting educational work with public and private schools and with museum guests, our tours and workshops support the museum's vision of long-term community-centered solutions to help educate all Americans about Asian Pacific American history, cultures and experiences.

As a museum, we commit to and invest in creating space and opportunity for cross-racial healing and education that undoes racism in the museum field as well as in our communities. Our unique Community Advisory Committee (CAC) exhibition process allows for different perspectives to be heard and uplifted with past exhibits around redlining and APA feminist movements. Our programs like Understanding History, Open for Takeout, and It Happened Here allow for open dialogue around relevant and timely topics highlighting historians, educators, artists, and community members.

Learn more about ways we can support QTBIPOC communities. We encourage individuals who have experienced hate crimes to report it.

- 18 Million Rising (https://18millionrising.org/)
- Asian Americans Advancing Justice (<a href="https://advancingjustice-aajc.org/">https://advancingjustice-aajc.org/</a>)
- Stand Against Hatred (<a href="https://www.standagainsthatred.org/">https://www.standagainsthatred.org/</a>)

The Wing Luke Museum of the Asian Pacific American Experience's mission is to connect everyone to the rich history, dynamic cultures and art of Asian Pacific Americans through vivid storytelling and inspiring experiences to advance racial and social equity. As a Smithsonian Affiliate, National Park Service Affiliated Area, and the only pan-Asian Pacific American museum in the nation, The Wing is a national treasure, preserving and sharing the personal stories of the Asian Pacific American community. <a href="https://www.wingluke.org">www.wingluke.org</a>