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## Wing Luke Museum to Open New Exhibit on Asian Pacific American Feminism

*“Queer and feminist worlds are built through the effort to support those who are not supported because of who they are, what they want, what they do.”*

—Sara Ahmed, *Living a Feminist Life* (2017)

**Seattle, WA:** In the year that marks the centennial of Women’s Suffrage in the US, our new exhibit *Hear Us Rise* explores the origins of Asian Pacific American Feminism and inspirations to its ongoing evolution today while emphasizing intersecting forces that have shaped the lives of APA women – including the citizenship ban that prevented Asian immigrants from voting until 1952.

While patriarchy, racism, and US imperialism affect all Americans, they intertwine in particular ways for APA women and other marginalized genders, playing out very differently within generations, regions, and cultural groups. Chinese women were often denied entry to the US in the 19<sup>th</sup> century because the law assumed they were prostitutes. Japanese war brides in the 1950s chafed against the limitations of middle American housewifery. In the 1970s garment workers and revolutionaries alike struggled to find childcare. At a gathering of Pacific Islander women in the ‘80s, many spoke of feminism as a colonial idea that undermined women’s traditional sources of power. Today, APA Feminists continue to work on voting rights, human trafficking, climate change, reproductive justice, sexual assault, disability justice, LGBTQ visibility, and more – with strategies that emphasize cultural rootedness, a global view, and solidarity (with accountability) with other marginalized people.

*Hear Us Rise* highlights personal stories of resistance, resilience, and community-building, and invites visitors to see the exhibit as a starting point to explore these topics further – and to raise their own voices in the ongoing struggle for justice for everyone.

The exhibit was created with a Community Advisory Committee, in collaboration with the New York based Asian American Feminist Collective.

*Hear Us Rise* opens March 6<sup>th</sup>, and will be on display through February 21, 2021. Free to the public.

For more info about the exhibit, visit [wingluke.org/hear-us-rise](http://wingluke.org/hear-us-rise)

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. [www.wingluke.org](http://www.wingluke.org)