



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**FROM:** Wing Luke Museum of the Asian Pacific American Experience (The Wing)  
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### **Wing Luke Museum to Open New Exhibit on Seattle’s Legacy of Redlining and Housing Discrimination**

*“When Dan and I got married, we were out looking for apartments. We checked in with that one, they says, ‘No’... They just won’t rent it to us. They don’t say, ‘Well, we can’t rent it to you because you’re Chinese’ or anything, and you feel that it’s discrimination, right? But you can’t do anything.”* - Wilma Woo

**Seattle, WA:** To mark the 50th anniversary of the our nation’s Open Housing law – which made it illegal to discriminate against homebuyers of color – the Wing Luke Museum will be opening a new exhibit uncovering the layered legacy of housing discrimination and redlining in Seattle. From a city ordinance that banned Native Americans from living in Seattle to laws that prohibited the sale of land to Asian immigrants to discriminatory housing covenants and deed restrictions that would specify “white and Caucasians only” or prohibit “Negroes, Ethiopians, Asiatics, Hindus, Malays” (Filipinos) and sometimes “Jews and Hebrews” from buying or renting, housing discrimination has been pervasive in the city. And despite the passing of the 1968 law, redlining, divestment, predatory lending and other practices have left a long legacy and continued impacts to today.

Through personal stories, the exhibit will chronicle how communities of color collaborated to survive when they were unwanted, excluded and even threatened. It will give a look into how they managed to thrive even when deprived of homeownership, often the most important way for communities to build assets, community and intergenerational stability. And it will show how the very neighborhoods that communities of color were redlined into – including the Central District and the Chinatown-International District – are now facing displacement from gentrification and rising real estate costs, fueled by Seattle’s current boom.

As part of the project, the Museum and its community partners will also develop a “Redlining History and Culture Trail”, including significant sites from Chinatown-ID to First Hill to Central District. Goals of the Trail include: connecting residents, businesses and organizations with an accessible streetscape that promotes health, walkability and safety; engaging youth, seniors and residents across generations; and reconnecting with people of color audiences outside of Seattle.

Community partners and advisors for this project include: Northwest African American Museum, National Park Service (Klondike Gold Rush Museum and NPS Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program), and neighborhood advocates.

The *Excluded, Inside the Lines* exhibit will be on display through February 23, 2020 and will be free to the public.

For more info about the exhibit, visit [wingluke.org/excluded-inside-the-lines](http://wingluke.org/excluded-inside-the-lines)

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)