

## Book 'We Who Produce Pearls' Fills in What the History Texts Left Out

By Christopher John Stephens

*Sampan Talks With Author, Artist About Asian Americans' Shared Story, Resistance and Healing*

The quality of a picture book depends on the compatibility of two major elements: the words and the images. How well do the images communicate with the text? Are the images competing with the text, or is there an ideal symbiotic relationship between the two? In "We Who Produce Pearls: An Anthem for Asian America," the written reflections of Joanna Ho find a perfect balance with the vivid and colorful wall-mural style men, women, children, and beasts from Amanda Phingbodhipakkiya's paintbrush.

Through approximately 20 prompts that are spread across two open pages, each one beginning with "We Who..." and followed by a verb, the spectrum of human existence is conveyed. Ho makes sure that we're always part of the experience. She's assured enough to speak for all the people who dream, cultivate, persist, sacrifice, and so much more. Dreamers are followed by evening sea explorers, the sky a shimmering blue and the nighttime stars leading the way. In one particularly evocative spread, four immigrants are together. There's a woman holding her child. The woman's hair is covered by a lime green scarf and the child is not facing us. We see a man, wearing an orange turban, only the right side of his face visible and his child covered by a thick black beard. On the right

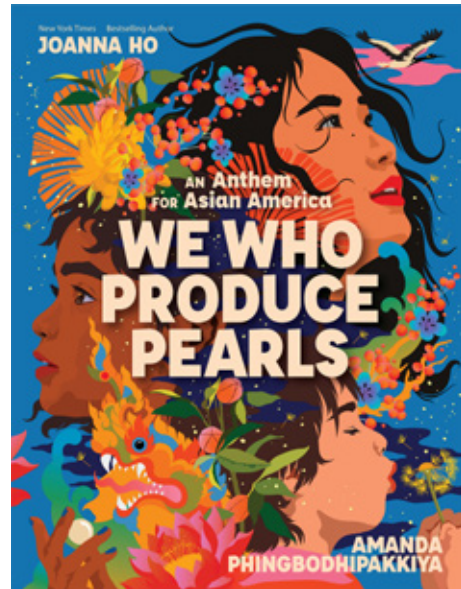


Joanna Ho

is a woman with short hair, green and blue earrings, facing us but looking away. Ho writes:

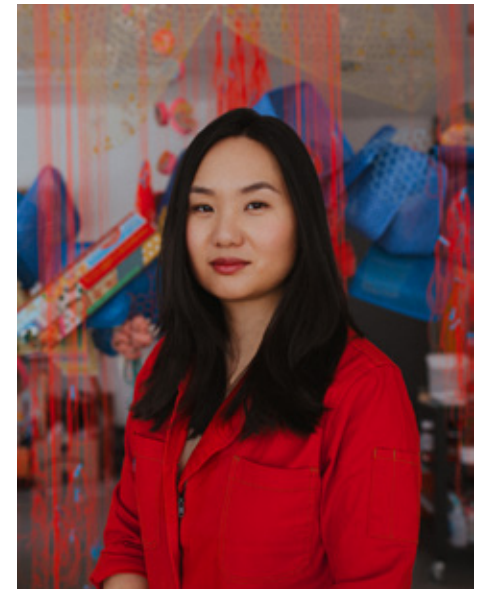
"We who survive/arrive on shores/greeted with a whiplash/of narratives, contradictions/that weaponize us against ourselves/to keep us silent,/invisible erased./We hold injustice in our mouths,/but we are not our pain."

In another panel, a woman is bracing herself against the wind and a bearded man is to her left (our right), yelling. The two of them are tangled in blue barbed wire, close enough to be a problem but not suffocating -- at least not yet. Ho writes:



"We who sacrifice/go for broke/when bullets scream/in an endless stream... We hold injustice in our mouths, encircle it with tenacity and audacity, and roll it around on our tongues."

The people we see in these pages, enhanced and enveloped by the profundity of Joanna Ho's words, cannot and will not go away quietly. "We Who Produce Pearls: An Anthem for Asian America" is as comfortable in darkness as in light, the graceful flow and enormous spectrum of Asian culture, and the seemingly mundane but in actuality profound little moments of wonder accessible to all of us. This is a wondrous book whose power and value in any thinking person's library will prove



Amanda Phingbodhipakkiya

immeasurable.

Sampan spoke with Joanna Ho and Amanda Phingbodhipakkiya about the genesis of this book, their collaborative process, and hopes for the future. What follows is an edited version of the email correspondence.

SAMPAN: Congratulations on this book. It's a remarkable testament, both sublime and powerful, to the fluid nature of history. I wanted to ask about your choices in the "Invitation to Dig Deeper" section. We dream, seek, cultivate, survive, withstand, persist, sacrifice, resist, rise up, and shine. We also exist as the history of our land and steadfast servants of it. What decisions went into the order of these approximately twenty sections?

JH: I researched Asian American his-

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## Harvard College China Forum Tells the U.S.-China Story

By DongDong Yang,  
With additional reporting from  
Shihan Liu

*Sampan talks with two panelists about China, U.S. and soft power*

This year's Harvard College China Forum (HCCF) included the world's most respected thinkers on everything China, and the Sampan caught up with two experts, Robert Daly, director of the Kissinger

er Institute on China and the United States at the Wilson Center, and Andy Zeng, the co-president of HCCF.

Founded in 1997 as Harvard China Review, the forum is renowned as North America's premier student-run conference focused on discussing the challenges, trends, and issues concerning China. Held annually at Harvard College in April, this year's forum took place on April 12 to 14. The theme was "嚶其鸣矣，求其友声", translated to "Seeking Resonance, Echoing

Friendship." The phrase is derived from 诗经·小雅·伐木, a section in The Book of Songs; the English theme of this year's Forum was "Telling the U.S.-China Story".

Previous star speakers have included Chinese business magnate Jack Ma, co-founder and executive chairman of Alibaba Group, as well as American billionaire and notable "shark" from the famous reality television series Shark Tank, Mark Cuban. This year, Daly and Zeng were among 130 other panelists and experts, including former Harvard President Lawrence H. Summers, economics professor Jason Furman, former Microsoft Vice President David S. Chen, and Dennis Wilder, the former Director for China at the White House National Security Council.

During the conference, Stephen Orlins, president of the National Committee on United States-China Relations since 2005, spoke about how his interest in Asian studies led him to a critical realization when his teacher advised him to learn Chinese to truly understand Asia. Orlins also expressed the tense and "rocky" state of the current relationship between the United States and China, and concerns about its potential impact on small businesses and

*Continues on Page 2*



Harvard College  
China Forum  
哈佛中国论坛

Sampan publishes every other Friday.

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## Harvard China Forum

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low-income families in America.

Hongyi Zhou, founder and chairman of 360 Security Technology Company called himself “Uncle in red.” He gave an entertaining speech, joking that his visit to Harvard was primarily to gain fans and draw attention to his TikTok page. He discussed artificial intelligence passionately, encouraging everyone to embrace the new technology rather than resist it. AI was one of the hot topics throughout the forum.

Robert Daly spoke to Sampan about the nature of the US-China relationship.

SAMPAN: What was the biggest challenge that the U.S.-China relationship faced 5-10 years ago, and how does it compare to now?

Daly: Let’s take us right before the trade war. I think that since then, there has been a much broader understanding in the U.S. and China. This is a contentious relationship for the long term. It is a situation that people, although the government wouldn’t use this word, feel like we’re already involved in a new kind of cold war between the two countries.

SAMPAN: What action should we take in response to the challenge?

Daly: My definition of the challenge is a new cold war. Keep it cold; it’s not about going to war. I believe that higher educational exchanges can play a part in that. I think that if more Chinese people gain a deeper understanding of the United States, and more Americans gain a deeper understanding of China, we would be better off. Unfortunately, the numbers are going down, not up.

Sampan also sat down with Andy Zeng ’24, the co-president of HCCF prior to the conference to gather his insights.

SAMPAN: This year, you’ve gathered an incredible list of speakers for the event. Could you share more about the main goals and themes guiding your selection process? Also, I’m curious about the title of this year’s forum, “Seeking Resonance, Echoing Friendship” in Chinese. What inspired you to choose this specific title?

Zeng: Of our selection process, we first of all, we have a very long legacy. This is our 27th year as an organization. First, we started as a Harvard China Review. It was a very sort of student led, but a very academic professional journal. We actually had a preface written by the Nobel Prize economist Robert Merton for, I think, either the fifth or sixth issue.

But then we decided to spin off into a conference to raise money for the Review. But then we thought maybe our conference was better suited to engage with the audience and engage more relevantly with the problems at hand, instead of an academic journal, which in virtue of it being very academic and very scholarly, has a higher barrier to access.

So we’ve had a lot of partners over the years and with our outreach, we start with the sort of the guests who have come before and who really enjoyed speaking at the forum and making connections here and talking to both the professors at Harvard, the administrators and also the students if they want to return, the executive board is very close. And we think about what we should do as in, what’s the purpose of creating a forum.... And it’s not just a networking opportunity. We just don’t want people from China and from the U.S. to gather in Cambridge just so they can connect on LinkedIn and get job opportunities. We think clearly about things we can and cannot do as an educational institution.

I mean, Harvard is, you know, a big

name, but, as a student organization, there’s a lot we can’t do. We can’t really engage with policy making that much, and we can’t really engage with more down to earth, down to the ground implementations. And what we can do, however, is sort of leverage the soft power interplay between the two countries and try to build off of that bilateral relation. So we think in the past few years we’ve been very focused on economics. How can we reach out and touch upon the more soft cultural exchanges between us and China? And that’s why we have a Pulitzer Prize winning composer coming. We like artists. We have all production people, not just just not just entrepreneurs. That’s one thing we’re doing, but also recognizing how the entrepreneurial sphere and how things work in China is changing at a very rapid pace and sort of finding people that can speak to that experience.

SAMPAN: Why did you choose the theme “Seeking Resonance Echoing Friendship” for the creative competition? It appears it is the first year you put together this creative competition, why did you choose to do this this year?

Zeng: We want that as part of the soft power initiative. We think the most important thing we have as a student organization is leveraging the power of students, both current and former. So we’ve also connected with alums and future graduates. So we think high school students who are interested in the US and China should be able to have their voice heard in some capacity. And I think the best way they can leverage that is not through doing policy, because they’re so young. But through doing creative work. You know, I think it’s a novel approach and we’re trying a lot of things. And we’re very happy with the submissions we received thus far.

## SAMPAN

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### THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION – HIGHWAY DIVISION NOTICE OF A PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING Project File No. 119537

Two Public Informational Meetings will be held by MassDOT to discuss the proposed Maffa Way/Mystic Avenue Bridge Superstructure Replacements project in Somerville and Charlestown.

WHERE: Charlestown Knights of Columbus  
545 Medford Street  
Charlestown, MA 02129

WHEN: Thursday, May 9, 2024, at 6:00 PM

WHERE: Somerville Public Library  
Central Branch  
79 Highland Ave  
Somerville, MA 02143

WHEN: Monday, May 13, 2024, at 6:00 PM

PURPOSE: The purpose of this meeting is to provide the public an overview of upcoming construction activities on the Maffa Way/Mystic Avenue Bridge Superstructure Replacements project. Attendees will have the opportunity to ask questions and provide comments. All views and comments made at the meeting will be reviewed and considered to the maximum extent possible.

PROPOSAL: This project consists of replacing the two deteriorated bridge superstructures of the Maffa Way and Mystic Avenue bridges over the MBTA Orange Line and Commuter Rail lines in Boston and Somerville. This project is set to improve public safety, pedestrian, bicycle, and transit accommodations by addressing substandard bridge conditions. The project will be integrated with adjacent projects, such as Assembly Square, Rutherford Avenue, and the One Mystic development.

This location is accessible to people with disabilities. MassDOT provides reasonable accommodations and/or language assistance free of charge upon request (including but not limited to interpreters in American Sign Language and languages other than English, open or closed captioning for videos, assistive listening devices and alternate material formats, such as audio tapes, Braille and large print), as available. For accommodation or language assistance, please contact MassDOT’s Chief Diversity and Civil Rights Officer by phone (857-368-8580), fax (857-368-0602), TTD/TTY (857-368-0603) or by email ([MassDOT.CivilRights@dot.state.ma.us](mailto:MassDOT.CivilRights@dot.state.ma.us)). Requests should be made as soon as possible prior to the meeting, and for more difficult to arrange services including sign-language, CART or language translation or interpretation, requests should be made at least ten (10) business days before the meeting.

In the event of inclement weather a cancellation announcement will be posted on the internet at <https://www.mass.gov/orgs/highway-division/events>.

JONATHAN GULLIVER  
LAVALLEE  
HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATOR  
ENGINEER

CARRIE E.  
CHIEF

**‘We Who Produce Pearls’**

*Continued from Page 1*

tory for nearly a year, learning so many things I’d never been taught. I read, and sometimes re-read books, watched documentaries, visited significant sites, conducted interviews. As I processed all the stories and people and events, a few key take-aways stood out to me: Asian Americans are at once incredibly diverse, yet our histories and experiences are parallel in many ways, and despite the dominant narrative, Asians have always stood up, spoken out, and shaped our spaces. We have never been silent and we’ve always fought back against injustice. I wanted to find a way to really highlight these two points that was accessible to readers of all ages.

Before I began writing, I looked through all my research notes and re-organized them into buckets that I loosely named by categories like, “resistance” or “legal battles” or “building community.” The notes included chapters, people and events from multiple waves of Asian migration and across the Asian diaspora. From there I tried to capture the heart of what each of these stanzas would come to represent, with the idea that these stanzas could show the parallels and share experiences across our diverse communities, but in one unifying text. This is where words like “dream,” “seek,” “cultivate,” etc. came into the story. It was my way of showing our community how connected we really are.

The “Dig Deeper” section follows the same sections as the stanzas in the text. There is just so much history and symbolism on every page, and even in every individual, intentionally chosen word. I realized that if I didn’t include some kind of back matter, people would not know or understand the layers within each page. After all, most of us have never learned any of this history in school; it has been erased almost entirely. I played with many different ways to share some of the history behind each page, initially thinking I would just highlight a few key ideas. But I didn’t want people to just look up a few people or events and stop learning there. The back matter I included doesn’t even cover a fraction of all the history that contributed to this book. So, the teacher in me wanted to write it as an invitation to continue learning, to make it clear that this was just the tip of a very large iceberg, to make the learning more accessible both for educators and parents and students alike.

I hope that the questions at the back help readers really think about the ideas captured on each page and throughout the book, that they’ll look through and dive into research, and eventually learn far more

than what is captured in the back matter of this book. Hopefully this book reads like a call to action and also an invitation to continue learning.

SAMPAN: How would you describe your collaborative work process? Was the artwork produced simultaneously with the text? Was the text altered after seeing the images?

JH: One of the most special parts of the picture book creation process is that the author and illustrators usually don’t have any contact throughout. Illustrators have the freedom to interpret a text and add their own layers through the art. I wanted to make sure Amanda didn’t feel hamstrung by any ideas I had for the art, but I also wanted her to know the history behind every word and stanza in the text, so I sent my editor two copies of the words: a clean copy with very a few illustration notes, and another copy with paragraphs of notes for every line of the book. From there, Amanda took it and worked her brilliant magic, bringing all her own wisdom and experiences and critical consciousness of movements and resistance and power.

AP: As a transdisciplinary artist, I’ve worked across many mediums, from large scale installations, to murals, fiber sculpture, and public art campaigns — but never a picture book. I was familiar with Joanna’s previous works, but when I read her words for “We Who Produce Pearls,” I felt chills. Using Joanna’s notes as a well of inspiration, I was able to transpose the bold imagery of my public art campaigns that have reached millions into twenty or so spreads. I found great joy in creating expansive landscapes and bold portraits that matched the beautiful and defiant language of the text.

SAMPAN: Joanna, you reflect in your “Author’s Note” on a series of feelings that came over you while researching for this book. You were angry about the erasure of history, grieving over the suffering, and finally feeling proud. Did these feelings come one after the other, or was it like a Venn diagram allowing you to process the experience and serve the purpose of the book? In other words, was this project bigger than just the production of a beautiful teaching tool?

JH: The process of researching and writing this book has changed me profoundly. The more I write, the more I come back to this idea of understanding our history, both personal and group, as a deeply important step in knowing ourselves today and our possibilities for the future. The more I learned about the history of Asians in America, which includes the history of imperialism and colonization in our ancestral homelands, the more I came to feel the power in our community. We are not the

docile, quiet people dominant narratives claim us to be. Knowing that we’ve always risen up and spoken out and worked to create a better space for ourselves and others shaped my vision for how we can work better and in greater solidarity today.

SAMPAN: Amanda, in your “Artist’s Note,” you emphasize what you’ve learned from your elders, that we are more than the stories others have told about us, more than labels and limitations. As Walt Whitman noted, “We contain multitudes.” How do you maintain hope amidst the fervent anti-Asian hatred of the past four years? You note that “our community has kept us from being swallowed by the ugliness.” How?

AP: This hope first came from cultivating more open and vulnerable relationships with my Asian American community — I’ve found that celebrating, venting, and crying with loved ones and new friends have given me the strength to endure when I feel discouraged and overwhelmed. Secondly, I’ve had a chance to partner with amazing Asian American and Pacific Islander organizations like Asian Women’s Shelter in San Francisco, the Asian American Arts Alliance, and Asian Women’s Giving Circle — led by incredibly powerful and inspirational AAPI women. Finally, seeing the organizing and activism work led by other leaders and organizations — Blasian March, Sakhi for South Asian Women, Soar Over Hate, ActivistNYC — whose work I cheer on and am deeply grateful for. I try to remind myself when I feel despair creep in: “there is always light, and we find it in each other”.

SAMPAN: How did you two strike the balance between some very striking images and text (the sacrifices, the battered bodies, the resisters) with those who cultivate and shine? The readers really are swept away through this thin but profound book, felled by the enormity of experience but in awe of those like yourselves who tell it so beautifully. What were your literary inspirations?

JH: I think it is an effort to capture the multitudes in our history and community and traditions. Initially, the text leaned too heavily into the stories of oppression and injustice in an effort to make the point about the pearls. This is where great editors come in. Our editor, Clarissa Wong, was able to hold our vision for the book and push us to capture greater nuance and light. She encouraged me to tweak the text to call more attention to our beauty and power without minimizing the struggles.

Similarly, the art went through processes of revision. For example, one of the spreads initially included images of bullets pointed at the people on the page. These were changed as the bullets felt too violent an image for a younger audience. Amanda was able to tweak the art so that it didn’t lose any of its emotion or meaning, but also became more accessible for all ages. Kwame Alexander and Kadir Nelson’s book, “The Undeclared,” was an inspiration for me as I wrote the text. I love how much history and meaning is conveyed through the lyrical and sparse text and striking images on the pages.

AP: Much of my artistic practice deals with difficult and often painful topics — from grief, trauma, scapegoating and more. But we don’t need to portray those hardships in a potentially retraumatizing way — we don’t need to be reminded of the ugliness, because it is a visceral lived experience for many of us. Instead we need to be reminded of our resilience and the fortitude of our community, so that our emotional stores can be replenished and our hearts can mend. For the spread that Joanna mentioned, I chose to change the bullets into petals because I agreed with the feedback that the original depiction

was too literal. I wanted to show that the wounds and scars born of hateful words and deeds can be transformed by softness and beauty into burdens we can endure and heal from. That we can meet ugliness with softness and power.

SAMPAN: Are there larger versions of these images? It would be incredible to see them mural-sized.

AP: I appreciate you seeing that vision. Having painted murals all over the country and across the world, I definitely channeled the expansiveness and dynamism of my murals into these pages. Joanna and I actually first met while I was painting a 200-foot mural in the Bay Area, so it would be such a full circle moment to create one together based on the art in our book. We’d love it if someone would support the creation of a mural.

JH: Amanda and I would love to paint a mural of a spread from the book somewhere. Amanda is an experienced muralist and fine artist and you can see her work all over the world. I would be a helpful paint brush holder throughout the process.

SAMPAN: What’s next for the two of you and “We Who Produce Pearls: An Anthem for Asian America”? It seems this could seamlessly be translated as a stage piece, spoken word performance with the images emblazoned as background. You note: “May you be heard and healed.” Is this another link in your chains of testimony? Do you think the healing has begun? If so, what role would you like this book to play in that process?

JH: So much of the journey of any book is determined by the readers, educators, parents, community that embraces it. We hope that it truly does become what we title it: an anthem for Asian America. We hope that this book is shared and read as a reminder and call to action in households and conference rooms and stages throughout our vast and diverse community as a reminder of who we have always been and who we can strive to be today. At this point in time, it feels like many in the Asian community are just beginning to find and use our voices, and as in all movements, there are differences of opinion and understanding in how we need to move forward together and with others. In the end, we all need each other and we will only rise and carve out space and disrupt systems if we do it together.

We are also thinking about what’s next. Picture books take years to make, so while this book is being published this April, it was written over two years ago. We’ve grown and changed and our understanding of change and liberation has also shifted. I’d love to follow up this book with another one that explores the revolutionary power of light and joy. This feels like the next step in better understanding how I’d like to move in the world and with our communities.

AP: The fact that we are all still here means that the healing has begun, however hard-fought and however slow. We have to remember that healing is sometimes its own pain, and it’s a process that requires patience and steady commitment. In my practice I try to offer spaces of unburdening and care through monuments and rituals so that healing feels less daunting and we can, as a community, get to a place of more vulnerability and connection. From personal experience I know that healing can sometimes feel like an impossible task and we can all use a supportive hand. So I hope that this book is a portal to healing, that readers can find solace in these pages and discover things boundless and bright in themselves and their communities through it.

<b>Notice of Hearing On Damages Assessment</b>			
PLAINTIFF	Vs	DEFENDANT	Civil Docket
AIHUA HARRIS		MING FAY, INC. QUIANG CHEN WEI YUN LI XIU WERILI	#2384CV02383
Under Mass. R. Civ. P. 55(b)(2), Plaintiff informs Defendant through this newspaper publication of a hearing on assessment of damages for Default of Defendant in the lawsuit.			
1. The defendants Ming Fay, Inc., Quiang Chen, Wei Yun Li and Xiu Weri Li are hereby notified by the above named Plaintiff of the Damage Assessment Hearing scheduled on 06/26/2024 at 2:00 PM.			
2. The damage assessment Defendants caused to Plaintiff is calculated for the sum of \$343377.15 plus treble damages under MGL Chapter 93A.			
Location of Hearing: Suffolk County Superior Court - Civil Suffolk County Courthouse, 3rd FL, CR 306 Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108			
Publication Date: 4/26/2024 So Ordered by Hon. Michael Pineault, Associate Justice Suffolk County Superior Court			

# Advocates Welcome, Criticize Census Category Revisions

## *Some Say Changes Could Reduce Responses From Those Who Feel Un-Represented*

By Yizhen Zhang

Written in bland and unassuming language, newly released policy changes to how the U.S. government and Census categorizes some racial and ethnic groups could have an immeasurable impact on Americans of Middle Eastern and North African descent, and other minority groups, say immigrant advocates.

The U.S. Office of Management and Budget published on March 28 a set of revisions to “Statistical Policy Directive No. 15: Standards for Maintaining, Collecting, and Presenting Federal Data on Race and Ethnicity.” This revision added “Middle Eastern or North African” as a new race and ethnicity category; the race and ethnicity checkbox for “Hispanic or Latino” will be combined with other race and ethnicity categories into one question; and the revision also removes words such as “Negro” and “Far East” that are regarded as pejorative and derogatory.

Along with the other changes, words such as “majority” and “minority,” which fail to reflect the complex racial and ethnic diversity in the country, were also removed from federal forms. Prior to this revision, the Census contained five categories, which the Census terms “minimum race categories”: American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, Black or African American, Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander, and white – and the minimum ethnic categories were grouped in a separate question as Hispanic or Latino or not Hispanic.

People of Lebanese, Iranian, Egyptian, Syrian and other Middle Eastern backgrounds had been previously encouraged to identify as white; people of North African descent, however, did not have a clear individual category. Momentum for changing the race and ethnicity categories grew during the Obama administration in the mid-2010s.

The Census Bureau in 2015 attempted to include the MENA (Middle Eastern or North Africa) category with the testing of the inclusion of the MENA category and the determination that the inclusion will improve the data-gathering process and will accurately reflect societal diversity. But the effort was dropped by the Trump administration. Meanwhile, Hispanic people were considered an ethnicity, separated from race. In the 1930 Census, there was a one-time inclusion of race category of “Mexican”; later in the 1970 Census, there was a question regarding individual’s origin or descent – check boxes available included Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Central or South American, and Other Spanish – on one of the two long form questionnaires that were sent to a portion of the population rather than the short form questionnaire that every individual was expected to answer, attempting to appraise the size of the Hispanic population within the entire nation.

In the 1980 Census, the question regarding whether the individual was of Spanish or Hispanic origin or descent was moved to the short form questionnaire. The Hispanic origin question remained identical and separated from the question about race with the inclusion of the term “Latino” until the revision on March 28. After updating the standards for federal race and ethnicity data, the new set of categories which will be included for the next Census will contain American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian, Black or African American, Hispanic or Latino, Middle Eastern or

North African, Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, and White. Meanwhile, Asian is now defined as “individuals with origins in any of the original peoples of Central or East Asia, Southeast Asia or South Asia, including, for example, Chinese, Asian Indian, Filipino, Vietnamese, Korean, and Japanese;” Black or African American is now defined as individuals with origins in Africa, including, for example, African American, Jamaican, Haitian, Nigerian, Ethiopian and Somali.

In addition to the advocacy for a new Middle Eastern or North African category and a combined race and Hispanic origin question, many people have also requested agencies to gather data to better understand descendants of enslaved people originally from Africa and to use “American Descendants of Slavery” or “American Freedman” to describe the group. The Office of Management and Budget has announced that it has decided to not move forward with these requests since further research is needed.

Another reason for this decision was opposition to this proposal from civil rights groups and others because of concerns, including over verifying that identification is accurate, the usefulness and necessity of the data, and the potential exclusion of other groups of historically enslaved people.

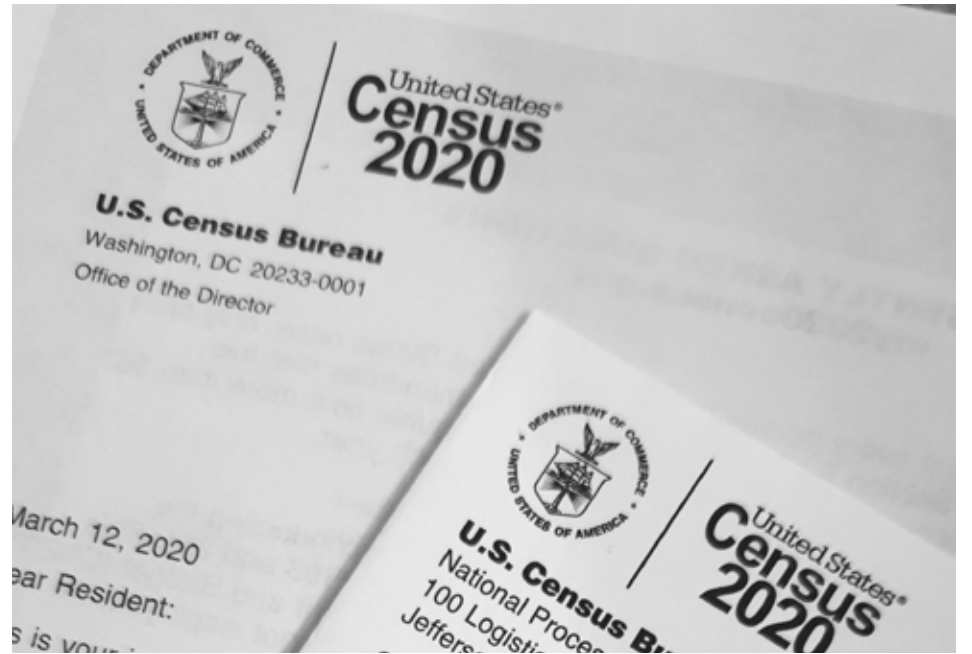
The fact that major racial and ethnic groups have been left out of the demographic collection has been criticized for years. Hispanics are, as of July 1, 2022, the largest minority group of the nation with a population estimated to be 63.7 million. That amounts to about 19.1% of the total population.

Advocates have been pushing to combine the race and Hispanic origin questions, and they have pointed out the confusing categorization used in these questions that leads to a lower response rate from Hispanic respondents. This could, they argue, result in a potentially lower overall estimation of the Hispanic population. This issue was supported by the data that demonstrated the non-response to the two-part question has increased since 1980. Furthermore, this issue was substantiated by a test in the 2010 Census by the Census Bureau, which showed that combining the questions regarding race and Hispanic origin yielded higher response rates.

The Middle Eastern and North African populations have been estimated to be approximately 3.5 million, according to results from the 2020 census, which asked respondents to elaborate on their backgrounds. The two largest groups of people who elaborated on their backgrounds and identified themselves as MENA, either alone or in combination with another group, in the 2020 census were Lebanese, with more than 685,000 people, and Iranian, with more than 568,000 people.

### **Middle Eastern Americans on ‘Receiving End of Bad Policies’**

Nevertheless, many people believed that the results from the 2020 census might undercount and fail to estimate the MENA population. Many residents might be confused by the extra step of elaborating on backgrounds or might feel unnecessary or too rushed to go through this extra step to write down respondents’ detailed backgrounds on the census questionnaire, leading to the possible failure to represent the entire MENA population. Not identifying some major racial and ethnic groups sepa-



ately has caused numerous issues.

According to Abed A. Ayoub, who is the national executive director of the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee, throughout history, MENA Americans have been “on the receiving end of bad policies” like surveillance programs and watch-listing with no way to study those practices, because there is no definitive population data. Furthermore, the lack of such precise and definitive population data has made it difficult to understand and to research on how the Covid-19 pandemic has affected the MENA community. Similar issues persist for certain other minority communities.

This revision, which is the first change to race and ethnicity categories since 1997, has spurred many reactions across the nation. Some pointed out that this revision will also have long-term implications for legislative redistricting, civil rights laws, health statistics, and possibly even the field of politics as the number of people categorized as white is reduced. Nevertheless, grouping people of different backgrounds together into a single race and ethnicity category, such as Japanese and Filipino in the Asian classification, often masks the disparities in income or health, and fails in accurately representing the different groups in the United States and the societal diversity. Furthermore, many considered this revision to be reflective of the changes in social attitudes, immigration, societal diversity, as well as a wish for people in an increasingly diverse society to see themselves included in the numbers produced by the federal government.

### **Racial Diversity Among Hispanic, Latino Americans Not Properly Counted**

For the Latino or Hispanic community, although this revision might be able to provide more accurate data of the Latino population, some in the Afro-Latino or Black-Latino population have expressed their concerns that the combining of the questions would dilute their visibility, reduce their numbers and representation, and erase their lineage in the federal race and ethnicity data. The Afro-Latino Coalition responded to the revision with the statement that “by listing Latino ethnicity as co-equal with racial categories, Latinos are inaccurately portrayed as a population without racial differences, despite all the research showing how Black Latinos are treated differently from other Latinos.”

The Afro-Latino Coalition presented preliminary research of the combined

question as presented in the 2024 Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology, showing that there were decreases in Afro-Latino population counts under the combined question and both the Black population numbers and the Latino population numbers are negatively impacted by the combined question. According to the Afro-Latino Coalition, while the census population data suggests an estimate of 2.2 million Afro-Latino population, independent estimates conducted by Pew Research suggest an estimate of close to 6 million. The Afro-Latino Coalition continued by pointing out that the estimated 6 million population was used by the White House as well to “underscore the importance of the Afro-Latino community.”

The Afro-Latino Coalition urged the Census Bureau to conduct thorough tests to ensure that marginalized groups especially Black Latinos and Black Puerto Ricans in Puerto Rico are not disproportionately affected by the revision. The Afro-Latino Coalition pointed to a research done in 2016 which showed that a significant portion of Puerto Ricans who when presented with the two-part race and Hispanic origin question identified as Black as well as Latino or Hispanic and yet when presented with the combined question identified solely as Latino or Hispanic. This suggests that if the 2030 census will use the combined question, the Afro-Latino population might be undercounted and underrepresented. The Afro-Latino Coalition also highlighted the need for community outreach regarding the significance of elaborating on every respondent’s background and selecting at least one racial category and one ethnic category as well as the need to highlight and clarify the difference between race and ethnicity in the question format. The Afro-Latino Coalition called for further “revisions to coding practices that contributed to misclassifying Latinos who chose a racial category as being of Two or More races” as well as “increased transparency regarding how race and ethnicity data are coded.”

The Census Bureau responded by showing through data from previously conducted research that significant differences among the Afro-Latino responses when the race and Hispanic origin questions were asked separately or combined were not identified and Afro-Latino populations estimates were in fact slightly higher with a combined race and ethnicity question, which also provides detailed checkboxes and write-in fields for respondents to elab-

*Continues on Page 5*



## 2024 Boston Marathon Shows 'One Boston' Spirit

By Harmandeep Singh

The city of Boston on April 15 held its 128th Marathon, bringing tens of thousands of runners from all over the world to the city in a show of grit and athleticism.

Since its first race, the status of the Marathon has gained high esteem from the worldwide competitive running community, something that is apparent in the increase of participants throughout the decades. The first Boston Marathon, held in 1897, had a participant-list that included only 18 people; in 2022, around 28,500 runners were registered. Beyond the simple statistics, the city itself becomes more vibrant by the presence of countless national and international athletes and spectators.

April 15th is especially significant to Boston, because the residents of the city remember and reflect on the response to the tragedy of the terrorist bombing during the 2013 race. The city has commemorated this day as "One Boston Day."

Besides the somber remembrance, this day also marks the 100th anniversary of the Marathon adopting the official length of regulation marathons, which is 26.2 miles. The race moved from Ashland to its current starting point in Hopkinton, in 1924 in order to achieve the exact length.

Ethiopian runner Sisay Lemma, 33, achieved the overall first-place finish. Lemma told the Athletic that after not finishing the race in his last three outings his plan was "to break the course record, but it's so hilly up and down and that made me tired a little bit." But he did not beat the course record, he finished the race in 2:06:17. Lemma stopped Evans Chebet, who won the race in 2022 and 2023, from winning his third consecutive first-place

finish. Chebet finished third, behind Mohammad Esa, another Ethiopian long-distance runner. Hellen Obiri, a Kenyan distance runner, finished at first-place in the Womens' race, winning her second consecutive Boston Marathon, which makes her the first woman since 2005 to win two consecutive Boston Marathons.

Obiri told NBC10 Boston that "to win here, I'm extremely happy. Winning two in a row is something precious for me." Sharon Lokedi, fellow runner and national

of Obiri, finished second. The fastest Boston resident to finish the marathon was Dr. Miles Batty from West Roxbury, who finished the race in 2:25:00 and came in 53rd place overall. The men's wheelchair was won by Marcel Hug, the Swiss athlete, who set a new course record by finishing the race in 1:15:35. The women's wheelchair race was won by Eden Rainbow-Cooper, making her the first British woman to finish the Boston Marathon.

The importance of the Boston Mara-

thon is demonstrated through its ability to bring together both the residents of Massachusetts and athletes from all over the world. It is this power to unite countless people together, participants and spectators, that makes the Boston Marathon a widely anticipated and celebrated event.



Runners in the 2024 Boston Marathon on Beacon Street in Brookline. Sampan staff photo.



Runners in the 2024 Boston Marathon on Beacon Street in Brookline. Sampan staff photo.



### Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority

MASSACHUSETTS BAY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY  
10 PARK PLAZA  
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02116

#### NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Electronic proposals for the following project will be received through the internet using Project Bids until the date and time stated below and will be posted on [www.bidx.com](http://www.bidx.com) forthwith after the bid submission deadline. No paper copies of bids will be accepted. Bidders must have a valid digital ID issued by the Authority in order to bid on projects. Bidders need to apply for a digital ID with Project Bids at least 14 days prior to a scheduled bid opening date.

Electronic bids for **MBTA Contract No. N19CN01, ON-CALL BUS PROJECTS, SYSTEMWIDE, MA, (CLASS 1, GENERAL TRANSIT CONSTRUCTION \$7,000,000) PROJECT VALUE – ±\$7,995,840**, can be submitted at [www.bidx.com](http://www.bidx.com) until two o'clock (2:00 p.m.) on **May 16, 2024**. Immediately thereafter, in a designated room, the Bids will be opened and read publicly.

Work consists of providing construction-related services on an on-call basis to support repair/reconstruction needs of the Authority. Work is anticipated to be performed throughout the MBTA service area and will primarily consist of the construction of new and altered bus stops, construction of bus lanes and other transit priority measures along roadways. Typical work includes pavement markings, signage, roadway paving, utility work, sidewalks, curb ramps, traffic signals, pedestrian signals, raised concrete platforms, bus shelters and canopies, lighting, communications, Security cameras, landscaping, traffic control devices and other work as identified by the Authority.

Bidders' attention is directed to Appendix 1, Notice of Requirement for Affirmative Action to Insure Equal Employment Opportunity; and to Appendix 2, Supplemental Equal Employment Opportunity, Anti-Discrimination, and Affirmative Action Program in the specifications. While there is no DBE goal associated with this contract, the Authority strongly encourages the use of Minority, Women and Disadvantaged Business Enterprises as prime contractors, subcontractors and suppliers in all of its contracting opportunities.

[https://bc.mbta.com/business\\_center/bidding\\_solicitations/current\\_solicitations/](https://bc.mbta.com/business_center/bidding_solicitations/current_solicitations/)

On behalf of the MBTA, thank you for your time and interest in responding to this Notice to Bidders.

Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority

Phillip Eng

General Manager and CEO,  
MBTA

April 17, 2024

### Affordable Housing Lottery The Residences at The Met

687 State Road  
Plymouth, MA

Two 1 Bedrooms (one at \$1,800 & one at \$2,000); One 2 Bedroom at \$2,150

*\*Rents subject to change in future years.*

*Tenants will be responsible for gas (propane) heat, electric (which is used for cooking, hot water, and general electricity), and water charges. Sewer charges and parking are included in the rent. Pets are permitted, subject to restrictions.*

**The Residences at The Met** is a brand-new rental development located in Plymouth. There will be a total of 6 rental units within the building, including 3 affordable apartments which will be leased to households with incomes at or below 80% of the area median income. The apartments are in close proximity to local restaurants, shops, and White Horse Beach. All units feature in-unit laundry, stainless steel appliances, luxury vinyl plank floors, upgraded soft-close kitchen cabinets, and granite countertops.

#### Maximum Household Income Limits

\$91,200 (1 person), \$104,200 (2 people)  
\$117,250 (3 people) \$130,250 (4 people)

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**Public Info Session:** May 29, 2024 at 6:00 pm via Zoom

Go to [zoom.com/join](https://zoom.com/join) or call (646) 558-8656 and enter Meeting ID: 818 9317 7595,  
Passcode: 088159

**Application Deadline:** June 24, 2024 at 2:00 pm

*Completed Applications must be delivered, or postmarked, by this date. Applications postmarked by the deadline must be received no later than 5 business days from the deadline.*

**Lottery:** July 10, 2024 at 6:00 pm via Zoom

Go to [zoom.com/join](https://zoom.com/join) or call (646) 558-8656 and enter Meeting ID: 857 2736 5609,  
Passcode: 276410

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Attendance is not required at Info or Lottery sessions. To view the recorded sessions at a later date, please search for The Residences at The Met on the SEB Housing YouTube channel.

For Lottery Information and Applications, or for reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities, go to [www.sebhousing.com](http://www.sebhousing.com) or call (617) 782-6900 x3, then leave a message or postal mail SEB Housing, 257 Hillside Ave, Needham MA 02494.  
For TTY Services dial 711.

Free translation available. Traducción gratuita disponible.  
Tradução livre disponível.





# South Cove Community Health Center

華人醫務中心

## Job Announcement

- CERTIFIED MEDICAL ASSISTANT (FT) - BOSTON/ MALDEN
- SOCIAL SERVICES ASSISTANT (FT) - BOSTON/ MALDEN
- DENTAL HYGIENIST (FT) - BOSTON/ QUINCY
- DENTAL ASSISTANT (FT) - BOSTON/ QUINCY
- BIRTHING COACH (FT) - BOSTON
- BIDMC INTERPRETER (FT) - BOSTON
- MEMBER SERVICE (FT) - BOSTON
- NURSE ASSISTANT - OB/GYN (FT) - BOSTON

Contact: 617-521-6701; le.jiang@scchc.org

QR Code for company page and jobs:



Boston 波士頓	<p><b>Washington St. Clinic</b> 華盛頓街診所 885 Washington St. 617-482-7555</p>	<p>成人科、小兒科、足科及社會服務部 Adult Medicine, Pediatrics, Podiatry, and Social Services <b>WALK-INS AVAILABLE, APPOINTMENTS RECOMMENDED (接受無預約但建議預約)</b></p>	<p>MON-FRI 星期一至五 8:30AM-5:00PM <b>SAT 星期六 8:30AM - 1:00PM</b> <b>(Adult Med. AND Pediatrics ONLY</b> 僅成人科及小兒科)</p>
	<p><b>South St. Clinic</b> 南街診所 145 South St. 617-521-6730</p>	<p>婦科、牙科、眼科、X光乳房攝影篩 檢、家庭計劃、心理科、 營養科/奶券 OB/GYN, Dentistry, Optometry, Mammography, Family Planning, Behavioral Health and WIC</p>	<p>MON-FRI 星期一至五 8:30AM-5:00PM</p>
Quincy 昆西	<p><b>Hancock St. Clinic</b> 漢考克街診所 435 Hancock St. 617-318-3300</p>	<p>成人科、340B 藥房及社會服務部 Adult Medicine, 340B Pharmacy, and Social Services</p>	<p>MON - FRI 星期一至五 8:30AM - 5:00PM <b>Sat 星期六 8:30am - 1:00pm</b> <b>(Adult Med., and Pharmacy ONLY</b> 僅成人科及藥房)</p>
	<p><b>Holmes St. Clinic</b> 霍姆斯街診所 88 Holmes St. 617-318-3200</p>	<p>婦科、小兒科、牙科、眼科、心理科、 家庭計劃 及社會服務部 OB/GYN, Pediatrics, Dentistry, Optometry, Behavioral Health, Family Planning, and Social Services</p>	<p>MON-FRI 星期一至五 8:30AM-5:00PM <b>SAT 星期六 8:30AM - 12:30PM</b> <b>(Pediatrics ONLY 僅小兒科)</b></p>
Malden 摩頓	<p><b>Commercial St. Clinic</b> 商業街診所 277 Commercial St. 781-912-2500</p>	<p>成人科、婦科、小兒科、眼科 及社會服務部 Adult Medicine, OB/GYN, Pediatrics, Optometry, and Social Services</p>	<p>MON-FRI 星期一至五 8:30AM-5:00PM</p>

## Job Corner

### Museum of Science, Boston, MA

- **Position: Carpenter, Full Time, Boston**
  - High school diploma or equivalent.
  - 4 or more years of carpentry, building and/or construction trade experience
  - Salary 27.00-32.00 per hour

**Website:** <https://mos.applicantpro.com/>

### Hilton Boston Logan

- **Position: BT Sales Manager - Franchise , FT**
  - Strong business communication and presentation skills, both verbal and written.
  - Ability to negotiate and close business in a courteous manner
  - Possess a strong entrepreneurial spirit, be goal oriented, and self-motivated

**Apply at** <http://jobs.hilton.com/>

### Tufts Medical Center-Boston, MA

- **Position: Clinical Administrative/Practice Coordinator**
  - Strong English oral and written communication skills
  - Excellent interpersonal and organizational skills
  - Bilingual preferred
- **Position: Dietary and Food Service Aide**
  - Knowledge of safe food handling, interpersonal skill
  - Ability to operate food preparation machinery, ability to read and write in English
- **Position: Guest Services Rep/Assistant, PT Boston**
  - High school diploma or equivalent
  - One (1) year of customer service or call center experience.
- **Position: Environmental Services Aide I , FT, Lowell , 32 hrs/per week**
  - Ability to read simple instructions, write, and speak basic English.
  - Ability to operate simple mechanical devices such as floor rotos, vacuums, compactors
- **Position: Environmental Services Aide**
  - Ability to read and write in English, ability to operate mechanical devices such as vacuums, familiarity with heavy duty cleaning equipment

**Website:** [tuftsmedicalcenter.org](https://tuftsmedicalcenter.org)

### Boston Medical Center-Boston, MA

- **Position: Patient Service Representative,**

### FT remote

- A minimum of a High School diploma/GED is required.
- Ability to explain complicated healthcare issues to patients with empathy and concern
- Ability to empathize with and coach the patient in navigating the healthcare system
- Excellent English communication skills (oral and written) with the ability to communicate effectively with patients over the phone and in email and other communications

- **Position: Outpatient Pharmacy Inventory Specialist , FT**

- High school diploma or GED preferred
- Requires 6-12 months of experience as Patient Transporter in our current Patient Transport Department.

- **Position: General cleaner, Full Time, 40 hrs Days and rotating weekends**

- High school diploma or equivalent degree and strong mathematical skills.
- National pharmacy technician certification from either Pharmacy Tech Certification Board (PTCB) or Exam of Certified Pharmacy Techs (exCPT)

- **Position: Patient Access Team Lead, Thursday - Monday 11a to 7:30p**

- High School Diploma or GED required, Associates degree or higher preferred
- NAHAM Certified Healthcare Access Associate preferred.
- Requires at least two years of previous experience in a patient throughput centered role.

**Website:** [www.jobs.bmc.org](http://www.jobs.bmc.org)

**Contact:** Caroline Cafer, 617-414-7066, [caroline.cafer@bmc.org](mailto:caroline.cafer@bmc.org)

### Boston Centerless

- **Position: 1st and 2nd Shift Machine Operator, Woburn**

- High School Diploma
- Comfortable with math, including fractions and numbers up to 4 decimal places (.0000 or ten thousandths)
- No experience necessary. Prefer to have either vocational education, manufacturing work experience, or apprenticeship in an industrial environment but not required
- Salary: \$18-19 per hour

**Apply at** [www.bostoncenterless.com](http://www.bostoncenterless.com)

**Contact:** Steven Vanaria [svanaria@bostoncenterless.com](mailto:svanaria@bostoncenterless.com)

### Boston Public School

- **Position: School Librarian , Full Time**

- Hold a Bachelor's degree
- Hold a valid Massachusetts School Librarian/Library License (All Levels).
- Meet all state and federal guidelines in order to be fully licensed and Highly Qualified.
- Ability to meet the Standards of Effective Teaching established by the Boston Public Schools as outlined above.

- **Position: School-Based Social Worker, FT**

- Master's Degree in Social Work, Counseling
- MA DESE School Social Worker/School Adjustment Counselor License (All Levels)
- Licensed Social Worker (LCSW or LICSW) or Licensed Mental Health Counselor (LMHC); or eligible for a Social Worker license (LCSW or LICSW) or Mental Health Counselor license (LMHC).
- Minimum of 3 years of effective professional experience in an urban setting similar to Boston Public Schools providing clinical services

**Website:** [www.bostonpublicschools.org/](http://www.bostonpublicschools.org/)

**Contact:** [Recruitment@BostonPublicSchools.org](mailto:Recruitment@BostonPublicSchools.org)

### Commonwealth of Massachusetts

- **Position: Seasonal Laborer I, North Andover, FT**

- Minimum Entrance Requirements: None.
- Salary: 1,539.36 Biweekly

- **Position: Data Analyst FT, Woburn**

- Bachelor's or Master's degree in Computer Science, Data Science, Data Engineering, Software Engineering, Statistics, Mathematics or a related field.

- 2+ years of experience as a data analyst, database analyst, database administrator, or comparable position

- Strong proficiency in SQL & PL/SQL
- Salary: 75,000.00 - 80,000.00 Yearly

- **Position: Communications Coordinator I**

- Associate degree or higher, or comparable work experience.
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills, including copywriting content and public speaking.
- Proven Graphic Design Skills, Layout Skills, Creativity, Flexibility, Attention to Detail skills.
- Strong computer and computer publishing skills, including a strong working knowledge of
- Salary: 49,385.75 - 56,670.15 Yearly

**Website:** <https://www.mass.gov/>

### ABCD-Boston, MA

- **Position: Housing Counselor, FT Hybrid, Malden**

- A minimum of a high school diploma or equivalent and up to 12 months of experience with thorough knowledge of housing/housing search, tenant's rights, housing subsidies and housing law required

- Must possess Housing Counselor Certification or be willing to become Housing Counseling certified with 6 months of employment is required.

- **Position: Benefits Manager, FT hybrid, Boston**

- A minimum of a High School Diploma or equivalent and additional courses towards a certification or degree in Human Resources, Public Administration or related field, and three to five years of progressive responsibilities within a Human Resources department is required.

- Demonstrated ability in Human Resources, including Compensation, Benefits and HRIS.

- **Position: Cook, FT, Mattapan**

- Excellent written and verbal communication as well as interpersonal skills.

- Must be able to read, maintain records and prepare simple written reports.

- Salary : \$21.93 - \$24.69 / hour

**Website:** <https://careers.bostonabcd.org/>

**Contact:** Lavette Sealls, [lavette.sealls@bostonabcd.org](mailto:lavette.sealls@bostonabcd.org)

### Department of Conservation & Recreation (DCR)

DCR offers a limited number of free lifeguard certification courses for qualified lifeguard candidates. DCR lifeguards must be at least 16 years of age at the time of hire and certified through Labor Day 2023 in: Lifeguarding (Red Cross / YMCA / BSA) First Aid CPR/AED for the Professional Rescuer (Basic Life Support / Healthcare Provider)

- **Position: Boston / Central/ North/ South/ West Region**

- Lifeguards : \$22-\$23 / hour

- Pool / Beach Managers : \$25-\$27 / hour

- Water Safety Instructors: additional \$2/ hour if teaching for DCR

**Website:** <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/join-our-lifeguard-team>

**Contact:** Shawn P. DeRosa, [shawn.derosa@mass.gov](mailto:shawn.derosa@mass.gov)

## Rats in Boston: A Rising Concern and the Push for a New Pest Control Office

By Sabrina Yeung

As Boston grapples with a surging rat population, officials and residents alike are increasingly concerned about the ramifications of this persistent problem. The city, renowned for its rich history and cultural significance, now faces a less savory challenge that could affect its public image and quality of life.

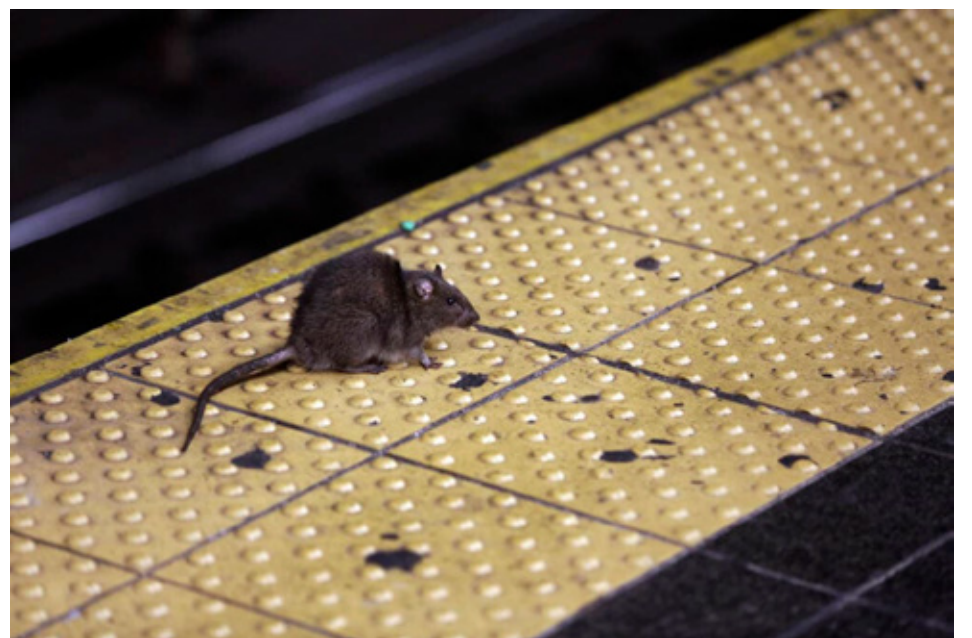
Rats are not just a nuisance but a costly hazard as they get into homes, vehicles and elsewhere. In response to the escalating problem, Boston City Councilor Ed Flynn is advocating for the creation of a dedicated Office of Pest Control. According to an interview with Flynn, this office would streamline and centralize the city's efforts, which are currently dispersed across multiple departments.

The call for a specialized office comes as Boston ranks thirteenth in Orkin's annual list of "rattiest" cities, a position it has maintained for four consecutive years. The need for better pest control strategies is urgent, as neighboring communities explore innovative solutions such as employing rodent-killing dogs and non-poisonous methods of extermination.

On April 12, 2024, Rich Barlow from Boston University's School of Public Health highlighted the distress among the student population in Allston, where rat sightings are frequent and unsettling. Justin Davids, a student, describes the omnipresence of rats, from dead ones on the streets to live ones scurrying in his apartment. This situation underscores a widespread public health concern that, according to Jessica Leibler, an associate professor of environmental health, includes potential disease transmission and negative mental health effects from cohabiting with rodents.

Leibler's research points to a significant impact on vulnerable populations, including those experiencing homelessness, who report seeing rodents regularly. She advocates for integrated pest management strategies that avoid indiscriminate killing, suggesting that learning from rats' adaptability could be beneficial, especially in the context of climate change.

In an interview with Sampan, Councilor Flynn shared insights into the city's ongoing efforts and future plans. Acknowledging the severity of the issue, Flynn emphasized the need for a consolidated approach under a new Office of Pest Control.



He mentioned that Boston is considering various innovative strategies, including the use of rodent contraceptives and modern trash management technologies to curb the rat menace effectively.

Flynn also highlighted the diverse impacts of the rodent problem across Boston's neighborhoods, indicating that while

some areas might suffer more due to older infrastructures, the issue spans across socio-economic boundaries, affecting all residents. He underscored the importance of a coordinated response that includes educating the public on preventive measures and providing robust enforcement of sanitation regulations.



## Don't Throw Away That Yogurt Yet: Sampan Interviews Expert on Confusing Sell-by, Use-by Dates

By Derek He

Say you're grabbing a bottle of milk from the fridge, and see its expiration day passed three days ago. It smells fine, but is it safe?

The answer isn't always clear.

In many parts of the world, expiration dates are a familiar sight on a variety of foods, particularly those that are perishable such as meat, poultry, eggs, and dairy. The dates play a crucial role in influencing consumer behavior and managing store inventory. But the dates are not always the same. Labels generally fall into three categories: safety, quality, and store/manufacture information. Safety-related dates, such as "use by" and specific "expiration dates" are critical on items like infant formula. These dates can indicate the last day a product is considered safe to consume. On the other hand, "best before" and "best if used by" dates speak to the product's peak quality rather than safety, suggesting that while the quality might decline, the food might still be safe to eat for a while longer if stored correctly. Lastly, dates such as "sell by" and "packed on" are primarily for retail management, guiding stores on product display duration. Misinterpretations of these dates, however, can lead to significant food waste, with perfectly good food being discarded unnecessarily.

Many Americans mistakenly interpret these dates as a definitive "end of life" signal for food items. A survey conducted by NSF International highlights the extent of this misunderstanding: Around one in four Americans do not discard food past the expiration date, potentially exposing themselves to food-borne pathogens such as Salmonella, Listeria, and E. coli. Conversely, over half of the population discards food solely based on the "best used by" date. In response to the substantial food wastage at retail and consumer levels — estimated at 30% of the food supply — the USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) advocates for clear and consistent labeling practices to minimize confusion. FSIS specifically recommends the use of the phrase "Best if Used By" on product labels. This phrase is shown by research to effectively communicate to consumers that products are likely to be in their best condition until the stated date but may still be safe to consume afterward, if they show no signs of spoilage. Such products can still be sold, bought, donated, and eaten past the "Best if Used By" date as long as they do not smell, taste or look bad, which would likely indicate they are going bad. While pathogenic bacteria cause food-borne illnesses, spoilage bacteria do not lead to illness, but rather degrade the food's quality, making it unappealing. FSIS clarifies that the presence of spoilage bacteria is exacerbated by improper storage and handling, emphasizing the importance of correct food maintenance.



To dig deeper, Sampan interviewed DeAnne B. Dupont of Foodlink. Dupont is the co-founder of Foodlink, a nonprofit working to rescue surplus, edible food so it doesn't go to waste. Foodlink collaborates with various organizations to distribute these resources to those in need. This strategy not only maximizes the utility of available food, but also tackles the logistical challenges inherent in handling perishable items, which require meticulous temperature control and rapid distribution. By partnering with entities like the Greater Boston Food Bank, Foodlink enhances its food rescue operations, ensuring that perishables reach beneficiaries in optimal condition.

SAMPAN: How do you view the problem of food expiration dates? Are they strict guidelines or strong suggestions? Are people throwing out food based on reactionary expiration dates? Is this resulting in waste?

DUPONT: Apart from certain exceptions like infant formula where expiration dates are crucial for safety, these dates largely serve as guides to peak quality rather than strict safety indicators. The problem is that these dates often lead to significant food waste, as people prematurely discard food that is still safe and edible. This issue is compounded by the lack of federal requirements for date labeling, with some states imposing their own rules, thus creating a patchwork of regulations that contribute to consumer confusion.

Moreover, manufacturers tend to set conservative best-before dates to ensure that consumers experience the product at its best, which inadvertently leads to good food being thrown away well before its time. For instance, canned goods, which can last several years past their labeled date if stored properly, are a prime example of how durable some foods can be despite the printed dates. The variability in labeling terms such as "best by" and "use by," which lack uniform definitions across the market, adds to the uncertainty and resultant waste. With current legislative efforts seeking to standardize these labels, there is

hope for clearer and more effective date labeling that could help reduce unnecessary food waste significantly, aligning consumer understanding more closely with the reality of food safety and quality.

SAMPAN: Are you noticing differences between how closely different cultures abide by these guidelines? Is this affecting the health and welfare of cultures who may more closely follow the guidelines and those who don't?

DUPONT: The adherence to food expiration guidelines does not significantly vary across cultures for non-produce items. However, there is a cultural divergence in the acceptance of the aesthetic quality of fresh fruits and vegetables. For instance, individuals from certain cultures are more willing to accept produce with bruises and other minor imperfections, while many Americans have traditionally shown a preference for visually flawless produce. This preference is shifting in the U.S. as more people understand that imperfect-looking fruits and vegetables are equally nutritious and consumable. The broader acceptance of such produce in other cultures leads to reduced food waste, as people are more likely to use fruits and vegetables that might otherwise be discarded. This not only conserves resources but also promotes a more sustainable consumption pattern, underlining the importance of cultural perspectives in managing food waste and enhancing overall sustainability.

SAMPAN: Is there a correlation between the economic status of people you help and their ability to access accurately regulated food products? In other words, are those in a lower economic bracket more likely to suffer from poorly regulated food?

DUPONT: The correlation between economic status and access to regulated food products, highlights significant challenges faced by those in lower economic brackets. Individuals with limited economic resources often have fewer choices, particularly when relying on food pantries

and similar support systems. These organizations may sometimes refuse to distribute food that is past its coded date, despite the food's safety and nutritional viability. The use of the term "code date" rather than "expiration date" is crucial among food safety professionals to emphasize that these dates often reflect peak quality rather than spoilage.

It is important to balance the provision of food aid with maintaining the dignity of recipients. It is vital that individuals receiving aid do not feel they are merely receiving leftovers, even if the items are safe and nutritious. To combat this, advocacy for education about the safety and edibility of foods past their code date and emphasizes offering choices to recipients. This approach not only helps reduce food waste but also empowers those in need by expanding their food options and respecting their preferences, ultimately ensuring a more dignified and effective food aid system.

SAMPAN: A June 2023 story reported that Ottawa will investigate the elimination of "Best before" dates as a way to lower food waste. How do you feel about this? Would it work here as a way to effectively and concretely deal with food waste?

DUPONT: I have expressed strong support for initiatives aimed at standardizing food labeling, particularly through the simplification and clear definition of date labels to reduce food waste; along with my belief in the potential for legislative changes that would introduce two specific types of date labels on food products, aimed at providing consumers with clear and actionable information regarding food safety and quality. Although the specifics of these proposed labels were not detailed, I believe such clarity would significantly aid consumers in making informed decisions about the usability of food, potentially reducing the volume of edible food that is discarded.

Additionally, I advocate for a shift in terminology from "food waste" to "wasted food." The term "food waste" might imply that the food is inherently waste, while "wasted food" more accurately reflects that the food is still valuable but is being discarded unnecessarily. This subtle but important linguistic shift underlines advocacy for changing consumer perceptions and behaviors around the expiration dates marked on food products. By supporting legislative changes and educational efforts, I aim to promote a more sustainable approach to food consumption and waste management, suggesting that similar measures could be effective if implemented in other regions.

The issue of food waste related to expiration dates is multifaceted, involving consumer education, regulatory practices, and organizational efforts like those led by Foodlink. By improving understanding of what expiration dates mean and standardizing date labels, significant progress can be made in reducing food waste, ensuring food safety, and promoting sustainable consumption practices.

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# Increased Demand for Air Travel Means Emissions are Taking Off

By Zoe Liu

As the airline industry faces growing challenges from shifts in consumer demand and sky-high jet fuel prices, one major problem persists: massive emissions created by air travel.

Flying is one of the most carbon-intensive activities on the planet, and despite an overall surge in travel, some have even jumped on the bandwagon of the Swedish movement of “Flygskam”, which translates to “flight shame,” a term attributed to Swedish singer Staffan Lingberg, who gave up flying in 2017.

Several airlines, however, have committed to sustainability initiatives that include a range of measures such as investing in fuel-efficient aircraft, implementing carbon offset programs, and exploring alternative fuel sources.

United Airlines, under the leadership of CEO Scott Kirby, has pledged to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by 100% by 2050, and so has Cathay Pacific Airways, under the leadership of Chris van den Hooven: “We’re committed to 10% SAF by 2030, and we’re hoping to be carbon zero by 2050.”

Kirby, meanwhile, affirms the airline’s commitment to sustainability, stating in an interview with CNBC, “As an industry leader, United Airlines is dedicated to pioneering sustainable aviation solutions that minimize our environmental impact while meeting the needs of our customers.”

Although there are alternative sustainable strategies, such as using Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) over standard jet fuel, airlines remain apprehensive to invest in them due to their comparatively high prices of SAF.

At the 2024 Harvard College China Forum, Chris van den Hooven, a senior vice president of Cathay Pacific Airways spoke with Sampan, “For an airline, the two biggest focuses on reducing the environmental impact is SAF and Single-use plastic (SUP). SAF is 2 to 4 tons more expensive than typical jet fuel. This is problematic because jet fuel is already expensive in itself. There is not enough being mass-produced. It needs governmental stakeholders to move production forward.”

The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) of the United Nations acknowledges the need for coordinated international efforts to address sustainability challenges, emphasizing the importance of collaboration between governments, industry stakeholders, and environmental organizations. When asked about the environmental impact of SUP, Chris van den Hooven says, “Single-use plastic is a huge

deal. On average, each piece of single-use plastic for each traveler adds up. The goal is to reduce to 1.5 pieces of SUP per passenger. That is our effort to help the environment.”

Despite the growing emphasis on sustainability, airlines face the perennial challenge of maintaining affordability for consumers. As operational costs continue to rise, airlines must strike a delicate balance between profitability and offering competitive fares to remain accessible to a broad spectrum of travelers. According to a recent study by Airfarewatchdog, 68% of consumers attribute affordability as a primary factor influencing their choice of airline. As such, airlines are under pressure to optimize cost structures, streamline operations, and explore innovative pricing strategies to ensure affordability without compromising quality or sustainability.

The airline industry confronts a myriad of challenges, ranging from sustainability concerns and fluctuating fuel prices to shifting consumer dynamics. While progress has been made towards adopting sustainable practices, achieving industry-wide sustainability remains a formidable task. As the industry continues to evolve, collaborative efforts and innovative solutions will be essential in overcoming these challenges and ensuring the future of sustainable air travel.

But air travel is facing many other changes: It is becoming more seasonal, with busier summers and quieter winters. This changing demand for seasonal travel presents a nuanced challenge for the business. In addition, after the COVID-19 pandemic, airlines are pushed to manage the new consumer trend of increased leisure travel, which is growing at a faster pace than business travel in many countries. While the airlines expect to see a busy summer as traffic peaks, it will become increasingly hard to effectively meet the fluctuating demand patterns of air travel, calling for more strategic planning and resource allocation by airlines.

In tandem with shifting demands, airlines are grappling with the burgeoning consumer demand for flights. With technological advancements and increased accessibility, air travel has become more available to a broader demographic, forcing other changes. Some airlines such as Cathay Pacific have started using Artificial Intelligence (AI) to voice the boarding calls instead of airport staff.

Alex Cruz, CEO of British Airways, has also emphasized the importance of meeting consumer expectations, stating in an interview with “The Guardian” that “as consumer preferences evolve, airlines must remain agile and responsive to deliv-



er seamless travel experiences that exceed expectations.”

On top of that, one of the greatest challenges gripping the airline industry currently is the escalating price of jet fuel. According to the International Air Transport Association (IATA), fuel accounts for approximately 20%-30% of airlines’ operating expenses. But not only are airlines tackling fuel costs from recent increases in oil prices, but this source of carbon

emission is also a critical contributor to the climate change crisis -- and the talk of sustainable air travel. With growing environmental awareness and mounting concerns over carbon emissions, airlines are under pressure to adopt sustainable practices to mitigate their ecological footprint. Solely from 2023, emissions from United Kingdom flights rose to 23% last year, endangering the government’s goals to cap pollution at 2019 levels.

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**Application Deadline:** June 17, 2024 at 2:00 pm

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Attendance is not required at Info or Lottery sessions. To view the recorded sessions at a later date, please search for **Hanover Weymouth** on the SEB Housing YouTube channel.

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Economic Development and Industrial Corporation of Boston (“EDIC”)  
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### INVITATION FOR BID

#### 12 Channel Street Roof Restoration Project

Riley Moran; 857-294-5009; [Riley.Moran@boston.gov](mailto:Riley.Moran@boston.gov)

The Economic Development and Industrial Corporation of Boston (“EDIC”) d/b/a Boston Planning & Development Agency (“BPDA”), by its Chief Procurement Officer is pleased to issue this Invitation for Bid entitled “**12 Channel Street Roof Restoration Project**” (the “IFB”). The IFB is issued in accordance with M.G.L. c. 149, §§ 44A – 44J., as may be amended. This IFB package including requirements for this project will be available to download on the BPDA Procurement Portal [free-of charge](https://www.bostonplans.org/work-with-us/procurement) in **digital print** form to all interested respondents on **April 29, 2024 at 9:00 A.M** at [www.bostonplans.org/work-with-us/procurement](https://www.bostonplans.org/work-with-us/procurement). All responses to this IFB must be returned no later than **12:00 noon** on **May 30, 2024** to: Teresa Polhemus, Clerk, Economic Development and Industrial Corporation c/o Real Estate Administration, One City Hall Square, Room 900A/Reception, Boston MA 02210. Tim Mathis, Interim Chief Procurement Officer

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## Opinion: Beware TikTok Medicine

By Jeff Millman

Americans are increasingly turning to the internet for health advice. A 2022 study by CharityRx found that 65% of Americans use Google to get answers to health questions before they consult doctors. Around 20% try TikTok first, with the numbers higher for millennials and Gen-Z. As the demand for information grows, so does the supply of online “health influencers” ready to peddle products, supplements, and questionable treatments. According to the CharityRx study, 37% of Americans seek advice from online health influencers because they are easier to access than medical professionals. These individuals are rarely as reliable, however.

In 2022, the virtual healthcare platform PlushCare, which offers online doctor visits for primary care, mental health, and therapy, had researchers analyze 500 popular TikTok videos about mental health. 84% of the videos were deemed misleading, with 31% featuring inaccurate advice and 14% giving advice that could actually be dangerous. Only a small number of the videos – fewer than 50 – were made by qualified health professionals. TikTokers and health influencers discuss more than just mental health, of course, and it’s likely that much of the information we’re exposed to on social media is lacking in scientific rigor.

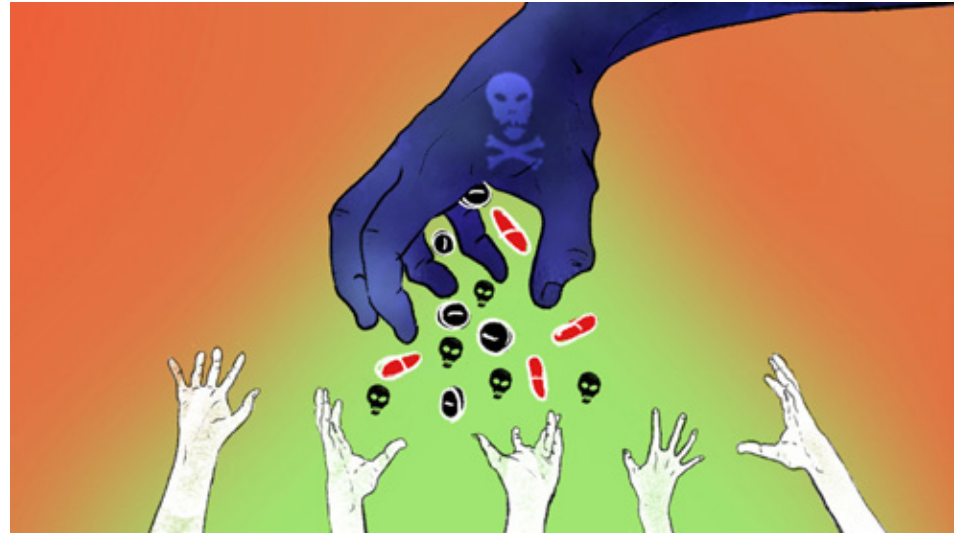
The Journal of Medical Internet Research published a study in 2021 concluding that most health misinformation on social media was related to vaccines, diets, drugs, diseases, and medical treatments. Twitter emerged as the site on which health misinformation was most common, though this may have changed in the last three years given the popularity of TikTok. Regardless of which sites you use, you’ve probably come across health misinformation. The nonprofit organization KFF, which specializes in health policy research, found in a study done last summer that

most Americans have encountered false claims about vaccines and reproductive health and are “uncertain whether health misinformation items are definitely true or definitely false.”

Even seemingly trustworthy sources may promote questionable health advice. The recent case of Andrew Huberman is instructive. Huberman, a PhD. in neuroscience and an associate professor at Stanford School of Medicine, hosts a popular podcast on which he discusses a vast range of scientific topics. In many of the episodes, Huberman promotes products, supplements, and behavioral “protocols” he claims are scientifically supported to increase well-being. At the end of March this year, he was the subject of a long piece in New York Magazine that discussed some disturbing allegations about his personal life. The article also covered some of the dubious claims he has made and the suspect companies that sponsor his podcast.

Dr. Andrea Love, an immunologist and biomedical scientist, has also written about Huberman and the world of online health influencers. In an article for Slate, Love writes that Huberman “extrapolates non-human data to people, using in vitro studies, or in vivo studies on non-human animals, to make prescriptive recommendations for lifestyle changes.”

Love also criticizes his and other influencers’ frequent promotion of various supplements, such as ashwagandha and the nutritional powder AG1. “Steering your listeners into the wide and unregulated world of supplements is bad,” Love writes. “At best, most supplements do nothing. At worst, they can be harmful, potentially fatal...[supplements], thanks to a fun legal loophole, can be sold without the burden of safety and efficacy data that Food and Drug Administration–approved medications must generate.” Given that vitamins and supplements are a particularly popular topic on social media, it’s important to realize that few of them have any evidence of benefit.



Take the vitamins and supplements that are promoted by Instagram influencers: In 2022, researchers for Baylor University Medical Center Proceedings found that supplements for hair, skin, and nail health are popular on Instagram, but that many of these supplements “may be pharmacologically active and risk adverse effects ... Ingredients such as vitamin A found in [Instagram] posts can pose teratogenic risk. Other potentially dangerous ingredients included saw palmetto and biotin.”

To make matters worse, some of these products are endorsed by celebrities or famous influencers, and according to the CharityRx study, 51% of Americans say that celebrity endorsements increase their intent to purchase health-related products. The Baylor University journal article concludes that there is an “increasing need for the medical community to engage with social media and offer accurate information for patients.” At the very least, there needs to be more pushback against the online influencers who are promoting potentially dangerous products and treatments.

Navigating the internet for accurate information is not easy. We are in an election year, a time during which false claims are likely to spread more quickly than usual. A report from NBC News claims that “the dangers from propaganda, falsehoods and conspiracy theories [are] more dire than

ever.” The pandemic brought with it plenty of bizarre claims and falsehoods about the COVID-19 virus, masking, and lockdowns; further, technological and business developments in the wake of the pandemic make misinformation easier to spread.

“Artificial intelligence technology is ubiquitous...social media companies have slashed efforts to rein in misinformation on their platforms,” writes Brandy Zadrozny for NBC. Yet the solutions are not as simple as listening to “experts.” Even credentialed scientists are liable to hawk useless or possibly harmful products and promote misinformation, as we see with the Huberman case.

Given that younger generations are ever more reliant on smartphones and social media for information, online health advice and science misinformation aren’t going away. There’s a robust market for easy solutions and miracle cures, even if those solutions don’t work or end up hurting you. We must all be vigilant and skeptical of what we see on social media, and exercise caution whenever we see a new product or supplement being hailed as healthy or good for you. There’s a reason why myths like the Fountain of Youth never go out of style. Humans have always looked for panaceas and magic potions. Next time you’re in the mood for one, maybe talk to your doctor before pulling up Google.

## 50 Years After the War: The 1975 Vietnamese Diaspora Commemoration Seeks to Heal

By Tony Le

The VietAID Community Center in Dorchester on April 20 hosted the “Intergenerational Cultural Commemoration Event” to mark Black April and look toward healing trauma and creating a cultural and generational bridge for the old and young. The event was led by the 1975 Vietnamese Diaspora Commemoration Initiative, which is creating the “1975: A Vietnamese Diaspora Healing Memorial.” Sampan was there.

Black April is viewed as a critical moment in the Vietnamese diaspora and coincides with the fall of Saigon. Since the pivotal fall of Saigon in 1975, which marked the end of the Vietnam War, there was a significant migration of Vietnamese people around the world. This diaspora has taken root globally, with the United States being one of the major centers, especially around Dorchester. Boston, while not the initial landing point for many Vietnamese refugees, has emerged as a critical hub for the Vietnamese community, notes Linh-Phuong Vũ, a mental health clinician, who is a key member of the memorial project.

This migration to Boston owes much to the early presence of bilingual Catholic



priests who played an instrumental role in aiding the settlement of Vietnamese refugees. Their ability to communicate in English and Vietnamese facilitated smoother transitions for new arrivals, helping them navigate the complexities of resettlement and integration into American society. Artist Ngoc Trân Vũ, another key member of the memorial project, however, emphasizes that the Vietnamese diaspora is a global phenomenon. Starting from Southeast Asia, Vietnamese communities have es-

tablished themselves in various countries, each adapting to local contexts while striving to maintain their cultural heritage. This global spread has resulted in a rich tapestry of Vietnamese communities worldwide.

### 50-Year Commemoration

In 2025, the world will commemorate this fiftieth anniversary of the end of the Vietnam War — a conflict that not only reshaped the geopolitical landscape of Southeast Asia, but also triggered the substan-

tial diaspora intimately tied to the United States and its role in the war. The “1975: A Vietnamese Diaspora Healing Memorial” project will represent engagement with this historical event, aiming to provide a narrative and spatial “recalibration” through a healing memorial in Boston’s Little Saigon Cultural District in Dorchester’s Fields Corner. This initiative seeks not only to honor the Vietnamese diaspora, but also to offer a space for intergenerational healing, addressing unresolved traumas and educating future generations.

Ngoc-Trân Vũ, the lead artist of the memorial project, brings a multifaceted approach to the endeavor, combining her extensive background as a multimedia artist and strategic consultant. With over fifteen years of experience, her work often explores the intricate themes of socio-cultural advocacy, migration, displacement, and resilience. She is working to bridge development, communications, and storytelling to ensure the project not only commemorates the Vietnamese diaspora but also educates and engages the broader public. Her approach is characterized by a deep commitment to empowering marginalized communities through art, which she views as a powerful medium for social change and community cohesion. By focusing on narratives of migration and resilience, she said she aims to create a memorial that resonates emotionally and culturally with the Vietnamese community.

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Foundations of Community Involvement

The design and conceptualization of the "1975: A Vietnamese Diaspora Healing Memorial" project underscores a profound shift from traditional top-down approaches typically seen in public art installations. This initiative has woven community feedback into the fabric of its development from the very start, ensuring that the memorial authentically represents the experiences and aspirations of the Vietnamese diaspora. Trân Vũ highlights the importance of this engagement, noting that it fosters a deeper connection between the community and the final memorial.

Community workshops and brainstorming sessions have been central to this process, providing a platform for members to voice their thoughts and contribute creatively to the memorial's design. These sessions, often filled with vibrant discussions and personal reflections, have become a home for the fusion of individual memories and collective aspirations.

Reclaiming Narrative and Cultural Identity

One of the fundamental goals of the "1975: A Vietnamese Diaspora Healing

Memorial" project is to confront and redefine the predominant narratives surrounding the Vietnam War. Historically, these narratives have often been filtered through a Western perspective, which has simplified complex events and marginalized Vietnamese voices. This Western-centric view typically frames the conflict in geopolitical terms, overlooking the deeply personal and lasting impacts on Vietnam and its people. Linh-Phuong Vũ, with her background in Asian American studies, emphasizes that in mainstream educational systems, the extensive and nuanced histories of Vietnam are often reduced to mere side notes, failing to capture the full spectrum of experiences and consequences experienced by the Vietnamese people.

Both Trân Vũ and Linh-Phuong Vũ use the project as a platform to highlight overlooked aspects of Vietnamese history and contemporary identity. Tran Vu, leveraging her expertise as a multimedia artist, sees art as a vital tool in this reclamation process. Artistic expressions, whether through visual arts, installations, or performances, serve as powerful mediums to convey the complexities of the Vietnamese experience. These artistic endeavors not only honor the ancestors and their legacies but also challenge the audience to rethink their understanding of the Vietnam War

and its aftermath.

Intergenerational Dialogue within the Diaspora

One of the profound aspects of the diaspora is the differing experiences and perspectives between generations. The older generation, those who lived through the war and its immediate aftermath, and the younger generation, born and raised outside of Vietnam, often have distinct views and emotional connections to their heritage. The project spearheaded by Tran Vu and Linh-Phuong Vũ seeks to bridge these generational gaps through active dialogue and shared projects like the memorial.

This dialogue is not just about recounting past hardships but also about understanding the journey of resilience and adaptation that defines the community. It involves sharing stories of escape, loss, and rebuilding in a new land, which are crucial for younger generations to understand their roots and the sacrifices made by their forebears. Similarly, it's important for the older generation to share in the new experiences and perspectives of the youth, who often balance dual cultural identities.

The success of the "1975: A Vietnamese Diaspora Healing Memorial" project hinges on its collaborative nature, which brings together a diverse array of part-

ners with complementary expertise and resources. At its core are local community centers, such as Vietaid Community Center and the Vietnamese Community of Greater Massachusetts, which serve as invaluable anchors within the Vietnamese community.

In addition to community centers, advocacy groups play a pivotal role in amplifying the project's reach and impact. Organizations like the Asian American Resource Workshop and UMass Boston's Asian American Studies program lend their support by providing platforms for dialogue, research, and advocacy. The partnership with UMass Boston's Asian American Studies program exemplifies the project's commitment to academic rigor and community-based research. By engaging with scholars and students, the project gains access to interdisciplinary insights and methodologies that enrich its approach to storytelling, memorialization, and community engagement. Moreover, academic institutions serve as repositories of knowledge and expertise, offering valuable resources for historical research, oral history collection, and educational programming.



续接第十一页

碑”项目的一个基本目标是直面并重新定义围绕越南战争的主导叙事。历史上，这些叙事往往是通过西方视角过滤的，这种视角简化了复杂的事件，边缘化了越南的声音。这种以西方为中心的观点通常将冲突框定在地缘政治的角度上，忽视了对越南及其人民产生的深刻个人和持久影响。Linh-Phuong Vũ在亚裔美国人研究方面的背景使她强调，在主流教育体系中，越南的广泛而细致的历史经常被简化为纯粹的附注，未能捕捉到越南人民所经历的全部经历和后果的全部范围。

Ngoc Trân Vũ和Linh-Phuong Vũ

都利用这个项目来突出越南历史和当代身份被忽视的方面。Ngoc Trân Vũ利用她作为多媒体艺术家的专业知识，将艺术视为这一夺回过程中的重要工具。无论是通过视觉艺术、装置艺术还是表演，艺术表达都是传达越南经历复杂性的有力媒介。这些艺术努力不仅尊重祖先及其遗产，而且挑战观众重新思考他们对越南战争及其后果的理解。

侨民社区内的代际对话  
侨民的一个深刻方面是不同代人之间的经历和观点的差异。那些经历过战争及其直接后果的老一代和在越南以外出生和成长的年轻一代通常对他们的遗产有着不同的看法和情感联系。由Ngoc Trân Vũ和Linh-Phuong Vũ领导的项目旨在通

过积极的对话和像纪念碑这样的共同项目来弥合这些代际差距。

这种对话不仅仅是关于回顾过去的艰辛，还包括理解定义社区的韧性和适应之旅。它涉及分享在新土地上逃离、失去和重建的故事，这对年轻一代理解他们的根和其祖先所做的牺牲至关重要。同样，老一代分享年轻人的新经历和观点也很重要，后者经常在平衡双重文化认同。

“1975年：越南侨民愈合纪念碑”项目的成功取决于其合作性质，它将具有互补专业知识和资源的多样化伙伴聚集在一起。它的核心是当地社区中心，如越南裔美国人发展倡议 (VietAID) 社区中心和马萨诸塞大学波士顿分校的越南社

区，它们在越南社区中发挥着不可估量的作用。

除了社区中心，倡导团体在扩大项目的影响力和影响力方面发挥着关键作用。亚裔美国人资源研讨会等组织通过提供对话、研究和倡导的平台来支持该项目。与波士顿大学马萨诸塞大学波士顿分校的亚裔美国人研究项目的合作体现了该项目对学术严谨性和基于社区的研究的承诺。通过与学者和学生互动，该项目获得了跨学科见解和方法论，丰富了其叙事、纪念和社区参与的方法。此外，学术机构也是知识和专业知识的库，为历史研究、口述历史收集和教育计划提供了宝贵资源。

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或者電郵:
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