

SAMPAN

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Lunar New Year Special Issue



INSIDE: Profiles in Activism: Doris Yu on organizing Lunar New Year Fest in Natick, Dr. Yipeng Ge on speaking out, Mexican-American muralist tells life story, Writer Frank Abe talks about Mitsuye Endo Tsutsumi, Attorney discusses Muslims and law; Also Chinese Horoscope!

Chinatown News

Emotions Run High as City Reveals Proposals to Change Zoning Rules

By Ava Belchez

Voices in English, Cantonese and Mandarin overlapped and echoed throughout a theater room at the Josiah Quincy Upper School on Jan. 18 at a city-sponsored meeting on rezoning plans for Chinatown. Property owners, business owners, and community leaders had various – and often conflicting – opinions about the rezoning proposal. One of the most contentious issues was a set of plans to dramatically change zoning heights for some types of buildings in Chinatown, which has seen several high-rise luxury housing towers proposed and built over the past couple decades. The neighborhood is currently reviewing a 25-story hotel proposal at the site of the old See Sun grocery store. Proposed zoning changes would allow 350-foot heights

for some types of “affordable” housing projects and 150-foot limits for some other types of projects.

This rezoning effort is part of the implementation of “PLAN: Downtown (2018-2023)” and a citywide effort to rezone many areas, according to City of Boston planner Jack Halverson.

The proposal separates Chinatown into several categories based on use and focuses on changes in four zoning districts, residential-1 (R-1), community commercial (CC), residential-10 (R-10), and mixed-use 10 (MU-10).

In R-1, residential buildings under 15 units and ground floor small grocery stores would be allowed. The maximum building height would be lowered from 80 feet to 45 feet, the maximum square footage would be

1,500, and some small “backyard” additions could be possible. According to the proposal, this is all an effort to “downzone” and put dimensional regulations in place to maintain row houses and small businesses.

The community commercial regulations include a maximum building height of 80 feet, as it is now, and a 2,000 square foot maximum, and high building lot coverage. City officials say this is to “focus on maintaining what’s there today and encouraging commercial activity with zoning rules that allow it.”

In R-10, or residential-10, the proposal aims to increase affordable housing by increasing building height, with 350 feet allowed for housing and 150 feet for other uses. It also says, “Buildings must reduce size above 70 feet, or to the height of an abutting historic building.”

For mixed use buildings – or MU-10 – the building heights would also be allowed to rise to 350 feet for affordable housing sites and 150 feet for other uses.

“Buildings must reduce size above 155 feet, or to the height of an abutting historic building,” the proposal says.

During the comment period, Roman Chan, president of the Chinatown Business Association, said rebuilding would be expensive and would not help convince people that left Chinatown due to high rent to move back.

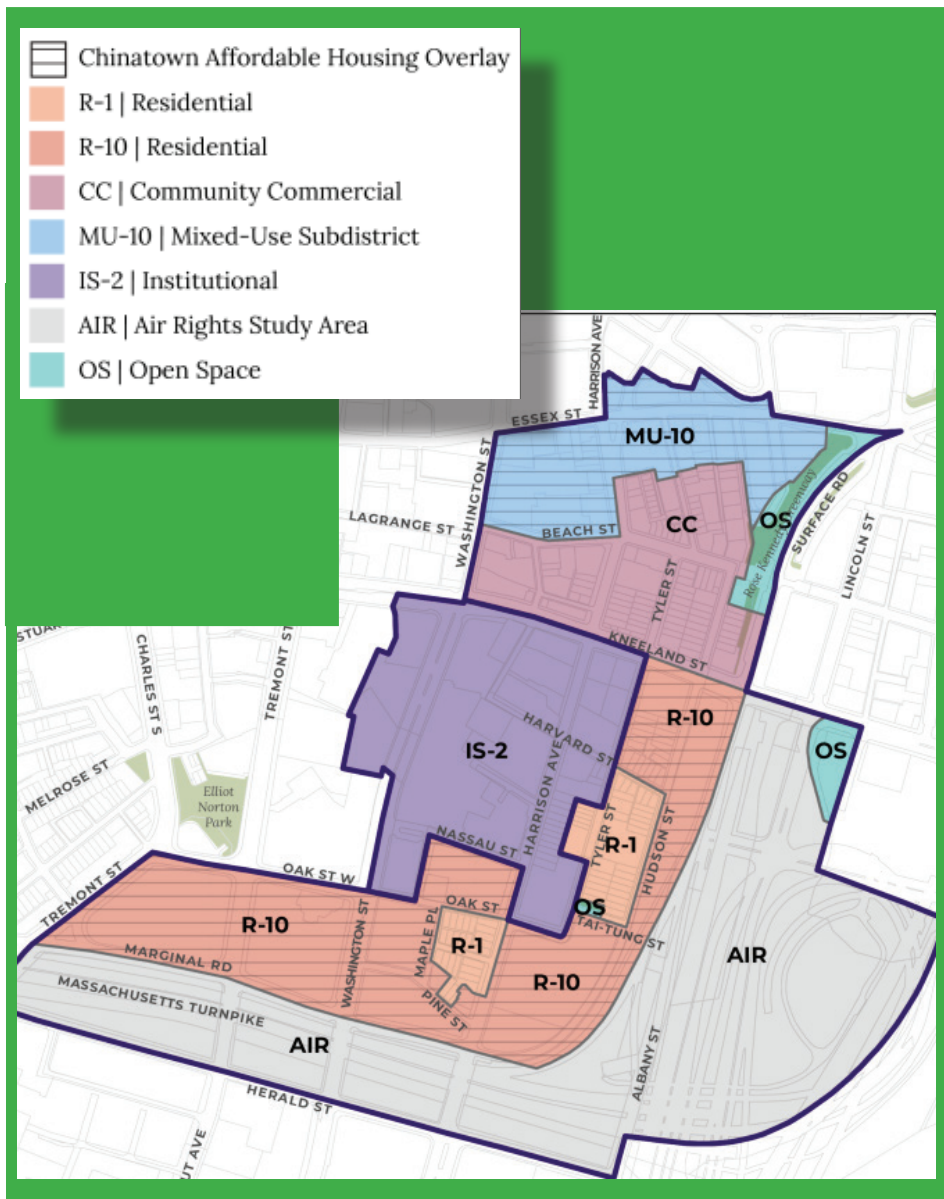
“A lot of our members have their opinions regarding the restrictions,” Chan said to a Sampan reporter. “Especially the height and the way they split this small so-called business district into two sub-districts.”

One Chinatown resident and real estate broker said that reducing the building height meant limiting the growth opportunities for property owners. He compared it to telling high school students they were going to college and then later taking that opportunity away from them.

Another concern that several people brought up was the low-quality, unsafe, and expensive state of many of the residential buildings now.

One speaker brought with him newspaper clips displayed on a board and annotated copies of the Chinatown rezoning. He called attention to existing building conditions. He said the only way to improve housing is to increase affordable housing.

“In Chinatown, many of the houses are dilapidated. We need to rejuvenate,” he said, to which he was met with applause. He spoke directly to City Councilor Ed Flynn,



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who was present, telling him to walk into any basement on Hudson or Tyler Street to see the poor state of the buildings; he also expressed concern about increased crime in Chinatown.

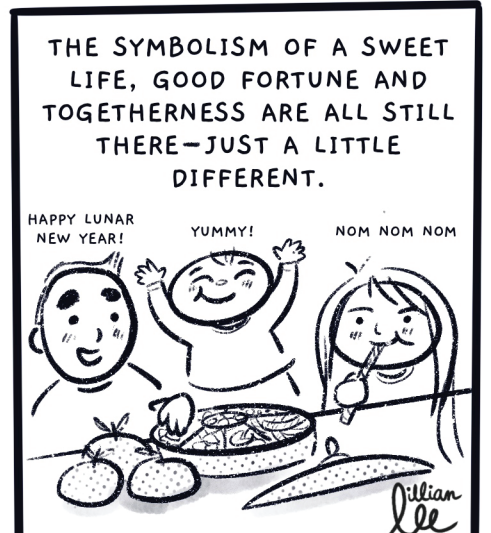
His speech stirred up many people at the meeting, and voices began to swirl around the room.

“I’m not going to allow division and personal attacks on anyone,” Flynn interrupted during the meeting. “Because whether you agree with them or disagree with them, I expect a respectful meeting.”

City officials said meetings on the rezoning effort, which would also remove the “adult entertainment” district from the neighborhood and call for other changes, will be ongoing. More information can be found at <https://www.bostonplans.org/getattachment/e6052842-d5b3-4ac6-9072-bdc3b857b851>.

EMPTY BAMBOO GIRL 竹升女

by Lillian Lee



Profiles in Activism

How I Led Natick's 1st Lunar New Year Festival

By Doris Yu

During my Sophomore year in high school, I sat down with my beloved Chinese Culture Club adviser to begin planning one of the most significant events our school club has ever held: a townwide Lunar New Year celebration.

I am now a junior at Natick High School, and have been president of the Chinese Culture Club since my sophomore year. In the town of Natick, an unremarkable little suburb a fifth the size of Boston, town-wide holiday recognition only really extends to the big five: Valentine's Day, Easter, Thanksgiving, Hanukkah and Christmas. Growing up, I was the only Chinese student at my elementary school of 200 students, and even now remain one of the few at my high school. Indeed, with only 7% of the population Asian, cultural representation was, and can still be, hard to come by.

Ironically, the spark that started our festival effort began with a petition for the school board to make the Lunar New Year a school holiday. It failed. Disappointed but undeterred, my adviser and I began thinking of other ways we could teach our community more about the Chinese culture that meant so much to us. Many other towns have had Lunar New Year festivals, we thought, and so came the courage to decide it was time for a proper celebration. Of course, the anticipation and excitement we had didn't make it any less work, and my adviser and I had pretty big dreams.

Anyone familiar with the televised national New Year's Gala Program on CCTV, or "Chun Wan," as it is referred to in China, knows that it is the biggest event of the year. Hundreds of millions of people tune in to watch each year, and enjoy cultural performances, song, dance, opera, poetry, cross-talk, and short dramas. And we were not about to do it any disrespect if we could help it.

The next couple of months, we focused on getting in touch with different groups in the area. We were originally unsure whether we would be able to get the exposure and support needed to pull off the festival. Yet, as we pitched the idea to our community and communities beyond, more and more people became inspired by the idea of a Lunar New Years Gala that was long overdue. First, we contacted, and were contacted by, many Chinese-American households, some

Continues on Page 6

CARE FOR GAZA: Dr. Yipeng Ge in Egypt after leaving Gaza last year. Photo by Riam El-Safadi.



Doctor's Prescription for Injustice: Speak Up

Dr. Yipeng Ge, already outspoken on genocide of indigenous peoples, took deep a dive into Palestine studies at Harvard

By Adam Smith

While at Harvard University's T.H. Chan School of Public Health a couple years ago, Dr. Yipeng Ge faced a dilemma – and the decision he would make would profoundly influence the following years of his life.

Already outspoken on the genocide of indigenous people and racism in North America, Dr. Ge discovered the Palestine Program during graduate studies at Harvard. Also taking courses in the Kennedy School and Harvard Law, he then soon found out about Palestine Trek, or PalTrek. In that private program, he could travel to the West Bank and occupied Jerusalem. He wanted to go to supplement his studies, but had a moral problem: Was it ethical for him to go?

"I considered going, but wasn't sure if it was right for me to go, knowing my Palestinian friends and colleagues do not have their right of return," Dr. Ge told the Sampan during a recent phone interview.

Dr. Ge, 30, who is now practicing family medicine in Canada, wanted to learn more about Palestine first-hand, but he also knew of Palestinian friends and colleagues who had not even gone back themselves – "and some of them

never had been there because their parents or grandparents were exiled from historic Palestine." During the Nakba – or "Catastrophe" – of 1948, for example, hundreds of thousands of Palestinians were pushed from their homes and many were forced to become refugees, often within their own state. Israeli forces have continued to push out many more Palestinians in the decades since.

After getting the blessing of his Palestinian friends, he went on the trip in March of 2023, where, he said, he "bore witness to overt occupation and apartheid." Since then, he's been a vocal advocate of Palestinian human rights, and went on to write a graduate paper called, "Settler Colonialism, Health, and Palestine."

But knowing and seeing the human rights violations faced by so many Palestinians came with another dilemma: How much should he speak out?

Dr. Ge knew the consequences. "I was very aware of this chilling effect of anti-Palestinian – 'progressive except for Palestine' – racism," he said, referring to people who act liberal on many issues, but stay mum on abuses carried out by the government of Israel, often with support of the U.S.

So when he did show solidarity with

Palestinians, he, like so many others in academia, faced swift backlash. Another, higher-ranking medical colleague, Dr. Ge said, targeted him for his social media "likes" and reposts following Israel's barrage on Gaza in response to the Oct. 7 Hamas attack. The senior doctor claimed that Dr. Ge was spreading anti-Semitic and inflammatory posts.

Soon after, said Dr. Ge, the Canadian Medical Association reprimanded him and the University of Ottawa, where he was on faculty in the residency training program, suspended him. Dr. Ge said the association told him to apologize to people he was accused of offending for liking posts, including one with images of a person holding a "From the river to the sea, Palestine will be free" sign.

An outcry of support for Dr. Ge followed. A petition to reinstate the doctor and seek an inquiry into the university's handling of the matter quickly got tens of thousands of signatures and is now at over 100,000. The University of Ottawa eventually offered to reinstate him, but he ultimately resigned, as he did from his position in the medical association. In his lengthy letter of resignation to the Canadian Medical As-

Continues on Page 6

Profiles in Activism

Activism Through Art: Interview With Carlos Hernandez Chavez

By Adam Smith

You could say that artist Carlos Hernandez Chavez has taken a bit of the Mexican Muralist Movement of the 1900s to modern-day New England.

But his path to painting on walls and buildings here after growing up in Mexico was a winding one.

In the mid-1960s, Chavez devoted his education to the arts while still in Mexico. He studied at the Escuela Nacional de Artes Plásticas-UNAM at the Academia de San Carlos in Mexico and INBA's Escuela de Pintura y Escultura at La Esmeralda. He also pursued a life in rock 'n' roll. It was the latter that took him to the Northeast U.S. decades ago, in hopes of joining a rock band that was auditioning on the West Coast. Instead, Chavez ended up staying in Connecticut, where he would marry his then girlfriend, Georgianne "Georgie" Nelson.

To pay the bills, he put down his bass guitar and paint brush, and settled into a career in social work and for the city of Hartford. He started out at a psychiatric hospital and moved on from there.

But he didn't give up his passion for painting – or activism – and began creating murals around town. His first in the U.S. was a work he completed in the early 1970s, called the "Human Condition," which is now at the San Juan Center social agency in Hartford. He would go on to create many more public works through the decades and, through a grant from the then Connecticut Commission on the Arts, become involved in artists' rights and other social issues across the state.

Now, in his early 80s, Chavez has won recognition from his home country, when he received the 2024 Distinguished Mexicans Recognition award last month from the Consulate General of Mexico in Boston.

Sampan recently interviewed Chavez by email to find out more about him and his work. Following is an edited version of that exchange:

Sampan: Mexico, I think, has a long history of mural art as activism. First and most obviously what comes to mind is the great works of Diego Rivera. Was Mexico's muralist movement an influence on your work?

Chavez: My artistic training in the academic tradition was intensive, receiving instruction from masters whose works are now found in many prestigious institutions in Mexico and abroad, among them Ignacio Asúnsolo, Luis Nishizawa, Manuel Herrera Cartalla, Fernando Castro Pacheco, Héctor Cruz, and others. Many of these artists were contemporaries of Los Tres Grandes, Diego Rivera, David Alfaro Siqueiros and José Clemente Orozco — the most influential muralists of the 20th

century. During the construction of the new Museo Nacional de Antropología e Historia in 1964, I was recruited by Maestro Raúl Anguiano as an assistant muralist to Spanish artist Regina Raúll whose mural was installed and remains at the museum. There is no doubt that during my training, mural works in the Mexican tradition were a significant influence later on in my mural work.

Sampan: Could you describe a couple of your works that you're most proud of and what they mean to you?

Chavez: My 1974 "The Human Condition Mural" was the defining work that would help establish my direction as an activist painter in the state. It addressed issues affecting the lives of the people I served as a social worker that remain very relevant to this day: poverty, racism, child and elderly neglect, alcohol and drug addiction, and the inherent power in people to overcome them. This mural underwent several relocations (in part because of) opposition from public agencies' executives....(At which point the) mural was put in the trash, and later rescued by Doris Rojas, a good friend.

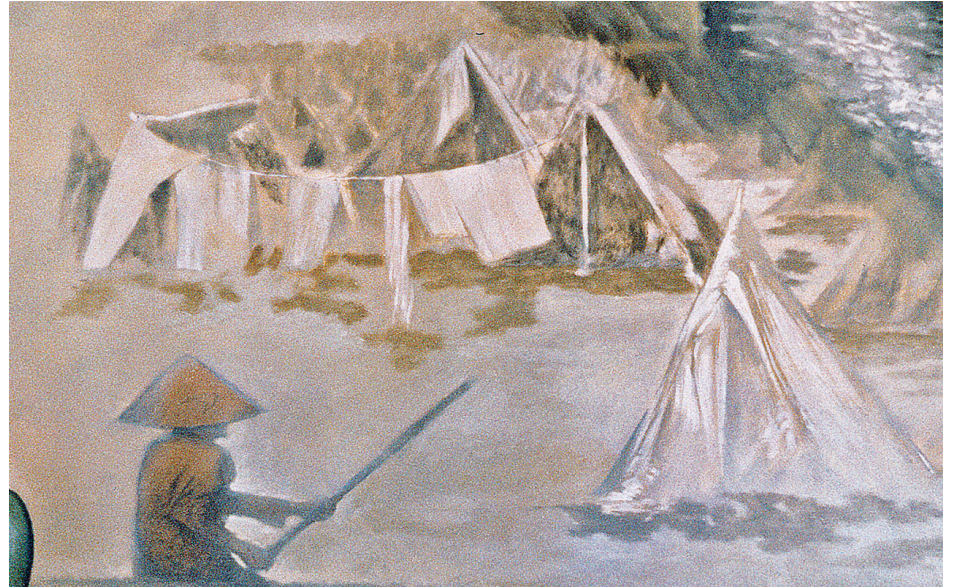
Another is "The Wall of Forgiveness." The 1995 work was an ephemeral mural painted at Hartford's Charter Oak Cultural Center with gang violence as its central theme. In the previous five years, Hartford had experienced a high number of homicides - nearly 200. My intention was to bring public awareness by offering alternative ways to reduce violence in bold, graphic terms. The mural displayed all the names of those killed, painted above the figure of a young man prostrated over the word 'FORGIVENESS'. My belief is that if forgiveness is not given or accepted, the healing process can't begin.

(I created) "River of Memories, River of Hope" in 2001 at the Catholic Charities, Refugee Resettlement Office, with the intention of bringing awareness and resources to world refugees being resettled in the Hartford Area on the scourge of HIV/AIDS. This mural had an unfortunate end, being painted over in 2008 by order of the agency's then executive director under the pretense that "the images were not appropriate for the clients' viewing." A justification beyond ironic.

"Sugar Beet Workers" ... painted in 2009 under a grant from the Roberts Foundation for the Arts ... is my way of telling my personal immigrant story....

Sampan: It sometimes seems that art and architecture are less and less an imperative for many towns and cities in the U.S. How important do you feel public art's role is in people's well being?

Chavez: In my nearly 60 years here, my impression regarding public art



PICTURE OF HOPE: Images from "River of Memories, River of Hope"; provided by Chavez.

in Connecticut, particularly socially conscious or controversial murals, is not as well received or understood here as in other parts of the country. One will hardly find those kinds of works, much less those that contain nudity in public places in the state. I think this is a direct result of the conservative, puritanical attitudes and narrow knowledge about mural art of those who control what the public can see or read.

Sampan: You've now lived a good part of your life in Connecticut. Looking back, how welcoming has it been as an immigrant from Mexico?

Chavez: I found that in general, the people around the places I've lived are good, generous and kind. Unfortunately, there will always be some who aren't. In my earlier years here I had my share of unpleasant situations regarding my looks and native origin both from people and the authorities. I was often seen more with curiosity, given that I am, according to the media, the first Mexican to settle in Hartford. For the first 15 years or so I did not encounter any Mexicans here. People that I've known over the years have learned much about Mexican culture through me; conversely, I've learned so much not only about American life, but about

many cultures from abroad, especially the Puerto Ricans, who I consider my second family.

Sampan: Finally, you've said that you come from a family of migrant farm workers and that "a lot of people have a stigma attached to that. I don't. I pride myself in that heritage." I think that's interesting because farming and the farming industry is so dependent on these workers. Now, it seems, migrant workers in general have become a political target. How do you react to some of the political rhetoric we've heard of late about immigrants and immigrant workers?

Chavez: Having been the recipient of repeated verbal attacks, aggression and mocking during my early years here because of my national origin and language, I've long learned to deflect and educate, rather than to respond in kind. Not too many are aware that society would suffer immeasurably were it not for farming, and the threats of deportation of undocumented farm workers in this country are sure to create unnecessary anxiety and fear, and are cruel and inhumane. I think the logistics of mass deportations are unrealistic, undoable and unenforceable.

Profiles in Activism

Muslim Lawyer Event to Tackle Big Issues of Faith, Bias and Law

By Adam Smith

Civil rights attorney Mariam Aydah knows what it's like to be singled out for being a Muslim while practicing — and studying — law.

A few incidents stand out in particular. Once, while handling a case, she was mistaken for a client, even after co-counsel introduced her as one of the client's lawyers. Another time, while in college, a professor who often associated Muslims with terrorists offhandedly rejected a paper she wrote that presented Islam in a positive light.

And then there was the time she was working at a courthouse where everyone was familiar with her, but that didn't stop security officials from holding her up in line to scan her bag — over and over again — in the metal detector, as people behind her began peering over to see what was going on.

"I was asked to repeatedly put my bag through the scanner," said Aydah, a lawyer with the Massachusetts chapter of the Council on American-Islamic Relations. She offered to let the court officers open her bag to inspect it.

But, "the officers refused to open it and kept running it through the scanner, making a spectacle in front of a growing line of onlookers."

The court officers finally opened the bag and discovered their "security concern" was merely ... lip gloss.

"I felt singled out, embarrassed, and deeply offended. It was a stark reminder of how being visibly Muslim can subject you to unwarranted scrutiny, even in professional settings where you're supposed to belong," she said.

Ayдах is not alone. A high-profile case of anti-Muslim bias was arguably on full display recently during the failed appointment of Adeel Mangi for the U.S. Court of Appeals. Lawmakers grilled Mangi, a prominent Pakistani-American attorney, with loaded questions about his views on 9/11 and the Hamas attack on Israel.

"Does Israel have a right to exist?" asked one U.S. Senator at the confirmation hearings.

It is against this backdrop that Ayдах is organizing the "Future Muslim Lawyers" panel discussion in Roxbury on Feb. 1 at the Islamic Society of Boston Cultural Center. At the event, over a dozen Muslim

Continues on Page 7



Mitsuye Endo Tsutsumi Persisted — And Helped End Mass Incarceration of Japanese Americans

By Adam Smith

Mitsuye Endo Tsutsumi didn't set out to be a civil rights hero. And she didn't promote herself as one. But she played a key role in ending the mass incarceration of Japanese Americans — many of them U.S. citizens — during World War II.

"Mitsuye was an ordinary person who was caught up in an extraordinary circumstance," explains writer Frank Abe, who was part of a team who first told the personal story of Endo Tsutsumi in print, in the graphic novel, *We Hereby Refuse: Japanese American Resistance to Wartime Incarceration*, published in 2021.

Endo Tsutsumi was recently honored, nearly two decades after her death, for her role in ending the Japanese incarceration camps. She was awarded a Presidential Citizens Medal earlier this month by former U.S. Pres. Joe Biden.

But Endo Tsutsumi's story is much less known than, say that of the late civil rights activist Fred Korematsu — another U.S. citizen ordered to the incarceration camps amid U.S. hysteria following the attacks on Pearl Harbor. Instead of defying orders, Endo Tsutsumi reported to her camp, but became part of lawsuit after she and her colleagues were illegally fired by the state of California. The lawyer who took on the case, James Purcell, ended up not only challenging the firings of the Japanese Americans, but also their entire incarceration — a story Abe and his team tell in engaging and compelling detail and imagery in *We Hereby Refuse*.

"What attorney James Purcell was

doing was what attorneys do today, which was cherry picking his clients. He cherry-picked Endo, because she was a 'perfect plaintiff,'" explained Abe.

She checked all the necessary boxes needed for a time of intense hatred of Japanese. She was Christian. She had a brother in the U.S. Army. She did not attend Japanese language schools.

But, in the end, perhaps just as important, she persisted for the greater good of the more than 120,000 other Japanese Americans also forced to the prison camps in the Western U.S. She refused an offer to leave that would have allowed her to go home months earlier but also prevent her from continuing her case.

"She was presented with the opportunity, by an attorney, who, with a conscience, wanted to bring a case against the government to contest this injustice," said Abe. "She was reluctant at first, but she eventually agreed, and that agreement is what makes her worthy of recognition today, of honor today."

Because of Endo Tsutsumi's battle, in December of 1944, the U.S. Supreme Court handed down an order that effectively ended the incarceration of the Japanese Americans because there was no proof they were disloyal to the U.S. (The decision came at the same time period as Korematsu's loss in the court.)

But despite her role in U.S. civil rights history, Endo Tsutsumi is — outside of the West Coast — a rather obscure figure. Her presidential recognition, in fact, came nearly 80 years after the fact.

"The history books had told the

outlines of her biography, but not her personal feelings, motivations, experiences and journey — her personal journey from working for the state of California, in Sacramento, to a series of incarceration camps and her eventual case in the Supreme Court," said Abe. "That story had not been fully explored, I think."

Abe explains that part of the reason why is her personality. "She was shy and self-effacing. She didn't feel she did anything special."

The other reason is her family didn't promote her legacy.

But after a campaign from the Japanese-American community last year to have Pres. Biden award her the Medal of Freedom, she ended up getting, posthumously, the Presidential Citizens Medal.

But even though her case had led to the eventual closing of the camps, Abe warns the story of Japanese incarceration is "not some isolated historical incident."

He draws parallels to the 1940s and the family separations of undocumented immigrants at the southern border with "kids in cages and persecution of immigrants" during the first Trump Administration. And he fears it could happen again after threats of mass deportations and with increasing rhetoric demonizing China.

"I would encourage people to look at this history of Japanese Americans for a precedent of what can happen when these things get out of control."

Abe will discuss "*We Hereby Refuse*" at Wellesley College on April 22 from 4:30-6 p.m. ET. Abe was contacted for this interview through the help of the nonprofit group Densho.

Dr. Ge's Activism Prescription

Continued from Page 3

sociation, he wrote, in part: "Criticism of the actions of Israeli governments is not antisemitic. Criticizing Zionism as a nationalist ideology is not antisemitic. Nor is expressing support for a future in which Palestinians and Israelis can live in equality. We all benefit when we are all freer." (The Canadian Medical Association said in its response at the time that certain posts by Dr. Ge "were received as harmful by some members of the medical profession" and that the association and Dr. Ge "both agreed to participate in a restorative process to repair relationships." The University of Ottawa did not respond to a request for comment.)

Instead of backing away from the criticism, he pushed on with his activism. He continued to speak out against Israel's bombardment of Palestinians. He also went to Gaza in February of 2024, providing volunteer medical services in an old school building in Rafa, where he saw starving children, burn victims and a lack of medical supplies.

But all this came at a cost to his career and reputation.

"I appreciate Dr. Ge's resilience, and the example he sets of how to stand up to bullies and maintain moral integrity," said Joanna Berry, an immigration and refugee lawyer in Canada, who follows the doctor's activism. "As a University of Ottawa alum and former Ottawa resident, I have observed through news and networks that the crackdowns against pro-Palestinian activists and scholars are especially violent in Ottawa.... Bully tactics range from the overzealous, reckless deployment of the Ottawa Police Service ... to forms of institutional and lawfare violence, which Dr. Ge has certainly encountered through his work."

From Wuhan to Activism

The family doctor's activism, however, didn't start with Palestine. Dr. Ge was born in Wuhan, China, where his parents had attended university. As a small child, his family later lived in Japan for a few years and then when he was about four years old they relocated to Waterloo, Canada.

"My parents wanted a ... better life for me as a kid — to grow up in Canada," he said, of his childhood.

He said he's always felt like an outsider — both in Canada where he's a first-generation immigrant and in China, where he still has family but is seen as "Western."

"That family experience really made me think about what is my identity growing up in Canada," he said.

But then as he got older, he learned of Canada as a "settler-colonial state." He also learned of the crimes against the indigenous people of North America and how the native people's land was stolen, resulting in the current nation from which he reaps advantages, including the ability to pursue a

career in medicine.

"I worked in and entered medicine and public health, for that matter, in Canada — recognizing people's genocide here on Turtle Island," he said. "That was, for me, one of the biggest, shocking worldview shifts."

"I was like, How do I live in this world in a way that hopefully does less harm and hopefully helps dismantle some of these systems of oppression?"

He then focused on "settler colonialism" and how it affects public health, after he first learned in-depth about Canada's genocide of indigenous peoples — First Nations, Inuit, and Métis — during his undergraduate studies at McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario.

"I learned from community members, activists, and clinicians who studied and worked in indigenous health, many of whom were from Six Nations of the Grand River, the largest First Nations reservation that exists in Canada to this day," he said.

"So, understanding what's happening in Palestine makes a lot of sense. I stumbled upon Palestine because of that."

On Speaking Up

"When we know right from wrong, we have to draw attention to those things," said Dr. Ge, who appears to view human rights activism as inseparable from public health.

He also sees the crackdowns on free speech and protest at universities and other institutions recently as highly problematic.

And he learned about the latter the hard way over the past year, as have many who've come under scrutiny and received reprimands from universities and other institutions. Dr. Ge said because of his recent time at Harvard, including a 2024 course about social medicine in Palestine, he's followed some of what's happened in the Boston area that appears similar to what happened to him in Canada. And he said the censorship and silencing has caused his colleagues — even those who've witnessed firsthand the atrocities in Gaza — to avoid speaking out.

"Academic institutions say they are for one thing ... like academic advancement of speech, dialog and research papers and whatnot, but they are actually very much for something else," said Dr. Ge, who argues that the financial interests of many institutions often outweigh their value of free speech.

"Academic institutions," he said, "care more about their budgets and their donors than their students. ... They will always side with who has more power."

But, he added: "This chilling effect is really dangerous for free speech — for being able to talk about genocide, which is something that any doctor should be able to talk about, especially about its impacts on health and healthcare."



Starting Natick's New Year

Continued from Page 3

immigrants, others multi-generational diaspora. More and more families decided that this was an occasion worth their effort. Without the help of so many determined families, I can easily promise, the gala would not have been as successful as it was.

We wanted the entertainment to be unparalleled in quality: family friendly, engaging, and nostalgic. While kids delighted in the craft stations our hired artisans ran, adults enjoyed the familiarity of traditional Chinese performances. Families had children eager to present their own skills in the Chinese arts, including many that practiced those skills at a Chinese school a couple towns over. Students from our very own Chinese Culture Club also took pride in performing traditional music in groups of band and choir.

Initially reading down the program, I was delighted yet equally surprised at the many events that were scheduled. Opera singing, traditional dance, and poetry — all arts I rarely saw performed in the community and had rendered lost in translation. Finally, it seemed, our performers found an outlet and opportunity to present their skills to an audience that could truly appreciate the tradition and culture that fueled their passion. As professionals and children performed one after another, I felt a heartwarming sensation that, even in such a tiny suburb as Natick, Chinese culture had found a way to flourish and grow from generation to generation.

By far, the most stressful part of running the festival was food logistics, despite that a local Chinese restaurant provided delicious food. The biggest problem was we had no idea how many people to expect and when to expect them. By the time we were two weeks before launch day, we had sold approximately 200 tickets. Then, seemingly out of nowhere, 100 more orders piled in. The day of

the festival, we had hoards of people buying tickets at the door. All of this made it difficult to estimate the amount of food we needed, and we cut it so close so that there was only one extra serving of food left by the time everyone had gotten their plate. One!

Naturally, the festival had the extra flair such that a New Year's festival in suburban Massachusetts inevitably invites. We had stand up comedians, cracking jokes in Mandarin and English that had the crowd roaring with laughter. A street dance group from Boston University, volunteers who had asked to be included, jammed to Chinese songs that the high schoolers in attendance gladly sang along to.

It was a dream come true.

Filling each seat in the cafeteria, the fateful spot we were able to reserve from the school, were over 350 people, eating, laughing, and talking excitedly in many languages. Young children, dressed in all different shades of red, used clumsy fingers to shape clay figurines at the direction of talented artisans. Girls and boys in traditional clothing practiced the lines of the songs they were going to perform, while others adjusted their clothes for dance. Older performers chatted amongst themselves, exchanging anecdotes and experiences. Others conversed with younger performers of the same art, offering advice and encouragement.

The excitement in the room was palpable, and so was the pride. Surrounded by the unmistakable red of Lunar New Year decorations, the smell of good food, and a familiar language in our ears, hundreds of people had found a place to feel proud for being who we are.

Decidedly, it felt like home.

The 2025 New Year's Gala is Feb. 8 at Natick High School. For more info, please email yzhu@natickps.org.

Muslim Lawyer Event to Tackle Big Issues

Continued from Page 5

lawyers will discuss diverse opportunities within the legal field and “break down misconceptions about law.”

Sampan interviewed Aydah about the event by email earlier this month. Following is an edited version of that exchange.

Sampan: What are a few unique considerations people of Muslim faith may consider, if any, when pursuing law?

Aydah: Muslims considering a career in law often grapple with the question of whether it is possible to uphold Islamic values while participating in the American legal system. For many, the biggest challenge is overcoming the stereotype that “lawyers are liars.” This stigma not only creates doubt but also leads to hesitation about whether a career in law aligns with their religious and moral beliefs.

... For example, many believe it is haram (“prohibited”) to work as a defense attorney for those accused of serious crimes, without understanding the ethical and constitutional role lawyers play. Defense attorneys, for example, are not there to condone crimes but to ensure that every person’s rights are protected, and that justice is fairly administered...

... Personally, I experienced this struggle when I decided to pursue law. My family, like many in the Muslim community, was initially concerned about whether this path would compromise my principles. I spent a lot of time deepening my understanding of Islam while learning about the legal system to reconcile these concerns.

For instance, I discovered that the values of honesty, integrity, and justice—which are central to Islam—are also fundamental principles in law. It’s not only possible but necessary for Muslims to bring these values into the legal profession, where they can act as a force for good...

Sampan: Do you have concerns that some people interested in law will not pursue the field because of the pervasive anti-Muslim bias in the U.S.? The recent story of Adeel Mangi and his failed bid for the U.S. Court of Appeals seems to just be the latest example, on top of many.

Aydah: Yes, anti-Muslim bias is a



FUTURE OF LAW: Civil rights attorney Mariam Aydah is organizing the ‘Future Muslim Lawyers’ panel discussion in Roxbury on Feb. 1 at the Islamic Society of Boston Cultural Center.

significant concern and can deter many from pursuing a career in law. Stories like Adeel Mangi’s failed judicial nomination are stark reminders of the challenges Muslims face in the legal profession, even when they are highly qualified and accomplished.

When I entered law school, I expected a non-diverse, potentially hostile environment. My personal experiences growing up in Palestine, where oppression was a daily reality, fueled my determination to use the law as a tool for justice. My mindset was to get through law school, earn my degree, and use it to make a difference.

I was fortunate to attend Western New England University, which was far more diverse and supportive than I anticipated. The faculty and student body were welcoming, and I was able to thrive in an environment that valued inclusivity. Unfortunately, I know this isn’t the reality for many Muslim law students across the country.

Outside of academia, the legal profession still grapples with systemic bias. As an attorney recently admitted to the bar, I am beginning to witness the subtle and overt ways anti-Muslim sentiment can manifest in the workplace and the courtroom. Despite this, I believe the resilience and determination of the newer generations of Muslims will shine through.

Younger Muslims are increasingly breaking barriers, pursuing fields once considered inaccessible, and challenging stereotypes. They embody the values of their faith while striving to create positive change in their communities. The Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) taught us, “The best of you are those who bring the greatest benefit to others.” For Muslims, this teaching underscores the importance of contributing to society, even in the face of adversity...

Sampan: What are some ways people who do not practice Muslim faith or who are not of Arabic background, can help speak up against anti-Muslim and anti-Arabic biases?

Aydah: There are many ways non-Muslims can be allies and actively work to combat anti-Muslim and anti-Arab biases. It starts with education and a willingness to engage in meaningful dialogue. Stereotypes often arise from a lack of understanding, and even small steps toward learning can have a significant impact.

One key way to support, is to show up. Attend events, workshops, and panels where Muslims share their experiences, culture, and faith. Simply being present signals solidarity and a willingness to learn. Ask thoughtful questions, listen with an open mind, and challenge your own preconceptions.

Cultural competency is another critical area. Non-Muslims can educate

themselves about Islam and Arab culture, even at a basic level. For example, understanding that Muslims value honesty, justice, and compassion can go a long way in countering harmful stereotypes. When you encounter misinformation or derogatory comments, speak up. Being an ally means using your voice to challenge bias when you see it, even in spaces where Muslims aren’t present to advocate for themselves.

I’ve personally seen how impactful open dialogue can be. During my undergraduate studies, I had a professor who openly expressed anti-Muslim and anti-Arab sentiments in class. He even listed books he’d written portraying Muslims as terrorists. When I submitted a paper that presented Islam in a positive light, he refused to grade it and demanded I write an entirely new essay. Instead of complying, I requested a phone call to discuss the situation. In that hour-long conversation, he admitted he hadn’t read my paper and had only skimmed the opening paragraphs. As I explained Islamic principles, he seemed shocked, as though hearing these concepts for the first time. By the end of the call, he gave me a passing grade and expressed interest in learning more.

This experience reinforced the power of education and direct dialogue. While I declined further discussions with that professor, it was clear he had never truly engaged with a Muslim before. That one conversation shifted his perspective, even slightly...

Pine Ridge Estates 354 Douglas Street, Uxbridge, MA Affordable Housing Lottery Six (6) 4BR Homes for \$272,000

This is a lottery for six (6) affordable single-family homes being built at Pine Ridge Estates in Uxbridge. These homes units will be sold at affordable prices to households with incomes at or below 80% of the area median income.

Pine Ridge Estates is Uxbridge’s newest residential subdivision. Featuring 40 single family homes, the community’s location offers convenient access to both downtown Uxbridge and Route 146 which provides a direct link to Worcester, MA and Providence, RI. All homes will feature 4 bedrooms, 2.5 bathrooms, a 2-car garage, a private lawn, and either a deck or patio. Pine Ridge Estates features five home styles to fit your individual needs. Home styles at Pine Ridge will have a mix of first floor and upstairs master bedrooms, open floor plans, and walk-in closets all tastefully designed featuring a modern farmhouse and craftsman feel. The community will be connected to public water and sewer, limiting the maintenance each home will need. Affordable homes will be indistinguishable from the exterior and offer many of the same finishes as market rate units. The first affordable homes will be ready in April 2025.

Maximum Household Income Limits

\$68,500 (1 person), \$78,250 (2 people), \$88,050 (3 people), \$97,800 (4 people)
\$105,650 (5 people), \$113,450 (6 people), \$121,300 (7 people), \$129,100 (8 people)

The Maximum Household Asset Limit is \$75,000

Public Info Session

March 5, 2025 at 6:00 pm via Zoom Go to zoom.com/join or call (646) 558-8656 and enter Meeting ID: 818 9317 7595, Passcode: 088159

Application Deadline

March 25, 2025 at 2:00 pm Completed Applications and Mortgage Pre-Approvals must be received, or postmarked, by this date. Applications postmarked by the deadline must be received within 5 business days.

Lottery

April 10, 2025 at 6:00pm via Zoom Go to zoom.com/join or call (646) 558-8656 and enter Meeting ID: 857 2736 5609, Passcode: 276410

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

For lottery information and Applications, or for reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities, please visit: www.sebhousing.com or call (617) 782-6900 x2 and leave a message, or postal mail SEB Housing, 257 Hillside Ave., Needham, MA 02494. Free translation available. **Traducción gratuita disponible.**



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Go to
sampan.org
now!

Health News

Expert: Lead, Other Risks Lurking in Drinking Water

By Darren Liu

As concerning amounts of contaminants are found in drinking water systems – whether it be “forever chemicals” or lead from corroding pipes – the Environmental Protection Agency has imposed the first national, legally enforceable drinking water standard in the nation.

This would reduce levels of contaminants but come at a cost of replacing and upgrading pipes. PFAS – or polyfluoroalkyl forever chemicals – are estimated to contaminate dozens of public drinking water systems in 86 Massachusetts communities since, posing risks of thyroid disease and kidney cancer, according to experts. Lead is another problem, especially in buildings and homes with lead pipes or plumbing that uses a type of solder containing the heavy metal, creating risks for young children and pregnant women and others. Lead is a dangerous neurotoxin and there is no safe level of exposure, according to the EPA; lead can impair mental and physical development, and cause irreversible damage to the brain, in kids, and it can cause high blood pressure, heart disease, decreased kidney function, and cancer in adults.

To find out more about the risk in water systems, the Sampan spoke with Kiera Alventosa, an environmental health organizer for Clean Water Action, an environmental advocacy group. Clean Water Action is collaborating with Chinese Cultural Connection, a non-profit aimed at supporting the Asian community in Malden. The two hosted a bilingual information session earlier this month.

Sampan: Has this problem of lead in drinking water and elsewhere disproportionately affected communities of color? If so, why?

Kiera: Lead in drinking water is an environmental injustice that disproportionately impacts communities of color and low-income communities. This is, in part, due to the history of redlining, in which government-sponsored housing corporations racially discriminated against communities of color in distributing federally backed loans in certain neighborhoods. The history of redlining continues to be felt today in terms of housing quality, and results in an uneven burden of dealing with older homes and aging lead pipes.

The installation of new lead pipes was banned in 1986. Anyone who is living in a home older than 1986 should check their public water system's dashboard to see if they have a lead service line. A lead service line is a pipe that delivers water into the home from the water main under the street and is often the greatest contributor to lead in drinking water. As of October, every public water system is required to have a service line inventory posted.

Sampan: Are you satisfied with the measures the (recent) Biden/Harris administration took to regulate lead control? If not, why not?

Kiera: The Biden-Harris administration made unprecedented investments in addressing lead service lines including \$15 billion through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and an additional \$11.7 billion for

drinking water projects. These historic investments continue to make a real difference to communities on the ground through the financing of lead-service-line replacements. We also applaud the fact that the Biden-Harris administration demonstrated a clear priority of distributing resources to Environmental Justice communities, to help communities most impacted by pollution. These investments are just the start of the funding necessary to complete lead service line replacements across the country and ensure the right to safe clean drinking water, and we will continue to advocate for further action by the next administration.

Sampan: How do you feel about President-elected Trump's pick for EPA head, Lee Zeldin?

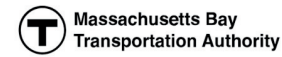
Kiera: As someone who grew up on Long Island, with Lee Zeldin as my Congressional Representative, I have concerns about many of his prior environmental stances and how this may impact his ability to protect our environment and public health on the national level. The prior Trump administration sought to remove safeguards to environmental health and worked on behalf of polluting industries to try to deregulate protections that should be rights.

Sampan: Are there adequate resources to inform non-English speaking residents about the dangers of lead in their water?

Kiera: There can always be more resources dedicated to language access equity, particularly for an important public health issue like lead in drinking water. The Clean Water Fund prioritizes information reaching non-English speaking residents and dedicates our resources to achieve this goal. This entails not only robust interpretation and translation for public engagement and educational events but also engaging with multilingual press and media sources. We partner with community groups from the outset who prioritize and celebrate the cultural specificity of each community. This allows multilingual information to reach families through the networks in which they are already connected and results in more effective engagement.

Sampan: On a state level, how does Massachusetts rank when it comes to public water safety? Do you have faith and confidence in Gov. Maura Healey and her administration's plans for Water safety? How would you like the state to spend its \$53.3 million awarded this past October?

Kiera: Massachusetts has some of the highest quality drinking water across the country and maintains stringent standards for water testing of public water systems. Lead enters drinking water from the wearing away of old pipes, not from the source water itself. Therefore, replacing lead service lines and plumbing is the best solution to eliminate lead from drinking water. Gov. Healey and her administration's plans inspire confidence for water safety through the prioritization of addressing PFAS and lead service line replacements. With increased funding, it is important to see a continued prioritization of Environmental Justice communities.



MASSACHUSETTS BAY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
10 PARK PLAZA
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02116

LEGAL NOTICE

Electronic proposals for the following project will be received through the internet using Bid Express until the date and time stated below and will be posted on 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 Bid Express at least 14 days prior to a scheduled bid opening date.

Electronic bids for MBTA Contract No. **Z91CN05, ON-CALL EMERGENCY RESPONSE SYSTEMWIDE, MA (CLASS 1 – GENERAL TRANSIT CONSTRUCTION and CLASS 12A – GENERAL CONCRETE), AND PROJECT VALUE: \$4,000,000**, can be submitted at www.bidx.com until two o'clock (2:00 p.m.) on **February 13, 2025** Immediately thereafter, in a designated room, the Bids will be opened and read publicly.

The Work to be done under this contract consists of providing professionals, labor, materials, and equipment to perform condition assessment, construct, and complete emergency structural repair work within a specified construction schedule. Emergency structural repair work is defined as work that is of an emergency nature and requires immediate attention and corrective action, as determined by the MBTA.

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/

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

MASSACHUSETTS BAY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

Date: **January 15, 2025**

Monica Tibbits-Nutt
Secretary and CEO,
MassDOT

Phillip Eng
General Manager and CEO,
MBTA

Z91CN05
2025

NOTICE TO BIDDERS
00100-1

MBTA
REV 1/2024
ISSUED FOR BID

Affordable Housing Lottery

Cranberry Cove at Redbrook
23, 27, and 35 Cranberry Farm Road
Plymouth, MA

Three (3) Four Bedroom Single-Family Homes for \$349,500 (\$245/month HOA fees)

Cranberry Cove at Redbrook is a new homeownership opportunity in Plymouth. This is a lottery for three (3) affordable four-bedroom single-family homes. The first floor of these two-story homes features an open kitchen that leads to dining and living areas and a spacious primary suite with a walk-in closet. The remaining three bedrooms and a full bathroom are located on the second floor. The laundry/mudroom is conveniently located just off the two-car garage. The homes feature a full unfinished basement and professional landscaping with irrigation. Community amenities include pickleball and bocce courts, access to Deer Pond Beach and dock area, walking trails, fire pits, and gathering areas throughout the property. Boat and RV storage and a community garden are available, subject to an additional fee and waiting lists. Cranberry Cove is in close proximity to The Village Green, Redbrook Square, Kennard Barn, restaurants, and all of Redbrook's amenities.

Through the lottery process, these homes will be sold at affordable prices to households with incomes at or below 80% of the area median income. The homes are expected to be ready for occupancy in April 2025.

Maximum Household Income Limits

\$91,200 (1 person), \$104,200 (2 people), \$117,250 (3 people), \$130,250 (4 people)
\$140,700 (5 people) \$151,100 (6 people), \$161,550 (7 people), \$171,950 (8 people)

The Maximum Household Asset Limit is \$75,000.

Public Info Session

February 27, 2025 at 6:00 pm via Zoom

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

Application Deadline

March 24, 2025 at 2:00 pm

Completed Applications and Mortgage Pre-Approvals must be delivered or postmarked by this date. Applications postmarked by the deadline must be received within 5 business days.

Lottery

April 8, 2025 at 6:00 pm via Zoom

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

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

For Lottery Information and Applications, or for reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities, go to www.sebhousing.com or call (617) 782-6900 x2 and 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.



Job Corner

The Boston Foundation

Position: Data and Impact Manager, FT Hybrid

Master's degree or equivalent professional work experience and/or education required.

Strong written and oral communication skills, including public speaking and presentation skills;

Experience working with education and social service data;

Strong project management skills, with a proven ability to lead complex projects;

Comfort and flexibility working across a wide range of issue areas;

Proficiency in analyzing large data sets in Excel and other data analysis tools such as R

Studio, Python, or Stata;

Salary: \$70,000.00 to \$90,000.00 yearly

To apply: <https://www.tbf.org/who-we-are/careers> and

select "Data and Impact Manager, Boston Opportunity Agenda" to complete our online

application process.

Boston Medical Center, MA

Position: Pre Service Center Verification Specialist, FT, Remote

Associate's Degree or High School Diploma plus equivalent experience.

1-2 years of previous experience in a customer service role within a healthcare setting is preferred.

Apply at www.jobs.bmc.org

Contact: Caroline Cafer, 617-414-7066, caroline.cafer@bmc.org

Position: Community Behavioral Health Center Resource Specialist, FT, Boston

High School Diploma required.

Bachelor's Degree preferred. (*An equivalent combination of education and experience, which provides proficiency in the areas of responsibility, may be substituted for the college degree).

Apply at www.jobs.bmc.org

Contact: Caroline Cafer, 617-414-7066, caroline.cafer@bmc.org

Position: Community Culinary Dietitian, FT

BS in Nutrition, Dietetics, or related subject required. Master's degree preferred.

Must be registered by the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics.

Licensed Dietitian Nutritionist in Massachusetts or able to obtain within 30 days of hire.

Must be ServSafe certified

Apply at www.jobs.bmc.org

Contact: Caroline Cafer, 617-414-7066, caroline.cafer@bmc.org

Position: Cook (Food Service), FT, 40 hrs

High school diploma or GED preferred

Minimum of 1 year experience with a large quantity of food preparation.

Experience utilizing standardized recipes in large institutional settings is preferred.

Apply at www.jobs.bmc.org

Contact: Caroline Cafer, 617-414-7066,

caroline.cafer@bmc.org

Position: Patient Transport - 40hrs - FT, Alternate Weekends

High school diploma or GED preferred
Prior Patient Transporter experience preferred

Apply at www.jobs.bmc.org

Contact: Caroline Cafer, 617-414-7066, caroline.cafer@bmc.org

Position: Public Safety Investigator, FT

Associate or Bachelor's Degree preferred.

Must possess and maintain a License to carry a firearm (LTC) in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Minimum of two years of experience in any of the following areas:

Criminal Investigation/prosecutions within a healthcare setting

Employment in a security/police capacity in a large public institution

Corporate or medical center security

Apply at www.jobs.bmc.org

Contact: Caroline Cafer, 617-414-7066, caroline.cafer@bmc.org

Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities (EOHLC)

Position: Deputy Chief Operating Officer, FT

Applicants must have at least six (6) years of full-time or, equivalent part-time, professional, administrative, supervisory, or managerial experience in business administration, business management, public administration, public management, clinical administration, or clinical management of which at least two (2) years must have been in a supervisory or managerial capacity.

Salary: 104,479.32 - 152,000.00 Yearly

Apply: <https://massanf.taleo.net/careersection/>

Position: Director of Rapid Shelter Track, FT

Applicants must have at least six (6) years of full-time or, equivalent part-time, professional, administrative, supervisory, or managerial experience in business administration, business management, public administration, public management, clinical administration, or clinical management of which at least two (2) years must have been in project management, supervisory or managerial capacity.

Salary: 95,982.38 - 148,039.17 Yearly

Apply: <https://massanf.taleo.net/careersection/>

Position: Rapid Shelter Track Program Manager

Applicants must have at least five years of full-time or, equivalent part-time, professional, professional internship, administrative, supervisory, or managerial experience in business administration, business management, public administration, public management, clinical administration, or clinical management.

Salary: 81,826.76 - 125,924.13 Yearly

Apply at: <https://massanf.taleo.net/careersection/>

Position: Director of Rapid Shelter Track, FT

Applicants must have at least six (6) years of full-time or, equivalent part-time, professional, administrative, supervisory, or managerial experience in business administration, business management, public administration, public management, clinical administration, or clinical management of which at least two (2) years must have been in project management, supervisory or managerial capacity.

Salary: 95,982.38 - 148,039.17 Yearly

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Salary: 81,826.76 - 125,924.13 Yearly

Apply at: <https://massanf.taleo.net/careersection/>

Position: Assistant School Leader, FT

Applicants must have at least one year of full-time or, equivalent part-time, experience as a registered nurse in a recognized hospital, clinic, or medical facility, and six months of which must have been in a supervisory, administrative, or managerial capacity.

Salary: 90,304.24 - 150,686.38 Yearly

Apply at: <https://massanf.taleo.net/careersection/>

Position: Kitchen Service Worker I, FT, Chelsea

No requirements

Salary: 39,778.70 - 50,302.46 Yearly

Apply at: <https://massanf.taleo.net/careersection>

Position: Director of Communications, FT, Chelsea

Applicants must have at least four (4) years of full-time or, equivalent part-time, professional, professional internship, administrative, supervisory, or managerial experience in business administration, business management, public administration, public management, clinical administration, or clinical management.

Salary: 77,985.70 - 119,881.27 Yearly

Apply at: <https://massanf.taleo.net/careersection>

Position: Registered Nurse III, FT, Boston

Applicants must have at least one year of full-time or equivalent part-time, experience as a registered nurse in a recognized hospital, clinic, or medical facility, and six months of which must have been in a supervisory, administrative, or managerial capacity.

Salary: 90,304.24 - 150,686.38 Yearly

Apply at: <https://massanf.taleo.net/careersection>

Position: School-Based Social Worker, FT, Roxbury

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: <https://www.bostonpublicschools.org/>

Contact Info: Recruitment@BostonPublicSchools.org

Position: Coverage School Nurse, FT

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Massachusetts license as a Registered Nurse

MA State Dept. of Education School Nurse License.

CPR & First Aid Certification

Experience working with children and adolescents in public school/agency/human services setting

Website: <https://www.bostonpublicschools.org/>

Contact Info: Recruitment@BostonPublicSchools.org

Position: Assistant School Leader, FT

Bachelor's degree.

Website: <https://www.bostonpublicschools.org/>

Contact Info: Recruitment@BostonPublicSchools.org

Position: Coverage School Nurse, FT

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Massachusetts license as a Registered Nurse

MA State Dept. of Education School Nurse License.

CPR & First Aid Certification

Experience working with children and adolescents in public school/agency/human services setting

Website: <https://www.bostonpublicschools.org/>

Contact Info: Recruitment@BostonPublicSchools.org



恭祝大家
新年快乐
身体健康
学业进步

Josiah Quincy Elementary School is the first and only Boston Public Elementary School to become an accredited International Baccalaureate World School. We offer school-wide Chinese Heritage coursework with all students taking at least one Mandarin language class each week.

昆士小学是波士顿第一所也是唯一获得国际文凭世界学校认证的公立小学。我们提供全校范围的中国传统课程，所有学生每周至少参加一节普通话课程。

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org

Legal Administrative Assistant (Cambridge, MA) manage correspondence, office supplies, payroll, and client records while handling invoicing, financial reports, & payment agreements. Responsibilities include organizing documents, filing, mail processing & providing support to attorneys while collaborating with paralegals. The role involves drafting, proofreading, & managing correspondence & databases, as well as maintaining & updating client files and billing procedures. A Bachelor's degree in Administration w/ 1 yr of relevant exp & Portuguese language required. Sal \$62,000.00/yr. Send resume to Law Office of Stephen E. Bandar, 6 Lincoln Knoll La., Ste. 102, Burlington, MA 01803

Arts and Film

A Year in Film Review

Sampan's Arts Critic Harmony Witte Lists Top Picks of 2024

Looking back on 2024, Sampan's arts writer, Harmony Witte, compiled the following list of influential and important films of the year with connections to immigration in some way, or with foreign cast members. Some have immigration-focused stories, others have immigrant directors or actors or other cast members.

Witte's list includes hard-hitting documentaries, a martial arts adventure, both tense and funny crime stories, a surreal art romp and even a big-budget mystery thriller.

"This selection of films," writes Witte, "is of the ones that hung on in my mind long after viewing. Some of the films have already warranted a rewatch and some are so painful to see that scenes will be replayed mentally for years to come. In a year where so many of the films that made it into theater screenings were reboots, sequels, and prequels -- these were some of the unique takes that stuck out from the crowd."

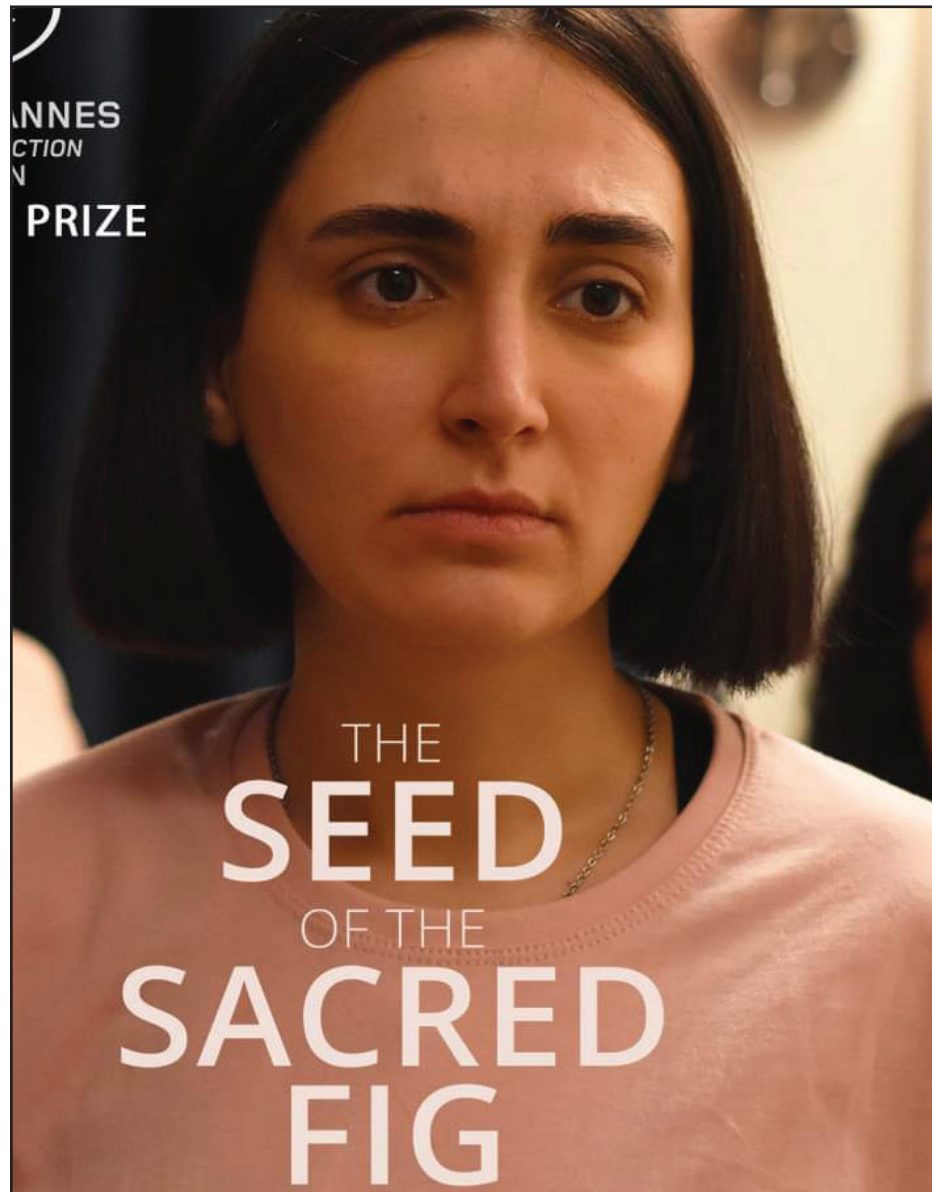
Here are the Top 9 movies:

9: "Twilight of the Warriors: Walled In"

This is a martial arts film set in the walled-in city of Kowloon in the 1980s, when gangs ran the city. A refugee hides out in the city and finds his place in the community, but he has a secret that threatens to spark a gang war. This is an incredibly violent film with moments of real tenderness and humanity. It has some random CGI moments that may briefly pull viewers out of the created world, but those moments are few and far between. Directed by Soi Cheang, this film has one masterful fight sequence after another. Louis Koo shines as Cyclone, who tries to protect the inhabitants of the city.

8: "The Shallow Tale of a Writer Who Decided to Write About a Serial Killer"

This film tells the story of a writer in the midst of a divorce who befriends a serial killer who then pretends to be the



couple's marriage counselor. Directed by Tolga Karaçelik, from Istanbul, Turkey, this hilarious comedy drama features Steve Buscemi at the height of his comedic powers and wonderfully depicts the silent rage that can build between couples over time if smoldering issues are left unaddressed. The film is set in New York City and has a very casual approach to the cinematography that really works.

7: "The Trek: A Migrant Trail to America"

Here we have a CNN-produced documentary about people crossing the Darien Gap -- the only land route connecting South and Central America

which stretches between Colombia and Panama. The route is controlled by a drug cartel and people pay them to be able to pass through. Migrants make the hazardous journey coming from as far away as Haiti, Venezuela, Ecuador, China, and India, all with a dream of giving their family the best life possible. There are no roads through the jungle, they climb mountains and wade through rivers and at times knee deep mud for 66 harrowing miles. This documentary features some graphic footage of people who did not survive the journey. It's a moving work that leaves the audience wondering about the fates of the people the crew encountered on the trail.

6: "Emilia Pérez (sp)"

Written and directed by Jacques Audiard, this is a Spanish-language musical crime comedy. The musical aspect was not advertised broadly, so some viewers may be surprised when the cast starts their heartfelt signing. It tells the story of four women in Mexico who are each pursuing their own chance at happiness. The film features a controversial storyline where a cartel leader wants gender affirming surgery and migrates to Switzerland to hide from authorities. The lead actresses in the film did a phenomenal job with this story including Zoe Saldana, Karla Sofia Gascón, Selena Gomez, and Adriana Paz. While the singing was a little off putting at first, it became an amazing way to tell this fresh tale. There was one song with hundreds of faces of people highlighted across a black background in a Greek Chorus of sorts, all singing in unison about their missing loved ones which could make even the hardest of hearts emotional.

5: "No Other Land"

"No Other Land" is a documentary made by a four-person Palestinian-Israeli collective about a Palestinian hamlet called Masafer Yatta in the occupied West Bank. The film shows the expulsions of people from their homes and the systematic destruction of schools, homes, and even water wells on that land. It follows an activist named Basel Adra in his resistance to forced displacement by Israel's military and chronicles his friendship with Yuval Abraham, an Israeli journalist who attempts to help Basel in his struggle by bringing media attention to his plight. The bonds of friendship are tested because Yuval enjoys freedoms that Basel does not have such as the right to travel. This is a very moving documentary and features some very intense and shockingly violent scenes and scenes of Palestinian people's suffering under occupation and apartheid.

4: "Problemista"

Is a fantastic, surreal film directed by



FEBRUARY FILMS

AT THE EMERSON PARAMOUNT CENTER



FEB 09 | 4PM
THE TRUER HISTORY OF THE CHAN FAMILY

Directed by Erin Mei-Ling Stuart

Preceded by Ten Times Better
TEN TIMES BETTER

Directed by Jennifer Lin



FEB 22 | 1:30PM

Nobuko Miyamoto: A Song in Movement
DAY OF REMEMBRANCE
SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Co-Directed by Tadashi Nakamura and Quyen Nguyen Le



former Saturday Night Live writer, Julio Torres, starring Torres as an aspiring toymaker from El Salvador who is trying to get a visa sponsored so he can continue living in the United States and reach his dreams.

"The Seed of the Sacred Fig" weaves in graphic footage from the protests into this fictional story. The film was remarkably smuggled out of Iran after the director was sentenced to prison and fled the country.

1: "War Crimes in Gaza"

One of the most profoundly devastating pieces of documentary film ever released, "War Crimes in Gaza" is comprised of footage gathered from the social media accounts of Israeli forces and interviews with witnesses and experts which unflinchingly reports on the current grim situation in Palestine.

-Harmony Witte

3: "Conclave"

In this mystery thriller the Pope has died, and the Cardinals must meet to select a new Pontiff -- only there are multiple scandals that erupt and threaten the very existence of the Catholic Church.

2: "The Seed of the Sacred Fig"

A taut family drama directed by Mohammad Rasoulof, this is set against the backdrop of the real-life Iranian political protests in 2022, which were violently suppressed by Iranian authorities.

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Table listing North Shore apartment locations: Lynnfield, Woburn, Lowell, Amesbury, Chelsea, Lynnfield Commons, Kimball Court, Massachusetts Mills, The Heights, Parkside Commons.

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Table listing South Shore apartment locations: Weymouth, Taunton, Hanover, Plymouth, The Ledges, Mill Pond Apts, Hanover Legion, Redbrook Apartments.

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6 (6) 个无家可归者预留单位将通过 HomeStart 的直接推荐进行填补。如需更多信息, 请通过以下电子邮件地址或电话号码与我们联系。

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Table with 8 columns: 单位数量, 卧室数量, 估计建筑面积, 租金, 最低收入, 最高收入限制, 专为行动不便人士打造的单位数量, 专为听力障碍人士打造的单位数量.

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申请开放时间为 42 天, 申请期为 2025 年 1 月 16 日至 2025 年 2 月 27 日。

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Table with 4 columns: 天, 日期, 时间, 地点.

我们将于 2025 年 1 月 30 日星期四中午 12:00 在 Cote Village Apartments, 820 Cummins Highway, Mattapan, MA 和 2025 年 2 月 13 日星期四下午 5:00, 地点: Morville House, 100 Norway Street, Boston, MA. 也可以在线加入, 通过以下链接: https://www.150RiverStreet.com.

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Affordable Housing Lottery

Wrenly Residences

62-76 Foundry Street, Wakefield, MA

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Public Info Session

February 18, 2025 at 6:00 pm via Zoom

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

Passcode: 088159

Wrenly Residences is a new homeownership community comprised of 58 residential homes located at 62 Foundry Street in Wakefield, steps from the Wakefield MBTA train station. This is a lottery for ten (10) affordable condominiums. Each unit will include in-unit laundry and one exterior surface parking space.

Application Deadline

March 17, 2025 at 2:00 pm Completed Applications and Mortgage Pre-Approvals 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

April 3, 2025 at 6:00 pm via Zoom

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

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

For Lottery Information and Applications, or for reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities, go to www.sebhousing.com or call (617) 782-6900 x2 and 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.



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Chinese Horoscopes

PAGES
13-19

By Han Teen See

To see the full version of these horoscopes, please go to https://jmine.com.sg/chinese_horoscope2025.htm
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Rat

Those born under the Rat sign will continue to strive. You will enjoy a lot of good food and company. You can expect significant career advancements, including promotions and pay raises, supported by strong backing from management and stakeholders. However, you should remain vigilant against unexpected challenges and maintain a professional demeanour to avoid misunderstandings and potential conflicts. Financially, you will see increased earnings, particularly from your career, but you should exercise caution with investments and gambling. Your love life will flourish, with opportunities for deepening commitments, though you must guard against potential affairs. Health-wise, you should monitor your diet and rest to prevent issues related to the digestive system, high blood pressure, and sudden conditions like strokes. Socially, maintaining a balanced distance with others will be crucial to avoid being perceived as aloof and to prevent potentially being plotted against.

Career

2025 Snake Year will be the second year that you will continue to do well in your career. There will be promotion, and you will be given greater authority and power. This will be coupled with pay increments and better remuneration. You will be able to gain strong support from others, especially from management and stakeholders without having to spend too much time socialising. Although there will be some potential problems at work, matters will still work according to your favour, or relevant parties will appear to solve these problems. Even so, there will still be some potential problems to take note of. Most of these problems will be related to those that strike fast and unexpectedly. Hence, you will be encouraged to have contingency plans in place even if everything seems to be functioning fine. As you will likely be in the limelight, any simple actions or casual remarks from you will have their meaning being amplified or misinterpreted. For example, when you are trying to cut a conversation short due to lack of time, you may be perceived as being too proud to interact with others appropriately, or being curt. It could also be that you will likely to stretch yourself too thin and can become impatient and quick-tempered. You may find yourself raising your voice or behaving unprofessionally without realising it. As you will be trying to do too much, you will be careless and can easily fall prey to those who want to gather evidence

against you and bring you down. You will not face direct confrontations, but this will not stop them from plotting against you. On the extreme end, those plotting against you will blow you a deadly punch that can end your career. Try to pace yourself this year, and be reminded to maintain a professional demeanour at all times. It will be easy for others to like you instead of disliking you. Hence, do not give others the reason to dislike you. You do not need to behave overly warm towards everybody you meet, but you can consider maintaining a friendly distance with everybody such that it is close enough to keep others at bay, and far enough to have personal space. By paying attention to these potential problems, you would likely to be able to reduce or avoid them while continuously excelling this year. You will be able to reap the fruits of labor of these two lunar years.

Wealth

Your finances will be good. There are indications of pay increments, earnings from investments, and profits from gambling. You will be able to earn more from your career instead of from investments and gambling, especially if your job involves heavy interaction with others and/or sales. Even if you were to gain from investments and gambling, you should only take calculated risk. When you have earned a reasonable amount, you may consider taking a break instead of increasing your stakes. That way, you should be able to gain a substantial total amount by the end of the Snake Year. If you continue to increase your stakes, there will be a high risk of situations turning against you, and your earnings could be completely depleted. Although your finances will be good, it will be difficult for you to save. You may want to keep your expenses in check, and do not let greed cloud your judgment.

Relationship

Your relationship will be very positive as you will attract the love of your life, or people would gravitate towards you if you are single. However, you will need to keep your sanity in check when you are selecting your life partner. If you are not interested to start a relationship with a particular individual, be clear, and do not lead the other party on, or take advantage of the other person. If you are already seeing someone or are married, this will be a good year for you to take the relationship to the next stage. You may get married if you are dating someone. You will be welcoming a new family member if you are already married. But you will risk of getting into affairs.

Health

Your health will be average. Among different forms of health conditions, you will be prone to those related to the digestive system, high blood pressure, high cholesterol and high blood sugar level. You will also run the risk

of sudden health conditions such as a stroke or a heart attack. You may suffer from skin allergies as well. Most of the health issues you face will be related to your diet and lifestyle. You will likely be more prone to accidents instead of health conditions. Although you would not face life-threatening situations, you will still need to pay attention if you were to drive, operate machines or handle sharp tools.

Ox

The 2025 Snake Year forecast for individuals born in the Year of the Ox predicts a challenging year across various aspects of life. Generally, you will face risks of legal troubles. Career prospects appear rocky with potential conflicts and unreliable support from colleagues. This will lead to stress and frequent arguments. Financially, the outlook is bleak, with high expenses and minimal income growth, despite some luck in investments and gambling. Relationships are expected to be strained, with singles struggling to commit, while those in relationships will face frequent quarrels and potential violence. Health concerns include the risk of serious injuries and accidents, necessitating caution in daily activities and travel. Social interactions will be fraught with conflicts and betrayals, urging you to maintain a low profile to protect yourself from potential harm. You will be betrayed, backstabbed and misled by people you trust. Despite these challenges, the year offers valuable lessons in resilience and personal growth.

Career

Your career in 2025 Snake Year will be rocky. There will be more problems than favourable conditions. Although you will gain support from others, it will be insufficient and unreliable. The management and your colleagues will not hesitate to throw you under the bus. Even though you will keep to yourself and focus on what you have to do on hand, others will still seem to be hostile towards you. Simple tasks that you are familiar with can become trying. Projects that you are involved in can be stalled or aborted. You will likely be careless, forgetful, and get distracted easily, which will certainly not help matters. You may want to come up with some techniques to help you remember things and keep track of matters. As you will need to fire-fight and fend for yourself almost all the time, you will be quick tempered, and be in a bad mood often. This can lead to frequent arguments with others, which can escalate to violence, which might cost you your job, whether you are the aggressor or the victim. Hence, when you realise that you are near your boiling point or if the other party is unhappy, take some time off to cool down before continuing with your communication. Fortunately, you will have two lucky stars shining

upon you that can mitigate challenges. However, they can only minimize the detrimental impacts of the challenges towards you, but will not resolve all the odds you have against you. Hence, you might not want to rely solely on your two lucky stars. Although you seek to perform well at work and display your strengths, your experiences this year may leave you demotivated and discouraged. Whatever happens in this Snake Year has nothing to do with your abilities, and it is a testament to your positivity and tenacity bringing you to attain your goals instead. You should keep a low profile, stabilise situations, and watch how you react to situations. These precious experiences that you will gain will allow you to grow and progress significantly personally and in your career in the future.

Wealth

Your finances will be poor, and it is unlikely that you will have pay increments. Even if there will be, it will be insignificant. You will likely receive earnings from investments and profits from gambling. However, your expenses will be so high that you will have difficulties saving, and may have cash flow problems. You will be spending a lot on medical, sudden events, getting yourself out of trouble, and legal problems. Although your luck in investments and gambling will be good, you should refrain from participating in such activities as your financial risk appetite is not high this year.

Relationship

Relationship matters will be quite rocky. If you are single, you will be struggling with settling down and making long-term commitments. Instead, you may encounter one-night stands, but will unlikely get into a relationship. When there is someone interested in you, you will be impolite, which will change their mind about you. If you are already seeing someone or are married, there will have frequent quarrels. Apart from having disagreements with your partner, challenges from other aspects of your life will further strain your relationship, and you will likely to take it out on your partner. This can lead to physical violence or domestic violence. No matter how frustrated you are, learn to communicate, manage your stress, and handle conflicts effectively. Try to talk things through to understand your partner better and try to strengthen your relationship. If you would like to end the relationship, do so in a civilised way. If your relationship is not managed properly, there may be separation. Your life partner may also be going through a difficult time, and will need as much support from you.

Health

Your health and safety will be poor. While it is unlikely for you to face life-threatening situations, your ailments could get rather serious. For

instance, you may need to receive surgeries and other forms of invasive treatments. It is unclear what are the health issues you will have. You will have accidents or suffer from injuries that relates to cuts, especially during traveling and commuting. You may want to avoid engaging in high risk activities, limit travel, and avoid getting into any arguments with other.

Tiger

2025 Snake Year is predicted to be a mixed bag for those born in the Year of the Tiger. Career-wise, your will have opportunities to showcase your strengths and gain recognition, with possibilities of promotions. However, it is unlikely that you will receive pay increments. You will face office politics and potential backstabbing, and you should remain focused and professional. Financially, it will be a challenging year with difficulties in saving, and a high risk of losses from investments and gambling. Relationships will see its highs and lows, with singles having a chance to meet someone special, while those in relationships should guard against external influences. Health wise, there will be significant stress-related issues, necessitating better stress management and lifestyle adjustments. Despite these challenges, you will find strong support from those who genuinely know and trust you. You will advance by embracing opportunities and focusing on your goals.

Career

This is a good year for you. You will have to opportunities to display your strengths and embark on projects or tasks that you enjoy. There may or

may not be promotions, but you will be recognized for your efforts. Pay increments and raises will be unlikely. There will be a lot of corporate events, and you will be asked to give presentations. You will be passionate about what you will be doing, and your passion will be contagious. There will be less than 50% chance of job or job scope change, and if any changes are to happen, it will likely to be favorable. You will be able to gain strong support from management, stakeholders and peers, but not everybody will be truthful towards you. People may attempt to tarnish your reputation and sow discord among you, your colleagues, and stakeholders. They will try to hinder your career progress. While it is inevitable for you to get furious when you hear lies and negative things others say about you, do not let these affect your judgment and professionalism. Wise people will not believe everything they hear or see. People who know you will trust you anyway. Remain friendly towards others, but do not be too trusting.

Wealth

Your finances will be poor. While you will not face financial troubles, you will have case flow problems and great difficulties saving. Pay increments will be unlikely. Your investments and gambling luck will be weak, and you are more likely to incur losses. You will have huge expenses this year. Some will be on luxurious products and social activities, while many will be on sudden events that require large sums of money. It will be critical for you to keep your expenses in check and only spend on necessary items. Avoid investing or gambling.

Relationship

This will be a mixed year for relationship matters. If you are single, there

2025

Wishing AACA and our Community Families a Healthy and Prosperous Lunar New Year!

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右图: 蒂莫利翁·洛布里雄 (Timoléon Lobrichon), 《初恋》(局部), 约1872年, 布面油画。克拉克艺术馆 (The Clark), 藏品编号: 1955.794

will be a high chance of you meeting the love of your life. However, the relationship may not blossom as there might be people trying to thwart perceptions or you, or make you change your mind. Thus, you should speak to the person that you are interested in directly, and avoid getting others involved until the relationship is confirmed. If you are already seeing someone or married, you will have a lot of memorable time together and will be supportive towards each other. However, there will be risk of having

tensions caused by other people such as family and friends. Keep communication channels open. Do not let others influence your relationship. If there are disagreements, talk things through nicely so that both of you can understand each other better. There will be risk of affairs, which will have long-term detrimental impact towards your relationship and your personal growth. If you are already intending to forgo the committed relationship, you may want to have a clean slate before starting a new one. This will be a good

year for you to strengthen your relationship with your life partner instead of ruining it.

Health

Your health and safety will be below average. Between health and safety issues, your health issues will be more severe. Most of your health issues are related to stress and dietary related problems. Try to manage your stress and adjust your habits and environment so that you can sleep better.

Rabbit

2025 Snake Year promises a blend of opportunities and challenges for those born in the Year of the Rabbit. Generally, you will have troubles with the law and will have unusually weak support from others. Career-wise, despite facing numerous obstacles and limited support, you are likely to excel through perseverance and strategic planning, potentially earning promotions and significant pay raises. Financially, while there will be substantial gains from investments and gambling, caution is advised to avoid overspending and financial pitfalls. You may become a victim of scams. Relationship may face strain due to busy schedules and frequent arguments, necessitating patience and effective communication. Health will be generally stable, though minor ailments and emotional fatigue may occur. There will be deaths among family and friends. Overall, vigilance

and diligence will be key to navigating the year's ups and downs successfully. You will have favourable conditions that can allow you to achieve significant progress in your life.

Career

Although this will be a turbulent year for your career, there will be a high chance of you conquering the challenges and excelling. You will be given opportunities to do what you are good at. Your efforts will be recognised. There will be promotions with significant pay increments and better remuneration. You will be given the relevant authority to execute your plans. While this will seem to be a wonderful year, it will be populated with many teething problems. You will experience delays and hiccups. You will need to have enough buffer between your tasks to reduce impact from the delays. Some of your plans will face with major road blocks, which can cause your plans to stall or be aborted. Hence, you will need to adopt certain techniques and strategies in order to get things going and achieve your goals. Unfortunately, the support from management, stakeholders and your colleagues will be much weaker than the previous years. You may face some direct disagreements, but this will not be often. Many will choose to plot against you, and try to drag you into trouble. They will betray, backstab, mislead and sabotage you. As such, you will need to gather important information by yourself, and verify information before using it. Do not share information about opportunities that are presented to you unless you have verified them. Some may even try to lure you to go against your company's regulations and the law. For important matters, you will need to obtain written documents. You should adhere to regulations and the law diligently, follow procedures, and avoid cutting corners. If not, you might not only waste time, but might also encounter detrimental consequences. Some will try to tarnish your reputation by bad-mouthing you. Even though you may be upset with what you hear, do not let this affect your professionalism. Your performance and the results that you can deliver will speak volumes. You should maintain cordial relationships with others while staying on your guard. Although there will be a lot of problems and little support, you will likely excel and have significant progress in your career by staying alert and putting in effort in what you are doing. It will be a battle that is worth the fight. You can proceed on to implement your career plans in this year.

Wealth

Your finances will be good but unstable. You will likely to have huge pay

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- Martin Luther King, Jr.

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Malden City Hall
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Gary Christenson
Mayor

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increments and better remuneration, and there will also be huge profits from investments and earnings from gambling. Although your finances outlook will be good, you will likely overspend on medical bills, traveling, mode of transport, house moving and getting yourself out of trouble. If you were to invest or gamble, do not get carried away by greed. You will likely to get into serious financial trouble if you were to let greed cloud your judgment. You should take calculated risks in investing and gambling. You will likely be scammed. You may want to do research about opportunities before embarking on them. Calm yourself down and think clearly before transferring money to others. If you can keep your expenses in check and stay out of trouble, you will likely grow your finances substantially this year.

Relationship

This will be a quiet year for relationships. If you are single, this will likely remain the same. If you are already seeing someone or married, both will be busy or travel so much that you may not be able to spend much time with each other. When both are able to spend time together, there will be frequent arguments. Although this may not necessarily lead to separation, this can cause you to be in a bad mood most of the time, which will adversely affect your judgment, the way you approach matters, and the way you interact with others. You would be encouraged to talk things through nicely when there are disagreements. If both are upset, it will be best to let both parties calm down before addressing problems. Do not attempt to communicate when you or your partner are not ready. Any form of tension will only have detrimental impact on the relationship. Try to maintain a healthy balance in your relationship even if it seems hard to strengthen it.

Health

Your health and safety will be average. You may have some minor ailments from time to time, but there would not be any major health or safety concerns. You will feel lethargic, which has nothing to do with your physical health, but more to do with your emotional and mental state. You will risk being attacked by animals. If your job require you to handle animals, you will need to pay extra attention and have safety measures in place when handling them. Stay away from stray animals. There might be deaths among family and friends.

Dragon

This promises to be a prosperous and dynamic period for you. There will be a lot of social activities, and you will be able to benefit a lot by interacting with others. In your career, you will enjoy strong support from colleagues and management, leading to promotions and recognition. Not only will people offer to take bullet for you, you will also have the luxury of others watching your back. However, you will tend to be careless and keep to yourself, which will limit your progress. The problems that arise from these areas can be easily mitigated by having proper procedures in place, and sacrificing some personal time. Financially, those in sales, marketing, and creative fields can expect significant pay increment, though careful expense management is advised. Your love life will flourish, with singles likely to find meaningful relationships and couples deepening their bonds. Married couples will expand the family. However, health remains a concern, with risks of chronic illnesses and accidents. You are encouraged to prioritise your

well-being to fully capitalise on the year's opportunities.

Career

You will likely do well in your career. You will be able to gain strong support from management, stakeholders and your colleagues. Everyone adores you. Many will want to be your ally or be part of what you are doing. When you meet with problems, somebody will try to solve or reduce the problem for you. There will always be people watching your back. You will be given opportunities to do what you are good at, and explore areas that you are interested in. You will have high visibility, and it will be to your advantage to be in the limelight. Your efforts will be recognised. There will be promotion, pay increments and better benefits. Although this will seem to be a joyous year at work, there will still be some minor potential problems to look out for. You will meet with some delays and hiccups, which will have very little impact towards your overall progress. Be patient. You can also be careless, which will cause you to make mistakes and overlook details. You may want to focus on what you are doing, and have procedures in place where someone can double check details for you. There will also be people trying to scheme against you and hope to see you to get into serious trouble. Their intentions will be to catch you unprepared. Even though you will be doing well, you may still want to have contingency plans in place and scrutinise details of your tasks at hand. Do not take things for granted. You will also have the tendency of isolating yourself, which will come across as you being aloof. Even though it may be against your nature to spend a lot of time socialising and building rapport, you will be strongly advised to do so because you will gain a lot of opportunities by connecting with others, and this will be a catalyst to your success. By taking care of those potential problems mentioned, you will not only do well in your career, but you will also enjoy what you are doing. The experiences that you gain this year will contribute significantly to your overall career progression.

Wealth

You will likely to have substantial pay increments and better remuneration if your job involves sales, marketing, beauty, product design, social events and landscaping. Otherwise, your salary and benefits will likely to remain the same. Your investments and gambling luck will be average. You will have huge expenses this year, which can cause cash flow restrictions if you do not manage your expenses well. There will be sudden events that will require you to spend a lot of money. You can take moderate risks in investments and gambling, but do not invest or gamble extensively as you will need to have some savings as a safety net. If you are careful in managing your wealth, you will be able to cope with the expenses.

Relationship

This will be a good year for your love life. If you are single, there will be a high chance of you meeting someone special and falling in love. However, you may not notice people who are interested in you as you are not able to take hints. As such, those interested in singles born in the Year of the Dragon may want to make their interest explicit. If you are already seeing someone or married, you will be able to bring the relationship to the next level. You will welcome a new family member if you are married. You and your partner will be supportive towards each other. However, you will be very busy, and your partner might be unhappy that you are not be able to spend enough

time with them. To avoid any misunderstandings, keep your partner informed about what you are doing and where you are. Try to spend as much time with your partner as possible as little efforts from you can strengthen the relationship in the long run.

Health

Your health will be poor and your safety will be below average. You will likely fall ill easily and for a longer period of time. Apart from having minor ailments, you may also encounter sudden chronic illnesses such as stroke and heart attack, which might result in a sudden death. It will be important to pay attention to your health by managing your emotions, having balanced diet, doing regular exercise, and having adequate rest. You may want to improve your immune system even if your health is fine. Your safety will be below average with risks of non-life-threatening accidents. Bear in mind that no matter how well your life progresses, your health is still the foundation of your success. You may want to take good care of your health in order to optimise what you can reap from the 2025 Snake Year and many years ahead.

Snake

The year 2025 will be challenging but still manageable for those born in the Year of the Snake. You will be busy, or there will be frequent traveling. You may move house or relocate. This will be a physically strenuous year. You will find yourself all over the place. You will risk violating policies and the law, and becoming a victim of violence. Career-wise, while there will be opportunities for recognition and promotion, these may not come with financial rewards, and the year will be marked by frequent crises, relocations, and potential betrayals. Financially, it is advised to avoid risky investments and gambling due to high expenses and potential financial troubles. Relationships will be strained, with singles likely remaining so, and couples facing frequent arguments and separations. Health and safety will be poor, with a higher risk of illnesses, accidents, and physical confrontations. Overall, it will be a year to exercise caution, resilience, and effective communication.

Career

This will be a mixed year for your career with odds likely to be stacked against you. Although you will be given the authority to execute your plans and you will get recognition and promotions, this may not come with pay increments or better remuneration. While there will be some support from others, it will be insufficient to cope with your challenges. You will need to rely a lot on yourself. You will be busy, or there will be frequent business trips. There will be office moves, or you will need to relocate due to work. This will be a physically strenuous year at work. While you will be putting in a lot of effort, matters will not be as smooth sailing. There will be a lot of sudden crises such as delays and hiccups. As such, you will need contingency plans and enough buffer between your tasks. Some of your projects will be put on hold, while some will be aborted. Apart from being frustrated, you will feel helpless. Some colleagues or business associates will scheme against you by providing you with misleading information. You will be betrayed, backstabbed and sabotaged. Not only this will cause you to misjudge situations, you might also violate your company's policy and the law. You may want to gather pertinent information and verify information before using it. It seems that you will have a

lot of disagreements with colleagues and business associates. You will need to adopt strategies to negotiate and convince others instead of bulldozing your way through. Some of these arguments might also escalate to physical violence. Although it will be unlikely that you will be the aggressor, your professionalism will be affected if you are involved in violence. Although you will be able to manage most of the potential problems, it will be difficult for you to avoid them completely. You can implement your career plans, but it will be critical to stay out of trouble. Although you may feel frustrated and discouraged from time to time, this will be a year for you to develop resilience, manage conflicts, and manoeuvre through your challenges.

Wealth

Your finances will be poor. Although you will likely earn from investing and gambling, pay increments and better remuneration are unlikely. You will have huge expenses that can potentially get you into financial trouble. You will be spending a lot on medical and legal bills, house moving, relocating, mode of transport and getting yourself out of trouble. Your finances will not be enough to cope with your huge expenses. Hence, you should avoid investing or gambling despite the possibilities of some winnings. If someone were to propose business opportunities, you may want to decline the offer and stay away no matter how good the opportunities may sound. You will have a high chance of being cheated or taken advantage of. Financially, you will not be a good risk taker. It will be important to keep your expenses in check.

Relationship

Matters of the heart will be rather quiet. If you are single, this might maintain status quo as relationships are not be your top priority this year. If you are already seeing someone or married, you and your partner will be busy or traveling so much that it may compromise the relationship. Due to the lack of quality time together, arguments and tension may arise to cause rifts in the relationship. You will also be going through a lot this year, and might take it out on your partner. Such harsh language will inevitably impact your relationship negatively, and both of you might separate. Thus, you should strive to gain more understanding and support from your partner to manage your challenges.

Health

Your health and safety will be poor, but you will not face life-threatening situations. Your poor health and safety will make it harder for you to take on potential challenges. Your immune system will be poor, which will cause you to fall ill easily and for a longer period of time. Apart from minor ailments such as cold and flu, there will be possibilities of eczema, skin allergies, shingles and chicken pox. You may need to undergo surgeries and other forms of invasive treatments. You may suffer from physical violence. You may want to avoid going to unfamiliar grounds and stay away from hostile environments. You will be prone to traffic or road accidents. As such, stay focused when you are driving or commuting, and watch where you are going. You may become a victim of road rage. Do take good care of your health and safety so that you will have a better physique to manage your problems.

Horse

You will have a lot of fun, good food and great company. However,

potential problems might strike fast and unexpectedly. You can expect a promising career with opportunities for promotion and recognition, supported by management and colleagues. Financially, while salary increments may be modest, cautious investments and gambling could yield significant returns. Relationship will be mixed, with potential for both meaningful connections and fleeting encounters. Health-wise, minor ailments are likely, but there is a risk of sudden serious conditions, emphasising the need for a healthy lifestyle. Socially, you will be well-liked and enjoy numerous social activities, though you should remain cautious of gossip and insincere individuals. You should fully utilise the favourable conditions in the Snake Year and you achieve huge advancements in many areas of your life.

Career

You would likely to do well in your career with many favourable conditions. You will be given opportunities to showcase your strengths, and you will enjoy what you are doing. There are indications of promotion and recognition. You will gain strong support from management, stakeholders and colleagues. Many will like to be part of your plans, and will like you to be part of what they are doing. You will be given the relevant authority to execute your plans. There will be pay increments and better remuneration, but this may not be as much as we hope. There will be a lot of corporate events, and you will be asked to give presentations. The more visibility that you get, the further you will advance. Although success might seem imminent this year, there will still be problems to look out for. Instead of having direct confrontation with you when differences arise, others will choose to gossip about you through the

grapevine. Although it may be hard to hear them, do not to let them affect you emotionally and professionally. Do not provide explanations unless requested by the management or your stakeholders. Focus on what you are doing and continue to create value for the company. Your performance will speak louder than words. There will be some who will plot against you and try to get you into trouble. If you are not careful, you might spiral into your downfall unexpectedly. Although you will be well-liked by many, do not assume that others are sincere and truthful. Some may see you as a competitor instead of an ally. You will be encouraged to gather sensitive and important information yourself. Verify information before using it, and do not feel obliged to agree with what others say or do. Although everybody will be friendly and supportive towards you, they will not be responsible for you. Fortunately, you will have many favourable conditions that can allow you to reduce and avoid potential problems by being slightly careful. You should embrace opportunities, get as much visibility, and implement your career plans. You will enjoy the process of achieving significant progress this year.

Wealth

Your finances will be average. There will be some pay increments and better remuneration, but this will not be substantial. You will be earning much more from investing or gambling. However, there are indications that you may lose a lot of money which can potentially bankrupt you. You can invest or gamble this year, but only take calculated risks. When you have profited from investing in gambling, you may want to stop for a while and continue at a later time. That way, you will be able to continue profiting from investments in gambling. Although

each transaction seem small, they can snowball to be a substantial amount. You will incur huge expenses this year on luxurious lifestyles and merchandise. Fortunately, your finances will be able to cope with your expenses. You will not have financial troubles, but it may be difficult for you to save. You can enjoy, but be prudent and try to have some savings in case you need it for rainy days.

Relationship

Relationship matters will be mixed. If you are single, you might either meet someone special, or someone who will take you for a ride. This will be a good year for you to socialise and make more friends. You may want to give adequate time to observe the person who you are interested in before making long-term commitments. Another scenario is that you may have many one-night-stands instead of having a long-term relationship. The more frequently you change partners, the higher risk you will put yourself of not being able to secure a good long-term relationship. If you are seeing someone or married, you and your partner will be creating great memories this year. Both will enjoy good meals and quality time. At the same time, you will be so charming that you might attract affairs. Bear in mind that such short-term excitements will only be causing you trouble instead of contributing to your success. Hence, you may want to refrain from getting into such situations. Focus on strengthening your relationship. Your partner will be your strength and will offer great support so that you can focus on your career or what you are embarking on.

Health

Your health will be good in general. You may have minor ailments such as cold and flu, but your immune system

will be strong enough to counter these illnesses. However, you might face health conditions that strike fast and suddenly such as heart attacks and stroke. You will consume lots of fine and processed food this year, which will put you at risk of having high cholesterol, high blood sugar and high blood pressure. You will likely have inadequate rest and have excessive sexual activities, which will threaten your health. You may want to watch your diet and have a healthy lifestyle to maintain your health. Your safety will be average. You may suffer from some injuries which will be minor and avoidable.

Goat

The year 2025 Snake Year will be challenging for those born in the Year of the Goat. This will be a physically demanding year. You will be busy, or there will be house moving or relocating. You will face problems of all nature, including relationship problems with people such as backstabbing or open confrontations that fortunately will not end in violence. Career-wise, expect a mix of opportunities and obstacles, with potential for significant increments, but without corresponding titles, leading to workplace conflicts and stress. Financially, despite higher earnings, unstable investments and high expenses could lead to difficulties. Relationship will be strained due to busy schedules and lack of support, causing frequent arguments. If you are single, this will likely remain the same. Your health will be poor, with a weakened immune system and increased risks of accidents. There will be attacks by animals. There will be deaths in the family and amongst friends. Overall, it will be a year which will test your patience, resilience, resource,



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Career

This year will be a mixed year for your career where the odds are against you. You will be busy or there will be frequent business trips. There will be office moves, or you will need to relocate due to work. You will be willing to put in effort, and this will pay off as you will be given the authority to execute your plans, and you will receive better remuneration. However, your management will be reluctant to promote you to a corresponding job title. This will pose problems as you will not be recognised as a decision maker, which makes it hard for you to implement certain plans. You will be facing many different kinds of challenges which can range from those that are intended by people, technical issues and natural disasters. You will be facing betrayals, backstabbing, misjudgements, and sabotage. Some people would try to get you into trouble. You may want to gather important information yourself and go through the details. Watch your back and do not be too trusting. Support from others will be lacking. Some colleagues and business associates will argue with you openly. Fortunately, this will not turn violent. However, shouting in the office will also affect your professionalism. It will be critical for you to control your temper and manage your angry colleagues and business associates appropriately. There will be a lot of delays and hiccups. Be patient. Some of your projects will be stalled or aborted. Some of your plans will be met with roadblocks. You will need to have contingency plans in place. There will be many situations that will be beyond your control. You can only try your best to get things done, but do not be too hard on yourself if the progress is not as expected. Instead of looking out for significant progress this year, it will be a test of patience, resource management, crisis management, and how well you can work within your limitations. By persevering and being optimistic, you will be able to steer towards a better career.

Wealth

Your financial situation will be quite unstable. While you may see significant earnings from salary increases and better remuneration, your investments and gambling luck will not be favourable. You may want to refrain from investing and gambling. Additionally, you will face substantial expenses this year that could lead to financial difficulties. Therefore, despite your potentially high income, your expenses will outpace your earnings. It will be challenging, but essential, to manage your spending carefully to prevent falling into massive debt.

Relationship

Love matters will be poor. If you are single, this will likely to remain the same even though you are keen to be in a relationship. Even if you were to meet someone special, you will not have the time and energy to nurture the relationship into a long-term commitment. If you are already seeing someone or married, you will be upset that you cannot get adequate support from your partner. You and your partner will be busy or travel so much that you cannot spend adequate time with each other. You will feel some distance between the both of you, and you will likely to get on each other nerves. Fights will arise, and this will get you into a bad mood frequently. It is understandable that you are going through a lot and might require support from your partner. However, since your partner may not be able to do so, you may want to look for support elsewhere and

try to be as independent as possible. As you will have frequent bad moods, try to watch your words and behaviour when you interact with your partner. If you do not have anything good to say, it will be better to keep quiet. Even though you may not be able to strengthen or improve your relationship, you may not want to worsen it and add on to the list of challenges that you already have.

Health

Your health will be poor, and your immune system will be weaker than usual. This will cause you to fall ill easily and for a longer period of time. You may suffer from tensions, aches, and pain from over-exerting your body. You will suffer from insomnia or your sleep quality will deteriorate. Not only will this affect your physical health, your state of mind and emotions will also be badly affected, causing frequent mood swings. Your focus will be weakened, which will cause you to make mistakes often and become accident-prone. You will be prone to traffic accidents. It will be much more difficult for you to handle challenges in 2025 Snake Year with a weak physical, mental and emotional health. You may need to pay extra attention to improve your lifestyle so as to have a stronger health. You could be attacked by animals so avoid stray animals. There will be deaths among family and friends.

Monkey

In 2025's Snake Year, those born in the year of Monkey will experience a mixed year with favorable career opportunities, including recognitions and promotions, but will also face challenges like gossips and potential defamation. Financially, you will see above average earnings from investments and gambling, but you must be cautious of unexpected expenses and scams. Your relationship will be positive, with potential for new love or chances to deepen existing bonds, though external influences may cause conflicts and may distant you from your partner. Health-wise, you should be vigilant as you are prone to illnesses and accidents. Thus, you should focus on maintaining a balanced lifestyle and take note of your safety. Overall, while support from others is present, you must rely on yourself and stay professional to navigate the year's ups and downs successfully.

Career

This will be a mixed year for your career, but it will be more favorable than not. You will be able to gain strong support from others, especially from your management and stakeholders. You will be given the chance to do what you enjoy. There will be recognition and promotion. However, the pay increments and better remuneration may not be significant. Although you will be doing well, there will be strong undercurrents. There will be many gossips and rumors about you. Although this may not have direct impact on your performance, this will cause biasness against you. You may want to watch your words and behavior so as not to let others have something against you. Always compose yourself professionally. There are indications that you will be caught gossiping about others. You will also be making comments that can cause you to be sued for defamation. You can be in the grapevine to know what is going on around you, but do not engage in gossip. Try to be as politically correct as possible when writing emails, texts and posts on social media. You may also have occasional arguments with others. Some will mislead and sabotage you

by providing you with the wrong information, while others will choose to either backstab you, or wait for you to err. Some of them will be those that you thought were your friends. Your focus will be also be weak during this time, which will cause you to be careless, forgetful and distracted. It is important that you stay focused in what you are doing, even if you are doing well. Gather important information by yourself and validate them before using. Nobody will be watching your back for you even though everyone seems to be friendly and supportive. Hence, you will need to rely a lot on yourself, and might feel lonely and helpless. However, you can still make use of whatever superficial support you have and turn things in your favor. Do not share your plans and challenges with others to prevent others from sabotaging you or hijacking your opportunities. Focus on what you are doing, and always remain professional. You will be able to have significant progress in your career.

Wealth

Your finances will be above average, but it can be very unstable. There might be some pay increments and better remuneration. You will also be earning from investments and profiting from gambling. However, there might be unexpected expenses which can strain your finances. You will be spending a lot on socialising, medical expenses, and getting yourself out of troubles. There will be huge losses from investments and gambling that can put you in financial difficulties. You will be meeting people who will try to exploit you, or cheat you of your money. If there is someone proposing business opportunities that sounds too good to be true, these will likely to be scams. Do your research to validate business opportunities, and take only calculated risks. If you typically earn money from investments, you may want to moderate your risks, and not put all your eggs in one basket. By doing so, you will have a higher chance of a more stable cashflow with lesser risks. You may also need to pay a huge price for defamation. You will likely save a substantial amount of money this year if you are able to keep your expenses in check, reduce your risks in investments and gambling, and stay out of trouble.

Relationship

Your relationships will be positive. If you are single, there is a good chance you will meet someone special and fall in love. However, be wary that someone might try to undermine your relationship by speaking ill of you, or by discouraging you from pursuing it further. It is best to express your feelings directly to the person you are interested in, rather than rely on intermediaries. Keep matters related to your love interest private. If you are already seeing someone or married, your relationship is likely to progress to the next level. Married couples might even welcome a new family member. While there will be opportunities to strengthen your relationship, be prepared for frequent conflicts, often caused by family or friends. Communicate directly with your partner, and do not let others influence your relationship. You might tend to keep things to yourself instead of sharing with your partner, which can lead to misunderstandings and tension. Strive to balance personal space with open communication to maintain a healthy relationship. This approach will help minimise potential arguments.

Health

Your health and safety will be poor. While you will not have life-threat-

ening situations, you may face other challenges in your health and safety which might immobilise you. Your immune system will also be weak, and you will fall ill easily and for a longer period of time. The illness can range from common ailments such as cold and flu, to something serious like stroke and heart attacks. You may want to manage your emotions, have a balanced diet, exercise regularly, and have adequate rest, which can improve your health. You will also be highly accident prone. You may want to pay extra attention if you were to drive, operate machines or handle sharp tools. If you have difficulties focusing, you may not want to participate in those activities. Focus on what you are doing, and watch where you are going. Do not be distracted by mobile devices get lost in your own thoughts. You are responsible for your own safety.

Rooster

In 2025's Year of the Snake, those born in the Rooster Year will experience promising career prospects with opportunities for recognition and advancement. However, you must navigate challenges and avoid conflicts. Financial prospects are bright, with potential gains from investments. However, you need to be cautious about scams and legal troubles. Your relationships may be strained, and you may require patience and effective communication to prevent conflicts. You may be involved in domestic violence. Healthwise, you should be vigilant about your safety to avoid injuries and you should learn how to manage stress. You may suffer from violence inflicted by others and animals. There will be deaths amongst family and friends. In general, some will trick or invite you to engage in profits gained from illegal activities, which can result in jail terms. Overall, you should stay focused, be cautious, and remain communicative to help you achieve significant progress and stability in 2025.

Career

Your career outlook is promising. You will have numerous opportunities to showcase your strengths, and your efforts will be recognized with pay increments, better remuneration, and promotions. You will be given the authority to execute your plans, and will gain strong support from management, stakeholders, and peers. Your passion for your work will drive you to give your very best. However, be prepared for challenges and obstacles. There will be gossips about you, but you will not be too bothered by it. Differing opinions might lead to heated arguments and violence, and it is crucial to manage your temper. Be mindful of others' temperaments when presenting your ideas. If tensions rise, take a break to allow everyone to calm down before continuing the discussion. Effective communication is key to avoiding unnecessary conflicts. Beware of those who might try to mislead or sabotage you. Gather important information yourself, and be cautious of projects that seem destined to fail. Avoid engaging in activities that are illegal or against protocol, even if they appear beneficial. Such risks could cost you your job, money, and even your freedom. Focus on implementing your career plans while staying out of trouble. If you can navigate these challenges, you will likely achieve significant career advancements.

Wealth

Your financial situation looks promising, with potential for significant pay raises and better compensation. You might see substantial gains from

investments and gambling. However, be prepared for unexpected expenses throughout the year, such as medical, legal, and social events, as well as unforeseen troubles. If you are invited to join a business venture, make sure to thoroughly research and verify its legitimacy before committing. If it checks out, it could be a lucrative opportunity. Be cautious of scams, as many will try to deceive you. Legal troubles can be costly, so it is wise to adhere strictly to laws and policies. Avoid exploiting loopholes. You might be tempted to engage in illegal activities for quick money, but it is best to decline these offers. The risks, including hefty fines and imprisonment, are not worth it. To avoid being robbed, refrain from displaying money and valuables in public, and steer clear of dark alleys and unfamiliar areas. Be mindful of activities that could lead to blackmail. By cutting down on expenses, you can significantly boost your savings this year.

Relationship

Relationship matters might be challenging. If you are single, this will likely remain the same. You may encounter people who want to take advantage of you or cheat your money. Even if someone shows interest, your quick-temper or curt manner could push them away. For those already in a relationship, frequent arguments may arise for various reasons. There will be fights even for no reason. Bear in mind that challenges from going through tough times does not justify you taking it out on your partner. Patience is key. If you do not have anything nice to say during a quarrel, it is better to stay quiet and wait until both parties are ready to communicate effectively. Constructive communication can help both understand each other better. There is a risk of domestic violence, whether as the aggressor or the victim. If you find yourself a victim, consider making a police report and leaving the relationship. Even if you cannot strengthen the relationship, try not to let it drag you down.

Health

Your health and safety may face some challenges. While you might encounter serious issues, they are unlikely to be life-threatening. There are signs that you could experience injuries, surgeries, or invasive treatments, leading to aches and pains. You might be more susceptible to cuts from various accidents. If you need to drive, operate machinery, or handle sharp tools, it is crucial to stay focused. Natural disasters could pose a risk, and there is a higher chance of injuries from animals. If your job involves handling animals, consider implementing safety measures and avoid stray animals. Be cautious of potential muggings by steering clear of dark alleys and unfamiliar places. To prevent physical violence, try to avoid heated arguments that could escalate. Lastly, there may be deaths among family and friends.

Dog

In the 2025 Snake Year, the quality of life will improve significantly for those born under the Dog sign. You will enjoy good food, great company, and be able to go places that you would like to visit. You will experience a promising career with opportunities for significant pay increment, especially in creative fields. While promotions may be limited, your popularity and charm will shine, aiding in presentations and negotiations. Financially, you will enjoy strong earnings, but you should manage your expenses to avoid financial strain. Relationships

will flourish, with potential for new romances or deepening existing bonds. However, be cautious about potential affairs. Healthwise, frequent illnesses may occur. Thus, you need to maintain a balanced lifestyle. Socially, you will receive strong support despite minor issues caused by others. Overall, this year promises fulfillment and alignment of personal and professional goals.

Career

Your career prospects look brighter than ever this year. You will have the chance to engage in work that you excel at and truly enjoy. Your efforts will be rewarded with significant pay increments, especially if your role involves creativity and aesthetics. While promotions and additional authority might not be on the horizon, your performance will still shine. This year, your popularity will soar, making it an excellent time to leverage on your charm in presentations, negotiations, and sales. You will find strong support from colleagues who will help you navigate challenges and watch your back. You can also expect numerous corporate events where you will be asked to present. You will be enjoying not just the work, but also the delightful company, good food, and warm hospitality. Your charm might even spark a romantic interest in the office. If you are single and considering this, ensure it does not conflict with company policies or professional boundaries. If you are already in a relationship or prefer not to pursue this, it is wise to set clear boundaries early on. An affair could jeopardise your personal and professional life, as your actions will be under scrutiny this year. Maintaining your integrity is crucial to avoid any negative repercussions. You might face some delays and hiccups, but these can be mitigated by allowing adequate buffer between tasks. Prioritise your health, as frequent illnesses could hinder your productivity. Balancing personal space with moderate interaction will keep you informed and inspired. Listening to others, even if you do not take their advice, can be beneficial. This year promises to be fulfilling, aligning your job with your personal goals, and bringing joy and meaning to your work.

Wealth

Your finances will be strong. There will be significant pay increments and better remuneration. You will be especially earning much more if your job involves creativity and beauty. Earnings from investments and gambling may not be as strong as your salary. You will have a lot of expenses, especially on social events, fine dining and luxurious lifestyles. Although you will have huge expenses, this may strain your finances. However, this is unlikely to cause any problems or financial difficulties. You will not need to be thrifty, but you should consider managing your expenses. You will be satisfied with your bank account balance.

Relationship

Your relationships are set to improve this year. If you are single, you will either meet someone special or someone who is just looking around. If you are interested in someone, take your time to get to know each other better before making long-term commitments. The main challenge will be deciding between entering a relationship or staying single to enjoy your freedom and personal space. Give yourself time to reflect on what you truly want in life. If you are already in a relationship or married, you will enjoy many wonderful moments together and support each other. There is a possibility your

relationship could progress to the next level- that is, you might be getting married if you are dating, or welcoming a new family member if you are already married. However, your popularity might attract others, increasing the risk of affairs. Do not let short-term excitement jeopardise your relationship. Even if things seem routine, your life partner is the one you can rely on, have fun with, and weather any storm together. This year, focus on strengthening your bond.

Health

Your health will be poor. You will likely fall ill often, and for a longer period of time. You will be prone to common ailments. Although you should not have chronic illnesses, your immune system will seem to weaken significantly this year. You will be having a lot of enjoyment, especially in highly processed food throughout the year. There will also be a lot of social activities that will cause you a lack of rest. Even though you may be having a lot of fun, your health will be compromised, and you will be prone to have high blood pressure, high blood sugar and high cholesterol. You may want to manage your lifestyle and have a balanced diet, regular exercise and adequate rest to have better health. Health will not be posing a lot of problems to you this year, but you will still need to maintain a healthy lifestyle for better health in general.

Pig

In 2025, the Year of the Snake, those born under the Pig sign may face significant challenges across various aspects of life. Career-wise, while promotions and pay increments are possible, initial difficulties, lack of support, and potential conflicts could arise. Financially, despite potential salary increments and some investment gains, high expenses and risks of robbery may lead to instability. Relationships might suffer due to busy schedules and potential infidelity, with singles likely remaining unattached. Health concerns, including stress-related issues and accident risks, are highlighted, necessitating caution and emotional control. You may be physically attacked by people and animals. There will be losses amongst family and friends. You will consider isolating yourself to have some peace, but you will still need to have some interaction with others to be aware of what is going on and to protect yourself and manage challenges. Overall, maintaining patience, avoiding conflicts, and managing expenses are crucial for navigating the year's difficulties.

Career

2025's Year of the Snake may present some challenges for your career. While you might receive promotions, pay increments, and better remuneration, you could encounter several initial difficulties. Although you will have the authority to execute plans, support from management and stakeholders might be lacking, often leaving you to handle issues on your own. Expect delays and setbacks, with some plans stalling and requiring you to clean up others' mistakes. Simple tasks might become unexpectedly complicated. You may face betrayals, backstabbing, and misleading actions, but you should focus on more pressing problems at hand, instead of being distracted by what others are doing. Cooperation from others might be minimal, leading to frequent confrontations and arguments, some of which could escalate to physical violence. It is crucial to be mindful of the temperament of those you interact with, and avoid continuing

conversations if they become hostile. High stress levels could affect your temper and approach, so maintaining patience and emotional control will be essential. Avoid showing your frustrations outwardly and strive to remain politically correct and diplomatic to minimise any potential damage. As your support is limited, try not to make enemies, and try to focus on overcoming setbacks and attaining your goals. It would be wise to refrain from implementing ambitious plans this year.

Wealth

Finances will be very unstable. You will likely have significant pay increments and better remuneration. There will be some profits from investments and gambling, but not as much as that from your salary. However, you will have huge expenses which can put you in financial difficulties. You will be spending a lot on medical bills, traveling, commuting, house moving and relocating. You will also risk being robbed. Try your best to keep your expenses in check. You may want to avoid investing or gambling because you will not be a good risk taker in this year.

Relationship

Relationship matters may face challenges this year. If you are single, this status will likely remain unchanged, as you might be too busy to prioritize relationships. Should you meet someone, they may not have the best intentions, so it might be wise to focus on other areas of your life. For those already in a relationship or married, your busy schedule or frequent travel could limit the time you spend with your partner, potentially leading to conflicts. Managing your emotions will be crucial, as quick tempers could exacerbate disputes. There is also a risk of infidelity, so it is important to reflect on what you truly want from the relationship. If companionship is your goal, you may need to overlook certain mistakes. However, if infidelity is intolerable, it might be best to consider ending the relationship rather than hoping for change. Affairs can deeply scar a relationship, making forgiveness and moving forward difficult. It may be healthier to move on rather than continue quarreling. There are indications of potential separation, and your partner might be experiencing a tough time or facing serious issues.

Health

You might face challenges in health and safety this year, though they are not expected to be life threatening. While predictions about your specific health conditions are unclear, there is a possibility of you needing surgeries or invasive treatments. You may also be at a higher risk for accidents involving cuts, which, although not life-threatening, could be severe. Given your busy travel schedule, it may not be feasible to avoid traveling entirely. However, you might consider reducing the frequency of your trips or shortening its duration. It is crucial to avoid high-risk activities and steer clear of dark alleys and unfamiliar places to minimise the risk of robbery or injury. Be cautious around hostile environments and stray animals, especially if your job involves handling animals. Implementing safety measures is advisable. Health issues such as nausea, gastritis, rapid heartbeat, and muscle aches may arise, and this is likely related to stress. While it may be challenging, try not to let external circumstances affect you too much. You cannot always control what happens, but you can manage your reactions and approach. Additionally, there may be losses amongst family and friends, so staying connected and supportive will be important.

Events Calendar & News

Zishi Liu 2025 Chinese New Year Concert

Date: Saturday, February 1, 2025

Time: 7:30 pm

Address: **Regattabar**, 1 Bennett Street Cambridge, MA 02138

Event Link: <https://www.ticketweb.com/event/zishi-liu-2025-chinese-new-regattabar-tickets/14056713?pl=regatta>

Led by bandleader and saxophonist Zishi Liu, the evening will also honor the Chinese New Year, celebrating unity, good fortune, and the vibrant spirit of the Lunar New Year through music.

Price: \$25.00 - \$35.00 All Ages.

\$25.00 students



Zishi Liu performs a Chinese New Year concert at the Regatta Bar Feb. 1.

Lunar New Year: Year of the Snake

Date: Sunday, February 2

Time: 12 - 4 pm

Address: **New Art Center**, 61 Washington Park Newton, MA 02460

Event Link: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/lunar-new-year-year-of-the-snake-tickets-1110480189139?aff=>

Join us at the New Art Center for a Lunar New Year Community Cultural Day in celebration of the upcoming Year of the Snake!

Price: Free

Lunar New Year Celebrations

Date: Saturday, February 1

Time: 2 - 4 pm

Address: **Lecture Hall, Cambridge Public Library**, 449 Broadway Cambridge, MA 02138

Event Link: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/lunar-new-year-celebrations-tickets-1093849536409?aff=>

Come to celebrate the lunar new year with Ming Hui Academy Boston.

Price: Free admission, rsvp

Comedy Night at Bleacher Bar: Free Comedy Show!

Date: Every Tuesday

Time: 8 - 10 pm

Address: Spontaneous Celebrations, 45 Danforth Street Boston, MA

Event Link: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/comedy-night-at-bleacher-bar-free-comedy-show-tickets->

Enjoy an evening of comedy, delicious food, and drinks as some of Boston's best comedians take over Bleacher Bar at Fenway! Price: Free, RSVP

Lunar New Year Event - Greater Boston Chinese Cultural Association

Date: Saturday, January 25

Time: 2 - 5 pm

Address: Zervas School, 30 Beethoven Avenue Newton, MA 02468

Event link: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/lunar-new-year-event-greater-boston-chinese-cultural-association>

Join the Greater Boston Chinese Cultural Association for a day filled with traditional performances and delicious food. Immerse yourself in Chinese culture and customs as we welcome the Year of the Snake!

Price: Free

Celebrate Lunar New Year at Macy's South Bay

Date: Saturday, February 1

Time: 10 am - 12 pm

Address: 8 Allstate Rd, 8 Allstate Road Boston, MA 02125

Event Link: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/celebrate-lunar-new-year-at-macys-south-bay-tickets->

Join us at Macy's South Bay to celebrate the Lunar New Year with traditional performances, delicious food, and festive activities!

Price: Free, RSVP

Milton Lunar New Year Celebration

Date: Saturday, February 8

Time: 5 - 7 pm

Address: 452 Central Ave 452 Central Avenue Milton, MA 02186

Event Link: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/milton-lunar-new-year-celebration-tickets-1133964671859?aff=>

Celebrate the Lunar New Year in Milton! Immerse yourself in the vibrant traditions of Chinese culture with a lineup of exciting activities for the whole family.

Price: Free admission, RSVP

New Year New Generation

Date: Saturday, January 25

Time: 7 - 10 pm

Address: **9 Pevear Pl**, 9 Pevear Place Boston, MA 02119

Event Link: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/new-year-new-generation-tickets-1102663288579?aff=>

Price: \$10

Lunar New Year & 2nd Factory Anniversary Party Bottomless Dumplings

Date: Saturday, January 25

Time: 12 - 6 pm

Address: Mei Mei Dumplings, 58 Old Colony Ave South Boston, MA 02127

Event Link: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/lunar-new-year-2nd-factory-anniversary-party-bottomless-dumplings>

Get ready to celebrate the new year all day long with Bottomless Dumplings at the Factory!

Price: \$28.88

Get Connected! Cultural Harmony Celebration: Black History & Lunar New Year

Date: Tuesday, February 4

Time: 5:30 - 8 pm

Address: State Street Financial Center, 1 Congress Street 12th Floor Boston, MA 02114

Event Link: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/get-konected-cultural-harmony-celebration-black-history-lunar-new-year>

Join Get Connected! in partnership with State Street, NAPP, The Asian Community Fund, DiasporaMass, and Commonwealth Seminar for an extraordinary eve-

ning of cultural celebration and community bonding as we honor two significant occasions: Lunar New Year and Black History Month.

Price: \$55

Stump Trivia at the Boston Public Market

Date: Every Wednesday

Time: 6 - 8 pm

Address: Boston Public Market, 100 Hanover Street Boston, MA 02108

Event link: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/stump-trivia-at-the-boston-public-market-tickets>

Join us for a game by Sporcle at the BPM.

Price: Free, RSVP

Comedy Show at Lucky's Lounge Seaport

Date: Every Monday in January

Time: 7:30 - 9 pm

Address: Lucky's Lounge, 355 Congress Street Boston, MA 02210

Event Link: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/comedy-show-at-luckys-lounge-seaport-tickets->

Join us for a free standup comedy show every Monday at Lucky's Lounge with New England's best comedians Price: Free, RSVP

Live Music Sundays

Date: Every Sunday

Time: 2 - 5 pm

Address: Samuel Adams Boston Brewery, 30 Germania St Boston, MA 02130

Event Link: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/live-music-sundays-tickets-505318750987?aff=>

Intro: Get ready to enjoy originals and covers by local Boston musicians.

Price: free admission

Comedy Night at Rosebud Bar & Kitchen

Date: Every Tuesday

Time: 7 pm - 10 pm

Address: Rosebud Indian-American Bar & Kitchen, 381 Summer Street Somerville, MA 02144

Event Link: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/comedy-night-at-rosebud-bar-kitchen-free-tickets>

Enjoy a night of comedy at Rosebud Bar & Kitchen for new line-ups of comedians each week!

Price: Free, RSVP

State Doles Out Funds for Security Amid Hate Fears

A Chinese bible group, Boston-area Islamic society, Sikh group and several Jewish organizations were among the dozens of nonprofits given a total of \$5 million in funds earlier this month by the state to boost security amid increased fears of hate crimes.

The grants are supposed to support more than 100 nonprofit organizations identified as being "at high risk of hate crimes or terror attacks" so that they can enhance their security, according to a statement from the administration of Gov. Maura Healey. The administration says the funding is part of

larger investment in security improvements for nonprofits that totaled \$16.4 million in 2024.

Among those receiving the funds are the Chinese Bible Church of Greater Boston in Lexington that is getting nearly \$52,000; the Islamic Society of Boston and the Islamic Society of South Shore in Brockton, which are each getting \$75,000; the New England Hindu Temple in Ashland, which is getting nearly \$64,000; the Radha Krishna Mandir in Northborough, which is getting \$75,000; and the Sikh Sangat Society Boston, which

is also getting \$75,000. Many other Jewish organizations and other groups are receiving funding as well.

These grants will help ensure the nonprofits can acquire needed resources to protect their organizations, according to Lt. Gov. Kim Driscoll.

The funds come from two state sources. The state Office of Grants and Research awarded more than \$4.4 million to 82 groups in the state for its fiscal 2025 Commonwealth Nonprofit Security Program. The other half million in funds was awarded to 20 nonprofits through the fiscal 2025

Commonwealth Nonprofit Security Personnel Grant Program. The latter program funds "high risk" organizations with the cost of contracted security personnel.

In addition, the groups will also get technical, grant management and reporting assistance from program coordinators assigned to Office of Grants and Research's Homeland Security Division.

The governor's office says the state saw 557 alleged hate crimes reported to police in 2023.

- Adam Smith

是时候将您的 想法及意见 付诸行动了!

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