



NATIONAL JAPANESE AMERICAN MEMORIAL FOUNDATION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Sara Davis, Larry Kopp
The T.A.S.C. Group, (646) 723-4344
sara@thetascgroup.com, larry@thetascgroup.com

Daphne Kwok, Board Member of the National Japanese American Memorial Foundation, Appointed Chair of the White House Advisory Commission on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders

WASHINGTON, D.C. July 28, 2010- Daphne Kwok, board member of the National Japanese American Memorial Foundation, was appointed this week by President Obama to be Chair of his Advisory Commission on Asian American and Pacific Islanders. The Commission was re-established last year by the President as part of a White House Initiative to improve the lives of Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) communities underserved by federal resources.

Dr. Craig D. Uchida, Chairman of the Board of National Japanese American Memorial Foundation where Ms. Kwok has served as board member for seven years, stated today, "We applaud President Obama's appointment of Daphne Kwok as the new Chair of the Advisory Committee on Asian American and Pacific Islanders. Daphne has served on NJAMF's board for over seven years, where she has led some of our most important initiatives from programming to communications to development. She has played a critical role in helping us to further our mission to help America remember the sacrifice of Japanese American patriots during World War II, and to continue to fight for justice and Constitutional rights of all Americans."

Daphne's appointment as Commission Chair will have her working closely with Initiative Executive Director Kiran Ahuja, as well as Initiative co-chairs, U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan, and Secretary of Commerce Gary Locke, on collaborations among the public sector, private sector, and community organizations to address AAPI community needs, such as language access, data disaggregation, diversity and inclusion in federal employment, and increased access to federal programs and services.

White House Initiative on Asian American and Pacific Islanders Executive Director Kiran Ahuja said Kwok's more than two decades of experience as a community leader at both the national and state levels make her an invaluable asset to the Commission.



NATIONAL JAPANESE AMERICAN MEMORIAL FOUNDATION

Ms. Kwok is currently the Executive Director of Asians and Pacific Islanders with Disabilities of California. She previously served as the executive director of the Angel Island Immigration Station Foundation, the Asian Pacific American Institute for Congressional Studies, as well as the Organization of Chinese Americans, a national civil rights organization with more than 10,000 members. She was also the first-elected Chair of the National Council of Asian Pacific Americans.

In addition, Kwok has served on the Secretary of Energy's Advisory Council and on the boards of a wide range of Asian American and Pacific Islander groups, including APIA Vote, Southeast Asia Resource Action Center, National Coalition of Asian Pacific American Community Development and the Asian Pacific American Caucus of the American Political Science Association. She is also a Founding Board Member of the Asian & Pacific Islander American Scholarship Fund.

About NJAMF

The National Japanese American Memorial Foundation (NJAMF) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to education and public awareness about the Japanese American experience during World War II. NJAMF raised the private funds to build the Japanese American Memorial to Patriotism during World War II. The Memorial is not only a monument to the Japanese American experience, but also a reminder that we must not allow anything like this to happen to any minority community again. www.njamf.com

###