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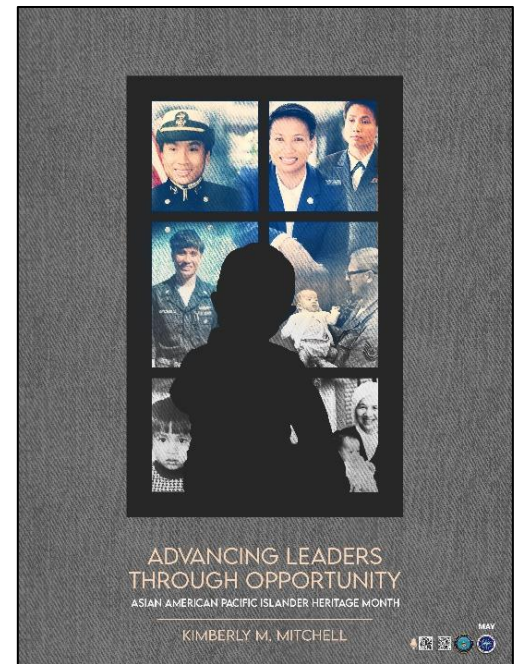
DEOMI Releases 2023 Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month Poster

May 1, 2023

PATRICK SPACE FORCE BASE, Fla.— In observance of Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month (AAPIHM), the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute (DEOMI) proudly announces the availability of original artwork available for download from DEOMI's public website, www.defenseculture.mil.

In 1992, May was designated AAPIHM. The month of May was selected in recognition of the first Japanese immigrants' arrival to the United States on May 7, 1843, and the significant contributions of Chinese pioneers to the completion of North America's transcontinental railroad on May 10, 1869. This year's theme for AAPIHM is, *"Advancing Leaders Through Opportunity."*

The 2023 AAPIHM Observance Poster highlights the exemplary service of Lieutenant Commander (USN ret.) Kimberly M. Mitchell. Mitchell was adopted from Vietnam by a U.S. military family, who inspired her to join the military. After graduating from the Naval Academy in 1996, she served in the U.S. Navy for 17 years as a Surface Warfare Officer. Her final years on active duty, she worked for the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff as the Deputy Director of the Office of Warrior and Family Support. Mitchell retired as a lieutenant commander in 2012.



Mitchell's spirit of service continued into civilian life with several leadership roles to serve veterans, including President of the Dixon Center for Military and Veterans Services, President of Veterans Village of San Diego, and Senior Vice President for Military and Government Affairs at the National University System.

"The armed forces is a big melting pot of people who just want to serve," says Mitchell. "That call to serve is something greater than yourself. Some of them have some very interesting background stories and challenges that they overcame. I think it's just a great thing about America that our armed forces are able to bring in anybody who wants to serve."

All DEOMI poster files are in the public domain. All DEOMI special observance poster images are high resolution and may be used to print posters up to 30 x 40 inches. DEOMI does not print posters or mail them out to requestors. Users, however, must credit the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute when using them.¹ In addition, please check out our website for a wide variety of new products we have prepared to help our Equal Opportunity/Equal Employment Opportunity and Command Climate Professionals in the Field, Fleet, Wing and Agency. DEOMI develops and delivers innovative education, training, research, and collaborative solutions to optimize total force readiness. For more details, contact DEOMI Public Affairs Office: 366 Tuskegee Airmen Dr., Patrick SFB, FL 32925, Email: deomipa@us.af.mil.

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