



Willie DeChavez
Education Chair
Proud to Be an Asian Chair

P.O. Box 196
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Dear Student,

Words have power. Through them we have inspired, moved, motivated, and celebrated the human condition throughout history. Whether through paintings on a wall or thoughts on a book, we have made our experiences known. As we prepare to celebrate Asian Pacific American Heritage Month in May, I invite you to share your experience through a sample of pride and passion.

The Council of Asian Pacific Americans (CAPA), for the first time in its history, is launching an exciting essay contest that will honor Asian Pacific American Heritage Month and reward the first place winner with a \$300 cash prize. Because I know experiences are fantastic learning opportunities, it is my honor to invite you - Asian Pacific American (or descendent) high school students in Michigan from public and private schools - to share your experience through an essay that celebrates our culturally rich heritage.

In an essay of no more than two pages, please write what about how proud you are to be an Asian Pacific American and submit it to CAPA with the completed [coversheet](#) attached by no later than April 23, 2004. As you write your essay, I encourage you to use your personal experiences, research, interviews, and conversations with relatives. The first place winner will be awarded a \$300 cash prize and announced at the [Splendor of the East](#) gala on May 9, 2004. The second and third place winners receive a \$200 and a \$100 cash prize respectively. Because writing takes time, thought, and effort, all participants will be recognized with a certificate of participation.

Please click the [essay contest coversheet](#) for more information. If you have any questions, please e-mail me at misterwd2001@capa-mi.org.

Thank you for your interest and participation.

I am looking forward learning and celebrating what makes you proud to be who you are.

Kindly Yours,

Willie DeChavez
Education Chair
Essay Writing Contest Chair