



MIMA

Monthly Update

MAY 2025

AAPI HERITAGE MONTH

MAY 2025

[Click for more information!](#)

Enoch Pratt Events

May 1-31 · Various

Learn popular K-Pop dances, practice the art of paper folding (origami), discover Taiwanese folk toys, and test your knowledge of famous AAPI individuals!

Asia North 2025

May 2-31 · Various

Celebrate the constantly evolving identities of Baltimore's Station North neighborhood as a Koreatown, arts district, and creative hub.

Haunted Koreas

May 1-17 · Towson Univ.

View the collection of global activist artist Mina Cheon's series of "Dreaming Unification" paintings, a new perspective on the flags of a unified Korea.

Holi 2025

May 4 · Wyman Park Dell

Come celebrate the festival of colors with sweet27 bakery and restaurant. Join us for food, music, dancing, and plenty of color throwing!

2025 AAPI Festival

May 10 · Merriweather Park

Immerse yourself in a day filled with cultural performances, live music, delicious food, and art that honor the diverse stories of the AAPI community.

Filipino Festival

May 18 · Power Plant Live!

Join us for a day filled with delicious food, live music, cultural performances, and a vibrant parade. Celebrate the rich traditions of the Philippines!

AAPI Women Leading

May 27 · Everyman Theatre

Hear how three AAPI women leaders have challenged the status quo, taken bold risks, and redefined power and success on their own terms.

ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH

Happy AAPI Heritage Month!

In the month of May, the Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs (MIMA) would like dedicate time and space to recognize Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage Month! Join us in celebrating the vibrant traditions of the many AAPI communities that add to the charm and diversity of Baltimore City. Rather than simple "model minorities," AAPI individuals represent all walks of life and trace their roots back to cultures spanning more than fifty different countries that are home to thousands of languages.

Click on the calendar above for more details on events around town and join in the festivities!



UPDATES FROM OUR OFFICE

Volunteer with Our Office

If you are looking for ways to get involved and support your immigrant neighbors, MIMA is seeking dedicated individuals to join our volunteer team!

As a volunteer, you can assist in various programs and initiatives to provide vital support, remotely or in-person (based on your preferences and our office's needs). Your involvement will directly contribute to empowering immigrant communities to thrive. Join us in making a difference!

[Apply to volunteer with MIMA](#)

Community Resource Guide

With the change in federal administration at the beginning of this year, there have been many shifts in the immigration policy landscape. Please see the [National Developments](#) section below for a summary of federal actions that may impact our communities. Additionally, please continue consulting our office's guide to services and resources.

[Find services and resources for immigrants in Baltimore](#)

Bi-Weekly Community Stakeholders Call

Our Community Stakeholders Calls take place every other Friday from 11:30 AM to 12:15 PM and are hosted virtually on Microsoft Teams. The call brings together a diverse group of partners and stakeholders, including non-profits, faith-based organizations, civic groups, educational institutions, and city agencies.

The next call will take place on **May 16** and will feature the *Maryland Department of Labor's Division of Workforce Development and Adult Learning* and *Infinite Legacy* as presenters. The call originally scheduled for **May 30** is cancelled due to the Baltimore Immigration Summit.



[Join MIMA's stakeholder calls](#)





CITY SERVICES

Department of Public Works (DPW) Sanitation Yards Closed for Memorial Day Holiday

Memorial Day is Monday, **May 26**. As a City-observed holiday, DPW sanitation yards will be closed. The Memorial Day closure does *not* impact weekly trash and recycling collections. Monday is *not* a scheduled curbside trash or recycling collection day. Mechanical street sweeping *will not* be in effect.

DPW facilities closed on Memorial Day to residents and haulers include:

- Northwest Transfer Station, 5030 Reisterstown Road
- Quarantine Road Landfill, 6100 Quarantine Road
- Northwest Residential Recycling Center, 2840 Sisson Street
- Southwestern Residential Recycling Center, 701 Reedbird Avenue
- Eastern Residential Recycling Center, 6101 Bowleys Lane



Extended summer hours for DPW Residential Drop-off Centers start after Memorial Day, from 9 AM to 7 PM, Monday through Saturday. These extended summer hours are effective until Labor Day, Monday, **September 1**.

The City's 311 call center is *open* on Memorial Day from 6 AM to 10 PM. DPW reminds residents and water customers to report water or sewer emergencies to the City's 311 call center.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection

Got old paint, batteries, or automotive fluids? DPW will be accepting household hazardous waste on **June 6** and **June 7**, from 9 AM to 5 PM, at the Slisson Street Residential Recycling Center, 2840 Slisson St,

Baltimore, MD 21211. Consult [the DPW website](#) to see what items are and are not accepted (scroll down to and click "Household Hazardous Waste Collection Schedule for 2025").

B'More Fresh Provides Additional Food Assistance for SNAP Recipients

Baltimore City residents enrolled in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) can earn \$30 per month to purchase fruits and vegetables when they shop online with a participating grocery store. After spending \$5 on SNAP-eligible items, shoppers will receive a \$30 produce voucher in their online account. Visit the [B'More Fresh Voucher Program website](#) for more information.

Discount on Water Bills Available for Certain Households through Water4All

Water4All is a program that offers discounts on water bills for eligible Baltimore City residents. Baltimore City residential households who meet income and certain other requirements are eligible. Visit the [Water4All website](#) for more information on eligibility and to apply.



Buy Back the Block Grants Available for Homebuyers

The Buy Back the Block program provides grants to Baltimore City residents who rent and purchase a home within the grant-eligible Baltimore City area. These grants do not require repayment.



The \$10,000 “Home Purchase” grant reduces upfront costs for purchasing a home, while the \$20,000 “Home Purchase and Renovation” grant reduces upfront costs if you are renovating in addition to purchasing a home. To find out if you are eligible, visit the [Buy Back the Block website](#). Information about this program in [Spanish](#), [Arabic](#), [Chinese](#), [Korean](#), and [French](#).



LOCAL EVENTS AND RESOURCES

Lawyer in the Library: Immigration Information

Legal practitioners from Just Neighbors and World Relief will be available to speak with individuals seeking information on immigration-related matters. Practitioners can provide general information on basic immigration-related inquiries, distribute informational materials, provide referrals, and more. Services will be available in Spanish.

These sessions are hosted at the Southeast Anchor Library (3601 Eastern Ave) every other Wednesday from 11 AM to 2 PM, with upcoming dates on **May 14** and **May 28**.



Defending Your Rights When English is Not Your First Language

The Parents' Place of Maryland (PPMD) and the Baltimore County Public Schools Department of Special Education are holding a series of webinars on defending your rights when English is not your first language. These online workshops are conducted in Spanish.

The third session will cover the topic of “Key Rights and Laws that Families Should Know” and will take place **May 14** from 6 to 7 PM on Zoom. Register and find more information on [PPMD's website](#).

The fourth and final session will cover the topic of “Communicating with Your Child’s School” and will take place **June 4** from 6 to 7 PM on Zoom. Register and find more information on [PPMD's website](#).

Financial Health Summit of Baltimore

Join us for the 2025 Financial Health Summit of Baltimore on **May 17** from 9:30 AM to 3 PM at the Archbishop Borders Schools, 3500 Foster Ave! This event offers valuable seminars on budgeting, savings, credit, identity theft protection, investing, funding college, home buying and more. Language interpretation options will be available. This event is completely free and family friendly. Find more information and register on [the event page](#).

Stop the Bleed Week

Just like learning CPR, knowing how to control bleeding can save lives. With simple techniques using your hands, dressings, or tourniquets, you can stop uncontrolled bleeding and prevent tragedy. The Maryland Committee on Trauma is bringing this life-saving training to classes in various sites across Maryland from **May 19 to May 23**.



To register for Stop the Bleed Week 2025, find a class on [the MDCOT website](#) and click the “Sign Up” button. Registration is not required but is encouraged. Free Stop the Bleed kits will be given to those that pre-register!

Free Books at Book Thing of Baltimore

The Book Thing of Baltimore is hosting its monthly book giveaway event, open to the public, on Saturday, **May 10!** Community members are allowed to take as many books as they can carry, free of charge, and are allowed approximately one hour to browse the available books. You can also donate books. Read the detailed event announcement on the [Book Thing's website](#).

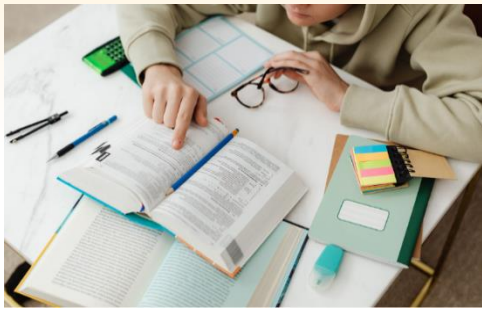


Free Distribution of Fresh Produce by Centro SOL

Centro SOL, in partnership with the City of Baltimore and Common Market, provides free distributions of fresh produce once a month on Wednesday mornings before noon at 5215 Wright Ave, Baltimore, MD 21205. The next distribution date is **May 14**.

Free Health Education by Centro SOL

Weekly on Saturday mornings, Centro SOL hosts Embajadores de Salud, a free health education program to promote healthy lifestyles that are also culturally conscious. Each participant-centered session includes presentations, workshops, and physical activities. Sessions are held in Spanish for the entire family. Find more information on [Centro SOL's website](#), and [register through this form](#) to receive the location and details.



Virtual ESL and Other Language Courses through the Enoch Pratt Free Library

The Enoch Pratt Free Library offers free, virtual classes for personal and professional development. These instructor-moderated, six-week online classes can be accessed in all Pratt Library locations and on personal computers with a library card.

New sessions start every month, and courses include [Grammar for ESL](#), [Writing for ESL](#), [Spanish for Medical Professionals](#), and [Spanish for Law Enforcement](#). The next session begins on **May 14**.

Expanding on Latin American Art: A Screening, Conversation, and Musical Experience

Join us on **May 9** at the Creative Alliance for an off-site screening of videos highlighting local creatives who bring an expanded perspective to the objects on view in [Latin American Art \(Arte Latinoamericana\)](#), a new exhibition opening **May 17** at the Walters Art Museum.



At this free event, watch short videos featuring musician and artist Melissa Foss, chocolatier Jinji Fraser, and chef Carlos Raba, backed by live musical performance, followed by a conversation about the diverse stories that connect art from the ancient Americas with Baltimore talent. Find more information on [the event page](#).



Haitian Flag Day Celebration

Komité Ayiti presents Haitian Flag Day, featuring live performances, games, Haitian food, giveaways, and vendors! Come learn about and share in Haitian history and culture at this free event on Sunday, **May 18**, from 4 to 7 PM at the Creative Alliance, 3134 Eastern Ave. Find more information on [the event page](#).

Stroll and Roll: 5K Run/Walk and Family Fun Day

Join the Erin Levitas Foundation on Saturday, **May 10**, at the Camden Yards Sports Complex for a family-friendly event to raise awareness about body safety and boundaries in the fight to prevent sexual harm. The event includes a 5K run, family-friendly walk, and free activities for children, including a moon bounce, glitter tattoos, giant bubbles, face painting, a coloring wall, kids' books, and inflatable basketball and football! Register on [the event page](#).



Access to Capital and Speed Lending Event

Are you an entrepreneur seeking financing to launch or grow your business? Join the Maryland Small Business Development Center and the University of Maryland on **May 17** from 10 AM to 1 PM at the Startup at the Armory, 307 Washington Ave, Towson, for empowering workshops and speed lending designed to prepare businesses for success in applying for and securing funding.

This interactive event will cover building and managing business credit, creating a successful loan application, and understanding IRS responsibilities for borrowers. Find more information and sign-up on [the event page](#).



NATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

Judicial Immigration Updates

Lawsuits have been filed against many of the current federal administration's actions related to immigration. Follow the development of these and other lawsuits at the [Just Security Litigation Tracker](#).

Executive Immigration Updates

Enforcement of Registration Requirement (INA § 262): U.S.

Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) began enforcing the required registration of certain non-citizens on **April 11**. This is an enforcement tool, and it does *not* confer any immigration benefits. Please note that many individuals are already considered registered.

See [this explainer from the National Immigration Law Center](#) for more information, and consult an attorney before registering (submitting a Form G-325R).



Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) Welfare Checks: In recent weeks, there have been multiple reports of HSI agents attempting to gain access to private residences and schools under the pretense of “wellness” or “welfare” checks on unaccompanied immigrant children. HSI is a division of the Department of Homeland Security that typically conducts criminal probes. The welfare of unaccompanied minors falls within the Office of Refugee Resettlement, under the Department of Health and Human Services. The guidance in general [Know Your Rights guides](#) also applies to these situations.

Digital Security while Entering the Country: Recent reports indicate that U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) has been exercising increased scrutiny at U.S. ports of entry. Green card holders, visa holders, and tourists reportedly have been subject to secondary inspections of their person and possessions, including digital devices, and additional questioning. Consult [this guide from the ACLU](#) about your rights when encountering law enforcement at the airport and this explanation for more specifics on your rights relating to [search of your electronic devices at the border](#).

Information Sharing Agreement between the IRS and ICE: On **April 7**, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) finalized a deal to share the personal data of individuals who pay federal taxes with an IRS-issued individual taxpayer identification number, or ITIN. Immigrant advocates are currently advising that individuals hold off on applying for an ITIN for the first time if they do not have one already.



COVID-19 UPDATES

Where To Get Vaccinated in Baltimore City

**GET VAXXED
WALK-UP CLINICS**

An updated COVID vaccine for 2024-2025 is now available. This vaccine targets the most widespread strain of COVID currently circulating. Get this year's vaccine for the greatest protection against COVID-19. Visit the

Baltimore City Health Department's page for a [weekly schedule of COVID vaccination clinics](#).

You do not need an appointment to get vaccinated at these walk-up clinics. Vaccines are also widely available in local pharmacies. Search [the national database of pharmacy locations](#) for vaccine availability.



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- [NEW] [Career Coach, Blueprint](#) | Mayor's Office of Employment Development | English and Spanish fluency preferred
- [Consumer Assistance Intake Specialist](#) | Office of People's Counsel, State of Maryland | bilingual candidates encouraged to apply
- [Customer Support Specialist, Multilingual Learners](#) | Baltimore City Public Schools | Spanish fluency desired
- [Foreign Language Teacher, Arabic](#) | Baltimore City Public Schools
- [Foreign Language Teacher, Chinese](#) | Baltimore City Public Schools
- [Foreign Language Teacher, French](#) | Baltimore City Public Schools
- [Foreign Language Teacher, Russian](#) | Baltimore City Public Schools
- [Foreign Language Teacher, Spanish](#) | Baltimore City Public Schools
- [Human Services Assistant](#) | Bureau of Community Health Services, Baltimore County Government | English and Spanish fluency required
- [Various Bilingual Positions](#) | Baltimore Medical System | *enter "bilingual" in the search field*

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