

QUIET BEFORE

Unearthing Anti-Asian Violence

A SIX PART
VIRTUAL SERIES
MAY 2021

PRESENTED BY



New York, NY, Wednesday, April 21 — In honor of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month in May 2021, **Womankind**, the **1882 Foundation**, **Eaton Workshop**, the **Honolulu Theatre for Youth** and the **Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Center** is pleased to present ***Quiet Before: Unearthing Anti-Asian Violence***, a six-part series of virtual programming dedicated to examining Anti-Asian violence from its many complex angles.

The Asian Pacific American community seeks answers and action during this unprecedented time. The idea for the name, *Quiet Before*, is a nod to the saying, “a quiet before the storm,” but can also be understood as a command before speaking. Through this series the API community, with its vibrant history of protest and activism, embraces an opportunity for oral history, new conversations, and organizing for the future. The API experience cannot be pegged to one narrative, there is no unifying thread, class differences prevail, intergenerational empathy is scattered, traditions become subjective as desires to belong whitewash collective memory and left to dry under a western sun.

Quiet Before combines curated conversations with live panels around comprehensive topics including: **History, Today, The Future, Policy, Culture** and **Education**. As a coalition-based effort, *Quiet Before* seeks to share the nuanced and divergent narratives of Asian Pacific Islanders in America to chart new paths for connection so that our voices become the bridges within our diaspora. It is not so much about directive action as it is about creating context for our lived experiences, where vulnerability is championed and conversation is uninhibited.

Words from the Presenting Partners:

“Quiet Before is a living thing that breathes through its coalition of presenting, curating and outreach partners. A series that seeks out stories through conversation, we hope that it will live and grow gathering strength as we move forward documenting stories from all corners of our community and with our allies.” —Nancy Bulalacao, Producer

“HTY is thrilled to be partnering with Quiet Before to provide pathways for young people and families to engage with the vital conversations they are curating. As a majority Asian and Pacific Islander organization we are deeply committed to representing the full diversity of our community, understanding our history and celebrating the journey ahead.”
—Eric Johnson, Honolulu Theatre for Youth

“On behalf of Womankind, we are inspired to present this series with our partners. As an organization serving primarily Asian immigrant survivors of gender-based violence, the individuals and families we serve live at the intersection of the complex issues the series is unpacking. We ground our work with an understanding that the pain we face today isn’t new. But that truth doesn’t stand alone. Solidarity among and with other communities is also part of our histories, and our future. This series honors that hope, that action.”
—Carolyn Antonio, Director of Development, Womankind

“History is never quiet. But, we often don’t hear the stories because they are hidden or forced into whispers so that we no longer remember, and we don’t understand why they break out today. This series Quiet Before tries to fill gaps in our understanding.”
—Ted Gong, 1882 Foundation

“Right now is a historic moment in the long struggle to confront racism against Asian-Americans and people of color in America. I started Eaton Workshop to reimagine how we could build physical and digital spaces as platforms for creativity, dialogue, and progressive social change with an eye towards a more just world. We are honored to co-present Quiet Before with an incredible coalition doing much-needed work today to raise the bar on building a deeper understanding of our untold histories and how we can learn from history as a means to shape our future.” —Katherine Lo, Founder, Eaton Workshop

“Asian Americans encompass a multitude of different identities and backgrounds. There’s an assumption that we hail from communities that encourage silent suffering. Nothing could be further from the truth. We descend from the loudest of ancestors: artists, organizers, workers, and more. Quiet Before is a call for us to be a community during this pivotal moment in our shared history.” —The Staff of the Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Center

By creating this platform, *Quiet Before* gives voice to our elders, creates awareness for broader audiences, reaffirms solidarity with our allies, determines new actions inspired by youth and essentially takes ownership of the telling of our own stories.

Programming Calendar:

With over 50 speakers hailing from far-flung backgrounds, across industries, identities and generations, we are pleased to present the following conversations.

Register for the series [here](#).

History & Context

Tuesday, May 4 at 6PM EST

Historians paint the vibrant picture: Asian/Pacific American history is American history. On the agenda: key moments told by the individuals who write, teach and live these stories

Thursday, May 6 at 6PM EST

In this discussion of context, speakers outline the history of violence in the Asian/Pacific American community, highlighting key moments and policies that set the stage for violence in its complex forms within Asian communities.

Today, our current state

Tuesday, May 11 at 6PM EST

In this exploration, we look at the spectrum of factors that contribute to the current state of Asian/Pacific Americans and where we stand with our allies.

The Future

Thursday, May 13 at 6PM EST

This section is dedicated to the hopefulness of young leaders. How next generation activists think about intersectionality is nuanced and a progression from how elders worked in solidarity. How can we learn from the younger generation, who are in this moment working across race, gender, sexuality, and class?

Policy

Thursday, May 20 at 8PM EST

We will explore questions around the importance of creating a pipeline of Asian American leaders and building platforms for visibility and connection. We will ask about the impact of getting involved in the political process, coalescing resources (money and constituents) to move the needle forward, as well as the intersection of politics and community investment, intergenerationally.

Culture

Thursday, May 27 at 6PM EST

Among other key social justice moments in the past few years, but especially post George Floyd’s murder, we find ourselves in a place that race, ethnicity and justice are playing a central part in culture. What are examples of work created from the complex space of grief? What is the role of social media imagery? What role do the arts, entertainment and literature play in movement building?

Education

TBA—Forthcoming, June 2021

Our school age children are our future and best hope for lasting change. In this section we will take lessons learned from the previous conversation and distill them into a pre taped presentation appropriate for ages 5-24. We will coordinate town halls aimed not only at specific age ranges but across independent and NYC schools. The program will share key historical moments, the importance of being an upstander and what it means to be an ally. What does being an upstander actually look like in supporting vulnerable communities?

About Quiet Before

Quiet Before: Unearthing Anti-Asian Violence, is a six-part series of virtual programming debuting in May 2021, dedicated to examining Anti-Asian violence from its many complex angles. Organized by Nancy Bulalacao, Quiet Before combines curated conversations with live panels around comprehensive topics including: History, Today, The Future, Policy, Culture and Education. As a coalition-based effort, Quiet Before seeks to share the nuanced and divergent narratives of Asian Pacific Islanders in America to chart new paths for connection so that our voices become the bridges within our diaspora. The programs will feature experts in their field dedicated to understanding the complex truths of community building, safety and solidarity.

[Quietbefore.com](https://quietbefore.com) | [@quietbefore2021](https://twitter.com/quietbefore2021)

About Womankind

Womankind works with survivors of gender-based violence to rise above trauma and build a path to healing. In the 39 years since its inception as the New York Asian Women’s Center, Womankind has risen as a leader in culturally nuanced services and multilingual communications (18+ Asian languages and Spanish). Womankind scaffolds survivors of domestic violence, human trafficking, and sexual violence, helping them to seize control of their own lives and their own narratives.

iamwomankind.org | [@iamwomankind](https://twitter.com/iamwomankind)

About Eaton Workshop

Eaton Workshop is a mission-driven global hospitality company dedicated to shaping a better world based on its core values of inclusivity, integrity, and imagination. Founded by Asian-American and Hong Kong activist and filmmaker Katherine Lo, Eaton provides a platform that holds space for belonging, expression, and collective change. This foundational mission guides all Eaton enterprises: Hotel, House, Wellness, Culture, Media, and Impact. Eaton’s business model is founded on the triple bottom line of respecting people, planet, and profit. Eaton Workshop utilizes hospitality as a conduit to catalyzing broader social transformation by building physical and digital spaces for kindred spirits to collaborate, commune, and create change. Eaton Workshop has two pilot locations in Downtown, Washington, D.C., and Hong Kong’s Jordan neighborhood, with locations to open in Seattle and Toronto.

Eatonworkshop.com | [@EatonWorkshop](https://twitter.com/@EatonWorkshop) | [@Eaton.DC](https://twitter.com/@Eaton.DC) | [@Eaton.HK](https://twitter.com/@Eaton.HK)

About 1882 Foundation

The 1882 Foundation seeks to broaden public awareness and understanding of the continuing significance of the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882. It does this through three programming initiatives. They are the 1882 Symposium which seeks to strengthen collaboration among established and emerging museums and agencies engaged in preserving the history of Chinese in America. A central aspect of this collaboration is establishing a digitally connected network of shared exhibits. Talk Story is our second initiative. It encompasses programs to collect oral histories and preserve historical sites. It includes projects that tell our stories through imaginative uses of media and heritage tours. Thirdly, the foundation supports Curriculum and Teacher Workshops. This includes creating and reviewing lesson plans and cataloging them into a national digital bank of information, material and advice for teaching up to level 12. We promote state and local support for including Asian American subjects into core studies and state Standards of Learning. The Foundation is a program partner with the Chinese American Museum DC. 1882foundation.org | [@1882foundation](https://twitter.com/@1882foundation)

About Honolulu Theatre of Youth

Honolulu Theatre for Youth (HTY) produces professional theatre and drama education programs that make a difference in the lives of young people, families and educators in the state of Hawai'i. HTY believes that drama education and theatre are unique, socially-based education and art forms that help their participants and audiences walk in the shoes of others, allowing them to expand their imaginations, enrich their lives and discover the infinite possibilities in the world. HTY works towards a future for Hawai'i in which people are culturally literate and imaginative, are critical thinkers and inventive problem solvers, with a respect for history and a sense of place in a complex world. Founded in 1955, HTY is one of the oldest and most respected children's theatres in the country. HTY typically serves over 120,000 students, teachers and families per year through family performances and drama education programs. This year they have reached over 3.5 million views through their digital expansion.

htyweb.org | [@honoluluthatreforyouth](https://www.instagram.com/honoluluthatreforyouth)

About Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Center

The Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Center is a migratory museum that brings history, art and culture to you through innovative community-focused experiences. We serve as a dynamic national resource for discovering why Asian American and Pacific Islander experiences matter every day, everywhere, and all of the time.

Smithsonianapa.org | [@SmithsonianAPA](https://www.instagram.com/SmithsonianAPA)

Credits

Presented by [Womankind](#), [The 1882 Foundation](#), [Eaton Workshop](#), [Honolulu Theatre for Youth](#), [Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Center](#)

Produced by Nancy Bulalacao

Creative Direction by [Omnivore](#)

PR [Gia Kuan Consulting](#)

Production Partner [IAMSOUND](#)

Co-sponsored by [Chung Pak LDC/ Everlasting Pine HDFC](#)

Curating Partners:

[CareInstructions.info](#)

[Center for Asian Americans United for Self Empowerment](#)

[Asian American Writers' Workshop](#)



Media Contact

Gia Kuan | gia@giakuan.com | 917.445.0194

Lindsey Okubo | lindsey@giakuan.com | 808.352.8843