

Dinner in Honor of Asian Americans

Asian World Center, Creighton University

March 22, 2024

With the support of the Nebraska World Affairs Council and the Nebraska Asian American Leadership Alliance, the Asian World Center at Creighton University hosted a dinner event on March 22, 2024, dedicated to honoring Asian Americans in Nebraska and across the nation. Among the attendees were Major General Craig Strong of the Nebraska National Guard, State Senator Tony Vargas, York City Administrator Sue Crawford, Senior Vice Chancellor Dr. Ni (Phil) He of the University of Nebraska at Omaha, and Sheila Dorsey Vinton, CEO of the Asian Cultural and Community Center in Lincoln, and a cohort of 75 distinguished guests.

In a [video message](#), Reverend Daniel Hendrickson, President of Creighton University, warmly welcomed all attendees, emphasizing the invaluable contributions of Asian Americans to the fabric of Nebraska. He expressed profound gratitude to the Asian American community, both within Nebraska and beyond, lauding their resilience, creativity, and unwavering dedication. Reverend Hendrickson encouraged a collective commitment to excellence and the nurturing of an inclusive and compassionate society. Additionally, he extended a special acknowledgment to the Asian heritage students and faculty members who have enriched the academic environment of Creighton University.

Nebraska Governor Jim Pillen delivered a [video address](#), paying homage to the significant role of Asian Americans in the state. He pledged his steadfast commitment to actively engage with Nebraska's Asian and Pacific Islander communities, reaffirming his dedication to advancing initiatives such as the establishment of an AAPI Commission, exemplified by the legislative progress of LB2 in the Nebraska Unicameral.

Further enriching the evening, Mr. Weysan Dun, Commissioner of the Nebraska Crime Commission and Retired FBI Special Agent in Charge, shared compelling narratives alongside members of the Nebraska Asian American Leadership Alliance. In his keynote address themed "Unsung Heroes: Stories of Asian Americans in Service to the Nation," Mr. Dun illuminated the remarkable contributions of Asian Americans to the broader tapestry of national service, underscoring their often overlooked yet invaluable roles.