

A MESSAGE FROM SUPERINTENDENT FORD MORTHEL: FILIPINA/X/O AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH



Dear BUSD Community,

Part of our BUSD vision is that “Our schools are vital centers of community life enriched by the diversity of our city and welcoming to all families. Each classroom offers engaging and culturally-relevant curriculum that builds on students’ interests and abilities.”

As part of our work to offer culturally-relevant curriculum, we celebrate and uplift heritage and history months such as October’s Filipina/x/o American History Month. Additionally, in 2021, our district made a commitment via our [Resolution Denouncing Hate Crimes and Bigotry Targeting Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders](#), to actively counter racist and harmful ideology against the AAPI community with our greatest tool: education.

This month of October, we honor the over four hundred years of history of Filipina/x/o Americans in this country. [Since 2009](#), U.S. Congress has recognized October as Filipino American History Month and our district joins the many communities and organizations that are celebrating the fact that Filipino/x American history is American history.

While months like this are one way for students and families to see themselves reflected in our community, we are committed to this work being embedded in culturally-relevant curriculums throughout the academic year.

In the words inspired by Larry Itliong, celebrated Filipino farmworker activist:

Isang bagsak! We rise and fall together!

Enikia Ford Morthel
Supt. Berkeley Unified School District

THREE THINGS YOU CAN DO TO CELEBRATE FILIPINA/X/O AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH BUSD FAMILY GUIDE

Compiled by Joemy Ito-Gates, Ethnic Studies TSA for Berkeley Unified School District in collaboration with
Filipina/x/o Community Members and Library Services



Alejia Ariola

1. LISTEN

Listen to the Lived Experiences of Filipina/x/o People

- ARTICLE "Are you Filipino or Filipinx?"
- LISTEN to the podcast, *Long Distance Radio*
- VIDEO about Indigenous people of the Philippines
- VIDEO "How do we Unlearn Anti-Blackness in Filipino Culture?"
- PODCAST interview with Berkeley-based, Nikki Brown Booker, racial and disability justice advocate
- VIDEO Filipino American and Muslim
- VIDEO The Filipino Jewish Rock Star, Mike Hanopol

2. LEARN

Learn About Filipina/x/o American History & Local Organizations

- READ about the origins of FilAm History Month
- SHORT VIDEO about why it is called a History Month and not a Heritage Month
- SHORT VIDEO of 15 Facts about Fil-Am History
- READ about the history of the San Francisco I-Hotel
- READ/WATCH about Filipina/x/o contributions to the Farm Labor Movement
- VIDEO A Filipino American Story Since 1587
- Sama Sama Summer Camp
- FACES Coalition
- Bindlestiff Studio
- Bayanihan Equity Center
- Filipino Advocates for Justice
- Filipino Community Center
- Soma Pilipinas

3. LIFT UP

Lift Up and Celebrate Filipina/x/o American Culture and Contributions With Your Family

- LIST of LGBTQ+ Filipinx Americans to celebrate
- LISTEN to these joyful songs
 - Our Friend Larry Itliong by AJ Rafael
 - Brush it Off by Thomas Orlina
- VISIT and enjoy a musical celebration of Fil-Am History Month at Freight & Salvage
- COLOR pages about the lives of freedom fighters Gabriela Silang and Datu Lapu
- WATCH Bay Area's Parangal Dance Company
- READ books with your family including some of the titles below

