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Hudson Vicinage to Celebrate Asian Pacific American Heritage Month

In celebration of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, the Hudson Vicinage will host a program on Friday, May 31 from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. in the jury assembly room of the Hudson County Administration Building, 595 Newark Ave., Jersey City.

The program will discuss the Hongdu Gate Academy, the world's first vocational institute, established by Han Dynasty Emperor Ling. Xurong Kong, associate professor and director of Chinese and Asian studies at Kean University, and Charles Nelson, a recent Kean University graduate who majored in Asian studies, will present the lecture.

Kong and Nelson, who was selected for the prestigious Japan Exchange and Teaching (JET) program in Japan, will discuss the history of the examination system beginning with the Hongdu Gate Academy. The academy set the path for the widespread implementation of the well-known civil service examination in China and ultimately inspired the systems currently in use to base admissions on merit rather than connections.

The free program, sponsored by the Hudson Vicinage Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action Advisory Committee, is open to the public. Registration is not required.