



AGAINST ASIAN AMERICAN & PACIFIC ISLANDER (AAPI) HATE

A Statement from Our Leadership

March 17, 2021

Dear Friends in the Washington Performing Arts Community,

Concerning last night's attacks in the metropolitan Atlanta area:

There has been a precipitous rise in anti-Asian/Asian American violence in our country this year, and although details are still coming forth from law enforcement officials in the region, it is impossible not to make the connection to those who were murdered in the Atlanta area last night (the perpetrator claims this was not a racially motivated hate crime). Since seven of the eight victims were female, the connection to ingrained misogyny in our society is also clear.

We have been all too aware of the aggression and racism directed at our Asian and Asian American friends, children, colleagues, and neighbors. And it has become additionally clear as artists and team members have bravely shared their own experiences of this, with us. We are reminded of the persistent need to listen, to care for each other, to respect and celebrate our cultural differences and similarities, and—at every opportunity—to denounce targeted attacks that would seek to divide us. In this spirit, we offer this list of Anti-Asian Violence Resources (<https://anti-asianviolenceresources.carrd.co/>) for your consideration.

Our hearts go out to the families of the victims and to all who have been terrorized by this series of horrendous acts.

Jenny Bilfield
President & CEO

Tom Gallagher
Chairman of the Board

