

Celebrating Our Rich Diversity



Miami-Dade County Mayor Daniella Levine Cava recently launched “[We Are One Miami-Dade](#)” campaign to promote a message of tolerance, inclusion, and respect. “Miami-Dade is a place made stronger by our rich diversity. We strongly condemn any, and all forms of hate, discrimination, and violence, and stand in solidarity with the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community,” said Mayor Levine Cava. “I’m proud that this campaign will help promote a message of inclusion and tolerance across Miami-Dade, as we work together to create an environment where all residents feel safe, welcomed, respected, and included.”

Ten percent of Asian American and Pacific Islander adults have experienced hate crimes and hate incidents in 2021, according to a March 2021 study by [SurveyMonkey and AAPI Data](#). These rates were higher than the national average of 6 percent. Similarly, 12 percent of Asian Americans and 10 percent of Pacific Islanders experienced hate incidents in 2020, compared to a national average of 8 percent. With about 18 million AAPI adult residents in the United States, these survey findings suggest that millions of AAPIs have experienced hate incidents since the onset of COVID-19.

The [U.S. Department of Labor Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs](#) defined Asian-Pacific Islander as "a person with origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, South Asia, or the Pacific Islands. This area includes China, Japan, Korea, Indonesia, the Philippines and Samoa; and in South Asia, includes India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Singapore and Bhutan."

A definition from Henry Ford Health System states that an Asian-Pacific American is “a U.S. citizen whose origins are from Japan, China, Taiwan, Korea, Indonesia, Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, the Philippines, Samoa, Fiji, Guam, the U.S. Trust Territories of the Pacific or the Northern Marianas.”



Job Opening

[Travelers Aid International \(TAI\)](#), a nonprofit organization that represents a network of member agencies in the U.S., Canada, and Australia, is seeking qualified applicants for a new **Deputy Airport Coordinator (DAC)** position at Miami International Airport (MIA). This individual will be responsible for the overall leadership and day-to-day administration of the Airport Arrivals and Departures aspect of the U.S. State Department’s International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP). A bachelor’s degree or equivalent work experience with a team and/or agency are required. TAI has cooperative agreements with the following airports: ATL, EWR, JFK, IAD, ORD, SFO, and MIA. Please contact - Jane@Travelersaid.org.

Application Deadline: May 28, 2021

Salary Range: \$40K - \$52K



The Protocol and International Affairs Division of Miami-Dade Aviation Dept., will host, for the first time ever, [The Protocol School of Washington®](#) (PSOW) in Miami, Florida. PSOW will offer its world-renowned **Protocol Officer Certificate Training Program**, from Sept. 27 - Oct. 1, 2021. PSOW is recognized as an international leader in etiquette and protocol training. The school is accredited by The Accrediting Council for Continuing Education & Training (ACCET) which is listed by the United States Department of Education as a nationally recognized accrediting agency. Graduates are eligible to receive Continuing Education Units (CEUs) for the successful completion of the course. Interested parties should contact us about course details at Protocol@Miami-Airport.Com.

MAY 2021

Division Director’s Message



U. Desmond Alufohai
Director

Protocol & International Affairs Division
Miami-Dade Aviation Department

The workplace of the 21st Century is undergoing a profound metamorphosis from the ways we communicate, to corporate/business culture and how we do our jobs daily. Add to the mix new technologies and the permanent marks of the COVID-19 global pandemic. Organizations are rethinking ways to improve their Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) policies. According to the International Labor Organization (ILO), “Companies with more inclusive business cultures and policies see a 59% increase in innovation and 37% better assessment of consumer interest and demand.”

We join in the recognition and celebration of the respective National Heritage Months and in the Awareness of many germane causes and issue-oriented designations for the month of May.

We welcome Mr. Amino C. Y. Chi, the new Director-General of Taipei Economic and Cultural Office (TECO) to our community and we also salute the nations celebrating their independence and/or national day this month.

In the words of James Baldwin, “not everything that is faced can be changed, but nothing can be changed until it is faced.”

As always, please be safe!

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BRIEFS & NOTES

Haitian American Heritage Month

Is a celebration in the United States of [Haitian](#) heritage and culture. It was first celebrated in [Boston, Massachusetts](#), in 1998. Tele Kreyol, one of the Boston Haitian Access Television programs, celebrated the whole month of May with a series of programs on Haitian history, culture, and contributions to the world. The month-long celebration has continued with such activities as parades, flag raisings, and exhibits organized by [Haitian-Americans](#) United, Inc., (H.A.U.) in collaboration with several Haitian organizations in the [New England](#) area.

The Haitian community of [Palm Beach County, Florida](#), which started the Heritage celebration in 2001, contributed greatly to make the Heritage Month, first a statewide celebration, and then, a national one in the United States. South Florida congressman [Kendrick B. Meek](#) unsuccessfully introduced a bill in the [United States House of Representatives](#) in 2004, and again in 2006, to recognize the month of May as Haitian-American Heritage Month in the United States.

The Haitian Heritage Month celebration is an expansion of the Haitian Flag Day, a major patriotic day celebration in Haiti and the Haitian Diaspora. Haitian President [Dumarsais Estimé](#) started the Flag Day celebration with parades, cultural and athletic events in many cities in Haiti in the 1930s, when he was minister of education under President [Sténio Vincent](#). President Estimé wanted to commemorate annually the creation of the [Haitian flag](#) on May 18 to encourage the development of patriotic sentiments among Haitian youth. Besides Flag Day, the month of May carries other significant historical and cultural traditions that Haitians are proud to celebrate and pass on to future generations. In Haiti, May 1 is celebrated as Labor and Agriculture Day. May 2 used to be Flower Day. The Congress of Arcahaie that united black and mulatto officers to fight together for Haiti's independence is remembered from May 15 through 18. The revolutionary general, [Toussaint Louverture](#), was born on May 20, 1743. Teacher's Day is May 17, University Day May 18, and Mother's Day is celebrated on the last Sunday of May.

Jewish American Heritage Month

Efforts by the Jewish Museum of Florida and South Florida Jewish community leaders, which culminated in Florida with Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz and Pennsylvania Senator Arlen Specter introducing resolutions calling on the president to proclaim a month to recognize Jewish contributions to American culture. On April 20, 2006, President George W. Bush proclaimed that May would be [Jewish American Heritage Month](#). This month was chosen to commemorate the successful celebration of the 350th Anniversary of American Jewish History in May 2004.

Although [Joachim Gans](#) was the first American Jewish colonist, the arrival of 23 Jewish passengers on the [St. Cathrien](#) (also referred to as [St. Charles](#) and [St. Catrina](#)) in September 1654 is considered to be the beginning of [Jewish communal](#) life in America. The settlers who arrived in New Amsterdam, present day New York, were coming from Recife, Brazil. Northeastern Brazil had been under Dutch control until the Portuguese recaptured it in early 1654. Fearing the Inquisition, all Jewish settlers left. Most returned to Amsterdam or the West Indies, except for this small group. Even though by 1655, the community had grown enough to have acquired a separate Jewish burial ground and a Torah scroll, few of the original settlers remained for long. By 1664, most had left in anticipation of British rule, but their presence marked the beginning of American Jewish history. Please click on the following link to view the 2021 Presidential Proclamation: [A Proclamation of Jewish American History Month, 2021](#).

Asian American and Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander Heritage Month

In 1978, the first 10 days of May were designated as Asian/Pacific Heritage Week. In 1990, President H. W. Bush expanded the celebration to include the entire month of May as [Asian Pacific Islander Heritage Month](#). May was chosen because of two important historical events. On May 7, 1843, [Manjiro](#), a 14-year-old fisherman, arrived in the U.S. He is considered America's first Japanese immigrant and is also called the U.S.'s first ambassador to Japan. When he returned to Japan as an adult, he was named a [samurai](#) and worked as a political emissary between his home country and the West. The second event was the completion of the [transcontinental railroad](#) on May 10, 1869. That was the date in May that the last spike was driven into the rail line in Promontory, Utah. The line connected the Union Pacific and Central Pacific railroads, making transcontinental rail travel possible. Most workers on the Central Pacific line were Chinese immigrants.

The Heritage Month is in recognition of the history and achievements of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders (AANHPIs) across our Nation. We also celebrate and honor the invaluable contributions the AANHPI communities have made to our Nation's culture and the arts, law, science and technology, sports, and public service. Vice President Kamala Harris, is the first person of South Asian descent to hold the Office of the Vice President of the United States.



COVID-19 vaccinations now available at Miami International Airport & PortMiami. As part of Miami-Dade County's effort to make the COVID-19 vaccine more easily accessible, the **Pfizer vaccine** is now available at MIA - **May 10-14, June 1-4, and June 7**, from **8 a.m. to 5 p.m.** MIA has two vaccination sites: (i) Concourse D, 4th Floor Auditorium, upstairs from Door #1, and (ii) Drive-through location: 75 Bus Road, Miami, FL 33102 (MIA taxi overflow lot). **PortMiami's** new vaccination site is open for **Pfizer** and **Johnson & Johnson** vaccines, Monday through Saturday, **9 a.m. to 3 p.m.** at **Terminal J**. Appointments are not required. For more information visit [FloridaDisaster.org/Vaccine](#) or [miamidade.gov/vaccine](#).

BRIEFS & NOTES (CONTD.)



National Travel & Tourism Week

May 2-8, 2021 is [National Travel and Tourism Week](#) (NTTW), which recognizes the power of travel and the industry's role in bringing back our vibrant communities, restoring the U.S. economy, rebuilding our workforce, and reconnecting America. Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, the travel and tourism industry was a significant contributor to the U.S. economy and exports, and supported millions of hard-working Americans of all backgrounds. However, due to the pandemic, travel spending is down nearly \$500 billion, costing the U.S. economy \$1.1 trillion. The total number of travel-supported jobs fell by 34%, from 17 million in 2019 to just 11 million in 2020.

The devastating losses have proven how critical travel is to our community, the U.S. economy, and the American workforce. By maximizing the power of travel, the travel industry's goal is to define the future of mobility, reimagine the air travel system, increase global competitiveness, and implement innovative technologies that will strengthen security while improving and facilitating travel.



Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons Awareness Day

President Biden declared May 5, 2021 as [Mission and Murdered Indigenous Persons Awareness Day](#) to support Tribal governments and Tribal communities' efforts to increase awareness of the issue of missing and murdered American Indians and Alaska Natives through appropriate programs and activities. In the US, Native American women are more than twice as likely to experience violence than any other demographic. One in three Native women is sexually assaulted during her life, and 67% of these assaults are perpetrated by non-Natives.

According to the [Coalition to Stop Violence Against Native Women](#), 4 out of 5 of our Native women are affected by violence today. The U.S Department of Justice found that American Indian women face murder rates that are more than 10 times the national average. Homicide is the 3rd leading cause of death among 10 to 24-year-olds and the fifth leading cause of death for American Indian and Alaskan Native women between 25 and 34 years of age, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Homicide.

The federal Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) was reauthorized in 2013, which for the first time gave tribes the jurisdiction to investigate and prosecute felony domestic violence offenses involving both Native American and non-Native offender on reservations. In 2019, the House of Representatives passed H.R. 1585 (Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2019) which increases tribes' prosecution rights much further. Law enforcement, journalists, and activists in Indigenous communities in both the US and Canada have fought to bring awareness to the connection between sex trafficking, sexual harassment, sexual assault, and the women who go missing and are murdered. Please visit the [National Indigenous Women's Resource Center](#) for additional information.



Mental Health Awareness Month

Since 1949, [Mental Health America](#) and its affiliates across the country have observed May as *Mental Health Month* by reaching out to millions of people through the media, local events, and screenings. The COVID-19 pandemic has had a profound impact on the mental health of people of all ages. Now, more than ever, it is critical to reduce the stigma around mental health struggles, because that stigma often prevents individuals from seeking help. The theme for 2021, is "Tools 2 Thrive," providing practical tools that everyone can use to improve their mental health and increase their resiliency regardless of their personal situation. Also, the [National Alliance on Mental Illness](#) (NAMI) is amplifying its message of "You Are Not Alone," as its theme for 2021.

ABOUT US

The core mission of MDAD's Protocol and International Affairs Division is -

To facilitate the movement of official guests, delegations, dignitaries and VIPs through MIA and support the airport's international programs and initiatives.

Contact:

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www.miami-airport.com/about_us.asp

For comments, suggestions, event announcements or to opt-out, please send us an email.



Cristine Keller
Airport Protocol Officer



Cristine Keller, was selected by the Rewards & Recognition Committee as Miami-Dade Aviation Department's **May 2021 Employee of the Month**. Ms. Keller was selected for her outstanding customer care and service to a passenger who noted as follows - "...but the only silver lining was the kindness and excellent offer of service by Cristine. And I wanted you to know that I think you are very fortunate to have her on your team - service quality can vary dramatically at airports these days, but Cristine was there, when nobody else was - and by the way, she was also at the airport bright and early the next morning for our flight as we finally were able to leave Miami!"

Ms. Keller joined MDAD in November 2015 as a Public Service Assistant in the Airport Operations Center (AOC). In September 2018, she joined the Protocol and International Affairs Division. "Since I started working in Protocol, I have become more aware of the world in general; and more attuned to current events," said Cristine.

DIPLOMATIC & CONSULAR RELATIONS

New Director-General for Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Miami, Florida



Mr. Amino C. Y. Chi arrived in South Florida in April 2021. He is the new Director-General for Taipei's Economic and Cultural Office (TECO) in Miami. Mr. Chi obtained a Bachelor of Arts degree in Languages and Literature from the Department of Foreign Languages and Literature, National Taiwan University. Prior to his posting to the U.S., he served as Director, Taiwan Taoyuan International Airport Office, Bureau of Consular Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

His career, service, and postings include:

- * Assistant Director General, Department of Personnel, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (2018).
- * Deputy Director, Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in the United Kingdom (2015).
- * First Secretary, Embassy of the Republic of China (Taiwan) in Belize (2012).
- * Section Chief, Department of Personnel, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and Section Chief, Bureau of Consular Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (2009).
- * Second Secretary, Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Malaysia (2007).
- * Third Secretary, Embassy of the Republic of China (Taiwan) in Belize (2004).
- * Officer, Department of Personnel, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (2001).



On May 9, 1950, French Foreign Minister [Robert Schuman](#), laid the foundation for what was to become the European Union. The historic [Schuman Declaration](#), proposed the establishment of a new form of political cooperation by creating a European institution to pool and manage coal and steel production.

Schuman, inspired by [Jean Monnet](#), believed that merging economic interests would not only help raise standards of living throughout a continent still struggling with the aftereffects of World War II, but it would also be the first step towards a more united Europe. This would make war between historic rivals France and Germany "not merely unthinkable, but materially impossible". The founding members of the [European Coal and Steel Community](#) (ECSC) were: France, West Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Belgium, and Luxembourg. Membership was open to other countries and later included all members

of the European Economic Community. Since this was the first of a series of institutions that would become the European Union, May 9 is celebrated annually as Europe Day.

Countries celebrating Independence and National Days in May

May 9, 1877 – Romania: Although Romania's National holiday, Unification Day, is celebrated on December 1, the country gained independence from the Ottoman Empire on May 9, 1877.

May 15, 1811 – Paraguay: During the night of the 14th to the 15th of May 1811, an uprising led to Paraguay achieving independence from Spain. Both days continue to be celebrated, May 14 as Flag Day, and May 15 as Independence Day.

May 17, 1814 – Norway: Constitution Day, Norway's National holiday, celebrates the day the Norwegian constitution was adopted in 1814.

May 20, 2002 – Timor-Leste: Restoration of Independence Day celebrates the day Timor-Leste was internationally recognized as a sovereign state, gaining independence from Indonesia.

May 24, 1993 – Eritrea: Although Eritrea was fully liberated from Ethiopia in May 1991, the provisional government did not declare formal independence until May 24, 1993.

May 25, 1810 – Argentina: Initially intended as a show of loyalty to the Spanish Crown, the May Revolution (May 18 - 25, 1810) was the beginning of Argentina's quest for independence. May 25th is celebrated annually as the Day of the May Revolution.

May 25, 1946 – Jordan: On this date, Jordan gained independence from the League of Nations mandate which had placed it under British administration.

May 26, 1918 – Georgia: Georgia celebrates two Independence Days. On May 26, 1918, Georgia gained independence from Soviet Russia, while on April 9, 1991, it regained its independence from the Soviet Union.

May 26, 1966 – Guyana: The country gained its independence from the United Kingdom on May 26, 1966.

May 28, 1918 – Armenia: Armenia declared independence from the Russian Empire. Since 1992, May 28th is celebrated as the Day of the Armenian First Republic, while independence from the Soviet Union is celebrated on September 21, 1991.

May 28, 1918 – Azerbaijan: Republic Day, Azerbaijan's National Day commemorates the founding of the Democratic Republic of Azerbaijan in 1918.

May 30, 1967 – Anguilla: Although Anguilla remains a British Overseas Territory, Anguilla Day is celebrated on May 30th to commemorate Anguilla's independence from a brief union with Saint Kitts and Nevis.