

Commission was renamed in 1974 as the Commission on Afro-American and Indian History and Culture and made part of the Department of Economic and Community Development (Chapter 386, Acts of 1974). The Commission received its present name in 1976 (Chapter 120, Acts of 1976). It became part of the Department of Housing and Community Development in 1987 (Chapter 311, Acts of 1987).

The Commission serves as statewide coordinator and clearinghouse for preserving and documenting evidence of the black experience in Maryland. It specializes in research assistance and collecting historical materials—art objects, memorabilia, manuscripts, photographs, and other articles of significance to black history and culture.

The Commission provides exhibits, programs, and resource materials to the community at large and to educational systems and institutions within the State. The Commission also participates in a continuing statewide survey to locate and identify sites and buildings of historical and cultural significance to the black experience in Maryland. In addition, the Commission plans, coordinates, and implements the State's annual official observance of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday. Any available federal or private funds for the planning and execution of commemorative and educational activities in connection with that observance are received and administered by the Commission.

The Commission's nine members are appointed to four-year terms by the Governor with Senate advice and consent. Subject to the approval of the Secretary of Housing and Community Development, the Commissioners appoint the Director. The Commission also includes an Advisory Committee consisting of a maximum of twenty-one members (Code 1957, Art. 83B, secs. 5-301 through 5-306).

MARYLAND ETHNIC HERITAGE COMMISSION

Chairperson: Hardev S. Palta, 1990

Appointed by Governor with Senate advice & consent: Stephen Basarab, 1989; Sol del Ande Eaton, 1989; Mary Louise Jones, 1989; Pete N. Nickolas, D.D.S., 1989; Lea Kiik, 1990; Morgan H. Pritchett, 1990; Judith C. Toth, 1990; Marsha Weinberg, 1990; Mohyee E. Eldefrawi, Ph.D., 1991; Stephen J. Ferrandi, 1991; Andree M. Leath, 1991; Hiroshi Nakazawa, M.D., 1991; Tuan Quoc Pham, 1991; Eva Slezak, 1991.

Maria B. Galindo, *Director*

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The Maryland Ethnic Heritage Commission began as the Commission on Ethnic Affairs, created

by Executive Order in 1977. It received its present name in 1984 when it was established within the Department of Economic and Community Development (Chapter 116, Acts of 1984). In 1987, the Commission became part of the Department of Housing and Community Development (Chapter 311, Acts of 1987).

The Commission advises the Governor on State programs and activities relating to Maryland's ethnic heritage. The Commission sponsors and promotes cultural and educational programs; publishes a newsletter and a directory; and serves as a clearinghouse for the State's ethnic communities, as well as for county, State and federal entities. It recommends and encourages the commemoration of historical events (Statue of Liberty, 1990 Census, Bicentennial of the U.S. Constitution), the official recognition of ethnic achievements, and research and preservation of the traditions of Maryland's ethnic cultures.

The Commission promotes understanding among ethnic groups and between ethnic groups and the community at large. It provides technical assistance and programs to over 300 ethnic organizations in Maryland and serves as liaison between those organizations and State government.

With Senate advice and consent, the Governor appoints the Commission's fifteen members to three-year terms. The Commission appoints the Director with the approval of the Secretary of Housing and Community Development (Code 1957, Art. 83B, secs. 5-501 through 5-509).

COMMISSION ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Chairperson: George M. Foster, Jr., 1990

Appointed by Governor with Senate advice & consent: Joseph Strickel, 1989; Chief Billy Redwing Tayac, 1989; Sewell Edward Fitzhugh, 1990; Kevin Harley, 1990; Mervin Savoy, 1990; Paul B. Cissna, Ph.D., 1991; Barry McCray Richardson, 1991; Rebecca Seib, 1991.

Patricia L. King, *Director*

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The Commission originated in 1974 as part of the Commission on Afro-American and Indian History and Culture. It became a separate agency within the Department of Economic and Community Development in 1976 (Chapter 148, Acts of 1976). In 1987, the Commission on Indian Affairs was made part of the Department of Housing and Community Development (Chapter 311, Acts of 1987).

The Commission coordinates programs and projects to further the cultural, educational, economic, and social development of Maryland's