Being Asian in Ohio
Thoughts of a Business Owner on Cultural Gaps, Races, and Identities

Wednesday, September 21, 2 - 3 p.m.
Isao Shoji, president of the Japan-America Society of Central Ohio

Asians are on track to overtake Hispanics/Latinos as the largest immigrant group in the United States. However, most Asians and Asian Americans call the East and West Coast home. The history and narratives of Asians living in the Midwest are less well known. Join local business owner Isao Shoji as he shares his experiences of growing up in Central Ohio, choosing to put his roots down in the area, and becoming a successful business owner in a decidedly non-diverse field of finance. Isao will be sharing his thoughts on cultural heritage, facets of racism, and what it means to be Asian in Ohio.

Born in Taiwan, Isao grew up in Hiroshima, Japan, immigrating to the US with his family at age 13. He graduated Phi Beta Kappa from The Ohio State University, majoring in Chinese and molecular genetics. He continued his education at Ohio State, studying medicine before becoming a financial advisor. Today, Isao and his business partners run a thriving financial planning and investment advisory firm, which serves a diverse clientele in central Ohio and beyond. He is one of the few Japanese Certified Financial Planner™ professionals in the country. Isao is currently president of the Japan-America Society of Central Ohio; pro bono director of the Financial Planning Association of Central Ohio, and an active member of the Japanese Chapel at Dublin Baptist Church.

Refreshments will be served.

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