

2017 Baltimore Area Diversity Day

On January 12th, 2017 our Baltimore Area Coast Guard Commands celebrated Diversity Day with the theme "A celebration of the richness of the power of DIVERSITY and INCLUSION for our Baltimore area USCG Commands and organizations."



As written by Petty Officer 2nd Class David Marin, Columbus Recreation Center our Baltimore Area Coast Guard Commands celebrated Diversity Day with magic, puppets and fun show performance by Mr. John Carrington, a folkloric performance by the Tianyi Dance Team, and keynote remarks by Mr. Albert Curry, the Coast Guard's Deputy Assistant Commandant for Engineering and Logistics at the Columbus Recreation Center. The special event celebrated the theme, "A celebration of the richness of the power of diversity and inclusion." In his speech, Mr. Curry stated that "diversity is about so much more than those

demographic factors that we can all see. Diversity represents all factors that make us unique and contribute to our identity. It is imperative for all leaders and all members of our workforce to understand these factors in order to embrace the unique contributions each of us can make to our collective efforts. By harnessing these qualities and ensuring that all members feel engaged and valued, we will improve our operational effectiveness and ensure the Coast Guard is the 'Service of Choice' in the federal government."



Accomplished dancers Elizabeth McMahon, Lucy Wang, Rachel Yuan, and Carissa Kwan of the Tianyi Dance Team at the University of Maryland delighted the audience with the 'Water Lotus,' and 'Vine and Leaf' dances. All four dancers performed the 'Water Lotus' dance that portrays a lotus flower, which is a symbol for determination, beginning in murky water, and over time, rising to the top and blossoming into the beautiful flower that it is. Lucy Wang, and Carissa Kwan also performed the 'Vine and Leaf' dance, which depicted the growth of vines intertwining with the surrounding trees and leaves.

The diversity celebration concluded with visits to cultural displays and ethnic food samplings.

Cultural/Mission Exhibits/Booths including:

Hispanic Heritage Committee (HC) Booth – led by Ms. Luanna Straker
Asian/Pacific American HC – led by Mr. Shek Kwan
African American HC – led by Mr. James Taylor
Federal Women's Professionals – led by Ms. Charmane Jacobs
Native Americans HC- led by Ms. Ramona Hatfield
European HC – led by Ms. Sarah Thompson
Sector Missions – led by CWO Aaron Studie
Uniformed Members Associations – led by CWO Rodney Moore
Military Women's Leadership Group – led by CDR Jessica Fant

