



Assemblywoman Jenifer Rajkumar to Host Celebration of Nepali-American Sherpas who Summited Mount Everest *Assemblywoman Will Declare “Mount Everest Day” in the State of New York*

South Queens, NY (October 1, 2021) - Assemblywoman Jenifer Rajkumar (D-AD 38) tomorrow will honor 60 Sherpas living in New York who summited Mount Everest, as well as the U.S. Nepal Climbers Association. The event, entitled “Mount Everest Day Celebration,” will be this **Saturday, October 2nd at 1:00pm** at the **Sheen Center for Thought and Culture at 18 Bleecker Street in Manhattan.**

As the first South Asian woman elected to New York State Office, Assemblywoman Rajkumar is proud to organize an event of such significance to New York’s Nepali community. They are a beloved part of the South Asian diaspora, and Nepal’s Sherpa community is known for its elite mountaineers.

Assemblywoman Rajkumar stated, “Just as these Sherpas have climbed to the top of Mount Everest, so too will the Nepali-American community climb to the greatest heights in the State of New York, as we make enormous strides in South Asian representation, language access, job training, and education for Nepali-American children.”

Earlier this year, Assemblywoman Rajkumar introduced the historic Nepal Day Resolution, passed unanimously by the State Assembly. It is a first-of-its-kind resolution officially establishing Nepal Day in the State of New York.

At the event, Assemblywoman Rajkumar will officially proclaim May 29th as “Mount Everest Day” in the State of New York, which she will codify with a resolution expected to pass this session. This date marks the anniversary of the first documented summit of the mountain by Sir Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay in 1953. The day is celebrated worldwide, especially in Nepal.

Assemblywoman Rajkumar will award the summiters of Mount Everest special Assembly citations. Guests will hear from a number of dignitaries and public officials from Nepal and New York, who will honor the climbers for their great achievement. There will also be live performances.

The event co-organizers applauded Assemblywoman Rajkumar’s leadership.

“I thank Assemblywoman Rajkumar for recognizing the 29th of May as Mount Everest Day in New York State and honoring our Sherpa mountaineers,” said U.S. Nepal Climbers Association President Passang Nima Sherpa. “The Assemblywoman and the entire State of New York will officially recognize the great achievement of the climbers of Mount Everest. The entire world — from New York to Nepal — will come together in recognition of their incredible achievement.”

“I am very proud of the Sherpas at the U.S. Nepal Climbers Association and Assemblywoman Rajkumar for leading these efforts,” said Vanessa O’Brien, Honorary Ambassador for the USNCA and the first woman to reach earth’s highest and lowest points. “By adopting May 29th as Mount Everest Day, New Yorkers will come together to celebrate humanity’s greatest achievements.”

WHAT: Assemblywoman Jenifer Rajkumar and U.S. Nepal Climbers Association Host “Mount Everest Day Celebration”

WHEN: Saturday, October 2, 1pm

WHERE: Sheen Center for Thought and Culture, 18 Bleecker Street in Manhattan

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Attendees must register in advance at tinyurl.com/sherpa-celebration-tickets. Proof of COVID-19 vaccination is required. Admission is free but there is a \$20 suggested donation at the door.

For members of the press, photography and filming are permitted by obtaining a press lanyard at the Box Office. Please note in your registration if you will need a press lanyard.