To our APACC family,

As another year draws to a close, we hope that this letter finds you in good spirits and good health as we stop to say hello and give you a few updates. This year brought many changes for us: from moving back into the newly renovated Lory Student Center, to losing Dr. Linda Ahuna-Hamill, to reconnecting with old friends who came out to pay their respects.

APACC continues to develop and grow through all these changes: familiar programs such as PALS (Participation, Awareness, Learning, and Sharing) and our All Nations Leadership Retreat are still going strong, and newer ones such as our Peer Mentor Program and Explore (an extension of PALS) continue to help our students develop confidence in their leadership skills and become part of a close-knit community here at Colorado State University. Asian Pacific Islander student leaders from across campus also put together a team for the Colorado Dragon Boat Festival this year, and the team placed third overall in their division!

Our strategic planning process is still underway, and, as we move forward into a new year, we’d like to take a moment to ask you to consider donating to APACC in order to help ensure our vitality moving forward. We are hoping to raise $25,000 for an endowment that will help our office become more self-sufficient and provide us with a small source of additional funding every year to be used for student-driven initiatives and scholarships. We’ve already raised more than $16,000 and need only $9,000 more to help us achieve this goal! If you are able and willing to donate, please click here. As always, thank you for your continued support.

JoAnn Cornell
Dragon Boat

Annie Ngo, CSU dragon boat organizer, says, "I love that the Colorado Dragon Boat Festival brings the community together. I wanted students from the Fort Collins community to connect with the community in Denver through participating at the festival. The experience was rewarding to be able to see members of our dragon boat team develop friendships with CU Denver’s and CU Boulder’s teams. Dragon boat racing is an incredible thing to share among your teammates because it demands commitment, dedication, and being able to quickly adjust to changes as a team. I also wanted to create an open and welcoming atmosphere for the team by frequently encouraging us to be a "ram-ily" and to continuously show love and support for one another, on and off the team!"

PALS

PALS (Participation, Awareness, Learning, and Sharing) is a mentoring program that pairs CSU students (Big Pals) with Asian and Pacific American K-third-grade students in the Fort Collins community (Little Pals). Participants engage in various activities to learn more about Asian and Asian American culture and widen their understanding of diversity.

This year, they have created their own myth about the sun, played an outside game called “the mooncake game,” and gone bowling with their family and friends! The coordinators, Grace and Jade, love leading PALS because of all the wonderful, vibrant, and diverse young minds that are able to express their creativity and grow throughout the year. Big Pals enjoy this program because of the connection they get to make with the Fort Collins community, and the leadership experience they get as mentors to their Little Pals.

In PALS, everyone gets the chance to create bonds and everlasting memories through interactive learning and growth.
Explore

The Explore program is a mentoring opportunity for Asian American/Pacific Islander children in Poudre School District grades four through six. The program pairs volunteer CSU students with one or two kids, which gives them the opportunity to act as role models for these children.

In sessions occurring every two weeks, the program addresses Asian American/Pacific Islander identity and culture while also providing the students with life skills, the opportunity to grow and discover themselves, and connections to role models and peers of similar identity.

Peer mentors with mentee at Rice Bowl

2015 Rice Bowl

with Explore and PALS

Rice Bowl is APACC’s annual bowling event that is open to the CSU and Fort Collins communities. Rice Bowl gives a chance for the entire community to come together and have a fun day of bowling, prizes, bonding, and meeting others. Rice Bowl is a great event that gives students the opportunity to have fun and meet new people!
Last May, we lost a special member of the APACC family, Dr. Linda Ahuna-Hamill. On May 30, 2015, Colorado State University conducted a celebration of Dr. Linda Ahuna-Hamill’s life. For those of you who were unable to attend, the program can be found on the Division of Student Affair’s website and donations can still be made to Kylia’s college fund.

— JoAnn Cornell

APACC/CDBF Shirts!
Show your support for APACC!

APACC and the CSU dragon boat team’s T-shirt is now available for students and alumni to purchase! Designed by CSU student Laura Morrison-Pibel and available in sizes small through 3XL, this shirt is a great way to show your support for APACC and our students!

Donors who give $50 or more to APACC will receive a T-shirt in the mail. Please make sure to include the text “APACC T-shirt” along with your size and mailing address in the “Questions and Comments” section of the online donation form. T-shirts may also be purchased for $25 each. Thank you for your support!
APACC Events

Kit Yan, poet

APACC hosted many events this semester! Kit Yan, a slam poet, performed at the Lory Student Center, and focused on the oppression, racism, homophobia, transphobia, and misogyny many transgender and queer people face in today’s society.

Tea Time

Tea Time is an opportunity for students to engage in conversation about current issues with peers in a safe, inclusive environment. Tea Times are hosted in the lounge area in APACC and put on by a small rotation of APACC student staff members who want to provide an opportunity for students to engage in conversation, gain perspectives, and learn from others. Topics this past semester have included cultural costumes during Halloween, healthy relationships, stereotypes, and post-9/11 life for Muslim Americans.

Staff member Kira says, “One of my favorite things about Tea Time is the opportunity to talk about issues in the community and see other people's perspectives. Putting on Tea Time is more than just part of my job; it’s an opportunity to be creative and find ways to engage others in open discussion about important topics – while enjoying good tea.”

Peer Mentor

The Peer Mentor program provides incoming CSU students with a student-mentor who is available to guide and to provide resources, friendship, and a sense of community to those on campus. Mentors host group events in addition to offering individual attention and participating in a weekly class that educates them on mentoring, leadership, and social justice skills.

“I chose to be a peer mentor program coordinator because I participated in the program as a mentor and really enjoyed the events we hosted and being able to form relationships with both the mentees and mentors. Peer Mentor creates a strong community within the large campus of CSU. I liked this and wanted to be further involved, so that is why I chose to help coordinate it, and it is so much fun!” says Alice Ardito, peer mentor coordinator.

APACC Events

Hari Kondabolu, comedian

Hari Kondabolu, a political comedian, performed in November. He manages to tie in problems facing our society today with his hilarious commentary and jokes that leave you not only laughing but thinking of bigger issues.

Contact Us

Send us an e-mail or call us if you have questions or need more information.

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