Welcome to the APCC!

Our center is celebrating its 30th year anniversary and we have put together this magazine to honor its history. We want to highlight the founders of the APCC and all of the staff who have worked to build the center to support the API community at OSU. We also want to feature some events and programming that have happened over the years, in hopes that it sparks your involvement!

To everyone who has been involved with the APCC, we are here to say thank you. To those who will be involved, we hope you’ll be attracted by APCC’s story when you close this magazine and find a way to help us grow our community!

~2021-2022 APCC Staff

Oregon State University in Corvallis, OR is located within the traditional homelands of the Mary’s River or Ampinefu Band of Kalapuya. Following the Willamette Valley Treaty of 1855, Kalapuya people were forcibly removed to reservations in Western Oregon. Today, living descendants of these people are a part of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Community of Oregon and the Confederated Tribes of the Siletz Indians.
1991

1. **ESTABLISHED**
   - First Location on Campus
     - The Asian Cultural Center (ACC) was first established & located in Snell Hall 131

2000

2. **CHARTER FOUNDED**
   - ACC → APCC
   - First Dedicated Building
     - Moved to NW Jackson Street

2002

3. **2003**
   - Renamed to the Asian & Pacific Cultural Center (APCC)

2003

4. **2003**
   - The ACC was originally located in Snell Hall 131. Starting Spring term of 2000, the ACC was moved to NW Jackson Street bordering campus as located in the map on the right. Soon enough it became a second home to many people. However, there was limited Pacific Islander culture represented in the space. As a result, in 2003, the Asian Cultural Center was renamed the Asian & Pacific Cultural Center (APCC) to be inclusive of and highlight both Asian and Pacific Islander (API) communities.

2015

5. **2015**
   - The APCC broke ground on May 5th, 2014 and had its Grand Opening on April 29th, 2015

6. **Today’s Location**
   - The newest center was built on SW Jefferson Way

**FOUNDING HISTORY**

How did APCC come to be today?

Starting in the 1970s through 1990s, there was a large influx of refugee students coming from countries experiencing conflict in Southeast Asia. To address the academic and social needs of these students, as well as other students of Asian American identity, a dedicated space had to be made. The Asian Cultural Center (ACC) was established in 1991 by faculty and staff at Oregon State University and served as a focal point for educating the campus and local community about Asian cultures. This center was created due to the lack of representation, knowledge, and space to express Asian and Asian American identities.

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The mission of the Asian & Pacific Cultural Center is to establish and provide a welcoming, engaging, and inclusive space for the retention and success of students. Student leaders represented and advocated for a new location to be better accessible to more of the student body. Therefore, in 2015, the newest center was built on SW Jefferson Way, in the heart of campus.
A Statement of Vision & Charter Commitment

Our Charter Commitment was founded in 2002. This document is a statement from Oregon State University that commits to supporting and maintaining the Asian & Pacific Cultural Center and other cultural centers on campus. It commits to further excellence in our communities and that our location on campus stays unchanged by outside forces. It is a testament to the power we have as student and faculty activists and is the reason we stand here today.

Comment from Janet Nishihara:
So very important to keep these milestones in our thoughts so we can continue to build on what we have achieved.

Janet Nishihara

Janet Nishihara was born in Ontario, Oregon and attended Oregon State University. She took the initiative along with her friends in starting a center in order to bring Asian, Asian American, and Pacific Islander identifying students together. Her sole purpose was to create a space that allowed students to find their community, help answer questions relating to their identity, and feel at home especially in a predominately white school.

Janet stated in an interview that she is happy to see the support showcased by the university especially by establishing the charter and hiring a full time faculty member which used to be a position covered by an undergraduate student. Her favorite event hosted was the opening ceremony of the ACC because it was such a milestone. For the next upcoming years, she hopes that APCC will be able to better represent the PI community.

Janet Nishihara

A Statement of Vision & Charter Commitment
Take a Quick Tour of APCC

1. Resource Table
2. Stairs
3. Dining Room
4. Lounge Area

5. Front Door
6. Quiet Room
7. Staff Space
8. Gathering Hall
9. Lounge Area
10. Library
The Center Directors are the backbone of the APCC. Since 2014, the professional staff of the APCC have been providing guidance and support in creating welcoming spaces where students can thrive and build meaningful connections. They also help create opportunities regarding the critical exploration around the intersectional experiences of Asian and Pacific Islanders. As a result, the Center Directors are an essential part of the center that make the APCC a home away from home.

Between 2014-2022, the APCC has had 3 Center Directors: Reagan Le, Sara Caldwell-Kan, and David Ryusaki.

### Center Directors

**Why did you want to work at the APCC?**
I was super engaged with the API community at OSU when I was an undergraduate/master student here from 1999-2006 and actually applied twice to work at the APCC as a student staff, but was never hired. Once I graduated, I always had in mind to come back to OSU to work specifically with the API community, so when the professional staff position (it was a “coordinator” title back then) opened for the APCC in 2014, I applied for it. As an Asian American who is passionate about student centered work, the APCC provided me the opportunity to develop myself personally and professionally while empowering students to seek the possibilities. My roles evolved and shifted over those last 7 years at OSU, but the APCC has always been my place of joy where I can go and recenter myself. Though I no longer directly support the APCC, I look forward to any moments I get to engage with the APCC.

**What was your proudest accomplishment while working at the APCC?**
Being the first professional staff hired for the APCC and being in the role for about six years, I have to say I’m proud of the whole experience and specifically with creating a culture of creativity and innovation where students felt the agency to initiate their passions into reality. We won the national podcast of the year award, we explored ways to make meaningful impacts beyond events, we centered care in our work, and we engaged in continual mutual learning as part of the work.

**What’s your long term vision for the APCC?**
I hope to find a permanent Center Director to continue to elevate the work of the APCC and through theirs and the student staff’s leadership they would be able to sustain a community that values and centers care, innovation, possibilities, growth, and intersecting identities, perspectives and experiences.

**What was your favorite memory while working at the APCC?**
My favorite memory was when the staff and I did a trip to Seattle to visit various API related organizations and spaces. The opportunity to tour the Wing Luke Museum with students and to take the Bruce Lee tour where we got to eat some of Bruce Lee’s favorite dishes was an incredible experience. We also saw an Asian American play that was thought-provoking and seriously blew our minds, which helped us elevate how we engage artivism type of work. I’m a foodie, so also experiencing some good food with students in Seattle was a lot of fun and memorable. I believe being in community with each other in different spaces, being around a lot more API folks, and having good times over food made this trip memorable and special.
Why did you want to work at the APCC?
I wanted to work at the APCC because I truly believe in the work that we do. Having a job that is dedicated to the connections between social justice, student success and community building is my dream. I also had felt that the APCC was a welcoming home for me at OSU.

What was your proudest accomplishment while working at the APCC?
I am honestly really proud of being on a team that came together, centered love and support for each other and continued to uplift our communities while working remotely and increased visibility of Anti-Asian sentiment. I feel that as a team, we really had each other’s backs and made space for us each to process and grieve. I didn’t get to meet everyone on the team in person, and yet, I think we were a really cohesive group.

What’s your long term vision for the APCC?
My long term vision is that the APCC can continue to be a community and counterspace at Oregon State. I hope we continue to uplift Asian, Asian American and Pacific Islander voices and experiences. I also hope that the APCC, and DCE can lead the way in building a better OSU where we can find commonalities and work to bring equity for marginalized communities- this is a collective fight for change.

What was your favorite memory while working at the APCC?
I’d have to say that many of our staff meeting check-ins make the list. It is really all of the in-between times, the times where inside jokes were born and we were able to laugh. It was hard to laugh about 2020 and 2021, and I so treasure those moments. Two examples come to mind: 1) our most divisive check in question, is cereal a soup? Lead to a lot of intense chats in the zoom and people working to justify their stances. That brought a lot of joy. 2) Our GA, Jazzy, had the idea to have everyone make a quick slideshow about their dream vacation, and three of the staff members (Josh, Daisy, Jonathan) worked together to build a joke vacation all about Corvegas. They put a lot of work into it and I think it had everyone keeling over with laughter.

SARA CALDWELL-KAN
Director of Multicultural Student Services
University of Alaska Anchorage

Why did you want to work at the APCC?
As a student, I wanted to explore more of what it meant to be Asian American. Growing up in Hawai‘i, there wasn’t an emphasis on my Asian American identity because we weren’t a minority group, we were the majority.

As Interim Center Director, I really wanted to give back to my community which helped me grow into the Professional I am today. Without my experience working at the APCC as a student, I don’t think I would have ended up back at OSU in 2014 and definitely not as Interim Center Director. So I felt it was time for me to support my community and help contribute to the growth of our young API leaders and build upon the 30 years of leadership which came before me.

What was your proudest accomplishment while working at the APCC?
Proudest accomplishment is observing the team come together during fall training and fall term. A lot of folks were brand new and had not worked in the center before so to be able to function as a staff/team/family without us meeting before fall training is a huge accomplishment.

What’s your long term vision for the APCC?
A space where faculty, staff and students see themselves and are comfortable seeking the APCC for support. I envision a gathering space for the community to socialize, but also to have difficult and enriching conversations.

What was your favorite memory while working at the APCC?
Carving A LOT of turkeys in the old APCC during Harvest Celebration and wondering when they would stop coming. I felt like I was cutting for 5 hours, lol.

DAVID RYUSAKI
APCC Interim Center Director

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Our vision within the APCC is to actively engage the Oregon State University community in academic engagement, professional development, and civic engagement with an emphasis on social justice and intersectional initiative related to Asian and Pacific Islanders. And most importantly, create a home away from home.

“The Peaceful Sea” by Hsin-Yi Huang
Medium: clay

Located in the gathering hall, this installation aims to offer a sense of tranquility that this body of water has come to represent. The surfaces of these tiles are images of plants and animals found in the Pacific – phytoplankton, whales, turtles, mangroves, and corals.
“The Great Pacific Gyres” by Helen Liu
Medium: plastic bags, oil colors, sewing thread, tape, Chinese ink on rice paper and grommets

This work, displayed in the hallway, represents the energies, in plastic trash, from Asia and the Americas that converge in the Pacific gyres. It is made with plastic waste from the artist’s own household and neighborhood.

“API of OSU” by 2015-2016 APCC Staff
Medium: print

Inspired by “Humans of New York,” this project, displayed in the gathering hall, offers a pictorial glimpse into daily lives of Asian & Pacific Islander students at Oregon State University. This project has been continuing its series in the APCC Instagram.
GALLERY OF PAST EVENTS

Signature Events & Initiatives

• API Welcome
• API of OSU
  - Filipinx, Khmer, Taiwanese, Pacific Islander, Freshmen, Vietnamese, Hmong, Indonesian, “APIDA” (Women, Queer, Adoptee, Multiracial, First Generation, International), Thai, South Asian

• Making Waves
  - Seasons 1-4

• APCC End of Year Celebration

2021-2022 Events & Initiatives

• Call Her Ganda Movie Screening
  - Collab w/ Ina Haws, PC, SOL

• Kumu Hina Movie Screening
  - Collab w/ HOH & PIC

• Wall of API Council

• Decorating space for Lunar New Years

• What’s at APCC?: Social Media Campaign around Center Resources

• Food of API

• Peace Tree Project

• Breaking Down Taboos Campaign

• Night Market

• Movie nights for APIDA month

• 50th anniversary of Patsy T. Mink equal opportunity in education act

• Breaking Down Taboos Campaign

• Night Market

• Movie nights for APIDA month

• 50th anniversary of Patsy T. Mink equal opportunity in education act

2020-2021 Events (all online)

• Kimmortal the Artist
  - Guest speaker & artist for Filipino American Heritage Month
  - Collab w/ Ina Haws, PC, SOL

• API Alumni Network Community Connect
  - Collab w/ API Alumni Network

• APCC Story Circle: “Our Moon Cakes Are Not Your Erotic Treats”
  - Collab w/ SOL

• I Am, But I Am Not
  - Docuseries by Daisy Truong, CRR

• Anti-Asian Hate Processing & Gathering Space
  - In response to Atlanta spa shooting

• What More Must You Take
  - Spoken word to kick off APIDA Month

• Being Real with Ourselves: BIPOC Mental Health Panel
  - Collab w/ CAPS & Wellness Agents

• What's in a Name? Unpacking the “D” in APIDA
  - Collab w/ ECC

• APCC Story Circle: AAPI Mental Health

• Stories of (Im)migration
  - Collab w/ HereToStay

• Healthy Beaver Bags
  - Collab w/ HSRC

• Pancit, then butter mochi

• Transcending Traditions Launch Party

• Asian Americans: Facing Hate, Fighting for Justice, & Shaping America
  - Guest speakers: Renee Tajima-Peña & Helen Zia
  - Collab w/ OSU Ethnic Studies, WLC Asian Languages & Cultures, DPD program

• Culture Through Generations
  - Collab w/ GCCK (David Ryusaki) & API Alumni Network

• Being Multiracial is My Superpower
  - Guest speakers: Dr. Kristin Pauker & Shahana Ansari

• Self-Care Packages
  - “Benson Bags”
2019-2020 Events & Initiatives

• Get out the Count: Census 2020 Webinar
• Poverty Action Week Drive
  o Collab w/ CCCC
• Financial Education Workshop
  o Collab w/ Dui Lai (financial consultant from Portland)
• PISACon
  o Collab w/ Ina Haws, PISA
• OHSU Premed Panel
  o Collab w/ OHSU med students (Kenny Le, Aneeq Malik, Michaela Merrill, Danny Urness)
• Behind the Food

• Canceled due to COVID:
  o Hmong high school visit
  o Anote’s Ark film screening
  o Spring staff retreat
  o Spring cleaning clothes sale
  o Night market

Hiroshima Peace Tree
Planted April 2019
This persimmon tree, located in the back lawn of the APCC, was grown from a seed collected from a tree in Hiroshima that survived the atomic bombing of the city on August 6th, 1945. This tree is dedicated to Oregon Hiroshima survivor, Dr. Hideko Tamura Snider for her work on banning the use of nuclear weapons with the One Sunny Day Initiative. Let it serve as a continuing reminder of our desire for peace.
Asian Pacific American Student Union
Build community among API and API allies at OSU through leadership, trust, and empathy.
Instagram: @apasu_osu

Cambodian Student Association
Preserve and increase unity, pride, and awareness of Khmer culture, history, and traditions to Khmer and non-Khmer students at Oregon State University as well as the community.
Instagram: @csa_osu

Chinese Students and Scholars Assoc.
Seriously serve Chinese students, scholars, and their families who are studying and working at OSU, and help everyone better integrate into the local life and collective.
Instagram: @osu_cssa

BTS Army for Change
Promote Korean culture and create an inclusive community for BTS Army.
Instagram: @btsarmyatousu

EPIC Movement: Student Ministry
Christian club reaching the campus and growing in community with Christ.
Instagram: @epicosu

Himalayan Student Assoc.
Promote and share the culture of students of Himalayan descent (including but not limited to Bhutan, North India, Nepal, Pakistan, and Tibet).

Hmong at OSU
Educate the public and our peers about the Hmong culture and community.
Instagram: @hmongosu

Hui O Hawai‘i
Create a community that serves as a home away from home and a support network for all of our Hawai‘i students at Oregon State University.
Instagram: @osu.hui.o.hawaii

Indian Students Assoc.
Promote Indian culture and heritage at OSU and the city of Corvallis, and aim to unify OSU’s Beaver spirit with the moral and traditions of Indian culture.
Instagram: @oregonstateisau

Isang Bansang Pilipino
Open to all who are interested in learning about Filipino culture and history, and provide a supportive community for our members.
Instagram: @osuibp

Japanese Student Assoc.
Share the beauty of Japanese culture and build an inclusive community for everyone.
Instagram: @osu_jsa

Next Gen KPOP
Showcase our dance member’s talent and love for KPOP through performances.
Instagram: @nextgen.kpop

OSU Bhangra
Keep the Punjabi culture alive through a fun and energetic dance called Bhangra.
Instagram: @osubhangra

Pacific Islander Club
Provide a welcoming community to retain Pacific Islander students at OSU, as well as honor, celebrate, and share Pacific Islander cultures through educational programming for the OSU and greater community.
Instagram: @osu.pacificislandercub

Promote and share the culture of students of Himalayan descent (including but not limited to Bhutan, North India, Nepal, Pakistan, and Tibet).

Promote Korean culture and create an inclusive community for BTS Army.

Educate the public and our peers about the Hmong culture and community.

Create a community that serves as a home away from home and a support network for all of our Hawai‘i students at Oregon State University.

Promote Indian culture and heritage at OSU and the city of Corvallis, and aim to unify OSU’s Beaver spirit with the moral and traditions of Indian culture.

Open to all who are interested in learning about Filipino culture and history, and provide a supportive community for our members.

Share the beauty of Japanese culture and build an inclusive community for everyone.

Showcase our dance member’s talent and love for KPOP through performances.

Keep the Punjabi culture alive through a fun and energetic dance called Bhangra.

Provide a welcoming community to retain Pacific Islander students at OSU, as well as honor, celebrate, and share Pacific Islander cultures through educational programming for the OSU and greater community.
People of Color in Biz.
Build alongside community through exploring the
navigation and personal identities in recognition of the
needs that the institution neglects to provide.
Instagram: @pcosbusiness.osu

Society of Asian Scientists and Engineers
Prepare scientists, engineers, and technologists of Asian
heritage for success in the global business world; celebrate
heritage for success in the global business world; celebrate
heritage for success in the global business world; celebrate

THAI STUDENT ASSOCIATION

Create bonds in the community and share Thai culture.
Instagram: @tsa_osu

Vietnamese Student Association
Enable leaders to promote Vietnamese culture and civic
excellence through fostering a
community of acceptance and
empowerment.
Instagram: @vsaatosu

APCC STAFF ROSTER 1990-2022
Thank You to Past Student Staff & Center Directors

1990-1991
Janet Harrison

1991-1992
Cory Ann Chang

1992-1993
Jennifer S. Oka

1993-1996
Neil Fernando

1996-1997
Siddhartha Chia

1997-1998
Kacori Murthi

1998-1999
Kathy Yen

2000-2001
Gideon Mer Alegado

2001-2002
Debbie Negan

2002-2003
Samuel Lee

2003-2004
Heather Arbuckle

2004-2005
Mark Pimentel

2005-2006
Chontachaihonghuang

2006-2007
Iris Wong

2007-2008
Vincent Vuong

2008-2009
Miguel Sanchez

2009-2010
Chante Peterson

2010-2011
Chante Peterson

2011-2012
N waż

2012-2013
Treffy Le

2013-2014
Treffy Le

2014-2015
Linh Bui

2015-2016
An Vuong

2016-2017
Abby Pasen

2017-2018
Abigail Passion

2018-2019
Amy Liu

2019-2020
Zhinong Lu

2020-2021
Najat Al-Khalil

2021-2022
Shane Ania Louise Ty

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From Us to You

In celebrating the APCC’s 30th year anniversary, we wanted to make sure the front and back cover highlighted this milestone. The APCC building and its establishment is a “gift” or “package” that was given to us. In opening the gift, we discover the story behind the APCC. This allows us to honor and appreciate its history while also reflecting on how we can continue to grow the center for the API community.

The 3 colored lines are inspired by waves, as the ocean is what connects the whole world. The colors and shapes of waves may always be changing, but it’ll always stay as a foundation of life.

We hope the APCC continues to engage and serve the Asian and Pacific Islander community at Oregon State for years to come. We can’t wait to see how the center grows, and we know it isn’t possible without you. Hope to see you soon!

~2021-2022 APCC Staff

Stay Connected!

https://dce.oregonstate.edu/apcc
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apcc@oregonstate.edu