

Hello!

A BIG welcome back to school! Happy New Year! We hope that everyone had a refreshing winter break and is ready to again tackle school.

We welcomed back our Event Adviser, Annie Tan, who returned from her stint abroad in Hong Kong University, and we are excited to hold our first meeting with the complete board this upcoming Tuesday. We will be planning even more events this semester and celebrating AAA's fifteenth anniversary.

Please save the date: February 12 – 7:30PM for our Asian American Health Disparities Panel (<http://www.facebook.com/#/event.php?eid=167768429963&ref=ts>). We are still in the process of having panelists confirm, but we already have medical professionals coming in from all parts of New York City.

Have a wonderful weekend and a great second week!

In community,  
AAA Board

<http://www.aacolumbia.org/>  
[http://aacolumbia.org/wiki/Main\\_Page](http://aacolumbia.org/wiki/Main_Page)

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1. [BSO] Crossroads Engineering Speaker Series
  2. [Lambda Phi Epsilon] LPhiE Haiti Fundraiser
  3. [SASPI] Global South Asia Conference
  4. [Project HEALTH] Volunteer for Project HEALTH!
  5. [ImaginAsian] Art Fundraiser
  6. [AALDEF] Spring 2010 Internships

We offer this newsletter to inform our general body of events going on and off-campus as sent to us by peer organizations. The Asian American Alliance Board does not endorse any events, goods or services mentioned in this newsletter (unless they are explicitly sponsored by AAA).

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### **1. [BSO] Crossroads Engineering Speaker Series**

BSO hosts Crossroads Career Speaker Series: Engineering  
Thursday, January 28th 7-9PM  
Malcolm X Lounge

“This event will be an opportunity for students to connect with professionals that have a background in the field of engineering, but may not have chosen that as their ultimate career path.”

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### **2. [Lambda Phi Epsilon] LPhiE Haiti Fundraiser**

Lambda Phi Epsilon is having a Haiti Fundraiser this coming Sunday  
(<http://www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=260643757681>).

A magnitude 7 earthquake struck Haiti on January 12th. The death toll is estimated to be up to 200,000. The UN estimates that THREE MILLION people are in need of food, water, shelter and medical assistance. Quick action, donation, and fund-raising may save lives.

Lambda Phi Epsilon will be hosting a FUNDRAISING DRIVE this Sunday afternoon on Lerner Ramps. We will be selling dim sum, egg tarts, and other food straight from Chinatown. Proceeds will go towards relief supplies -- including food, clean water, blankets, and tents -- to children and families devastated by the earthquake and its

aftershocks in Haiti.

Please come out and SUPPORT THE VICTIMS OF HAITI by stopping by the Lerner Ramps this Sunday afternoon. Every dollar you spend could save a life.

WHERE: Lerner Ramps  
WHEN: Sunday Noon-3pm  
WHAT: Food and snacks  
CAUSE: Haiti earthquake victims  
WHO: You!

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### **3. [SASPI] Global South Asia Conference**

SASPI proudly invites you to our Second Annual NYU Global South Asia Conference. This conference seeks to bring together students, academics, and professionals from the tri-state area and beyond who have a vested interest in promoting and advancing the study of South Asia. This year's conference will focus on South Asia and its borders and how this dynamic interplay of power, economies and culture affects South Asia's position in a new globalized world, hence our theme: "Powers in the Periphery." The conference presents an opportunity to both broaden your understanding of one of the world's most fascinating and important regions and to network with like minded students and top academics and professionals.

What: Global South Asia Conference  
When: Saturday, February 13, 2010  
Where: Rosenthal Pavilion

You can find additional information on the conference and register at the links below.

<http://sites.google.com/site/nyuglobalsouthasiacconference/registration>  
<http://www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=251850274016&ref=mf>

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### **4. [Project HEALTH] Volunteer for Project HEALTH!**

#### **What is Project HEALTH?**

Project HEALTH works to break the link between poverty and poor health by mobilizing college students to provide sustained public health interventions in partnership with urban medical centers, universities, and community-based organizations. Our clinic-based resource desks, called the Family Help Desks (FHDs), are located in Harlem Hospital and Columbia Presbyterian Hospital in Washington Heights. As a volunteer, you would work with clients and families from our host clinics and help them to access job training, food assistance, childcare, and other resources to help improve the health of your clients and their families.

#### **How can you get involved?**

We are currently recruiting volunteers for both Family Help Desks! Project HEALTH is open to current Columbia and Barnard undergraduates of any major. You can meet us and learn more about volunteering with Project HEALTH at either of our two information sessions on January 26 and January 27. Times and locations are currently TBD. Applications are due by online submission at 5pm on Friday, January 29.

#### **Contact Us!**

If you have any questions or would like to request an application, e-mail us at [projecthealth@gmail.com](mailto:projecthealth@gmail.com). If you would like to speak to one of our Campus Coordinators individually to learn more about the volunteer experience, please e-mail Lekha Menon at [lsm2119@columbia.edu](mailto:lsm2119@columbia.edu) or Liz Lamoste at [ecl2121@columbia.edu](mailto:ecl2121@columbia.edu).

Learn More Online:

Our National Website: <http://www.projecthealth.org/>

On WikiCU: [http://www.wikicu.com/Project\\_health](http://www.wikicu.com/Project_health)

In the Blogosphere: <http://fhdharlem.blogspot.com/>

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## 5. [ImaginAsian] Art Fundraiser

For all you creative types who want to promote Asian American awareness, this is for you!

To celebrate Asian Pacific American Heritage Month 2010, I am coordinating "ImaginAsian", a fundraising event to raise funds to purchase Asian American materials for the Purdue University and Indiana University libraries. The event will display *and auction off various pieces of art work from across the nation. Along with a donation of \$5 or more, anyone of Asian and non-Asian descent can send in a submission by filling up an 8.5 x 11 flat space with creative art, writing, photography, etc. that expresses Asian Pacific American identity or experience.*

The exhibition is intended to raise awareness and understanding of the Asian American community as articulated through a variety of art including photography, visual, and literary. Unlike the University of Minnesota or the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Purdue is not an Asian American Studies powerhouse. As an Asian American Studies instructor, it is frustrating to want to show a video or use a book for class and to have to ILL it because we simply do not have enough Asian American Studies materials in our library! It is my hope that this fundraiser will help address this crucial need.

Here is an opportunity for individuals to create art celebrating the history and contributions of Asian Pacific Americans, donate to a good cause, and have their artwork publicly displayed at the Tippecanoe Arts Federation located in Lafayette, IN this spring.

Please consider participating in this endeavor and join writer Maxine Hong Kingston, director Michael Kang, actor Parry Shen, Senator Daniel Inouye, artist Tak Toyoshima, author Lac Su, hip hop group Far East Movement, and many other stakeholders in the Asian American community.

Submissions may be sent to: Kate Agathon \* 1809 Bengal Place \* Lafayette, IN 47909 and the deadline is February 28, 2010. For more information, contact me at [kate.agathon@gmail.com](mailto:kate.agathon@gmail.com).

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## 6. [AALDEF] Spring 2010 Internships

### AALDEF SPRING 2010 INTERNSHIPS

### PROTECTING AND PROMOTING ASIAN AMERICAN CIVIC PARTICIPATION

for Undergraduate, Graduate, and Law Students

The Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund (AALDEF) protects and promotes the civil rights of Asian Americans through litigation, advocacy, and community education. Spring internships are available for college, graduate, and law students in AALDEF's Democracy Program, which includes voting rights and census. Interns will work on the following:

- Ensure the protection of undocumented immigrants in the census. Federal law states that information given to the census is confidential; nevertheless AALDEF is undertaking a thorough legal analysis about the strength of the privacy protections, including a review of compliance efforts, enforcement mechanisms, past violations, and Freedom of Information Requests about internal memoranda, policies, and sharing of data of special tabulations.
- Assist in coordinating a series of legal trainings for community leaders, service providers, and attorneys about the confidentiality protections.
- Advocate for a moratorium on immigration raids during the census, the hiring of bilingual outreach staff, and an expansion of language assistance programs.
- Promote culturally sensitive and language-specific community education efforts and press conferences to

ensure Asian Americans understand the importance of the census and its benefits.

- Conduct client intakes for AALDEF's Census Monitoring Project where individuals can report problems and potential violations of law and seek legal advice from AALDEF.
- Advocate for full compliance with the Voting Rights Act and federal Constitution, by analyzing election monitoring reports. The Voting Rights Act mandates Chinese and Korean language voting assistance and forbids anti-Asian voter discrimination. This includes legal research and writing, fact pattern development, and working with clients and witnesses for possible litigation. Review monitoring reports from past elections to document the use of bilingual ballots.
- Assess local elections compliance with settlements reached in voting rights lawsuits in New York, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts and other states.
- Register new voters after citizenship swearing-in ceremonies.
- Conduct research and advocacy on local, state and federal election reform proposals.

*Description of Spring Internships:*

Supervision: Interns are supervised by attorneys and organizers through regular meetings and trainings.

Compensation: These internships are not paid positions, but academic credit can be arranged.

Hours: Interns work anywhere between 12 to 25 hours per week in the office.

Duration: Spring internships usually follows the spring semester, commencing with the start of classes (end of January) to the first or second week of May.

*To Apply:*

Bilingual ability is helpful but not required. Students with language ability in Korean, Bengali, Urdu, or Chinese are especially welcome to apply and languages (if any) should be stated in the resume.

Applicants should also state the number of hours they can work per week and a possible schedule.

Send a resume and cover letter to:

Democracy Program Intern Search  
Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund (AALDEF)  
99 Hudson Street, 12th floor  
New York, New York 10013-2815  
fax: 212-966-4303  
Email: [gmagpantay@aaldef.org](mailto:gmagpantay@aaldef.org)

Applications due Jan. 15 but interviews will commence on a rolling basis beginning Jan. 12.

For more information, contact Glenn D. Magpantay at 212-966-5932, ext. 206 or [gmagpantay@aaldef.org](mailto:gmagpantay@aaldef.org).

\*\*\*\*\*SAVE THE DATE\*\*\*\*\*

Thursday, February 11, 2010  
LUNAR NEW YEAR GALA - PIER SIXTY, Chelsea Piers, New York City  
Justice in Action Award Recipients:  
Larry Tu, Dell Inc. and Juan Gonzalez, NY Daily News

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