

Hi Everyone!

AAA is busy buckling down to bring you some awesome events this semester (as we have promised). Our first one is coming up! We are hosting an Asian American Health Disparities Panel on **Friday, February 12th at 7:30 in Lerner 569.**

"Fun" Fact: Approximately 1 in 10 Asian and Pacific Islander (API) Americans have chronic hepatitis B infection compared with 1 in 1,000 of white Americans. (<http://liver.stanford.edu/Outreach/JRC.html>)

We hope that you will join us for a conversation with doctors and medical professionals from New York City to discuss why healthcare access is such a huge problem in the multiple Asian American communities, and what diseases affect the Asian American communities disproportionately.

Have a wonderful week and see you on Friday!

In community,
Asian American Alliance Board

aacolumbia.org
aacolumbia.org/wiki/Main_Page
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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. [AAA] Asian American Health Disparities Panel (!!!!!)

The Asian American Alliance (AAA) is hosting an "Asian American Health Disparities Panel" on February 12th, 2010 at 7:30pm in 569 Lerner, and would like to ask for your participation in this event.

A while back during one of our heated debates over the definition of mental illness in our community, we stumbled across several statistics that stunned us. Young Asian Americans have the highest suicide rates in the country. In 2002, over 50% of the Hepatitis B patients were Asian or Asian American. Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders account for over 22% of all tuberculosis cases reported in the United States. And Asian American women were the most likely amongst women of color to opt out of a Pap smear.

So we ask, why? What is it that our healthcare systems overlook? What do these statistics tell us? And why is health disparity a little known bullet on the Asian American agenda?

Asian Americans will grow to comprise over 5% of the American population in the upcoming years and yet the Asian American voice is one of the most neglected minority voices in the United States. Health disparities are a topic households try to avoid, and the lack of sufficient national research studies done to support the present Asian American population is a cause for concern. Panelists will include Dr. Dennis Kuo M.D, Rebecca Sze FNP, MSN, MPA, Alexandra Belcher MPH Candidate, Dr. Ming-der Chang PhD, and Dr. Shobha Krishnan M.D.

Refreshments will be served.

2. Asian American International Film Festival 10 Call for Entry

Asian CineVision (ACV). ACV is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to promote Asian culture and talent in American media that is currently dominated by Americans of European descent. ACV also annually hosts the Asian American International Film Festival (AAIFF) in New York City. In previous years we had guests, including Ang Lee, Lucy Liu and Maggie Cheung. As a part of the international outreach, we also select films with Asian themes or of Asian descents.

We are inviting your students or to submit their work to our festival, which will occur from July 15th to 24th this year. At this moment, we are especially interested in having

more work-in-progress and screenplays for our entries.

In conjunction with festival, we are inviting you to participate in our 09/10 National Festival Tour. Our Tour features the best independent cinema - narrative and documentary features and shorts - from AAIFF 09, and offers institutions and organizations the opportunity to bring many Asian and Asian American films rarely seen elsewhere to local communities across the country.

For more information regarding the submission, please visit <http://www.asiancinevision.org/callforentries10.html#entry>. For National Tour, please visit <http://www.asiancinevision.org/nationaltour.html>. If there are any further questions, feel free to contact me at tour@asiancinevision.org or (212) 989-1422.

3. [SHOUT] Join Student Health Outreach

8 million people live New York City.
1.2 million rely upon soup kitchens and food pantries to make ends meet.
7 out of 8 of them don't have private health insurance.

Want to do something about it? Join SHOUT!
SHOUT(Student Health Outreach) works in the community to enroll low-income populations without access to medical care in health insurance, food stamps, and other public assistance. We reach out to the community by making weekly visits to local soup kitchens and food pantries, and GED/ESL classes.

In addition, we conduct health fairs throughout the year to provide free blood-pressure screenings, HIV testing, etc., and to enroll people in government assistance programs. We also are involved in working with CDF/CAS in advocacy and health reform issues.

How can you help?
We are currently recruiting volunteers for all our shifts and locations for the spring semester. SHOUT is open to current Columbia and Barnard undergraduates of any major. No previous volunteer experience is necessary. You can meet us and learn more about volunteering with SHOUT. Our info session will be held on Wednesday, February 3 8pm in 302 Fayerweather. Come talk to us with any questions!

Contact Us

If you cannot attend the meeting but are still interested in volunteering with us or have any other questions, email us at shout.cu@gmail.com.

Hope to see you on Wednesday!
~SHOUT Coordinators

SHOUT/FAN is a member of Community Impact

4. Break the Silence Youth Conference

Break the Silence Youth Conference

Columbia University, February 28, 2010

You are cordially invited to attend the new Break the Silence Youth Conference for peer leadership training in health education and sexual health education reform. The Conference will be held on February 28, 2010, from 11 AM to 3 PM in Boardroom 502 at Alfred Lerner Hall, Columbia University in the City of New York. Lunch will be provided.

The Asian American community has long presented the public health and medical communities with important problems. Matters of personal health and sexual health education often remain taboo subjects among Asian American families, causing health complications in both men and women later in life due to medical issues that were never discussed and thus never diagnosed.

Break The Silence is an innovative new peer leadership training program established to provide you with the necessary information and skills to facilitate discussion, open-mindedness and free information within your community. You will be able to utilize the information and awareness provided by this conference to become a community and peer advocate in your academic career and beyond. Among the topics discussed at the conference will be sexual health, cultural stereotypes and methods of reconciliation, civil rights and peer leadership development.

Please register for the conference by sending an email including your name, telephone number and a brief statement of interest to breakthesilence.cu@gmail.com, by February 15, 2010.

5. [Research Participation Opp] Life experiences of Asian/Asian American individuals

My name is Shengying Zhang, and I am a counseling psychology graduate student at the University of Florida. I am conducting a study about the life experiences of Asian/Asian American individuals. It is my hope that with this study, I can contribute to the understanding of the experiences of Asian/Asian American individuals. Your participation is essential to achieving this goal, so I hope that you will take part in my study. In order to participate, you must be of Asian descent or background, currently reside in the U.S., and be of 18 years of age or older. If you would like to participate in my study, please click on the link below and you will be directed to the online survey: https://www.surveymonkey.com/experiences_asian Thank you very much in advance for your time! Please feel free to pass on this link to other eligible individuals

(including your parents, relatives, and friends) so that the experiences of all age groups are represented. If you have any question about this study, please contact Shengying Zhang (e-mail: szhang.research@gmail.com), doctoral student in the Department of Psychology, or project supervisor Bonnie Moradi, Ph.D. (e-mail: moradib@ufl.edu), Associate Professor in the Department of Psychology, University of Florida. This research has been approved by the University of Florida Institutional Review Board (UFIRB#2009-U-1031).

6. [OCA] OCA-Verizon College Scholarship

Dear student and potential applicant,

OCA, a national organization dedicated to advancing the social, economic, and political well-being of Asian Pacific Americans, is accepting applications from current undergraduate students for the OCA-Verizon College scholarship for fall semester 2010.

Given the current recession, it is important to capitalize on all available resources. The OCA-Verizon College scholarship will highlight your scholarly achievements, ease financial obstacles, and add prestige to your resumé.

In order to be eligible, applicants must be an Asian Pacific American college student entering their sophomore, junior, or senior years, demonstrate financial need, be a permanent resident or US citizen, have a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 or above (on a 4.0 scale), and must be pursuing one of the following majors:

- Accounting
- Business Administration
- Computer Electronics
- Computer Programming
- Computer Information Systems
- Computer Engineering
- Computer Science
- Economics
- Electrical Engineering
- Finance
- HR Management
- Industrial Engineering
- Information Technology
- International Business
- Management Information Systems
- Marketing
- Mechanical Engineering
- Network Administration

The application deadline is April 1, 2010, and must be completed online. For more information about the OCA-Verizon College scholarship or to access the application,

please visit www.oceanational.org and click “Verizon College Scholarships” under “Programs.”

7. [Columbia Economics Society & Global Economic Ambassadorial Society] 2010 Forum on International Economics in Shanghai

2010 Forum on International Economics in Shanghai

Interested in going Shanghai this year? At the end of May 2010, the Columbia Economics Society and the Global Economic Ambassadorial Society will be taking a group of 15 undergraduate students on a two-week trip to Shanghai to attend the World Expo and to visit Shanghai firms. For more details and how to apply, go to <http://www.CUgeas.com/apply>. Applications are due Thursday, February 11th at 6PM. Funding is available, spaces are limited!

8. [CU Political Union] Columbia Political Census

The Columbia Political Union has created an online census (columbiacensus.net) to be administered to the entire Columbia undergraduate community to see where CC, Barnard, GS, and SEAS students stand on a variety of political issues. The short survey consists of 35 questions and can be completed in under ten minutes. The goal of the census is to have a set of data that will show the Columbia community where it's located on the political spectrum. We're also looking to see if any correlations exist between stances and gender, school (CC, BC, GS, SEAS), and age, among other variables to be tested.

The poll will be open from Wednesday, January 27th to Monday, March 1st. In order to make fairly accurate correlations, we need to have as large a sample set as possible meaning we need each and every Columbia student to take the time to fill out this simple survey.

9. Open Mic at Asian American Writers Workshop

I'm writing to invite you to a new open mic I'm hosting at the Asian American Writers Workshop, which kicks off next Friday night, Feb 12 in honor of Lunar New Year and Valentine's Day (flyer attached).

Our goal is to host a broad range of writers from the Asian American community: novelists, comedians, playwrights, poets, songwriters, etc. etc. The Workshop has held open mics in the past with over 100+ people in the audience - in addition to the artists performing new work - so there's huge potential here to build an awesome place to create, share and meet other peeps each month!

Anyway, it would be great to have a familiar, talented face there, so I really hope that you can come help make this a happenin mic. And pass the word along as well to your other Asian writer homies! We're gonna make this thing F***ING amazing! ;)

And if you aren't familiar with the AAWWesomeness (I know, I corny...), check it all out

at www.aaww.org for info on workshops, readings and other events. AAWW is an amazing non-profit resource and advocate for AA writers - and has worked with badasses from Jhumpa Lahiri to David Henry Hwang.

Friday, February 12 at 9pm

Asian American Workshop Presents

Mouth to Mouth Open Mic: Celebrate Your Lunacy on Lunar New Year & Valentine's Day!

Hosted by Jen Kwok & Ed Lin

AAWW16 W 32nd St, 10th Fl(btwn Bwy & 5th Ave)

\$5 suggested donation; open to the public

Sign up for a 5-minute slot starting at 8:30pm

www.aaww.org

10. [CCO] Volunteer for Columbia Community Outreach 2010

On March 27, 2010, the entire Columbia University community will join together for the biggest community service event of the year: Columbia Community Outreach.

The day begins on Low Plaza on Saturday, March 27, 2010 at 9:00am. Volunteers check in, get a volunteer t-shirt and eat breakfast. At 10:00 there is an opening ceremony with public speakers and school officials. Unlike years past, the weather forecast for CCO 2009 provided brilliant sunshine after a rainy start that brought together hundreds of students on College Walk to commence the annual event. The opening ceremony included words of encouragement from the President of Barnard College and the key note speaker Ellen Gustafson, Co-Founder and Executive VP. Ellen is the co-Founder and Executive Vice President of FEED Projects, LLC. She is also the Executive Director of the FEED Foundation, a non-profit that seeks to ways to support a more sustainably fed and well-nourished world. With a record number of volunteers registered for the event, students, faculty, alumni and members of the surrounding community were able to participate in approximately 50 projects, including park clean ups, serving food at soup kitchens, projects at neighboring schools and volunteering at organizations such as Miracle House and the New York Restoration project. In addition, at the end of the day, we donated the extra food supplies to City Harvest, a non-profit organization that works to combat hunger in New York City. Through their participation in CCO 2009, the volunteers were able to see the direct impact that they can have on the greater New York City community.

All volunteers are given bagged lunches, Metrocards for traveling, and any supplies they will need for the project site. The day is spent working at their respective volunteer sites, and at the end of the day, when they return to campus, CCO provides pizza, drinks and ice cream for all the volunteers who participated. We hope that this accessible experience has inspired our volunteers to continue to reach out to those in need in the future.

This year, we are hoping to set another record for participation, but we need your help. Each and every person counts. Registration is a quick and easy process, done through our

website at the following URL - <http://www.columbia.edu/cu/outreach/register.html>.
Registration will open on February 4th and runs through March 25th.

11. [YCAP] YCAP Census Partnership

Here at YCAP, we are busy at work getting geared up for our census campaign, and we need your help to ensure that AAPI's are accurately counted on Census Day! We are currently looking for commitments from organizations like yours to promote census awareness as well as offer technical support to individuals seeking assistance in filling out their census documentation.

Please find here our different partnership tiers for census involvement:
<http://www.apiavote.org/ycap/tiers>. Once you have selected a plan that suits your organization, you can commit here: <http://www.apiavote.org/ycap/commit>

Any help that you can provide in your region as a partner of YCAP would be greatly appreciated. This is your call to action; we hope that your respective organization will feel the same sense of urgency that we do about ensuring census participation.

If you have questions about becoming a partner or about YCAP in general, please do not hesitate contact our Project Director Derek Mong at derek@apiavote.org

12. Argenchino

a documentary about Chinese supermarkets in Buenos Aires
6-8PM, Wednesday, February 10th
Columbia University, IAB, Room 918

The "supermercados chinos" as they are called, have become a symbol of Chinese immigration culture. This documentary explores the recent wave of Chinese immigration and their role in a 21st century Argentina.

<http://argenchino.wordpress.com/2010/01/19/2-10-2010official-flyer-of-the-columbia-screening/>

13. [Asia Society] Peter Hessler's- new book on China - Country Driving Author Conversation

Changing Gears in China and the US
Peter Hessler and Country Driving

Peter Hessler and Emily Parker (with live webcast) Tuesday February 9, 2010 at 6:30 pm

When writer Peter Hessler (Oracle Bones) started sneaking his Chinese rental car out of Beijing for ever-lengthening trips along the route of the Great Wall in 2001, he was not only embarking on a personal journey but also joining China's accelerating drive towards capitalism, consumerism, and the open road. Join Peter Hessler and journalist Emily Parker for a lively and insightful conversation on life in a rapidly changing contemporary China as documented in Hessler's latest book Country Driving.

\$10 Members | \$12 Students with ID/Seniors | \$15 Nonmembers

For tickets, call the Asia Society box office at (212) 517-ASIA or visit <https://tickets.asiasociety.org>

14. [WCC] Lionshare and CCC Tutorial Session

Still confused on how to log onto Lionshare? Never made the trek all the way over to the Columbia Career Center? Come learn how to use Columbia's resources to find a job or internship with the West Coast Connection! This Thursday, February 11th, WCC will be hosting an event teaching YOU how to navigate Columbia's job resources. The meeting starts at 8 PM Thursday in Lerner Boardroom 502.

15. [NYU Center for Human Rights] Human Rights Center seeks Nepali speaker for translation check - \$100

The Center for Human Rights and Global Justice at NYU Law School is looking for a Nepali speaker to check the translation of a report being issued next week. The work would entail going through the English version of the report and verifying that our Nepali translation is correct. This is not a word-for-word check, but rather an overview to be sure that every section is in the right place and that things are generally as they should be. We anticipate that this would involve about 3 hours of work on Sunday February 7th or Monday February 8th, and we would pay \$100, as well as keeping you supplied with coffee during your review.

Please contact Monica Iyer at mvinyuihrc@gmail.com for more information.

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