

HERE/ HEAR

FOR A REASON

DE ANZA COLLEGE'S 2ND ANNUAL
APA AWARENESS CONFERENCE
YOUR STORY OUR MOVEMENT 2014





GRACE LEE BOGGS
Chinese American author
and activist. Her seminal
"History is not the past, it is
the stories we tell about the
past. How we tell these stories
triumphantly or self-righteously
has a lot to do with whether
we fight them or advance our
evolution as human beings."

HELEN ZIA
Award-winning Chinese American Journalist,
author of *Asian American Dreams: The Emergence
of an American People*, former Executive Editor
of *Isis Magazine*, activist, and feminist.



LARRY ITLIONG
Filipino American labor
organizer, assistant director
of United Farm Workers, one
of the fathers of the West
Coast labor movement.

about ysom

HERE FOR A REASON
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Your Story, Our Movement (YSOM) is De Anza College's annual Asian Pacific Islander issues conference. YSOM aims to build consciousness about social and political issues that affect the AAPI community through education, leadership training, involvement opportunities, and mentorship.

The first YSOM conference held in 2013 was the first AAPI issues conference held at De Anza College in over a decade. Josephine Villanueva, a valued community organizer, activist and mentor to many, expressed, "It has been so many years since the last time De Anza College has had an event that specifically talks about the needs and issues of the Asian Pacific American community. I've seen a great need to organize and raise awareness in our campus. De Anza is privileged to have strong support and we must utilize them so that

we can bring forth the good in our community."

She acted upon her convictions to uphold De Anza's rich AAPI heritage and address the needs of the large AAPI student population on campus. With the help of a small group of passionate student activists, De Anza College celebrated the last day of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month with YSOM 2013, a successful beginning of a new tradition.

In January 2014, Josephine reached out to De Anza's Asian Pacific American Students for Leadership (APASL) to grant the club the opportunity to organize the second annual YSOM conference.

Since January, members of APASL have been working together to present this conference—YSOM 2014: *Here/Hear for a Reason*.

This year's theme, *Here/Hear for a Reason*, seeks to remind everyone:

1) We are "here for a reason", for our places in society have not been assigned or earned purely by chance, rather shaped by history and the deliberate actions of individuals and institutions of the past.

2) We must "hear for a reason", because our narratives serve as powerful tools of empowerment and change within our communities.

3) We are "here for a reason", to claim the space we deserve. We are here to contribute to the betterment of society by striving to achieve social justice and dismantling systems of oppression.

We hope everyone will have an opportunity to think about these "reasons" and find inspiration to reevaluate existing perceptions and systemic cultural values. We challenge all to act upon these discoveries and seek to deliver needed change in our communities.

schedule

9:00 - 9:30 AM	registration breakfast
9:30 - 10:00 AM	opening remarks
10:00 - 11:00 AM	workshop round 1
11:00 - 12:00 PM	keynote 1
12:00 - 1:00 PM	lunch exhibition walk community resources announcements
1:00 - 2:00 PM	workshop round 2
2:00 - 3:00 PM	keynote 2
3:15 - 4:15 PM	workshop round 3
4:30 - 4:45 PM	appreciations
4:45 - 5:00 PM	closing remarks
5:00 - 6:00 PM	transition networking exhibition walk
6:00 - 7:00 PM	dinner
7:00 - 9:00 PM	one heart one family benefit concert

FRED KOREMATSU

Japanese American War Relocation Authority artist

"Full recognition for the Japanese Americans will come only when we learn that they are no more 'exiles' but equal citizens in a republic in need. Our appreciation and commitment is one of a nation."

YURI KOCHIYAMA

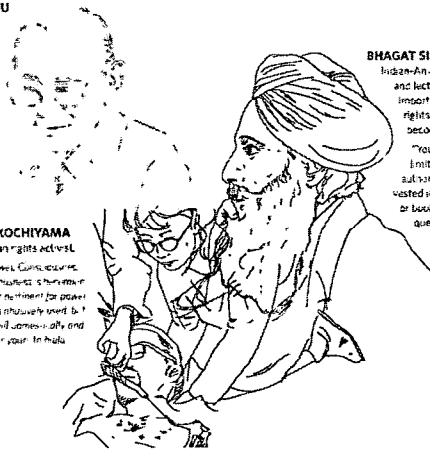
Japanese American human rights activist

"Remember that the Japanese American experience is not only a historical event but a human rights issue. It is a story of courage and resilience that should be taught in our schools and universities. It is a story that should be retold and shared with the world. It is a story that should be a source of inspiration and strength for all of us."

BHAGAT SINGH THIND

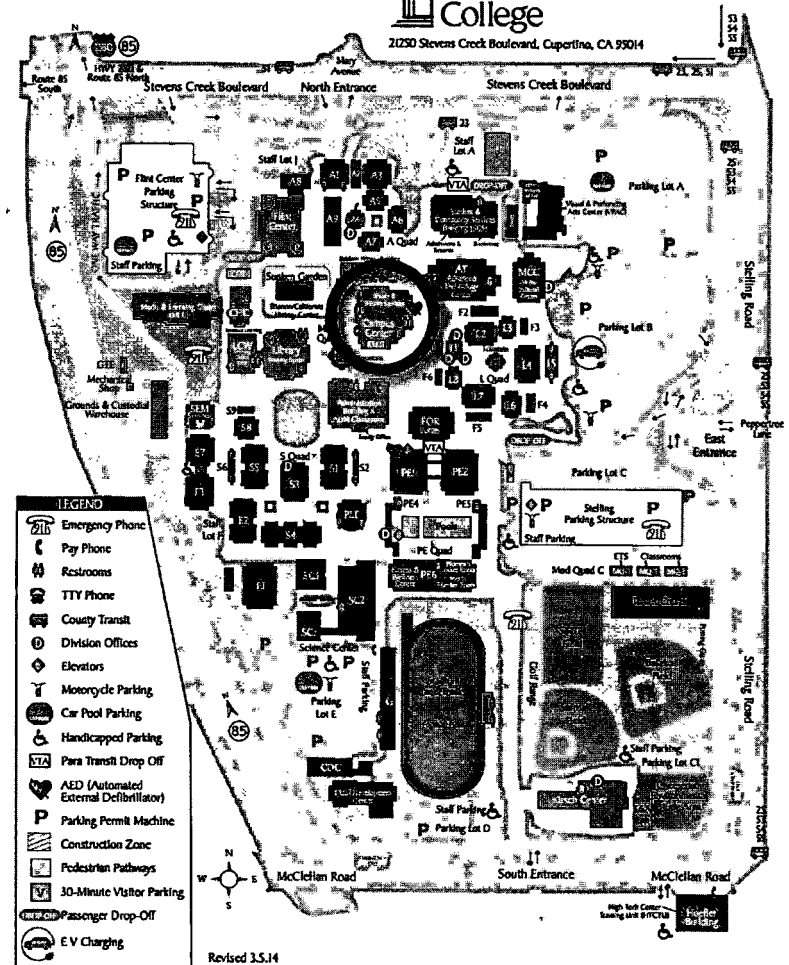
Indian-American Sikh revolutionary and lecturer involved in an important anti-colonial battle over rights of South Asians to become naturalized.

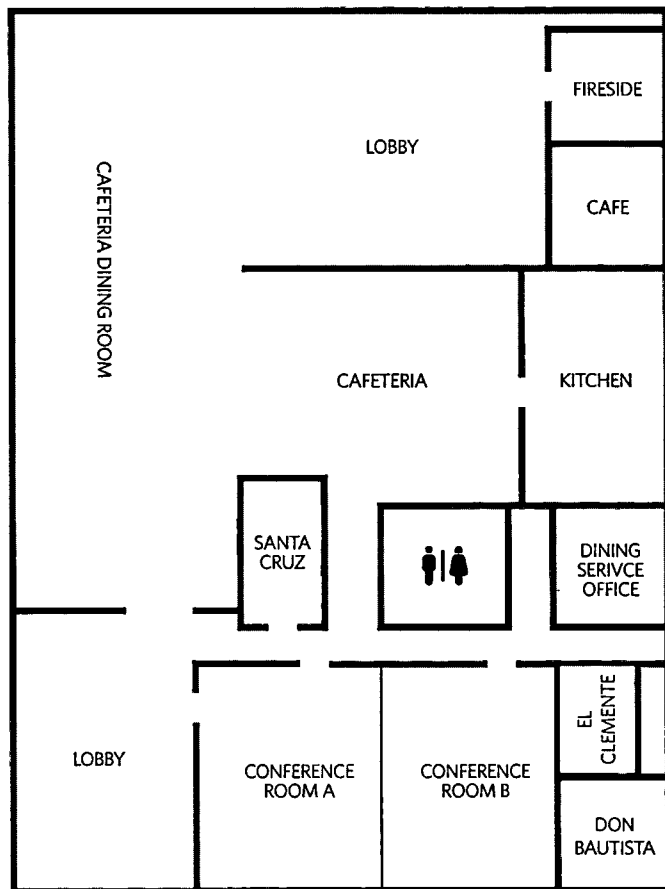
"You must never be limited by external authority whether it be vested in a church, man or book. It is your right to question, criticize, and resist."



DeAnza College

2020 Stevens Creek Boulevard, Cupertino, CA 95014





keynote 1

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
CONFERENCE ROOMS A & B



kristina wong

Kristina Wong is a solo performer, writer and cultural commentator named "One of the Seven Funniest Eco-Comedians" by Mother Nature Network. She's created five solo shows and one ensemble play that have toured all over the world at places that include the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in Scotland, Contact Theater in Manchester, UK, BGWMC in London, the Public Theater, REDCAT, Center Theater Group, La MaMa ETC, the Comedy Central Stage among dozens of others. Her most notable touring show- "Wong Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest" looked at the high rates of depression and suicide among Asian American women and toured to over 40 venues since 2006. It's now a broadcast quality film that has been acquired for worldwide distribution by documentary juggernaut, Cinema Libre Studios. (More on the film at www.flyingwong.com). She's been a commentator for American Public Media's Marketplace, PBS, Jezebel, xoJane, Playgirl Magazine and a guest on FXX's "Totally Biased with W. Kamau Bell" and Huffington Post Live. Her work has been awarded with grants from Creative Capital, The Map Fund, Center for Cultural Innovation, the Durfee Foundation, National Performance Network, four grants from the Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs, and a residency from the MacDowell Colony. Kristina was an alumna commencement speaker at UCLA's Department of English graduation. Her new show "The Wong Street Journal" looks at global poverty and premieres in 2015. She recently spent a month in Northern Uganda researching that show and recording "Mzungu Price" a rap album with local rappers. Her mail order bride website is www.bigbadchinesemama.com.

keynote 2

2:00 PM - 3:00 PM
CONFERENCE ROOMS A & B



sefa aina

Iosefa (Sefa) Aina is Associate Dean and Director of the Asian American Resource Center at Pomona College. Professionally, he has served as an Academic and student-organizational adviser, as well as an instructor for Asian American Studies programs. Sefa has taught courses in contemporary Pacific Islander issues, community engagement, and has delivered countless workshops and keynotes at colleges across the country. Aina worked at the UCLA Asian American Studies Center as a counselor, organizational advisor and instructor from 1997 to 2005. As Student and Community Projects Assistant Coordinator, Aina received a Leadership Award from Leadership Education for Asian Pacific's (LEAP) for his strong commitment to working with and educating Asian and Pacific Islander American youth. On September 16, 2010, Aina was appointed by President Barack Obama to the White House Commission on Asian Americans and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Affairs. Aina is an active member of the local Pacific Islander community. He is a founding member of Pacific Islander Education and Retention (PIER), which oversees tutoring and mentoring for Pacific Islander youth in Carson, Long Beach and Inglewood. He is also a founding member of the National Pacific Islander Educators Network (NPIEN) and Empowering Pacific Islander Communities (EPIC). He has been active on advisory boards of the Pacific Islander Health Careers PIPELINE Project, NHPI (Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander) Alliance for Health, Pacific Islander Cancer Control Network, Samoan Community Advisory Board, and The AIGA (All Islands Getting Along) Foundation.

workshops

	round #1 10:00-11:00 AM	round #2 1:00-2:00 PM	round #3 3:15-4:15 PM
DON BAUTISTA	<i>Reclaiming Our Identities</i>	AAPI Newly Grads	Social Justice, BLC Style
EL CLEMENTE	<i>Incarceration, Reentry, and APIs</i>	SCA-5	Got Accent?
SANTA CRUZ	<i>How Your Mental Wellbeing Can Improve Your Success</i>	<i>Suey Park Case Study & Activism as a Healing Act</i>	<i>What We (Don't) Learn in U.S. History</i>
FIRESIDE LOUNGE	<i>Your Intersectional Story</i>	<i>Understanding Anti-blackness & Community Building Across POC Spaces</i>	Korean Diaspora

Don Bautista (MAX CAPACITY: 30)

Round 1 - Reclaiming Our Identities (10:00-11:00 AM)

This workshop explores the narratives of undocumented API immigrants to combat the toxic hegemonic framework of immigration prevalent in the general public. We will show how the power of crafting and telling our stories through different mediums, such as art and narrative, can effect change and understanding. Additionally, by understanding our roots we are able to connect our personal experiences to the the historical context of our struggles. In so doing, the stories and voices that have gone invisible for too long rise to the surface as we counter the labels imposed upon us and as we reclaim our identities.



Frank Seo (ASPIRE)

Frank Seo is a 25 years old undocumented immigrant from South Korea. His family immigrated to the United States in 2004 in search for better lives. Frank's family entered the U.S. with tourist visa and applied for a green card through his mother's employer. But his family's application was denied in 2007 and they became undocumented. He recently finished his M.A from USF and now works for ASPIRE.



Susan (ASPIRE)

Susan emigrated from Canada at 10 years old. She discovered she had fallen out of status after interning for an immigration law firm during high school. After she was falsely told there were no undocumented students in college, she researched and discovered AB-540—the California legislation that gives eligible undocumented students the right to attend college and pay in-state tuition at public colleges. Access to these resources allowed her to pave her way through college, and she was able to graduate from University of California, Davis in Sociology with High Honors. Post-graduation, her work has been dedicated to serving disenfranchised communities. She and other ASPIRE members continue to promote visibility on API issues and fight for immigrant rights through education, advocacy, and empowerment.



Beatrice Sanchez (ASPIRE)

Beatrice Sanchez is an undocumented half Filipina and half Salvadoran. She was born in Canada but raised in Oakland. She attended both Laney College and College of Alameda studying in Graphic Design and Political Science. She has been organizing with and a member of ASPIRE, the first pan-Asian undocumented youth led group in the nation. She has helped mobilize the membership by creating a safe space to learn and gain leadership skills. As a Core leader for ASPIRE, she advocated for fair immigration policies and informed different communities about unjust immigration laws. And as an artist, she has told her story and the stories of other folks through her form of art by creating pieces that reflect the emotions and struggles of the storyteller.



Akiko Aspillaga (ASPIRE)

Akiko Aspillaga immigrated to the United States from the Philippines at the age of 10 years old. Due to lack of resources and false information from her mother's employer, she fell out of status. In fall 2013, she graduated with a Bachelors of Science in Nursing from San Francisco State University. Outside of her academics, Akiko fights for immigrant rights with ASPIRE to raise the voices of API undocumented immigrants, to challenge the mainstream view of immigration, and to advocate for the passage of pro-immigrant policies.

Round 2 - AAPI Newly Grads (1:00-2:00 PM)

Our community's future leaders and advocates often first find their passion on college campuses. Sustaining this passion is very difficult however, especially after college. This panel discussion will be with recent graduates who are part of the workforce and/ or completing postgraduate work. Yet, their involvement has not been compromised since leaving the academia: they are still active in the community. Come and hear their stories.



Gar Yeung

Gar Yeung finished his B.S. in environmental engineering in 2012 at Georgia Tech and currently works for an environmental consultant focused on geotechnical remediation mostly around Northern California. During his undergraduate career, he was involved in a slew of organizations but is most remembered for his involvement with the revival of the Asian American Student Association (GT AASA) and specifically for opening up additional avenues of support for the Asian American community. Post-graduation, Gar is still involved with GT AASA and continues to engage with other student coalition groups on the East and West Coasts. In his reintegration to the West Coast, Gar volunteers for various community events and conferences, and works with non-profits in the East Bay.

Shirley Duong

UC Davis graduate Shirley Duong currently works as a Congressional Staff Assistant for Congresswoman Zoe Lofgren. She was formerly the secretary of Asian Pacific American Leadership Committee at UC Davis as well as a Student Peer Advisor. Shirley was also involved in the UC Davis Student Recruitment and Retention Center as a Community Development Coordinator.



Alicia Chau

Alicia Chau graduated with a bachelors of science in Biomedical Engineering from The George Washington University in 2012. During her undergraduate career she took part in Asian American Greek life which introduced her to the problems circulating through the Asian American community. This led to her engagement with civic issues such as Domestic Violence, social justice, youth empowerment and collaboration amongst collegiate activists. She has since been invested in progressive movements amongst the AAPI community. After graduating GW she moved to Beijing, China where she is now pursuing a doctorate degree in Mechanical Engineering. While researching cellular mechanics in China she continues to stay involved with the greater community and is beginning to delve into the education system in China, working towards progressing international communications to advance social and educational limitations to empower the next generation's youth.

Round 3: Social Justice, BLC Style (3:15-4:15 PM)

Join us for a discussion focused on empowering individuals to work for social justice in their own community. We will look at social justice as the acknowledgement of privilege and power within our community by both the privileged and the oppressed, while understanding that the two are not mutually exclusive, and actively working to change our community to one that is equitable for all. Our workshop utilizes this definition of social justice by discussing what it would look like in real life and giving some tools and resources to make change sustainable. We will emphasize building community with other social justice advocates and a collective leadership model that allows for sustainable change to occur beyond the space of our workshop.



Albert Lutz-Paap

Albert Lutz-Paap A student, youth mentor, organizer, social evolutionist, poet and musician. An Intern for De Anza's ICCE department's MYE (Mentors for Youth Empowerment) program, member of the Black Leadership Collective (BLC), promotional Officer for 4 Elements Hip-Hop club and contemporary experimental Hip-Hop composer. He believes in revolution through social and cultural evolution and reflects ideas through innovative creation.



Yiann Chou

Yiann Chou (pronounced "ee-yan") was born in Atlanta, Georgia and raised in west San Jose, California. She is part of the Middle College program and is so glad to be a part of the amazing community of civic-minded people at De Anza College. Yiann is also often spending time her Christian brothers and sisters and with Jesus. Playing guitar and drums and singing are some of her favorite things to do, especially when it's with her two wonderful sisters and brother-in-law. Feel free to say hello if you see her around, and go listen to some of her original songs at <http://yiann.bandcamp.com/>

El Clemente (MAX CAPACITY: 30)

Round 1 - Incarceration, Reentry, and APIs (10:00-11:00 AM)

Why does the US makes us 5% of the world's population, yet 25% of its incarcerated population? How is this impacting our society today, and how can we address this issue? The system of incarceration in the US is full of problems from the prison industrial complex to the difficulty of reentering society, yet there is little public awareness about them. Within this already much-ignored subject lies the issue of how the API community, with its increasing rates of incarceration, is being impacted by it. Join us for a very brief overview of the injustice of incarceration and a more in-depth panel discussion with APIs who have had experience within the system itself.



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Round 2 - SCA-5 (1:00-2:00 PM)

In light of the recent attention on affirmative action in the state to Senate Constitutional Amendment 5 (SCA-5), a student-led panel will facilitate a dialogue about the history and legacy of affirmative action in public higher education.



Ben Pacho

I'm currently a public policy intern at the Institute for Community & Civic Engagement and a DASB Senator. I'll be transferring to Columbia University in the fall to study political science and urban studies.



Matthew Estolano

I am a newly elected DASB senator and majoring in English. My passion lies in the integration and promotion of progressive environmental policies in the community. My aim in public office is to increase the capacity of students at De Anza to become agents of change.



Michelle Bounkousohn

I am a second year visual anthropology and ethnic studies major at De Anza, whose personal involvement involves lobbying for free public higher education and collecting narratives for my Vietnamese American spoken history project. I am passionate about APIA activism and history, providing access and inclusion to college students, and the inclusion of minority narratives in mainstream history.

Round 3 - Got Accent? (3:15-4:15 PM)

Why does the US makes us 5% of the world's population, yet 25% of its incarcerated population? How is this impacting our society today, and how can we address this issue? The system of incarceration in the US is full of problems from the prison industrial complex to the difficulty of reentering society, yet there is little public awareness about them. Within this already much-ignored subject lies the issue of how the API community, with its increasing rates of incarceration, is being impacted by it. Join us for a very brief overview of the injustice of incarceration and a more in-depth panel discussion with APIs who have had experience within the system itself.



Jennifer Kim

I was born in Seoul, South Korea. I immigrated to America when I was two months old, so growing up I was greatly influenced by American culture and ideals. I was raised in San Jose and I currently attend De Anza College. Growing up where English was the second language to my parents, I've seen many people and businesses try to take advantage of my parents as well as discriminate against my parents because they had an accent. Hence, Professor Christine Chai and I are facilitating the workshop "Got Accent?" to bring awareness to this discrimination and the struggles that come with it.



Professor Christine Chai

I teach ESL and Asian American Studies at De Anza. I am also the Internship Director for the Asian Pacific American Leadership Institute (APALI) and the Staff Development Lead for Initiatives to Maximize Positive academic Achievement and Cultural Thriving focusing on Asian American and Pacific Islander students (IMPACT AAPI). I've taught nearly all levels of ESL reading/writing, listening/speaking. I also teach Asian American Literature as well as Asian American Studies in the Summer Youth Academy of APALI.

Santa Cruz (MAX CAPACITY: 30)

Round 1 - How Your Mental Wellbeing Can Improve Your Success (10:00-11:00 AM)

Growing up Asian Pacific American has tremendous challenges and rewards. Many of these challenges can be overwhelming but can also be opportunities that prompt APAs to learn important skills to thrive, lead, and succeed. What challenges our mental health and what strengthens it? Attendees will: Learn to identify key factors that impacts our mental health and walk away with skills to improve mental well being.



Dr. Ellen J. Lin

Dr. Ellen J. Lin self-identifies as a 1.5 generation Chinese/Taiwanese American. She is a licensed Psychologist and the Director of Counseling Services at San José State University. Her professional interests include social justice issues, Asian American perspectives, and women's issues. Ellen has presented at national and regional psychological conferences, and she has been actively involved in the Asian American community in the San Francisco South bay. She previously Co-Chaired the SJSU Asian Pacific Islander (API) Faculty and Staff Association and was a member of SJSU Academic Senate so that she can affect systemic change. Ellen was also the Vice Chair of a volunteer-run organization, South Bay First Thursdays, and is a representative on the API Justice Coalition of Silicon Valley.

Round 2 - Suey Park Case Study & Activism as a Healing Act (1:00-2:00 PM)

Did #CancelColbert leave you feeling conflicted? Amongst all the media coverage and whatever, did you feel stuck in siding with Suey Park or every other op-ed against her? Should you even be picking a side? What is this trend of adding hashtags in front of everything now? In this workshop, we'll be using Suey Park to start a conversation on the emotional side of activism in the Asian Pacific Islander community. We will touch on major representations of Suey Park, but ultimately we want to leave participants with more insight on how they can build their activism to be not only more critical, but also healing.



Maylea Saito

Starting in 2011, Maylea Saito has been learning and growing as an activist at De Anza College. She first got politicized with the student movement against budget cuts, and since has been a leader in many grassroots projects on campus and in her community. Creativity also keeps her grounded, as her passions include storytelling and exploring emotions through photography, paints, print, and prose. Fun fact: Last year around this time, Maylea was a frazzled organizer putting the finishing touches on the first annual YSOM Conference. She is honored to be back as a workshop facilitator and would like to give major snaps to the organizers this year. Another high-five goes to co-facilitator, Sam, for the companionship and emotional strength during the creation of this workshop.



Sam Lai

Sam Lai is currently a 4th-year Asian American and Asian Diaspora Studies major at UC Berkeley who will be graduating at the end of 2014. Here are some quick facts about her: born and raised in 626; loves pugs and Drake, in that order; Helen Zia's #1 fan; and right now she craves shaved ice. Much of her politics formed from her involvement in hardboiled newsmagazine, Cal Queer & Asian, and the Asian Pacific American Student Development (APASD) office, all at Cal. A very special shout-out goes to Hye Young Choi for making all the magic happen at YSOM, and to her co-facilitator Maylea for keeping her grounded throughout this healing process.

Round 3: What We (Don't) Learn in U.S. History (3:15-4:15 PM)

In this workshop, we will evaluate the patterns of knowledge we have gained from the American history curricula and analyze the consequences of knowing or not knowing the histories of particular groups of people. Come join us to test your knowledge of "American" history and learn more about some of the lies, half-truths, and overshadowed information presented (or not) in our textbooks.



Albert Xiong

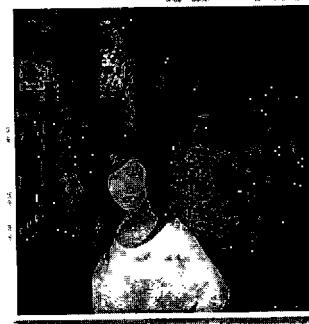
Albert Xiong is a first-year student at De Anza College majoring in psychology. He is involved in De Anza College's Asian Pacific American Students for Leadership as the 2014-2015 Secretary. He one day hopes to treat people suffering from generalized anxiety disorder, or become a wicked-cool detective. He likes mustard, video games, and shiny objects.

This presentation was modified by Hye Young Choi then passed onto Albert Xiong. The original creator of this workshop was De Anza College HUM118 Professor, Apryl Berney. Kudos to Professor Berney!

Fireside Lounge (MAX CAPACITY: 120)

Round 1 - Your Intersectional Story (10:00-11:00 AM)

We tell personal stories in a multitude of ways: social interactions, writing, art, performance, and other forms of self-expression. How do our stories change when we consider our different identities as they pertain to race, ethnicity, class, gender, sexuality, religion, disability, privilege and other constructs? How do they change depending on the spaces we inhabit? With a high-level overview of intersectionality frameworks, this workshop is designed to spur dialogue on how we navigate our self-expression in light of our many identities as Asian Americans.



Sylvie Kim

Sylvie Kim is the former film editor and blog co-editor at Hyphen magazine and was a freelance blogger at SF Weekly's arts and culture blog, The Exhibitionist. Her writing has also appeared on Racialicious, Salon.com and in Reading Pop Culture: A Portable Anthology (Bedford/St. Martin's). She received her M.A. in Asian American Studies from San Francisco State University in 2011 after completing her thesis on problematic representations of anti-racism in the films Crash and Gran Torino. She has a B.A. in English from Ohio State University. She lives in Oakland and is a content writer at Facebook.

Round 2 - Understanding Anti-blackness & Community Building Across POC Spaces (1:00-2:00 PM)

Anti-blackness and anti-black racism are prevalent and embedded in Asian America. This ideology works alongside colonialism, imperialism, capitalism, etc. in social, political, and institutional spaces to systematically ensure the social and literal death of Black bodies as Asian Americans seek assimilation and integration into dominant white systems and narratives. Anti-blackness and anti-black racism are not just a US-based ideology, and are not just in Asian America -- anti-blackness and anti-black racism stretch back thousands of years and are very much worldwide issues that still prevalent today more than ever. Join us as we talk about what our communities have done / continues to do and what we can do to confront anti blackness and work towards building true and sincere solidarity amongst people of color communities

Summer Ko

Summer Ko is a fourth year undergraduate at the University of California, Irvine. Summer's PGPs (preferred gender pronouns) are she, her, they. She currently the program coordinator of the Asian Pacific Student Association (APSA). She thinks Hye Young is amazing.

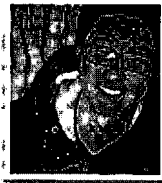
Phuc Pham

Phuc Pham is a fourth literary journalism major at the University of California, Irvine. Phuc's PGPs are he and him. He is currently an editor at the New University (UCI's school paper) and an advisor for APSA. His biggest flaw is that he likes supreme.

Patrick Chen

Round 3: Korean Diaspora (3:15-4:15 PM)

Why are Koreans in the US? What happened in Korea that made Koreans leave to the US and other places? This presentation will approach these questions by critically examining the history of the Korean diaspora and its relationship to Korean history. By looking at the history of the diaspora and the choices it made in light of colonization and war, we can understand the development and role of Korea in modern history. Importantly however, we will explore how progressives, Korean Americans, and people concerned with social justice can use such insights to find ways to work towards peace in Asia Pacific.



Desun Oka

Desun Oka is a graduate of UC Davis and majored in Asian American Studies and minored in Education. This fall he will attend SFSU for his Masters in Asian American Studies.

sponsors & supporters



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Latina/o Empowerment at De Anza (LEAD)
Pilipino Unity Student Organization at De Anza (PUSO)

Noah's Bagels
Peet's Coffee
Dakao Banh Mi
Siam Loco Wraps

Tom Izu & IMPACT AAPI Staff
APALI Staff & Alumni
ICC — La Donna Yumori-Kaku
APASL family & friends

Adria Siu

Josephine Villanueva

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logistics/registration chair	Monte Ngo // (408) 623-9024 Jennifer Kim // (408) 605-7708
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concert chair	Yiann Chou // (408) 750-7372

Email us at ysomconference@gmail.com

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[YSOM] registration page: <http://www.ysom.org/registration.html>

[YSOM] FB page: <https://www.facebook.com/yourstoryourmovement>

[YSOM + One Heart One Family: Philippines] FB event page:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/227016034155090/>

Raise Your Voice
Build Awareness
Reclaim Our History

Asian Pacific American Heritage Month 2014
Your Story, Our Movement: Here/Hear for a Reason