The USC Asian Pacific Alumni Association (APAA) supports the overall advancement of the University of Southern California by engaging Asian Pacific alumni lifelong and worldwide, building a culture of philanthropy, providing meaningful and relevant programs, and serving as the representative voice for the Asian Pacific Trojan Family. The APAA also aims to create a foundation of success and enrichment for USC’s Asian Pacific students through scholarships and programs that encourage academic achievement, volunteerism, professional and social development, and involvement in the Asian Pacific community.

USC and the Age of the Pacific

The USC Asian Pacific Alumni Association serves a unique and vital function at the University of Southern California. As the global economic, social and educational landscape shifts from the traditional East Coast and European centers to the Pacific Rim and Asia, USC has ascended to the forefront of Pacific Rim universities. In the summer of 2014, USC President C. L. Max Nikias was elected to serve a two-year term as chairman of the Association of Pacific Rim Universities (APRU), which USC helped found in 1997. Since that time, APRU membership has grown from 34 to 45 universities dedicated to the education and prosperity of the Pacific Rim community.

The APAA strives to leverage the university’s geographic advantage and academic reputation to positively engage, connect and impact alumni and friends of the university across the globe. To that end, the APAA has forged particularly strong relationships with alumni and friends in China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, South Korea, Japan, Singapore, the Philippines, Indonesia and India.

“As our world today is shifting away from an Atlantic to a Pacific century, USC is better positioned than anyone else to lead this change—to become the intellectual and cultural and spiritual fabric of a world that is tied to the Age of the Pacific.”

—C. L. MAX NIKIAS, USC PRESIDENT
As the second-largest and fastest-growing ethnic population on campus, our Asian Pacific students have a great financial need, and the APAA’s goal is to help assist as many deserving members of the Asian Pacific Trojan Family as possible. Over the past 30 years, the APAA has awarded more than $1.2 million in scholarships to more than 500 undergraduate and graduate students. This effort has been supported by the USC Office of Financial Aid, which has committed to providing a 2:1 match, up to $3,000, for any undergraduate scholarship.

Although our students and alumni attest to the significance of this support, additional endowed scholarship funding is critical—as tuition costs continue to rise. Today, the APAA is only able to help about four percent of the Asian Pacific students who receive need-based financial aid at USC. Increasing the APAA’s scholarship endowment will provide life-changing opportunities for more of USC’s most promising and talented students—and advance the quality and reputation of the university.

The APAA allows donors to honor the legacy or heritage of Asian Pacific alumni or friends of USC by establishing individually named scholarships that are awarded annually in perpetuity. Named scholarship donors have the opportunity to identify the demographic, school, major, community and merit standards that are most meaningful to them in the selection of their scholarship recipient.

“Asian American students, whether they work here or choose to return to Asia, will have a profound impact. And the lifelong and worldwide relationship between USC and our alumni will extend deep into the Asian Pacific Rim.”

—WILFRED S. UYTENGSU, JR. ’83
“In addition to financial support, APAA helps its scholars in a personal way. Fellow APAA scholars I meet at the organization’s events come and support me at my recitals, and we all become one big family. It’s a good feeling.”

Jeffrey Gee Chin
APAA Distinguished Scholar Award
Carl Tamaki Memorial Scholarship
USC School of Cinematic Arts
Class of 2015

Currently pursuing a master’s degree in film production, Jeffrey is on a mission to bring the untold stories of Asian American pioneers—often persevering against extraordinary odds—to the big screen. His award-winning short film “Lil Tokyo Reporter” depicts the efforts of community leader Sei Fujii to fight corruption in 1930s-era Los Angeles.

Ashley Hoë
APAA Distinguished Scholar Award
USC Thornton School of Music
Class of 2015

A gifted pianist with a passionate love for music, Ashley is pursuing a bachelor’s degree in piano performance at the USC Thornton School of Music. She was awarded first prize in the Southern California division at the 2014 Music Teachers’ Association of California Solo Competition.

“Receiving these scholarships gives me the freedom to pursue my passion projects.”

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The APAA’s scholarship program does more than just provide financial assistance. It invests in the next generation.

“Receiving the APAA scholarship allowed me to graduate with less debt and let me focus on following my passion.”

Sana Mohammed
APAA Distinguished Scholar Award
USC Rossier School of Education
Class of 2013

Sana knew that school counseling was the career role for her because she found herself naturally seeking out student-oriented volunteer opportunities. She served as an orientation counselor for first-year students, led college expeditions for high school students within her religious community, worked with foster-youth students through the United Friends of the Children, and volunteered as an “American friend” for USC’s American Culture classes, which help international graduate students assimilate to university life in the United States.

Warren Yamashita
APAA Distinguished Scholar Award
2nd-Year Keck School of Medicine of USC Student
Class of 2012

Family medicine and health policy are very much on the mind of Warren, who is excited by the evolving state of American medical care. The Southern California native wants to both practice medicine and have a hand in improving the healthcare system so that quality care is more affordable and accessible to everyone.
Providing programs and events to engage alumni of all generations, cultural backgrounds, geographic locations and professions is an important function of the APAA. The rapid growth of USC’s Asian Pacific student and alumni population necessitates the development of new and innovative programs to better engage and serve this vast constituency. In addition to its own programs, the APAA has allied with regional alumni clubs, USC schools and academic units, Asian Pacific student organizations and the office of Asian Pacific American Student Services to expand the breadth of its engagement opportunities.

- **Signature Programs**, including the Scholarship and Awards Gala, the APAA Golf Classic and the annual Homecoming Tailgate, allow the APAA to showcase and celebrate the accomplishments of the vibrant Asian Pacific Trojan Family; bring together alumni from around the world; and raise much-needed funds for our scholarships and programs.

- **Social Networking** events throughout Southern California and the world create a casual social atmosphere where fellow alumni can connect and engage.

- The **Young Alumni Council**, made up of alumni leaders who are 35 and under, hosts events that cater to the unique tastes of our younger alumni. Council events include the “Life 101” professional speaker series, the professional dining series and social mixers.

- **Regional Programs** currently engage alumni in Orange County, the San Francisco Bay Area and Hawai‘i, with a goal to expand outreach to the Pacific Northwest and East Coast, as well as internationally to Asia.

- **Student Outreach Programs** provide unique opportunities for students to connect with alumni and encourage them to form lasting ties with the APAA prior to graduating.

- **Community and Corporate Partnerships** with such organizations as the California Community Fund, The Union Bank Foundation, The Verizon Foundation and East West Players have not only given the APAA a dedicated source of funding for scholarships, but also additional platforms for connecting with fellow Trojans.

“We’ve achieved so much together but there is still a long journey ahead for us to fulfill our promise—to harness the collective passion of all our Asian Pacific alumni and friends and to make an even greater contribution to our university.”

—ROD Y. NAKAMOTO ’83, MBA ’94
Thanks to the dedicated leadership and unprecedented support of alumni and friends, the APAA is primed to make significant strides in the advancement of its mission. Over the last five years alone, the APAA has seen the value of its endowment increase by more than 81 percent and the number of annual scholarships increase by more than 160 percent. The APAA Scholarship and Awards Gala has doubled in size, with a 500 percent increase in revenue.

In 2011, the APAA was recognized as the USC Alumni Association Organization of the Year, and former APAA president Dr. Mitchell Lew was named the president-elect of the USC Alumni Association Board of Governors. Lew went on to become the first Asian American to serve as president of the USC Alumni Association and, in 2013, the first Asian American to serve on the USC Board of Trustees.

Despite these recent successes, the APAA must continue to seek additional resources and support to fulfill its mission of engaging a growing alumni constituency and enhancing opportunities for current students. Asian Pacific alumni reside throughout the world—from America’s East Coast to the far reaches of Mongolia. The task before the APAA appears daunting; however, its leadership is determined to break down barriers to realize its vision. Each and every donor, at every giving level, will make a significant difference in the long-term financial stability of the APAA and serve as the lifeblood of the organization.

“If you love this school and if you’re proud of your heritage and you want to be part of a special organization, I invite you to get involved with us. This is a very exciting time here at USC and there’s never really been a better time to be a Trojan.”

—MITCHELL LEW ’83, MD ’87, USC TRUSTEE
USC Asian Pacific Alumni Association

*Fundraising Goals*

The USC Asian Pacific Alumni Association has embarked on a fundraising initiative to raise $2 million or more as part of the largest and most important capital campaign in the history of the University of Southern California. The overall university campaign seeks to touch and transform every part of USC through a multi-year effort, with an overall goal to raise $6 billion or more in private philanthropy for the university.

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<th>USC Asian Pacific Alumni Association Fundraising Goal:</th>
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<td><strong>Scholarships</strong></td>
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<td>The value of the APAA scholarship endowment recently surpassed the $1.4 million mark, a significant milestone in the history of its scholarship program. Historically, the APAA is able to distribute approximately 60 scholarships to full-time undergraduate and graduate students. By contributing, at a minimum, an additional $1.5 million to the endowment, the APAA hopes to double the scholarship dollars awarded each year and make a more meaningful impact on deserving USC students.</td>
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<th>Alumni Outreach Programs:</th>
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<td><strong>Domestic Programs:</strong></td>
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<td>The APAA hosts more than 30 alumni engagement events and programs each year in the greater Los Angeles area. These events include the organization’s signature events, Young Alumni Council programs, and professional development and networking events. Programming funds are vital to continue and grow these programs to better serve the APAA’s constituents.</td>
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| **Regional and International Programs:** |          |
| Currently, the APAA hosts events in Orange County, the San Francisco Bay Area and Hawai’i to engage Asian Pacific alumni outside of Los Angeles. Significant funding and resources are needed to expand the APAA’s presence across the country and internationally. |

| **Student Engagement and Mentorship Programs:** |          |
| In addition to scholarship aid, the APAA partners with the office of USC Asian Pacific American Student Services and the Asian Pacific American Student Assembly to provide meaningful programs for USC’s Asian Pacific student body. These include a graduate celebration as well as student/alumni networking mixers and mentorship programs. Additional funds will help create new programs to connect students with USC alumni. |
Thank you

Mahalo
謝 謝
감사합니다
धन्यवाद
ありがとうございます
Salamat
Terima Kasih
ขอบคุณ
Cảm ơn