

# COURAGE TO LEAD



2022 ANNUAL REPORT



**APAICS**

Asian Pacific American  
Institute for Congressional Studies







# LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

In 2022, the Asian Pacific American Institute for Congressional Studies (APAICS) continued to navigate the challenges presented to us by the third year of the COVID-19 pandemic. Despite the unknowns, APAICS did not falter in delivering on its mission and advancing its ambitious agenda - now with a hybrid strategy of virtual and in-person events and programming.

Despite the unprecedented challenges of the past two years, APAICS continued to surpass our goals, solidifying our organization as a prominent thought leader for discussions and decisions on representation and diversity in government and the private sector.

2022 brought the triumphant in-person return of the APAICS Annual Awards Gala with a keynote address from Vice President Kamala Harris, and honorees Congresswoman Grace Meng (NY-06), California Assemblymember Evan Low, Steve Aoki, Amna Nawaz, and the Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center. The sold-out event included the addition of the APAICS Lounge and the After Party featuring Steve Aoki.

APAICS has expanded its programs to include, for example, the Women's Collective and Leadership Summits, and grown its staff to a record high level. APAICS also launched our newly created Racial Equity Fellowship to further advance advocacy for our Asian American and Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander communities. We continue to grow our reach and impact by holding our values of diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice for representation across all branches of our communities.

2022 also brought the passing of our co-founder Secretary Norman Y. Mineta, a loss that is profoundly felt by the APAICS community. But Secretary Mineta's legacy continues to inspire us and move us forward as we strive to achieve his vision for the future. Emerging out of 2022, we are stronger, more resilient, and energized to increase AA & NH/PI civic engagement and representation at all levels of the political process.

Sincerely,



A stylized, handwritten signature in white ink, consisting of several sweeping lines that form the letters 'SJD'.

Susan Jin Davis  
Board Chair

IN MEMORIAM

# Secretary Norman Y. Mineta

November 12, 1931 - May 3, 2022



Incarcerated by the United States based solely on his race during World War II, Secretary Mineta became one of the most prominent figures in American history. His achievements include: becoming the first Asian American to become mayor of a major U.S. city; first Japanese American member of Congress elected from the lower 48 states; and first Asian American Cabinet Member, having served as Secretary of Commerce under President Clinton and Secretary of Transportation under President G.W. Bush.

While in Congress, Secretary Mineta co-founded APAICS and its sister organization, the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus (CAPAC). In 2006, Secretary Mineta received the Presidential Medal of Freedom—our nation's highest civilian honor.

*“Secretary Mineta united our wonderfully diverse community, and made room for each and every one of us. Having endured internment and encountered racism and discrimination for being Japanese American, Secretary Mineta truly understood how important it was to fight for justice and equality. He was always our community’s strongest voice and never gave up hope that we could be a truly united nation.*”

*Despite his stature and fame, Secretary Mineta was ever approachable and always generously gave us his time, care, and attention. He knew us by name and our story and, if he didn’t, he would take the time to learn about us and become a friend. I am forever grateful to Secretary Mineta for his leadership, encouragement and inspiration. He will be greatly missed and never forgotten.”*

-Susan Jin Davis

*“Secretary Mineta was a giant in our community. His legacy included many firsts, and beyond his historic wins, he left an everlasting mark on our community, advocating for all of us to achieve greatness.*”

*Secretary Mineta’s resiliency and perseverance brought enormous visibility, investment and power to address the needs of our community. It is because of him, that we now celebrate Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander Heritage Month in May, that our community is represented in the Executive Branch, and why the United States issued a formal apology to the unjust incarceration of Japanese Americans during World War II.*

*We stand in the footsteps of greatness, and our community is forever indebted to the efforts and achievements of Secretary Mineta.”*

-Madalene Xuan-Trang Mielke

IN MEMORIAM

# Helen M. Ruggiero

August 31, 1945 - June 3, 2022



Helen M. Ruggiero served as APAICS' beloved Chief Operating Officer and its longest serving member of its staff. She joined APAICS in August 2006 and was responsible for financial responsibility, fundraising, grant writing and event planning for the organization. Additionally, she served as the liaison to the APAICS Board and Advisory Council before retiring August 2021.

During her time Helen welcomed and nurtured hundreds of APAICS Fellows and Interns, along with countless other alumni in APAICS programs. For many in Washington, D.C., she was one of the first faces they'd meet, and she always greeted everyone with positivity and warmth. As an integral part of the APAICS family, she will be forever cherished.

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# MISSION

The Asian Pacific American Institute for Congressional Studies (APAICS) is a national non-partisan, nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to promoting Asian American & Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander participation and representation at all levels of the political process, from community service to elected office.

APAICS programs focus on developing leadership, building public policy knowledge, and filling the political pipeline for Asian American & Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander to pursue public office at the local, state, and federal levels.

## 2022 IN REVIEW

**“If we build it,  
they will come.”**

At the start of 2022, APAICS entered the third year of the COVID-19 global pandemic. With new COVID-19 variants, our community still reeling from anti-Asian hate, and still many unknowns ahead, APAICS went forth with a hybrid strategy—planning both virtual and in-person events and programming.

In the beginning there was still a hesitancy to return to fully in-person events. Despite these challenges, APAICS continued to push boundaries.

APAICS heard from the community that ‘if we build it, they will come.’

And so we did, and continued to expand both virtual and in-person programs and events. APAICS surpassed our goals, solidified the organization and our community as influential and necessary for conversations regarding representation and diversity across government and in the private sector.



# 2022 IN REVIEW




## TRANSITION FROM VIRTUAL TO IN-PERSON

In 2022, APAICS announced that its Annual Awards Gala will return in-person during Asian American and Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander Heritage Month.

After the pause during the pandemic, the triumphant return of the Gala marks a significant message that the community is willing to show up - something that encompasses the theme “Courage to Lead.” There was an overwhelming response from the community, so much that APAICS introduced The Lounge in order to accommodate the space needed from attendees representing community, business, and political leaders.

The gathering also introduced the Gala Afterparty featuring Steve Aoki, the Gala’s Icon Award honoree.

2022 IN REVIEW



LEGISLATIVE  
LEADERSHIP  
SUMMIT

MAY 23 - 24, 2022

## RESTRUCTURED SUMMITS: HYBRID FORMAT & NATIONWIDE ONLINE ENGAGEMENT

In 2021, APAICS launched Health, Energy, and Tech Summits to bring together community and corporate leaders, subject matter experts, and elected officials for bipartisan policy discussions that affect AA & NH/PI communities and the nation at-large.

In 2022, APAICS expanded and grew these Summits to exist in a hybrid format with virtual panels and in-person receptions to engage participants in Washington, D.C. and across the country. The new format meant participants were able to continue accessing valuable knowledge on key topics while building out their networks.



# 2022 IN REVIEW



## INAUGURAL RACIAL EQUITY CONGRESSIONAL FELLOWSHIP

In August, 2022, the first 11 APAICS Racial Equity Congressional Fellows concluded their 9 month stint on Capitol Hill. Created in partnership with General Motors, Kaiser Permanente, and Asian Americans Advancing Justice, the APAICS Racial Equity and Social Justice Fellowship was created in response to the rise in anti-Asian hate and violence, and offered a new avenue for AA & NH/PI individuals to address racial equity through public policy.

Fellows were placed across personal offices, committees, and caucuses in both the House of Representatives and Senate, and were able to apply a racial equity lens to their legislative work.

# 2022 IN REVIEW



## BREAKING BARRIERS THROUGH CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAMMING

2022 was a year of unprecedented growth for APAICS congressional placements through both the Congressional Fellowship and Congressional Internship. APAICS had a record 20 Congressional Fellows in 2022.

In addition, APAICS placed 21 Congressional Interns in 2022 throughout all three seasons, and were able to provide benefits that broke down financial barriers for young AA & NH/PI's interested in public service. 2022 was the first year that APAICS has been able to provide housing for Congressional Interns, and it resulted in increasingly diverse internship cohorts.



# DEMOGRAPHICS

## GLOBAL REPRESENTATION

Throughout APAICS’ core programming including its Congressional Fellowship, Congressional Internship, National Leadership Academy, and Regional Leadership Academies, APAICS saw an increase in registrants and has ensured that all APAICS programs appropriately represented all AA & NH/PI communities in the country. This commitment toward representation was carried through direct outreach to communities and resulted in 43 different ethnicities across 29 U.S. states and territories.

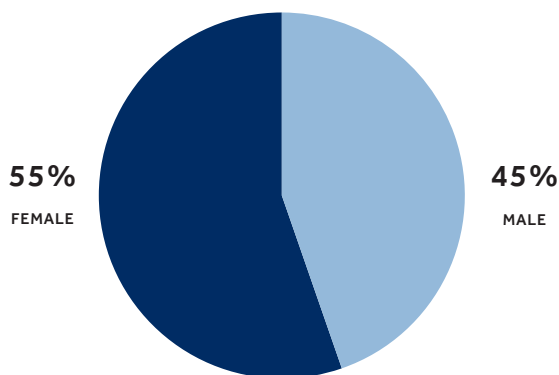
### 29 U.S. STATES & TERRITORIES REPRESENTED

- Alabama | 1
- American Samoa | 1
- Arkansas | 1
- California | 21
- Washington, D.C. | 9
- Florida | 2
- Georgia | 1
- Guam | 1
- Hawaii | 8
- Illinois | 1
- Iowa | 1
- Maryland | 7
- Massachusetts | 1
- Michigan | 1
- MP | 2
- Nebraska | 1
- Nevada | 2
- New Jersey | 7
- New York | 6
- North Carolina | 3
- Ohio | 1
- Oklahoma | 1
- Oregon | 28
- Pennsylvania | 3
- Tennessee | 2
- Texas | 13
- Utah | 1
- Virginia | 11
- Washington | 4

### 43 ETHNICITIES REPRESENTED

- Afghan | 2
- African | 1
- American Samoan | 3
- Arabian | 1
- Bosnian | 1
- Burmese | 1
- Cambodian | 1
- Cantonese | 1
- Chamorro | 3
- Chinese | 36
- East Asian | 1
- Filipino | 17
- Hmong American | 1
- Indian | 7
- Irish | 1
- Iu-Mien | 3
- Japanese | 6
- Jewish | 1
- Korean | 13
- Lao | 3
- Malay | 2
- Marshall Islands | 1
- Mexican | 1
- Miconesian | 1
- Middle Eastern | 1
- Native Hawaiian | 6
- Nepali | 3
- Okinawan | 1
- Pakistani | 5
- Russian | 1
- Singaporean | 1
- Somali American | 1
- South Asian | 2
- Spanish | 1
- Sri Lankan | 1
- Tahitian | 1
- Taiwanese | 7
- Tamil | 1
- Teochow | 1
- Thai | 1
- Tibetan | 1
- Tonga | 1
- Vietnamese | 17

### GENDER



# APAICS BY THE NUMBERS



**599**

NATIONAL LEADERSHIP  
ACADEMY ALUMNI



**107**

CONGRESSIONAL  
FELLOWS



**126**

YOUTH LEADERSHIP  
ACADEMY ALUMNI



**655**

REGIONAL LEADERSHIP  
ACADEMY ALUMNI



**349**

CONGRESSIONAL  
INTERNS



**47**

CONGRESSIONAL  
LEADERSHIP ACADEMY  
ALUMNI



**11**

RACIAL EQUITY  
FELLOWS



**23**

KAKEHASHI  
PROGRAM



# FUNDRAISING



## TOTAL FUNDS RAISED IN 2022

**\$4,226,552**

## FUNDRAISING SOURCES

Restricted Funding

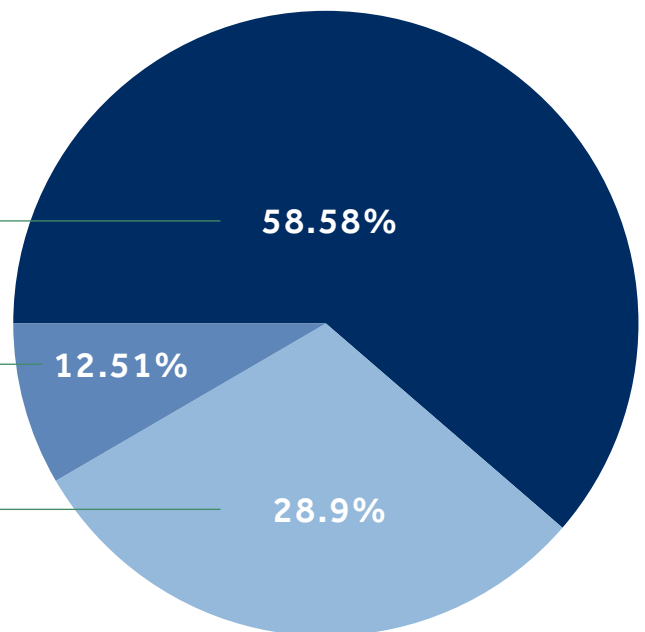
**\$2,476,000**

Unrestricted Funding (Other)

**\$528,795**

Unrestricted Funding (AA & NH/PI History Month Events)

**\$1,221,757**



# PROGRAMMING





# PROGRAMMING



## BUILDING THE AA & NH/PI PIPELINE ACROSS FOUR PILLARS

### 01 INSPIRE

APAICS programs and events are organized to inspire the next generation of AA & NH/PI leaders. APAICS continues to highlight and celebrate the historic achievements of our community.

### 02 EDUCATE

APAICS programs and events are created to provide the AA & NH/PI community resources and training to be prepared for their political ambitions - whether you are in high school and attend our Youth Leadership Academy or are attending our National Leadership Academy to run for local office, APAICS is a resource for the community.

### 03 CONNECT

APAICS programs and events connect the AA & NH/PI community to its national network. Often times, the first step is the hardest, and APAICS programming opens doors.

### 04 EMPOWER

APAICS programs and events empower the AA & NH/PI community to take the steps they need to reach their political and career goals - whether you are already in politics or are brand new, APAICS will develop leadership and build public policy knowledge for its participants to have the confidence to pursue their ambitions.

# Academy

## PROGRAMS



### NATIONAL LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

The APAICS National Leadership Academy provides AA & NH/PI elected officials and those looking to run for office with the training and network to help them either excel in their current office, prepare them for opportunities to advance into higher office, or to run a campaign for the first time.

The National Leadership Academy brings together a bipartisan group of promising AA & NH/PI political leaders from state legislatures, city councils, and local governing bodies from all across the country. The Leadership Academy has grown from 13 participants in 1999 to almost 600 participants today.



# “My time at APAICS National Leadership Academy was my summer highlight of 2022.



I still was not sure if I would pursue a career in politics when I came to the Leadership Academy, but after all the amazing training material I felt the urge to actually commit and start planning for my future campaign. I really appreciated the effort that was put in to have representation of elected and unelected AA & NH/PI's. It was empowering for me to see Elected Pacific Islanders and have that space to network and ask questions.

APAICS created a three day conference full of amazing training material, activities, and a lot of time to network and build relationships with other AA & NH/PI like-minded individuals.

I am so grateful for APAICS and the programs they offer.”

JAKY SALA SIOLO  
2022 NATIONAL LEADERSHIP ACADEMY PARTICIPANT

# PROGRAMS



## REGIONAL LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

The Regional Leadership Academy is a two-day leadership training event for current elected officials, individuals seeking to run for public office, and community stakeholders.

APAICS partners with local organizations to deliver programming that consists of interactive political training with topics ranging from developing your campaign plan, communications, digital organizing, power mapping, volunteer recruitment and management, and fundraising. There have now been over 650 regional leadership academy participants.



# “Attending the APAICS Regional Leadership Academy made a real difference in my campaign.



It was inspiring to see people who look like me serving on the local, state, and federal level. Decades ago, the Oregon Legislature looked much different, but now I feel so welcomed and supported throughout this process because of initiatives like the academy.

I'm sure that I will be connecting with APAICS alumni in the future as I begin my work in the Oregon Legislature.”

REPRESENTATIVE HAI PHAM, OREGON HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
2022 PORTLAND REGIONAL LEADERSHIP ACADEMY PARTICIPANT

# PROGRAMS

## RACIAL EQUITY FELLOWSHIP

In 2022, our inaugural Racial Equity Fellowship allowed 11 AA & NH/PI leaders to engage in public policy on Capitol Hill. Fellows spent 9 months in congressional offices supporting members of congress through legislative work such as drafting policy, attending briefings, staffing committee hearings, conducting research, and writing speeches. Our first ever Racial Equity cohort displayed their accomplishments and presented their work at our 2022 Legislative Leadership Summit, where they discussed their biggest projects in their placement offices.

Racial Equity Fellows have since gone on to hold full time positions in Congressional offices, receive appointments in the current Presidential Administration, and oversee communications and press for state legislators.

## 2021-2022 RACIAL EQUITY FELLOWS



**PRIYA AMILINENI**  
Office of Senator  
Alex Padilla  
(CA)



**VIRAJ AYAR**  
Office of Representative  
Barbara Lee  
(CA-13)



**ROYCE CHEN**  
Office of Representative  
Brenda Lawrence  
(MI-14)



**DEVAKI DAVE**  
Office of Senator  
Catherine Cortez Masto  
(NV)



**ALI FAZAL**  
Office of Senator  
Tammy Duckworth  
(IL)



**ERIC KIM**  
House Committee on  
Financial Services



**SHARON KWON**  
House Committee on  
Education & Labor



**JENNIFER MIN**  
Congressional  
Hispanic Caucus



**PATRICK PERALTA**  
Office of Representative  
Gregorio Sablan  
(MP-At-Large)



**MAYWADEE VIRIYAPAH**  
Office of Representative  
Mike Levin  
(CA-49)



**CHRISTIAN VON ROTZ**  
Office of Representative  
Bobby Scott  
(VA-03)



“The APAICS Racial Equity Fellowship provided me with the opportunity to work as a full-time staff member in a congressional office and provided my office with an Asian-American perspective.



Throughout my fellowship, I was able to brief the Senator, make policy recommendations, and write and introduce legislation. The Racial Equity fellowship has prepared me to continue my career in public service and work to create more inclusive policy.”

PRIYA AMILINENI  
OFFICE OF SENATOR ALEX PADILLA (CA)

# PROGRAMS

## CONGRESSIONAL FELLOWSHIP

The APAICS Fellowship provides exceptional graduates and young professionals the opportunity to work extensively on policy issues as full-time staff members in a Congressional office. Through a nine-month program, fellows gain invaluable federal policymaking experience and develop lasting relationships amongst fellows and prominent leaders as they work closely with members of Congress, government officials, and community leaders.

### 2022-2023 CONGRESSIONAL FELLOWS



**JESSICA BAE**  
Office of Senator  
Brian Schatz  
(HI)



**SOLOMON CHEN**  
House Committee on  
Education & Labor



**ASHLEY JUHN**  
Office of Representative  
Young Kim  
(CA-39)



**RITA KAUR KUWAHARA**  
Office of Senator  
Catherine Cortez Masto  
(NV)



**MICHELLE LIZ  
TABAJONDA**  
Congressional Asian  
Pacific American Caucus



**ALAN MUNEOKA**  
Office of Representative  
Ed Case  
(HI-01)



**JADE ROWLAND**  
Office of Senator  
Mazie K. Hirono  
(HI)



**KAVERI SENGUPTA**  
Office of Representative  
Pramila Jayapal  
(WA-07)



**JONATHAN SZETO**  
Office of Representative  
Mark Takano  
(CA-41)



**VIANNA VO**  
Office of Representative  
Gregorio Sablan  
(MP-At-Large)



**KYRA WHITELAW**  
Office of Representative  
Grace Meng  
(NY-06)



# “Despite not having the typical background of a Hill staffer, I was fortunate enough to gain the opportunity to serve as a Fellow for the Office of Congressman Sablan through APAICS.



Through my work with Congressman Sablan, I have been able to engage in substantial policy work that has challenged me to not only develop my writing skills, but to also cultivate critical thinking skills that are necessary to effectively advocate on behalf of our constituents.

Beyond gaining experience in policy work, I have discovered that the true value of APAICS lies in our community of alumni. In these short few months, I have already been able to find mentors who are genuinely invested in my personal growth and eager to share their experiences as AA & NH/PI staffers. I will be forever grateful for the guidance and learning opportunities that APAICS has made possible, and cannot wait until I, too, can serve as a mentor for the next generation of AA & NH/PI staffers.”

VIANNA VO

OFFICE OF REPRESENTATIVE GREGORIO SABLAN (MP-AT-LARGE)

# PROGRAMS

## CONGRESSIONAL INTERNSHIP

The Congressional Internship is designed for AA & NH/PI undergraduate-aged students looking to increase their experience in public policy and service. The paid internship program, offered in the Fall, Summer, and Spring, placed interns in congressional offices and provided them with the opportunity to develop their leadership and professional skills, encourage political engagement, and foster interest in public service careers.

**“Looking back on my experience, being an APAICS congressional intern has definitely been a huge stepping stone in my career in politics and government.**

With the support of APAICS, I have been able to pursue my dreams, grow as a leader and meet others in the AA & NH/PI community who are in the same position and share the same struggles as me. APAICS made sure I was well taken care of in all aspects of my life and made sure my only priority was to learn as much as possible through the many development events they provided for us.

To be able to meet people who looked like me in all sectors of the government and who were so eager to lend a helping hand was extremely symbolic and encouraging to a Filipina girl who once thought she didn't belong in an institution like Congress.”

LOIS RAMILO  
OFFICE OF REPRESENTATIVE  
ADAM SCHIFF (CA-28)



# PROGRAMS

## 2022 CONGRESSIONAL INTERNS



**RAHEEL ABUBAKAR**  
Office of Senator  
Michael Bennet  
(CO)



**RAMONCITO ARRIETA**  
Office of Representative  
Bonnie Watson Coleman  
(NJ-12)



**JOSH CHUN**  
Office of Representative  
Jimmy Gomez  
(CA-34)



**JEMALYNN IGUEL**  
House Democratic  
Caucus



**JOANNE KIM**  
Office of Representative  
Marilyn Strickland  
(WA-10)



**NA HYE KIM**  
Office of Senator  
Mazie Hirono  
(HI)



**TEO LIN-BIANCO**  
Office of Representative  
Ami Bera  
(CA-07)



**JULIA LOPEZ**  
Office of Representative  
Dean Phillips  
(MN-03)



**MAYA MAU**  
Senate Committee on  
Agriculture



**NAY (ETHAN) MYINT**  
House Democratic  
Caucus



**JALIYA NAGAHAWATTE**  
Office of Representative  
Stephanie Bice  
(OK-05)



**JOSEPH NEWMANN**  
House Committee on  
Natural Resources



**SOPHIA NGUYEN**  
White House Initiative  
On AA & NH/PIs



**LOIS RAMILO**  
Office of Representative  
Adam Schiff  
(CA-28)



**LAILA ROUHI**  
Office of Representative  
Chip Roy  
(TX-21)



**ARTHI SOLAYAPPAN**  
Office of Representative  
Katherine Clark  
(MA-05)



**WENA TENG**  
U.S. Office of  
Personnel Management



**AIMEE TRAM**  
House Democratic  
Caucus



**DONNA TRAN**  
Senate Committee on  
Health, Education,  
Labor, and Pension



**MICHELLE TRAN-DUONG**  
Office of Representative  
Sharice Davids  
(KS-03)



**YANA ZAMORA**  
House Committee on  
Appropriations

“YLA gave me the opportunity to meet dozens of other young AA & NH/PI students who shared an interest in politics and government.



What's more, hearing the views of my fellow participants while discussing pressing issues like climate change and police reform was a great way to hone my speaking and argumentation skills. With unique, tailored panels on college admissions and from NH/PI officials, I learned about important aspects of federal policy that wouldn't be covered in a traditional civics class.

As a whole, the Youth Leadership Academy was the perfect way to experience Washington, D.C. and hear from the people who work there day-to-day.”

JEFFREY TEH  
2022 YOUTH LEADERSHIP ACADEMY PARTICIPANT



# PROGRAMS



## LEGISLATIVE LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

The APAICS Legislative Leadership Academy, in partnership with the Leadership Education for Asian Pacifics (LEAP), is a Washington, D.C.-based program for mid-senior level Hill Staffers (Legislative Correspondent or Legislative Assistant level) of AA & NH/PI heritage, interested in the opportunity to hone their leadership skills, deepen their confidence, strengthen relationships, and build community to more effectively position themselves and pursue senior management roles such as Legislative Director, Chief of Staff, Committee Staff Director, or Communications Director on Capitol Hill.

Since 2020, the APAICS Legislative Leadership Academy has trained 40 mid-level AA & NH/PI public servants, and has provided each of them with the soft skills necessary to continue growing in their careers. Of these 40 participants, over 50% received promotions or job offers within 12 months of their specific Academy, with almost 25% holding leadership positions in the House of Representatives, through federal appointments, or in the private sector.

## YOUTH LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

APAICS, in partnership with the Close Up Foundation, hosted its very first in-person Youth Leadership Academy (YLA) program in Washington, D.C. This week-long program allows students the opportunity to develop leadership and engage in enriching programming geared towards AA & NH/PI high school students.

The program offers the unique opportunity to students of AA & NH/PI heritage to learn more about government and public policy issues impacting the AA & NH/PI community and how they can be more involved in the political process.

# PROGRAMS



## WOMEN'S COLLECTIVE

The Women's Collective aims to build a community that inspires and supports AA & NH/PI women to become politically engaged by leading the national conversation on AA & NH/PI women representation in politics, uplifting AA & NH/PI women in politics, creating resources and tools for AA & NH/PI women to increase representation in public service, and to connect leaders and stakeholders. Programs such as our Women's Collective Office Hours series provide AA & NH/PI women the chance to hear from leaders who represent varying political spectrums.

In 2022, the Women's Collective Summit returned to in-person programming in Las Vegas, NV. At the Summit, participants celebrated the accomplishments of female leaders and included panels and training on leadership development and community building.

### Cochairs

- Nevada Assemblywoman Cecelia González
- Nevada Assemblywoman Brittney Miller
- Nevada Assemblywoman Rochelle Thuy Nguyen
- Nevada Assemblywoman Selena Torres

### Spotlight Award Honorees

- Philadelphia Councilwoman Helen Gym
- Former Texas State Representative  
Dr. Martha J. Wong

### Keynote

- First Lady of Nevada and Co-Founder and Director of Hobbs, Ong & Associates, Inc.  
Kathy Ong Sisolak



"The APAICS Women's Collective Summit was absolutely impactful and an inspiring experience I will always cherish.

**To be in a room full of powerhouse AA & NH/PI women leaders from across the nation supporting and getting trained by one of the best organizations on Capitol Hill is an honor.**

I walked away feeling more informed, motivated, empowered, and hopeful."

ARLENE MARKTHEPHARACK  
2022 WOMEN'S COLLECTIVE SUMMIT PARTICIPANT

# EVENTS



## SUPPORT, BUILD, PROMOTE

APAICS events celebrate the achievements of the AA & NH/PI community, and offer opportunities for individuals and organizations in government, non-profit, and the private sector to connect and engage in meaningful discourse.

In 2022, APAICS offered its signature events virtually, and introduced new events in-person, to continue providing quality avenues for connection.





# EVENTS

## ANNUAL AWARDS GALA

The APAICS Annual Awards Gala is the culmination of our nation’s recognition of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month in May, a celebration of the culture, traditions, history, and contributions of AA & NH/PIs in the United States.

The Annual Awards Gala is the largest gathering of AA & NH/PI elected officials and government appointees at the federal, state, and local levels and is considered the hallmark event of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. Attendees participate from across the country, including community, business, and political leaders.

In 2022, the 28th Annual Awards Gala was held in-person in Washington, D.C. In addition to the Annual Awards Gala, APAICS introduced The Lounge and the Gala Afterparty.

The Lounge was a specifically curated experience during the APAICS Gala which allowed attendees to have a relaxed space to network, decompress, and watch a live stream of the Gala. The Gala Afterparty featured a special performance by APAICS Icon Award Honoree Steve Aoki.



### HONORARY CO-CHAIRS

Representative Kai Kahele (HI-02) and Representative Marilyn Strickland (WA-10)

### KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Vice President Kamala Harris

### ICON AWARD

Steve Aoki

### VISION AWARD

Amna Nawaz

### PIONEER AWARD

Representative Grace Meng (NY-06) and California Assemblymember Evan Low

### COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center

# EVENTS



## LEGISLATIVE LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

In 2022, the Legislative Leadership Summit returned to an in-person format. Over the course of two days, subject matter experts, AA & NH/PI elected officials, and community and corporate leaders discussed issues that affect our communities and the nation at-large.

### HONORARY CO-CHAIRS

Senator Mazie K. Hirono (HI) and Representative Ted Lieu (CA-33)

## APAICS TECH, ENERGY & HEALTH SUMMITS

The APAICS Summits bring together community and corporate leaders, subject matter experts, as well as AA & NH/PI elected officials for bipartisan policy discussions that affect the AA & NH/PI community and the nation at-large.

Panel topics ranged from “Exploring How Fintech is Driving Financial Inclusion” at our Tech Summit, “Striving for Health Equity” at our Health Summit, and “The Energy Transition: A Roadmap for our Nation” at our Energy Summit. We examine the potential effects of new and evolving legislation, and what our partners are doing to adapt to these changing conditions.



# EVENTS



## APAICS COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS

APAICS Community Conversations facilitated a community-level dialogue between legislators, policymakers, activists, and community members centered on recent legislation and current events impacting the AA & NH/PI communities. In 2022, APAICS held community conversations in Orange County, CA and Las Vegas, NV.

## BRIEFINGS

APAICS Briefings are tailored singular events that allow APAICS sponsors to broadcast updates and key messaging to the AA & NH/PI community.

## CELEBRATIONS

In addition to programmatic work, APAICS hosted events that celebrated our community's accomplishments throughout the year including Lunar New Year, a Holiday Party, and Happy Hours. These engagements allowed additional opportunities for community members, our alumni, and our APAICS team to interact with members of Congress and the Administration.

## APAICS IN CONVERSATION

APAICS in Conversation is an exciting series of virtual fireside chat teleconferences to learn and hear from leading AA & NH/PIs in their field. Each teleconference is approximately 30 minutes and included a Q&A session with the participants.



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