Letter from the Chair

Susan Jin Davis
Chair Sustainability Officer at Comcast NBCUniversal

As the world around us met the events of 2020 with adaptability and strength, so did APAICS and the community we serve. In the face of exceptional conditions, APAICS’ programs and initiatives took on new forms to reach an even larger audience.

- This year we debuted our APAICS in Conversation which featured several federal circuit court judges, generals, and government agency leaders. We also hosted CAPAC in Conversation, a full-day, telethon-style conversation featuring a majority of our members of CAPAC including Speaker Nancy Pelosi and APAICS Founder Norman Y. Mineta, which accumulated over 3,000 views the week of its premiere.

- We increased our representative programming by partnering with the Japanese International Cooperation Center (JICE) and their Kakehashi Program by allowing us to send 23 candidates to Japan for a 10-day cultural immersion program. Though the COVID-19 pandemic caused us to postpone our plans, we look forward to partnering with JICE in the future for another Kakehashi project opportunity.

- APAICS expanded its GOTV efforts by using SophiaBot, a revolutionary virtual robot that answered our constituents’ questions about the 2020 election. Amongst our ReflectUS cohort, APAICS is proud to boast the highest constituent interactions with SophiaBot.

- As we all know 2020 was an unprecedented year and APAICS was quick to adapt. Under Madalene’s leadership we were able to convert our Annual Awards Gala into APAICS CELEBRATION, a virtual Gala that garnered over 3,000 views across all platforms.

- Lastly, I want to congratulate Madalene and the APAICS team for their exceptional work adapting to virtual leadership trainings, Women’s Collective Summit, and their continued work among its coalition partners by crafting programming to address the needs of those wishing to pursue public office during a pandemic.

As we conclude the year, we reflect on all we accomplished despite the exceptional circumstances, and applaud our AAPI community for their perseverance, flexibility, and success in the last year. We’d also like to extend our gratitude to our partner organizations and community leaders for their continued support. Looking forward, we’re excited to uphold our commitment to greater AANHPI representation in 2021.

Sincerely,

Susan Jin Davis
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APAICS by the Numbers

Totals from 1994 - 2020

- **545** National Leadership Academy Alumni
- **555** Regional Leadership Academy Alumni
- **78** Congressional Fellows
- **303** Congressional Interns
APAICS by the Numbers

Totals from 1994 - 2020

13 Congressional Leadership Academy Alumni
71 Emerging Professionals Virtual Learning Series
52 Youth Leadership Academy Alumni
23 Kakehashi Program
Fundraising

Total Funds Raised in 2020

$1,841,500

APAHM:
  Restricted: $457,500.00
  Other: $399,500.00

Other: $985,000.00
Programs & Initiatives

National Leadership Academy
The APAICS National Leadership Academy provides AANHPI elected officials and those looking to run for office with the training and network to help them excel in their current office, prepare them for opportunities to advance into higher officer, or to run a campaign for the first time. The National Leadership Academy brings together a bipartisan group of promising AANHPI 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 more than 500 participants now.

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.

APAICS CEO and President Madalene Mielke with attendees at Pittsburgh 2020 Regional Leadership Academy
Programs & Initiatives

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.

2020-2021 Congressional Fellowship Alumni

Tony Tran
Office of Congresswoman Judy Chu

Judith Teruya
Office of Congresswoman Grace Meng

Natasha Anis
Office of Congresswoman Pramila Jayapal

Meiko Kuramoto
Office of Congressman Mark Takano

Veena Muraleethuran
Office of Senator Maggie Hassan

Josh Shin
Republican Study Committee

Michelle Nyugen
Office of Congresswoman Susie Lee
Congressional Internship*

The Congressional Internship is designed for AAPI undergraduate aged students looking to increase their experience in public policy and service. The paid, eight-week long summer program places Interns in congressional offices and provides them with the opportunity to develop their leadership and professional skills, encourages political engagement, and fosters interests in public service careers.

*(In 2020, APAICS was unable to host in-person Congressional Internships due to the global pandemic.)

Congressional Leadership Academy

The APAICS Congressional 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 Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) 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.

Emerging Professionals Virtual Learning Series

The APAICS Emerging Professionals Virtual Learning Series (EPVLS) is an online resource for young AAPI professionals. These virtual learning opportunities are intended for early-career participants with a focus on public service opportunities. The online series is ideal for emerging young professionals to explore career pathways and acquire professional development training.

Youth Leadership Academy

The APAICS Virtual Youth Leadership Academy program, in partnership with the Close Up Foundation is a week-long leadership development and enrichment program geared towards high school students. The purpose of the program is to provide students of Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) heritage the unique opportunity to learn more about government and public policy issues impacting the AAPI community and how they can be more involved in the political process.
Programs & Initiatives

Kakehashi Program
The Kakehashi Program is designed to promote people-to-people exchange between Japan and the United States. The program will provide participants with an enhanced understanding of Japanese economics, society, history, culture, politics, and diplomatic policies and encourage individuals to play an active role in the future of U.S.-Japan relations. The Japanese word “kakehashi” means “bridge,” which symbolizes the hope that participants will form lasting relationships with Japan and its people.

Annual Awards Gala Dinner
The APAICS Annual Awards Gala Dinner 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 Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in the United States. We expect more than 1,000 attendees from across the country, including community, business, and political leaders.

Legislative Leadership Series
The Legislative Leadership Series brings together non-profit and corporate leaders, subject matter experts, as well as local and federally elected officials for a series of weekly bipartisan policy discussions that affect the AAPI community and the nation at-large.

Military Leadership Luncheon
The APAICS-PPALM Military Leadership Luncheon is dedicated to promoting leadership diversity and Asian American and Pacific Islander representation in our troops. Active members and veterans of our Armed Forces have the opportunity to learn how to utilize skills and prior leadership experiences to contribute to personal and professional development in the future. Promoting diversity in the military encourages and strengthens the voice of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders throughout our nation.
Programs & Initiatives

Women's Collective
The Women's Collective aims to build a community that inspires and supports AAPI women to become politically engaged by leading the national conversation on AAPI women representation in politics, uplifting AAPI women in politics, creating resources and tools for AAPI women to increase representation in public service, and to connect leaders and stakeholders.

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

Virtual Leadership Training
APAICS Virtual Leadership Trainings are online programs providing the skills and resources to excel as political leaders and plan a run for public office. Through our online virtual programming, trainings are easily accessible and delivered directly to individuals seeking to run for public office, current elected officials, and community stakeholders. Topics will range from developing a campaign plan, digital organizing, power mapping, and fundraising, while including expert trainers in their field in their specialty.
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Cristina Antelo
Curtis Hom
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Fair Kim
Frederick Underwood
Glenda Beach
Grisella Martinez
Irene Bueno
Jason Chan
Jason Tai
Jim Nam
Jim Park
June Jee
NCTA
Planned Parenthood
Prisca Bae
Roberto Llames
Robin Rorick
Ron Chu
Scott Nishimoto
Tariq Khan
Tim Wong

Champion
AFSCME
Emily's List
Evelyn Craft
JUUL
Ram Ramanujam
Susan Jin Davis
2020 Regional Leadership Academy in Las Vegas, Nevada

2020 Summer Office Interns

Camryn Fujita  
Dakyung Ham  
Anson Huang  
Megan Litz  
Roseanne Soto  
Angela Tan  
Gavin Zhao