

Monday, July 25th, 2022



ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER RESOURCE CENTER

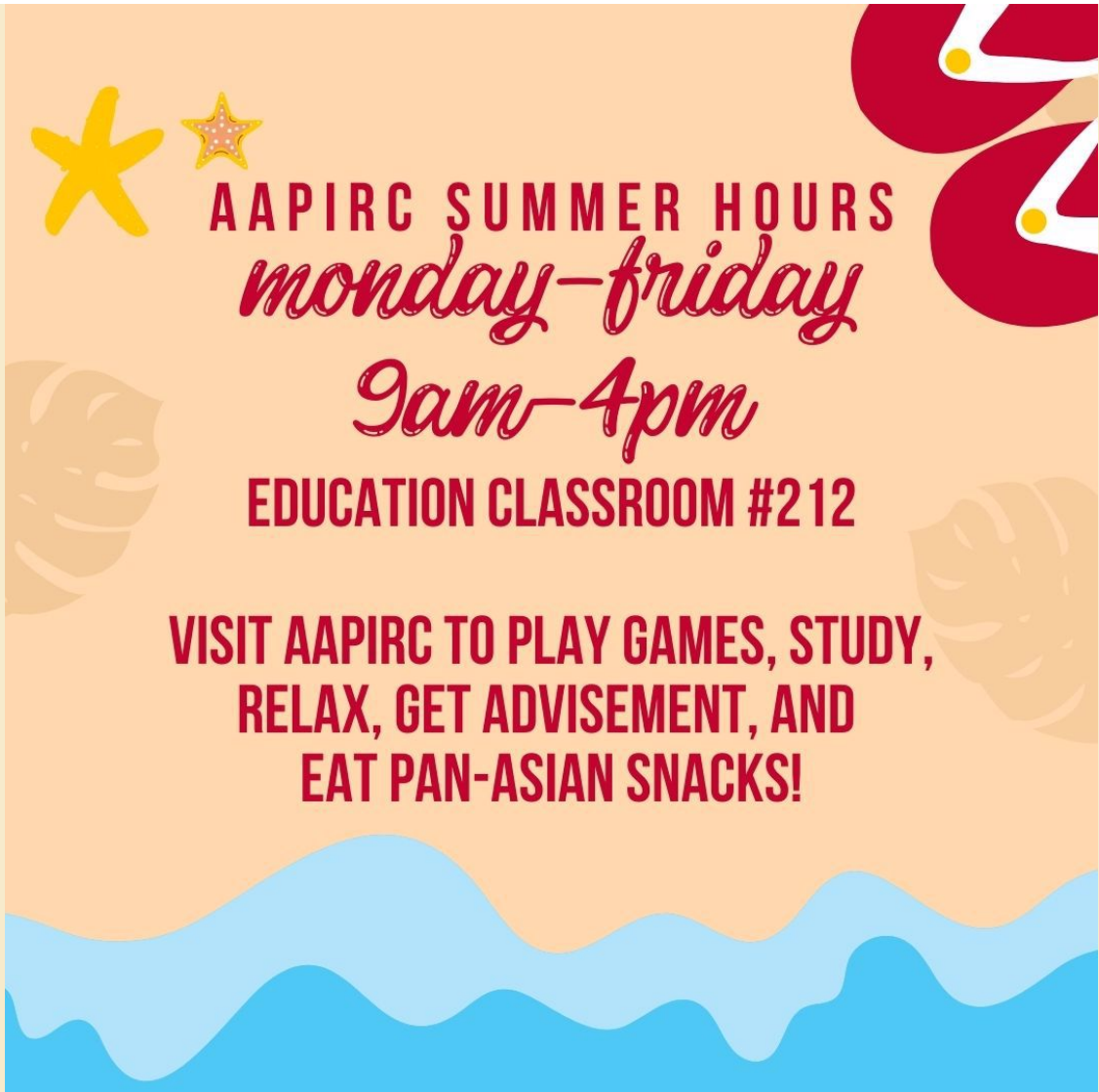
The Asian American Pacific Islander Resource Center (AAPIRC) was established during the 2021–2022 academic year as a result of a student–led initiative to create a department that supports AAPI students at UNM.

Hello and happy last week of July! Did you know that last Wednesday, July 20th, was International Chess Day? **Chess actually originated in India over 14 centuries ago!** We are looking to add more traditional AAPI games to our center, like carrom, ludo, and xiangqi (Chinese chess). We want to know what your favorite traditional games to play with your family are! If you have an old set you are no longer using, it can find its new home at AAPIRC! Please reach out at aapirc@unm.edu or DM us on Instagram (@aapircunm).

Feeling stressed or stiff? Join us for yoga led by our very own Associate Director, Farah Nousheen, on Wednesday at 2pm!

UNM student, John San Nicolas, was recently included in the **Wall Street Journal's** new Snapchat series, **Future View**. Hear more about his experience and his take on the mental health of Gen Z below.

We are announcing the dates for some very exciting events this fall! Look through our calendar and take our interest survey! **The next few months hold exciting events for the New Mexico AAPI community!** Scroll through to read about them and how AAPIRC will be included. We are in the midst of planning some big events for the fall that we can't wait to share with you. As always, thank you for your support!



AAPIRC SUMMER HOURS
Monday-Friday
9am-4pm

EDUCATION CLASSROOM #212

**VISIT AAPIRC TO PLAY GAMES, STUDY,
RELAX, GET ADVISEMENT, AND
EAT PAN-ASIAN SNACKS!**

**Make an Advisement
Appointment Today!**



AAPIRC **ADVISEMENT**

AAPIRC is now offering culturally-sensitive advisement with our Associate Director, Farah Nousheen. If you identify as AAPI, we highly recommend you schedule an appointment with Farah at LoboAchieve.unm.edu. Services include financial, academic, and career advisement specifically tailored to meet AAPI students' needs. Even if you don't need these services, we would love to get to know you and hear your ideas for the center!



Join Us Today for Yoga!

Unwind this summer semester with...

Yoga & Qigong at AAPIRC!

Wednesdays @ 2pm



*These sessions are open to all
students, staff, and faculty!
Bring your own mat or use
one of AAPIRC's*



ASIAN AMERICAN
PACIFIC ISLANDER
RESOURCE CENTER

For all UNM students, staff, instructors, and community members: AAPIRC will be offering an hour of mindfulness, yoga and qigong **every Wednesday at 2pm during the summer semester**. No experience necessary! You can bring your own mat, or use one that is available here.

Join us Wednesday, July 27th at 2pm to unwind! We love to see new and returning faces!

The Visibility Blog

About the Blog: The Visibility Blog will be included in future newsletters and housed permanently on our website. This blog will feature creations and reviews of AAPI literature, art, and podcasts from the AAPI community. The aim of this blog is to provide visibility to the otherwise invisibilized contributions and peoples of the AAPI community.



John San Nicolas

Photo Credit – Tyler Esping, 2021

Future View

John San Nicolas

Hi All! My name is John San Nicolas. (Fun fact: “Santa Claus” is an anglicization of my last name!) I am a second-year undergrad at UNM, majoring in Religious Studies and Philosophy. I enjoy thinking about life and what it means to live well.

My dad was born in Guam, a little island part of the Marianas. As a US territory, it's cut off from the rest of its archipelago. Occupied by the Spanish, the US, Japan, and the US again, the culture has been suppressed over and over. As someone born in the states, you can imagine what little I know about what it means to be Chamorro! I don't speak the language, I don't know much of the history, and I've never been to Guam.

When people talk about heritage and culture, I don't quite know what they mean.

And maybe that's okay! I could have been born to a Polynesian family, or a Hawaiian family, or a Congolese, Russian, or Indian family. Heritage is – in the best sense – an accident of birth. We as individuals are shaped by it, but it ultimately does not define us. **We can honor where we come from, to remember and to sustain. We can also choose to forge our own way of life, as a gift to our children and their children, that they can have what we missed out on.**

Last month, a producer from Wall Street Journal Opinion reached out to me about their new show, Future View (you can check it out now on [Snapchat!](#)). Future View showcases takes from college students, from the ACT to standing for the National Anthem, from gun control to police reform.

A submission of mine featured two weeks ago. The prompt was, “**Why is there such a sharp rise in depression and anxiety among Gen Z?**” It is an important question, to be sure. Many in our generation, bearing the weight of current events and of the future, are fighting a battle within ourselves.

On the one hand, Gen Z is not alone. **Generations before us have been fighting a battle within themselves, too.** In ancient literature, sorrow and unease are eloquently expressed by poets and psalmists of old. Though they might not have had the scientific know-how to recognize or treat depression and anxiety, they have experienced and endured it as well.

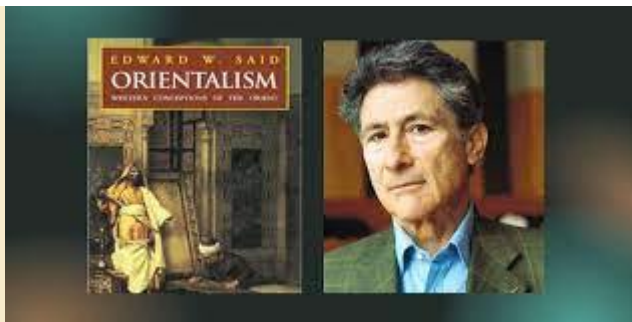
We are not alone, then, in hardship. On the other hand, that is not to minimize the struggles we might face today. **It is exhausting to live through historical events, to feel as though progress and liberation are impossibilities.** To know the damage done to the climate, the cruelty committed against animals, the rights denied to people. Even on social media, where it is proper to post only smiles and not sorrows, we compare our experiences, our opinions, our bodies, to strangers that are just as imperfect and unsure as we are. **What is it they say about comparison being the thief of joy?**

So, why is there such a sharp rise in depression and anxiety amongst Gen Z? Living through historical events might have a part to play, for sure. Perhaps it is the loneliness in which we find ourselves despite a world of online “community.” **Perhaps the pressure of having to know what we want to do in the future is too much to handle.** Maybe because society in general has moved past absolutes, and, as Nietzsche would say, we must now carry on without gods and prophets showing us the way to go, right from wrong, good from evil. I don’t know the full answer. The answer is certainly anything but simple. But what I do hope is that the rise doesn’t continue into future generations. **And that our generation can come together, support one another, cry together, heal, and flourish.**

Orientalism Reading Group



Hello, my name is Mohammed Yahya Rawwas, and I am a Philosophy Master’s student here at UNM. As part Lebanese-Syrian, I am interested in the legacy of French and British colonialism in the Middle East and North Africa. I developed the idea of starting a reading group through AAPIRC that would explore the issue of Asian identity through a historical and theoretical lens. Ever since I began frequenting AAPIRC, I’ve seen it develop a clearer mission, and I believe this reading group fits well with its previous and upcoming slate of programming. I also have previous experience helping to run reading groups centered around Marxist or feminist texts. More information on the text we will be reading this Fall semester is below.



Professor Edward Said's 1978 book *Orientalism* is one of the founding texts of postcolonialism, a theoretical tradition which seeks to forward a critique of colonial ideology and its afterlives. Edward Said (November 1, 1935 – September 25, 2003) was born in Mandatory Palestine and grew up in Egypt before moving to the United States. He was a scholar focusing on literary theory and the legacy of colonialism, particularly in the Middle East. *Orientalism* tackles how this colonial history shapes Western conceptions of this region to this day. I also believe that parallels can be drawn between the specific histories examined in *Orientalism* and the effects of colonialism on other parts of Asia as well, and I hope to cultivate a productive dialogue along these lines. This reading group will tentatively kick off on September 7th, 2022 (with food)! The group will cover one chapter per week, to be discussed at Wednesday meetings through the fall semester. The group is open to all interested participants in all areas of disciplines. All graduate students are most welcome!

If you are interested in this program, please fill out [this interest survey](#).
So far we have 7 interested participants!

AAPIRC Save the Dates

Get excited for the fall semester at AAPIRC! We would greatly appreciate if you would fill out [this survey](#) to express your interest in our events. We are looking to collect data on the types of events and programs that you want to see at AAPIRC.

Thank you!



SAVE THE DATES - FALL 2022

WELCOME BACK BOBA TEA SOCIAL
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24 | 4-6PM | AAPIRC

1,000 CRANE PROJECT KICK OFF EVENT
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6 | 1-3PM | AAPIRC

ORIENTALISM READING GROUP LAUNCH
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7 | 4-5:30PM | AAPIRC

CRITICAL RACE WORKSHOP & DINNER
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22 | 5-7PM | AAPIRC

CHINESE AMERICAN FILM FESTIVAL
SAT, OCT 15: FILMS & PANELS | 9AM-5PM | GRACE CHURCH
SUN, OCT 16: BREAKFAST W/ FILMMAKERS | 10AM | AAPIRC



SAVE THE DATES - FALL 2022

AAPI ALUMNI HAPPY HOUR
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18 | 5-7PM | HODGIN HALL

STUDENT-FACULTY-ADVISEMENT MIXER
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28 | 2-4PM | AAPIRC

WRITING & SPEAKING ABOUT OURSELVES WORKSHOP
FRI, NOV 18 (DATE SUBJECT TO CHANGE) | TBA | AAPIRC

THROUGHOUT THE SEMESTER, WE WILL HOST YOGA, STUDY NIGHTS, AND OTHER EVENTS TO SUPPORT STUDENTS AND COMMUNITY. FOLLOW OUR INSTAGRAM (@AAPIRCUNM) AND NEWSLETTER TO STAY UPDATED!

Asian Business Collaborative Inaugural Expo + Marketplace

ASIAN EXPO + MARKETPLACE

AUGUST 2022
asianexponm.com

JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE ASIAN BUSINESSES WITH A TWO DAY EVENT AT BALLOON FIESTA PARK

Business Expo
Friday, August 19

- Workshops to grow your business
- Round tables with business resources
- Translation available

New Mexico Asian Film Festival
Friday, August 19

- Asian short films produced by API directors
- Inaugural awards ceremony
- Feature film celebrating Asians in film

API Marketplace
Saturday, August 20

- Asian owned restaurants and vendors
- Booths and vendors of Asian inspired goods and services
- Panels and workshops of API history and culture

Mark your calendars for **August 19th & 20th** to attend ABC's first AAPI Expo and Marketplace hosted at Balloon Fiesta Park! Look forward to **business workshops, the NM Asian Film Festival, Asian-owned restaurants & vendors, and more!** The goal of the event is to build visibility and awareness of AAPI businesses in the community. Visit asianexponm.com to buy tickets, submit a film, apply to be a vendor, or become a sponsor for the event. **AAPIRC will have a booth at Saturday's API Marketplace, so be sure to stop by!**

Albuquerque Chinese American Film Festival (ACAFF)



The ABQ chapter of the Chinese American Citizen Alliance is hosting their 6th annual ACAFF on Saturday, October 15th, 2022 at Grace Church. Five films focusing on the Chinese–American experience will be screened at the festival, including **Vincent Who?** and **Over the Moon**.

We will be hosting breakfast on Sunday, October 16th for students with degree plans related to film!

Are you interested in volunteering at this event? Sign up [here!](#)

Community Opportunity!

Are you an AANHPI advocate or survivor who wants to influence policy change?

API-GBV is conducting 1hr Zoom interviews until July 29th with AANHPI Advocates & Survivors who are current or former students

Please email policy@api-gbv.org if you're interested in participating!

Student survivors will receive a \$25 gift card for participating!

*Interviews are **completely anonymous**. No identifying information or personal stories will be shared.



Thank you to Chearie Alipat from the New Mexico Asian Family Center for contacting us about this opportunity!

"Where are you from? No, where are you *really* from?"



If you identify as AAPI, it's likely you've been asked these questions, usually by a complete stranger. **In reality, this stranger doesn't care that you were born and raised in the United States, they want to know your *Asian heritage*.** As "**perpetual foreigners**", Asian-Americans are often perceived as being from "somewhere else". **At AAPIRC, we want to take back this question, where are you from?** Use our new map to mark where your family immigrated from/to, where you were born, where you have lived, **any city that has shaped your identity!** Our associate director, **Farah**, used 4 pins to mark that she was born in Hyderabad, India, immigrated to Chicago, lived in Seattle, and is now in ABQ. We want to know about the identities of the Lobos who are coming to AAPIRC; **come add your pins today!**

Mahjong at AAPIRC

We are excited to announce that the Chinese Culture and Language Club (CLCC) is housing their **automatic mahjong table in AAPIRC!** This table will automatically handle tile shuffling and wall building. Thank you to **ASUNM and CLCC** for this great addition to our resource center!

And a special shoutout to the members of CLCC who built the table using an instruction manual written completely in Mandarin!



Are you interested in playing or learning mahjong? Make sure to come to our **Welcome Back Boba Tea Social on Wednesday, August 24th from 4pm–6pm**. We will have **teaching sessions and more information on the history of the game**. A **boba tea bar, selection of Japanese cakes, and fresh samosas** will be served!

AAPIRC INVITES YOU TO OUR

Welcome Back Boba Tea Social

Wednesday, August 24th | 4pm-6pm
Education Classrooms #212 (AAPIRC)



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