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. AAPIRC is a "student–centered student center". The center was created from the work of a student committee, several of our upcoming events and programs came out of student initiative, and we are always planning with our students in mind. In this newsletter, we want to hear from you. From interest in this semester’s events to volunteering experience, your feedback is very important to us. Please read through this newsletter and complete the forms that apply to you. There are also lots of community volunteer opportunities and an upcoming UNM course included in this newsletter. As always, thank you for your support.

Update on Recent Events
Several students, supported by staff and alumni, met this morning at AAPIRC and on Zoom to discuss next steps on how to continue honoring Muhammad Afzaal Hussain. We had representation from GPSA, ASUNM, Muslim Student Association, Student Activities Center, Community & Regional Planning, American Planning Association, Alumni, Pakistan Student Association, international students, and cricket leagues. Originally, the meeting was to organize the vigil. Though it became clear that Afzaal’s legacy must continue beyond this incident and we must continue the work that he was passionate about. **A new student organization will be chartered with a working name “Muhammad Afzaal Legacy Coalition”**. If you are interested in joining or helping out, please email aapirc@unm.edu for now until there is another contact.

Muslim and South Asian students who may feel that it would be helpful to seek temporary academic adjustments to their course schedules during this
period of safety concern for their communities in Albuquerque, should contact LoboRESPECT Advocacy (web: https://loborespect.unm.edu and phone: (505) 277–2911). The Staff at LoboRESPECT Advocacy will work directly on behalf of students with advisors and faculty to seek alternatives to evening Face–To–Face courses, where possible, and to support other academic adjustments, as needed.

You can also schedule an appointment with AAPIRC’s Director Farah Nousheen at LoboAchieve if you would like to discuss resources, ideas, advisement, or anything else on your mind.

Yoga Reminder - Wednesday, 2pm

We want to remind you about the yoga session tomorrow, Wednesday, August 10th at 2pm! This session will focus specifically on breathing and poses to reduce anxiety. Everyone is welcome to these sessions; no mat or experience necessary. We hope to see you there :)

Mahjong Night - Friday, 5pm
AAPIRC is excited to be hosting this Summer Mahjong Night! Mahjong is a tile-based game played by four players. Players work quickly to create trios and pairs of coordinating tiles. Once you hear someone shout "Mahjong!", the game has been won. Everyone is welcome to this event!

Moving forward, we would like to put in security and safety protocols for all our evening events. We are in communication with campus security. We want to ensure that there is a buddy system so that students do not leave the center on their own. We also encourage UNM faculty, staff, community members and allies to join for our evening events to increase safety.

AAPIRC Event & Program Interest Form!
Hello everyone! We have several great events planned for this semester! **We would REALLY appreciate it if you could fill out the Microsoft Form below to gauge interest in these events.** Your feedback will help us plan future events tailored to the community's wants and needs.

----> AAPIRC Event & Program Interest Form <----

**Call for Facilitators for Language Appreciation Circles**

We are excited that our Language Appreciation Circle Program will begin in the fall! Thank you for such great feedback on our AAPI Heritage Language Survey; we received over 60 responses! **This feedback helped us choose our 2022–23 Language Appreciation Circles:** Tagalog, Vietnamese, and Hindi–Urdu (read more about the combination of Hindi and Urdu [here](#)).

We are now looking for students to act as facilitators for these circles. **Click on the forms below to read more about the scholarship and apply.**

**Requirements to apply:**

- Must be enrolled and registered as a UNM full-time student
- Must be native or have native-like fluency level in the language they would like to facilitate, including writing, reading, and speaking
- No official teaching experience required.

These applications are due Sunday, August 14th, 2022. We acknowledge that these applications are going out later than planned. If you need an extension, please let us know at aapirc@unm.edu

Applications for Facilitation:
Have you volunteered with AAPIRC?

Are you a student, staff/faculty member, or community member that has volunteered with AAPIRC? This can look like moving furniture, setting up for events, taking pictures/videos, etc. Please fill out this short form so we can include your volunteer hours as a donation to AAPIRC.

We appreciate you so much!
If you are looking for somewhere to complete community service hours or just want to help out around AAPIRC, reach out to us!

Course for Fall 2022
Start a Student Organization Today!

Are you looking for a student organization at UNM that celebrates your culture and heritage, but can't find one? Start it today! The Student Activities' Center is holding workshops on chartering new and already existing student organizations in-person and on Zoom. Access the workshop schedule here! Note that the deadline to charter is September 16th, 2022 so we encourage you to start the process as soon as possible.

What does chartering mean? Chartering leads to official recognition of the student organization by UNM. Start the process today; we can't wait to see your organizations!
Community Volunteer Opportunities!

The Asian Business Collaborative is looking for volunteers for their Expo & Market! Volunteers are needed for August 18–20th, 2022. Follow the link to view their Volunteer Sign-Ups!

The Japanese American Citizen League is hosting their annual Aki Matsuri (fall festival) on September 25th, 2022! If you are interested in volunteering for this event, please email aapirc@unm.edu ASAP with the times you are available!

Sign up to be a volunteer or student ambassador for the Chinese American Film Festival on October 15th, 2022! Access the sign up form here.

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 11 interested participants!

If you wish to unsubscribe from our newsletters, please email us at aapirc@unm.edu and let us know.