We are seeking proposals for poster presentations that address our theme, *Watering our Roots: Cultivating Ourselves and AAPA’s Future*. We particularly encourage those that draw attention to the experiences of underrepresented Asian American groups (e.g., South Asians, Southeast Asians, Filipinos, religious minorities, LGBTQIA+, international folx), or those with multiple intersecting identities.

We encourage submissions from researchers, community leaders and activists, mental health providers, and educators who work with underrepresented communities. Moreover, we welcome submissions from professionals and scholars in allied fields (e.g., Asian American Studies, Education, Ethnic Studies, Public Health, Social Work).

Posters proposals may address, but are not limited to, the following topics:

- Self-care, resilience, and growth among AAPI communities
- Issues of inclusion within AAPI communities
- Social reform, public policy, and political action (involvement of AAPIs in current national and international political movements)
- Immigration and immigration reform
- Identity development and experiences of those with intersectional identities
- Research and outreach
- Exploration and examination of existing research, conceptual, and/or therapeutic models

**Who May Submit**

Individuals (AAPA members and non-members) at all levels of training (undergraduate, graduate, and professional), and including non-psychologists are encouraged to submit proposals.

While there is no limit to the total number of submitted proposals per person, individuals can only be the first author of one proposal submission. In the event that multiple first author submissions are received from an individual, the committee will review only the first proposal received. Exempted from this rule are presenters who are invited speakers.
**Guidelines for Proposals**

Only poster proposals will be accepted. To submit, you will need to include:

- Email address for the point of contact
- Author Names (first and last) and affiliations (if applicable)
- Title of Poster
- Abstract (500 to 700 words) with no author names

To best categorize your proposal, you will also be asked to select:

- Which category or categories best describe the focus of the poster: 1) social justice/advocacy; 2) practice/mental health; 3) Covid-19 and current issues; 4) convention theme-Watering our Roots; 5) other
- The methodology that best describes your work (i.e., qualitative; quantitative; mixed methods; other)
- The division(s) (max 3) under which your presentation may fall: Division on Students, Division on South Asian Americans, Division on Women, Division on Filipinx Americans, Division on Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Queer and Questioning, Division on Practice, Division on Asian Americans with Multiple Heritages. You do not need to be a member of the divisions that you select.

**Proposal Process**

- Proposals will need to be submitted via: [this Google Form](#)
- Deadline for submissions is **August 10th, 2020 at 11:59 p.m. PST**
- Proposals will be sent for anonymous reviews. As such, the Abstract should *not* include identifying information of the author(s) and/or presenter(s).
- Submitters will be notified by email (via the point of contact) upon receipt of their proposal
- Submission outcomes will be sent via email to the point of contact by September 7, 2020
- All presenters are required to officially register for the convention
- During the poster session, participants are invited to interact with poster presenters. For questions, please contact: aapaposters2020@gmail.com

**Proposal Rating Criteria**

Proposals will be rated based on the following criteria:

- Relationship to convention theme
- Relevance/timeliness of topic
- Membership appeal
- Innovation and creativity
- Scientific/empirical soundness
- Contribution to the field

**Additional Information**

For questions about poster proposals and the review process, please contact Donna, Jess and Sruthi at aapaposters2020@gmail.com. For all other questions regarding the 2020 AAPA Convention, please email this year’s co-chairs at convention@aapaonline.org.
THEME:

WATERING OUR ROOTS:
Cultivating Ourselves and AAPA’s Future

“Watering our roots,” is a call for reflection and revitalization of self in recognition of our interconnectedness and what it took to get where we are today. In addition to themes of “vision” and “self-care,” “watering our roots” signifies nurturing our network and building a solid foundation for our future. It also signifies attention to the sacrifices of our parents, our ancestors, and ourselves as we work in service to others. At times, we are encouraged by our cultures and/or families not to engage in self-care and self-compassion because that suggests weakness or acting selfishly. With this theme, we honor that caring for ourselves is not mutually exclusive from engaging in our cultural practices such as sacrifices for our families and is our professional responsibility to ensure strong “roots” so that we may give more to others. As a result, we seek to deconstruct, decolonize, and redefine what it means to care for self in our current cultural landscape. Simultaneously, we will explore our visions for the future as we practice rejuvenation of our organization and membership base. The world needs our brilliance and compassion, but we also need to ensure we are supported and support each other to continue our path. For some of us it may mean giving ourselves the permission to nurture and to take time to step back and check in; “What do I need for me so that I can have enough battery life for others?”

As an organization, AAPA is in a time of transition, we are in our fifth year of alternating conventions with and independent from the American Psychological Association. As highlighted and discussed in the AAPA 2019 Convention keynote, we still have much work to do within our organization to be more inclusive and welcoming of our diverse membership. We also honor the significance of “five years” as, on average, doctoral programs take five years to complete. Similarly, including undergraduate years, Master’s program can take 6 years to complete. We can also tie 2019’s convention theme, “Making waves and breaking through the bamboo ceiling,” to a Chinese parable about bamboo trees, which take five years to sprout above ground. Meanwhile, its roots are growing strong beneath the earth’s surface. “Watering our roots: Cultivating ourselves and AAPA’s future,” is a call to action to collectively set the course for the future of our organization.

We invite you to join us on this path of self-exploration, reflection, loving, and growth as we steer AAPA toward an exciting and inclusive future.