



ASIAN AMERICAN
PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

2025 AAPA ANNUAL CONVENTION

The Curtis Hotel

Denver, Colorado

AUGUST 6, 2025

**"In Resistance, We Find Liberation.
In Community, We Find Joy."**

CONVENTION THEME

Christine Catipon, Psy.D.
President

Donna Lynne Demanarig, Ph.D.
Vice President

Gloria Wong-Padoongpatt, Ph.D.
2025 Convention Chair



Asian American Psychological Association 2025 Annual Convention

Wednesday, August 6, 2025
Denver, Colorado

Message from the AAPA President



I am honored to welcome you to this year's convention—a gathering of hearts, minds, and voices committed to transforming how we understand and support mental health in Asian and Asian American communities. This year's Convention theme, **“In resistance, we find liberation. In community, we find joy,”** speaks to the dual truths at the heart of our collective journey. For too long, our community has been overlooked, minimized, or burdened by silence. But in the face of stigma, invisibility, and generational trauma, we have chosen resistance. We have spoken out. We have organized. We have healed—together.

This convention is a celebration of that work and an invitation to deepen it. It is a space where clinicians, researchers, academics, community leaders, youth, elders, advocates, and storytellers have come together to share knowledge, build solidarity, and imagine new possibilities for wellness and care that are rooted in culture, social justice, and belonging. During this convention,

you'll hear from speakers across disciplines and generations who are actively reshaping the mental health landscape, participate in workshops that challenge and empower, connect with others who share your passion, and find moments of joy, affirmation, and reflection.

Whether this is your first time attending or you've been with us for years, your presence matters. You are part of a growing movement that recognizes healing as resistance—and community as both refuge and revolution. I would like to extend my deepest gratitude to the AAPA Presidential Trio, the AAPA Executive Committee, and the 2025 AAPA Convention Planning Team, under the direction of Convention Chair and incoming AAPA Vice President Dr. Gloria Wong-Padoongpatt, for their hard work in bringing us back together as a family. Thank you for being here. May this convention be a space of learning, connection, courage, and joy.

In solidarity and hope,

Christine Catipon, Psy.D.
AAPA President, 2024-2025

Message from the 2025 Convention Chair

It is truly an honor to serve as your Convention Chair for the 2025 Asian American Psychological Association Convention. As your President shared earlier, this year's theme feels especially urgent in today's climate. We are navigating a time of immense grief, injustice, and collective exhaustion – where our communities are continually asked to resist and survive. My deep hope for this convention is that it becomes a space to hold the struggle of resistance and the possibility of liberation. A space where we can be vulnerable about the pain that exists even within our own communities, while also leaning on one another for the radical joy that sustains us.



I have been part of AAPA for 17 years, and it has truly been my professional home. Through these conventions, I have found not only collaborations that shaped my career but friendships that shaped my life. I have had the privilege of being mentored by trailblazers, femtors, and visionaries – including Dr. Stanley Sue, one of AAPA's founders, who recently crossed the rainbow bridge. **I dedicate this convention to him and to all those who paved the way.** Now, as a mid-career scholar and femtor myself, I see the beauty in building my own professional family and watching the next generation rise.

To our attendees: thank you for showing up. Thank you for continuing to run this long marathon of a race – not alone, but together. Let this convention be a space where we rest, reconnect, and remember the joy that fuels our resistance.

In solidarity and with so much love,

Gloria Wong-Padoongpatt, Ph.D.

2025 AAPA Convention Chair

ABOUT DENVER

Denver is home to a diverse Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) community, comprising of Chinese, Filipino, Indian, Korean, Vietnamese, Japanese, Native Hawaiian, Nepalese, Thai, and Burmese Americans. AAPIs in Denver have a rich history and continue to make significant cultural and economic contributions to the city. With places like Sakura Square, Far East Center/Little Saigon, River North neighborhood, and even South Havana Street (in Aurora), there are plenty of Asian spaces to explore in the Denver Metro.

Present-day Denver is the ancestral homelands and the traditional, unceded territories of the Ute, Cheyenne, and Arapaho Peoples. We recognize their historical ties to this land and those of many other Indigenous Nations. We honor the Elders, past and present, and acknowledge the continued presence and contributions of Indigenous communities in Denver today.

PRE-CONFERENCE MEET & GREET + MENTOR-MENTEE HOUR

August 5, 2025

The Curtis Hotel Lobby

1405 Curtis Street, Denver, CO 80202

Meet & Greet (6-7pm)

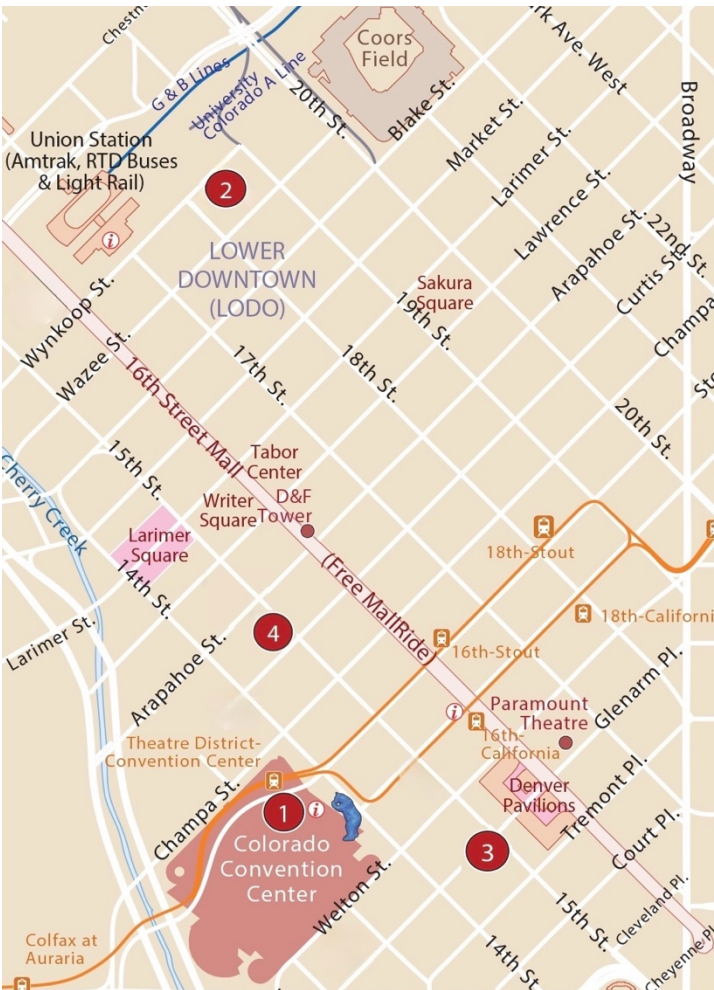
Take advantage of this great opportunity to meet with colleagues and presenters, as well as network! You can also collect your badge in advance, saving time on the morning of the convention.

Mentor-Mentee Hour (7-8pm)

Please join us for the Mentor-Mentee hour happening after our meet and greet event! AAPA aims to counter the underrepresentation of Asian individuals in the field of psychology by providing mentorship to the next generation of psychologists (e.g., graduate students, externs, interns, and postdoctoral fellows) and other members of the field. Trainees will have the chance to meet and ask questions to mentors on a variety of topics. This can be a great opportunity to build lasting connection and support in our community.

CONVENTION DAY DETAILS

August 6, 2025



Convention Site: ***The Curtis Hotel*** 4

1405 Curtis Street, Denver, CO 80202

Directions

From the Denver Airport to Union Station 2

If you are traveling by plane and flying directly into the Denver International Airport, you can reach the convention site by taking the light rail *University of Colorado A Line* to the Denver Union Station (\$10). The Curtis Hotel is 0.5 mile (15-minute walk) away from the Denver Union Station. You can also reach the convention site by Uber/Lyft, which will cost approximately \$50.

From Sonesta Denver Downtown Hotel 3

The Curtis Hotel is 0.4 mile (10-minute walk) away from the Sonesta Denver Downtown Hotel.

Parking Options:

- 1401 Lawrence Street Garage (3 mins)
- 1601 Curtis Street (Independence Plaza) (5 mins)
- 1472 Lawrence Street (3 mins)
- 1448 Champa Street – Lot (4 mins)
- 1420 Stout Street- Embassy Suites (4 mins)

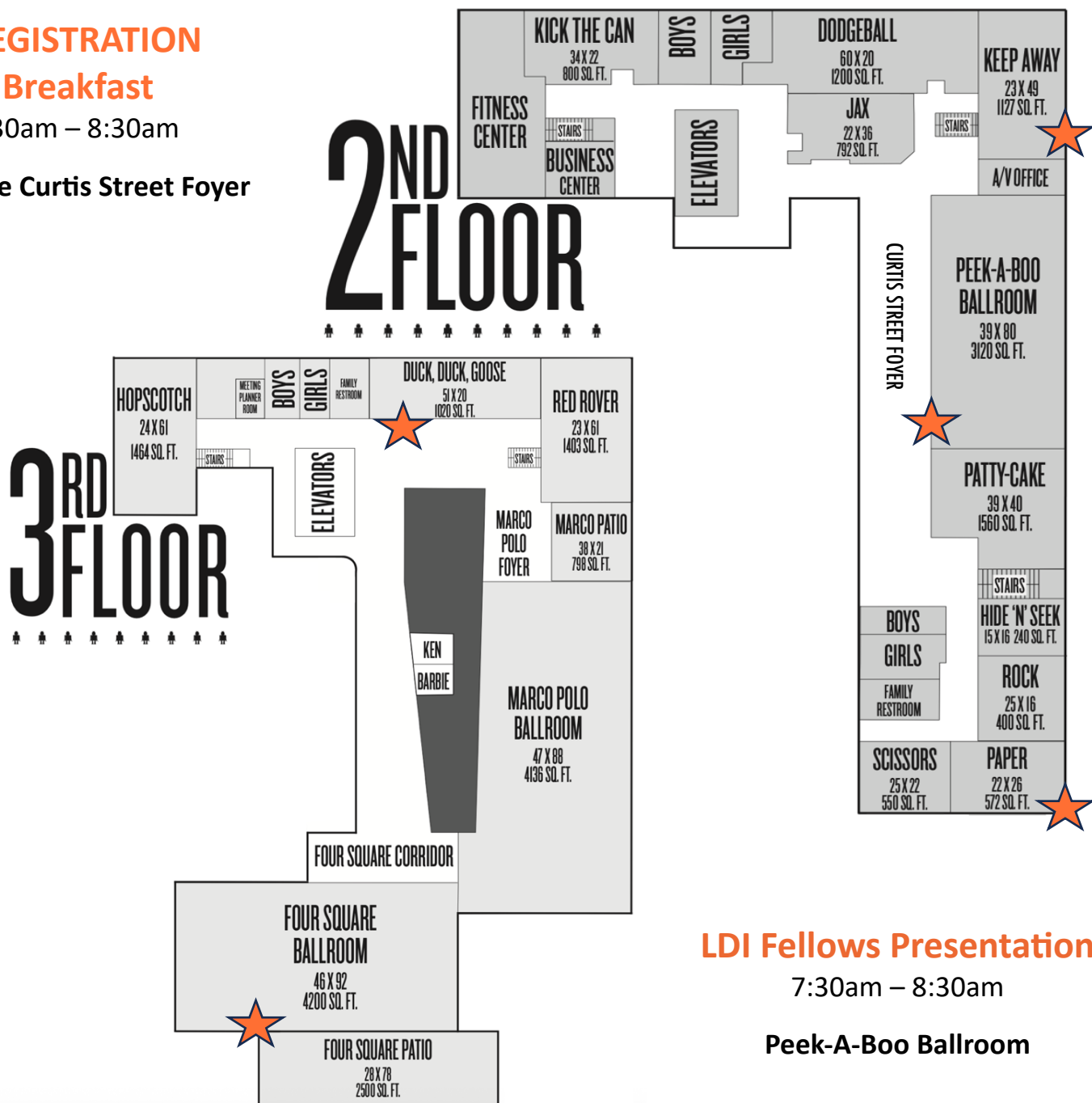
The Curtis Hotel

Floor Layout

REGISTRATION & Breakfast

7:30am – 8:30am

The Curtis Street Foyer



LDI Fellows Presentation

7:30am – 8:30am

Peek-A-Boo Ballroom

WELCOME REMARKS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

8:45am – 9am

Peek-A-Boo Ballroom

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

9am – 9:45am

Peek-A-Boo Ballroom



Helen H. Hsu, Psy.D.

Dr. Helen H. Hsu is a Past President and fellow of the Asian American Psychological Association and Past President of the American Psychological Association (APA) Div. 45 (Society for the Study of Culture, Race, and Ethnicity). Dr. Hsu devoted 20 years as a training director and clinician within community-based clinics serving historically marginalized communities. She is currently the Director of Outreach at Stanford University Counseling and Psychological Services where she implements education and prevention efforts to promote campus-wide mental health.

Dr. Hsu is the Clinical Lead at Pandora Bio, which develops precision mental health early detection tools for college populations. She is the founder of Hella Mental Health, providing consultation to corporate and entertainment entities committed to accurate mental health representation. Dr. Hsu is an advisory board member of the JED foundation, focused on youth suicide prevention. She

was a member of the APA Committee on Sexual Orientation and Gender Expression as well as a mentor with the APA Minority Fellowship Program Training Advisory Committee. Her Healing Trauma Workbook for Asian Americans was published by New Harbinger in 2024.



CONTINUING EDUCATION (CE)

Alliant International University is approved by the American Psychological Association to sponsor Continuing Education for psychologists. Alliant International University maintains sole responsibility for this program and its content. There are no known conflicts of interest, and no commercial support, associated with this program.



Alliant International University

**Lifelong Learning &
Professional Development**

BREAKOUT SESSION 1

10am – 11am

1. INTERACTIVE SESSION – “We’ve gotten through this before”: Reflecting on HerStory’s early-career uncertainty

Room: **Keep Away**

Wenxuan (Amy) Bai - *California State Polytechnic University, Pomona* (chair)

Ki Yan IP - *Alliant International University*

Winniebelle Cadiz, MA - *Alliant International University*

Vicky Nguyen - *Alliant International University*

Michi Fu, PhD - *Alliant International University*



This session explores the uncertainty and growth of early career clinicians by weaving together personal reflections, community stories, art, and theory. Through short clips from the Digital HerStory Project and grounding frameworks including the Asian American Intergenerational Model (Tu & Okazaki, 2021), Radical Healing and Liberation Psychology (Adames et al., 2023), we invite attendees to recognize their own resilience, growth, and reconnection with joy and power in this time of ongoing social and professional crisis.

2. INTERACTIVE SESSION – Alongside My People: A Cross-Cultural Conversation Centering Experiences of Health Navigators in Refugee and Immigrant Mental Health Care

Room: **Duck, Duck, Goose**

Abbas Ataee - *Asian Pacific Clinic at Aurora Mental Health and Recovery*

Mimi Saito - *Asian Pacific Clinic at Aurora Mental Health and Recovery*

Shou-An Ariel Chang, PhD - *Asian Pacific Clinic at Aurora Mental Health and Recovery*

Monica Gerber, PhD - *Asian Pacific Clinic at Aurora Mental Health and Recovery*

Nai Chieh Geri Tien, PhD, LMFT - *Asian Pacific Clinic at Aurora Mental Health and Recovery*

Myoung Ah Holm, PhD - *Asian Pacific Clinic at Aurora Mental Health and Recovery*



The following interdisciplinary interactive session will center the experiences of Health Navigators who serve as interpreters, cultural brokers, and advocates for their respective refugee and immigrant communities and work alongside clinicians providing mental health services. Health Navigators will share their migration stories, perspectives of healing from within their respective cultures, and challenges and triumphs they have encountered while working within the U.S. mental health system. Through small group discussions with Health Navigators and clinicians, participants will reflect on language justice, opportunities for community collaboration and empowerment, and incorporation of cultural wisdom within their own research or clinical practice.

3. INTERACTIVE SESSION – Not Your Model Minority: Asian American Educators’ Experiences and Building Systems of Care towards Liberation and Joy

Room: **Peek-A-Boo Ballroom**

Yuki Okubo, PhD (Chair) - *Salisbury University*



Grace S. Kim, PhD - *Boston University*
Cecile H. Bhang, PhD - *Sonoma State University*
Sherry C. Wang, PhD - *Santa Clara University*

This interactive session will focus on the need for building systems of care for Asian Americans in educational systems. Building from a review of literature and empirical studies with Asian American educators in K-12 and higher education contexts, we argue for coalition-building and systemic change. Four Asian American women identified academics will share their experience of negotiating invisibility and hypervisibility in academia and consideration for moving toward resistance and liberation.

4. INTERACTIVE SESSION – Rethinking Applications of Intersectionality and Dynamism in Contextualizing the Asian and Asian diasporic experience

Room: **Paper**

Lain Shae Goh - *National University of Singapore*
Shao Yuan Chong - *University of Denver*

This interactive session focuses on thinking about intersectionality in Asian and Asian diasporic psychological research, considering privilege, oppression and social contexts when researching the lived realities of this population. Inconsistent application of principles of intersectionality remains within Psychology. We propose the Socio-Scientific Progression by Leveraging on Intersectionality and Citizen-led Equity-driven (SPLICE) Research Framework, which seeks to begin conversation about how we can better operationalize intersectionality through a citizen science-oriented approach to make implementation of intersectionality in Asian and Asian diasporic psychology more accessible. Through this session, we aim to consider next steps forward for intersectionality in our field.

BREAKOUT SESSION 2

11:15am – 12:15pm

1. INTERACTIVE SESSION – “You Have to Speak Up”: HerStory of Rage, Power, and Joy

Room: **Keep Away**

Ki Yan Ip - *Alliant International University*
Winniebelle Cadiz, MA - *Alliant International University*
Wenxuan (Amy) Bai - *California State Polytechnic University*
Vicky Nguyen - *Alliant International University*
Michi Fu, PhD - *Alliant International University*



Too often, Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) women are told to stay quiet, remain agreeable, and suppress their rage, contributing to chronic illness, burnout, and unequal emotional labor (Nadal et al., 2015; Sue et al., 2007). This session challenges that silencing. Through a short film from the Digital HerStory Project, attendees will witness interviews with Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) women

psychologists whose fierce feminist leadership transformed rage into legacy. Grounded in feminist Liberation Psychology (Comas-Díaz & Torres Rivera, 2020) and Radical Healing (French et al., 2020), the session invites bold reflection, reckoning, and collective joy.

2. SYMPOSIUM – Identifying Mechanistic Intervention Targets for Asian Americans Facing Racialized Stress from Adolescence to Young Adulthood

Room: **Duck, Duck, Goose**

Stephanie H. Yu, PhD (chair) - *University of California, San Francisco (UCSF)*

Tae Hwan Son - *University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)*

Belinda Chen - *New York University (NYU)*

Yikai Xu - *RAND Corporation*

Lulu Dong, PhD (discussant) - *Stony Brook University*

Asian Americans (AAs) have been historically excluded from intervention-focused research addressing racism and discrimination prior to COVID-19. This crucial gap underscores the need to identify how interventions can better target mechanisms unique to AAs when facing racialized stress, while leveraging their rich cultural resources and strengths. This symposium brings together research that investigates mechanistic intervention targets for AAs coping with racialized stress from adolescence to young adulthood. Altogether, these studies elucidate findings that point towards modifiable intervention targets (e.g., experiential avoidance, emotion suppression, self-criticism, rumination) for AAs managing racialized stress to foster resistance and cultivate joy.

3. INTERACTIVE SESSION – Education is Resistance: Teaching and Learning Asian American Psychology for Liberation

Room: **Peek-A-Boo Ballroom**

Nadine Nakamura, PhD - *Alliant University*

Sabrina Chen - *Boston University*

Grace S. Kim, PhD - *Boston University*

Sapna Chopra, PhD - *California State University, Fullerton*

Yuying Tsong, PhD - *California State University, Fullerton*

June Kim, PhD - *The College of New Jersey*

Miah Therese Sabas, MA - *University of Massachusetts, Boston*

Kyle Chear - *University of Massachusetts, Boston*

Robyn Wong-Lee - *University of Massachusetts, Boston*

Karen L. Suyemoto, PhD - *University of Massachusetts, Boston*

Gloria Wong-Padoongpatt, PhD - *University of Nevada, Las Vegas*



Currently, we urgently need transformative education that empowers students to resist oppression and advance liberation. However, psychologists are rarely trained in such pedagogy and content selection. This symposium aims to advance participants' skills in effectively teaching Asian American psychology within a transformative education framework through providing insights that span the developmental continuum including: 1) undergraduate student perspectives on learning processes and pedagogical influences; 2) a developing graduate student educator's observations on transformative pedagogical strategies and effects on students; and 3) expertise from senior educators and scholars of Asian American psychology and TE exploring vital connections of content and pedagogy.

4. INTERACTIVE SESSION – A Roadmap for how to Respond to Community Trauma

Room: **Paper**

Razia Kosi, EdD, LCSW-C - *Johns Hopkins University*

Puni Kalra, PhD - *Howard County Public School System*

Our AAPI communities have faced numerous incidents of community-based violence and trauma in the past several decades. While the immediate crisis response is critical, the on-going need for subsequent mental health support is just as significant. This interactive session will share materials from a culturally responsive model that were utilized within the Sikh community, while engaging the participants on how they can leverage their AAPI connections to build partnerships across various AANHDP communities. The model was developed to encourage greater collaboration amongst mental health professionals and community organizations to identify mental health concerns, resources, and solutions.

LUNCH

12:15pm – 1:30pm

- **Sam's No. 3**
 - 1500 Curtis Street
 - samsno3.com
- **The Corner Office**
 - 1401 Curtis Street
 - thecornerofficedenver.com
- **Menya Noodle Bar**
 - 951 16th Street
 - menyacolorado.com
- **S'Ono**
 - 900 S. Auraria Parkway
 - denversono.com/us
- **Casa Tequilas**
 - 934 16th Street Mall
 - casatequilasrestaurant.com
- **Little Finch**
 - 1490 16th Street Mall
 - oliveandfinch.com
- **Modern Market Eatery**
 - 900 16th Street Mall
 - modernmarket.com
- **Tea Cloud & Poke**
 - 1690 Champa Street
 - teaclouddenver.com
- **Mint Indian Restaurant and Lounge**
 - 1531 Stout Street, Suite 130
 - mintindiandenver.com
- **Kaffe Landskap Lodo**
 - 1401 Lawrence Street
 - kaffelandskap.com
- **Bao Brewhouse**
 - 1317 14th Street
 - baobrewhouse.com



BREAKOUT SESSION 3

1:45pm – 2:45pm

1. SYMPOSIUM – Liberatory Conversations: Honoring Joy and Authenticity as Resistance in Political Dialogue

Room: **Keep Away**

Grace S. Kim, PhD (chair) - *Boston University*

Rohan Arcot, MA - *Boston University*

Sabrina Chen - *Boston University*

Jasmine Khamis - *Boston University*

Tanya Songtachalert - *Boston University*

Pooja Aradhya - *Boston University*

Lauren Wong - *Healing Well Counseling*

Leah Rosenzweig - *Institute for Health and Recovery*

In the current political context, when Asian Americans experience racial trauma, feel unsafe, and witness various forms of oppression to marginalized people, navigating political conversations with loved ones can be challenging. In these conversations, Asian Americans contend with differing cultural or personal values, intergenerational differences, and fears of rejection. Yet, within these complexities, there is potential for joy, authenticity, and deepened connection with self and/or others. This interactive session centers joy and authenticity as powerful tools for building resilience and relational care. Through facilitated discussion and an interactive collage activity, we will co-create strategies for dialogue and resistance.

2. INTERACTIVE SESSION – Healing Wounds in AAPI Student K - 12 School Experiences

Room: **Duck, Duck, Goose**

Sruthi Swami, PhD - *California State University, Sacramento*

Danielle Kitaoka - *California State University, Sacramento*

Marissa Catagan - *California State University, Sacramento*

Harsharan Kaur - *California State University, Sacramento*



Asian American youth in K- 12 school systems are not only understudied in research, but they are also under-identified and underserved for various mental health, disability, and academic-related issues. The current interactive session seeks to recognize the various negative and positive experiences of AAPI students in schools and, through collective discussion, brainstorm culturally specific ways to heal these wounds while building community and resisting the harm perpetuated by school systems.

3. INTERACTIVE SESSION – From Imposters to Infiltrators: How Students and Faculty Can Foster Asian American Activism

Room: **Peek-A-Boo Ballroom**

Saniya Soni - *University Massachusetts Boston*

Fei Bi Chan - *University of Louisville Kentucky*

Karen L. Suyemoto, PhD - *University Massachusetts Boston*

Ankita Nikalje, PhD - *University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee*

Jeremiah Therese Sabas - *University Massachusetts Boston*

Robyn Wong-Lee - *University Massachusetts Boston*

Patrick Fang - *University Massachusetts Boston*

Lisa Nakamura - *University Massachusetts Boston*

Grounded in collective liberation and Asian American (AsAm) activism, this session explores how faculty and students can foster AsAm graduate students to take action for social justice. Student and faculty

panelists will share strategies to shift from disempowerment to recognizing and mobilizing student power, while considering the impact of power, privilege, and oppression for AsAms that may facilitate or impede activist development. Interactive discussion in faculty and student groups will invite participants to share experiences and problem solve challenges and barriers with the goal of leaving with greater insight and strategies to engage in and empower graduate student resistance.

4. INTERACTIVE SESSION – Grieving in Han (한 恨), Rising in Heung (흥 興), and Rooting in Jeong (정 情): Language as Decolonial Praxis for Collective Emotion, Resistance, and Healing

Room: **Paper**

Jennifer Jang, M.S.Ed, M.A. - *University of Maryland - College Park*

NaYeon Yang, Ph.D. - *University of North Texas*

This session explores the power of language to shape our emotional experiences through a decolonial lens. Drawing on Korean concepts such as han (collective sorrow, anger, and grief), heung (collective, embodied joy), and jeong (deep connection), we will examine how Asian languages offer pathways to collective healing. As much of our professional lives revolve around English, participants will be invited to reconnect with their cultural languages, grounded in ancestral wisdom and practices of resistance and joy. Through storytelling, reflection, and embodied practice, we will challenge individualistic paradigms and reclaim the collective experience of emotions, resistance, and healing.

CLOSING KEYNOTE PANEL

3pm – 3:45pm

Peek-A-Boo Ballroom

Moving Towards Justice and Liberation: Engaged Leadership Strategies

This closing keynote will feature a panel of esteemed AAPA leaders who remain engaged, visible, and influential, even amid a deeply turbulent socio-political environment. The panelists (*Drs. Bhojwani, Felipe, Nakamura, and Suyemoto*) will reflect on challenges facing leaders and the roles of community and resistance in the pursuit of liberation. Panelists will discuss their personal and professional strategies for maintaining hope in the presence of attacks and violence targeting oppressed people. (*Dr. Jan Estrellado, discussant*)



**Karen
SUYEMOTO**

**Nadine
NAKAMURA**

**Lou
FELIPE**

**Jaya
BHOJWANI**

**Jan
ESTRELLADO**

POSTER SESSION & AFTERNOON REFRESHMENTS + STUDENT & POSTER AWARDS

4pm – 5:30pm

The Curtis Street Foyer

* Poster presenters should put up their posters between 7:30-8:30am. Posters will be displayed throughout the day (8:30am -5:30pm). Presenters should plan to stand next to their posters to discuss their work from 4pm - 5:30pm, and to take down the posters at 5:30pm.

Listed in Alphabetical Order by Title:

- 1. An Ecological Framework for Supporting AAPI Students with Disabilities in Schools**
Presenters: Danielle Kitaoka, Sruthi Swami, Harsharan Kaur, & Marissa Catagan
- 2. Bottom-up Racial Socialization: U.S.-Born Asian Americans' Initiation of Conversations About Race with their Immigrant Elders**
Presenters: Huyen Kim, Victoria Adair, & Danielle Godon-Decoteau
- 3. Critical Consciousness and Mental Health Among Asian American College Students: The Role of Critical Agency**
Presenters: Yue Ni & Xuan Dinh
- 4. Examination of Model Minority Myth, Mentorship, University Environment, and Sense of Belonging on Well-Being of Asian American Undergraduate and Graduate Students**
Presenter: Stephanie Chin
- 5. Examining Associations Between Social Comparison, Ethnic Identity, and Coping Self-Efficacy in Asian American College Students**
Presenters: Anna Francesca Maristela & Grace Cho
- 6. Exploring Identity Formation for Intersectional Asian Diaspora**
Presenters: Jenny Lee, Adarsh Javvaji, Dominique Harlan, Shao Yuan Chong, & Ye Xuan Wee
- 7. Exploring Loneliness in First-Generation Cambodian Americans Who Survived the Khmer Rouge Genocide**
Presenters: Daniel Lee, Eleni Kapoulea, & Rebecca Ready
- 8. Exploring the Mediating Role of Cultural Values In the Relation Between Experiences Of Discrimination and Activism Among Asian Americans Since COVID-19**
Presenters: Jocelyn E.U. Pijpaert & Angela B. Kim
- 9. Exploring the Role of Ayurveda on ADHD: A Clinician's Perspective**
Presenters: Manasa Swaminathan, Katie Kivisto, Ami Shah, & Rebecca McNally
- 10. From Marginalization to Resilience, The Role of 무속, Korean Shamanism**
Presenters: Yae Ji Kim, Aditi Gera, & Michi Fu
- 11. Grit and Belief in the Model Minority Myth: Predictors of Psychological Distress and Self-Esteem**
Presenters: Eunie (Yoon Kyung) Jung & Ya-Shu Liang

- 12. Heterosexism and Racism on Sexual Minority Asian Americans' Disordered Eating: Coping Self-Efficacy as Moderator**
Presenters: Xiaoyin Liu & Tiffany A. Brown
- 13. "I Don't Know Enough," but "I Would Want to Do More": Unpacking Asian American Youths' Collective Identity and Sociopolitical Positioning**
Presenters: Soe Young Lee & Xinyu Gu
- 14. In Our Own Words: Culturally Empowering Support Group in Chinese for Chinese International Students**
Presenters: Yinan Liang, Binglun Hu, & Xiaohui Yang
- 15. Intraminority Solidarity as Post-Traumatic Growth Among Asian American College Students: The Mediating Role of Critical Consciousness**
Presenters: Richard Chang & Gloria Wong-Padoongpatt
- 16. Making Meaning, Resisting Racism: The Moderating Role of Critical Reflection on Hedonic and Eudaimonic Well-being for Asian Americans**
Presenters: Patrick Fang, Miah Therese Sabas, Robyn Wong-Lee, Saniya Soni, Kyle Chear, Tiffany Tang, & Karen L. Suyemoto
- 17. Microaggressions, Classroom Discomfort, and Chinese LGBTQ Students' Intention to Transfer or Drop Out: A Mediation Analysis**
Presenters: Wenjia Wang & Cristina Magalhaes
- 18. Mitigating Mental Health Disparities: Ethnic Matching as a Moderating Variable of Help Seeking Using the Theory of Planned Behavior**
Presenter: Max Oishi
- 19. Post-Traumatic Growth? Nah, We're Thriving Mid-Trauma: South Asian Grad Students Flourishing in the Chaos**
Presenters: Vardha Kharbanda, Unnati Upadhyay, & Bushra Ali
- 20. Reclaiming Mindfulness: Cultural Roots, Collective Healing, and Joy in Asian American Mental Health**
Presenter: Regina Tahk
- 21. Success, But Not the Model Minority: How Family, Gender, Internalized Oppression, and the Model Minority Myth Shape Southeast Asian American Students' Vision of Education**
Presenters: Elvina Le & Stephanie M. Ortiz
- 22. The Liberating Role of Chosen Families Among LGBTQIA2S+ Asian Americans**
Presenters: Joey K. Sheung, Yae Ji Kim, Calista Lukman, & Katherine Arenella
- 23. The Transformative and Healing Power of Visual Storytelling for AAPI Communities**
Presenters: Emily Tseung, Tiffany Fang, Jeanie Chang, Erica Pinney, Yiyu Cheng, Claude Louis, Jiwon Lee, Katherine Vause, Han Na Lee, Yun Lu, Lydia HaRim Ahn, Nancy Truong, Jeffrey Yeung, & Matthew Miller
- 24. Unlearning Perfectionism: Liberating Asian American College Students From Academic and Cultural Pressures**
Presenters: Calista Lukman & Kim Yae Ji

BREAK

5:30pm – 6:30pm

AAPA AWARDS BANQUET

6:30pm – 11:30pm

The Curtis Hotel Four Square Ballroom & Patio

Mahalo for the privilege of serving as AAPA's Banquet Chair for our 2025 Convention. I joined AAPA as a student member decades ago and fondly recall past banquets as being lively sold-out events where everyone let their hair down. In addition to the highlight of ushering in Awardees and new AAPA Fellows, our banquets have been rare opportunities to hear our members serenading one another and/or dancing.

This year's banquet will be no different. We will be having both singing *and* dancing at the rooftop venue of the Curtis Hotel in Denver, CO. No need to negotiate transportation to another venue – just head upstairs after convention is over and kick up your heels with us! Those in attendance will enjoy an Asian-themed dinner.

In solidarity with this year's convention theme, it's been my pleasure to make sure our banquet attendees find **joy in community**. Therefore, our time together will feature ice-breakers intended to build community, a recognition of this year's awardees, and also an opportunity for everyone to celebrate the night away through song and dance. We'll have our beautiful venue until midnight so hopefully everyone will be able to enjoy one of the signature drinks personally selected by our Presidential Trio as we toast together.

This year's banquet will be an immersive experience where no one should be left behind. As such, we hope that you enjoy getting to know one another by actively participating in the ice-breakers, slideshow and co-creating our digital party favor of musical favorites.

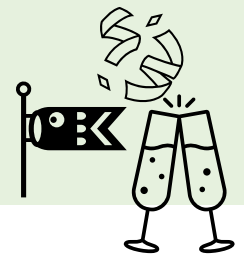
- You're invited to collaborate on our banquet slide show. To do so, please share photos from our time together using the hashtag: [#aapa2025banquet](https://bit.ly/aapa2025banquet).
- Musical offerings to get everyone on the dancefloor may include K-Pop, J-Pop, and Bollywood. Please add one of your favorite songs to our digital party favor of shared Spotify playlist: <https://bit.ly/aapa2025banquet>. (Note: Members who aren't able to join us for our banquet are also invited to contribute to our shared play list which we can use to think fondly of one another until we meet again.)

A special shout out goes out to all the volunteers who have taken part in the special touches during our 2025 Banquet that hopefully make everyone feel like a cherished part of our AAPA community.

In solidarity and with aloha 🌈,

Michi Fu, Ph.D.

2025 AAPA Banquet Chair



2025 CONVENTION VOLUNTEERS

Shao Yuan Chong
Cassidy Fan
Kailyn Fan
Patrick Fang
Lain Shae Goh
Claire Hsu
Ghowash Irshad

Haruka Kokaze
Daniel Lee
Jenny Lee
Anna Maristela
Mike Ni
M Pease
Abby Rusnak

Regina Tahk
Miah Theresse Sabas
Christine Q. Turner
Geetanjali Vij
Veron Villanueva
Robyn Wong-Lee
Jingwei Yang

Louan Yang
Soe Young
Cordelia Zhong
Yiheng Zhou
Anda Zhao

2025 PROGRAM REVIEWERS

Rohan Arcot
Jaya Bhojwani
Christine Catipon
Stephanie Chin
Sally Chung

Donna Demanarig
Teresa Hsu
Vardha Kharbanda
Yinan Liang
Monique Kulkarni

Michelle Madore
Thanh Nguyen
Madeline Ofina
Lainie Posecion
Sukanya Ray

Pei-Chun Tsai
Gloria Wong-Padoongpatt



2025 AAPA CONVENTION - SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

Registration and Breakfast: The Curtis Street Foyer, 7:30am – 8:30am
LDI Fellows Presentation, Peek-A-Boo Ballroom, 7:30am – 8:30am
Welcome Remarks and Announcements: Peek-A-Boo Ballroom, 8:45am – 9:00am

KEYNOTE ADDRESS: Peek-A-Boo Ballroom, 9:00am – 9:45am

**** Continuing Education-Eligible Session**

Location	BREAKOUT SESSION 1 10am – 11am	BREAKOUT SESSION 2 11:15am – 12:15pm	LUNCH 12:15pm – 1:30pm	BREAKOUT SESSION 3 1:45pm – 2:45pm
Keep Away Room	**“We’ve Gotten Through This Before”: Reflecting on HerStory’s Early-Career Uncertainty	**“You Have to Speak Up”: HerStory of Rage, Power, and Joy	---	Liberatory Conversations: Honoring Joy and Authenticity as Resistance in Political Dialogue
Duck, Duck, Goose Room	**Alongside My People: A Cross-Cultural Conversation Centering Experiences of Health Navigators in Refugee and Immigrant Mental Health Care	Identifying Mechanistic Intervention Targets for Asian Americans Facing Racialized Stress from Adolescence to Young Adulthood	---	**Healing Wounds in AAPI Student K - 12 School Experiences
Peek-A-Boo Ballroom	**Not Your Model Minority: Asian American Educators’ Experiences and Building Systems of Care towards Liberation and Joy	**Education is Resistance: Teaching and Learning Asian American Psychology for Liberation	---	From Imposters to Infiltrators: How Students and Faculty Can Foster Asian American Activism
Paper Room	Rethinking Applications of Intersectionality and Dynamism in Contextualizing the Asian and Asian Diasporic Experience	A Roadmap for how to Respond to Community Trauma	---	Grieving in Han (한 恨), Rising in Heung (흥 興), and Rooting in Jeong (정 情): Language as Decolonial Praxis for Collective Emotion, Resistance, and Healing

CLOSING KEYNOTE PANEL: Peek-A-Boo Ballroom, 3pm – 3:45pm

Poster Session and Afternoon Snacks: The Curtis Street Foyer, 4pm – 5:30pm
Poster and Student Awards Announcements: Peek-A-Boo Ballroom
Awards Banquet, Dance and Karaoke: The Curtis Hotel – Four Square Ballroom, 6:30pm – 11:30pm

2025 AAPA CONVENTION COMMITTEE



Convention Chair:
Program Committee Co-Chairs:
Registration Committee Co-Chairs:
Sessions Committee Chair:
Poster Committee Chair:
Banquet & Entertainment Chair:
Mentor-Mentee Committee Chair:
Book Sale Committee Chair:
Sponsorship Committee Chair:
Volunteer Committee Co-Chairs:

Gloria Wong-Padoongpatt
Shveta Mittal and Noriel Lim
Chandni Shah, Gladys Khem Quinlan, Cassidy Fan
Donna Demanarig
Vardha Kharbanda
Michi Fu
Lainie Posecion
Sonia Bajwa
Tae Son
Max Oishi and Ivy Xu



REGISTER

About the COVER ART: The cover art for this year’s convention program was created by **Gladys Khem Quinlan**. The ginkgo leaves symbolize resilience and enduring challenges, particularly intergenerational strength, while the rice plant symbolizes sustenance, the nourishment required in and drawn from collective care (and the most basic food staple!).