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**Save the Date: 2015 APIASF Higher Education Summit**  
Tuesday, June 23, 2015 | Washington, DC

### **Congratulations to the 2014-2015 APIASF Richland College AANAPISI Scholars!**



L-R: Dr. Kay Eggleston, Richland College President; 2014-2015 APIASF Richland College AANAPISI Scholars; PoLin So, APIASF

Earlier this month, APIASF joined Richland College, one of the nation's Asian American Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institutions (AANAPISI), to celebrate the accomplishments of the 2014-2015 Cohort of APIASF Richland College AANAPISI Scholars.

*The APIASF AANAPISI Scholarship Program is supported by The Coca-Cola Foundation, Educational Testing Service, General Mills Foundation, Hilton Worldwide, Honda, USA Funds, Walmart Foundation, and Wells Fargo.*

[Learn More About AANAPISIs](#)

### **Supporting APIASF Across the Pacific: \$30,000 Raised**

On Saturday, March 14, friends and loyal APIASF supporters Mina Martinez and Liza Beighley hosted an event in Hong Kong at the home of Mina & Steve Martinez to raise much-needed awareness and funds in support of the mission of APIASF. Guests learned about APIASF's work, the overlooked needs of AAPI students, and how to best support students during and after college.



L-R: Jim & Liza Beighley, the Honorable Anthony Babauta, Mina & Steve Martinez; Photo Credit: Eugene Chan

The event not only raised over \$30,000 but also connected APIASF with individuals across the globe in efforts to highlight the changing landscape of higher education for today's students. This is now anticipated to become an annual fundraising event to help create opportunities for AAPI students across the nation and Pacific Islands. Thank you to Mina, Liza, and their guests, who contributed to the success of this event.

## APIASF in the News

*Diverse Issues in Higher Education* recently published an article underscoring the importance of the APIASF Jump Start College Tour and its relevance in providing financial literacy, college and career planning, and leadership development resources to the AAPI community.

[Read More](#)

## APIASF Makes its Way to Boston

On Friday, March 20, APIASF hosted a community reception in Boston, Massachusetts where community and business leaders, as well as APIASF Alumni, gathered to learn more from APIASF leadership and supporters about the organization's impact on ensuring the success of AAPI students.



At the APIASF Jump Start College Tour, held at UMass Boston on Saturday, March 21, more than 100 students and parents gathered to learn more about college planning, financial literacy, and professional and leadership development.

Thank you to our presenting sponsor, Wells Fargo, and our partner and panelists at UMass Boston, for helping make this a successful event!

[More on APIASF Events](#)

## Celebrate AAPI Heritage Month in May

Throughout the month of May, we will be collecting photos from the community to discover how each of us celebrates AAPI Heritage Month under the theme, "**Lessons Learned: Exploring Cultural Heritage.**" Share how your roots have influenced your journey in higher education and beyond. What positive advice can you offer to future generations?

Submit your photo with a brief quote to [PoLin So](#) and/or by using [#repAAPIHM](#) and tagging [@APIASF](#) on social media. Stay tuned to view the collage at the end of May!

If you're a **Scholar**, be sure to engage with us on the blog and join the post-a-day challenge as Scholars and APIASF staff recognize 31 ways that their heritage has been relevant to the development of their personal identities.

Submit a blog post via direct blog submission, email, and/or using [#repAAPIHM](#) on social media. We welcome text, photo, and video posts.



**Check out** last month's posts on [#repConnections](#).

[Join the Conversation](#)

## Scholar Profile

*"[...] Since I was a child, the principle of education has been indoctrinated in my thoughts and aspirations. I have been taught that education is the escape route from our financial instability and knowledge is the methodology [...] As I transitioned into high school, the clubs I participated in continued to be a comfort that quelled my fears from the past. Whether it was conversing with the "grandparents" at Adopt-A-Grandparent for the Interact Club, tutoring in chemical equilibrium for a peer tutoring service, or cross-examining a witness for Mock Trial, I had a community; but more than that, I gained the confidence to expose and embrace my differences. Not only have I reaped benefits of my community at school but also I have contributed to the community in many ways."*



**Riya Desai**

2014 - 2015 APIASF / Southern California Edison Scholar  
Attending University of California, Berkeley | Majoring in Biochemistry

## Volunteer Profile



"Being a volunteer for APIASF was such a heartwarming and humbling experience. The essays I read were beautifully written by the students and I felt an instant connection to many of them. I'm proud to have assisted an organization that provides financial aid to so many students in need."

**Marla Baldomero**

APIASF Volunteer Reader | Hilton Worldwide, Miami Regional Office

[Volunteer with APIASF](#)

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