

MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

To our Asian Pacific Islander Desi American/ Asian Community,

The Asian Pacific American Student Organization has been the voice for our fellow Asian Pacific Islander Desi American/ Asian (APIDA/A) community at Michigan State University for over forty years. Founded by a group of student activists in 1982, APASO has continued its goal to advocate for the APIDA student body community on Michigan State University's campus in social, political, and academic contexts. With roots in activism, APASO strives to support an inclusive and intersectional community on MSU's campus and beyond. APASO works towards creating awareness about our vast community through programming, collaborations, and networking. As a result, we would like to highlight our five main focuses for this upcoming academic year of Fall '23 - Spring '24. If you have any questions, concerns, or comments, please do not hesitate to contact the APASO E-Board.

Thank you,

Hanaa Yoo
President

Hibah Khan
Vice President of Internal Affairs



**Asian Pacific
American
Student
Organization**

Office of Cultural and
Academic Transition
(OCAT)
Michigan State University
556 E. Circle Dr., Room 33
Student Services Building
East Lansing, MI 48824

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1. Affirmative Action
 - a. Banning affirmative action continues to uphold the stereotype of the model minority myth. APASO will strive to debunk the model minority myth by reclaiming our voices through sharing our stories of both struggles and successes from our vast APIDA/A Community.
 - b. We will remind again and again that the #1 population that has benefited the most from affirmative action are WHITE WOMEN. So, to our white women allies, we implore you to move from allyship to advocacy, stand with us, and demand that the same opportunities granted to you to overcome systemic and structural sexist barriers and policies be given to people of color (POC).
 - c. DEI is nationally under attack. Michigan State University has made a commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, and we, as APASO, by no means will allow the US Supreme Court's ruling or Florida, Texas, or any other State to lessen MSU's sworn commitment to DEI education, representation and the collective mission for a truly multicultural and intersectional community.
 - d. This ruling creates an anti-blackness narrative as it pins other POCs against each other. APASO will continue to stand in solidarity with our fellow communities of color and will not be weaponized to maintain the structures of white supremacy.
2. Building and Strengthening Community
 - a. Conducting biweekly general body meetings for our APIDA community to help promote community and relationship building.
 - b. Hosting large-scale APIDA/A-centered events such as Cultural Vogue, Fall Welcome, APIDA/A Celebratory, APIDA/A Heritage Month, etc.
 - c. Ensuring constant communication and clarity for all by holding biweekly office hours from APASO's President and Vice President of Internal Affairs.
 - d. Collaborating with organizations and programs in our MSU community and in Greater Lansing and beyond.
 - e. Supporting the local food industry by promoting and supporting APIDA vendors.
 - f. Staying in constant communication with APIDA/AFSA, APAGA, APA Studies, and our APIDA alumni.
3. Multicultural Center
 - a. Ensuring the development and commitment of the building centers on the needs of POC students. Making sure we, as CORES groups, are not (again) robbed of space created for us that we have been fighting for (since the 1980s) over 40+ years for.

4. Donor Accountability

- a. APASO will not be manipulated by money and will continue to hold MSU accountable to the same standards through involvement in the process of creating donor accountability in all aspects.

5. Student Success

- a. Demand that APIDAs be included in the mission and goals for student success outlined in the Neighborhood Student Success Collaborative. Demand that (NSSC) and MSU begin to disaggregate data to address the prominent struggles and opportunity gaps for some within our APIDA/A community, i.e. Pacific Islander, South Asian, APIDA Refugees, etc.
- b. Supporting Spartans in an academic light by promoting updated resources, such as tutoring or academic advising, in our monthly newsletter.
- c. Emphasizing the importance of mental health in our APIDA community and taking away the stigma through hosting monthly safe spaces that include destressing and student wellness activities.
- d. Ensuring heightened safety in, not only, our larger events but also around campus.
- e. Updating APASO's website for easier use and access to resources for students, staff, faculty, and alumni.



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