

Asian Pacific Partners in Leadership for Education (APPLE)

We are seeking board members, especially those with experience or interest in community organization, youth programming and educational issues such as language access. We envision quarterly board meetings, with interim meetings for subcommittees. Our vision statement, mission statement and background information follow.

Vision Statement: To be a channel for progress, inspiring and nurturing the Colorado Asian American Pacific Islander communities toward excellence and leadership in education.

Mission Statement: To promote excellence and leadership in education for all Asian American Pacific Islander communities of Colorado.

Initial Goals:

- Develop and support academic and leadership potential in Colorado AAPI youth.
- Develop and engage leadership in and for educational issues affective Colorado's AAPI communities.
- Advocate for equity and justice for Colorado's AAPI communities as it relates to education.
- Solicit contributions in support of APPLE's vision and mission and to cover costs related to any purpose and program of the organization.

Background:

In October 2007, the Aurora Asian/Pacific Community Partnership discussed the expansion of the Aurora Asian Education Awards Program to be more inclusive of the greater metropolitan area. A sub-committee met to discuss the possibilities of an education initiative that could focus on the needs and issues surrounding the Asian Pacific American communities of Colorado. This committee included Partnership Co-Chairs Edith Pasion and Harvey Lee, Frankie Anderson, Secretary to the Partnership, and Karl Chwe, Chair of the Asian Education Advisory Council (AEAC), which has for many years organized an Asian awards program for the Denver Public Schools. The initial discussions proved to be favorable for joining forces and creating a new committee or organization.

In January 2008, a new education initiative was introduced, subsequently called Asian Pacific Partners in Leadership for Education (APPLE). The Executive Committee would be made up of members from the Partnership, AEAC, other interested Pan-Asian organizations, as well as individuals from not only the APA communities but also those with an educational focus. A Board of Directors is currently being formed, with APPLE seeking individuals who are committed to educational purposes.

The Fiscal Sponsor for APPLE until nonprofit status is completed, is the Asian Roundtable of Colorado, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) Pan-Asian organization that has faithfully sponsored both the Partnership's and AEAC's programs over the years.

Colorado APPLE will not only produce an annual APA student awards program, but will also focus on developing leadership among Colorado's youth. The organization will discuss current educational issues that impact the APA communities, hold forums, and educate the general public about such issues. The joint community effort will also enhance the ability to raise funds for APA education purposes without conflict, maximizing resources and energies for broader APA recognition within the greater community.

Contact Information:

The first Chair of the organization is Karl Chwe, Program Coordinator for the Asian Pacific Development Center's Youth Strengthening Youth Program and Chair of Denver Public Schools' Asian Education Advisory Council. His contact information follows:

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