

Asian American and Asian Resource and Cultural Center
Newsletter
April 28, 2025

**AAARCC 10th Anniversary Fundraising:
A Letter to Friends of the AAARCC**

On April 29, 2015, the AAARCC officially opened its doors in a special ceremony at Loeb Playhouse, followed by a tour to then a one-room office in Stewart Center room 162. I felt such a joy to be able to attend the event with many of the Asian and Asian American communities at Purdue University. Some of the attendees were dearest colleagues and mentors, collectively putting in labors of care throughout the years for both an academic program and a dedicated space where intersecting Asian identities can be woven into our campus life. My then six-month old baby might not yet understand the importance of the moment, but he was part of the celebration, cherished and carried by a community.



As April 29, 2025 is approaching, I am reflecting on the AAARCC's 10th anniversary. The one-room office that has turned into a two-story, 1927 house where meaningful journey of identity, academic excellence, and professional/leadership growth is being cultivated every day. The AAARCC now offers pedagogical, cultural, and advocacy programming as opportunities to learn about oneself and one another and even bring different units and organizations into partnerships. We provide resources – facility, books, food, artwork, garden, and more- to discuss multifaceted stories of experiences and share deep stories about lives as Boilermakers.

The more I reflect, my thoughts keep coming back to images of people.

- How my work is standing on the shoulders of leaders who came before me
- AAARCC staff throughout the years who encourages each other through this work
- Students who greet the staff as they come into the door and tell us about their day
- Campus partners who stretch our vision, budget, and impact through partnerships
- Students from different academic classes and student organizations who come to the AAARCC and make our community better
- Faculty and staff who bring their students to get to know the center's work
- Smiles and pride radiating of volunteers and graduating students at our celebration events
- Alumni who give us a surprise by coming back to campus and visiting us
- Groups of Friends of the AAARCC who gather to form a collective support

People and communities are what makes the work at the AAARCC special and rewarding. **To all who have been, are currently or will someday be a part of this important and impactful work, thank you.**

On this 10th anniversary of the AAARCC, I hope you consider supporting our initiatives through giving of your time, expertise, and/or your financial resources. If this is your first time engaging with the AAARCC and you would like to know more about our work, please go to our website:

<https://www.purdue.edu/aaarcc>

If you have further questions, please email me at aaarcc@purdue.edu.

Please consider making a gift today at: bit.ly/givetothaaarcc

Sincerely,

Pamela K. Sari, Ph.D.

Director, Asian American and Asian Resource and Cultural Center

Purdue University



Image 2. The Spring 2025 AAARCC staff, student staff, and intern

Upcoming Programming

AAARCC DESTRESS WEEK

APRIL



Monday 28 1:00PM - 3:00PM TEA & TIERS <i>Tea Appreciation Club</i> Enjoy a delightful afternoon of freshly brewed tea and delicious cakes, perfect for sweetening your day and sharing good company!	Tuesday 29 11:00AM - 2:00PM MOHINGA MASTERCLASS <i>MYSA</i> Learn the art of making Mohinga (fish soup), the National Dish of Myanmar!	Wednesday 30 3:00PM - 5:00PM HENNA & LASSI <i>AIF</i> Celebrate culture, creativity, and community with henna art and refreshing mango lassi!
Thursday 01 12:00PM - 1:30PM TEMPEH! <i>AAARCC</i> Join us for a fun and flavorful cooking demo for an Indonesian fermented soybean cuisine, from savory to sweet!	Friday 02 3:00PM - 4:00PM FAMILY GAMES <i>TSA x VSA</i> Dive into the world of traditional Taiwanese and Vietnamese games and snacks!	<div style="text-align: center;"> All events will take place at the AAARCC (915 5th St). Email aaarcc@purdue.edu if you have questions about the events. </div>

MAY




2:00PM - 5:00PM SING IT OUT! <i>PFA</i> Step up to the mic and unleash your inner superstar at this lively karaoke afternoon filled with music, fun, and unforgettable performances!	4:00PM - 5:00PM MOCHI KART <i>Gardening Club</i> Roll up your sleeves to make delicious mochi and then race your friends in a thrilling Mario Kart showdown!
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SPRING
2025

**Join us before
finals week for
a variety of
destress
activities!**



Asian American and Asian
Resource and Cultural Center



Finish strong and wrap up the end of the spring semester with the AAARCC and various Asian-interest student organizations co-hosting the Spring 2025 Destress Week. Destress Week features daily events during the week of April 28 - May 2, 2025 co-hosted at the AAARCC (915 5th St). Check out the student organizations co-hosting the Destress Week events:

Monday | April 28

1:00PM-3:00PM | Tea & Tiers with Tea Appreciation Club

Enjoy a delightful afternoon of freshly brewed tea and delicious cakes, perfect for sweetening your day and sharing good company.

Tuesday | April 29

11:00AM - 2:00PM | Mohinga Masterclass with Myanmar Student Association

Learn the art of making Mohinga (fish soup), the National Dish of Myanmar.

Wednesday | April 30

3:00PM - 5:00PM | Henna & Lassi with American India Foundation

Celebrate culture, creativity, and community with henna art and refreshing mango lassi.

Thursday | May 01

12:30PM - 1:30PM | Tempeh! with AAARCC

Join us for a fun and flavorful cooking demo for an Indonesian fermented soybean cuisine, from savory to sweet.

2:00PM - 5:00PM | Sing it out! with Purdue Filipino Association

Step up to the mic and unleash your inner superstar at this lively karaoke afternoon filled with music, fun, and unforgettable performances.

Friday | May 02

3:00PM - 4:00PM | Family Games with Taiwanese Student Association x Vietnamese Student Association

Dive into the world of traditional Taiwanese and Vietnamese games and snacks.

4:00PM - 5:00PM | Mochi Kart with Gardening Club

Roll up your sleeves to make delicious mochi and then race your friends in a thrilling Mario Kart showdown.

Email aaarcc@purdue.edu if you have questions about the events.

These events are partially funded by SFAB.



Saturday, May 3, 2025 | 5:00PM - 8:00PM

Doors open at 4:30PM and celebration event will start promptly at 5pm

CoRec Gold & Black Gyms (355 N Martin Jischke Dr)

Free event parking available at the Co-Rec Parking Lot

Supporters who are unable to attend in-person can watch the celebration event over Zoom at bit.ly/ai25zoom

Event is open to all.
Undergraduate and
graduate students
graduating in Spring,
Summer, & Fall 2025 may
register to receive a stole.



Please RSVP to reserve your stole
and spot at the celebration!

bit.ly/InspirAsian25

Please note that stoles will only be provided for
registrants who attend the event in person

Dress code is celebratory and formal attire

Light refreshments will be served

Featuring performances from student organizations

Follow @purdueasub & @purdueaarcc on social media for more information

Free event and open to the campus community

In accordance with Purdue policies, all persons have equal access to Purdue University's educational programs, services and activities, without regard to race, religion, color, sex, age, national origin or ancestry, genetic information, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, disability or status as a veteran. See Purdue's Nondiscrimination Policy Statement. If you have any questions or concerns regarding these policies, please contact the Office of the Vice President for Ethics and Compliance at vpec@purdue.edu or 765-494-5830.



Office of Diversity, Inclusion
and Belonging

Asian American and Asian
Resource and Cultural Center

Purdue for Life Foundation



InspirAsian 2025: AAARCC Graduation & ASUB Gala
Saturday, May 3, 2025 | 5-8pm (doors open at 4:30 PM)
Co-Rec Gold & Black Gyms | 355 N Martin Jischke Dr

Event is open to all. Undergraduate and graduate students graduating in Spring, Summer, and Fall 2025 may register to receive a stole. Dress code is celebratory and formal attire. Light refreshments will be served. This event will feature performances from student organizations.

Please **RSVP** to reserve your stole and spot at the celebration event
here: bit.ly/InspirAsian25

Follow @purdueasub and @purdueaaarcc on social media for more information. This event is made possible by the Office of Diversity, Inclusion, and Belonging, AAARCC, Asian Student Union Board, Purdue for Life Foundation, Purdue Asian Alumni Network, and Asian American and Asian Graduate Student Association.

Week in Review





The AAARCC celebrated our volunteers and student staff this year! Our appreciation event on April 24, 2025 started with presentations from AAARCC student staff Aerrielle Condino, HDFS Intern Jae Yon Kim, and AAARCC/Libraries and School of Information Studies PIC Student Staff Lamiya Laxmidhar. We would like to thank Associate Dean for Libraries and School of Information Studies, Mark Puente, for his presence at the event and for all his enduring support through the year for our PIC student staff.

We appreciated our 2024-2025 campus partners and especially CAPS, CCO, OWL, BFT, and CARE liaisons who holds regular liaison hours at the AAARCC and encourage students to use these units' services.

Our performance art groups, Lion Dance team (18 active members) and Jade Collective (5 active vocal ensemble members) contributed many hours of practicing and performing on campus, and our Lion Dance team also performs in the Greater Lafayette community. Thank you to our performing art leaders this year - Noelani Tanita, Thomas Cheng, and Raeann Risos. Special thank you to Jade Collective's partner, artist in residence Vlad Marasigan for your help this year.

The AAARCC's Language and Conversation hours created a cohort of volunteers (12 people) who shared their time weekly for attendees to learn and practice Chinese, Korean, Indonesian, and Vietnamese. This year's cohort has contributed a total of 266 volunteer hours, deepened connection and friendship with each other.

The AAARCC staff presented our volunteer data for 2024-2025. The AAARCC has a total of 116 registered volunteers who generously contributed a total of 655 hours collectively throughout the academic year. Top three most volunteer opportunities (not counting performing art groups) are Language and Conversation Practice hours, Lunch and Learn series, and the Lunar New Year event. Congratulations to our top volunteers for this year: Ervin Liao, Kate Garcia, Daniel Cung, and Kai Suggs.

If you are interested in volunteering for the AAARCC next year, please email aaarcc@purdue.edu.

Congratulations to Friends of the AAARCC for their accomplishments:

- **Denny Putra** (AAARCC Graduate Assistant from 2020-2024) defended his dissertation titled "Internalized Racism and Asian American Mental Health." This dissertation is part of the requirements for his Ph.D. program in Counseling Psychology, College of Education at Purdue University
- **Dr. Mindy Tan** (African American Studies) received the School of Interdisciplinary Studies Outstanding Teaching Award.
- **Kathleen Wagner** (Ph.D. Student in Linguistics and AAARCC Administrative Assistant from 2019-2023) received the Excellence in Teaching Awards for Graduate Students in Linguistics.








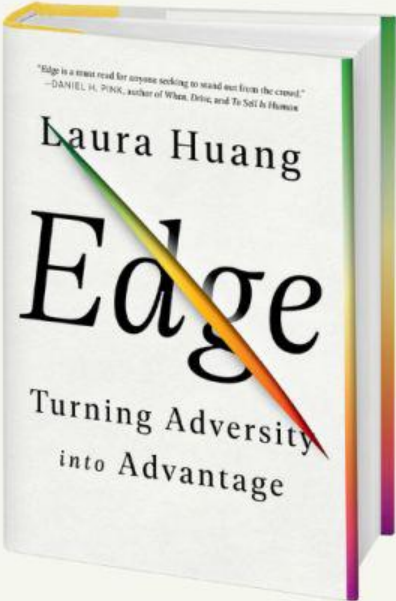
Thank you for attending the Artist in Residence Talk and Reception with Amanda Phingbodhipakkiya @alonglastname to celebrate the AAARCC's 10th anniversary and observe the Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. "Where Roots Remember," a site-specific sculpture that Amanda created with students over four days of residency, is a reflection of a weaving of

stories and building of a community. Thank you, Amanda, for visiting us and helping us create meaningful art together! Thank you, Ri Flook, who wrote and read the poem "We the Roots" special for this event. This program is made possible by AAARCC, University Residences, Bechtel Innovation Design Center, Weldon School of Biomedical Engineering, SFAB, Purdue Food Co., ALab, PATTeRN (John Martinson Honors College), and ZMEDStudios.. Thank you to all the volunteers who help us prepare artworks and space for this event.


Where Roots Remember is similarly a reflection of the AAARCC as a space to weave meaningful journeys of identities, academic excellence, and professional and leadership growth.

Campus and Community Opportunities

**Book Club
Reading Plan**




PURDUE ALUMNI
PURDUE ASIAN
ALUMNI NETWORK



Prof. Laura Huang
May 6th, 2025
Chapters 1 - 2

May 20th, 2025
Chapters 3 - 5

 *June 3rd, 2025*
Author's TALK
Chapters 6 - 7

June 17th, 2025
Chapters 8 - 10

July 8th, 2025
Chapters 11 - 13

Every Other Tuesday Starting on May 6th
(except for July 8th)
Zoom: 8 pm to 9 pm US ET

Sponsored by the Purdue for Life Foundation

Book Club Reading Plan with Professor Laura Huang and Purdue Asian Alumni Network

May 6th, 2025: Chapters 1-2

May 20th, 2025: Chapters 3-5

June 3rd, 2025 (Author's Talk): Chapters 6-7

June 17th, 2025: Chapters 8-10

July 8th, 2025: Chapters 11-13

Every other Tuesday starting on May 6th (except for July 8th)

Zoom: 8pm-9pm US ET

Sponsored by the Purdue for Life Foundation

The Division of Recreation & Wellness is excited to offer a free cooking class to students experiencing food insecurity. This initiative will equip students with the practical skills and knowledge to prepare healthy, affordable meals.

Important Details:

- **Class Offerings:** Free cooking classes to help students develop essential skills for preparing nutritious meals.
- **Registration Requirement:** Students must register in advance for the class. By registering, they agree to complete a short Qualtrics form for data collection, which will help us measure the program's impact.
- **Eligibility:** Open to students experiencing food insecurity.

Dates:

- **Thursday, May 1st Cooking Demonstration** “Bowl Me Over: Ultimate Mashed Potato Bowls” at noon (23 participants)
- **Thursday, May 29th Hands On Cooking Class** “Bowl Me Over: Ultimate Mashed Potato Bowls” at noon (14 participants)
- **Friday, June 6th Hands On Cooking Class** “Bowl Me Over: Ultimate Mashed Potato Bowls” at noon (14 participants)

Please reach out to **Carmen Williams (will1483@purdue.edu)** if you feel you would benefit from attending any of these sessions. Deadlines are listed below. *The Division will follow up with individuals looking to participant with registration details.*

Please email Carmen Williams by:

- April 29th for May 1st demo
- May 27th for May 29th class
- June 4th for June 6th class

Social Media, Newsletter, and Giving to the AAARCC

Follow us on social media!



@purdueaaarcc



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Please be sure to follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [YouTube](#), and [LinkedIn](#) to get a daily content from us! Additionally, we are continually updating our website and linking different media contents we have produced for our social media.

If anyone you know is interested in subscribing to the AAARCC's newsletter, click here to [subscribe](#).

If you or anyone you know is interested in giving financially to the AAARCC, click here to [give](#).

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