In Appreciation

The 20th Annual Asian American Youth Leadership Conference 2012 has been a collaborative effort of the conference’s planning committee, workshop facilitators, student ambassadors, and school representatives. It is made possible through the generous donations of co-sponsors; the support of corporations, organizations and individuals. Thanks to all for their contributions.

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Volunteers
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Student Ambassadors
Tammy Chau, Erika Dodge, Crystal Duan, Jeffrey Ho, Connie Hu, Elirissa Hui, Tony Huynh, Chassidy Inthachack, Emi Lee, Jeni Lidster, Hang Lu, Lucy Nam, Catherine Ngo, Mai-Loan Nguyen, Michelle
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Special thanks to our donors:
Welcome to the 20th Annual Asian American Youth Leadership Conference! Since 1993, thousands of high school students selected from Oregon and Southwest Washington have come together for a daylong conference to achieve the following goals:

1) To promote education
2) To instill self-confidence
3) To develop leadership skills

We are proud of the wide diversity of ethnic backgrounds and number of high schools represented at our conference.

The theme for the 2012 conference is "Be The Difference". The program is designed to stretch your mind, extend your imagination, and expand your network in an experiential learning environment. You will be in a team with students from other schools to explore "Exhibits" and solve problems together. The learning activities will focus on leadership development, communication skills, and cultural identity. You will also participate in a college and career fair.

We encourage you to reach out and make new friends, meet inspiring leaders, and learn about organizations that shape the communities we live in. Be ready to learn more about yourself and your strengths - and determine how you can "Be The Difference". The conference will be filled with learning and networking activities geared to enrich and inspire you.

We hope what you take away from the conference will ignite a passion in you to lead, to give back and get involved in your community. You can BE THE DIFFERENCE.

Finally, we are grateful to our sponsors, volunteers, facilitators, and Concordia University for helping to make the 20th AAYLC the best conference ever.

AAYLC 2012 Planning Team
www.aaylc.org

Asian American Heritage Month Proclamation from Gov. Kitzhaber

Student Ambassadors

Crystal Duan | Westview High School

Crystal Duan is a junior who aspires to major in journalism. Born in Connecticut, and raised in Portland, Crystal grew up speaking Chinese. Graduating from her church's Chinese Language School in 2011, she is fluent in Mandarin. Crystal spent 4 years as a violinist in the 2nd level of Portland Youth Philharmonic, PYCO, and subsequently passing Level 10 last year. She is now working towards finishing Level 10 in piano in the fall. She is active in her school's Publications wing in both editing and procuring funds. Through her work as the business manager for Westview's newspaper, the Prowl, she has been able to learn how to communicate on both professional and personal levels, resulting in raising more than $2,000 in business ads. Crystal also regularly writes for her community newsletter, The Oak Hills Oracle. Crystal is in National Honor Society, Speech and Debate, and Model United Nations. As a first year attendee of the AAYLC, Crystal hopes to reignite enthusiasm for the event at her school. She hopes to help Asian students find their voices by interacting with one another, and bring a diversifying new perspective to Westview's own group of Asians.

Crystal Duan

www.aaylc.org

Student Ambassadors

www.aaylc.org
The Asian American Youth Leadership Conference Committee expects you to come to the Conference prepared to learn and to enjoy the activities. Please adhere to the guidelines listed. The goal is to ensure that you will be safe and to help make your experience at the Conference enjoyable.

What We Will Provide:

- All Meals
- Adult supervision: volunteer and school personnel
- Conference materials
- A rich environment to learn and grow

Rules For Everyone:

- Student must attend via school-sanctioned transportation. NO private cars.
- No drugs, alcohol or smoking will be allowed.
- No fighting allowed. Fighting results in automatic expulsion from the conference.
- Students are prohibited from leaving the conference area.
- All other school district policies and procedures are in effect.
- Students are prohibited from leaving the conference area.
- Dress properly. Use appropriate behavior. Respect your peers and educators.
- All other school district policies and procedures are in effect.
- Students are prohibited from leaving the conference area.
- Dress properly. Use appropriate behavior. Respect your peers and educators.

What You Will Do:

- Be prepared to have fun and learn a lot about yourself and others.
- Have an enjoyable and productive day.
- Ask questions and pay attention.
- Be respectful of others.

NOTE: Students who fail to adhere to any of these rules will be asked to leave the conference immediately. It will be the responsibility of the school district chaperone to notify your principal and parents and arrange for your removal from the conference.

Student Ambassadors

Mike Vang | Roosevelt High School

Mike Vang is a senior at Roosevelt High School. For the past two years he has previously attended the Asian American Youth Leadership Conference and will be his first year attending as a student ambassador representing Roosevelt High School. He is involved in multiple after-school programs such as Asian American Club, Gay Straight Alliance (GSA) and a mechanical engineering program at the University of Portland. Although he doesn’t know what he wants to do in the future he wants to encourage others to get involved in activities that could make decision making easier and lead up to that point. Mike is a proud member of GSA and although he recently joined he wants to show that even though you are not in activities does not mean you can’t still become a great leader. It takes the start of a great leader to be willing to make changes.

Tammy Chau | Sherwood High School

Tammy Chau is a sophomore and an honor student who is active in her school and community. Tammy is inspired by her grandmother and parents, who moved to the United States to have a better life. Tammy volunteers at her local library every week, helps with adopt-a-road and at elementary school fairs. She is in key club, ceramics club, pep club, speech and debate club, and has participated in Volleyball and Track and Field. She enjoys road trips with her family and listening to stories about life back in Vietnam from her parents and grandmother. Though Tammy is of Chinese descent, both her parents were born in Vietnam. Tammy plans on majoring in Computer Engineering at Rochester Institute of Technology and working at Google or Facebook. She hopes to travel the world and her dream is to be able to do work with organizations that help with underprivileged kids around the world. This will be her first year participating in the conference and as an ambassador. She is excited for this opportunity to help kids at her school learn more about the Asian culture and hopes that the students who attend will encourage diversity in their own communities.

Tiffany Nguyen | Southridge High School

Tiffany Nguyen is a senior and will attend Yale University on a full scholarship from the Questbridge program and another full scholarship for graduate degree from the Bill Gates Millennium Program. Her goal is an M.D. or Ph.D. in biology research. Tiffany has been a member of Key Club, National Honor Society, Math Honor Society, and Model United Nations. She enjoys teaching at Sunday school and afterschool classes for an underprivileged elementary school. She is a modern day abolitionist, heavily involved in the movement against modern day slavery, specifically sex trafficking. Last year, she organized an event that raised awareness and money for an international organization that rescues and rehabilitates youth of trafficked victims. She continues this through the Frederick Douglass Family Foundation, serving as one a Committee Chair and works with students all across the nation and national leaders. As a first generation immigrant from Vietnam and the first person in her family to go to college, Tiffany understands the struggles and hardships within the Asian American community, which is why she values her contribution as an ambassador for AAYLC.

Lucy Nam | Sunset High School

Lucy Nam is a junior and is the Public Relations officer for National Honor Society, Treasurer for her Health Career’s class, and Secretary for Sunset’s Model United Nations (MUN). She is a committee chair for Oregon’s MUN where she helps lead students in a three-day conference at the University of Oregon. She has also been on Sunset’s Varsity tennis since her freshmen year. Lucy volunteers at the Portland Children’s Museum, the Oregon Food Bank and many Tualatin Hills Park and Recreation summer camps and festivals. She has volunteered with Portland After School Tennis and Education, helping low-income students with tennis and academics. Lucy has been playing piano for 11 years and accompanies for Sunset’s highest choir group and her church Youth Mass. Lucy is on the Mayor’s Youth Advisory Board of Beaverton where she helps teenagers become actively involved in the community. Lucy attended AAYLC during her freshmen year and is excited to be Sunset’s ambassador this year. As ambassador, she wishes to make students more aware of the Asian culture and its importance, and that being Asian is an identity to be proud of.
Jeni Lidster | La Salle Catholic College Preparatory

Jeni Lidster is a junior and has been training for the last five years in contemporary dance and hopes to earn a scholarship to the Edge Performing Arts Center Professional Program in Los Angeles, CA. She has won national and regional titles in many competitions and numerous scholarships for dance. She has been accepted to the San Francisco Conservatory of Dance. Her dance training has taken her to New York, Los Angeles, Seattle and Vancouver, BC. She is currently teaching dance classes at the studio where she is part of a performance and competitive team. She has worked with Radio Disney as a professional dancer. She is a member of National Honor Society and partakes in the immersion service program opportunities that La Salle offers and has enjoyed her time with the Tahoma L’Arche Community in Tacoma, WA. She has volunteered at the Blanchet House as well as the Oregon Food Bank. She is a member of the Multicultural Club. This is Jeni’s first year representing La Salle as the AAYLC ambassador and she is looking forward to the experience.

Chassidy Inthachack | Lewis & Clark High School

Chassidy Inthachack is an outgoing, spirited senior at Lewis & Clark High School. She plans to go to PCC to take Asian studies and get a degree in management. Interacting with people and being organized for multiple tasks is something she is interested in doing as a career: managing a NBA player or party planning. Volunteering has become a natural thing for her. From being on staff for kids in summer camp, interning at low-income apartments, to helping with school events, it has taught her things she never knew about herself. She enjoys dancing, hiking and is hoping to take dance classes at PCC in the fall. Eventually, California is her final destination, which will offer her what she wants; warm weather, beaches, cities, fame, and huge events to plan. This will be her first year being a part of AAYLC and as ambassador, and she is excited to see what this has to offer her. She is into her own culture and wants to learn more about the history of it. She believes the more people you know the better network of support. Being involved in this conference will build her leadership skills to benefit her in the future. She hopes to meet new people and make the most out of it.

Chantal Wong | Lincoln High School

Chantal Wong is a senior and will either attend Seattle University or Oregon State University this fall. Chantal has served in many programs, such as the Interact and Key Club, Asian club, IGNITE mentoring, Peace Studies and much more. She likes to help young children learn, dedicating weekends volunteering at the Portland Children’s Museum. She is also an avid swimmer and competed for the Lincoln Cards, making varsity each year she swam and went to state both her freshman and sophomore year. Chantal has also traveled a lot, learning Mandarin. She went to a six-week long program in Taiwan in 2010 where she made lifelong friends. Chantal has also been playing the piano since the age of 5, participating in festivals and competitions. She still enjoys playing the piano in her free time, composing some music as well. This will be her third year at the conference. She immediately fell in love with the environment and people her first year and was determined to become the Ambassador for her school her senior year. As ambassador for Lincoln High School, Chantal hopes to encourage students to learn and grow from this conference like she did her freshman year.

Catherine Ngo | Parkrose High School

Catherine Ngo is a sophomore and plans to study psychology in the future. Catherine is involved in honors and AP classes, putting strong focus on her interest in health services and biology. She has enjoyed taking Japanese, Spanish, and theater. Catherine has been an active member of her school’s Asian Youth Society, being the club’s secretary this year. Through this, she has been able to help raise money for the homeless and volunteer at the Blanchet House. Additionally, Catherine has spent time volunteering for Portland’s Union Gospel Mission, as well as being involved in Key Club. Catherine has been studying violin for five years. She has been a part of String Connections Chamber Orchestra and her previous school’s Chamber Orchestra. She has competed in the National Invitational Band and Orchestra Festival of Gold. Through performing songs at senior homes and many small events, she has made an impact on her community. She is returning to the AAYLC for the second time. She looks forward to helping expand her peers’ sense of culture, confidence in leadership, and drive to leave a positive mark on the community, in addition to broadening her own as well.

www.aaylc.org
**Program Schedule**

### 20th Annual Asian American Youth Leadership Conference

**BE THE DIFFERENCE**

8:00 - 8:45 AM  
Student Check-In/Breakfast (Gymnasium)  
Facilitator Check-In  
Program Overview: Team Assignment

8:45 - 9:30 AM  
Opening Program/Introductions  
Keynote Speaker: Mr. Hoan Do

9:30 - 10:00 AM  
Making Friends  
Inner World vs. Outer World

10:00 - 10:10 AM  
Transition to the Worlds

10:10 - 11:40 AM  
Group A: “Inner World” (Luther Hall, Bldg #1)  
Group B: “Outer World” (Library, Bldg #19)

11:40 - 11:50 AM  
Transition to Lunch or Entertainment

11:50 AM - 12:20 PM  
Group A: Lunch (Cafeteria, Hagen Campus Center)  
Group B: Entertainment (Gymnasium)

12:20 - 12:25 PM  
Transition to Lunch or Entertainment

12:25 - 12:55 PM  
Group A: Entertainment (Gymnasium)  
Group B: Lunch (Cafeteria, Hagen Campus Center)

12:55 - 1:05 PM  
Transition to the Worlds

1:05 - 2:35 PM  
Group A: “Outer World” (Library, Bldg #19)  
Group B: “Inner World” (Luther Hall, Bldg #1)

2:35 - 2:40 PM  
Transition to the Closing Program

2:40 - 3:15 PM  
Closing Program (Gymnasium)  
Awards/Recognition/Door Prizes

3:15 PM  
Dismissal and Farewells

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**Student Ambassadors**

Karen Tiet | Franklin High School  
Karen Tiet is a senior at Franklin High School. She is an active member in her school. She is editor for Franklin High School’s yearbook and has been involved with the theater department, being an assistant stage manager for Oliver! The Musical and stage managing Franklin’s fall play Romeo and Juliet and the spring musical Thoroughly Modern Millie. She is also part of Franklin High School’s band, participating in marching and pep band since freshman year. Karen has been in Franklin’s symphonic band since her sophomore year. Karen has attended AAYLC twice and will be returning for the third time this year as Franklin’s AAYLC Ambassador. She hopes that Asian American students will reconnect with their culture by attending this conference. Karen has a goal to influence students to step out of their comfort zone and make big differences.

Connie Hu | Fort Vancouver High School  
Connie Hu is a senior at Fort Vancouver High School. She also attends Clark College through a program called Running Start to gain college experience, and college credit. She plans to attend the University of Washington to study business, specifically marketing. Since sophomore year, she has been a member of her class council, Red Cross club, Key Club, and National Honor Society. She is president of Key Club and National Honor Society. She is also a member of BOWS (Brilliant and Outstanding Women) and the SW Washington Red Cross Youth Council. This year, Connie became involved with Youth Philanthropy, a member of Nordstrom’s BP Fashion Board, and the Marketing Director in her school’s Associated Student Body. Her interests include assembling outfits, singing, writing, and exploring new places. This is her second year as an AAYLC ambassador. She had a wonderful experience last year representing her school and her goal is to bring twice as many students from Fort as last year. Connie hopes that everyone who attends AAYLC will meet new friends, learn new leadership skills, gain fresh insight, and benefit from the entire event.

Ross Seeman | Grant High School  
Ross Seeman is a senior and plans to study advertising at Pepperdine University. Ross has participated in Key Club, National Honor Society, cross country, tennis, swimming and pole vaulting. Ross also works as a swim instructor and as a lifeguard during the summer and is a volunteer swim coach and camp counselor for elementary school students. Ross has been very connected with his Japanese heritage. For the past 13 years, he has been enrolled in the Japanese Magnet Program, enabling him to travel to Japan. He was selected by the Consulate General of Japan to serve as an ambassador as one of five students from the US. He is also co-president of his Japanese-American youth group Unite People (UP). UP volunteers monthly at a family homeless shelter and learns about their Japanese heritage. Ross is currently directing a documentary defining the different types of camps Japanese and Jewish citizens were held at during WWII. This is his first time at AAYLC, and he is excited to share his experiences and learn at the conference. As an ambassador, Ross hopes to excite youth into coming to the AAYLC and learn more about Asian culture and heritage.

Sanchez Suzuki | Jefferson High School  
Sanchez Suzuki is a senior at Jefferson High School and will be attending Western Oregon University next fall. He is a part of the National Honor Society, Student Government, Bio-Tech, the Mock Trial Program, Urban Opportunities, and the HCOP (Health Career Opportunity Program). Sanchez enjoys artistic values and looking at things in different perspectives. Sanchez is the Student Body President and the Student Class President. He has volunteered at the Boys and Girls Club and the Carbon Footprint Fair, which was held at Jefferson High School last year. Through the Urban Opportunities program, he was an intern at a YMCA childcare center, which ultimately got him the job. Sanchez was one of the few selected students to go to middle schools and give a presentation about his high school. He attended his first AAYLC last year and was blown away by the inspiration and the uniqueness of the event. This propelled him to be an AAYLC Student Ambassador. He is hoping to re-capture that exciting positive moment and let the other students experience it for themselves.
Hang Lu | Clackamas High School

Hang Lu is a senior and plans to attend Portland Community College, then transfer to a university. She is originally from Vietnam and came to the United States two years ago. She is a member of the ELD (English Language Development) program at Clackamas High School. She also volunteers at a Vietnamese Community Center and at Kaiser Hospital. At her school’s Culture Fair this year, she organized and facilitated Vietnamese groups’ presentations. For more excitement, she organized the “Bamboo Dance” game (which known as “Nhảy sạp” in Vietnamese.) It was successful and people loved it. As an Ambassador, she hopes to expand into new leadership experiences. As an ELD student, she has made lots of friends from other countries. This is her first time attending AAYLC. She encouraged her friends to attend because AAYLC is helpful, especially for seniors, provides career guidance, and it also has scholarships for seniors. She recommended other students come and join AAYLC as a place where you can meet and make new friends and gain cultural knowledge.

Emi Lee | Cleveland High School

Emi Lee is a senior and intends to major in engineering to work with food science and allergies. She is the co-president of the Japanese American Citizens League’s youth group, Unite People (UP). With UP, Emi has volunteered at Goose Hollow family shelter, Epworth United Methodist Church, and Oregon Buddhist Temple. Being a part of UP has taught her to lead service events, to look past racial and cultural differences, and to give back to the community. Emi is a member of Cleveland’s robotics team, R’Choir, Jewish Student Union, and is the Public Representative for the National Honor Society. She volunteers with the Landers and Bree Millwright Foundation at Franklin High School to assist students with special needs in the woodshop. She is a member of The Portland Ballet’s Youth Company. In her spare time, Emi loves to make crafts out of duct tape. This is Emi’s second time at AAYLC and her first as ambassador. She is excited to make connections with other Asian-American youths, expand her leadership skills, and get other students more active in the community.

Erika Dodge | Crescent Valley High School

Erika Dodge is a junior at Crescent Valley High School. After graduation, she plans to major in sociology at University of Oregon. Her extracurricular activities include Student Environmental Awareness Club, National Honors Society, Impact Day, and being a captain of the Crescent Valley Girls Lacrosse team. She enjoys that being a captain has given her confidence and helps her learn about leadership. She has volunteered at Goose Hollow Family Shelter, Epworth United Methodist Church, and Oregon Buddhist Temple, participating in Eugene Ballet and The Oregon Ballet Foundation's Youth Company. She has worked at her school’s Culture Fair this year, where she organized and facilitated the Japanese group. She hopes to go into the workforce after graduation and be an inspiration to others. She enjoys volunteering and helping others, especially children. She is excited to meet other students and make new friends. She is looking forward to attending AAYLC again as an ambassador.

Michelle Nguyen | David Douglas High School

Michelle Nguyen is currently a junior at David Douglas High School. Michelle hopes to attend University of Washington. She has just claimed the title of Associate Student Body, 3rd Vice President for DDHS and hopes to serve her school proudly. Michelle is an active member in the Portland Vietnamese Community. She is fluent in English and Vietnamese. She has participated in Vietnamese dancing since she was 6 and began to choreograph during her freshman year. She enjoys working with children and teaching them to express themselves through dance. She has played volleyball and swam for DDHS and takes great pride in representing her school. Playing sports has taught her what teamwork, motivation and hard work are all about. This will be Michelle’s first time attending the AAYLC and being an ambassador. She is very excited and hopes to be able to share her leadership skills. Michelle hopes to encourage more than just Asian Americans to attend the conference to further everyone’s knowledge of Asian heritage.

Conference Highlights

Keynote Speaker: Hoan Do

Hoan Do is an inspirational speaker, acclaimed author, and the recipient of the Verizon Wireless Motivator Award. After graduating from Pepperdine University, Hoan beat out candidates who were considerably older and vastly more experienced than him to work with the #1 personal development company in the world. As a national speaker and corporate trainer, Hoan conducted training sessions for distinguished audiences that included: Coldwell Banker, Century 21, Bank of America, Honda, Toyota, UBS Financial, Chambers of Commerce groups, and for the U.S. Army. Recognized by the International Examiner as the best youth mentor, Hoan travels across North America speaking at colleges and high schools, sharing practical advice that will help students to succeed in and out of school.

Performance:

New Birth Crew

New Birth Crew is comprised of close friends who are from the same area, danced together and have known each other since a young age. The thought was to bring everyone even closer by forming The New Birth Crew, becoming one of the best dancers in Portland. They have performed at school events, PSU events and the Bike Film Festival.

Performance:

Summit Wushu Academy

Wushu translates as “martial arts” in Chinese. Summit Wushu Academy teaches traditional and contemporary Chinese Wushu and includes many styles and branches of Chinese martial arts, such as Taiji, Sholin, weapons training, etc. The coaches, Philip and Peter Dang are internationally recognized and members of USA Wushu Team Members. The goal of Wushu is summarized by Philip Dang: “Wushu stresses balance. A key to successful leadership is being able to have balance in your life. To train your mind to seek balance in all things that you do, say and how you interact with others. Balancing out a daily schedule, deciding how much time to study versus going out, keeping a neutral stance when solving a problem are all examples of the need to balance one’s life.”
Fun Starts Here

**2/3**

Start—Gymnasium / Participants assigned to Group A or B and assigned Team within that group

First Transition—Group A moves to Luther Hall / Group B

Second Transition—Group A moves to Cafeteria for lunch / Group B moves to Cafeteria

Third Transition—Group A moves to Gymnasium for entertainment / Group B moves to Cafeteria for Lunch

Fourth Transition—Group A moves to Library (Inner World) / Group B moves to Luther Hall (Outer World)

Fifth Transition—Group A & B move to Gymnasium

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<td>Registration/Group &amp; Team Assignment/Keynote Speaker/Program Overview</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:50 a.m.—12:20 p.m.</td>
<td>Cafeteria—Bldg 3</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:25 p.m—12:55 p.m.</td>
<td>Gymnasium—Bldg 17</td>
<td>Entertainment</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:05 p.m.—2:35 p.m.</td>
<td>Library—Bldg 19</td>
<td>Outer World Exhibits</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:40 p.m. to 3:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Gymnasium—Bldg 17</td>
<td>Inner World Exhibits</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:00 a.m.—10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Gymnasium—Bldg 17</td>
<td>Closing Program Award/Recognition/Farewells</td>
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Student Ambassadors

**Tony Huynh | Aloha High School**

Tony Huynh is currently a senior at Aloha High School and plans to attend Multnomah Bible University in the fall to pursue a double major in Biblical Theology and Music Ministry. Tony was involved in sports such as swimming, lacrosse, and the Christian club at Aloha called The Bridge. Outside of school Tony spends most of his time focusing on music. He hopes to start a band with his childhood friends after his graduation from college. Aside from focusing on music, he spends every Sunday leading worship for the English Service at Aloha Vietnamese Baptist Church. He enjoys volunteering for community projects such as soup kitchens and Vacation Bible Schools. His freshmen year Tony attended his first AAYLC meeting and it gave him a taste of what the Asian Community other than Aloha was like. He was really inspired to help his friends who felt that they were stuck in the stereotype of being Asian, and hopes to continue to do so.

**Jeffrey Ho | Beaverton High School**

Jeffrey Ho is a senior at Beaverton High School and will attend Western Oregon University for two years and then transfer to University of Oregon or Oregon State University to complete his four years. He also has high hopes of running his own online business and hopefully retiring after 2-3 years of running this business. He currently plays rugby and is in his 4th year playing for the Beaverton barbarians. He also volunteers for the Muscular Dystrophy Association. He has volunteered for outdoor science school and currently, has over 250 hours. He enjoys volunteering because it gives back to the community, helps others, and it is an opportunity to meet new people. He comes from a Chinese heritage and background. He speaks Mandarin and some Cantonese and Japanese. His family is from Taiwan, but he was raised in the states as an Asian-American.

**Elirissa Hui | Centennial High School**

Elirissa Hui is a junior and plans to study forensic science. Elirissa has been involved in National Honors Society and Future Business Leaders of America, which she placed 3rd in the state at the 2011 National FBLA conference in Orlando, Florida. She is a member of the Student Action and Leadership Team at her church and teaches kindergarteners during Sunday School. She volunteers at My Father’s House (homeless shelter), the Oregon Food Bank and the American Red Cross Blood Drive. She has been a member of the Portland Art and Cultural Center since the age of 5, learning Chinese dance, Chinese choir, art, and wushu (martial art). With PACC, she has performed at: Chinese New Year Cultural Fair, Under the Autumn Moon Festival, the Naturalization Ceremony in Salem during Asian-Pacific Heritage month, the Rose Festival Parade, Astoria’s Chinese Garden Welcoming Ceremony, the Hong Kong Children’s Symphony Orchestra, and many other events. This will be Elirissa’s second year at AAYLC, and she is very excited to represent Centennial. As an Ambassador, she hopes to influence and encourage her peers to be the difference and reach out to their own communities.

**Mai-Loan Nguyen | Central Catholic High School**

Mai-Loan Nguyen is senior at Central Catholic High School and plans to attend the Santa Clara University next fall. She participates in many extracurricular activities while also doing community service. She is the president of multiple clubs at her school including National Honor Society as well as the Asian Pacific Islander Club; however, she is also an active member in many clubs including: Spanish Club, Math Club, Peer Mediators, Eucharistic Ministers, Rambassadors, and Quiz Bowl. Aside from clubs, she has also participated in sports such as tennis and basketball. Outside of school, Mai-Loan volunteers at Portland Providence Medical Center once a week and also at Rosehaven Day Shelter during the summer. As the Central Catholic High School AAYLC Ambassador, Mai-Loan aims to make her school as well as her community more aware of the AAYLC conference. Through this, she hopes to help all Asian American students find a place where they can feel empowered and proud of who they are.
Scholarship Winners

Christine Nguyen of Scappoose High School
2012 Scholarship Awards Recipient ($1,000)

Christine Nguyen is a senior at Scappoose High School and plans to attend the University of Portland next fall. Christine enjoys helping others and plans to become a medical doctor. She intends to major in biology and then later attend medical school. She is currently serving as the Associated Student Body Treasurer of her school, as well as a member of the National Honors Society and Natural Helpers Community Service club. Not only is Christine an avid leader in academics and the community, she is passionate for dancing. Christine has been a part of the Scappoose “Vision” Dance Team throughout high school. She qualified for a place on the Oregon All-State Team her senior year and will continue to pursue dancing as a hobby in college. She is also involved in Track and Field and enjoys it very much. This year will be Christine’s first time at the Asian American Youth Leadership Conference, and she is excited to be involved in the Asian American community. She is grateful for the opportunity that AAYLC has given her and plans to reach out and make a positive impact on others.

Phu Nguyen of Madison High School | 2012 Scholarship Awards Recipient ($500)

Phu Nguyen is a senior at Madison High School and will attend the University of Portland next fall. He was born and raised in a Vietnamese family whose values are centered on love, respect, and discipline. He was taught to always approach life with passion, effort, and a focus on learning. He served as President of the Student Input Board (SIB) of Upward Bound to lead the group in organizing community service projects and cultural events. As the SIB president, Phu continued to motivate and inspire other students to value higher education by his own example, earning a 4.13 GPA while taking the most rigorous advanced placement classes offered at his school. As a student in Upward Bound, Phu was accepted into the Upward Bound math and science program at California Lutheran where he studied college-level math and science. In 2011, he held an internship with Columbia Medical Clinic where he was able to work one-on-one with many physicians to gain experience in the field of medicine. Phu was elected as Student Body President for the 2011-2012 school year; he is an active member of the National Honor Society, Eco Team, Key Club, Red Cross Club, Leadership and Health Occupations Students of America. He’s spent countless hours volunteering at the Oregon Museum of Science Institutions, Columbia Medical Clinic, and Blanchet House. Furthermore, he is an after-school tutor for National Honor Society. After attending University of Portland, where he will be majoring in pre-med, he plans to attend medical school and fulfill his career goal of becoming a medical physician. As Phu says, “I’m grateful for the strong foundation laid down by my family, friends, teachers, and mentors. Continuing to build upon that foundation through hard work as a student, I hope that one day I will become a physician, capable of assisting patients in maintaining the foundation of their health.”

Mai-Loan Nguyen of Central Catholic High School
2012 Scholarship Awards Recipient ($1,500)

Mai-Loan Nguyen is a senior at Central Catholic High School. She will be attending Santa Clara University in the fall where she plans to double major in biochemistry and English and minor in Spanish. Mai-Loan is an active member in her community through volunteering at Portland Providence Medical Center and Rosehaven Day Shelter weekly. She is also involved in many clubs at her school including Central Catholic’s Quiz Bowl team, Spanish club, math club, Remembrance, Eucharistic ministers, and National Honor Society. Mai-Loan also serves as a leader in her community through being president of National Honor Society and Asian Pacific Islander Club at her school and also an AAYLC student ambassador. With her scholarship from AAYLC, she hopes to be able to either purchase a laptop for school and/or plane tickets home to her family during the holidays. She feels grateful and blessed to have this scholarship and hopes to help with AAYLC in the future.
Ross Seeman
Logo Competition Winner: Grant High School
Ross Seeman is a senior at Grant High School and plans to study advertising at Pepperdine University. He is very involved in athletics and in the community. Ross has participated in a variety of activities including Key Club, National Honor Society, cross country, tennis, swimming and pole vaulting. Ross also works as a swim instructor and as a lifeguard during the summer and is a volunteer swim coach and camp counselor for elementary school students year round.
Ross has been very connected with his Japanese heritage. For the past thirteen years, he has been enrolled in the Japanese Magnet Program which has enabled him to travel to Japan. He was selected by the Consul General of Japan to serve as an ambassador as one of five students from the US. He is also co-president of his Japanese-American youth group Unite People. Unite People volunteers monthly at a family homeless shelter and learns about their Japanese heritage. Ross is currently directing a documentary defining the different types of camps Japanese and Jewish citizens were held at during WWII. Although this is Ross’ first time attending an AAYLC, he is excited to share his experiences and learn at the conference. As an ambassador, Ross hopes to excite youth into coming to the AAYLC and learn more about Asian culture and heritage.

Hang Lu
Logo Competition Runner-Up: Clackamas High School
Hang Lu is a senior at Clackamas High School. After high school she is planning to attend Portland Community College, and then transfer to a university. She is originally from Vietnam and came to the United States two years ago. Her native language is Vietnamese. She has been studying English for two years and she develops fluency in both languages. Moreover, she is a member of the ELD (English Language Development) program at Clackamas High School. She also volunteers at Ngoc Son Buddhist Association and at Kaiser Sunnyside Medical Hospital. In Hang’s Lu logo, the dolphin represents strong and kingly characteristics, which Asian cultures are representing. The dolphin jumps forward to the sun shows that Asian students never give up and wants to achieve high goal in their lives. The ocean symbolizes the route for Asian immigrants to the United States. All of us want to have difference in our future and we are working hard toward to receive gracious joy, freedom and being proud to be Asian.

Muljono Filipus
Logo Competition Runner-Up: Taruna Nusa Harapan High School
Muljono is from Indonesia and graduated from the “Taruna Nusa Harapan” high school. Be the Difference. A lot of differences exist in our society. Ranging from differences in language, culture and more. Muljono believes the distinction is important because the differences in our lives offer many things. But the important thing is the difference in our lives from past to future. Why is that? Because of the differences can determine one’s future. Dare to do something new. Differences can make us despair but differences can also spur us to move forward again. Keep the spirit to be the difference.
You will have limited time to visit over 20 college and career representatives.

Make the most of each of your visits by asking pertinent questions regarding things that you are not able to find online or in catalogues. For example:

For College Fair:
- Can you give me examples of some campus traditions?
- Ask if there are any scholarship secrets.
- Ask whether admission officers make decisions based on numbers (i.e. GPA and SAT/ACT scores, or if they really do consider extra-curricular activities).
- Ask how best to prepare for college.
- Ask if a student leader can contact you to give you a student’s perspective.
- Ask how many of the students drop out, transfer away, or how many stay and graduate.
- Ask for a direct phone number for an admission counselor and a financial aid counselor.

For Career Fair:
- Please tell me about the mission and main function of your organization.
- What type of opportunities are typically available to new college graduates?
- What specific skills and qualifications does your organization look for in its employment candidates?
- Are there specific courses or other requirements you look for in prospective employees?
- What is the hiring process at your company?
- How does your organization train their new employees?
- What is the culture of your organization?
- What are the projections for future changes within your organization?
WELCOME!

You’re about to enter the first conference that’s a game too. Part Museum. Part Adventure. Part Scavenger Hunt. Part Amazing Race. For the rest of the day you will move through two buildings, explore the exhibits, get Power, make new friends, and work together in a team.

You’re going to learn a lot, but we’re not going to tell you how to learn it. You’re going to have to figure it out together.

In one building, The Inner World, your job is to learn about yourself, learn about your team, and make new friends.

In the other building, The Outer World, you’ll be working in teams and meeting influential people in Oregon’s Asian Pacific Islander community. Together, find something you can believe in, and make a difference!

Make the most of your time. Every exhibit has a task associated with it, and every room explains what you need to know about that room. There is no particular order to completing the tasks. You will get Power by completing the tasks. You will find there is barely enough time to complete all the tasks. You do not have to complete every task, but the more you complete, the more points you will get.

This is all about bringing who you are as an Asian youth and working together to discover your strengths – the group with the most Power will win. Your group will be evaluated at the end of the conference. The winning group will get a sweet prize.

Speaking of prizes: There will be clues, hints, prizes and bonuses throughout the day. Work hard, and stay in the game, and you’ll learn about these as you proceed.


AAYLC 20th Anniversary Conference Program Planners

PARTICIPANT JOURNAL 10  www.aaylc.org

College Fair Booths

2. Clackamas Community College  http://www.clackamas.edu/
3. Concordia University  http://www.cu-portland.edu/
4. Heald College  http://www.heald.edu/
5. Lewis & Clark College  http://www.clarku.edu/
6. Linn-Benton Community College  http://www.linnbenton.edu/
7. National College of Natural Medicine  http://www.ncnm.edu/
8. Oregon Institute of Technology  http://www.oit.edu/
9. Oregon State University  http://www.oregonstate.edu/
10. Pacific Lutheran University  https://www.plu.edu/
11. Pacific University Oregon  http://www.pacificu.edu/
12. Portland Community College  http://www.pcc.edu/
13. Portland State University  http://www.pdx.edu/
14. Reed College  http://www.reed.edu/
15. Syracuse University  http://www.syr.edu/
16. University of Oregon  http://uoregon.edu/
17. Washington State University  http://www.wsu.edu/

Career Fair Booths

1. AAYLC  http://www.aaylc.org/
2. Clark County, Washington State  http://www.co.clark.wa.us/
3. Multnomah County Sheriff’s Office  http://www.mcso.us/public/
5. PHC Northwest  http://www.phcnw.com/
7. SAIF  http://www.saif.com/
Journal Notes

Inner World—Luther Hall

Floor 1
104 – Poetry Room
118 – Working Together Room
122 – Map Room

Floor 2
205 – Who Am I?
220 – Laundry Maze
224 – Your Hero
Hallways – Halls of History

Floor 3
305 – Power Station

The Inner World is Your Private World

Who You Are—Where You Come From—Where You Belong

You have to know who you are to know where you’re going.

You have to know who you are to know where you fit.

The problem is, we are always changing.

The good thing is that we figure it out as we go along.

Our family is our foundation.
Our history is our context.
Our friends are our mirror.

The Inner World asks you to reflect on your origins,
your history, and what’s meaningful to you.
It asks you to explain yourself to yourself.
The deeper you go, the more Power to you.

“And people are always saying he’s deceptively quiet, deceptively athletic, and I don’t know if that’s just because I’m Asian or what it is, but obviously there’s going to be stereotypes that you have to fight.”

Jeremy Lin
Outer World—Library

Floor 1
120 – Photo Room
Lobby – College/Career Fair
108 – Mission Room

Floor 2
201 – Getting Things Done
203 – Power Station

Floor 3
301 – 100 Years of Women Voters in Oregon (League of Women Voters of Oregon)
303 – The Myth of Model Minority
310 – Young Leaders (CIO)
312 – Cool Democracy (The Bus Project)
313 – Sponsorship Explained
314 – Lobbying for Educational Equity (APANO)
317 – Legislative Chambers
318 – Finding Your Voice (APA Compass)

The Outer World is Your Public World

*Where You Belong – What You Do – Where You’re Going*

Being in Community is a little bit like being in a play.
We all have Roles on the stage.
But You are not the Role. You Play the Role.

And sometimes, you can choose the roles you play.

The Outer World requires you to work with other people for something important. It will sometimes ask you to do something you’re not sure you can do.
This is how we learn the kind of Leader we are.
The better you play your Role, the more Power to you.

“*I didn’t mean to be a role model. I just speak my truth.
If I could encourage people to use their voices loudly, then that’s my reward.*”
Margaret Cho

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Friends = Power

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