



The APALA Newsletter

The Newsletter of the
Asian Pacific American Librarians Association
An Affiliate of the American Library Association

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Fall, 1998

Message from the President

I would like to thank each of you for electing me President of the Asian-Pacific American Librarians Association. When I accepted this position last year, I began to think about the role and what was needed to successfully lead APALA. I realized that I could not succeed without sharing the role with all of you. As some of those who attended the APALA annual program and membership meeting at the American Library Association Conference in Washington, D.C. might have observed, in such a diverse society as ours, all types of libraries must reach out to the members of their communities.

The conference brought us together in one place without boundaries so that each of us could share, learn, and understand about our jobs, libraries, and communities. Even though

many of us are not trained leaders, including myself,



we can work together to lead the organization towards a new direction into the 21st century. I envision a new direction that will help to develop strong partnerships with other ethnic library associations. I believe the benefits of sharing knowledge and information with other ethnic groups will result in strong working tools for the communities we serve.

It is with much regret that I share with you that Sandra Yamate, President of Polychrome Publishing Corporation, is not able to

continue to work as Editor of the APALA Newsletter. We all appreciate her hard work and dedication these past two years as Editor. Fortunately, she will still be involved in reviewing books and articles for the newsletter.

Starting with the 1998 Fall Issue, I am pleased to announce the appointment of Fenghua Wang as the Editor and Tokiko Yamamoto Bazzell as the Assistant Editor. Please join me in welcoming both women and feel free to send any editorial comments and news to them. The chairs of the remaining committees will be announced in the Winter issue.

As we continue to strive to succeed throughout the year, I look forward to working with all of you and for the organization.

Soon Jung

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Immediate Release July 25, 1998

MPEC ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF MULTICULTURAL SEAL OF APPROVAL

Auburn, CA--The Multicultural Publishing and Education Council, a non-for-profit educational and literary organization founded to represent the interest of African Americans, Latinos and Hispanics, Native Americans, Arabs, Asian and Pacific Islander Americans, has announced the recipients of its "Multicultural Seal of Approval" for 1998. Seven titles, an interactive website and a multicultural resource catalogue were among the selections that the council said "reflect authentic multicultural publishing", and that "help to promote the dissemination of authentic information from and about the cultural communities that comprise our world family." Titles chosen were: Sing 'n Learn Chinese, Master Communication; Sing 'n Learn Korean, Master Communications; A book and cassette tape series designed to introduce children in English-speaking households to

Chinese or Korean. The Lobster and The Sea, Esther Chiu, illustrated by Mika Takahashi, Polychrome Publishing; A poignant picture book exploring the Chinese custom of returning to one's roots, this story reassures children who may live apart from their grandparents that absence cannot diminish a grandparent's love for a grandchild. In Praise Of Our Fathers and Our Mothers: A Black Family Treasury by Outstanding Authors and Artists, edited by Wade Hudson and Cheryl Willis Hudson, Just Us Books; An anthology of famous Black figures' writings about their parents. Many Colors of Mother Goose, Cheryl Willis Hudson, Just Us Books; A multicultural retelling of the classic nursery rhymes. The Legend of Mu Lan: A Heroine of Ancient China, written and illustrated by Jiang Cheng An and Jiang Wei, and translated into English by Eileen Hu;

A brightly illustrated retelling of the Mu Lan tale from China. Peanut Butter and Bologna Sandwiches, Pamm Jenkins; illustrated by Cartrell Harris, Lindsey Publishing, Inc. The Council also gave its "Multicultural Seal of Approval" to WWW.GAMEKIDS.COM, a multicultural website for children and teens developed by Media Bridge Technologies, and Asia for Kids Educational Catalog, which features books and learning enhancement products from many different cultures. The Rev. Rennie Mau, Executive Director of MPEC said "each year the Council will recognize those books and products that it believes best reflect our goals, namely those that authentically represent the diverse cultures that comprise the United States and our global society." "Authentic multicultural materials can play a critical role in building bridges across our many cultural differences," Mau added.

“Too many Americans are growing up with little or no exposure to or experience of or knowledge about the diversity of people who will be their classmates, co-workers, neighbors, colleagues, and even family members. The recipients of the Seal of Approval are books and products that we believe will counter prevailing stereotypes and foster greater cross cultural harmony.” Founded as the Multicultural Publishers Exchange in 1989, the association reorganized in 1994 as the Multicultural Publishing and Education

Council (MPEC). MPEC represents African Americans, Latinos and Hispanics, Native Americans, Arabs, Asian and Pacific Islander Americans whose work has been underrepresented at traditional publishing companies. The Council encourages and promotes the writing, publishing, and dissemination of books by and about people of color as a way to increase the number multicultural titles and thereby facilitate greater understanding of the diverse society which makes up America and the world. It encourages the

review of multicultural books to ensure that they adequately reflect and portray all cultures authentically and the incorporation of authentic multicultural materials into classrooms, libraries and educational institutions. For more information about the Seal of Approval or about the Multicultural Publishing and Education Council contact: The Rev. Rennie Mau; MPEC; 2280 Grass Valley Highway; Suite 181; Auburn, CA 95603 ; (916) 889-4438; E-mail: MPEC@aol.com.

Member News

Please join us in congratulating our very own Rama Vishwanatham. Her first published article "The Internet as a medium for online instruction" (College and research libraries, v. 58, no. 5, Sept. 1997) was selected as one of the top 20 articles on library instruction for 1997 by the Continuing Education Committee of the ALA Library Instruction Round Table (LIRT). Her co-authors are former UIC faculty, Walter Wilkins and Tom Jevac. This is a great honor for one of our members. C & RL is a prestigious peer-reviewed journal with a 74% rejection rate, so we should all be doubly proud of her achievement. Keep it up Rama!!!

Please remember to renew your membership.

Use the Application form on page 7.

Asian Pacific American Librarians Association

-Affiliated with the American Library Association

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

<input type="checkbox"/> RENEWAL* <input type="checkbox"/> NEW MEMBER FOR 19 _____
*Renewal members: Please provide your name only and any information that you wish changed in the Membership Directory.

NAME: Mr. / Ms. / Mrs. / Dr.

LAST _____ FIRST _____ MI _____

POSITION _____

ORGANIZATION _____

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Please indicate (in order of priority) the APALA committees on which you wish to serve:

1. _____

2. _____

DUES: Personal (\$10.00) Student (\$5.00) Institution (\$25.00)

Please make checks payable to: **Asian Pacific American Librarians Association**

Return this form with your check to:

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- 1983-84 Lourdes Collantes
- 1984-85 Victor Okim
- 1985-86 Suzine Har-Nicolescu
- 1986-87 Asha Capoor
- 1987-88 Betty Tsai
- 1988-89 Conchita Pineda
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- 1994-95 Erlinda J. Regner
- 1995-96 Amy D. Seetoo
- 1996-97 Kenneth A. Yamashita
- 1997-98 Abulfazal M. F. Kabi

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Full Page (7 x 9-1/8"):	\$150		
Discount: 10% off if camera ready copy is provided. 15% off for APALA members.			
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