Quick Fact Sheet

APALA is a nonprofit organization dedicated to enhancing leadership opportunities through informed dialogue that addresses the needs of Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander library workers and those who serve these communities. We currently have over 680+ members and numerous chapters to engage regionally.

-founded in 1980 by:
  - Lourdes Collantes
  - Suzine Har Nicolescu
  - Sharad Karkhanis
  - Conchita Pineda
  - Henry Chang
  - Betty Tsai
  - Tamiye Trejo Meehan

APALA is a member of the Joint Council of Librarians of Color (JCLC) and an affiliate of the American Library Association (ALA). JCLC is comprised of the following National Associations of Librarians of Color (NALCo):
  - American Indian Library Association (AILA)
  - Black Caucus American Library Association (BCALA)
  - Chinese American Librarians Association (CALA)
  - REFORMA: The National Association to Promote Library & Information Services to Latinos and the Spanish Speaking

Our Core Values:
- Leadership
- Mentorship
- Collaboration
- Social Justice
- Diversity
- Advocacy
- Community

Our Strategic Plan for 2021-2024:
- Cultivate and build leadership development opportunities for APALA members
- Connect members to each other for networking, mentorship, and allyship opportunities locally and nationally
- Connect and engage with other social justice groups and with National Associations of Librarians of Color
- Support advocacy opportunities for members in advocating for more Asian American and Pacific Islander programming, services, and resources for themselves, patrons, and our communities
- Cultivate and build engagement opportunities for APALA members to develop best practices, resources, and expertise

APALA members touring the National Center For Civil And Human Rights in 2017

APALA predecessors:
- The Asian American Librarians Caucus (AALC).
- The AALC was co-founded by Janet M. Suzuki (1943-87).

APALA members at JCLC 2022

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APALA members chatting

The Asian American Librarians Caucus (AALC).
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APALA INITIATIVES

APALA Travel Grants
APALA Scholarships
APALA Literature Awards
ALA Emerging Leaders Sponsorships
Talk Story Grants
JCLC Travel Grants
APALA Gayatri Singh Award
APALA Career Center
APALA Chapters
APALA Mentoring Program
Newsletters and Other Publications
Virtual Events/Gatherings and Webinars
APALA Statements and Guidelines such as Rubric to Evaluate AAPI
Youth Literature and Inclusive Language Guidelines
Social Media Channels and Podcast
2022-2023: Engagement Task Force
Other Event and Initiative Sponsorships
& more!

Visit us: apalaweb.org

APALA members having dinner together

APALA members serving on American Library Association (ALA) Council

Updated on March 2023 / Designed by Ray Pun