



asian/pacific american librarians association

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.



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



APALA members at JCLC 2022

Founded in 1980 by:

- Lourdes Collantes
- Suzine Har Nicolescu
- Sharad Karkhanis
- Conchita Pineda
- Henry Chang
- Betty Tsai
- Tamiye Trejo Meehan

APALA predecessor:

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

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



APALA members chatting



APALA members at JCLC 2022

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 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!



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Visit us: apalaweb.org



APALA members having dinner together



APALA members serving on American Library Association (ALA) Council