



HARVARD-RADCLIFFE ASIAN AMERICAN ASSOCIATION

University Hall 4, Cambridge, MA 02138

Email: Harvard.AAA@gmail.com

Yi Chen
Angela Chong
Co-Presidents

Austin Chu
Christine Li
Vice Presidents

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*Education/Political
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Outreach Chairs

Cathy Sun
Webmaster

From East to West ***A Quarterly Newsletter for AAA Alumni***

APRIL 2008

Dear AAA Alumni,

We hope this newsletter finds you well! Since returning from spring break, AAA has had a slew of great events. A few weeks ago, we invited alumni and notable Asian Americans in the Boston area to speak at our annual Career Panel. Our Outreach Committee led an enriching and entertaining discussion with the panelists. That Saturday, the Identities fashion show, sponsored by AAA, took over Annenberg Hall as models traipsed down a catwalk in front of an audience of more than 400 people. Check out *The Crimson* for coverage of the show. Reaching out to other campus cultural organizations, we teamed up with the Black Students Association last Thursday to host the second of three discussions – Afro Asian Encounters – with Professor Eric Tang.

This Saturday, we held our annual Coffeehouse, run by our Cultural Committee. It was another huge success with a great lineup of performers, an inaugural photo contest, delicious pastries and bubble tea, with lines extending far beyond Ticknor Lounge. On Thursday, April 24, we held a screening of the critically acclaimed documentary, *New Year Baby*, with a reception catered by Elephant Walk Restaurant. All donations from this fundraiser went towards constructing a school in Cambodia.

This weekend is already the prospective students' visiting weekend! To show prefrash what the Harvard Asian community has to offer, we are holding the second annual Pan-Asian BBQ on the Science Center Lawn during lunch. This event will be co-hosted by AAA and a diversity of other Asian organizations. We are all very excited about welcoming the class of 2012!

As AAA constantly tries to improve, we appreciate all the help and input that our alumni can contribute. Please do not hesitate to contact us for any reason, from inquiring how you can stay involved to giving us advice about how to improve as an organization.

Sincerely,
Angela Chong & Yi Chen
Co-Presidents of AAA

Education/Political Committee

The Ed/Pol committee has been busy this semester, planning exciting events, including two informal discussions with Asian American Studies professor Eric Tang.

Colloquium on Afro-Asian Encounters
AAA and the Black Student's Association (BSA) hosted a lecture on the similarities between the Asian American and African American experience, inviting Professor Tang to stimulate the conversation. Tang touched on salient issues such as the perception of the model minority, affirmative action, the legacy of the civil rights movement, the acculturation of hip-hop culture, and how, politically, these two minority groups have influenced each other. Students enjoyed the invigorating discussion over Red Bones BBQ.

Identities Fashion Show

A cultural exploration of hip-hop, androgyny, and Japanese street fashion
Founded last year, Identities, a charity fashion show sponsored by AAA, showcased student design and the intersection between culture and fashion in historic Annenberg Hall, with themes ranging from Chinatown and hip-hop to Harajuku street kids and androgyny.





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Coffeehouse

In one of AAA's largest events of the year, hundreds of students enjoyed chilled ice tea and a diverse assortment of pastries, while listening to an array of intimate performances, ranging from music to the spoken word.



Social Committee

This semester, the Social Committee has planned a plethora of events, many aimed at promoting closer bonds between AAA members. Events have included an intimate social dinner with catered dining, a karaoke night, and most recently a pizza picnic.

Big Sib/Little Sib Program

The Big Sib/Little Sib program has continued its string of successful events, planning a dimsum bonding event that generated a great turnout!

Check out our *new* website
www.hcs.harvard.edu/hraaa

Cultural Committee

Shanghai Internship Program

This program is a new initiative undertaken by the Shanghai Municipal Government, AAA, and CSA to provide Harvard undergraduates with the opportunity to both intern in Shanghai and explore one of the most international cities in China this summer. Students will work in one of three different fields: finance, biomedical, or IT, and will talk with government officials, Chinese college students, and Chinese-Americans who currently work in China. Further, they will have the opportunity to explore Shanghai through a nighttime cruise along the Bund, a trip to Suzhou – a beautiful ancient city located just outside of Shanghai, and perhaps even receive tickets to the women's Olympic soccer matches held in Shanghai! Read more about SIP here:

<http://www.hcs.harvard.edu/hraaa/sip/>

Outreach Committee

Spring Career Panel

The Outreach Committee organized an engaging career panel for members interested in learning about the diversity of career paths after college. Speakers included the national director of public affairs of Biogen Idec Naomi Aoki, HMS Assistant Professor of Pathology Dr. Keith Joung, MGH staff anesthesiologist Dr. Jean Kwo, Harvard Law assistant director of admissions Phil Lee, and founder and CEO of Careplace Ben Williams. As the night's keynote speaker, Phil Lee motivated students to pursue their dreams, rise over obstacles, and embrace challenge. Speakers spoke on their role models, life after college, giving great advice on how to succeed both personally and professionally. AAA appreciates the helpful advice of our speakers and their inspirational stories! If you would like to participate as a panelist in next year's career panel, please let us know by emailing Harvard.AAA@gmail.com.

AAA Second General Meeting

Making Vietnamese sandwiches

AAA's second general meeting not only reached out to prospective members, but also strengthened relations between members of AAA and HVA as they made delicious Bánh Mì sandwiches, chatted, and mingled over food in Ticknor Lounge.