

Queer Asian Compass

A Descriptive Directory of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBTQ)
Asian American, South Asian, and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Organizations

NQAPIA



A FEDERATION
OF LGBTQ
ASIAN AMERICAN
SOUTH ASIAN
& PACIFIC ISLANDER
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About NQAPIA

The National Queer Asian Pacific Islander Alliance (NQAPIA) is a federation of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBTQ) Asian American, South Asian, and Pacific Islander (AAPI) organizations. We seek to build the organizational capacity of local LGBTQ AAPI groups, develop leadership, invigorate grassroots organizing, and challenge homophobia and racism.

NQAPIA has worked with local LGBTQ AAPI groups to speak out for immigration reform, partnered with the National Gay & Lesbian Task Force on a national survey of the needs and concerns of LGBTQ AAPIs, supported convenings for queer women and South Asians, led workshops on organizing LGBTQ AAPIs for social change, and hosted a national training and issue briefing for leaders of LGBTQ AAPI organizations.

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Executive Summary

Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPIs) are among the fastest growing minority groups in the nation. More and more lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) AAPIs are coming out, yet they still face invisibility, isolation, and stereotyping within AAPI and LGBTQ communities.

The lives of LGBTQ AAPIs involve complex intersections of being sexual, racial/ethnic, linguistic, gender, immigrant, and economic minorities. Two-thirds of all Asian Americans are foreign-born and 80% speak a language other than English in their homes. A third (34%) are not citizens. Approximately one million Asian Americans are undocumented. After 9/11, immigrants, particularly South Asian immigrants, have been targets of racial profiling, detentions, and deportations. As a result, thirty-four (34) LGBTQ AAPI organizations across the nation have formed.

The National Queer Asian Pacific Islander Alliance (NQAPIA) was founded as a federation of LGBTQ AAPI organizations to help build the organizational capacity of local groups, develop leadership, invigorate grassroots organizing, and challenge homophobia and racism. Toward these goals, we developed a Descriptive Directory of LGBTQ AAPI Organizations. This profile book provides an overall analysis and snapshot of each of the nation's LGBTQ AAPI organizations.





ACTIVITIES OF LGBTQ AAPI ORGANIZATIONS

LGBTQ AAPI organizations engage in five distinct classes of activities: social, support, educational, outreach, and political. They provide social networking spaces where their members can bring out and experience, for the first time, both their ethnic *and* LGBTQ identities in the same physical space. They support those coming out of the closet, LGBTQ immigrants who are new to the U.S., or those who need professional services or counseling. Some support services target women, people of transgender experience, and young people. The organizations host workshops, public forums, guest speakers, and discussion groups to educate their member and the larger community.

LGBTQ individuals are invisible in mainstream AAPI communities, and AAPI individuals are marginalized in mainstream gay communities in the gay community. Women, transgender persons, and South Asians are especially overlooked. Thus, groups embark on a variety of visibility and outreach activities. They participate in annual LGBTQ Pride and AAPI cultural-specific events, such as Lunar New Year, Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, Diwali, and nation-specific Independence Day celebrations.

Much of the AAPI community is limited English proficient. LGBTQ AAPI groups are developing multilingual education campaigns about being “Queer and Asian.” Their approach is rooted in cultural competency. The in-your-face approach of many gay activists, and Americans in general, tends to turn-off many foreign-born Asians. Pro-LGBTQ messages need to be more subtle, yet still affirming. LGBTQ AAPI groups are changing the hearts and minds of AAPIs when it comes homophobia, such as **Satrang** in Los Angeles translating brochures into South Asian languages, **Asian American Queer Women Activists** in Los Angeles focusing on AAPI women, **Q-WAVE** in New York developing resources for families and friends, and **Gay Asian & Pacific Islander Men of New York** reaching out to Chinese and Korean immigrants in language.

Political advocacy and activism is essential. A dozen LGBTQ AAPI groups organized coordinated protests against Details magazine for its defamatory “Gay or Asian?” feature that mocked gay Asian men, the **South Asian Lesbian and Gay Association in New York** joined demonstrations against the detention, deportation, and special registration of South Asians after 9/11; and California groups have campaigned aggressively for marriage equality.

The diverse array of activities of LGBTQ AAPI organizations build community for a group that has often overlooked and marginalized in both the LGBTQ and AAPI communities.

Map of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Asian American, South Asian, and Pacific Islander Organizations

PACIFIC NORTHWEST

1. Trikone-Northwest, Seattle, WA
2. Asian Pacific Lesbian and Gays, Portland, OR

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

3. Gay Asian Pacific Alliance (GAPA), San Francisco
4. Trikone, San Francisco
5. Asian Pacific Islander Queer Women and Transgender Coalition (APIQWTC), Bay Area
6. Asian Pacific Islander Queer & Questioning 25 & Under All Together (AQUA25), San Francisco
7. Asian Pacific Islander Equality, San Francisco
8. Downe Organizing Project of Liwanag Kultural Center, Daly City
9. South Bay Queer and Asian, San Jose
10. Gay Vietnamese Alliance, San Jose

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

11. API Pride Council, Los Angeles
12. API Equality-Los Angeles
13. Gay Asian Pacific Support Network (GAPSN), Los Angeles
14. Barangay - The Gay Filipino Organization of Los Angeles
15. Satrang, Southern California
16. Chinese Rainbow Association, La Habra
17. Asian American Queer Women Activists (AQWA), Los Angeles

NEW ENGLAND

- 18. Southeast Asian Queers United for Empowerment & Leadership (seaQuee), Providence, RI
- 19. Queer Asian Pacific Alliance (QAPA), Boston, MA
- 20. Massachusetts Area South Asian Lambda Association (MASALA)

GREATER NEW YORK AREA

- 21. Gay Asian & Pacific Islander Men of New York (GAPIMNY)
- 22. Q-Wave: Queer. Women & Trans. Asian. Visible. Empowered.
- 23. South Asian Lesbian and Gay Association (SALGA)
- 24. Dari Project
- 25. Institute for Tonghzi Studies

MID-ATLANTIC/ METRO DC AREA

- 26. API Queers United for Action (AQUA)
- 27. Asian Pacific Islander Queer Sisters (APIQS)
- 28. Khush-DC
- 29. Queer Philadelphia Asians (QPA)

MIDWEST

- 30. Invisible-to-Invincible, API Pride of Chicago
- 31. Shades of Yellow (SOY), Minneapolis, MN

THE SOUTH

- 32. Trikone Atlanta, GA

NATIONAL

- 33. Al-Fatiha Foundation
- 34. Asian Pacific Lesbian Bisexual Women and Transgender Network (APLBTN)

DIVERSITY OF LGBTQ AAPI ORGANIZATIONS

LGBTQ AAPI organizations serve diverse constituencies. While most are multi-gender organizations, five of them specifically serve women and trans individuals; five specifically serve men and trans individuals. Seven groups are for, by, and about individuals with South Asian heritage, and four groups serve ethnic specific communities (Chinese, Filipino, Korean and Vietnamese).

Collectively, organizations have members who are primarily between 20 and 40 years old, and a mix of foreign-born and US-born members. Interestingly, South Asian groups and AAPIs on the East Coast consist largely of foreign-born, while groups on the West Coast tend to consist largely of US-born members.

5

LGBTQ AAPI groups with paid staff

Five groups have paid staff and all of them are projects of larger AAPI organizations working on same-sex marriage or with youth, reflecting priorities from available funding sources.

1,030

Total volunteers

The average number of volunteers that organizations have is 32. In total, there are 1,030 volunteers working for LGBTQ AAPI groups across the country.

5,270

Total members

The number of formal members varies widely from about 25 to 1,000. Most groups have memberships under 100, but a few have over 500. In total, all LGBTQ AAPI groups have a combined membership of 5,270.

LGBTQ AAPI organizations vary greatly in regard to infrastructure, budget, and leadership structure. Only a quarter of LGBTQ AAPI organizations are formally incorporated as tax-exempt 501(c)3 entities. About a third are fiscally sponsored by another 501(c)3. Four are LGBTQ projects of larger mainstream AAPI organizations.

Most of their financial support comes from fundraising events, individual donations, and membership dues. Most LGBTQ AAPI groups receive no foundation support. A few groups receive some funding from foundations and among them, the most often reported funders, were the Astraea Lesbian Foundation for Justice, and local community foundations that were part of the Funding Exchange.

LGBTQ AAPI organizations all face internal organizational challenges such as avoiding leadership burn-out, increasing membership involvement, and balancing, membership involvement, and balancing social and social justice activities. Addressing those challenges is exacerbated by institutional barriers and organizational capacity, such as immigration laws and lack of resources to network with other groups. For example, emerging and existing foreign-born leaders, while showing interest in taking on leadership roles, are constrained by the lack of protection against deportation and the risk of jeopardizing their immigration status — just because they identify as LGBTQ. And local organizations, while trying to develop their organizations, are frustrated by geographic isolation and lack of shared resources..

11,836

Total listserv/
email subscribers

The average size of organizations' listservs is 400, but again the range is from 50 to 1,500. Most are under 500 but a few are over 1,000. In total, there are 11,836 listserv subscribers.

738

Total donors

The average number of donors per group is 30. There are a total of 738 donors to the LGBTQ AAPI groups.

\$1,000
to \$10,000

Annual budget of half of all groups

A quarter of the groups have annual budgets under \$1,000. About half have budgets between \$1,000 and \$10,000. The remainder have budgets over \$10,000, half of which are over \$50,000.

CONCLUSION

LGBTQ AAPI organizations across the United States are working hard to provide a safe and supportive space for LGBTQ AAPIs. They provide an array of social, support, political, and education activities. They promote awareness among their own members and educate the broader community. They challenge racism and anti-immigrant bias in the gay community and homophobia in Asian American and Pacific Islander communities. Some are well established organizations; others are just starting out. They have done very much with very little.

We hope this Directory will help local groups connect with each other to share resources and ideas. We also hope for it to be a resource for members of the media, national organizations, funders, and local LGBTQ activists who seek to involve AAPI individuals, or Asian American leaders who seek to reach out to LGBTQ individuals. **NQAPIA** and its partner organizations are proud this first-ever look into the state of the LGBTQ AAPI community.



The LGBTQ Asian American and Pacific Islander Populations: Definitions and Naming Conventions

Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders are among the fastest growing minority groups in the nation, numbering about 14 million. Since 1965, the Asian American population has more than tripled. Much of the growth resulted from increased immigration when restrictive and discriminatory quotas against countries in Asia were lifted.

Asian Americans, South Asians, and Pacific Islanders are extremely diverse populations encompassing people who trace their origins to Asia and the Pacific Islands. They include East Asians, such as Chinese, Koreans, Japanese; Southeast Asians such as Vietnamese, Cambodians, Thais, Hmong, and Laotians; South Asians, such as Indians, Bangladeshis, Pakistanis, Sri Lankans; other Asian groups such as Filipinos, Indonesians, multiracial Asians; and Pacific Islanders, such as Native Hawaiians, Guamanians, Chamorros and Samoans.

The census designates Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders as two distinct racial groups. However, race and identity are ever changing concepts. Before Census 2000, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders were combined in a joint category "Asian/ Pacific Islander." The term "Asian American" has always included South Asians, and all official reporting of Asian Americans includes Indians, Bangladeshis, and Pakistanis. But, the popular connotation of "Asian American" has often been East Asian, despite many South Asians and Pacific Islanders preferring other racial identifiers. Since 9/11, notions of being South Asian have also expanded with the governmental targeting of South Asians and Muslims. Lastly, regarding how "West Asian" and Middle Eastern individuals are identified, the census classifies Arabs and Afghans as racially as "white." How-

ever, some advocate for Middle Eastern and West Asian to be classified into the overall category of "Asian," while others advocate for those to be their own category.

Individual organizations represented in this descriptive directory maintain their own definitions of their ethnic, racial, gender/gender identity, sex, and sexual orientation categories. Given this milieu of naming preferences, we have chosen, for ease of convention in this document, to use Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (or "AAPI") to refer to people who self-identify their ancestry from any countries in the Asian continent and sub-continent or the islands of the Pacific Rim, regardless of immigration status, citizenship, or generation status (i.e. immigrants as the first generation in the U.S., their U.S.-born children being second generation, etc.).

Similarly, sexual orientation and gender identity are also changing concepts. "Homosexual" or "gay" was once thought to be all inclusive, but the feminist movement and its uncovering the invisibility of lesbians moved the concept to "lesbian and gay." In the early 1990s, the fluidity of sexuality was better understood and "bisexual" was added. As gender-identity has been recognized as a fundamentally different concept from sexuality and sexual orientation, we see more and more inclusion of "transgender" and

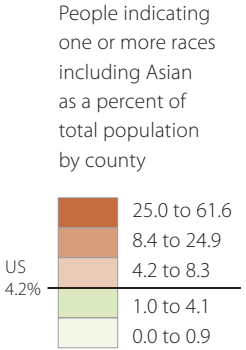
ASIANS AS A PERCENTAGE OF U.S. POPULATION IN 2000



“gender identity and expression” in our public usage. Other terms representing sexual orientation, gender identity, relationship orientation, and biological sex have also changed conceptually or arisen out of the narrative vacuum of terminology, some increasing or decreasing in use. In some cases, people may begin using particular concepts as they gain more understanding of them or as their philosophy of inclusion shifts. For example, “intersex” was used more widely amongst sexual minority groups than it is now - possibly as a result of the changing scope of LGBT movements, possibly a result of recognizing the needs of intersex individuals are not being met in LGBT organizations. On the other hand, words like “queer,” “gender non-conforming,” and “mixed-orientation” are increasing in use within the community. In the descriptive directory, we use LGBTQ where we define “Q” as inclusive of all gender non-conforming identi-

ties. Gender non-conforming we use to represent individuals whose gender expression is different from the societal expectations based on their assigned sex at birth – regardless of how that gender expression is manifested in an individual’s identity, presentation, sexuality/orientation, and/or intimate relationships.

Racial, sexual, and ethnic identification are powerful unifiers. But they are also imperfect; they do not reflect the full diversity nor do they capture the changing notions of identity in America today. For the purposes of this Directory, we have included groups that identify as LGBTQ AAPI organizations, or specific projects that serve this population. Please note local organizations represented in this directory have and use different naming conventions, reflecting a more specific, broader, or different scope in their mission and reflecting a different conceptualization of the terms they use.



○ Location of LGBTQ AAPI Organization(s)

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000



The Descriptive Directory of Queer AAPI Organizations

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY

According to the 2000 Census, there are 19,213 Asian American same-sex households. More and more LGBTQ AAPIs are coming out, yet they still face invisibility, isolation, and stereotyping within AAPI and LGBTQ communities.

The lives of LGBTQ AAPIs involve the complexity of being sexual, racial/ethnic, linguistic, gender, immigrant, and economic minorities. Two-thirds of all Asian Americans are foreign-born and 80% speak a language other than English in their homes. A third (34%) are not citizens. Approximately one million Asian Americans are undocumented. After 9/11, immigrants, particularly South Asian immigrants, have been targets of racial profiling, detentions, and deportations.

As a result, many LGBTQ AAPI organizations across the nation have formed largely to create safe spaces. They have done exceptional grassroots work in changing hearts and minds when it comes to racism and homophobia. Yet, at the same time, many groups have limited capacity. Until recently, none had full-time staff, and leaders served in volunteer capacities. Some have hired part-time consultants. Yet they all face internal organizational challenges and external frustrations about general invisibility, racism and anti-immigrant bias in the gay community and homophobia in the Asian community. Many feel that they are not connected and that they are constantly re-inventing the wheel. Basic administration and sometimes organizational survival are immediate concerns for many of them.

In 2005, leaders of LGBTQ AAPI organizations from throughout the country came together in Oakland, CA to identify ways to improve coordination and share resources among various groups to collectively build capacity. One of the ideas discussed was a Descriptive Directory of Queer Asian Pacific American Organizations. Other currently existing directories only state the organizations' names and contact information. They provide useful information, but are limited in scope. We hope this profile book provides a much more robust analysis about each of the nation's established LGBTQ AAPI organizations.

METHODOLOGY

We solicited information about all of the nation's known LGBTQ AAPI organizations. Some organizations were well established and have been working with **NQAPIA** for some time. Others were in a more formative or dormant state. Since this project began, two new organizations started and two others may now be defunct. To find the organizations, we combed through directories of mainstream LGBTQ and Asian American organizations, conducted on-line research, and asked individual community members about other groups they knew of through their own personal networks.

The information about the groups was collected in three ways: a survey, narratives, and interviews. First, an on-line survey instrument (www.surveymonkey.com) collected answers to the basic questions about their organizations, including:

- › Name, mission statement, contact information
- › History/founding
- › Decision-making/leadership structure
- › Diversity of members with respect to gender, gender-identity, ethnicity, foreign-borns, immigrants, ability, income)
- › Challenges and future plans
- › Regular social, political, support, educational, and outreach activities
- › Materials (such as flyers, brochures, newsletters)
- › Work that challenges racism, homophobia, and is in languages other than English.

Second, respondents gave oral presentations about their organizations. **NQAPIA** convened a national training and issue briefing for leaders of LGBTQ AAPI organizations in September 2008 in Denver, CO. Leaders of twenty-eight (28) LGBTQ AAPI organizations attended and each gave a review of their mainstay activities, current capacity, barriers to organizing and successes. In addition, a workshop session gave individuals an opportunity to describe their organizational challenges. This information was recorded and incorporated into this Directory.

Third, **NQAPIA** staff conducted personal interviews with organizational leaders and members. Some of these interviews took place at planned meetings. At other times, they were more organic. Respondents did not have to answer a pre-set list of questions; rather, responses came from open-ended discussions about their organizations' activities, struggles and needs.

Thirty organizations participated in this study. We reached out to organizations via email, phone, and paper mail, encouraging them to participate and complete our survey. Some organizations maintained a presence on-line or in some other directory, but no one from these groups ever responded to any of our communications. Those groups were not included in this survey. About three groups were unable to complete the survey by the deadline, which was extended several times, and the information gathered was derived from information on their website and through personal interviews. Each organization had an opportunity to review and edit their respective organizational profiles before publication; however, due to the condensed timelines, some of those reviews were not able to be completed by time of publication. Each organization has its own process of decision-making and collective work, and we extended our deepest regrets and apologies that we weren't able to afford more time prior to publication for all the groups to work through their process of review.

In this Directory, all of the percentages and descriptive quantifiers ("the majority," "most," "some," and "few") refer to the portion of those organizations that responded to a particular question. Not all organizations responded to every question on the surveymonkey questionnaire, but most groups completed a substantial portion of it.

This Directory encompasses groups that identify with being LGBTQ Asian American, South Asian, and Pacific Islander organizations, or specific projects that serve this population. This Directory does not include local Arab or Middle Eastern LGBTQ groups. It does, however, include **Al-Fatiha**, a Muslim LGBTQ group, recognizing the AAPI membership and leadership in the organization, and reflecting ongoing collaboration with **NQAPIA** on issues of common concern.

This Directory also does not include AIDS/HIV service agencies that specifically target AAPIs, such as APICHA in New York, MAP for Health in Boston, API Wellness Center in San Francisco, and Asian Pacific AIDS Intervention Team in Los Angeles. Many local LGBTQ AAPI organizations work closely with those agencies. However, we do not include them largely because of differing levels of funding and resources available to them from government and other sources. These agencies by and large operate on different scales than the organizations discussed in this Directory. At the same time, other directories provide information about these kinds or groups.

At its core, this Directory is intended to showcase local LGBTQ AAPI groups that intentionally target and serve the diverse needs of this unique community.

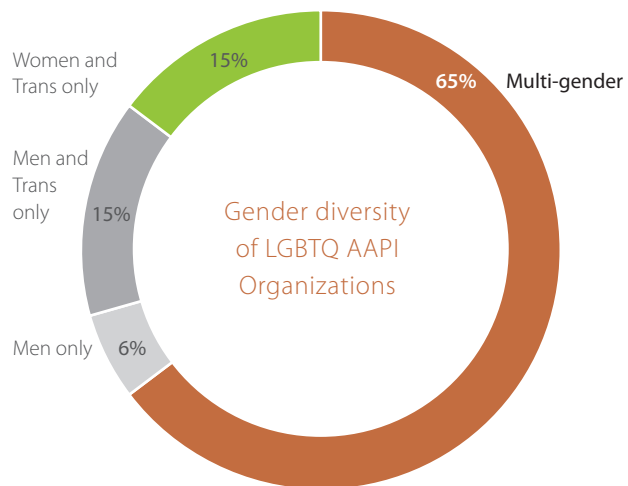
Findings

PROFILE OF LGBTQ AAPI ORGANIZATIONS

Thirty-four (34) LGBTQ AAPI organizations from across the United States are listed here. Two are national organizations. Most LGBTQ AAPI organizations are located in areas with large populations of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders. The largest population centers are in the San Francisco Bay Area and the Greater Los Angeles Area. Following these are the communities in New York City, the metropolitan Washington, DC Area, and New England.

Some LGBTQ AAPI organizations are organized by ethnicity or gender.

- › Seven (7) are South Asian groups.
- › Two (2) are Southeast Asian groups.
- › Six (6) serve specific ethnic communities, including Chinese, Filipinos, Vietnamese, and Koreans.
- › Five (5) are predominantly women’s organizations (three of which are inclusive of transgender people).
- › Five (5) are predominantly men’s organizations (two of which are inclusive of transgender people).



A clear majority of LGBTQ AAPI groups, about two-thirds, is multi-gender.

The metropolitan areas with multiple LGBTQ AAPI organizations are San Francisco, Los Angeles, New York, and Washington, DC. They each have South Asian, men’s, and women’s organizations. In each of these areas, there has been collaboration and cross-programming among the groups, as discussed in the next section.

Four (4) are LGBTQ projects of mainstream, larger AAPI organizations.

Three are specifically youth organizations, all of which are housed within larger organizations that also provide staff support.

INFRASTRUCTURE

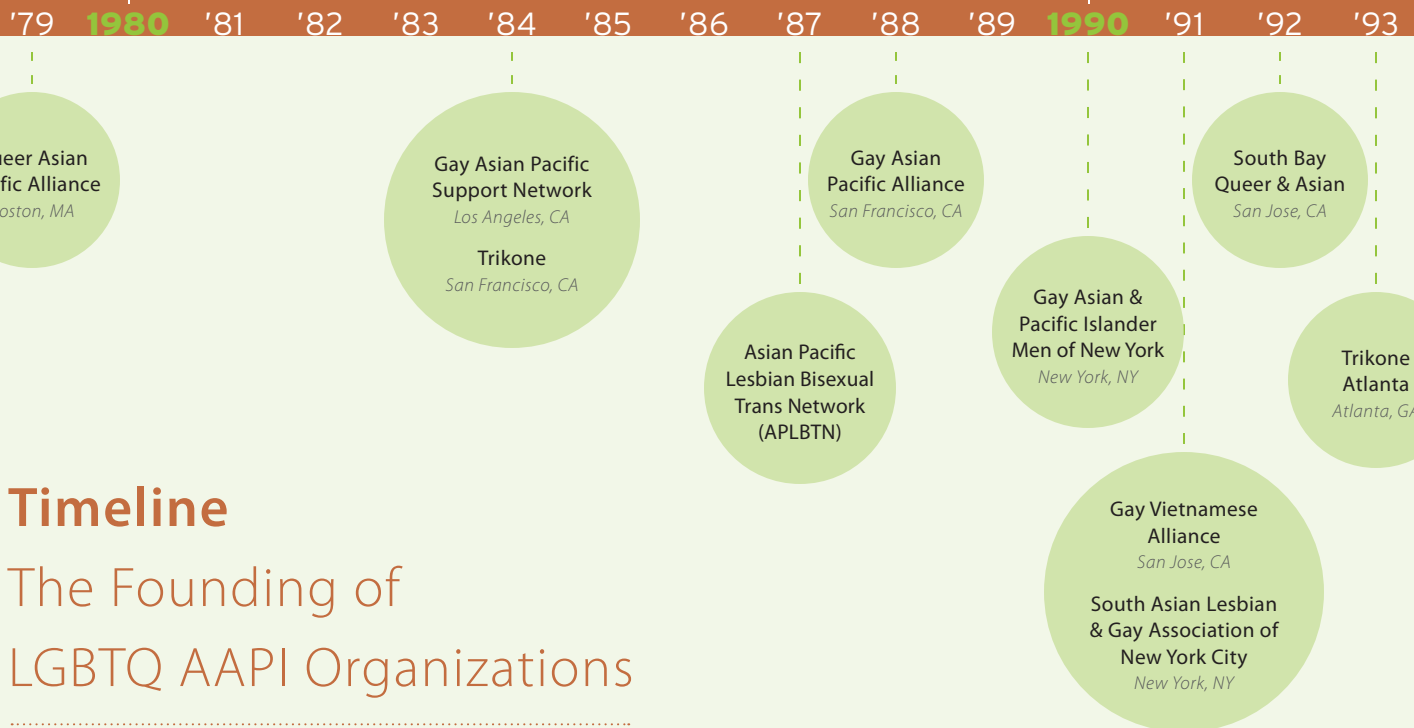
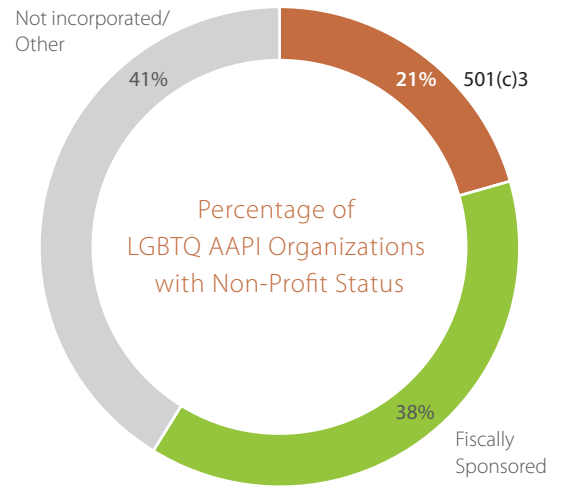
LGBTQ AAPI organizations vary greatly with regard to infrastructure, budget, and leadership structure.

Only five (5) organizations have staff; of these, most are projects of larger AAPI organizations. Two of them focus on marriage equality and three on youth.

Most organizations were founded in the 1990s.

Less than a quarter of LGBTQ AAPI organizations are formally incorporated as tax-exempt 501(c)3 entities. More than a third are fiscally sponsored by another 501(c)3.

Some organizations have virtual structures, in that they have an email address, website, and perhaps a phone number or voicemail, but they do not have postal mailing addresses. They use a variety of communications systems to keep their members connected, including Facebook, MySpace, Friendster, listservs, and electronic bulletin boards; some have blogs and discussion groups.



Timeline

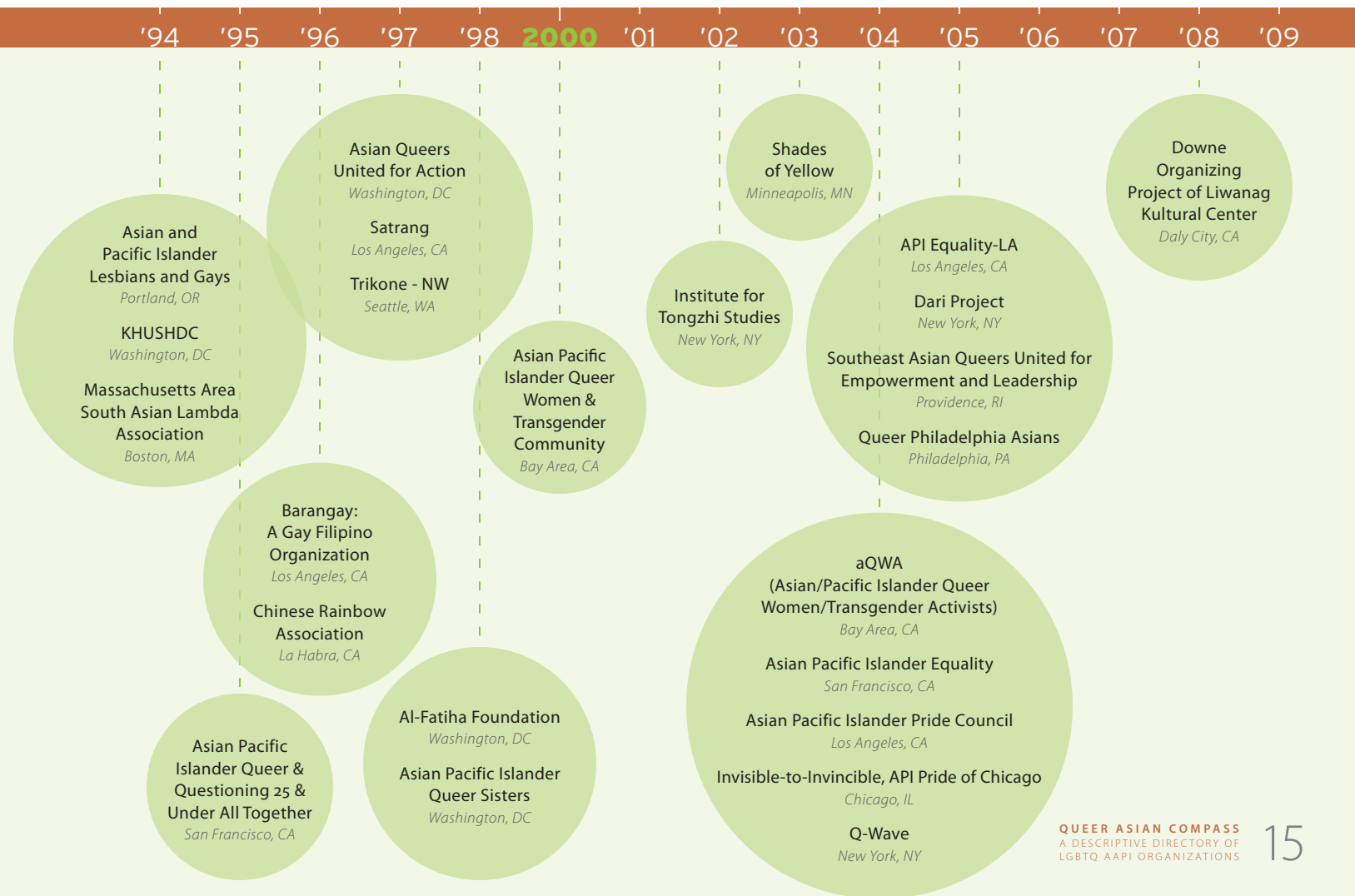
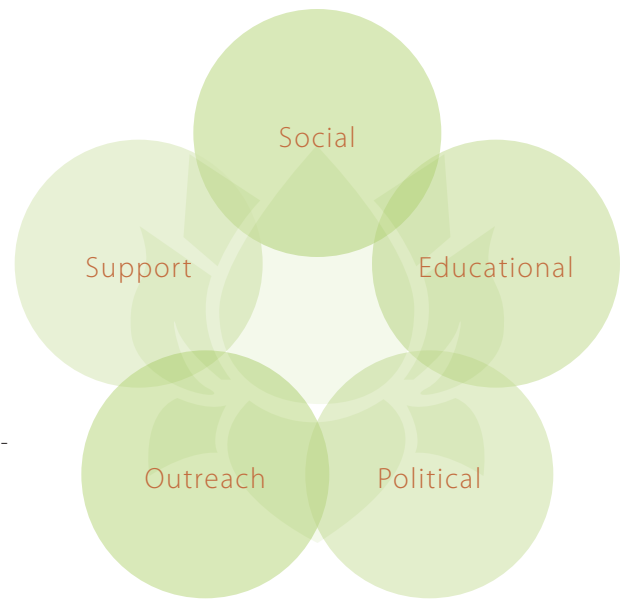
The Founding of LGBTQ AAPI Organizations

ONLY CURRENTLY EXISTING ORGANIZATIONS, AS REFLECTED IN THE QUEER ASIAN COMPASS DIRECTORY, ARE SHOWN.

ACTIVITIES

LGBTQ AAPI organizations engage in five distinct classes of activities: **social, support, educational, outreach, and political.**

There are limitations to categorizing organizational activities as such. Sometimes they blend. For example, a screening of a film about the lives of South Asians after 9/11 may be both a social and political event. Some groups also use different categories to present their work. **Shades of Yellow** in Minnesota described their programs as “advocacy, education, and health;” **GAPIMNY** says they provide “social, peer-support, educational, and political space.” **QAPA** in Boston described itself as a “social group that also provides support for activism on Asian and LGBTQ issues.” Notwithstanding these differences, we found in our survey of LGBTQ AAPI group activities that social, political, support, educational, and outreach activities were the most common themes of their work.





ACTIVITIES: SOCIAL

LGBTQ AAPI organizations provide essential social networking spaces where participants can connect with people of common heritage and experiences. They host a wide range of social activities catering to a variety of interests. Most groups host regular potlucks dinners or Dim Sum brunches. **Trikone** in the Bay Area hosts regular pot luck raps called “Chit Chat and Chai.” They coordinate sports teams (most often softball and volleyball), musical endeavors such as a choir or a small band, outdoor excursions like hiking trips, film screenings or Bollywood nights, and game nights. Some also host cultural performances (traditional dance/song), writing workshops, poetry, and spoken word events.

A third of the groups annually participate in local LGBTQ film festivals and, in some cities, Asian American festivals as well. The low participation rate is due to a number of reasons. Some organizations are in areas without film festivals. As we will discuss later, uneven outreach or collaboration with LGBTQ organizations from the broader AAPI community may also play a role.

In general, the social activities of these groups provide an alternative space to the gay bars and clubs. This is especially important for young people who are too young to get into age-restricted establishments. But a few groups do host regular after-work Happy Hours at gay bars. Many host annual dance parties at clubs.

Several groups had annual events. Some events attracted hundreds of people and were important fundraisers. **MASALA** in Boston hosts an annual Mela; **Satrang** marches with its partner organization, South Asian Network (SAN) in “Little India” and celebrates Pride and Eid/Diwali Festivals annually; **Shades of Yellow** hosts a “Ms. Soy” pageant. **API Equality-LA** hosted a spoken word event to raise money for the campaign against Proposition 8. In the Bay Area, **Trikone** has an annual cultural show called “Kulture Kulcha” and **GAPA** hosts “Runway,” a gay male beauty pageant and talent show. In New York, **SALGA** runs “Color Me Queer,” a party for people of color in June as part of LGBT Pride month, which jointly benefits **SALGA** and the Audre Lorde Project. Many host holiday parties at the end of the year.



ACTIVITIES: SUPPORT

LGBTQ AAPI organizations provide peer support for individuals who are coming out of the closet, simply looking to connect with their cultural peers, or in need of professional services. A third of the groups have monthly peer-support group meetings that are open to all of their members. Some have groups specifically for women, people of transgender experience, or youth. **SALGA's** monthly “coming out” sessions have facilitators who are fluent in English and another South Asian language and are trained in power dynamics, racism and other biases. Most groups are able to make referrals to other agencies for social services. The most often requested services are health/counseling/AIDS/HIV services, immigration assistance, and general legal advice.

Three respondents provide support specifically for young people – **seaQuel**, **AQUA25**, and **Downe Organizing Project**. It is noteworthy that all of these groups are staffed and housed by larger organizations. The **Downe Organizing Project** aims to be a resource in Daly City to provide workshops that help participants understand heterosexism in the Filipino community. **AQUA25** supports alternative spaces to the club scene for young people and hosts an annual retreat to foster youth leadership. They outreach in public high schools and at many mainstream AAPI events and spaces, such as the Cherry Blossom Festival, Pilipino Cultural Nights, and in Chinatown youth centers. **SeaQuel** supports and trains LGBTQ Southeast Asian young people through GED and after-school programs and political campaigns.

Two groups in the Bay Area – **GAPA** and **APIQWTC** – run a program to provide college scholarships to needy LGBTQ AAPI young people.

Many groups provide specific support on immigration matters. Some groups like **MASALA** have done educational forums with LGBTQ civil rights attorneys and South Asian immigration lawyers. **SALGA** has actively campaigned for immigrants’ rights and protested against the detention, deportation, and special registration of immigrants. **Al-Fatiha**, **SALGA**, and **Satrang** have written letters in support of asylum petitions. The letters sometimes only need to confirm that the applicants are LGBTQ or are members of their (LGBTQ) groups.

To accommodate members with limited English proficiency, a third of the groups have a translated brochure, postcard or flyer. Three have translated pages on their websites. Some support members who do not speak English through informal cliques of members who speak the same language.



ACTIVITIES: EDUCATION

Educational activities are integral to the missions of almost all LGBTQ AAPI groups. Most groups host educational workshops, guest speakers, or discussion groups on a variety of topics. Some have blogs/e-discussion groups. Most regularly co-sponsor events in which they encourage their members to attend events organized by other groups.

Some respondents, however, observe an imbalance in seeking LGBTQ AAPI co-sponsorship. LGBTQ AAPI groups may be solicited more often by mainstream LGBTQ groups than by mainstream AAPI groups to co-sponsor their events. One person commented that the invitations for co-sponsorship by mainstream LGBT organizations may often be an effort to demonstrate some level of inclusivity of minority/POC people, but may not necessarily result in collaborations of any substance. The other observation is that LGBTQ AAPI groups are much less often solicited by non-gay Asian groups. The result is that LGBTQ AAPIs are sometimes more visible in the LGBTQ community than they are in the mainstream AAPI community.

However, LGBTQ AAPI organizations are sometimes invited to participate in larger AAPI community efforts as the “LGBTQ” voice. In Los Angeles, **GAPSN** is a member agency of the Asian Pacific Policy & Planning Council. Nationally, **Satrang** is also part of the National Coalition of South Asian Organizations (NCSO).

To educate the larger communities, a few groups hold workshops or open community forums; some have speakers bureaus. **QAPA** in Boston occasionally speaks at student conferences; **AQWA** in Los Angeles has spoken on community panels about homophobia in the Asian community and in the church. **Trikone-Atlanta** collaborated with a South Asian social service and domestic violence agency on “Masala Chai Houses,” a conversation series about the model minority myth, racism and homophobia. **KhushDC** hosts an annual event for Women’s Herstory Month in March, with different topics such as honoring South Asian women activists and activism, or transgender people and their experiences. **AQWA** has published articles in local Asian newsletters and newspapers in which they specifically identified lesbian Asians of various ethnicities to be community press contacts on LGBTQ AAPI issues like marriage equality and to address incidents of homophobia in Asian communities.

Visibility Efforts in New York & Los Angeles

AQWA

is coordinating The Visibility Project. It is the creation of a diverse portrait series centered on and created by AAPI queer women and AAPI trans folks. The goals are to educate and document our community(ies). The project includes a photographic exhibition in Los Angeles, and possibly the Bay Area and beyond. The images created will be also used to produce brochures, postcards and on the AQWA website to create outreach and recruiting materials.

QWAVE

is spearheading The Asian Pride Project which aims for all AAPIs “to live openly and proudly regardless of sexual orientations and gender expressions with our families, culture and our heritage.” They hope to bring about understanding, empathy, love, unity, and acceptance among family members and friends. This campaign includes a multilingual website in which people can communicate through written and visual art forms and advertising in local community newspapers in various Asian languages. It will include stories, essays, poetry, graphics, video clips, photo and caption exchanges, as well as interactive comments and statements.



ACTIVITIES:

OUTREACH AND VISIBILITY

Many respondents commented that most of gay culture is dominated by white gay images, and that women, transgender persons, and South Asians were notably absent. To address these frustrations, groups embark on a variety of outreach activities.

Almost all LGBTQ AAPI organizations participate in annual LGBTQ Pride events, but fewer (only about half) participate in AAPI cultural-specific events, such as:

- › Lunar New Year
- › Asian Pacific American Heritage Month in May
- › Nation-specific independence days (Pakistan, India, Philippines)
- › Other ethnic specific events, (Dragon Boat festivals, Eid, Diwali, Cherry Blossom Festivals, etc.)

While two-thirds of the groups organize tables at annual LGBTQ Pride Festivals, only one-third do the same at mainstream AAPI or cultural-specific events. For example, **MASALA** tables at India Day Celebrations and **GAPIMNY** and **Q-WAVE** do so at the Asian American Heritage Month Festival.

To promote visibility, AAPI LGBTQ women's groups and women members of multi-gender groups often participate in annual Dyke Marches in cities that have these events. As a show of solidarity, **GAPIMNY** volunteers for the "Brothers for Sisters" water brigade in the annual Dyke March.

Groups have invested in developing outreach and promotional materials. **Trikone** in the Bay Area and **GAPIMNY** both have regular periodicals. **Satrang** and **GAPA** have e-newsletters. Only a third of the groups have organizational brochures.

Satrang

is translating its brochure into five (5) South Asian languages; launching a visibility campaign via advertisements and articles in South Asian newspapers and magazines; compiling a health/mental resource directory for referral purposes for its members; collaborating with a South Asian organization to do outreach to religious leaders; among many more activities.

GAPIMNY

developed bilingual postcards and posters distributed on the street and at ethnic grocery stores in Chinatown and Flushing. The Chinese message basically translated into "Love goes with any gender" and had the Chinese character for "Love" encircled with characters for "gay," "heterosexual," and "bisexual." Each set of characters was modified in mathematical correlation to the other characters. Together they became a sort of rhyme that had no starting or ending point, and eliminated any hierarchy among the kinds of love. The Korean message imported notions of immigration issues and included images of actual queer Korean Americans. It said, "They say love has no borders, then why must there be borders on our love? Toward a world where difference does not mean discrimination. Let's change our perspective. Gay is good."

MULTILINGUAL OUTREACH

A large portion of the AAPI community does not speak or read English. Almost half (43%) of the nation's Asian Americans over 18 are limited English proficient and four out of five (81%) speak a language other than English in their homes. Yet, information about LGBTQ resources and issues are almost exclusively in English. The LGBTQ community has not engaged non-English speaking Americans.

This invisibility has resulted bias. For example, the Chinese-language newspaper World Journal published a national editorial in support of a federal constitutional amendment limiting marriage to only men and women and in 2004 Chinese Christian churches organized a multilingual rally against same sex marriage in San Francisco. In response, LGBTQ AAPI groups have been developing multilingual education campaigns about being LGBTQ. These include:

- › **Satrang** in Los Angeles focusing on South Asians
- › **AQWA** in Los Angeles focusing on AAPI women
- › **API Equality** in California focusing on marriage equality
- › **Q-WAVE** in New York focusing on resources for families and friends
- › **Dari Project** in New York focusing on Koreans

These groups have found that their approach and messaging must be more culturally competent. They realize that the traditional in-your-face approach of many gay activists, and Americans in general, have tended to turn-off many foreign-born Asians. The messages need to be more subtle, yet still affirming, in order to promote acceptance of LGBTQ AAPIs.

Lessons Learned: Finding Balance

The blending of political and social activities is essential. One observer noted that historically, the LGBTQ AAPI community had been made up of strong local social groups and regional political organizations. To some extent, most of the social groups were predominantly men's groups – namely GAPIMNY, GAPA, and GAPSN – and regional political groups were predominantly East Asian women's groups, such as APLBTN and Asian Lesbians of the East Coast. Both networks were especially strong in the 1990s. But today, the LGBTQ AAPI groups that have endured are those that balance activities

catering to large numbers of people. Since then, men's groups have grown more political and some have affirmatively worked to examine their role in the struggle against sexism. Many lesbian women activists joined broader women's issues or intersectional work to combat domestic violence and human trafficking. Some opted to have children. The more recently-founded LBTQ women's organizations have become more social. Today, most LGBTQ AAPI groups are multi-gender and mix both social and social justice activities.



ACTIVITIES:

POLITICAL ADVOCACY & ACTIVISM

All LGBTQ AAPI groups engage in some form of political advocacy or activism, but the frequency and manner vary tremendously. Some have written letters to the editor in mainstream press, LGBTQ community press, and Asian ethnic/language press. GLAAD has run media trainings specifically for LGBTQ AAPI groups. Some groups have participated in rallies, protests, and lobby days, and published political pieces in their newsletters, websites, and listservs. A few organizations report that they do not participate in many political activities, but their members do so as individuals.

LGBTQ AAPIs have frequently spoken out against defamatory images and articles in the media. For example, one local group challenged the “China Doll”-themed gay Hotlanta Circuit Party in 2000. A dozen LGBTQ AAPI groups collaborated to protest Details magazine’s “Gay or Asian?” feature that mocked gay Asian men, and **SALGA** in New York organized protests against the detention, deportation, and special registration of South Asians after 9/11. Some groups have expressed international solidarity and protested human rights violations against LGBTQs abroad.

Marriage equality has recently galvanized LGBTQ AAPI groups, specifically in the context of California’s Proposition 8 to ban gay marriage in 2008. **API Equality** in San Francisco and **API Equality** in Los Angeles were founded to specifically work on marriage equality in the AAPI community. Both hired staff to work on the 2008 campaign. They developed educational materials in Asian languages, worked with the Asian ethnic media, organized individual LGBTQ AAPIs to volunteer for the No on 8 campaign, and targeted AAPI voters to vote against Proposition 8. They generated multiple stories and features about same-sex couples and the struggle for marriage equality in the AAPI media, thereby creating a more tolerant and understanding atmosphere. Both groups developed significant organizational infrastructure and have been trying to figure out to how to maintain those structures.

Some groups engaged in politically partisan work. Federal tax-exempt (501(c)3) groups are forbidden from campaigning for specific candidates for office or political parties, but some LGBTQ AAPI groups are unincorporated or have 501(c)4 status so they face no such restrictions. The first LGBTQ AAPI organization to endorse candidates was **GAPA** in San Francisco. A few **GAPA** members have actually sought and won political office. **GAPSN** in Los Angeles followed suit and **GAPSN** maintains a 501(c)4 status. In 2008, the LGBTQ AAPI groups in Washington, DC collaborated with the Human Rights Campaign to host an “Asian American Queer Asian Forum,” to discuss the elections and to publicly endorse Barack Obama for President.

There has been some push back, however, to the activism of groups. Many respondents commented about the tension in their organizations in balancing social and political activities. They often had to negotiate between competing factions within their groups. They noted that a sizeable segment of their membership tended to be more focused on social activities and had a distaste for political activism. Another segment believed that their groups had a duty to be politically engaged and to speak up for LGBTQ AAPIs. Invariably, when the political and advocacy work were perceived to predominate (whether or not politics actually dominated the number of hours or events in a group’s programming), there were complaints that the group had become “too political.”

One interesting observation is that in many groups, the more socially-oriented leaders and members tended to be immigrants or those who were foreign-born. Those who were more political were US-born. Indeed, AAPIs come from some countries which have a history of government repression, where speaking out had direct consequences for them and their families. Some AAPIs are taught to be silent.

One group leader noted that social events can be used to build a political base. They bring people to the organization

through social activities to build a larger, more confident, and more engaged base that is more likely to take part in political activities. For others, educational and outreach work is not seen as “political” per se but rather as “service.” This too serves as a bridge to bring more people into advocacy work and political awareness.

Another organizational leader reported that, “Simply existing as a gay Asian safe space was a political act in itself.” Simply hosting AAPI-only meetings is a recognition of racism and homophobia, and for women’s groups, of sexism in society today. He observed that people came to “political consciousness” often by simply going to organizational events where discussions about racism and LGBTQ concerns would emerge organically. These processes were highly effective in bringing more people to awareness.

ACTIVITIES:

COALITIONS AND COLLABORATIONS

The accomplishments of LGBTQ AAPI organizations could not have been achieved without many partnerships. For example, in Los Angeles, **Satrang** works with South Asian Network a non-LGBTQ social justice and advocacy organization serving South Asians. They jointly published a comprehensive report on the needs of LGBTQ South Asians. **Trikone-NW** partnered with other progressive South Asian organizations in the Seattle area on various programming events. **GAPIMNY** has often worked with other groups such as the Audre Lorde Project, a community organizing center for LGBTQ people of color around political issues.

Working with other communities of color is also important. **AQWA** has collaborated with many queer/trans/women of color organizations and Que Viva/Tongues to produce the “Tongue to Tongue: Provoking Critical Dialogues Among Queer Women of Color Conference” at the LA Gay and Lesbian Center. It was a three day multiple-genre event with queer lesbitrans participants. They held workshops on class, race, sexuality, and gender as well as performances. Queer women of color performance artists, spoken word, poetry, music, short films, speakers panel, and multiple tracks of workshops were held over two days.

Trikone in the Bay area has organized an international South Asian conference every five years, “DesiQueer.” The first was in 2000, and the second in 2005. The next is planned for 2010. Many members of South Asian groups across the country attend the conference.

Washington, DC groups have come together to organize events that blend social/political/ educational themes. The most notable example is “Pride and Heritage” which is co-organized by three LGBT AAPI groups: **APIQS**, **Khush**, and **AQUA**, as well as the DC chapter of the National Asian Pacific American Women’s Forum, a queer-friendly women’s group. The event is an awards ceremony and includes an entertainment program. Many of the DC metropolitan area’s LGBTQ and AAPI communities come out for the event.

LGBTQ AAPI groups have also worked with others to record the history of the LGBTQ AAPI community. One group leader said, “To go forward we must remember our past.” **MASALA** partnered with The History Project for the “QueerEast Project,” a documentation of the history of the LGBTQ AAPI community in New England. Similarly, members of **I21** in Chicago were included in a PBS documentary on Gay Chicago which ran during LGBTQ Pride month. They are currently working on a gay history project.

MEMBERSHIP / DIVERSITY

We asked organizational leaders to give a profile of their members and describe the diversity of their memberships.

Groups stated their memberships were a mix of AAPIs who were foreign-born and US-born. The majority of foreign-born individuals were split between being naturalized citizens and legal permanent residents. Some were on work visas and some on student visas. Most groups had at least a few members who were undocumented.

All the South Asian groups represented in this directory tended to have a majority of immigrant members, with about two-thirds of their members foreign-born and one-third native born. The same holds true for AAPI groups on the East Coast. West Coast groups tended to see the reverse, with two-third native-born citizens and one-third immigrants.

When asked about the level of inclusion and diversity within their organizations, groups provided a range of responses. Multigender groups often sought more involvement from transgender members and women. Some pan-Asian groups commented that they were predominantly East Asian, English-speaking, and educated. Others noted that they were very balanced and inclusive of South Asian and East Asians alike, trans, women, and men. On maintaining diversity, South Asian groups generally commented that they were (or tried very hard to be) balanced not only in terms of gender, but also in ethnicity and religions.

Members of predominantly East Asian groups tended to be mostly Chinese, Filipino, and Vietnamese, along with some Koreans, Japanese, and other Asian ethnicities. Among predominantly South Asian groups, Indians were the most represented, followed by Pakistanis, Bangladeshis, and Sri Lankans. These membership rates tended to reflect the relative populations of each of the Asian ethnic groups, according to census figures.

In regards to sexual orientation and gender-identity, groups noted that bisexuals tended to be somewhat underrepresented, as were transgender persons. Respondents occasionally reported moments of insensitivity, reflecting a need for more outreach and education.

Regarding disability, most groups noted that a few members had physical or mental disabilities, but this was often due to voluntarily disclosure. Most groups stated that most of their members had no known challenges or they did not record this information.

Across the organizations, members are generally between 25 and 45 years old. Among the groups, the general age ranges were evenly divided between those who were 26-35 and 36-45. Next were 18-25 and 46-55. Few groups had members under 18 or over 55.

Most often, the members of LGBTQ AAPI groups were described as professionals. A few noted that some of the members were students.

ORGANIZATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE

We asked organizations to report the number of people they had on their Boards of Directors, paid staff, volunteers, paid consultants, members, listserv subscribers, and finances.

- › **Board:** The average size of Boards of Directors or Steering Committees was 7 members. In total, there were 234 Board members across the organizations. These individuals serve as the leadership and volunteer core of their respective groups.
- › **Paid staff:** Only 5 groups have paid staff. These five groups are projects of larger LGBTQ or AAPI organizations, and all staff are employees of the larger organizations. All paid staff work on either same-sex marriage or with youth, reflecting the priorities of available funding sources.
- › **Volunteers:** The average number of volunteers per organization is 32. In total, there are 1,030 volunteers.
- › **Consultants:** Just under half of the groups had paid consultants to provide some services to them, such as facilitating a strategic planning meeting, retreat, website design or translation services. In total, they have hired 27 consultants.
- › **Members:** The organizations reported an average number of 210 formal members, with a wide range from about 25 to 1,000 members. Most groups have memberships under 100, but a few had over 500. In total, all LGBTQ AAPI groups reported a total of 5,270 members.
- › **Subscribers:** The organizations' listservs had an average of 408 subscribers, with a wide reported range from 50 to 1,500. Most listservs had fewer than 500 members, but a few are over 1,000. In total, 11,836 listserv subscribers were reported.
- › **Donors:** The average number of donors per group was 31. The LGBTQs AAPI groups reported a total of 738 donors.

FINANCES

Groups have a wide range of organizational budgets. A quarter of the groups have annual budgets under \$1,000. About half have of the annual budgets were between \$1,000 and \$10,000, and they were evenly divided among \$1,000–\$2,500, \$2,501–\$5,000 and \$5,001–\$10,000. Another quarter had budgets over \$10,000, half of which were over \$50,000.

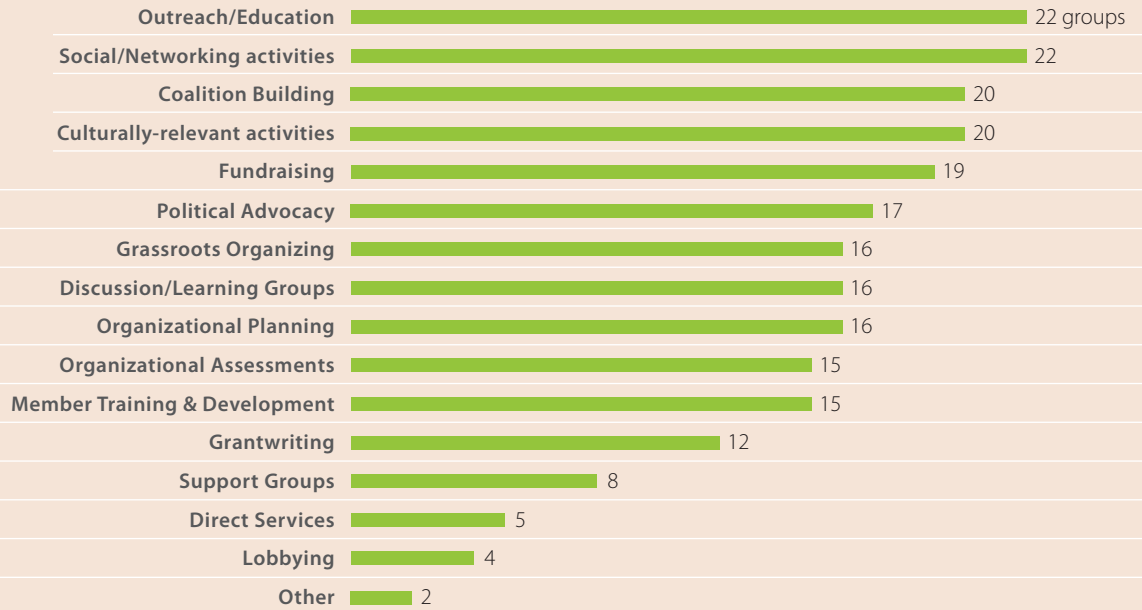
For most groups, fundraising events were the primary source of funding, followed by individual donations, and finally membership fees. Fundraising events provided an average of about 45% funding for the organizations; 25% came from individual donations; and 20% from membership dues.

The majority of respondents received no foundation support. A third of the organizations received some funding from foundations and among these groups, the funding made up over 75% or even 90% of the group's entire budget. **Satrang** and **AQWA** received grants from the Astraea Lesbian Foundation for Justice for visibility efforts. **I2I** and **GAPIMNY** both received smaller grants from local community foundations that were part of the Funding Exchange.

LGBTQ AAPI organizations are in various stages of formal planning for their organizations. While two-thirds of all groups have written organizational work plans, a third did not have one. A

PLANNED ACTIVITIES

Groups have a number of activities planned for the upcoming year, including the following:



quarter of them do not even have a written list of their regular activities. Most groups, however are good at developing a calendar of planned events for the upcoming year, and at least, for the next 3-6 months. About half of the organizations have or are developing a long term strategic plan. Groups like **Trikone Bay Area**, **GAPA**, **GAPIMNY**, have yearly day-long or weekend planning retreats.

All groups are constantly working to build their capacity, recruit new members, outreach, build their boards, and raise money for their activities. Some are in the process of institutionalizing, either by submitting their 501(c)3 application, or commencing a strategic planning process.

For some groups, however, seeking the 501(c)3 tax exempt status is seen as more of a hindrance than a benefit. Of course, raising foundation money is alluring. But some groups cherish the freedom of not being incorporated. Two specifically rejected incorporating and applying for their own tax-exemption status. They found that the process could take a year and would detract time, energy, and money away from more important activities such as programming events and advocacy. They also did not want to be permanently trapped into the 501(c)3 limitations, as well as the financial reporting obligations. Instead, they opted for fiscal sponsorship by working with a bona-fide tax-exempt organization to raise foundation funding when such funding was needed and available.



Challenges

LGBTQ AAPI organizations struggle with a series of challenges, in programming, leadership and membership. Groups noted that they faced challenges in identifying constituent needs, maintaining communications systems, coordinating both social and political activities, encouraging general involvement, and developing leadership.

A few groups commented that they felt they were constantly reinventing the wheel and felt like there were “building everything from the ground up.” Greater information sharing among groups is needed. Larger groups like Satrang, which has several projects and has coordinated a dozen major events every year, or GAPIMNY, which runs monthly workshops, a youth group, and social outings, have at times felt overwhelmed by all of the activities that they maintain.

Several groups felt that they were constantly trying to figure out the needs within their own communities and their organization’s appropriate role. They questioned whether their group needed to be everything to everyone. Limited capacity, experience, and leadership prevented them from doing as much as they aspired to. Some organizational leaders were able to manage this balance, while others had more difficulty.

A few groups expressed frustration with their communications systems, specifically in listserv management and website maintenance. Many groups vacillate between “closed” listservs that are intended to provide one-way delivery of information, announcements and updates about the organization, and more “open” or unmoderated listservs that allow for interaction and discussion that is potentially more fruitful or controversial. The other challenge was in maintaining updated websites. New people would also come into leadership and set out to revamp entire websites, using tremendous time and energy, rather than update the content for existing websites.

The tension between social and political activities again emerged. More than one person commented that their group needed to “maintain social and social justice perspectives.” Some group leaders were more engaged in using social events as an entry point for new members to develop some political awareness and passion to address community concerns and problems. These groups also used social events to build their core group of volunteers.

LGBTQ AAPI organizational leaders faced a common challenge in motivating their memberships. For example, **SALGA** commented that they have a large membership of over 1,000 individuals, but their activities do not

necessarily turn out large numbers of people. Likewise, **AQUA** noted that there were “many gay Asians in the DC area but they don’t participate.” Groups in cities with many colleges and universities, such as Boston and Washington, DC, commented how many LGBTQ AAPIs were around in the community but not involved in their organizations.

Burnout of leadership was an enormous concern. Many reported fatigue among key, long-serving leaders and the need to involve new people. Occasionally, members and leaders of LGBTQ AAPI groups were already committed to other groups or worked long hours at their full-time jobs. They were sometimes overextended.

A parallel dynamic was found among some individuals who were resistant to taking on leadership roles because said they “couldn’t give 100%.” There was a notion that to be involved, they had to do everything, know everything, and be aware of every contingency. Talented and capable members would therefore look on while a few individuals struggled to do all the work. Groups needed to structure ways to encourage people to contribute whatever amount of time they could give.

Another issue facing the leadership of LGBTQ AAPIs was the limited ability of some members to assume public roles due to factors unique to this community. Some members could not risk taking on leadership roles because of their immigration status; they were undocumented. Sometimes, people who were not publicly out of the closet took on leadership roles, but their need to preserve anonymity, at times, presented complications.

SUPPORT FOR LGBTQ AAPI ORGANIZATIONS

We asked groups what their greatest needs were for developing their organizations. Most groups ranked “recruiting new leaders” and “developing leadership skills” as the highest priorities. The skills for which support was requested included: mentoring emerging leaders, meeting management, and decision-making.

We asked respondents about their most significant challenges around accessing, managing, and/or updating resources. They almost always identified a lack of financial resources and volunteers. There was a strong desire to learn about “other practices” but not “best practices” per se because practices needed to be tailored to the values, culture, experiences, and styles of local groups, which vary tremendously.

In regards to communications, most groups said that the lack of a postal mailing address, physical location, or phone number were not significant problems. However, two groups who had high levels of activities, materials and supplies did note that the lack of an office was occasionally problematic. Again, the most significant obstacles were the lack of human resources (in both quantity and skill) and the financial resources to maintain or start up such communication systems. A third of the groups also mentioned that the lack of resources to develop materials and information in other languages besides English was a significant problem.



Conclusion

LGBTQ AAPI organizations across the United States are working hard to provide a safe and supportive space for LGBTQ AAPIs. They provide an array of social, support, political, and educational activities. They reach out to educate their members and the broader community. They speak out in support of the community. They challenge racism in the gay community and homophobia in Asian American and Pacific Islander communities.

Some exhibit the hallmarks of well established organizations — they have been around for 20 years, are incorporated, and have hired professional staff. Others are just starting out. They have launched visibility campaigns, multilingual initiatives, and provided safe spaces for more vulnerable and forgotten sectors of the community, such as young people, people of transgender experience, and women. Some are heavily involved in efforts for the right to marry, and others are seeking rights for immigrants. What comes through time and time again, however, is the ability of these organizations to do much with little. They are driven by leadership that has a passion to serve a unique sector of society that lies at the intersection between two larger communities that often do not know what to make of LGBTQ AAPI.

The second part of this Directory includes individual profiles of each organization that delve more deeply into each group, providing specific information that expands on many of the points made thus far.

We hope this in-depth Directory will help local groups connect with each other to share resources and ideas. We also hope for it to be a resource for members of the media, national organizations, funders, local LGBTQ activists who seek to involve AAPIs, or Asian American leaders who seek to reach out to LGBTQs. We hope this Directory provides a first-ever snapshot into the State of the LGBTQ AAPI community.



Al-Fatiha Foundation

MULTI-GENDER

MAILING ADDRESS Al-Fatiha Foundation
PO Box 33015
Washington, DC 20033

GENERAL CONTACT INFO Tel 202-452-5534 Email info@al-fatiha.org
Website www.al-fatiha.org

ORG/PROGRAM MISSION

Al-Fatiha Foundation is dedicated to Muslims who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex, questioning, those exploring their sexual orientation or gender identity, and their allies, families and friends. Al-Fatiha promotes the progressive Islamic notions of peace, equality and justice. Al-Fatiha envisions a world that is free from prejudice, injustice and discrimination, where all people are fully embraced and accepted into their faith, their families and their communities. Founded in 1998, Al-Fatiha Foundation is a registered US-based non-profit, non-governmental organization.

HISTORY

YEAR ESTABLISHED 1998

The Al-Fatiha Foundation was founded in 1998, and is registered as a nonprofit organization in the United States. The organization was an offshoot of an internet listserve that brought together many gay, lesbian and questioning Muslims from various countries.

FACTS & FIGURES

CONTACT PERSON Mina Trudeau
Director

ORG/PROGRAM STATUS Incorporated as a 501(c)3





API EQUALITY-LA
Asians and Pacific Islanders for Marriage Equality

API Equality-LA (APIELA)

LOS ANGELES, CA


SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

API Equality-LA (APIELA)

MULTI-GENDER

MAILING ADDRESS
API Equality-LA
The Village at Ed Gould Plaza
1125 N. McCadden Place, #154
Los Angeles, CA 90038

GENERAL CONTACT INFO
Tel 323-860-7348 *Email* contact@apiequalityla.org
323-860-7358 apiequality@lagaycenter.org
Website www.apiequalityla.org

PUBLIC INTERFACES
Social Networking  <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=8494295501>
Group  <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/apiequalityla>



ORG/PROGRAM MISSION

API Equality-LA is a coalition of organizations and individuals who are committed to working in the Asian and Pacific Islander communities in Greater Los Angeles for equal marriage rights and fair treatment of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender families through community education and advocacy.

HISTORY

YEAR ESTABLISHED 2005

From its founding in 2005, API Equality-LA has uniquely bridged the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) community with the civil rights and other social justice communities, united by a common understanding of the parallels between past anti-miscegenation and current marriage equality struggles. Formed by a diverse group of API LGBT individuals and straight allies, API Equality-LA has garnered tremendous broad-based support. More than 50 organizations in Southern California have endorsed API Equality-LA. In addition, over 40 API community leaders, including elected officials, faith-based leaders, celebrities, nonprofit executives, civil rights activists and others have publicly stated their support for API Equality-LA.

FACTS & FIGURES

CONTACT PERSON Kathy Khommarath
Staff

ORG/PROGRAM STATUS Not incorporated;
fiscally sponsored as non-profit by Asian Pacific Policy & Planning Council



aQWA (Asian/Pacific Islander Queer Women/Transgender Activists)

WOMEN & TRANS

MAILING ADDRESS **AQWA**
3465 West 8th Street C/O Kiwa Eileen Ma - AQWA
Los Angeles, CA 90005

GENERAL CONTACT INFO *Tel* 213-738-9050 x104 *Email* info@aqwa.org
Website www.aqwa.org

PUBLIC INTERFACES *Social Networking*  www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=48020072933
Group  <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/aqwa-general>

ORG/PROGRAM MISSION

AQWA's mission is to promote the visibility and empowerment of Asian and Pacific Islander queer women and transgender individuals and to build a supportive, progressive community through social, political and educational activism.

HISTORY

YEAR ESTABLISHED 2004

AQWA was founded in response to the November 2004 elections as Asian American Queer Women Activists as a volunteer network of API queer women and transgender activists in Southern California. Our purpose is to create community, to increase our visibility and to build power within the API LGBTIQ community for social justice and equal treatment of our community through political organizing and conducting public education to combat racism, homophobia/heterosexism, sexism and all forms of oppression. To our knowledge we are the only organized political group led by and representing API queer women or transgender people in Los Angeles or Southern California.

FACTS & FIGURES

CONTACT PERSON	M Adriano <i>Core member</i>
DECISION-MAKING	Consensus; Committees
MEMBERSHIP/ COMMUNITY	10 Members 87 Subscribers
ORG/PROGRAM STATUS	Not incorporated; fiscally sponsored as non-profit by Koreatown Immigrant Workers Alliance
ANNUAL BUDGET SIZE	\$2,501 - \$5,000
SOURCES OF FUNDING	Grants 75% Activities/Events 20% Selling Items (t-shirts, etc.) 5%

	SOCIAL	SUPPORT	EDUCATION	OUTREACH	POLITICAL
ANNUAL	Movie-film festival			Participate in annual LGBT Pride events, March in LGBT Pride parade, Participate in API culture-specific events; March in API culture-specific parades, Host Information Table (general), Table at LGBT Pride festival	
QUARTERLY			Workshops for members	Hold Workshops/Community forums	
MONTHLY				Hold Membership meetings	
WHEN NEEDED	Potlucks, Restaurants/Dim Sum, Movie-cultural, Movie-educational/documentary, Bar nights/Happy hour, Club night, Sports team, Musical, Outdoor/ hiking, Dance Party, Games (including video), Cultural dance, Cultural song/music, Poetry, Cultural performance, Performance art/ spoken word	Peer support group, open to all members; Peer support group for women/trans only; Peer support group for trans only; Peer support group for youth only; Formal workshops; Legal advise and service referrals	Guest speakers, Open community forums, Blogs/e-discussion groups, Discussion Groups, Co-sponsor other groups events	Participate in Speakers Bureau	Write Letters to the Editor (mainstream press); Write Letters to the Editor (LGBT community press); Write Letters to the Editor (Asian ethnic/language press); Participate in rallies, protests, lobby days; No/Little political activities as an organization, but individual members do so voluntarily;

Asian and Pacific Islander Lesbians and Gays (APLG)

MULTI-GENDER

MAILING ADDRESS APLG
PO Box 12661
Portland, OR 97212

GENERAL CONTACT INFO Email aplg_pdx@yahoo.com

ORG/PROGRAM MISSION

APLG shall be a nonprofit corporation whose purposes shall be:

- A. to promote the visibility and the just treatment of individuals who identify as Asian and Pacific Islander Lesbians, Gays or sexual minorities;
- B. to provide mutual support and social opportunities for individuals who identify as Asian and Pacific Islander Lesbians, Gays, or sexual minorities;
- C. to educate our members and other Asian and Pacific Islander Lesbians and Gay Men nationally and internationally on issues affecting individuals who identify as Asian and Pacific Islander Lesbians, Gays or sexual minorities;
- D. to educate the Lesbian and Gay communities, the Asian and Pacific islander communities, and the general public about issues affecting Asian and Pacific Islander Lesbians, Gays, or sexual minorities.

HISTORY

YEAR ESTABLISHED 1994

A group of about half a dozen persons decided there was a need for a group that API LGBT persons could turn to and attend to meet others with similar backgrounds, find support, and engage in recreational activities. This grew into a mission statement that included education and bridge-building. News of the group spread mostly thru our local gay newspaper and by word of mouth. For a number of years we had strong leadership and a larger group of willing workers who helped us become one of our city's more dynamic group. We put together the first float, for example, in our local Gay Pride parade's history (otherwise comprised of walkers and banners). We have held an annual Asian Lunar New Year banquet without fail the past 15 years. Some of our larger activities in years past have been discontinued, such as summer rafting, movie nights, and mahjong parties.

FACTS & FIGURES

CONTACT PERSON	Roger Schroeder
DECISION-MAKING	Board; Not tax-exempt
BOARD MEMBERS	2
MEMBERSHIP/ COMMUNITY	40 Members 180 Subscribers
ORG/PROGRAM STATUS	Not incorporated
ANNUAL BUDGET SIZE	\$251 - \$500
SOURCES OF FUNDING	Selling Items (t-shirts, etc.) 10% Membership Fees 90%

	SOCIAL	SUPPORT	EDUCATION	OUTREACH	POLITICAL
ANNUAL				Hold Membership meetings; Participate in Speakers Bureau; March in LGBT Pride parade; Participate in API culture-specific events; Table at API culture-specific festival; Table at LGBT Pride festival	
QUARTERLY	Potlucks; Restaurant/Dim sum; Outdoor/hiking; Asian Lunar New Year banquet; Mid-autumn Moon Viewing party				
MONTHLY				Forward emails from other groups	
WHEN NEEDED	Movie-educational/documentary				No/Little political activities as an organization, but individual members do so voluntarily



Asian Pacific Islander Equality (API Equality)

MULTI-GENDER

MAILING ADDRESS API Equality
17 Walter U. Lum Place
San Francisco, CA 94108

GENERAL CONTACT INFO Tel 415-274-6750 Email apiequality@caasf.org
415-274-6760 x306 Website www.apiequality.org
www.caasf.org

PUBLIC INTERFACES Social www.facebook.com/home.php#pages/API-Equality/9977078839
Networking
Group <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/apiequality>



ORG/PROGRAM MISSION

API Equality is committed to working in the Asian and Pacific Islander (API) community in California and nationally for equal marriage rights, fair treatment, and overall acceptance of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) people.

HISTORY

YEAR ESTABLISHED 2004

API Equality was founded in 2004 in response to a 6,000-person rally against marriage equality organized by Chinese Christian leaders in the San Francisco Bay Area. Formerly a national ad hoc coalition of Asian and Pacific Islander (API) individuals and organizations committed to marriage equality, API Equality is now a full-fledged program to actively promote marriage equality in California. In January 2007, API Equality merged with and became a program of Chinese for Affirmative Action (www.caasf.org), a prominent API civil rights organization based in Northern California with nearly 40 years of history in advancing social justice for the Chinese and API communities. With CAA's institutional support and community roots, API Equality is positioned more strongly than ever to expand API support for marriage equality.

FACTS & FIGURES

CONTACT PERSON	Tawal Panyacosit Staff
DECISION-MAKING	Co-Chairs; Board; Committees; Event by event
CORE VOLUNTEERS	200
BOARD MEMBERS	18
MEMBERSHIP/ COMMUNITY	50 Members 1000 Subscribers
ORG/PROGRAM STATUS	Incorporated as a 501(c)3
ANNUAL BUDGET SIZE	\$50,001 and above
SOURCES OF FUNDING	Grants 70% Activities/Events 10% Personal Donations/Asks 10% Special Fundraising Events/Asks 10%
DONORS	50

	SOCIAL	SUPPORT	EDUCATION	OUTREACH	POLITICAL
ANNUAL				Participate in annual LGBT Pride events, March in LGBT Pride parade, Participate in API culture-specific events; March in API culture-specific parades, Organization brochure	
QUARTERLY			Workshops for members, Guest speakers, Open community forums	Hold Workshops/Community forums, Update Outreach Materials, Organization/event postcards	
MONTHLY			Co-sponsor other groups events	Hold Membership meetings, Host Information Table (general)	Participate in political advocacy groups (per IRS rules)
WHEN NEEDED			Discussion Groups	Forward emails from other groups, Table at API culture-specific festival, Table at LGBT Pride festival	Participate in political fundraisers for candidates (per IRS rules); Co-sponsor political events (per IRS rules)

Asian Pacific Islander Pride Council (APIPC)

MULTI-GENDER

MAILING ADDRESS APIPC
605 West Olympic Blvd. Suite 610
Los Angeles, CA 90015

GENERAL CONTACT INFO Tel 213-895-7706 Email contact@apipridecouncil.org
Website www.apipridecouncil.org

PUBLIC INTERFACES Group  <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/apipc>

ORG/PROGRAM MISSION

The Asian Pacific Islander Pride Council is a network of Asian and Pacific Islander Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer organizations and alliances whose mission is to provide and cultivate support, resources and advocacy to the Asian Pacific Islander, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, and mainstream communities of Southern California.

HISTORY

YEAR ESTABLISHED 2004

During the 1980s and 1990s, many Asian Pacific Islander gay and their support organizations were established. However, there was little or no coordination among these related groups. The need for an umbrella spokesperson (group) with a unified, inclusive, and more powerful voice for this distinctive community became obvious.

In 2004, leaders of this community came together, with the help of Asian Pacific AIDS Intervention Team, and established the Asian Pacific Islander Pride Council, with the purpose of addressing, voicing, and supporting this unique and diverse API LBGT community. Today, 10 gay and ally organizations take active roles in this federation called API Pride Council.

FACTS & FIGURES

CONTACT PERSON	Richie Selva
DECISION-MAKING	Consensus; Board; Committees; Event by event
CORE VOLUNTEERS	15
BOARD MEMBERS	10
MEMBERSHIP/ COMMUNITY	10 Members 50 Subscribers
ORG/PROGRAM STATUS	Not incorporated
ANNUAL BUDGET SIZE	\$2,501 - \$5,000
SOURCES OF FUNDING	Grants 70% Membership Fees 30%



Asian Pacific Islander Queer & Questioning 25 & Under All Together (AQU25A)

MULTI-GENDER

MAILING ADDRESS AQU25A
730 Polk St Fourth Floor
San Francisco, CA 94109

GENERAL CONTACT INFO *Tel* 415-292-3400 *Email* aqua@apiwellness.org
Website www.apiwellness.org/youth.html

PUBLIC INTERFACES *Social Networking*
 www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=6566053103&ref=ts&nct=1238705257498
 www.myspace.com/aqu25a
 www.downelink.com/aqu25a

ORG/PROGRAM MISSION

AQU25A is a program of Asian/Pacific Islander (including multiracial/multiethnic APA) lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and questioning (LGBTQQ) youth age 25 and under. We exist to provide a space where the diverse genders, sexualities and race/ethnicities within the Asian & Pacific Islander communities are validated, explored and instilled in order that youth may become agents of personal and social change in their own lives and communities. By utilizing a youth-adult partnership model, the AQU25A community collectively develops wellness, education and advocacy through peer support, critical thinking and opportunities for leadership.

HISTORY

YEAR ESTABLISHED 1995

AQU25A began as a program at the Asian & Pacific Islander Wellness Center in the 1990s to specifically address the needs of queer Asian Pacific Islander youth.

FACTS & FIGURES

CONTACT PERSON	Steph Lee Staff
ORG/PROGRAM STATUS	Incorporated as a 501(c)3
ANNUAL BUDGET SIZE	Including staff salary: \$50,001 and above
SOURCES OF FUNDING	Grants 100%





Asian Pacific Islander Queer Sisters (APIQS)

WOMEN & TRANS

GENERAL CONTACT INFO

Email co-chairs@apiqsd.org

Website www.apiqsd.org

ORG/PROGRAM MISSION

Asian Pacific Islander Queer Sisters (APIQSDC) is an organization for queer API sisters in the Washington DC metropolitan area, focusing on education, community, and sisterhood. We focus on outreach and support for queer API women, educating ourselves and others about issues that are unique to queer API women, and increasing awareness and visibility of queer API women.

HISTORY

YEAR ESTABLISHED 1998

APIQS was started in 1998 when DC Asian Lesbians, or DCALS, changed its name to API Queer Sisters to be more inclusive of the broader local LGBT Asian women community. DCALS was started in 1987 and participated in the 1987 March on Washington. It was also part of the planning group for the First National Asian Pacific Lesbian Network Retreat in 1989. One of APIQS's key activities is its partnership with Asian Queers United for Action (AQUA) and KhushDC to hold the annual Pride & Heritage celebration in honor of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. It is an annual dinner in which we honor local leaders, activists, and community organizations for their hard work, service, and dedication to API LGBT communities. APIQS also organizes a monthly social event or activity for its membership and allies, and supports the work of other organizations for the betterment of our community members' lives.

FACTS & FIGURES

CONTACT PERSON	Hyacinth Alvaran <i>Co-Chair</i>
DECISION-MAKING	Co-Chairs
CORE VOLUNTEERS	3
MEMBERSHIP/COMMUNITY	70 Subscribers
ORG/PROGRAM STATUS	Not incorporated
ANNUAL BUDGET SIZE	\$251 - \$500
SOURCES OF FUNDING	Activities/Events 90% Selling Items (t-shirts, etc.) 5% Personal Donations/Asks 5%



Asian Pacific Islander Queer Women & Transgender Community (APIQWTC) WOMEN & TRANS

GENERAL CONTACT INFO *Tel* 415-292-3420 x513 *Email* info@apiqwtc.org
Website www.apiqwtc.org

PUBLIC INTERFACES *Group*  <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/apiqwtc>

ORG/PROGRAM MISSION

APIQWTC (Asian Pacific Islander Queer Women and Transgender Community) is a non-profit consortium of more than fifteen organizations in the San Francisco Bay Area providing support and community for nearly 500 queer Asian and Pacific Islander individuals.

HISTORY

YEAR ESTABLISHED 1999

APIQWTC was formed in February of 1999 as a means of networking & communicating among Bay Area Asian & Pacific Islander queer women's and transgender people's organizations and constituencies. Formerly, APIQWTC was Asian Pacific Sisters (APS) and a part of Asian Pacific Lesbians and Bisexuals Network (APLBN).

APIQWTC presents and/or sponsors several major events each year. For examples, our annual lunar new year banquet, pride parade and dyke march, rice bowl, summer and sport event, and workshops and conference.

FACTS & FIGURES

DECISION-MAKING Board

MEMBERSHIP/COMMUNITY 800 Members

	SOCIAL	SUPPORT	EDUCATION	OUTREACH	POLITICAL
ANNUAL					
QUARTERLY					
MONTHLY					
WHEN NEEDED	Sports team; Outdoor/hiking; Dance Party			Post events on website; Participate in annual LGBT Pride events; March in LGBT Pride parade; Participate in API culture-specific events; March in API culture-specific parades	Participate in rallies, protests, lobby days; No/Little political activities as an organization, but individual members do so voluntarily

Asian Pacific Lesbian Bisexual Trans Network (APLBTN)

WOMEN & TRANS

ORG/PROGRAM MISSION

APLBTN is a national network dedicated to advancing social justice for LGBTQ women.

HISTORY

YEAR ESTABLISHED 1987

APLBTN was founded by Asian Pacific Islander women to support issues facing LGBTQ women. It established its non-profit status and developed presences in different parts of the country, operating as a nationwide network doing locally based work.

There have been many local and regional groups of Asian and Pacific Islander lesbians, bisexual women, and transgender persons (API LBTs) organizing for the last 25 years across the country. We have a rich history of community-based organizations such as Asian Lesbians of the East Coast, Kilawin Kolektibo, Trikone, D.C. Asian Lesbians, Asian Pacific Sisters in San Francisco, Los Angeles Asian and Pacific Islander Sisters in Los Angeles, ALBA, who have recognized the need to bring our community together and to address our issues.

In October 1987, many of us who had been involved in local groups and met each other through our informal networks, came together to participate in the Second National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights. It was the first time API LBTs organized to participate in a national event. From that initial contingent of about 100 women, many of whom had gathered at the home of an APLBTN co-founder, we decided that we wanted to convene an event to bring more API LBTs together. And thus APLBTN was born. A grant of \$3,000 from the proceeds of the Second National March on Washington Committee provided the seed money to plan our first national retreat.

Earlier that year, there had also been a retreat of over 80 API LBTs, mainly from the west coast, at the Valley of the Moon in California, where relationships were also forged. After several conference calls, we planned our first face-to-face meeting in Washington, D.C. in October 1988, where 35 API LBTs from nine major cities around the country gathered. From this meeting emerged a common vision shaped by years of struggling to be proud of our API LBT identity. Our efforts culminated in the First National Asian Pacific Lesbian Retreat in Santa Cruz, California, during the Labor Day weekend of 1989. Over 200 API LBTs from the U.S., Canada, and England attended the retreat. Through collective efforts and bi-coastal cooperation, we were able to share our experiences, break the silence and isolation from each other, increase our visibility, and celebrate our diverse cultures.

FACTS & FIGURES

CONTACT PERSON Natalie Louie
Volunteer

ORG/PROGRAM STATUS Incorporated as a 501(c)3





Asian Queers United for Action (AQUA)

MEN & TRANS

MAILING ADDRESS AQUA
PO Box 44136
Washington, DC 20026-4136

GENERAL CONTACT INFO Tel 301-266-1958 Email aquadc@gmail.com
Website www.aquadc.org

PUBLIC INTERFACES Social Networking www.new.facebook.com/group.php?gid=2383997626
www.myspace.com/aquayouth



ORG/PROGRAM MISSION

Founded in 1997, AQUA is an all-volunteer organization empowering the gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning members of the Asian and Pacific Islander community in the metro Washington, DC area. AQUA is an organization for queer APIs, by queer APIs, focusing on queer API issues and interests. We strive to project a positive image of queer API men in the community through advocacy, education, outreach, and social events.

HISTORY

YEAR ESTABLISHED 1997

AQUA was founded in 1997 in Washington, DC. A need to better serve the queer API community arose, especially by a group whose agenda extended beyond just a social scope. Also, an organization run by queer APIs, for queer APIs was a need expressed by many who were frustrated with the limited number of gay organizations a person could turn. Five friends got together to do something about it. They started with a series of small events consisting mostly of potlucks, trips to films, and mah-jong games. The word began to spread among queer Asians about a small group whose members felt safe with each other, and more importantly, where one can relate to what it is like to be gay and Asian. Thus AQUA was formed. Initial efforts to form a charter began in 1997. In 1999, discussions still continued. In November 2000, a retreat took place with the active members from AQUA and other local queer API groups. At the retreat, a process was identified to craft and approve bylaws. On April, 2001, AQUA ratified its bylaws and welcomed its first set of duly elected officers. In the years since, AQUA has continued to serve the queer API community in the spirit envisioned by its founders.

FACTS & FIGURES

CONTACT PERSON	Lawrence Magali <i>Board Member</i>
DECISION-MAKING	Board
BOARD MEMBERS	5
MEMBERSHIP/COMMUNITY	75 Members 200 Subscribers
ORG/PROGRAM STATUS	Not incorporated
ANNUAL BUDGET SIZE	\$1,001 - \$2,500
SOURCES OF FUNDING	Activities/Events 20% Personal Donations/Asks 40% Membership Fees 40%

	SOCIAL	SUPPORT	EDUCATION	OUTREACH	POLITICAL
ANNUAL	Sports team "Out2Paddle, Washington DC Annual Dragon Boat Festival"; Summer Picnic & Holiday Potluck			Participate in annual LGBT Pride events, March in LGBT Pride parade, Table at LGBT Pride festival	
QUARTERLY	Potlucks, Restaurants/Dim Sum, Bar nights/Happy hour, Dance Party		Workshops for members, Guest speakers, Open community forums, Co-sponsor other groups events	Hold Membership meetings, Hold Workshops/Community forums, Participate in API culture-specific events; Organization brochure	
MONTHLY	Movie-film festival, Club night "aZen"			Forward emails from other groups, Newsletter (electronic)	Publish political news/stories/articles in org newsletter; Publish political news/stories/articles in org listserv
WHEN NEEDED	Games (including video), Cultural dance, Cultural song/music, Cultural performance, Performance art/spoken word		Blogs/e-discussion groups, Discussion Groups	Host Information Table (general)	




Barangay: A Gay Filipino Organization (Barangay-LA)

MEN & TRANS

MAILING ADDRESS Barangay Los Angeles
138 N. Beaudry Avenue
Suite 519
Los Angeles, CA 90012

GENERAL CONTACT INFO *Tel* 646-614-9068 *Email* info@mybarangayus.com
Website www.mybarangayus.com

PUBLIC INTERFACES *Social Networking*  www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=19947343788

ORG/PROGRAM MISSION

Barangay is dedicated to providing a supportive environment for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Filipinos; to meet and discuss concerns relevant to being Filipino and Gay; to foster positive self-esteem; and, to advocate in behalf of its members and the Gay Filipino community in the United States.

HISTORY

YEAR ESTABLISHED 1996

Barangay became an informal presence in Los Angeles in 1990, to serve the growing gay Filipino community. A dedicated and enthusiastic group of volunteers held socials and rap groups regularly until attempts to formalize the group finally bore fruit when Barangay began as an official organization in 1996. In January 1997, Barangay held Bagong Pagsimula (A New Beginning), its first Installation of Officers and Awards Banquet. A smashing success, the event installed the Barangay Board of Directors and presented awards to outstanding leaders in the gay Filipino Community.

FACTS & FIGURES

DECISION-MAKING Board

ORG/PROGRAM STATUS Not incorporated;
no fiscal sponsor



Chinese Rainbow Association (CRA) MULTI-GENDER

MAILING ADDRESS CRA
P O Box 2303
La Habra, CA 90632

GENERAL CONTACT INFO Tel 562-697-7336 Email Andreting@aol.com
562-686-1177 limingzhou@aol.com
Website www.chinarainbow.org

ORG/PROGRAM MISSION

Chinese Rainbow Association (CRA), a gay Chinese social, support, educational, and advocacy organization, is based in greater Los Angeles, California. CRA promotes friendship and unity, provides assistance, fosters social and political awareness, and enhances positive self-image among the gay Chinese Americans. CRA also works to educate the mainstream API communities on LGBT issues and gay rights issues.

YEAR ESTABLISHED 1996

FACTS & FIGURES

CONTACT PERSON Andre Ting
Board Chair/President

DECISION-MAKING Board;
In the process of becoming a 501(c)3

CORE VOLUNTEERS 6

BOARD MEMBERS 4

MEMBERSHIP/COMMUNITY 230 Subscribers

ORG/PROGRAM STATUS Not incorporated;
in the process of becoming a 501(c)3

ANNUAL BUDGET SIZE \$5,101 - \$10,000

DONORS 3

	SOCIAL	SUPPORT	EDUCATION	OUTREACH	POLITICAL
ANNUAL	Movie-film festival				
QUARTERLY					
MONTHLY	Potlucks				
WHEN NEEDED	Movie-mainstream	General Referrals; Health/AIDS/HIV-related service referrals; Legal advise and service referrals; Immigration assistance referrals; Counseling referrals; Family/Abuse referrals	Workshops for members, Guest speakers, Open community forums, Discussion Groups, Co-sponsor other groups events		



Dari Project

MULTI-GENDER

MAILING ADDRESS Dari Project
75-22 37th Ave Suite 40
Jackson Heights, NY 11372

GENERAL CONTACT INFO Tel 917-838-4306 Email dariproject@gmail.com
Website www.dariproject.org



ORG/PROGRAM MISSION

The Dari Project develops resources to increase awareness and acceptance in Korean American communities of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning (LGBTQ) people of Korean descent. By documenting and sharing the life stories of LGBTQ people and their families and friends, we seek to build bridges among Korean American families, social networks, institutions and faith communities.

HISTORY

YEAR ESTABLISHED 2005

In 2005, LGBTQ Korean and Korean American activists in New York began meeting to discuss creating some kind of resource to educate Korean communities about homophobia. An LGBT Korean Town Hall in September 2005 and a conference call with activists from New York and California moved this forward, and members began to provide workshops and educational activities. Since then, the Dari Project has issued a "Call for Stories" documenting LGBTQ Korean experiences and continues to provide cultural and educational programming.

FACTS & FIGURES

CONTACT PERSON Un Jung Lim
Volunteer/Steering Committee Member

ORG/PROGRAM STATUS Not incorporated;
fiscally sponsored as non-profit by APA Family Pride



Downe Organizing Project of Liwanag Kultural Center (DOP-LKC)

MEN

MAILING ADDRESS Downe Organizing Project of Liwanag Kultural Center
LKC c/o Daly City Park and Recreation
Dept 111 Lake Merced Blvd
Daly City, CA 94015

GENERAL CONTACT INFO *Tel* 650-641-2891 x367 *Email* DowneOrgProject@gmail.com
650-641-2891 *Website* www.Liwanag.org

PUBLIC INTERFACES *Social*  www.myspace.com/LiwanagKulturalCenter
Networking  www.downelink.com/DownOrgProject

ORG/PROGRAM MISSION

Downe Organizing Project is a newly formed community-based organizing group with a focus to raise the political, social and economic consciousness of Downe/ Gay Men and in San Francisco/Daly City through education and critical action. It is a program of the Liwanag Kultural Center, a grassroots, Daly City-based Filipino non-profit community organization that exists to provide culturally relevant educational, leadership and artistic development opportunities for Filipino youth in North San Mateo County and to serve as a center for community activity relevant to them.

HISTORY

YEAR ESTABLISHED 2008

The Downe Organizing Project began in 2008 when a few members of the Downe community aspired to something progressive for the community. We began holding informal discussion groups at coffee houses and homes to talk about issues within the community. We had difficulty establishing our constituency and a definition of what Downe is in the larger LGBTQ community. Then members who worked at Liwanag Kultural offered their space and a few months later Downe Organizing Project became an official program of Liwanag Kultural center. Today we are still trying to establish our membership and are currently looking for funding from local foundations.

FACTS & FIGURES

CONTACT PERSON	Brian Ragas Staff
DECISION-MAKING	Consensus; Board; Committees
CORE VOLUNTEERS	9
BOARD MEMBERS	7
MEMBERSHIP/ COMMUNITY	10 Members
ORG/PROGRAM STATUS	Not incorporated; fiscally sponsored as non-profit by Filipino Community Support
ANNUAL BUDGET SIZE	\$0 - \$250

	SOCIAL	SUPPORT	EDUCATION	OUTREACH	POLITICAL
ANNUAL	Outdoor/ hiking, Dance Party			Participate in annual LGBT Pride events, Participate in API culture-specific events; Table at LGBT Pride festival, Update Outreach Materials, Organization brochure, Organization/event postcards	
QUARTERLY	Potlucks, Restaurants/ Dim Sum, Movie-mainstream, Movie-cultural, Movie-educational/ documentary, Bar nights/ Happy hour, Club night, Games (including video), Cultural song/music, Poetry, Cultural performance, Performance art/ spoken word	Formal workshops; Health/AIDS/HIV-related service referrals	Guest speakers	Hold Workshops/ Community forums, Forward emails from other groups, Post events on website, Host Information Table (general), Website updates	Forward email notices to members
MONTHLY		Peer support group for men/trans only; General Referrals	Workshops for members, Open community forums, Discussion Groups, Co-sponsor other groups events	Hold Membership meetings	
WHEN NEEDED					



Gay Asian & Pacific Islander Men of New York (GAPIMNY)

MEN & TRANS

MAILING ADDRESS Gay Asian & Pacific Islander Men of New York
P.O. Box 1608 - Old Chelsea Station
New York, NY 10113

GENERAL CONTACT INFO Tel 212-802-7423 Email gapimny@gapimny.org
Website www.gapimny.org

PUBLIC INTERFACES Social Networking
www.new.facebook.com/group.php?gid=21358320113
<http://www.myspace.com/gapimny>
<http://profiles.friendster.com/16259159>
www.downlink.com/member/profile.aspx?id=57982



ORG/PROGRAM MISSION

Founded in 1990, the Gay Asian & Pacific Islander Men of New York (GAPIMNY) has provided a safe and supportive social, political, and educational space for gay, bisexual, and questioning men and transgender people of Asian and Pacific Islander heritage in the Greater New York Metropolitan Area. Meetings are held on the third Friday of each month at The LGBT Community Center. GAPIMNY is a membership-based organization whose goal is to empower Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Asian and Pacific Islander's through a range of social, educational, peer-support, cultural, and political activities. We work in coalition with other community organizations to help educate the API ethnic and LGBT communities on issues of race, sexuality, gender, and health.

HISTORY

YEAR ESTABLISHED 1990

In May 1988, thirty Asian and Pacific Islander Lesbians and Gay Men gathered for a retreat in upstate New York, the first such organizing effort in the Northeast. A second retreat in October of the same year brought together twenty A&PI Gay men from Boston, Providence, Ithaca, New York, Philadelphia, Toronto, and Washington DC, to establish a loosely connected, regional network. Three retreat participants decided to organize locally in New York City, where no groups or organizations addressed specific needs of Asian Pacific Islander men. In March 1990, an API-facilitated racism workshop sponsored by Men of All Colors Together (MACT) provided an opportunity to outreach and generate interest for New York's first Gay API group. Later that month, seven Gay Men of Indian, Filipino, Chinese, Japanese, and Korean descent, immigrant and US-born, came together at the virginal encounter of GAPIMNY (Gay Asian & Pacific Islander Men of New York). Today, over twenty years later, GAPIMNY is as strong as it's ever been.

FACTS & FIGURES

CONTACT PERSON	Kenichiro Takeuchi <i>Board Chair/President</i>
DECISION-MAKING	Consensus; Board
CORE VOLUNTEERS	5
BOARD MEMBERS	7
MEMBERSHIP/COMMUNITY	60 Members 523 Subscribers
ORG/PROGRAM STATUS	Not incorporated; fiscally sponsored as non-profit by Asian American Writers' Workshop
ANNUAL BUDGET SIZE	\$5,101 - \$10,000
SOURCES OF FUNDING	Grants 65% Activities/Events 5% Personal Donations/Asks 5% Membership Fees 10% Special Fundraising Events/Asks 10% Fundraising letters 5%
DONORS	5

	SOCIAL	SUPPORT	EDUCATION	OUTREACH	POLITICAL
ANNUAL	Movie-film festival, Outdoor/ hiking	Health/AIDS/HIV-related service referrals	Open community forums	Hold Workshops/Community forums, Participate in annual LGBT Pride events, March in LGBT Pride parade, Participate in API culture-specific events; Host Information Table (general), Table at API culture-specific festival, Table at LGBT Pride festival, Update Outreach Materials	Forward email notices to members; Publish political news/stories/articles in org newsletter
QUARTERLY	Bar nights/Happy hour	General Referrals	Workshops for members, Guest speakers, Discussion Groups, Co-sponsor other groups events	Forward emails from other groups, Newsletter (paper)	
MONTHLY	Restaurants/Dim Sum	Peer support group for men/trans only; Peer support group for youth only		Hold Membership meetings, Post events on website, Website updates	
WHEN NEEDED	Potlucks, Movie-mainstream, Movie-cultural, Games (including video)	Legal advise and service referrals; Immigration assistance referrals		Organization brochure, Organization/event postcards	Write Letters to the Editor (mainstream press); Write Letters to the Editor (LGBT community press); Write Letters to the Editor (Asian ethnic/language press); Participate in rallies, protests, lobby days; Participate in political advocacy groups (per IRS rules); Publish political news/stories/articles in org listserv; Co-sponsor political events (per IRS rules)



Gay Asian Pacific Alliance (GAPA)

MEN & TRANS

MAILING ADDRESS GAPA
P.O. Box 421884
San Francisco, CA 941242-1884

GENERAL CONTACT INFO Email info@gapa.org
Website www.gapa.org

PUBLIC INTERFACES Social www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=6462299324
Networking www.downlink.com/member/profile.aspx?id=772955

ORG/PROGRAM MISSION

The Gay Asian Pacific Alliance (GAPA), is an organization dedicated to furthering the interests of gay & bisexual Asian/Pacific Islanders by creating awareness, by developing a positive collective identity and by establishing a supportive community. GAPA was formed from the need for an organization to address, through a democratic process, social, cultural and political issues affecting the gay & bisexual Asian/Pacific Islander community.

HISTORY

YEAR ESTABLISHED 1988

In July 1987, several members from the Asian Gay Men's Support Group at Berkeley's Pacific Center met and discussed the need to integrate and nurture a growing gay & bisexual Asian/Pacific Islander identity and to foster positive role models within our community. After several monthly meetings and a business retreat, the Gay Asian Pacific Alliance was formally organized in January 1988.

FACTS & FIGURES

CONTACT PERSON	Raphael Buencamino <i>Board Chair/President</i>
DECISION-MAKING	Co-Chairs; Board; Committees
CORE VOLUNTEERS	100
BOARD MEMBERS	15
MEMBERSHIP/ COMMUNITY	700 Members 2500 Subscribers
ORG/PROGRAM STATUS	Not incorporated
ANNUAL BUDGET SIZE	\$10,001 - \$20,000
SOURCES OF FUNDING	Grants 10% Activities/Events 40% Personal Donations/Asks 10% Membership Fees 10% Workplace Donations 0% Special Fundraising Events/Asks 20% Fundraising letters 10%
DONORS	20

	SOCIAL	SUPPORT	EDUCATION	OUTREACH	POLITICAL
ANNUAL	Restaurants/Dim Sum, Outdoor/ hiking, Cultural dance, Cultural song/music, Poetry, Performance art/ spoken word	Family/Abuse referrals; Drugs referrals	Workshops for members, Guest speakers	Participate in annual LGBT Pride events, March in LGBT Pride parade, Participate in API culture-specific events; March in API culture-specific parades, Table at LGBT Pride festival, Organization brochure	Participate in political advocacy groups (per IRS rules)
QUARTERLY	Potlucks, Movie-film festival, Dance Party, Cultural performance	Counseling referrals	Co-sponsor other groups events	Hold Membership meetings, Table at API culture-specific festival, Organization/ event postcards	Participate in rallies, protests, lobby days; Publish political news/stories/articles in org listserv; Co-sponsor political events (per IRS rules)
MONTHLY	Bar nights/Happy hour, Club night	Peer support group for men/trans only; Peer support group for older age only; General Referrals; Health/AIDS/HIV-related service referrals	Discussion Groups	Post events on website, Host Information Table (general), Website updates, Newsletter (paper), Newsletter (electronic)	Publish political news/stories/articles in org newsletter; Publish political news/stories/articles in org website
WHEN NEEDED			Open community forums	Hold Workshops/Community forums	Write Letters to the Editor (mainstream press); Write Letters to the Editor (LGBT community press); Write Letters to the Editor (Asian ethnic/language press)

Gay Asian Pacific Support Network (GAPSN)

MEN

MAILING ADDRESS Gay Asian Pacific Support Network
PO Box 2948
Los Angeles, CA 90078-2948

GENERAL CONTACT INFO Tel 213-368-6488 Email info@gapsn.org
Website www.gapsn.org

ORG/PROGRAM MISSION

To provide safe and supportive environments for gay and bisexual Asian and Pacific Islander men to meet, network, and advocate on behalf of our communities.

HISTORY

YEAR ESTABLISHED 1984

GAPSN was founded in 1984 originally as GARP - the Gay Asian Rap - by a group of students at California State University, Long Beach. This was partially a reaction by our founder, Dennis Akazawa (d. from HIV/AIDS), from his experiences with then Asian/Pacific Lesbians & Gays. In 1990, the steering committee changed the name to GAPSN and from there we proceeded on what I would personally call "the golden age" of GAPSN. What with paid membership over 300 and an overall community outreach to thousands - the organization thrived although leadership on the board was on a high turnover. In 1999-2000, then co-chairs of GAPSN founded Asian Pacific Islander for Human Rights (APIHR) and there was all call-out for GAPSN to become defunct so a group of former members came back together to revive the group and it has remained ever since. We are now in what I would call a "renaissance" with membership slowly increasing and the group starting to look like it did years ago. There are much more formal partnerships in the community now and we know that collaboration - local, regional, and national - are the keys to the future.

FACTS & FIGURES

CONTACT PERSON Peter J. Corpus
Board member

DECISION-MAKING Consensus;
Chairperson/One Individual;
Co-Chairs;
Board;
Committees;
Event by event

CORE VOLUNTEERS 20

BOARD MEMBERS 10

MEMBERSHIP/ COMMUNITY 100 Members
500 Subscribers

ORG/PROGRAM STATUS Incorporated as a 501(c)4

ANNUAL BUDGET SIZE \$2,501 - \$5,000

SOURCES OF FUNDING Activities/Events 25%
Selling Items (t-shirts, etc.) 5%
Personal Donations/Asks 10%
Membership Fees 25%
Special Fundraising Events/Asks 25%
Fundraising letters 10%

DONORS 100

	SOCIAL	SUPPORT	EDUCATION	OUTREACH	POLITICAL
ANNUAL	Movie-mainstream, Movie-cultural, Movie-educational/documentary, Movie-film festival, Outdoor/ hiking, Dance Party, Games (including video)	Formal workshops	Workshops for members, Co-sponsor other groups events	Participate in annual LGBT Pride events, March in LGBT Pride parade, Participate in API culture-specific events; March in API culture-specific parades, Host Information Table (general), Table at API culture-specific festival, Table at LGBT Pride festival, Organization/event postcards	
QUARTERLY	Potlucks				
MONTHLY	Restaurants/Dim Sum			Hold Membership meetings, Post events on website, Website updates	
WHEN NEEDED		General Referrals; Health/AIDS/HIV-related service referrals; Legal advise and service referrals; Immigration assistance referrals; Counseling referrals; Family/Abuse referrals; Drugs referrals	Open community forums, Discussion Groups	Hold Workshops/ Community forums, Forward emails from other groups, Update Outreach Materials	Write Letters to the Editor (mainstream press); Write Letters to the Editor (LGBT community press); Write Letters to the Editor (Asian ethnic/language press); Forward email notices to members; Participate in rallies, protests, lobby days; Participate in political fundraisers for candidates (per IRS rules); Participate in political advocacy groups (per IRS rules); Publish political news/stories/articles in org newsletter; Publish political news/stories/articles in org website; Publish political news/stories/articles in org listserv; Co-sponsor political events (per IRS rules)



Gay Vietnamese Alliance (GVA)

MEN & TRANS

GENERAL CONTACT INFO Website www.gvalliance.org

ORG/PROGRAM MISSION

The mission of GVA is to provide a safe and supportive environment for Vietnamese-identified gay, bisexual, transgender men from all over the world to network, voice issues, promote wellness, and foster leadership.

HISTORY

YEAR ESTABLISHED 1991

GVA originally developed in 1991 when PFLAG did outreach to the Vietnamese community. Vietnamese LGBT individuals in Southern California worked with an emerging Vietnamese publication in Northern California. The first face-to-face meetings were eventually held in Southern California. Currently, much of the activity of the organization takes place in San Jose, which is where the mailing address of the organization is based.

FACTS & FIGURES

DECISION-MAKING Board

	SOCIAL	SUPPORT	EDUCATION	OUTREACH	POLITICAL
ANNUAL	Holiday events (Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year); Co-produced the annual Lotus Imperial Court; Co-produced CEL-EBRASIAN PRIDE '95 with Asian Pacific Islander Orange County AIDS Project; Co-sponsored SPOOKY JAM '95 with sister organization O-Moi; Produced SPRING CELEBRATION '96; GV Voice special publication issue; Co-sponsored Dem Ha. Va`ng for Doi Dien Magazine; Picnic, dining out, movie nights, garage sales, bowling, hiking and others; Camping at El Capitan and Lake Casistas; Thanksgiving feast, Christmas parties, New Year banquet and Chinese New Year dinner				
QUARTERLY					
MONTHLY					
WHEN NEEDED	Restaurant/Dim sum; Movie-mainstream; Movie-cultural; Outdoor/ hiking	Peer support group, open to all members; Peer support group for women/trans only; Peer support group for men/trans only	Discussion Groups	Hold Membership meetings; Hold Workshops/Community forums; Participate in Speakers Bureau; Forward emails from other groups; Post events on website; Participate in annual LGBT Pride events; March in LGBT Pride parade; Participate in API culture-specific events; March in API culture-specific parades; Host Information Table (general); Table at API culture-specific festival	

Institute for Tongzhi Studies (ITS)

MULTI-GENDER

GENERAL CONTACT INFO
Email nutongzhi@gmail.com
 its@tongzhistudies.org
Website www.tongzhistudies.org

PUBLIC INTERFACES
Group Private
Blog/Other http://sfcampaign.blogspot.com
 http://lalacamp07.blogspot.com

ORG/PROGRAM MISSION

The Institute for Tongzhi Studies (ITS) is an academic research and exchange program based in New York City led by Chinese speaking educators and researchers. The Institute for Tongzhi Studies aspires to encourage discussions related to issues of gender, sexuality, and sexual health. ITS seeks to scrutinize layers of discriminating social attitudes, cultural assumptions, and public policies against sexual minorities in Chinese communities around the world. Through education, research, and exchange, ITS coordinates with institutions with shared values in order to build a body of scholarly works to further the study of gender and sexuality in Chinese societies.

HISTORY

YEAR ESTABLISHED 2002

Institute for Tongzhi Studies has been actively involved in many events that have benefit the Tongzhi community worldwide.

May 2003: Begin VIDEOLA: monthly Queer Asian film screenings at NYU.

June 2002: sponsor lesbian artist Shi Tou to visit USA with the award-winning film, Fish & Elephant. Shi Tou is a lesbian artist living in Beijing. In 2000, she became the first out lesbian in China on a nationally broadcasted TV show. In 2001 Shi Tou starred in the groundbreaking film Fish & Elephant, which was regarded as the first feature film about lesbians in China and has won many awards including Berlin and Venice Film Festival.

In June 2002 we sponsored Shi Tou to visit Chicago, New York and San Francisco with her film for various gay & lesbian film festivals. We arranged screenings, talks and discussions. Articles and interviews Appeared in newspaper, radio and TV shows, including a series of reports in Ming Bao, the influential Chinese newspaper for oversea Chinese.

ITS formalize its structure and goals after the visit of Dr. Wan Yan Hai from China after his release.

FACTS & FIGURES

CONTACT PERSON Mai Kiang

DECISION-MAKING Consensus;
Co-Chairs;
Committees

CORE VOLUNTEERS 10

MEMBERSHIP/ COMMUNITY 200 Subscribers

ANNUAL BUDGET SIZE At one point when we had funding we were at \$35K a year

SOURCES OF FUNDING Grants 80%
Activities/Events 5%
Personal Donations/Asks 5%
Special Fundraising Events/Asks 5%
Fundraising letters 5%

DONORS 35





Invisible-to-Invincible, API Pride of Chicago (Chicago I2I)

MULTI-GENDER

GENERAL CONTACT INFO
Email chicagoi2i@yahoo.com
thomson_liz@yahoo.com
Website www.chicagoi2i.org



ORG/PROGRAM MISSION

Invisible to Invincible (I2I) is dedicated to fostering support and build community for Chicago-area Asians & Pacific Islanders who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer or questioning.

HISTORY

YEAR ESTABLISHED 2004

I2I was started by two local men doing HIV work. Initial conversations grew to be a Queer Task Force and then an official group, bringing in other community members to do activities.

FACTS & FIGURES

CONTACT PERSON	Liz Thomson <i>Co-Facilitator</i>
DECISION-MAKING	Co-Chairs
CORE VOLUNTEERS	10
ORG/PROGRAM STATUS	Not incorporated; no fiscal sponsor
ANNUAL BUDGET SIZE	\$0 - \$250
SOURCES OF FUNDING	Personal Donations/Asks 80% Workplace Donations 20%



KHUSHDC (KHUSHDC)

MULTI-GENDER
**GENERAL
CONTACT
INFO**
Tel 202-518-2265

Email board@khushdc.org
Website www.khushdc.org

ORG/PROGRAM MISSION

KHUSHDC is a social, support and political group that provides a safe and supportive environment, promotes awareness and acceptance, and fosters positive cultural and sexual identity for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning (LGBTQ) and additional gender or sexual minority South Asians in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area.

HISTORY

YEAR ESTABLISHED 1994

KhushDC's founders originally met in New York city during the Stonewall 25th Anniversary celebration. With organizing in New York as their model, they returned to Washington, DC and started what is now known as KhushDC. Over the years, events and activities have been run in a relatively informal structure. In August 2004, members met to implement a process that resulted in the formation of the KhushDC By-Laws and "Policies and Procedures," an official Membership structure, and KhushDC's first democratic Board Elections. The membership of the organization has included men and women, although in 2005, KhushDC-Girls was formed to think more directly about the needs of queer South Asian women and trans-identified folks. KhushDC and its members continue to run a variety of social, cultural and educational programs and activities.

FACTS & FIGURES

CONTACT PERSON	Suresh Dianand <i>President, incoming</i>
DECISION-MAKING	Board; Committees; not tax exempt to my knowledge
BOARD MEMBERS	5
ORG/PROGRAM STATUS	Not incorporated
SOURCES OF FUNDING	Activities/Events 75% Selling Items (t-shirts, etc.) 5% Membership Fees 20%



	SOCIAL	SUPPORT	EDUCATION	OUTREACH	POLITICAL
ANNUAL				Hold Membership meetings, Hold Membership meetings, Participate in annual LGBT Pride events, March in LGBT Pride parade, Participate in API culture-specific events; Table at LGBT Pride festival	
QUARTERLY	Potlucks, Dance Party				
MONTHLY	Restaurants/Dim Sum, Movie-film festival, Bar nights/Happy hour			Post events on website, Website updates	
WHEN NEEDED		General Referrals		Hold Workshops/Community forums, Participate in Speakers Bureau, Forward emails from other groups	Forward email notices to members; Participate in rallies, protests, lobby days; Participate in political advocacy groups (per IRS rules); Publish political news/stories/articles in org listserv; No/Little political activities as an organization, but individual members do so voluntarily

Massachusetts Area South Asian Lambda Association (MASALA)

MULTI-GENDER

MAILING ADDRESS MASALA
38 Haverford Street
Boston, MA 2130

GENERAL CONTACT INFO *Email* bostonmasala@gmail.com
Website www.bostonmasala.org

PUBLIC INTERFACES *Social Networking*  www.facebook.com/inbox/readmessage.php?t=1103526598690#/group.php?sid=32ebc43bdbaa7efcfb7da6c1913cc456&gid=14064180550&ref=search
Group  http://groups.yahoo.com/group/bostonmasala

ORG/PROGRAM MISSION

MASALA (the Massachusetts-Area South Asian Lambda Association) is a social group based in Boston that provides a safe and supportive environment to New England-based Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, and Questioning South Asians (people from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Burma, India, Iran, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, and Tibet; and from the global South Asian Diaspora). MASALA is an avenue where distinctions of social class, status, religious affiliations and regional identities dissolve while cultural richness, linguistic diversity and individuality are maintained to inform, enrich and empower. MASALA also takes pride in its cross-alliance with organizations in the Boston area which strive against social taboos, ignorance, phobia, and help foster general awareness in the realm of public health, fighting HIV, and domestic violence, to name a few. MASALA is open to all unless otherwise specified who believe they can contribute toward a more tolerant society that embraces differences and respects individuality.

HISTORY

YEAR ESTABLISHED 1994

MASALA was founded by a small group of friends that saw the need for a South Asian based LGBT community. They placed an ad in a local newspaper called "Bay Windows" asking other LGBT south asians to gather for a brunch at a restaurant. Twenty people showed up and MASALA was formed.

FACTS & FIGURES

CONTACT PERSON	Amit Dixit <i>Steering Committee</i>
DECISION-MAKING	Chairperson/One Individual; Committees
CORE VOLUNTEERS	5
MEMBERSHIP/ COMMUNITY	546 Subscribers
ORG/PROGRAM STATUS	Not incorporated; fiscally sponsored as non-profit by MAP for Health
ANNUAL BUDGET SIZE	\$1,001 - \$2,500
SOURCES OF FUNDING	Special Fundraising Events/Asks 100%

	SOCIAL	SUPPORT	EDUCATION	OUTREACH	POLITICAL
ANNUAL	Movie-mainstream, Movie-cultural, Movie-educational/documentary, Movie-film festival, Dance Party, Cultural dance, Cultural song/music, Cultural performance	Legal advise and service referrals; Im-migration assistance referrals; Family/Abuse referrals	Open community forums	Participate in annual LGBT Pride events, March in LGBT Pride parade, Participate in API culture-specific events; Host Information Table (general), Table at API culture-specific festival, Organization brochure, Organization/event postcards	
QUARTERLY	Potlucks	Health/AIDS/HIV-related service referrals	Co-sponsor other groups events	Update Outreach Materials	Write Letters to the Editor (mainstream press); Write Letters to the Editor (LGBT community press); Write Letters to the Editor (Asian ethnic/language press); Forward email notices to members; Participate in rallies, protests, lobby days; Publish political news/stories/articles in org newsletter; Publish political news/stories/articles in org listserv
MONTHLY				Newsletter (electronic)	
WHEN NEEDED	Bar nights/Happy hour, Club night, Musical, Outdoor/ hiking	Peer support group, open to all members; Formal workshops; Counseling services; General Referrals	Workshops for members, Guest speakers	Hold Workshops/Community forums, Participate in Speakers Bureau, Forward emails from other groups, Post events on website	Participate in political fundraisers for candidates (per IRS rules); Participate in political advocacy groups (per IRS rules); No/Little political activities as an organization, but individual members do so voluntarily

Q-Wave

WOMEN & TRANS

MAILING ADDRESS
Q-WAVE
 P.O. Box 1896
 New York, NY 10013

GENERAL CONTACT INFO
Email info@q-wave.org
 sc@q-wave.org
Website www.q-wave.org

PUBLIC INTERFACES
Group  <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/q-wave>
Blog <http://qwavedisco.blogspot.com>
 (Private Blog, email subscription required, please send request to sc@q-wave.org)



ORG/PROGRAM MISSION

Q-Wave is dedicated to strengthening the voices of lesbian/bisexual/queer women and transgender/gender variant people of Asian descent. We strive to build a supportive, progressive community by promoting visibility and empowerment through social, political, and educational organizing.

HISTORY

YEAR ESTABLISHED 2004

The genesis of the group was at the Queer Asian Pacific Legacy Conference, held at New York University in March of 2004. This was the first gathering of its kind on the east coast in over a decade. The conversations focused on a long-recognized absence in New York City for a group that addressed the needs and issues of queer API women. Earlier attempts had been short-lived or had been narrowly focused, solely on social or political agendas, for example. That June, the Women's Caucus from the QAPL conference and Gay Asian Pacific Islander Men of New York (GAPIMNY) hosted a "Gender and the Queer A/PI Experience" workshop. Attendees discussed their experiences and then formed working groups—men's, women's, and multigender. Participants in the women's group decided to march together in the upcoming Dyke March that month. We used that opportunity to publicize our queer A/PI organizing. We set up an online mailing list, found some meeting space, and spread the word: there was a new organization in town! Our first meeting was held in late July at NYU. It drew nearly thirty women and has since continued as a monthly meeting in various locations throughout New York City. As a loose structure to guide our activities, we have established four central pillars to represent our needs and interests as a community: social, empowerment, visibility, and support.

FACTS & FIGURES

CONTACT PERSON	Aries Liao <i>Steering Committee Member</i>
DECISION-MAKING	Board; Event by event; As a community organization
CORE VOLUNTEERS	15
BOARD MEMBERS	4
MEMBERSHIP/COMMUNITY	60 Members 261 Subscribers
ORG/PROGRAM STATUS	Not incorporated; fiscally sponsored as non-profit by Project Reach
ANNUAL BUDGET SIZE	\$1,001 - \$2,500
SOURCES OF FUNDING	Selling Items (t-shirts, etc.) 10% Personal Donations/Asks 5% Membership Fees 0% Special Fundraising Events/Asks 85%

	SOCIAL	SUPPORT	EDUCATION	OUTREACH	POLITICAL
ANNUAL	Potlucks, Movie-film festival, Musical, Dance Party, Games (including video), Cultural song/music, Poetry, Performance art/ spoken word			Participate in annual LGBT Pride events, March in LGBT Pride parade, Host Information Table (general), Table at API culture-specific festival, Table at LGBT Pride festival, Organization/event postcards	
QUARTERLY	Restaurants/Dim Sum, Movie-mainstream, Movie-cultural, Movie-educational/documentary	Formal workshops	Workshops for members, Guest speakers, Co-sponsor other groups events	Hold Workshops/ Community forums, Participate in API culture-specific events	Participate in rallies, protests, lobby days; Participate in political advocacy groups (per IRS rules); Co-sponsor political events (per IRS rules)
MONTHLY			Discussion Groups	Hold Membership meetings, Post events on website, Website updates	Publish political news/stories/articles in org listserv
WHEN NEEDED		General Referrals			

Queer Asian Pacific Alliance (QAPA) MULTI-GENDER

MAILING ADDRESS QAPA
20 Chestnut St, Unit 307
Cambridge, MA 2139

GENERAL CONTACT INFO *Email* qapa@qapa.org
Website www.qapa.org

PUBLIC INTERFACES *Social Networking*  www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=7470436127
Group  <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/qapa>
Blog/Other <http://qapa.wordpress.com>

ORG/PROGRAM MISSION

ounded in 1979, QAPA, formerly AMALGM, is the oldest Asian queer organization in the United States. QAPA is committed to providing a supportive social, political, and educational environment for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning people of Asian and Pacific Islander heritage (this is inclusive of A/Pis, A/PI Americans and those who are of mixed A/PI heritage) in the Boston and New England area. We currently have over 200 active members in the New England area, plus many more ex-members spread around the world.

HISTORY

YEAR ESTABLISHED 1979

Founded in 1979, QAPA, formerly AMALGM, is the oldest Asian queer organization in the United States. QAPA is committed to providing a supportive social, political, and educational environment for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning people of Asian and Pacific Islander heritage (this is inclusive of A/Pis, A/PI Americans and those who are of mixed A/PI heritage) in the Boston and New England area. We currently have over 200 active members in the New England area, plus many more ex-members spread around the world.

FACTS & FIGURES

CONTACT PERSON	Sarav Chithambaram <i>Board member</i>
DECISION-MAKING	Board; volunteer organization and not incorporated
CORE VOLUNTEERS	10
BOARD MEMBERS	8
MEMBERSHIP/ COMMUNITY	200 Members 300 Subscribers
ORG/PROGRAM STATUS	Not incorporated
ANNUAL BUDGET SIZE	\$251 - \$500
SOURCES OF FUNDING	Personal Donations/Asks 90% Special Fundraising Events/Asks 10%

	SOCIAL	SUPPORT	EDUCATION	OUTREACH	POLITICAL
ANNUAL				Participate in annual LGBT Pride events, March in LGBT Pride parade, Update Outreach Materials, Organization brochure	
QUARTERLY					
MONTHLY	Potlucks			Post events on website, Website updates	
WHEN NEEDED	Restaurants/Dim Sum, Movie-mainstream, Movie-cultural, Movie-educational/documentary, Movie-film festival, Bar nights/ Happy hour, Club night, Outdoor/ hiking, Poetry, Cultural performance, Performance art/ spoken word	Peer support group, open to all members; Formal workshops; General Referrals	Workshops for members, Guest speakers, Open community forums, Blogs/e-discussion groups, Discussion Groups, Co-sponsor other groups events	Hold Membership meetings, Hold Workshops/Community forums, Participate in Speakers Bureau, Participate in API culture-specific events; March in API culture-specific parades, Host Information Table (general)	Write Letters to the Editor (mainstream press); Write Letters to the Editor (LGBT community press); Write Letters to the Editor (Asian ethnic/language press); Forward email notices to members; Participate in rallies, protests, lobby days; Publish political news/stories/articles in org newsletter; Publish political news/stories/articles in org website; Publish political news/stories/articles in org listserv; Co-sponsor political events (per IRS rules)



Queer Philadelphia Asians (QPA)

MULTI-GENDER

PUBLIC INTERFACES

Social Networking

Queer Philadelphia Asians

Group <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/QueerPhiladelphiaAsians>



ORG/PROGRAM MISSION

QPA (Queer Philadelphia Asians) is a grassroots organization whose goal is to empower Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Asian and Pacific Islanders through a variety of social, educational, peer-support, cultural, and political activities. We collaborate with other community organizations to help educate the API and LGBT communities on issues of race, sexuality, and gender.

HISTORY

YEAR ESTABLISHED 2005

QPA was founded back in 2005 with the intention of raising queer Asian visibility in Philadelphia. However it was only in 2008 with the award of a grant that QPA was about to hold a launch party to officially launch the group. Some of QPA's activities include a monthly dim sum outing as well as collaborating with PURE club in Philadelphia to hold a monthly Asian party. Some of the milestones of QPA would be participating in the prop 8 rally held in Philadelphia as well as being a member of the People of Color Coalition which is an umbrella organizations consisting of LGBT people of color organizations.

FACTS & FIGURES

CONTACT PERSON Nicholas Deroose
Board member

DECISION-MAKING Consensus;
Board

BOARD MEMBERS 4

MEMBERSHIP/COMMUNITY 134 Subscribers

ORG/PROGRAM STATUS Not incorporated;
fiscally sponsored as non-profit by ASIAC

ANNUAL BUDGET SIZE \$0 - \$250

SOURCES OF FUNDING Grants 80%
Personal Donations/Asks 20%

	SOCIAL	SUPPORT	EDUCATION	OUTREACH	POLITICAL
ANNUAL					
QUARTERLY					
MONTHLY	Restaurants/Dim Sum, Club night	Formal workshops; Health/AIDS/HIV-related service referrals	Guest speakers, Co-sponsor other groups events	Hold Membership meetings, Hold Workshops/Community forums, Participate in Speakers Bureau, Forward emails from other groups, Post events on website, Participate in annual LGBT Pride events, March in LGBT Pride parade, Participate in API culture-specific events; March in API culture-specific parades, Host Information Table (general), Table at API culture-specific festival, Table at LGBT Pride festival, Update Outreach Materials, Website updates, Organization brochure, Organization/event postcards, Newsletter (paper), Newsletter (electronic)	Write Letters to the Editor (mainstream press); Forward email notices to members; Publish political news/stories/articles in org newsletter
WHEN NEEDED					



Satrang

MULTI-GENDER

MAILING ADDRESS Satrang
605 W. Olympic Blvd Suite 610
Los Angeles, CA 90015

GENERAL CONTACT INFO Tel 888-370-9569 Email contact@satrang.org
president@satrang.org
Website www.satrang.org

PUBLIC INTERFACES Group  SoCalSatrang@yahoogroups.com
(Closed group)



ORG/PROGRAM MISSION

Satrang is a social, cultural and support organization providing a safe space to empower and advocate for the rights of the South Asian LGBTIQ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans, Intersex, Queer and Questioning) community in Southern California through education, networking, and outreach.

HISTORY

YEAR ESTABLISHED 1997

Since before 1997, one person was organizing potluck get togethers for the South Asian queers in Los Angeles and surrounding areas and a group of 20-30 attendees decided to take off the burden off this person and form a formal organization. An initial meeting was held in December 1997 to found the organization and work on formalizing it. By June 1998, we had a name, a board of 5 members and loosely formed By-Laws in place. Our connection to a South Asian queer organization in the Bay Area helped us get connected to other South Asian queers living in Southern California and we started holding monthly/ semi-monthly social events and discussion groups. After several annual strategic planning meetings we decided to apply for grant funding from foundations for a needs assessment and outreach and since then the organization has grown to offer more than just a safe space. Over the past eleven years, our membership has grown from 40 to over 400.

FACTS & FIGURES

CONTACT PERSON	Rashmi Choksey <i>Board Chair/President</i>
DECISION-MAKING	Board
CORE VOLUNTEERS	80
BOARD MEMBERS	7
MEMBERSHIP/ COMMUNITY	430 Members 98 Subscribers
ORG/PROGRAM STATUS	Not incorporated; fiscally sponsored as non-profit by Special Service for Groups
ANNUAL BUDGET SIZE	\$30,001 - \$50,000
SOURCES OF FUNDING	Grants 90% Special Fundraising Events/Asks 10%
DONORS	20

	SOCIAL	SUPPORT	EDUCATION	OUTREACH	POLITICAL
ANNUAL	Movie-cultural, Movie-educational/documentary, Movie-film festival, Musical, Games (including video), Performance art/ spoken word; cultural and faith based event for Eid/Diwali	Formal workshops	Attend 2 conferences	Participate in annual LGBT Pride events, March in LGBT Pride parade, Participate in API culture-specific events (Table at non-queer events); Table at LGBT Pride festival	
QUARTERLY	Potlucks, Club night, Outdoor/ hiking, Dance Party, Cultural dance, Cultural song/music, Cultural performance				
MONTHLY				Post events on website, Website updates, Newsletter (electronic)	
WHEN NEEDED		General Referrals	Blogs/e-discussion groups, Co-sponsor other groups events	Hold Workshops/ Community forums, Participate in Speakers Bureau, Forward emails from other groups, March in API culture-specific parades, Table at API culture-specific festival, Update Outreach Materials, Organization brochure	Forward email notices to members; Participate in rallies, protests, lobby days; Publish political news/stories/articles in org listserv



Shades of Yellow

MULTI-GENDER

MAILING ADDRESS Shades of Yellow (at HAP)
379 University Ave. W #204
St. Paul, MN 55103

GENERAL CONTACT INFO Tel 651-291-1811 x201 Email xiongkeyv@aol.com
kevinxiong.shadesofyellow@gmail.com Website www.shadesofyellow.com



ORG/PROGRAM MISSION

To provide support, education, cultural awareness, social gatherings, and advocacy to Hmong GLBT, SOY members, families, allies and the Hmong community in the Twin Cities.

HISTORY

YEAR ESTABLISHED 2003

It was founded by Phia Xiong and Xeng Lor to have a space for Hmong GLBT individuals to come together and have safe conversations about issues they face at home, work, school and/or in the community.

FACTS & FIGURES

CONTACT PERSON	Kevin Xiong <i>Executive Director</i>
DECISION-MAKING	Board
CORE VOLUNTEERS	4
BOARD MEMBERS	4
MEMBERSHIP/ COMMUNITY	200 Subscribers
ORG/PROGRAM STATUS	Not incorporated; fiscally sponsored as non-profit by Hmong American Partnership
ANNUAL BUDGET SIZE	\$50,001 and above
SOURCES OF FUNDING	Grants 98% Activities/Events 1% Fundraising letters 1%
DONORS	5

	SOCIAL	SUPPORT	EDUCATION	OUTREACH	POLITICAL
ANNUAL	Movie-mainstream, Sports team			Participate in annual LGBT Pride events, Table at LGBT Pride festival, Organization brochure	
QUARTERLY	Potlucks		Workshops for members, Open community forums	Hold Membership meetings, Hold Workshops/Community forums, Post events on website	
MONTHLY	Bar nights/Happy hour, Club night			Website updates	
WHEN NEEDED	Outdoor/ hiking, Games (including video)		Guest speakers, Discussion Groups, Co-sponsor other groups events	Participate in Speakers Bureau, Forward emails from other groups, Participate in API culture-specific events; March in API culture-specific parades, Host Information Table (general), Table at API culture-specific festival, Organization/event postcards, Newsletter (paper), Newsletter (electronic)	Write Letters to the Editor (mainstream press); Write Letters to the Editor (LGBT community press); Write Letters to the Editor (Asian ethnic/ language press); Forward email notices to members; Participate in rallies, protests, lobby days; Participate in political fundraisers for candidates (per IRS rules); Participate in political advocacy groups (per IRS rules); Publish political news/stories/articles in org newsletter; Publish political news/stories/articles in org website; Publish political news/stories/articles in org listserv; Co-sponsor political events (per IRS rules)



South Asian Lesbian and Gay Association of New York City (SALGA NYC)

MULTI-GENDER

MAILING ADDRESS SALGA NYC
The LGBT Center, 208 W13th St.
New York, NY 10011

GENERAL CONTACT INFO Tel 212-620-7310 Email salganyc@hotmail.com
salganyc@gmail.com
Website www.salganyc.org

PUBLIC INTERFACES Social www.facebook.com/people/Salga-Nyc/1075546469
Networking www.myspace.com/salganyc
Blog/Other <http://salganyc.org/blog>

ORG/PROGRAM MISSION

SALGA-NYC is a social, political and support group for lesbians, gay men, bisexual and transgender people who trace their descent from countries such as Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Burma, India, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Tibet as well as people of South Asian descent from countries such as Guyana, Trinidad and Kenya. To support, empower and build a sense of community for the LGBTQ demographic that traces its origin from the region known as South Asia.

HISTORY

YEAR ESTABLISHED 1991

The South Asian Lesbian & Gay Association, otherwise known as SALGA, was born in 1991 as the South Asian Gay Association (SAGA). The organization was created to organize and support a theretofore under-recognized and under-served community: the South Asian lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered and queer (LGBTQ) community of New York City and New Jersey. In 1994, the name of SAGA was amended to reflect a more diverse constituency and thus became the SALGA of today. Some major milestones include marching in the annual Manhattan Gay Pride parade in 1991, marching in the India Day Parade in 1992 and holding the first dance party targeted at the South Asian LGBTQ community in 2000.

FACTS & FIGURES

CONTACT PERSON	Lakshman Kalasapudi <i>Steering Committee Member (Youth Coordinator)</i>
DECISION-MAKING	Co-Chairs; Multiple Chairs (more than 2); Committees
CORE VOLUNTEERS	25
BOARD MEMBERS	11
MEMBERSHIP/ COMMUNITY	1000 Members 1500 Subscribers
ORG/PROGRAM STATUS	fiscally sponsored as non-profit by varying organizations
ANNUAL BUDGET SIZE	\$10,001 - \$20,000
SOURCES OF FUNDING	Activities/Events 35% Personal Donations/Asks 5% Special Fundraising Events/Asks 60%
DONORS	10

	SOCIAL	SUPPORT	EDUCATION	OUTREACH	POLITICAL
ANNUAL				Participate in annual LGBT Pride events, March in LGBT Pride parade, Participate in API culture-specific events; March in API culture-specific parades	
QUARTERLY	Restaurants/Dim Sum	Formal workshops	Workshops for members, Co-sponsor other groups events	Hold Membership meetings, Organization/event postcards	
MONTHLY	Bar nights/Happy hour, Club night, Dance Party			Forward emails from other groups, Newsletter (electronic)	Forward email notices to members
WHEN NEEDED	Potlucks, Movie-mainstream, Movie-cultural, Movie-educational/documentary, Movie-film festival, Cultural performance	Peer support group for youth only; General Referrals; Immigration assistance referrals	Guest speakers, Open community forums, Discussion Groups	Hold Workshops/Community forums, Organization brochure	Write Letters to the Editor (mainstream press); Write Letters to the Editor (LGBT community press); Participate in rallies, protests, lobby days; Publish political news/stories/articles in org website; Publish political news/stories/articles in org listserv; No/Little political activities as an organization, but individual members do so voluntarily

South Bay Queer & Asian (sbQA)

MULTI-GENDER

MAILING ADDRESS sbQA
P. O. Box 28713
San Jose, CA 95159-8713

GENERAL CONTACT INFO Tel 408-293-2429 Email info@sbqa.com
webmaster@sbqa.com
Website www.sbqa.com

PUBLIC INTERFACES Group <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/sbqa>



ORG/PROGRAM MISSION

sbQA is San Jose's premiere support/social organization for gay, bisexual, lesbian and transgender Asians and Pacific Islanders in the South Bay! With a safe place to "come out of the closet" and feel comfortable with their sexual identity and race. Our rap sessions serve as a forum where individuals can freely discuss issues relevant to being gay/bisexual/lesbian/transgender and Asian in a relaxed and friendly environment! sbQA's social events give members opportunities to meet others of similar backgrounds and interests and to make lasting friendships.

HISTORY

YEAR ESTABLISHED 1992

sbQA was founded in February 1992. Roger C was one of the original founders of sbQA. Some of the early members included Joe L., Bert L., Tim P., Dan C., and Jim C. They started meeting at the Asian Americans for Community Involvement center every week as a discussion group for Asians. The meetings later moved to the Billy DeFrank Center in San Jose to ensure confidentiality. The purpose of the meetings was to deal with the unique cultural issues that affect LGBT Asians and Pacific Islanders (APIs). The group added activities and social events in addition to the support groups.

Signature events include Thanksgiving, Christmas, Chinese New Year's parties and annual potluck at a local park, which draw over 100 people at each event. Thanksgiving and Christmas parties were like an annual homecoming where almost all of sbQA's members attend the event. Other events include game nights, movie nights, and hikes. In the past year, participation in sbQA events and activities has dramatically increased.

One of the basic tenants of sbQA has been the 'safe place to come out' concept that allowed a lot of Asians to discover their identity and grow in their self confidence and leadership. Over the years, the group has migrated from a discussion oriented group with some social events, to being more of a socially oriented group that has maintained its grounding in the discussion group.

FACTS & FIGURES

CONTACT PERSON	Edward Tang <i>Board Chair/President</i>
DECISION-MAKING	Consensus; Board; Tax ID number only, has not filed the paper work yet.
CORE VOLUNTEERS	20
BOARD MEMBERS	7
MEMBERSHIP/ COMMUNITY	678 Members
ORG/PROGRAM STATUS	Not incorporated
ANNUAL BUDGET SIZE	\$2,501 - \$5,000
SOURCES OF FUNDING	Activities/Events 100%

	SOCIAL	SUPPORT	EDUCATION	OUTREACH	POLITICAL
ANNUAL					
QUARTERLY	Potlucks, Musical				
MONTHLY					
WHEN NEEDED				Hold Membership meetings, Hold Workshops/Community forums, Post events on website, Participate in annual LGBT Pride events, Participate in API culture-specific events; March in API culture-specific parades, Website updates, Organization brochure, Newsletter (electronic)	Write Letters to the Editor (Asian ethnic/language press); No/Little political activities as an organization, but individual members do so voluntarily

Southeast Asian Queers United for Empowerment and Leadership (seaQuel)

MULTI-GENDER

MAILING ADDRESS 669 Elmwood Avenue, Box 19
Providence, RI 02907

GENERAL CONTACT INFO Tel 401-383-7450 Email prysm@prysm.us
kohei@prysm.us
Website www.prysm.us

PUBLIC INTERFACES Social http://myspace.com/providence_movement
Networking



ORG/PROGRAM MISSION

seaQuel is a supportive space for LGBTQQ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgendered, Queer and Questioning) and Straight youth of Southeast Asian descent where they can address the issues affecting their lives, develop their leadership potential and become involved in making changes within their community, which includes the commitment to ending sexual and gender oppression. This mission upholds PrYSM's vision to end state, street and interpersonal violence affecting Southeast Asian Americans in Providence by providing support and resources for those in need. As a program we work all year long to support the community and also celebrate our differences.

HISTORY

YEAR ESTABLISHED 2005

seaQuel has spent the past 3 years building a strong base of GLBTQ SEAs and allies. From Lowell, MA to Stockton, CA, to Newport News, VA, GLBTQ SEAs have flocked to seaQuel to find refuge and a family who can understand and support all of our multiple identities and struggles. We have been able to build a critical mass of GLBTQ SEAA leaders who now stand poised to challenge patriarchy and sexism in the SEAA community and expand ideas of diversity and inclusion in the mainstream GLBTQ community.

FACTS & FIGURES

CONTACT PERSON	Latdaly Sinouthasy Staff
DECISION-MAKING	Consensus; Board; Committees; Includes core membership
BOARD MEMBERS	10
MEMBERSHIP/ COMMUNITY	50 Members 500 Subscribers
ORG/PROGRAM STATUS	Incorporated as a 501(c)3
ANNUAL BUDGET SIZE	\$50,001 and above (parent organization)
SOURCES OF FUNDING	Grants 80% Activities/Events 5% Personal Donations/Asks 5%
DONORS	100

	SOCIAL	SUPPORT	EDUCATION	OUTREACH	POLITICAL
ANNUAL	Outdoor/ hiking, Games (including video), Cultural dance, Cultural song/music, Cultural performance, Performance art/ spoken word			March in LGBT Pride parade, Participate in API culture-specific events; Table at API culture-specific festival, Table at LGBT Pride festival	
QUARTERLY	Potlucks			Hold Membership meetings, Participate in annual LGBT Pride events, Update Outreach Materials, Newsletter (paper)	
MONTHLY	Movie-educational/ documentary	Peer support group, open to all members; Peer support group for women/trans only; Peer support group for youth only; Formal workshops	Workshops for members, Discussion Groups		Forward email notices to members
WHEN NEEDED	Restaurants/Dim Sum, Movie-cultural, Dance Party	Legal advise and service referrals; Immigration assistance referrals; Counseling referrals; Family/Abuse referrals	Guest speakers	Hold Workshops/Community forums, Post events on website, Host Information Table (general), Website updates	Write Letters to the Editor (mainstream press); Write Letters to the Editor (LGBT community press); Write Letters to the Editor (Asian ethnic/ language press); Participate in rallies, protests, lobby days; Publish political news/stories/articles in org newsletter; Publish political news/stories/articles in org website



Trikone

MULTI-GENDER

MAILING ADDRESS P.O. Box 14161 San Francisco, CA 94610

GENERAL CONTACT INFO Tel 415-418-7725 Email trikone@trikone.org Website www.trikone.org



ORG/PROGRAM MISSION

Trikone offers a supportive, empowering and non-judgmental environment, where LGBT South Asians can meet, make connections and proudly promote awareness and acceptance of their sexuality in society. Trikone works toward the following goals: 1) bring people of South Asian heritage together 2) promote awareness, visibility and cultural and legal acceptance of people with alternative sexual orientations and gender identities 3) help people to proudly affirm both their South Asian identity as well as their sexual orientation Trikone actively works against all forms of oppression based on race, gender, religion, class, sexual orientation, and other identities. Through our award-winning magazine, our website, conferences, cultural nights, film festivals, dances, pride celebrations, and a host of other collaborative programming, Trikone has worked hard to nurture and empower the LGBT South Asian community in the Bay Area and across the globe.

HISTORY

YEAR ESTABLISHED 1984

Trikone is the first ever organization for LGBTQ South Asians. It is a registered non profit. It was started by Arvind Kumar and Ashok Jethanandani. Trikone has grown over the years, has produced the award winning "Trikone" magazine/newsletter, has organized an international conference in San Francisco in 1995, 2000 and 2006.

FACTS & FIGURES

CONTACT PERSON	Rakesh Modi <i>Board Chair/President</i>
DECISION-MAKING	Board
CORE VOLUNTEERS	20
BOARD MEMBERS	9
ORG/PROGRAM STATUS	Incorporated as a 501(c)3
ANNUAL BUDGET SIZE	\$20,001 - \$30,000
SOURCES OF FUNDING	Grants 70% Activities/Events 15% Selling Items (t-shirts, etc.) 3% Personal Donations/Asks 3% Workplace Donations 2% Fundraising letters 7%

	SOCIAL	SUPPORT	EDUCATION	OUTREACH	POLITICAL
ANNUAL	Movie-film festival, Dance Party, Performance art/ spoken word; Kulture Kulcha - cultural performances, art, spoken word, banquet, dance party. Dance party for Pride, New Year's eve			Participate in annual LGBT Pride events, March in LGBT Pride parade, Participate in API culture-specific events; Table at API culture-specific festival, Table at LGBT Pride festival	
QUARTERLY			Guest speakers	Newsletter (paper)	
MONTHLY	Potlucks		Open community forums, Discussion Groups		
WHEN NEEDED	Movie-cultural, Movie-educational/documentary		Workshops for members, Co-sponsor other groups events	Hold Workshops/ Community forums, Forward emails from other groups, Organization brochure, Organization/event postcards	Forward email notices to members; Participate in political advocacy groups (per IRS rules)

Trikone Atlanta

MULTI-GENDER

GENERAL
CONTACT
INFO

Tel 404-869-8618

Email trikonesteering@yahoogroups.com

Website www.trikoneatlanta.org

ORG/PROGRAM MISSION

Trikone Atlanta is a social and support group for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender people of South Asian heritage and their friends in the Southeastern United States. South Asia comprises of Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Burma, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Tibet and the Diaspora.

HISTORY

YEAR ESTABLISHED 1993

In its early years, Trikone had existed exclusively on the solid, unstructured commitment of a handful of volunteers. These key volunteers provided a community of South Asian Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Trans, and Questioning (SA GLBTQ) people with whom to connect and talk. They started what has become the defining social event for Trikone, the monthly socials. Through these socials, as well as other events such as the Pride parade, coordinated events with other organizations, and outreach, Trikone has grown into an organization of over 70 members. Most of this growth has happened in the past 3 or 4 years. In July 2002, discussions began to refocus mission and activities to better foster a safe space for members. Trikone has participated in every Pride parade since 1993, and has never missed a monthly social since its initial event. Trikone Atlanta was also a major contributor to the Georgia marriage amendment fight, donating 95% of the campaign's office equipment, much volunteer time, and thousands of dollars.

FACTS & FIGURES

CONTACT PERSON	<i>Outreach Coordinator</i>
DECISION-MAKING	Consensus; Committees; Event by event; Not incorporated — all volunteer
CORE VOLUNTEERS	75
BOARD MEMBERS	5
MEMBERSHIP/ COMMUNITY	75 Members 200 Subscribers
ORG/PROGRAM STATUS	Not incorporated
ANNUAL BUDGET SIZE	\$501 - \$750
SOURCES OF FUNDING	Special Fundraising Events/Asks 100%
DONORS	100


	SOCIAL	SUPPORT	EDUCATION	OUTREACH	POLITICAL
ANNUAL				Participate in annual LGBT Pride events, March in LGBT Pride parade, Table at LGBT Pride festival	Phone banking to defeat California Proposition 8; National Coming Out Day March with collaborator; "Women only" event which includes trans members
QUARTERLY			Distribute condoms and materials regarding safe-sex, HIV/AIDS and STDs; Attend trainings provided by our funders		
MONTHLY	Potlucks; Bollywood night; Outdoor/ hiking; Dance Party; Cultural dance; Cultural song/music; Cultural performance; Educational/ advocacy component to all our social events				Coalition meetings and with collaborations to strategize on visibility and education and advocacy
WHEN NEEDED		Mental Health Referrals; Asylum Referrals; General Health Referrals; Peer support group, open to all members; Health/AIDS/HIV-related service referrals; Legal advise and service referrals; Immigration assistance referrals; Counseling referrals; Family/Abuse referrals; Drugs referrals	Open community forums	Hold Membership meetings, Forward emails from other groups	Forward email notices to members; Participate in rallies, protests, lobby days; No/Little political activities as an organization, but individual members do so voluntarily

Trikone-NW (TNW)

MULTI-GENDER

MAILING ADDRESS TNW
1122 Pike #1174
Seattle, WA 98122

GENERAL CONTACT INFO Email tnw@trikonenw.org
Website www.trikonenw.org

PUBLIC INTERFACES Group  <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/trikone-northwest>

ORG/PROGRAM MISSION

To provide a supportive, empowering, and affirming community for differently oriented South Asians.

HISTORY

YEAR ESTABLISHED 1997

Trikone NW had a very modest beginning, when five people met at a restaurant in Seattle. Since then, it has grown and addressed many important social, cultural and political issues of concern to South Asian LGBTQ communities in the Pacific Northwest.

Today, Trikone Northwest is a vibrant, diverse group of individuals creating a social, supportive, educational, and political space for differently oriented South Asians and their family, friends and community.

By differently oriented we mean those individuals who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or queer and those who choose not to accept a label or prefer other identities such as hijra, kothi, meti, men who have sex with men (MSM) or women who have sex with women (WSW).

FACTS & FIGURES

CONTACT PERSON	Vega Subramaniam <i>Board Chair/President</i>
DECISION-MAKING	Board; No formal decision-making process
CORE VOLUNTEERS	100
BOARD MEMBERS	2
MEMBERSHIP/COMMUNITY	65 Members 110 Subscribers
ORG/PROGRAM STATUS	Not incorporated; fiscally sponsored as non-profit by Seattle LGBT Center
ANNUAL BUDGET SIZE	\$5,101 - \$10,000
DONORS	50



