

NEWS RELEASE

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APIASF AWARDS \$500K+ SCHOLARSHIPS TO ASIAN AMERICAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER STUDENTS ATTENDING ASIAN AMERICAN NATIVE AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER-SERVING INSTITUTIONS

Washington, D.C., Feb. 20, 2014—The Asian & Pacific Islander American Scholarship Fund (APIASF) Asian American Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institution (AANAPISI) Scholarship Program today announced plans to award 166 full-time, degree-seeking Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) students with scholarships totaling more than \$500,000. Each recipient will utilize the scholarships to support their academic endeavors at one of the following AANAPISIs: City College of San Francisco, Coastline Community College, De Anza College, Guam Community College, Richland College, South Seattle Community College, University of Hawaii at Hilo, University of Illinois at Chicago, or University of Massachusetts Boston.

“Given our scope and focus, APIASF is uniquely positioned to provide scholarships to underserved AAPI college students who are academically successful, but who lack the necessary financial resources needed to achieve their postsecondary endeavors,” said APIASF President & Executive Director Neil Horikoshi. “We are afforded the opportunity to connect and interact with hundreds of AANAPISIs across the country. As such, we want our scholars to benefit from and gain access to the support services available at these institutions—ultimately helping them to earn a quality education and degree.”

An earlier iteration of the APIASF AANAPISI Scholarship Program provided scholarships only to AAPI students attending AANAPISI community colleges. This year’s program is now available to AAPI students at four-year institutions as well as those at two-year and/or community colleges. All participating schools are recognized as AANAPISIs, which is a designation of minority-serving institutions that enroll large populations of AAPI students.

In addition, the APIASF AANAPISI Scholarship Program supports the Partnership for Equity in Education through Research (PEER) project—a three-year, \$2 million effort to help realize the full degree-earning potential of the AAPI student population through scholarships, institutional capacity-building, and institutional collaboration based on research. APIASF, along with its research partner, the National Commission on Asian American and Pacific Islander

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Research in Education (CARE), are spearheading the PEER project while working collaboratively with City College of San Francisco, De Anza College, and South Seattle Community College.

"AANAPISIs serve disproportionately high concentrations of low-income AAPI students, so this is a great opportunity to engage with these institutions to support their students," said Robert T. Teranishi, CARE principal investigator and professor and co-director, Institute for Immigration, Globalization, and Education at University of California, Los Angeles.

The APIASF AANAPISI Scholarship Program is supported by The Coca-Cola Foundation, ETS, USA Funds, Walmart Foundation, and Wells Fargo. Funding for the PEER project is provided by The Kresge Foundation, USA Funds, Walmart Foundation, and Lumina Foundation.

To learn more about the scholarship recipients or for more information about the APIASF AANAPISI Scholarship Program, visit APIASF's website at www.apiasf.org. Also, follow APIASF on Facebook (www.facebook.com/apiasf) and Twitter (www.twitter.com/apiasf). Details about the PEER project can also be found on APIASF's website and by visiting CARE's website at www.nyu.edu/projects/care.

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About the Asian & Pacific Islander American Scholarship Fund

Based in Washington, D.C., the Asian & Pacific Islander American Scholarship Fund (APIASF) is the nation's largest non-profit provider of college scholarships for Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPI). APIASF works to create opportunities for students to access, complete, and succeed after post-secondary education; thereby developing future leaders who will excel in their career, serve as role models in their communities, and will ultimately contribute to a vibrant America. Since 2003, APIASF has distributed more than \$70 million in scholarships to AAPI students across the country and in the Pacific Islands. APIASF manages three scholarship programs: APIASF's general scholarship, the APIASF Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institutions scholarship program, and the Gates Millennium Scholars/Asian Pacific Islander Americans funded by a grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

About the National Commission on Asian American and Pacific Islander Research in Education

The National Commission on Asian American and Pacific Islander Research in Education (CARE) identifies and examines key issues affecting Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) student access and success in U.S. higher education. The CARE project is informed by a national commission, consisting of K-12 and higher education professionals, policymakers and public officials, researchers and leaders of advocacy organizations, as well as a research advisory group and a research team. CARE aims to assess AAPI participation in higher education across various U.S. regions with consideration for the differences in socioeconomic, ethnic and national backgrounds among these students.