

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Friday, September 5, 2015

CONTACT: Neel Saxena, (202) 884-0322 x108; nsaxena@aalead.org

AALEAD Welcomes New Program Staff

(Washington, DC) – Asian American LEAD (AALEAD) is excited to announce the addition of three new program staff who will be supporting low-income and underserved Asian Pacific American (APA) youth in in DC, Maryland, and Virginia. In addition to the new hires, three staff were promoted bringing the total staff count to 14 staff.

Stephanie Lim joined AALEAD as the new Mentoring & Volunteer Programs Coordinator and Tina Ngo was promoted to a newly created Mentoring & Volunteer Programs Manager. Stephanie hails from Queens, New York and previously worked with AALEAD's DC Elementary After School Program at Thomson Elementary and the Summer Literacy Program at Walker-Jones Education Campus. Stephanie graduated from Hampshire College with concentrations in American Studies, Ethnic Studies and Asian American Studies.

Shanice Lo joined AALEAD as a new MD Middle School Program Coordinator; she will be coordinating the programming at Argyle and Eastern Middle Schools. Keo Xiong was promoted to the MD Programs Manager and will oversee the entire MD program and focus on two newly expanded schools, Julius West and Roberto Clemente Middle Schools. Shanice was born and raised in Hong Kong and graduated from University of Maryland, College Park with a B.A. in Psychology and a minor in International Development and Conflict Management. Shanice also worked with Asian American LEAD as a part-time staff member with the DC Elementary School Program before transitioning to her new role as a MD Middle School Program Coordinator.

Yonsoo Kang is joining as the newly created VA Middle School Program Coordinator; he will be coordinating programming at two new middle schools in VA: Poe and Holmes Middle Schools, both located in Annandale, VA. Shaima Ahmad was promoted to VA Program Manager and will continue to run the program at Annandale High School. Originally from New Jersey, Yonsoo has lived in Northern Virginia for most of his life. Previously, he was a summer volunteer with AALEAD's DC Elementary Program. He graduated in 2014 from The College of William & Mary with a B.A. in history with a focus in US-East Asia relations.

"This is an exciting time at AALEAD. The new hires will support our expansion to meet the needs of more low-income APA youth across the DC Metro area." said Executive Director, Surject Ahluwalia. To learn more about our new hires please visit our website: www.aalead.org.

AALEAD supports low-income and underserved Asian Pacific American youth with educational empowerment, identity development, and leadership opportunities through after school, summer, and mentoring programs.

###