

REACH of Central Florida

President's Report

May 2020 - May 2021

Board of Directors and Officers

Co-presidents: Jiya Sishodia & Alex Tao

VP Communications: Rebekah Joe

VP Community Service: Allison Lunandy

VP External: Kaylee Duong

VP Internal: Jerry He

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Historian: Andrea Sison

Webmaster: Megan Tang & William Davis

Advisor: Takkai Wong

COORDINATORS

Cypress Creek High School Coordinator:

Minhhanh Nguyen & Kevin Nguyen

Freedom High School Coordinator:

Gaby Barrera, Adam Ababon, Edison Cheung, & Hillary Quach

Homeschool Coordinator:

Meira Lee

Lake Nona High School Coordinator:

Darren Bansil, Alvin Abraham, & Ashley Ding

Seminole High School Coordinator:

Chloe Sakr, Amber Ni, Henry Chen, & Smyrna Davalath

Timber Creek High School Coordinator:

Travis Duong, Elizabeth Manuel

University High School Coordinator:

Aimee Nguyen, Ibrahim Itani, & Uyen Tran

Winter Park High School Coordinator:

Steven Le & Thomas Le

Trinity Preparatory High School:

Aetant Prakash

Lake Mary High School:

Jolie Hongsyok

Crooms Academy of Information Technology:

Jared Hongsyok

Windermere High School:

Serina Kaochari, Toni Arellano, & Justin Chen

Winter Springs High School Coordinator:

Cindy Jiang

Activities

1. Lunar Year Parade

- February 9th, 2020.
- First Lunar Year Celebration with only the Dragon Parade, with REACH volunteering from 9am - 12pm. Work was divided into groups: set-up/registration, parade announcers, REACH banner holders, flags and cars, photos, AsiaTrend, and floaters.

2. Dragon Boating

- No race at Turkey Lake this year led to a series of 10 virtual practices held over Google meets that culminated in an intra-team race.
- REACH was given an opportunity to later race in a Dueling Dragon event on 4/24/21, and some of our members took this chance.

3. AAHC Scholarship

- Many officers applied and we won a few awards! This year, the award ceremony was held through Zoom on 11/7/20.

4. Asian Cultural Expo

- This year, the Asian Cultural Expo was held virtually on 10/17.
- REACH submitted 6 video presentations to aid in this effort. Six different countries were presented: the Philippines, Indonesia, China, Japan, Korea, and Vietnam.

5. United Against Poverty Toy Drive

- No teams were formed this year, but we still held a toy drive where officers collected as many toys as they could and brought them to Pauline's office.
- We collected 85 brand new toys for the UAP Toy Drive!

6. Sharing Center Volunteering

- Began monthly volunteering with the Sharing Center.

- These were all three hour shifts that allowed for officers to meet Bright Futures requirements and such. Non-REACH members were also invited to join.

7. Blogs & Other Presentations

- 6 groups were formed with different blog topic assignments: History, Celebrations, Pop Culture, Stereotypes, Representation in Media, and Conflicts faced. These groups were tasked with rotating blog posts on a basis.
- REACH monthly newsletter published with success!
- For the Lunar Year festival this year, REACH prepared a presentation that was played in the online festival hosted by ACF on 2/6/21.
- For the AAHC Asian Cultural Festival this year held on 5/22/21, REACH presented a 5 minute performance using clips taken from REACH's 10-year anniversary performances.

8. Socials

- Social at Rolled ice Cream, 8/7/20.
- Socials on 9/18/20 and 10/23/20 on Discord (we started the REACH Discord server this year for fun events like movie night). We watched Parasite and played Among Us.
- Social on 12/19/20 at Sus Hi Eatstation.

9. Speakers/Mentorship

- Multiple NAAAP workshops.
- 7/26/20 2-3:30pm - talked with Newlyn regarding challenges that Asian Americans face, mental health, developing goals/passions, resume building, and presentation skills.
- 11/15/20 - NAAAP Mental Health and Model Minority Seminar was presented by Newlyn and Jeanie.
- 1/10/21 - Full Sail presentation that Newlyn set up for us. We got to virtually tour the Full Sail campus.
- 2/21/21 - Circuit judge workshop, where we had an Asian circuit judge speak with REACH members regarding their job, their life, and challenges that they have faced as an Asian American professional.

10. AAPI Vigil

- 03/23/21 5:30-9:30
- REACH officers worked with UCF ASA in setting up and working the vigil.
- Helped with set up , check-in , tear-down, and spreading flyers and posters. Also made sure all attendees were following COVID-19 safety guidelines.
- REACH officers were featured on channel 2 news that night

11. Orange County Community Service Award

- 05/11/21 4:30-6:30 at Orange County Administration Center
- nominated by Ricky Ly of tasty Chomps & Shally Wong
- won the "*Outstanding Community Service Award*"

Overall Notes

- Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, most of our bigger and annual events were cancelled or shifted to online. With the absence of events and in-person meetings, officer involvement faced a huge drop and it was harder to get in contact with other officers. Certain things we implemented such as the blogs and online socials helped keep officer involvement up. We were also unable to initiate any of the new events we had planned to bring into the new term such as an event in collaboration with city hall, and the grant application (which we needed to spread reach to schools in the city hall district yet we were unable to gain the new officers due to covid).

President Report By:

Jiya Sishodia & Alex Tao

Co-Presidents 2020-2021

May 28th, 2021