



Oct 1–3

AAPA 2021 VIRTUAL CONVENTION

# *Expanding Our Banyan Tree*

Unity, Inclusivity, and Intersectionality in Scholarship

REGISTER AT [WHOVA.COM/PORTAL/REGISTRATION/AAPAN\\_202110](https://whoa.com/portal/registration/aapan_202110)

*All CEs included*

This past year has revealed that much work must be done politically, spiritually, and socially to bring Asian interests to a place of equality. The COVID-19 pandemic has instigated a historic change of the Asian experience. Increases in Xenophobic rhetoric directed at the Asian diaspora has resulted in a steady rise of violence, anti-Asian racism, scapegoating, and depictions of Asians as representative of a perpetual foreigner. Meanwhile, the impact of the model minority myth continues to disjoint our movement for equality from others. This year's theme hopes to capture the reality that Asian issues are not just Asian issues and that it should not just be Asian scholars and Asian-identified people who are interested in the Asian experience. As we prepare to break out of siloes created by the pandemic it is important to continue to reflect on our history in this nation and to engage in efforts of unification across groups and issues. Awareness of who is and who is not represented in our spaces is necessary to reach the branches of our expanding tree across the forest aisle. It is also essential to maintaining action on the issues impacting our communities today. The 2021 convention will thus be about branching out while staying true to our organizational roots at every branch.

