

# Letter to Our Friends

Dear Friends,

In Asian & Pacific Islander cultures, family belonging and social acceptance are very important. This makes it difficult for many API GLBTs to tell their family, because the stigma of homosexuality often brings shame and rejection. When API GLBTs "come out," many parents have conflicted feelings, torn between love of child and fear of judgment from peers and other family members. Sadly, API GLBTs often become isolated and are deprived of the support and love of their families.

But there are examples where the opposite happens; where love and loyalty overcome shame and fear. Many API GLBTs have the open love, acceptance, and support of their parents, siblings and relatives. These "family coming out" struggles and successes are private ones, kept close to hearts and homes.

Times are changing. Public demonstrations challenge institutionalized homophobia and confirm the power of family love and loyalty that is transforming our homes and will ultimately transform our society. API Family Pride is dedicated to continue the opportunity for API GLBT people to publicly acknowledge and celebrate their personal family struggles with our Family Honor Roll. It is a scroll with the names of parents, siblings, relatives and friends who overcame the shame of homophobic society to love and accept their API GLBT children. Their example is important to acknowledge. Their stories are an inspiration to us all, but most especially to young API GLBT people who are just coming out.

We invite API GLBT children to submit the names of those who accepted and supported you to be placed on the parents, siblings, relatives and friends. We will put them on our Family Honor Roll. Then come with your honorees and family and friends to acknowledge their courage at our 2nd Annual API-FP Family Presentation Banquet.

Host Committee, API-FP Family Presentation Banquet

## API-FP Family Honor Roll

### "Public Recognition of Private Courage"

WHO MAY BE NAMED TO THE HONOR ROLL -- ANY parent, sibling, relative or friend who has overcome the shame of homophobic society to love and accept their API GLBT child/relative/friend. The person(s) may be living or deceased and may be of any race or ethnicity.

**PROCESS:** Submit the following by **July 9, 2005** to API-FP, PO Box 473, Fremont, CA 94537 or Belinda@apifamilypride.org

1. Name, address, contact info of submitting API GLBT person and relationship to the honoree(s).
2. Full name(s), address and contact information of honoree(s).
3. Written summary statement attesting to the demonstrated love and acceptance by honoree(s) of an API GLBT person by actions taken within the family or in the public (approx. 100 words).
4. Photograph of honoree(s) suitable for publication; digital photo preferable.
5. \$20 Processing Fee includes a souvenir booklet, poster board display, a memento, API-FP membership (newsletter & email posting).

NOTE: Unless otherwise requested, it is understood that by submission, the names and stories of the honorees will be used in future API-FP printed and internet publications. If there is any question regarding Honor Roll, please contact us at 510-818-0887 or email us at info@apifamilypride.org.

## 2nd Annual Family Presentation Banquet

**Saturday, July 23, 2005**

5:00 - 5:45 p.m. Welcoming of Families  
5:45 - 9:00 p.m. Dinner & "Honoring Family" Program

Keynote Speakers – **Al & Jane Nakatani**

### Afternoon Program: Sharing of Stories [1pm – 5pm]

An exploration of Asian American & Pacific Islander experiences of culture, religion, and family is available for everyone at the same location. There will be stories told by API parents of GLBT children, as well as conversation circles of API GLBT people, parents, activists, and communities of faith members with topics of special interest. Guests attending the banquet are all welcome to join us for this afternoon panel for FREE.

### Buena Vista United Methodist Church

2311 Buena Vista Avenue  
Alameda, California

(Wheelchair Accessible & Easy street parking)

## Tickets

This year, tickets can be reserved and purchased **online** or via **U.S. postal mail**. Since space is limited, please send in your RSVP and payment to reserve your seats. All payments are non-refundable after July 9, 2005.

- ❖ **Online** – Please go to [www.apifamilypride.org](http://www.apifamilypride.org)
- ❖ **U.S. Postal Mail** – Please make checks payable to "API Family Pride" and mail to **API Family Pride, P.O. Box 473, Fremont, CA 94537**

CATEGORY	PRICE PER PERSON
<b>Platinum Sponsor</b> (8 event tickets and listing)	\$1000
<b>Gold Sponsor</b> (6 event tickets and listing)	\$750
<b>Silver Sponsor</b> (4 event tickets and listing)	\$500
<b>Bronze Sponsor</b> (2 event tickets and listing)	\$250
<b>Adults / Children 13+ yrs.</b>	\$30 by 7/9 \$35 after 7/9
<b>Children 4-12 yrs.</b>	\$10
<b>Children &lt; 4 yrs.</b>	FREE

- ❖ Bronze, Silver, Gold, and Platinum Sponsors will be thanked and listed in the event program and on our website.
- ❖ We will make all efforts to accommodate special requests & dietary needs.
- ❖ Partial or whole scholarships are available, if you volunteer!! ☺
- ❖ For more information, please call us at 510-818-0887.

## About API Family Pride

**Asian & Pacific Islander Family Pride** is a non-profit organization whose mission is to end the isolation of Asian and Pacific Islander families with lesbian, gay, bi-sexual and transgender members through support, education and dialog.

Our vision is the recognition and acceptance among Asian & Pacific Islander families of the sexual and gender diversity within our cultures.

We are committed, both individually and collectively, to create an organization that values:

- ❖ the bonds between parent and child
- ❖ the contribution of inter-generational and extended family traditions
- ❖ diverse racial, ethnic, linguistic, and faith communities
- ❖ coalitions with API communities and organizations
- ❖ respect for all contributions and diverse perspectives.

## Contact Us

For general questions or inquiries, please contact us at:

Hotline: 510-818-0887  
Email: [info@apifamilypride.org](mailto:info@apifamilypride.org)  
Website: [www.apifamilypride.org](http://www.apifamilypride.org)

## This Event also Co-Sponsored By

- ❖ Institute for Leadership Development & Study of Pacific & Asian North American Religion (PANA)
- ❖ Center for Lesbian and Gay Studies in Religion and Ministry (CLGS)
- ❖ GRACE, a support group that offers a welcoming space for API LGBT Christians, allies & support



**Please join us in  
celebrating &  
honoring**

**individual API families**  
*who proudly support  
their LGBT  
children / relatives / friends  
in spite of the prejudice  
they encounter*

2nd Annual  
Family  
Presentation  
Banquet

Saturday  
July 23, 2005

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"In API Homes, All Children Are Welcome"