

2016 Austin, Texas APAPA Interns



Photos by: Mei Li

Design by: Jann Soto



Varun Reddy is a Sophomore Politics and International Affairs major and Global Trade and Commerce Studies minor at Wake Forest University and a proud member of the Wake Forest policy debate team. A native of Austin, Texas and attendee of Westwood High School; Varun has always had a passion for politics, social activism, and dialogue. As a member of the Wake Forest policy debate team, he became the first South Asian freshman ever to qualify to the National Collegiate Debate Tournament in school history. Additionally, he is a member of the Wake Forest College Democrats and wants to continue to empower young Asian Americans to participate in the political process. After he graduates college, he would like to go to law school. Varun is excited to find himself back home in Austin as a member of the Texas Capitol Summer Internship Program in the Office of State Rep. Israel.

Anilya Krishnan is a freshman Government major at the University of Texas at Austin. She graduated from Westwood High School in 2016, where she founded her school's local chapter of Amnesty International. Anilya later hopes to pursue a Master's degree in Public Policy, or go to law school. She aspires to one day work for the national government; her biggest aspiration is to work in Congress, and serve as a member of the House of Representatives or the Senate. Anilya will be interning at Austin City Council Member Ora Houston's office this summer.





Timothy Ou is a freshman attending the University of Texas at Austin's McCombs School of Business and plans to pursue a degree therein with a double major in a foreign language. One of Tim's passions is health and physical fitness, as he goes to the gym several times per week and enjoys playing tennis, ultimate frisbee, and volleyball. Being positive is a key part of Tim's life and in addition to helping him overcome adversity, motivates him to always give 100% effort while striving to be a better person day by day. Tim interned with Texas State Representative Angie Chen Button of District 112, who also the Chair of the Committee on Small Business and Economic Development, during the 2016 interim at the Texas Capitol. Hook 'em!

My name Kien Crider, and I will be graduating with a degree in History and a minor in Government. Born in Riverside CA, I was raised in the Dallas-Ft.Worth Metroplex and attended the University of Texas at Arlington before transferring to the University of Texas at Austin to pursue my education. This summer I completed an Internship with the Mayor's Office of the City of Austin, reporting directly to his chief of staff. This internship allowed me a great deal of hands on experience. After graduating, I hope to be able to continue working either in the public or private sector in order to tackle the problems facing us in a world that is now more interconnected than ever.

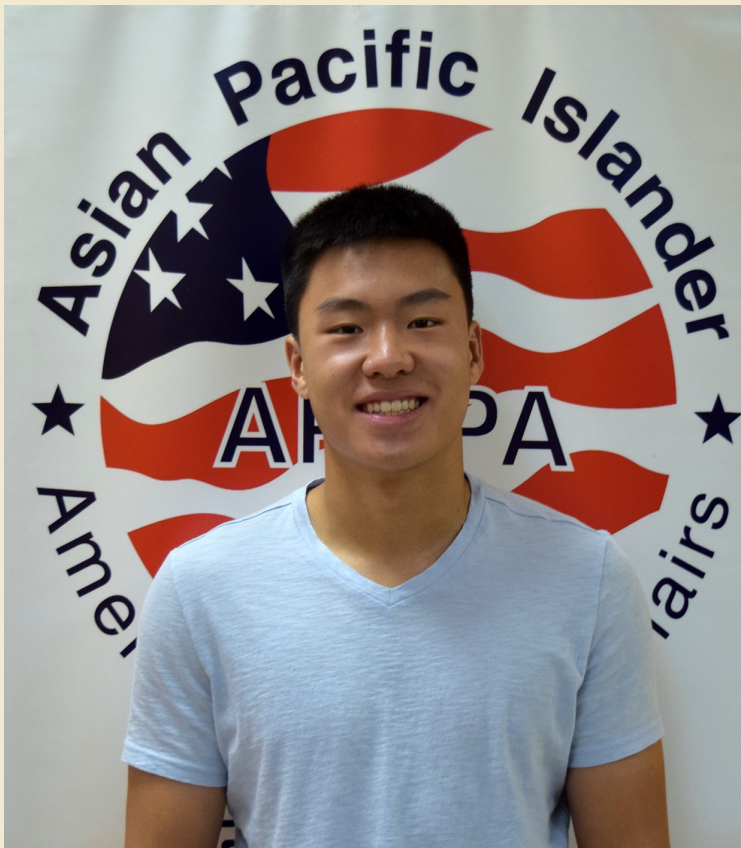




Alan is a diligent student, an artist, an avid reader, an Austinite born and raised, and a proud Asian American. Next fall he will be studying at the University of Texas in the Business Honors Program and the Plan II Honors Program. Alan's interest in public policy and the interactions between businesses and government has drawn him to the mobility project and its potential to transform the city of Austin.

Aprotim Basu Roy, or Tim for short, was born in Bangalore, India and moved to Texas at the age of 4. Tim graduated from Westlake High School in Austin in 2016. At Westlake, Tim was the captain of the debate team for two years and was recognized multiple times as a top speaker on the state and national level. In addition, Tim is a professional musician and plays shows regularly with his band, Blue Tongue. Tim will be interning at Judge Sarah Eckhardt's office this summer. He will also begin his studies at the McComb's School of Business at the University of Texas at Austin in the fall.





Alex Wang will be studying in the Business Honors Program at UT Austin next Fall as an incoming Freshman. I'm an APAPA intern at Travis County Precinct 2 Commissioner Brigid Shea's office this summer. Commissioner Shea is an elected official that's committed to preserving Austin ecosystem and aquifers, while finding solutions to transportation issues, and building awareness for the need for resilience against natural disasters.

My name is Allen Wang and I am a member of APAPA. I am eighteen years old and will be attending the University of Texas at Austin as a Freshman this fall. This summer I was an intern for Council Member Sheri Gallo's office. A few of my daily tasks included answering the phone, taking notes for Council Member Gallo, conducting research on public works projects, and organizing paperwork. Over the course of my six week internship, I learned how the City Council system operates, how the office handles constituent requests, and how difficult it is for the Austin government to manage so many departments at once. I was very glad that the office trusted me to complete all of my duties, and it was a pleasure to have been able to work at Austin City Hall.





Jann Lorenzo Soto was born in Cabanatuan City, Philippines and moved to Harlingen, Texas when he was 7 years old. Since then, he's found that public affairs was the area of interest for him rather than the medical field that dominates in his family. He competed in high school debate, and that led him to choose philosophy and, eventually, government as his majors at the University of Texas at Austin. He is now going to enter his 3rd year of college, but before that, he will intern for State Representative Armando Walle on behalf of APAPA. After his time as an undergraduate, Jann plans on going to law school to pursue a Juris Doctor degree and practice law or work in public office, as the two are of equally great importance to him.

My name is Mei Li, an immigrant from China, and I will be a senior at Cedar Park High School. I am planning to major in broadcast media (television and radio) in college, and want to work around community. Through APAPA, I hope to be able to see the big picture in these areas and build a frame that I can use to organize the pieces of knowledge and information I have accumulated over time. The comprehensive and solid academic knowledge is a light to direct my way in the work. I also hope to learn more about the various government and legislative processes. I will be interning at the Travis County Tax Office; I am a girl with confidence, positive attitude, and a hard worker who is eager to learn.

