



APEX FOR  
YOUTH



**2024**

**ANNUAL**

**REPORT**



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

04	Our Commitment
06	Why Apex for Youth?
08	Our Reach
09	2024 Impact
10	Our Approach
12	The Apex Journey
22	2024 Highlights
24	Financial Overview
26	In Gratitude
28	Our Team
30	Looking Ahead

Photos throughout this report are by BFA, Sean Chee, Clara Hung, Derek Kuey, Christina Li, Kevin Liew, Sheng Lin, Liz Magee, Angela Pham, Cindy Trinh, Jayne Wexler and Brittany Winderman.

All survey results in this report use mixed-methods, including both quantitative methodologies (e.g., surveys) and qualitative (e.g., interviews, content analysis), to elevate the voices of Apex youth, volunteers and families.

# OUR COMMITMENT

Thank you for being such an important part of our journey this year. To me, the magic of Apex lies in the care that is at the heart of everything that we do. It's in the transformative relationships that we build throughout our programs, the palpable sense of belonging that our youth feel when they enter the doors of our Lower East Side office, and the unwavering dedication of the caring adults who coach and support our young people.

As we reflect on our growth in this annual report, we focus not only on metrics but also on stories of resilience, depth and meaningful change – stories made possible by the cultural expertise and care with which we serve our community. For more than 30 years, we've seen that true impact comes from understanding and empowering youth, creating a ripple effect that strengthens our entire Asian American community.

My own connection with Apex began 15 years ago while teaching leadership and public speaking skills to Asian American immigrant youth who were also part of Apex's mentoring program. I was inspired by and connected to their stories, having grown up in a low-income, immigrant Asian American household. I joined Apex as a Program Manager in mentoring, a foundational pillar of our work then as it is now. Over the years, I've had the privilege of forging meaningful relationships with our youth, staff, volunteers and Board, as Director of Programs and now Executive Director. I am continually inspired by the stories that our youth proudly share about their accomplishments, their choices and the paths they've shaped for themselves.

Thank you for being such an integral part of our youth's system of support. Together, alongside our youth, we're creating change that will resonate for generations.



**True impact comes from understanding and empowering youth, creating a ripple effect that strengthens our entire community."**

**– Jiyoon Chung,**  
Executive Director



# WHY APEX FOR YOUTH?

## The Need

In NYC, 1 in 2 Asian American youth live in or near poverty. Despite making up 18% of the city's population, our community is severely and disproportionately underfunded in service contract dollars.

In addition, 24% of Asian American youth in NYC live in homes where no one over 14 speaks English well or at all, and Asian Americans have the lowest rate of any racial group in seeking mental health services. Most tragically, suicide is the leading cause of death among Asian American youth.

Addressing the barriers that this lack of resources and support creates, Apex programs are expertly tailored to our youth's age, racial identity and socioeconomic status.<sup>1</sup> Based on shared identities and experiences, we foster transformative relationships between them and caring adults – from mentors and therapists to athletic coaches and career guides.<sup>2</sup>

## Our Mission

Apex for Youth empowers Asian American youth from low-income backgrounds to unlock their potential today and a world of possibility tomorrow. Together, we are in active pursuit of a limitless future for our youth and our community.

## Our Vision

We are building a world without limits for all Asian American youth.

<sup>1</sup> Lack of opportunities to explore and develop a positive identity, including a racial identity (Erikson, 1968; Marcia, 1980; Phinney, 1989; Tajfel & Turner 1979)

<sup>2</sup> Low-income Asian adolescents in the U.S. have difficulty finding role models and social networks outside their family unit (Lee et al., 2024)"

## Our Impact

Apex is one of the largest organizations in the country serving primarily Asian American youth.

**92%**

of Apex youth feel good about themselves and that they can embrace their strengths and identities after a year at Apex.

**91%**

of Apex youth – upon graduating from high school – feel more confident speaking up when something is important to them.

**84%**

of Apex young adults are satisfied and fulfilled by their college or career pathway.



# OUR REACH

## Manhattan

Apex was founded in New York’s Chinatown in 1992 by five friends with a shoestring budget of \$2,000. Today, our roots and reach have only strengthened, anchored by our headquarters on Chrystie Street.

## Brooklyn

As we grew our impact, we recognized Brooklyn as an area with significant needs, limited available services and strong community partners, so we expanded beyond Manhattan for the first time.

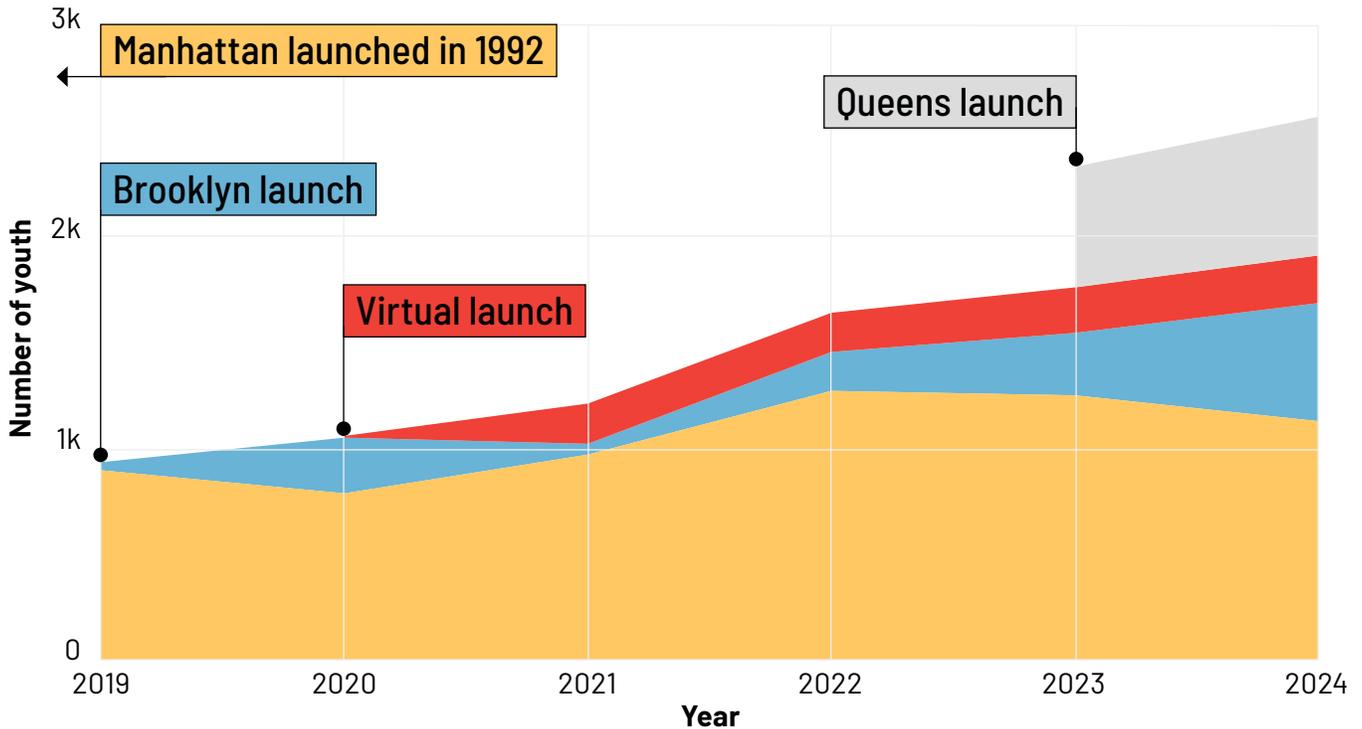
## Virtual

Identifying a greater need during the pandemic, we launched our National Virtual Mentoring Program for high school students and Read with Apex for elementary school students, allowing us to reach youth who hadn’t had access to Apex.

## Queens

Apex’s expansion into Queens piloted events and programs to build connections and community in an area where half of NYC’s Asian American low-income youth reside, yet supportive services remain scarce.

## Youth Served Annually



**Please note:** This chart illustrates unique youth served per year and is not cumulative year over year.

# 2024 IMPACT

**85%**

of youth are Asian American.

**82%**

of youth are from low-income families.

**2k+**

hours of total programming and services delivered.

**33k+**

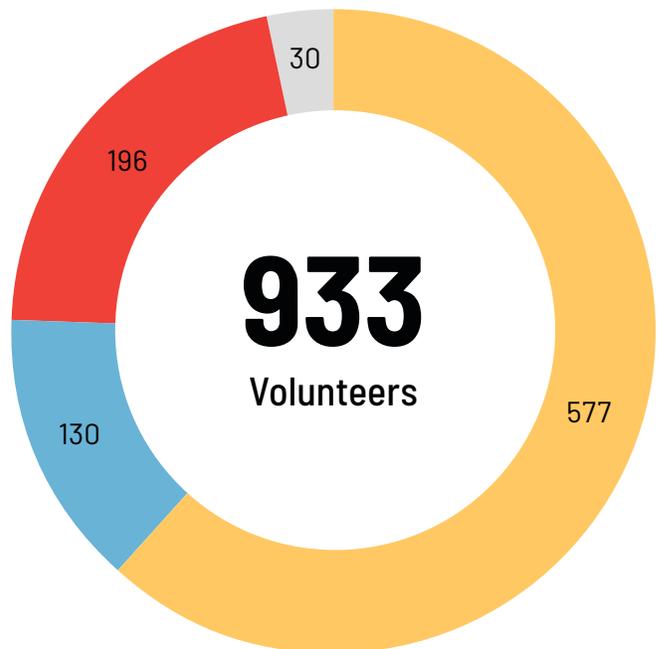
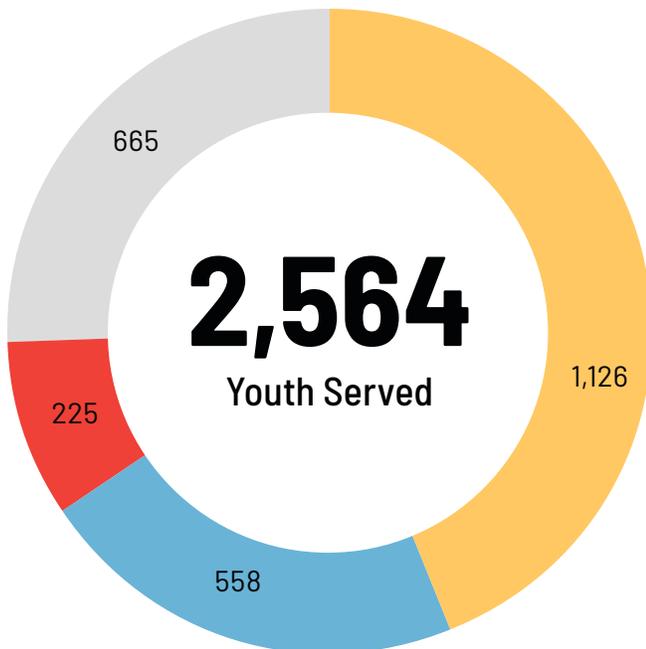
hours of program participation by youth.

Manhattan

Brooklyn

Virtual

Queens



# OUR APPROACH

At Apex, we combine impactful mentorship with access to critical resources that would not have otherwise been available to Asian American youth from low-income backgrounds. From mentors and therapists to athletic coaches and career guides, these transformative relationships with caring adults create systems of support to help our youth thrive and pursue futures without limits. Throughout our programs, we provide different forms of mentorship and mental health services tailored to the unique needs of our youth based on their developmental stage.





## Cultivating Impactful Mentorship

Promoting long-lasting connections with mentors and adult role models

## Providing Exposure and Exploration

Offering access to opportunities and resources to close the opportunity gap and help youth to create the lives that they want



## Developing Internal Strengths and Mindsets

Fostering skills and providing support to pursue futures that reflect their own individual values, interests and priorities

## Nurturing Positive Self-identity

Encouraging youth to value themselves and embrace a growth mindset, defining what it means to be Asian American on their own terms



# THE APEX JOURNEY

## Young Adulthood

We provide opportunities for young adults to connect with the networks and resources they need to achieve their personal and professional goals.



## High School

We empower youth to have a sense of agency, with the skills and support to pursue futures of their own making.



## Middle School

We help youth to see themselves as individuals with unique strengths and as valuable members of their community.



## Elementary School

We help youth to develop a sense of belonging and explore their interests.

**With more than 30 years of experience working with Asian American youth, Apex has a deep understanding of their unique experiences and is committed to helping them unlock possibilities from elementary school through young adulthood.**

At the start of their Apex journey, youth begin to form transformative relationships with caring adults and peers, helping them see themselves in new ways: as individuals with unique strengths and as valuable members of a community.

Across the entirety of the Apex journey, committed volunteers, deeply invested staff, and a broad network of supporters form robust systems of support to help our youth thrive in a world where they have access and agency, with the power to shape their own lives.



**When you have young people who are not being seen, who are invisible, and you're able to create this specific space for them, it's incredibly life-changing and identity-affirming. That's the kind of impact that we have. And it feels incredible to be able to say that."**

**– Yaya Yuan,**  
Director of Programs



## Elementary School

Beginning their Apex journey, youth in our Elementary Enrichment Programs (from kindergarten through 5th grade) begin to establish **transformative relationships** with both adults and peers. During this key developmental stage, group mentorship and activities help youth **explore new interests** and **gain a sense of community**.

### PROGRAMS

- › **Mentoring** focuses on group mentorship, such as the **Elementary Explorers** and **Read with Apex** programs, which help students bond with adults and peers through hands-on activities, immersive field trips and small-group reading and storytelling.
- › **Mental Health Services**, such as **Family Nights**, create a space for caregivers and youth to come together, connect deeply through activities, and explore healing intergenerational traumas as a unit.
- › **Athletics** empower our youth to feel confident both on and off the court, with a strong community of coaches and peers and nourish their minds and bodies to cultivate essential life skills such as perseverance and resilience.
- › **Winter, spring and summer break programs** provide safe and productive spaces for students to learn, play and make new friends while school is out.

### IMPACT

**98%**

of youth built positive relationships with volunteers, coaches and Apex staff.

**94%**

frequently tried new things at Apex.

**90%**

felt like an important part of their team.



“

Helen used to never want to participate in anything where the spotlight would be on just her, but I could see her confidence starting to build each time she would, shyly at first, volunteer to read a little in our small group. That then turned into her raising her hand to answer a question in front of the whole class, while looking at me for support. I'm like, 'You got it.' And now she's definitely gotten much more comfortable and confident in speaking up for her wants and needs. I'm so proud; Asian American women aren't exactly known to be like that.”

— Joy Kim, Volunteer

## Middle School

Middle school youth in our programs are building upon transformative relationships as they begin to see themselves as individuals with **unique strengths** and as **valuable members of their community**. Focusing specifically on youth as individuals and their specific needs, Apex helps students cope with difficult emotions, such as those created by bicultural identity, and explore new experiences they might not have had access to.

### PROGRAMS

- › **Mentoring**, focused on 1:1 mentorship in a cohort setting, allows youth to build both mentor and peer relationships as they explore their identity and emotions.
- › **Mental Health Services**, both 1:1 and group therapies, are offered in the form of art therapy, talk therapy and play therapy to meet the unique needs of our youth and support parents and caregivers. Apex also assists through crises and offers case management.
- › **Athletics**, including basketball, running club, yoga, volleyball and the We Run as One Basketball Tournament, leverage strong relationships with committed volunteer coaches to hone physical wellbeing and cultivate a strong growth mindset.

### IMPACT

**100%**

of youth felt close to their mentor or coach.

**95%**

said Apex helped them feel close to adults who care about them.

**94%**

said Apex helped them feel like they can be themselves.





//

Our main goal is always to make sure our kids are going to get to wherever they want to be, whether that be on the athletic field or off the athletic field. I want to continue doing whatever I can to make sure that they're ready for sports, college and life."

— Paul Arroy, Manhattan Athletics Coordinator



**JAYDEN**

6th grade

"[My coach said] that it doesn't matter if you make mistakes on the court, you'll learn from them. It's important to have a role model to look up to because they can motivate you and you can learn from them. It's like someone that went through that time with you and didn't give up. When I have Paul by my side, it's like he's going through the steps with me."

## High School

Entering high school, youth develop the skills and supports to pursue futures that reflect their own individual values, interests and priorities. Apex programs allow students to explore **college or career pathways**, developing **real-world skills** and empowering them to feel that they have **agency to make choices about their future**. Apex helps youth gain the confidence to know that they have both the internal and external resources to overcome challenges.

### PROGRAMS

- › **Mentoring**, both **Apex's National Virtual Mentoring Program and High School Mentoring Program**, provides support to youth as they pursue their social, emotional and academic goals.
- › **Mental Health Services**, such as group and individual counseling, help to address the specific needs of high school youth, particularly stress, anxiety, depression and intergenerational family dynamics.
- › **College Access Program** matches pairs of 11th and 12th graders with an adult volunteer College Guide to help students navigate all parts of the college application, financial aid, acceptance and scholarship search process.
- › **Career Exploration Program** provides high school students with networking opportunities and professional development workshops to learn about diverse career pathways and identify their professional interests and strengths.
- › **JT Tai Summer Internship Program** provides paid summer internships across a variety of fields to open doors for students to new career pathways, as well as regular professional development.
- › **College Tours** offer Apex youth the opportunity to attend overnight college tours and introduce them to new geographies and experiences.

### IMPACT

**100%**

of 12th graders graduated high school within 4 years last year.

**95%**

enrolled in college for the fall.

**94%**

are now confident that they can overcome challenges after participating in Apex.



## **WILLIAM**

11th grade

“Being part of the Apex community is enjoyable because I can choose my own space. I feel glad to have friends from outside of school and family. I think I’ve changed since five years ago. It’s a real learning experience. I learned some disability actions; I wrote a poem about autism. I learned about myself and my mental health since I’ve joined Apex.”



I’m honestly proud of William every day. He seems to have a little more courage every time I see him, and I have no doubt that he’ll be able to tackle any problems that come at him.

Even if I wasn’t William’s mentor, I would see so much potential in him. I think he will make an incredible mentor in the future as well. There’s no doubt in my mind that Apex has given him a home.”

— Terry Nguyen, William’s Mentor

## Young Adulthood

As Apex youth enter adulthood, they harness their years of experience in Apex to achieve their **personal and professional goals beyond stereotypes**. Young adults feel they have control over their futures and are connected to the resources they need to get them there.

### PROGRAMS

- › **Career Mentoring** focuses on pairing students in college or early career with a 1:1 mentor to support their career development and growth.
- › **Career Exploration Program** provides college students with networking opportunities and professional development workshops to learn about diverse career pathways and identify their professional interests and strengths.
- › **First Year Support Program** allows students to continue their mentoring relationship from high school through the crucial transitional period of the first year of college, which is especially important for first-generation college students.
- › **General Support** eases the transition out of high school with 1:1 check-ins, care packages, socials and events, volunteer opportunities, and an online community to stay connected with Apex.

### IMPACT

**100%**

of youth said Apex helped them make choices in college and career that reflect their interests and priorities.

**90%**

said Apex helped them be resilient in the face of adversity.

**52%**

of Apex young adults who have graduated college are more socioeconomically stable than when they were growing up.





## VICKI ZHENG

Former Apex alum and current  
Apex Facilities Assistant

"I feel like Apex has already given me so much – how can I ask them for more? But I think [I'm] continuing to take advantage of the different opportunities. Once I really got involved in Apex, I didn't see it as giving back to the community; I saw it as another opportunity. Apex has just given me so many opportunities, and I'm really grateful to be involved in the community."



# HIGHLIGHTS

## 32nd Inspiration Awards Gala

On April 2, 2024, we celebrated an evening of community and connection that inspired more than 600 attendees and raised more than \$3 million. Actress Constance Wu received her award with a moving speech about authenticity and representation. Actor/activist BD Wong and student Jason Wong reminded us of the importance of giving back and inspiring the next generation. Our student speaker Matthew Mau shared his journey of growth through Apex's mentoring program. The extraordinary generosity of our supporters will help us continue serving 2,500 youth annually, expanding our impact and fostering the next generation of leaders.



## Aces for Apex

At our 13th annual Aces for Apex celebration, we witnessed an extraordinary gathering of community spirit and support. The evening surpassed expectations, with more than 750 attendees raising a record-breaking \$425,000 to support Apex's mission. The event, hosted by the Apex Associate Board, featured an unprecedented 79 vendors and performers, predominantly Asian American-owned businesses, who brought vibrant energy to the event. Our dedicated volunteers and staff created an atmosphere of genuine connection while guests experienced the power of collective impact.

## Program Expansion in Sunset Park

We launched our Middle School Mentoring program in Sunset Park, Brooklyn, creating a bridge for Elementary Explorers entering middle school. Through 1:1 mentorship, students explored their identities while building meaningful community connections. Youth and mentors participated in community projects including a public mural with local artist Yukiko Izumi. Recognizing that growth happens in partnership with families, we expanded family night programming, enabling parents and caregivers to connect and participate in their children's development through activities that celebrate cultural heritage and strengthen family bonds.



## Launch in Queens

Following extensive community research in Queens last year, we identified Flushing as a critical area for expansion, where nearly 70% of residents are Asian but the community lacks access to programs to support them. Our pilot initiatives focused on providing access to new opportunities and experiences through family nights and basketball clinics. Throughout the summer, elementary students explored their identities through hands-on activities, built connections with partner organizations through Flushing Field Day, and joined with youth from diverse backgrounds at our Hoops Over Hate tournament. Building on these successes, we look forward to launching our foundational elementary school programs in Flushing to support youth and help them grow into confident community leaders.

# FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

August 2023 to July 2024

## Statement of Financial Position

### ASSETS

Cash and cash equivalents	\$3,308,047
Accounts receivable and other assets	\$2,651,539
Lease right-of-use assets	\$1,652,592
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$7,612,178</b>

### LIABILITIES

Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$380,764
Lease right-of-use liabilities	\$1,806,575
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>\$2,187,339</b>

### NET ASSETS

Without donor restrictions	\$3,979,793
With donor restriction	\$1,445,046
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>\$5,424,839</b>

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**Total liabilities and net assets**      **\$7,612,178**

## Statement of Activities

### SOURCES OF REVENUE

Contributions and grants	\$3,089,911
Special events (net of direct cost)	\$2,880,148
Programming, in-kind, and other income	\$160,274
<b>Total revenue</b>	<b>\$6,130,333</b>

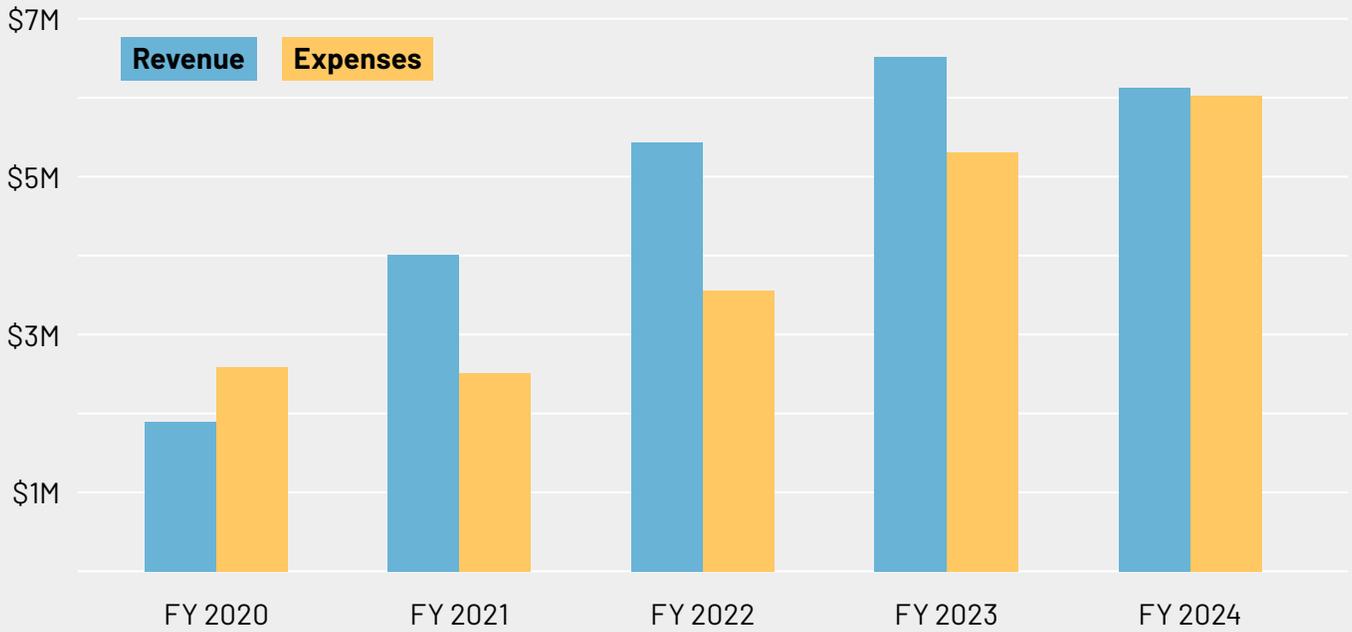
### EXPENSES

Program services	\$4,817,437
Fundraising and development	\$722,616
Management and general	\$481,744
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>\$6,021,796</b>

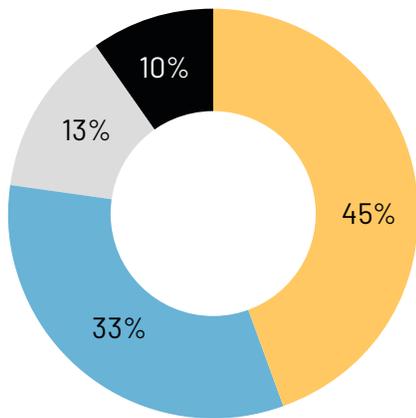
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**Change in net assets**      **\$108,537**

## Five-Year Financial Overview

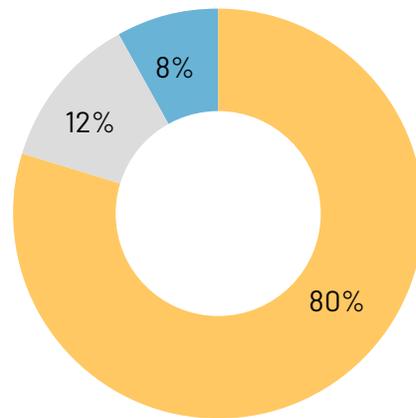


## Revenue by Source



- Individual
- Corporation
- Government/other
- Foundation

## Allocation of Expenses



- Program services
- Fundraising & development
- Management & general

# IN GRATITUDE

## \$250,000+

Anonymous

## \$100,000-\$249,000

Chang Family Foundation  
Conrad N. Hilton Foundation  
Dalio Philanthropies  
Hajin Lee & Michael Chung  
J.T. Tai & Co. Foundation  
Joe & Lily Wong  
Karen & Robert Lee  
Norman C.T. Liu  
Stephanie Ng & Richard Li

## \$50,000-\$99,999

Alex Alger & Dan Chung  
Alger Investment Management  
Assured Guaranty  
Atalaya Capital Management LP  
Beth Maccaroni & Peter Poopat  
Blackstone Charitable Foundation  
Jennifer Prosek, Prosek Partners  
Jeremy Lin Foundation  
Merkley+Partners  
NIKE, Inc. (direct support and in-kind)  
Old Machine (in-kind)  
The Asian American Foundation (TAAF)

The Kevin D. Eng and Un Hae Song Foundation

## \$25,000-\$49,999

Calvin Yee  
Civil Art  
Credera  
Esther Lee & Cary Paik  
Jessie Ding & Ning Jin  
Kennedys  
Kirkland & Ellis LLP  
Kramer Levin  
Latham & Watkins  
Michael Li  
Neuberger Berman Foundation  
Peter & Shirley Ma  
RoAndCo (in-kind)  
Simon Kim, Gracious Hospitality Management  
TD Securities  
The Chan Foundation  
The DICK'S Sporting Goods Foundation  
The Plum Spring Foundation  
Warburg Pincus LLC  
Wellington Management Foundation  
WuFam Charitable Fund

## \$15,000-\$24,999

Aaron Ong  
Aimee Chang

AMC Networks  
Anonymous (2)  
Capital Group  
Charlene Wang  
Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP  
Corporate Matching Gift  
David Liu & Carley Roney  
Fanatics Foundation  
Fish Cheeks (in-kind)  
Goldman Sachs Gives Annual Giving Fund  
Goodwin Procter  
Joseph Handleman I Believe in You Trust  
JPMorgan Chase  
Lisa Qi  
Marshall Wace  
Mercedes-Benz (in-kind)  
Oaktree Capital Management (direct support and in-kind)  
Quality Building Services  
Stone Point Capital  
Sullivan & Cromwell LLP  
Taylor Yi  
Weil, Gotshal & Manges, LLP

## \$10,000-\$14,999

Affirm Cares  
Allister Chan & Angela Wang  
Ally Bridge Group

American Korean Friendship Society  
Andrew Tsai  
Anonymous  
Atlas SP  
Bloomingdale's  
Boston Consulting Group  
Brevet Capital  
CAIPA  
Cecilia Wang  
Corporate Matching Gift (4)  
Czarnowski Collective  
Davis Polk  
Dependable Mechanical Corp  
DK Construction One Corp  
Edward Cheng and Mary Chen Family Foundation  
Engine Shop  
Ernst & Young  
Fay Sardjono & Shujaat Islam  
IEX  
Initialized Capital Management  
Jonathan Chan  
Jonathan Chu  
Julia Chiang & KAWS  
Justin Walsh & Kristie Lebron  
Karen & Samuel Choi  
KKR & Co.  
KPMG  
Material Kitchen  
McDermott Will & Emery  
Melissa & Alec Gunn  
MillerKnoll Foundation  
MIO Partners, Inc.  
Morgan Stanley  
New Era Cap Foundation  
New York Life Foundation  
Open Society Foundations

Peter W. Chen  
Revit Group  
Robert Chen & Gabriela Gargano  
Roger Huang  
Rony Ma  
Russ Chong  
Serena Lin & Nik Custodio  
Sheila & Ron Marcelo  
The Margaret & Daniel Loeb Foundation  
Toni Wang  
Vestar Capital Partners  
Vivian Kuan & Loli Wu  
Wu Family Charitable Foundation

### **\$5,000-\$9,999**

Alan Chuang  
Alan Guo  
Alex Gellert  
Amazon  
Ami & Hank Yeh  
Amy Zhang  
Ankur Crawford  
Anonymous (2)  
Anthony Klarman  
Authmade (in-kind)  
Barings LLC  
Brian Cho  
Bryan Czyzewski & Connie Hau Czyzewski  
Charity Clients of The Giving Block  
Christine Su & Matthew Ting  
Conray Tseng  
Corporate Matching Gift (4)  
David Ke  
David Xia

Dr. Karen Su & Dr. Edwin Su  
Emily Lu & Leon Tham  
Exec-Comm (in-kind)  
General Atlantic  
George Wang  
Guidepoint  
Hachette Book Group (in-kind)  
Holam Lau  
James Shih & Sherry Lee  
Jay Bargmann  
Jennifer Sheng  
Jonathan Wong & Juliana Chan  
Leo Wong  
LifeSci Partners  
Lisa Chu & Coltrane Curtis  
May Poon  
Michael Jiang  
Minya Oh & John McPheters  
Miranda Ma  
MUFG  
Nouveau Elevator Industries  
Peter Som  
Raymond Gong  
Ritu Baral  
SeatGeek, Inc.  
Shizuka Suzuki  
Skylight Mechanical Corp  
Slanix Paul Alex  
Stefan Greenberg  
Sundays Furniture  
The Estée Lauder Companies  
The Rita and Alex Hillman Foundation  
Theresa Yap & Federsin Dinsay  
Viola Fong  
Winnie Qian  
Yao King

# OUR TEAM

Our staff are the driving force behind our impact on the community we serve. Their vast knowledge and experience as educators, youth workers and trained mental health professionals, combined with their deep understanding of the cultural nuances that our Asian American youth experience every day, enable us to provide a deep level of care that is tailored to our youth through one-of-a-kind programming.

## CURRENT STAFF

Jiyoon Chung, Executive Director

Wendy Hu-Au, Director of Development

Pavan Makhija, Director of Finance and Operations

Kim Thai, Director of Marketing

Yaya Yuan, Director of Programs

Melissa Alvey

Paul Arroy

Mikaela Chang

Shirley Chen

Emily Chow

Beau Dorien

Assumpta Galang

Jason Howald

Jing-Jing Hu

Sabrina Hua

Paul Jochico

Marina Karnofsky

Atiya Khan

Leakena Khy

Erica Kim

Jenn Kong

Derek Kuey

Stephen Lai

Danny Le

Khrystalie Le

Heather Lee

Allen Leung

Ivy Li

Jenn Li

Junyue Liao

Stephanie Loui

Haywood Matthews

Cole Messina

Huong Nguyen

Phung Ninh

Grace Noh

Sarah Park

Nicole Picinich

Chloe Rinehart

Kavita Shah

Ashwath Srivatsan

Isabelle St. Clair

Annie Tan

Jia-Ming Tuan

Serena Wong

Ellie Yeo

Ian Yu

Amy Zhao

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Preeti Sriratana, Chair  
Eric T. Lee, Vice Chair  
Kathy Wong, Secretary  
Blaise Chow, Treasurer  
Raymond Chan  
Christopher Chao  
Jeff Chen  
David Jar  
Aya Kanai  
Roy Kim  
Melody Lee  
Gilbert Liu  
Patrick Lo  
Yukari Matsuzawa Pass  
Maxine Ng Dalio  
Karen Wong  
Patrick Yee  
Wen Zhou

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Wesley Ru, Vice Chair  
Athenie Shi, Treasurer  
Alyssa Kuchta, Events & Marketing Chair  
King Leung, Fundraising Chair  
Jacqueline Liang, Governance Chair  
Lucy Cao  
Jason Chandra  
Annie Chen  
Bhargava Chitti  
Christine Chu  
Heather Deng  
Do Hee Jeong  
Emily Jia  
Sherry Kuo  
Janelle Teng  
Minh-Y Tran  
Sean Wang  
Elizabeth Yan  
Anna Yang

## CORNERSTONE COUNCIL

Frank Li  
Anthony Liu  
John Lu  
Chia Pan  
Stephanie Sit  
Emily Tung  
Jonathan Yip  
Ben Zhou



# LOOKING AHEAD

As we close another remarkable year, we reflect with gratitude on the journey we've taken together. This year has been one of incredible growth – for our youth, who have demonstrated resilience and determination, and for Apex, as we've amplified our impact through the unwavering dedication of our staff, volunteers and supporters.

As I often reflect on the moments when our youth graduate from our programs and step into young adulthood, they remind me of my own personal journey and of the journey of so many others among our staff, volunteers and supporters who grew up as Asian American youth with various challenges and limited resources.

I could never have imagined becoming the Executive Director of an organization as impactful and far-reaching as Apex. Seeing the path that our youth are embarking on fills me with pride in our collective efforts to help them reach this point and confidence in the impact that they will continue to make in their lives and the lives of so many others.

Looking ahead, our commitment to this community remains steadfast. This upcoming year we're turning our focus inward to the journey of Apex as an organization. Through upcoming strategic planning efforts, we will chart a thoughtful path forward, prioritizing sustainability to ensure we can continue empowering Asian American youth for generations to come. This process is about more than planning – it's about honoring our responsibility to grow with intention, adapt to the evolving needs of our community, and remain a pillar of access and agency. Together, we are building an organization that not only supports today's youth but also creates a legacy of lasting impact.

Thank you for being part of this journey. Each and every one of you plays an integral role as part of our system of support for youth, and we could not do this important work without you.

With gratitude and commitment,







APEX FOR  
YOUTH

195 Chrystie Street, #200  
New York, NY 10002

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