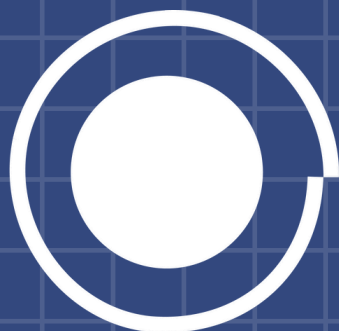


**2024 - 2025**

# ANNUAL REPORT



**Project:VISION**  
a nonprofit youth organization



**NEW GENERATIONS OF  
INDEPENDENT, FULFILLED  
INDIVIDUALS CENTERED IN THEIR  
STRENGTHS AND COMMITTED TO  
SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

# MESSAGE

## FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS CHAIR

Dear Project: VISION friends,

Since 2004, PV has grown from a small grassroots effort into a trusted community anchor, empowering youth to dream bigger and achieve more each year. Five years ago, amid the challenges of the COVID pandemic, we entered a period of remarkable transformation, doubling the number of youth we serve and quadrupling our budget.

Today, we stand at a critical inflection point. As our community continues to grow and the needs of young people evolve, we are imagining a future of even greater impact, where PV continues to meet the moment for our historically underserved community.

Earlier this year, through our strategic planning process, we asked our community: *What do you truly value about PV? What does it mean to help youth reach their true full potential?*

What we heard back was clear: PV is about belonging, support, and possibility. It is a place where youth feel seen, encouraged, and empowered to have big aspirations, build confidence, and discover their strengths.

This clarity has come at a time when the need for our work has never been greater. Rising costs, economic instability, an uncertain political environment, and growing demand have stretched our organization, but they have also sharpened our resolve. We know our role is more important than ever, and we are committed to strengthening the foundation that will carry PV into the future.

There is also much to celebrate. Together with our staff, volunteers, and supporters, we:

- Served a record 568 youth across our programs, deepening our impact in academics, leadership, and career pathways.
- Reintroduced the Chinatown 5K, a beloved community event that brought neighbors together again and raised \$120,000 in support of our mission.
- Expanded partnerships with schools and more programs to encourage family engagement, ensuring our young people are supported from every angle of their lives.

As we look ahead, we are energized by **VISION 2027: Empowering Youth, Strengthening Our Community**. This plan challenges us to implement reimagined, holistic, high-quality programming, strengthen organizational structure and systems, and build a more sustainable financial position.

This year also marks an important leadership transition. Trang Truong-Hill is completing her tenure as Chair of the Board, and Eva Liu is stepping into the role. We wanted to share both a reflection from Trang and a message from Eva as we look back with gratitude and ahead with hope.

### From Trang

Serving as Chair of the Board over the past three and a half years has been one of the most profoundly rewarding chapters of my professional and personal journey. It has been a privilege to witness the unwavering dedication of our staff, volunteers, and fellow Board members - each driven by a shared belief that every young person deserves the opportunity to thrive, regardless of their circumstances.

Together, we've not only expanded our reach, but we've deepened our impact in ways that ripple across neighborhoods, schools, and families.

While we are proud of the broad reach of our programs, each youth represents more than just a participation number - it reflects lives changed:

- Thomas (grade 6) discovered the joy of ice skating for the first time at summer camp, learning to persevere through falls and finding confidence in new experiences. His story reminds us how exposure to new opportunities can spark resilience and joy in even the youngest learners.
- Julia (grade 7) grew her communication skills and built new friendships while tackling outdoor challenges like ziplining and trying new activities like swimming at Indiana Dunes. Her journey shows how our programs help youth step outside their comfort zones and grow in unexpected ways.



- Nike (grade 12) and now an incoming freshman at Columbia University, led a fashion sustainability project called RE:Sparked through PV's Chicago Youth Service Corp. Her leadership and commitment to community-building exemplify how our older youth are not just participants—they're changemakers shaping the future.

These stories - and countless others - are the heartbeat of our mission. Our programs continue to create spaces where youth are not only seen and supported, but truly empowered to dream, lead, and succeed.

I am incredibly proud of what we have built together, and I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to serve alongside such passionate changemakers who believe, as I do, that investing in young people is investing in the future of our communities.

#### From Eva

As a first-generation college graduate from Chicago's Chinatown, stepping into this role feels both personal and meaningful. I know firsthand the challenges many young people in our community face: carrying great potential without always having access to the opportunities and support that PV now provides. That is why I am passionate about helping PV grow even stronger by building the financial foundation to weather challenges, aligning our strategy with the needs of youth, and deepening our connections with families and the broader community. I am honored to serve alongside our staff, Board, and supporters to ensure every young person in our community has the chance to thrive.

We stand at this moment of transition with both gratitude and resolve. One chapter is closing and another is beginning, but our commitment to empowering youth and strengthening our community is unwavering.

Thank you for being part of this journey. Your support ensures that every program is possible, every student is mentored, and every dream is pursued. With your partnership, we are excited not only about what we have accomplished, but about all that is still to come.

With gratitude and hope,



*Trang Truong-Hill*

Trang Truong-Hill  
Outgoing Chair of the Board



*Eva Liu*

Eva Liu  
Incoming Chair of the Board

# LEARN

Support academic success by helping youth develop effective study skills, master knowledge of critical core subjects, and nurture a love of learning through tutoring, enrichment, and college readiness activities

# SERVE

Foster a sense of community and social responsibility by encouraging civic engagement and providing opportunities for meaningful service learning

# LEAD

Build character, confidence, positive attitudes, and leadership skills that empower youth to be positive examples for their peers, an asset to the community, and ready for the workplace

# THRIVE

Focus on mental and emotional well-being, self-care, and positive and healthy relationships with family and peers



# WE ARE Project: VISION

## OUR MISSION

### Empowering Youth, Strengthening our Community

Project: VISION's mission is to help youth in Chicago's Greater Chinatown community reach their full potential by providing them with tools for educational, personal, and civic development.

## OUR HISTORY

In 2003, a group of five young professionals, students, and community volunteers saw a need for neighborhood teens to have a safe place to call their own, where they could find positive role models and pave a path to a bright future.

We reflect proudly on the journey we have been on and how far we have come to create a positive impact.

# IN 2024-2025 . . .

**100%**  
HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

GRADUATED AND  
COMMITTED TO  
ATTENDING COLLEGE  
IN FALL 2025

**568**

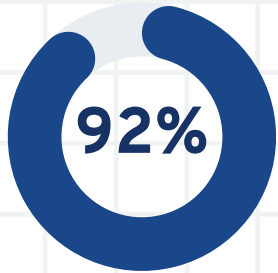
YOUTH SERVED IN  
2024-2025



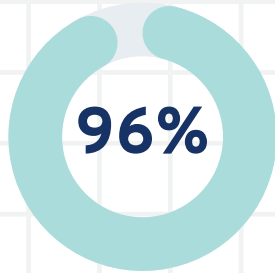
# OUR CHALLENGE

All too often, our community is overlooked as among the most underserved neighborhoods in Chicago.

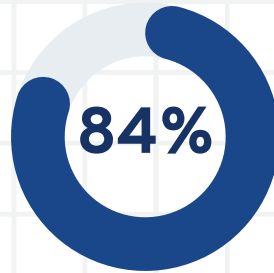
In reality, many of our youth face significant obstacles to success:



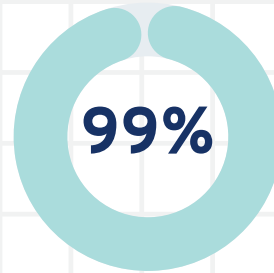
are from  
lower-income  
families



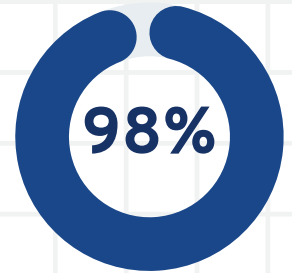
are from  
first-generation  
immigrant families



would be the first  
in their families to  
attend college



report having limited  
access to other  
afterschool resources



are enrolled in  
Chicago Public  
Schools

We know that under-resourced youths are less likely to graduate high school and to be ready for college and the workplace. Here is how PV levels the playing field.



- Help youth overcome barriers to success and gain equal access to education and, ultimately, career opportunities
- Equip youth with skills, confidence, and a sense of social responsibility that empowers them to give back to the community and become future leaders
- Provide a safe space where youth can come together to support each other and share in common identities and experiences
- Advocate for access to diverse resources and opportunities our youth need to succeed

# MEET MARLINA



Follow Marlina's journey as she navigates the ups and downs of middle and high school. With Project: VISION by her side, she gets the support she needs. Whether it's strengthening her math skills, preparing for college applications, or landing her very first job, with the support of PV's programs and dedicated staff, Marlina stays on track to success and moves toward fulfilling her dreams.

## GRADE 6 & 7

I first joined PV in 6th grade after seeing how much my older brother enjoyed his time there. Back then, I was really shy and kept to myself, only ever sitting with him. But at PV, the staff and tutors made me feel safe and supported. Little by little, I started opening up and having real conversations with my peers. PV also introduced and encouraged me to participate in community service and life skills through their Saturday programs.



## GRADE 8

After being isolated during COVID, it felt so refreshing to reconnect with everyone again. In my final year of middle school, I took HSAT prep at PV, and it made a huge difference. The materials gave me confidence for the test, and the tutors patiently helped me improve in my weakest subject. I'll never forget opening my acceptance to Walter Payton College Prep with everyone at PV. Sharing that moment with them was truly meaningful, like they were celebrating my growth alongside me.





## GRADE 9

I met a lot of my closest friends during my freshman year through PV's summer program, Chicagobility. It's an art and culture program for 9th graders, and that's where I found a group of friends I still feel really connected to. They're the people I can sit with and just talk to during tutoring, which makes PV feel even more like a community.

As school got harder, I also discovered that PV's art activities were a way for me to relax. I never thought I'd enjoy art especially since I never considered myself very crafty but now it's something I look forward to. It's become my way to destress and take a break from everything going on at school.



## GRADE 10 & 11

During sophomore year, I joined Youth Positive Agents of Change (YPAC), a program focused on giving back to the community. My group ran a winter clothing drive, collecting blankets and jackets for people who needed them most. It was a big learning experience for me. Not just a one-time act of service, but something I worked on for weeks and saw grow into a real project. It felt like my first real step into civic work, where I could directly see the impact of my efforts.

That experience stuck with me and sparked a deeper interest in service, leading me to join Chicago Youth Service Corp (CYSC), where I was excited to choose an issue I cared even more about. This time, I also had the resources and support to bring my ideas to life, which made the work even more meaningful.



## GRADE 12

Now that I'm a senior, I've been working one-on-one with PV staff to navigate the college and scholarship application process. At the same time, my experiences with YPAC and CYSC inspired me to co-found a program where I can share my love for engineering and STEM through fun, hands-on projects with kids. I hope to have the same kind of impact on them that PV has had on me.

# EDUCATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

DURING THE 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR . . .

We supported **325** students academically through daily homework help, small group tutoring, and college readiness activities.



100%

promoted to the next grade and were on track to graduating high school on time



100%

high school seniors were accepted and committed to attending college in fall 2025



## SCHOOL DAY PROGRAM

This year, the **School Day Program** supported **88 middle school youth** with 1:1 or small group high dose tutoring during the school day throughout the school year to help them catch up in math and ELA achievement. PV tutors worked with teachers to plan sessions that mirror content and skill building that is concurrently happening in the classroom.

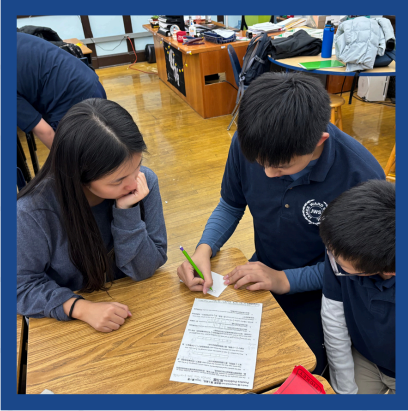
SCHOOL DAY TUTORING  
**88**  
STUDENTS

**13**

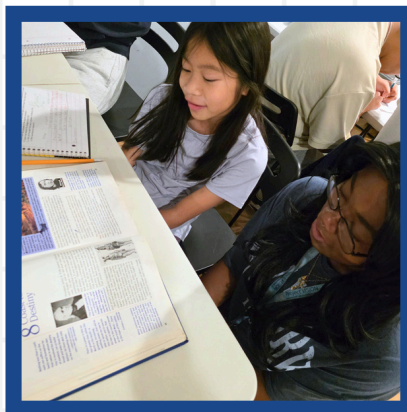
CLASSROOMS SUPPORTED  
ACROSS 2 SCHOOLS

• JOHN HAINES  
• JAMES WARD





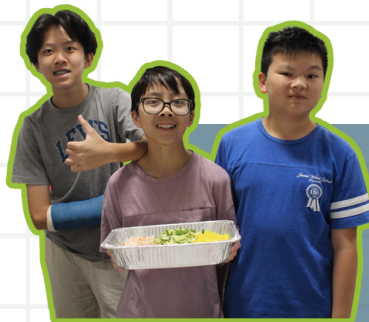
HOURS OF TUTORING  
41,025+  
IN 2025





# World Well-Rounded HIGHLIGHTS

Every year, PV hosts a 7-week Summer Camp Program for middle school youth. The camp is offered at a reduced cost to help keep students engaged during the summer and to combat learning loss from being out of school. The days are filled with academic lessons, group projects, arts and crafts, outdoor games and sports, and field trips. Each week, youth get to connect with peers, build social-emotional skills, and practice life skills.



**92** YOUTH  
SERVERED  
IN 2024-2025 SUMMER CAMP

**94%**

OF YOUTH REPORTED  
PRACTICING AND IMPROVING  
AT LEAST ONE OF THE 4C'S  
DURING SUMMER CAMP  
(COMMUNICATION, CREATIVITY,  
CRITICAL THINKING, AND  
COLLABORATION)





When I first joined Project: VISION, it was through the Summer Camp. I remember walking in on the first day not knowing a single person and feeling a little nervous about what to expect. But as the days went by, something changed. I started opening up, trying new things, and meeting people who would eventually become important in my life. I met Kara through PV's summer camp, and she's now my best friend. During camp, I tried ice skating for the first time, and it has become my favorite activity. I'm even going ice skating with Kara during our next hangout.



Now that I'm officially enrolled at PV, it feels like an extension of that first summer. I still get to see the friends I made, and we're always doing fun, new activities together. And of course, I can't forget to mention my favorite tutor, Sufia, who always makes learning feel a little easier and a lot more fun.

CARMAN, GRADE 6



# SERVICE & leadership HIGHLIGHTS

At PV, service and leadership are an integral part of our holistic positive youth development model to train successful students who are also active, caring citizens. By providing youth with opportunities for meaningful civic engagement, PV aims to nurture a strong sense of connectedness to community and social responsibility.

## CYSC

Chicago Youth Service Corps is a program supported by the City's One Summer Chicago initiative. Over the last year, 80 youth led year-long service projects they researched and designed to address important issues that impact the Chinatown community, from promoting green spaces to preserving cultural heritage to building awareness about mental health in AAPI youth.



## youth-led civic engagement

Project: VISION has helped me open up more than I ever thought possible. I've always been shy and reluctant to speak up, but through PV's leadership programs, I began forming strong connections with both staff and peers. These relationships inspired me to become more active in my community, and over time, I've noticed meaningful changes in myself.

Civic engagement has been a central part of my PV experience. I've participated in several community service projects focused on cleaning up Chinatown, a neighborhood I visit daily and deeply care about. These cleanups not only improve the safety and cleanliness of the area but also give me a sense of purpose, allowing me to contribute meaningfully rather than staying at home.

Leadership programs like YPAC and CYSC have further strengthened my commitment to civic engagement. Through YPAC, I explored the history and needs of Chinatown, conducting interviews with elders at CASL to learn about their experiences, challenges, and hopes for the community. This experience helped me understand why nonprofits are essential for connecting with and supporting residents. Later, as a part of CYSC, I helped organize cooking workshops to teach community members about healthy eating, directly addressing a community need. These projects built my confidence, sharpened my leadership skills, and deepened my dedication to serving others.

Now, as a senior, I hope to stay in Chicago and pursue a career in education, inspired by the impact I've seen through civic engagement. Project: VISION has shown me the power of taking action in my community, and I aspire to continue making a positive difference just as PV has in my life.

RYAN, GRADE 11



# workforce development

## 254

YOUTHS SERVED  
THROUGH  
5 WORKFORCE  
PROGRAMS

HOURS WORKING ON  
30,000+  
SKILLS TO BECOME LEADERS

## PROJECT: WOW

Project: Watch Out World (WOW) completed its fourth year of programming, expanding to support **44 youth** as they explore diverse careers, learn essential employability skills and competencies, and gain real-world experience through summer internships.

## YVONNE'S W.O.W STORY



When I entered junior year, I joined Project: VISION's workforce program, Watch Out World (WOW), where I learned how to speak, write, and dress professionally. I still remember nervously practicing my introduction in front of the group and realizing how much confidence these small skills gave me. That experience opened the door to an internship with Rush Medical Center's STEM Explorer Program, where I got to see the medical field up close. I've always been interested in medicine, but PV's program allowed me to explore careers I had never considered before. Roles that go beyond what you usually see in a doctor's office. It made me feel certain that I'm heading in the right direction.

Ever since I was little, I've felt a strange sense of calm in a doctor's office. Even when I broke my arm and had to go to the ER, I remember being more fascinated than afraid. The professionalism of the staff, the careful attention they gave patients, and the environment of care all inspired me.

Project: VISION has given me opportunities to explore this inspiration in real ways. I learned CPR, gaining a skill that could literally save a life. I went on college tours, seeing what the different medical school programs have to offer. And one of the most impactful moments was talking with Ilona, the CYSC Program Lead, about her experiences in the medical field. Hearing her journey made me think more deeply about my own path and the variety of ways I could contribute to healthcare.

Now, I feel ready and excited to pursue a future in medicine, equipped with skills, experiences, and confidence thanks to Project: VISION.



# PARENT ENGAGEMENT

DURING THE 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR . . .

PV created meaningful and sustainable parent engagement as parents were supported to enhance relationships with their youth at home and become more involved in schools and the broader community. These programs aim to help youth and their parents create positive family experiences and strengthen relationships through better communication, a general sense of connectedness, and mutual understanding.

## PARENT MENTOR PROGRAM

The Parent Mentor Program (PMP) is a statewide program led by the Parent Engagement Institute. The program is designed to empower parents to engage in their schools and build deep lasting relationships with teachers and school staff. In addition to volunteering to support classrooms, Parent Mentors also attend regular workshops and trainings at PV to build leadership skills, receive instructional practice, restorative practice, and community education so they may become long-term leaders in their schools and communities.

36 Parent Mentors and 4 Parent Coordinators supported our local schools as classroom assistants and tutors.

IMPACTED  
**720+**  
STUDENTS  
ACROSS  
**4** LOCAL SCHOOLS

- JOHN HAINES
- JAMES WARD
- MARK SHERIDAN
- ROBERT HEALY



93%

Parent Mentors  
believed they gained  
more confidence in  
their parenting

93%

reported increased  
interest in being more  
involved with their child's  
school community

PARENT MENTORS PROVIDED SUPPORT TO TEACHERS AND STUDENTS IN THE CLASSROOM WHILE ALSO DEVELOPING PROFESSIONAL AND LEADERSHIP SKILLS

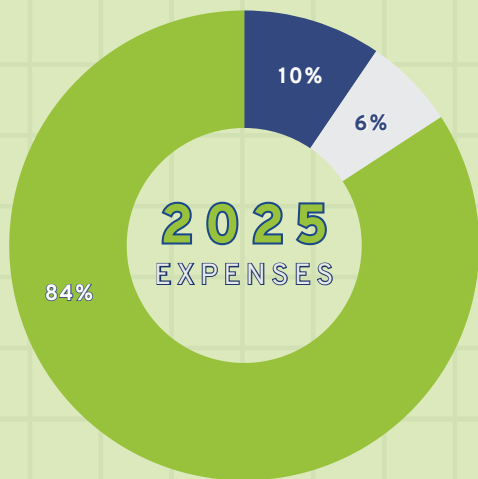




# FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS 2025

*\*For fiscal year September 1, 2024 to August 31, 2025  
(final audited financial statements available February 1st, 2026)*

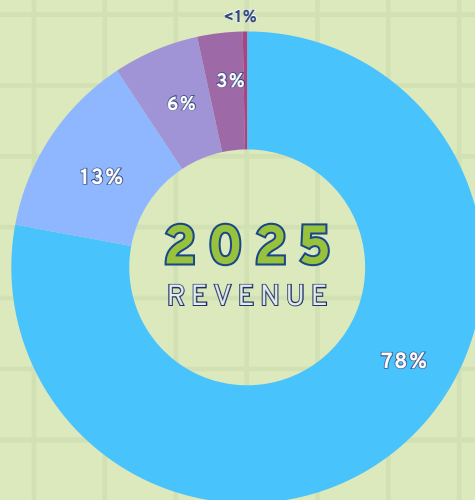
## EXPENSES



84%	PROGRAM SERVICES	\$2,501,066
10%	MANAGEMENT / GENERAL	\$280,772
6%	FUNDRAISING	\$188,413

**TOTAL EXPENSES \$2,970,251**

## REVENUE



78%	GOVERNMENT GRANTS	\$2,302,797
13%	CONTRIBUTIONS	\$378,563
6%	FUNDRAISING EVENTS	\$173,850
3%	PROGRAM SERVICE REVENUES	\$90,709
<1%	OTHER	\$8,662

**TOTAL REVENUE \$2,954,581**

## Staff Leadership

Sandy Ruan  
DIRECTOR OF STRATEGIC  
INITIATIVES

Chi Ho  
YOUTH PROGRAM MANAGER

Karen Chiu  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Charlotte Lin  
YOUTH PROGRAM MANAGER

Dori Tung  
LEAD CASE MANAGER

Elvina Ng  
DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS

Grace Luk  
YOUTH PROGRAM MANAGER

## Board of Directors

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CHAIR OF THE BOARD

Chris Kanich, PhD  
VICE CHAIR OF THE BOARD

Michael Diarra, CPA, CISA, CDPSE  
TREASURER

Adam Chan  
SECRETARY

Stuart Chen, MD

Michael Good

Kristin Kan, MD, MPH, Msc

Michael Lee

Eric Liu

Eva Liu (incoming Board Chair)

James R. Vergara

George Wang, PMP

Melissa Wee, LCPC

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CHAIR OF THE BOARD

Rae Rae Luo  
SECRETARY

Joshua Park  
TREASURER

Betty Chiang

Rebecca Lai

Han Lee

Krystian Palmero

Alan Vo

Alexander Wong, PhD

Shaw Zheru Xiao

# our SUPPORTERS

Project: VISION's beginnings were made possible by the generosity of those who gave their time, talent, and treasure. Today, we continue to thrive because our volunteers, donors, funders, and community partners continue to support our work in so many ways. We thank them all for their generous commitments and contributions to our organization and, more importantly, to our youths' futures.

## CORPORATE / GRANT CONTRIBUTORS

### > \$10,000

Bright Promises Foundation  
Cathay Bank Foundation  
Chapin May Foundation  
Chinatown Parking Lot Corporation  
City of Chicago Department of Family & Support Services  
Cook County Health  
Illinois Department of Human Services

Illinois State Board of Education  
IMC  
Invest for Kids  
Julian Grace Foundation  
Lohengrin Foundation  
New York Life  
W.P. & H.B. White Foundation

### \$5,000 to \$10,000

Chicago Fire Foundation  
Citadel  
Enova  
Ferrara

GEM Capital  
SC Johnson  
UChicago Medicine

### \$1,000 to \$4,999

AJ Housewares  
American Family Insurance  
American Metro Bank  
Asian McDonald's Operation Association (AMOA)  
AT&T  
Athletico  
Chicago Board of Elections  
Chicago Oriental Wholesale Market  
Chinatown Community Foundation  
CNA  
Deloitte

First Hospitality  
Jacobs  
JT Birdie  
5W Strength Club  
Mayer Brown  
Ong Family Foundation  
Oriental Delicacies  
Qiao Lin Hotpot  
State Farm Insurance  
Universal Properties  
Wintrust

### up to \$999

Chicago White Sox  
Chiu Quon Bakery  
Cornerstone Research  
Dave's Auto Repair  
DentArt Chicago  
Eight Corners Realty  
Exelon  
Kapitan  
Lakeside Bank

Mango Realty Group  
Nimble Made  
Resource Management (Winston Soo)  
Saigon Sisters  
Salesforce  
Smith LaCien LLP  
Z. Wang & Associates  
Moy Family Association  
Chinese American Civic Council



# INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTORS

## \$100 to \$499

*Anonymous (Various)*

Adam Sang  
Akofa Bonsi  
Akshat Agarwal  
Alan Chung  
Alark Patel  
Alderwoman Nicole Lee  
Alice Zhao  
Allan Blatt  
Alodia Gabre-Kidan  
Amy Chiu  
Andrew Don  
Angela Mao  
Anita Luk  
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Susan Truong  
Swan Lee  
Victor Xian  
Victoria Williams-Ononye  
Vincent Ruan  
Winnie & Tak Tse  
YiLi Ruan  
Yumei Li

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C.W. Chan  
Chris Kanich  
David Wu  
Dr. Ariel Polish  
Dr. Debbie Lim  
George Wang  
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IL State Representative Kevin Olickal  
IL State Representative Theresa Mah  
IL State Senator Celine Villanueva  
IL State Senator Ram Villivalam  
Jamie Johnson

Jim Ng  
John Wang  
Julie Murphy  
King Leung  
Maria Tai, CPA  
Melinda Holtz  
Michael Diarra  
Michael Good  
Michael Lee  
Michelle & Paul Gaura  
Pat & Nancy McClellan  
Dr. Stuart Chen  
Trang Truong-Hill  
Victoria Ng  
Vince & Sandy Ruan  
Xiao Ping Chen  
Yi Chao

## \$1,000+

Anna Desai  
Bettina Amrein  
Brian Brown  
Darryl Liu  
Dr. & Mrs. Yee Kin & Shu Ho  
Dr. Daniel Go  
Dr. Karen Chiu  
Elysia Root  
Peter Tong  
Vanessa Obrochta



# NEW CHAPTER

## H I G H L I G H T S



Starting college has been a big adjustment from my life in Chicago, but it's been exciting to meet new people and experience a different environment at Johns Hopkins. Though I sometimes miss the familiarity and convenience of home, especially the food. I've enjoyed learning about myself and gaining independence.

My favorite class so far is Defend the Planet: How to Stop an Asteroid, which explores the science and policy behind space defense. As for clubs, It has been difficult to join very many due to time limitations and adjusting to the academic environment here at JHU. Currently, I have joined our school's Engineering Design Center Advisory Board and Volunteers for Medical Engineering and went to several general board meetings for the Chinese Students Association and Society of Women Engineering.

The most exciting part of starting college is the idea of "starting fresh" where I have more freedom and independence to make decisions about my life. Though this has meant more personal responsibility to keep a good balance on health, academics, and social life, I look forward to more that I can learn about myself and how I can grow and improve. What excites me most is knowing that I have greater control over my own decisions and goals and having confidence that I have the power and support from my university to accomplish them.

**CINDY, FRESHMAN AT** 



Moving from Chicago to UW-Madison has been an exciting transition as I embrace a new environment and community. I've been actively getting involved by joining social gatherings like Harbor Christian Fellowship and PHamily dinners, where I've built meaningful connections through games, trips, and shared meals.

Early in the semester, I struggled to balance academics and self-care, but I've learned to slow down, prioritize my well-being, and create a healthy routine that includes studying, socializing, and exercising. I am currently taking classes such as anthropology and environmental science. Back in middle school, I didn't enjoy humanities classes like social studies as much because English is not my first language, but I've discovered that I really enjoy these two courses.

In addition, joining the Aspiring Educator Club has strengthened my goal of becoming an elementary school teacher with ESL certification so I can support bilingual students. PV and the Moy Chin Scholarship have given me the confidence and support to pursue my dreams, reminding me that I have a community that believes in me. The values I learned at PV continue to guide me as I navigate college life.

**SIYONG, FRESHMAN AT**











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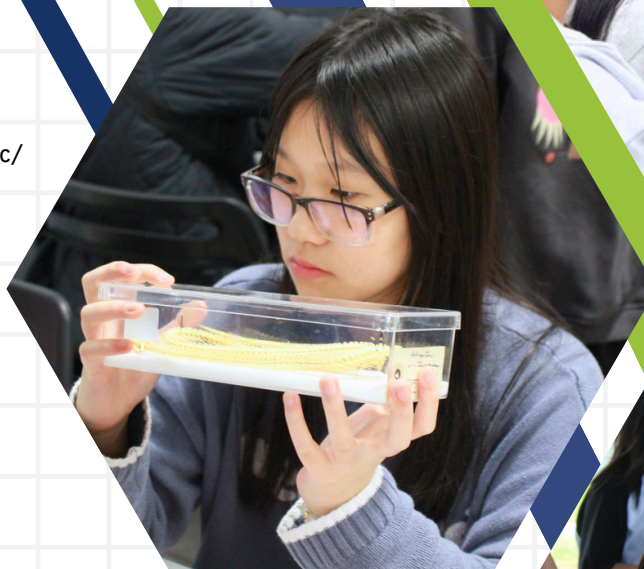


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