

**CONTACTS:** Charlene Manaoat  
Event Co-Director  
cmanaoat2@gmail.com  
786-253-8594

Kristine Straker  
Event Co-Director  
Kristine.Straker@gmail.com  
786-473-0522

Phillip Cheng  
Asian Kaleidoscope Month  
Executive Director  
kaleidoscope.month@gmail.com  
863-409-9605

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Oct. 3, 2010

**Asian Kaleidoscope Month closing features MTV dance crew**

GAINESVILLE—The Asian Arts and Entertainment Festival is bringing dance crew Poreotics, who competed in season five of America's Best Dance Crew, to the University of Florida. AAEF will also feature comedian Elliot Chang and singer Clara Chung. The festival will take place on Friday, Nov. 5, at 6 p.m. in the University Auditorium.

This festival marks the closing of a month of special events celebrating the culture, history and contributions of Asian and Asian Americans. It is free and open to the public.

Charlene Manaoat, one of the event directors, said that the purpose of the event is to highlight accomplishments that Asian Americans have achieved in the entertainment field.

"I wanted to do this event for the sole purpose of entertaining an audience and showcasing talents that Asian Americans have," said Manaoat.

With three different entertainment fields—dancing, stand-up and singing—being performed by well-known names, Manaoat hopes that the audience will enjoy the diversity of talent.

More information regarding the event can be found at <http://www.ufakmonth.com/>. To find out more about Poreotics, visit their website at <http://poreotix.com/>. To find out more about Elliot Chang, visit

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<http://www.kenpondonline.com/eliotchang/>. To learn more about Clara Chung, visit her website at  
<http://www.youtube.com/user/ClaraCMusic>.

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Contact for press release author: [arwang26@gmail.com](mailto:arwang26@gmail.com)



**CONTACTS:** Karen Joy Vinluan  
Event Co-Director  
kjoyvinluan@gmail.com  
786-547-5119

Marsha Vongjesda  
Event Co-Director  
mvongjesda91@gmail.com  
904-403-4296

Phillip Cheng  
Asian Kaleidoscope Month  
Executive Director  
kaleidoscope.month@gmail.com  
863-409-9605

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Oct. 3, 2010

**Asian Food Festival offers free cultural dishes**

GAINESVILLE—The Asian Food Festival is one of Asian Kaleidoscope Month's most popular event. Offering dishes from Asian countries such as China, India, Korea, Philippines and Vietnam, people usually line up at the door early just to grab a seat. The event, free and open to the public, will take place Monday, Oct. 25, with the event beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the Plaza of Americas.

The event is also a competition for UF organizations to create the most presentable and delectable dishes. All attendees will be able to vote for the organization that provides the best main dish, best dessert, best cultural presentation and best overall dish.

"The purpose of the event is to bring many different communities together through different ethnic food and flavors," said Karen Joy Vinluan, one of the event directors.

Many of the participating organizations are a part of the UF Asian American Student Union. Marsha Vongjesda, the other event director, said that this event will "give sub-orgs a chance to come together and contribute their culture through a universal concept that is food."

Vinluan and Vongjesda both hope that attendees will get a better appreciation of different cultures.

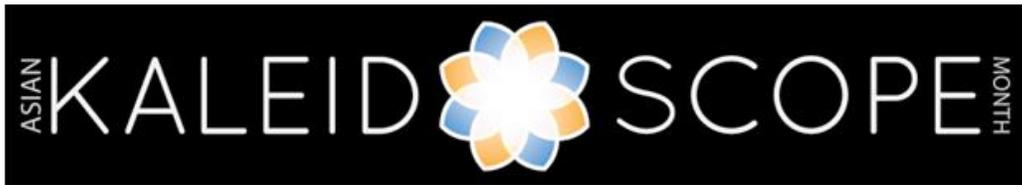
"I'd like them to feel full and happy," Vongjesda said.

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More information regarding the event can be found at <http://www.ufakmonth.com/>.

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Contact press release author at: [arwang26@gmail.com](mailto:arwang26@gmail.com)



**CONTACTS:** Cecelia Truong  
Event Co-Director  
ceceliatruong@gmail.com  
561-789-8031

Sue Zheng  
Event Co-Director  
suexy32603@gmail.com  
352-226-2243

Phillip Cheng  
Asian Kaleidoscope Month  
Executive Director  
kaleidoscope.month@gmail.com  
863-409-9605

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Sept. 26, 2010

**UF AASU's Got Talent features comedian Jen Kwok**

GAINESVILLE—AASU's Got Talent is bringing comedian and musician Jen Kwok, whose ukulele stand-up routine landed her as a finalist in the 2007 NBC's Stand-Up for Diversity. She will be a guest performer in this talent show that will take place on Monday, Oct. 11, at 6:30 p.m. in the UF Reitz Union Rion Ballroom.

AASU's Got Talent is an annual event during Asian Kaleidoscope Month and displays a wide range of talent from the student community. The event is geared toward members of UF's Asian American Student Union. However, the event is free and open to the public.

The purpose of the talent show is to demonstrate that "Asian America" is multi-faceted and diverse.

"The talent show is meant to break stereotypes of Asian Americans that people have by showcasing the Asian American community's wide spectrum of talents," said Cecelia Truong, event co-director of AASU's Got Talent.

The event co-directors hope that the audience will enjoy themselves and be entertained.

Sue Zheng, the other event co-director, said, "I just want them to be impressed and see the Asian American community in a different light."

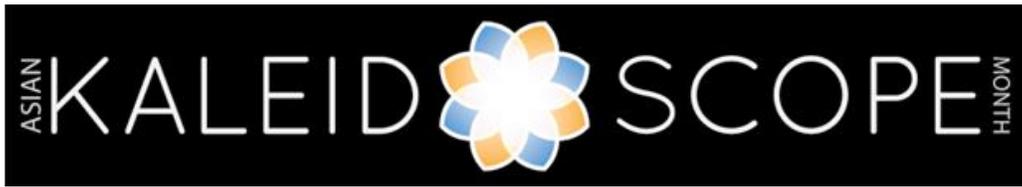
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The talent show is also competitive and will be judged on several criteria.

More information regarding the event can be found at <http://www.ufakmonth.com/>.

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Press release authored by Alyssa Wang [arwang26@gmail.com](mailto:arwang26@gmail.com)



**CONTACT:** Phillip Cheng  
Asian Kaleidoscope Month Executive Director  
kaleidoscope.month@gmail.com  
863-409-9605

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Sept. 29, 2010

**UF Asian Kaleidoscope Month opens with former pro-NFL player**

GAINESVILLE— A former pro-NFL player will be speaking on Oct. 6 at 7 p.m. in the Reitz Union Grand Ballroom as a part of the Featured Speaker Series and Asian Kaleidoscope Month's Opening Ceremony.

Speaker Esera Tuaolo will be sharing his stories and experiences about growing up in a single-parent household and as one of the first NFL players to come out of the closet.

Tuaolo will also be available for autographs and book signings after the presentation.

The Featured Speaker Series is part of the Dean of Students Office New Student Programs and the Division of Student Affairs. The series brings in speakers who cover areas of college life and touch on subjects that students will encounter during their college career.

Asian Kaleidoscope Month is an event that begins Oct. 6 and ends on Nov. 5.

Asian Kaleidoscope Month seeks to celebrate the history, culture and contributions of Asians and Asian Americans in a variety of areas, including the arts and sciences, entertainment, education, politics and sports.

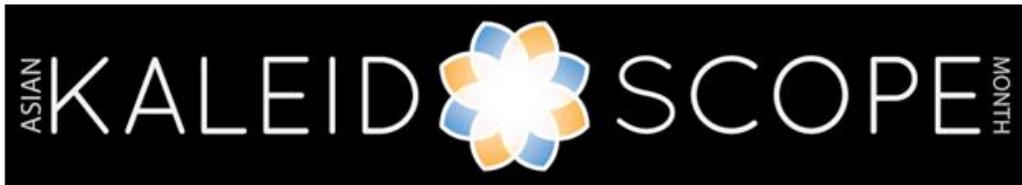
"It reaches out to different parts of the university so that everyone can enjoy the diversity and culture of Asians and Asian Americans," said Phillip Cheng, the 2010 Executive Director.

The second half of the opening ceremony will feature spoken word artist Alvin Lau, who has received a number of national awards and is currently ranked No. 2 in the nation. Lau has been featured on the Amnesty International's Spoken Word Tour, HBO's Def Poetry Jam and dozens of universities and slam venues across the country.

More information regarding the event can be found at <http://www.ufakmonth.com/>.

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Contact press release author: [arwang26@gmail.com](mailto:arwang26@gmail.com)



**CONTACTS:** Samantha Caballero  
Event Director  
samcab14@gmail.com  
786-252-6992

Phillip Cheng  
Asian Kaleidoscope Month Executive Director  
kaleidoscope.month@gmail.com  
863-409-9605

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Oct. 3, 2010

**Mr. & Miss AASU Pageant Show features culture and talent**

GAINESVILLE—The Mr. & Miss AASU Pageant Show, a traditional event held annually during Asian Kaleidoscope Month, will occur on Monday, Nov. 1, at 6:30 p.m. in the Reitz Union Rion Ballroom.

The show will feature a night of culture, talent and evening wear. The winners of the show will also represent the Asian American Student Union. The event, however, is not exclusive to members of the Asian American community.

For many years, the event showcased only the beauty of Asian Americans. These days, however, the pageant seeks to go beneath the surface.

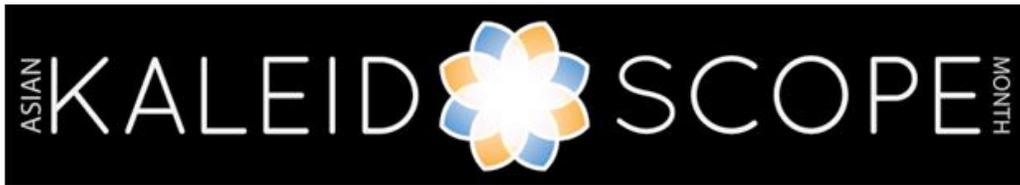
“Mr. and Miss AASU is not about beauty, but about the person, Asian or not, within,” said Samantha Caballero, event director.

The pageant strives to raise awareness about Asian American culture, as well as find out what being Asian American means to the contestants.

More information regarding the event can be found at <http://www.ufakmonth.com/>.

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Contact press release author at: [arwang26@gmail.com](mailto:arwang26@gmail.com)



**CONTACTS:** Kristine Straker  
Event Director of Project Hyphen  
KStraker@ufl.edu  
786-473-0522

Phillip Cheng  
Asian Kaleidoscope Month Executive Director  
kaleidoscope.month@gmail.com  
863-409-9605

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Sept. 26, 2010

**UF Asian Kaleidoscope Month brings Project Runway designer**

GAINESVILLE—Asian Kaleidoscope Month 2010 is bringing Filipino designer Jay Nicolas Sario, who starred in Project Runway Season 7, for a fashion show that will occur on Monday, Oct. 18, at 6:30 p.m. in the UF Reitz Union Grand Ballroom.

“Project Hyphen: Asians in Fashion” will also feature designer Crystal Fong from the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York City. Clothing from Kim Phan’s Yumi Kim clothing line will also be modeled on a catwalk by students.

The purpose of this fashion show is to exhibit designs from prominent Asian American designers in the fashion industry.

“After years of being neglected by the fashion industry, minorities are finally being recognized for their innovative contributions to the industry,” said Kristine Straker, event director of Project Hyphen. “Thus, I wanted to highlight some successful Asian American designers that have made a name for themselves in the fashion industry.”

The fashion show is also a way to break stereotypes of Asian Americans.

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"This event shows how diverse the Asian American community is," Straker said. "We are not only doctors and scientists but also fashion designers and artists."

Straker hopes that the audience who attends will "change their misconceived perception of fashion as a frivolous pastime but understand it as something that takes a lot of hard work, creativity and effort."

More information regarding the event can be found at <http://www.ufakmonth.com/>. You can find out more information about the special guests through their websites, <http://www.jaynicolassario.com/> and <http://www.yumikim.com/>.

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Press release authored by Alyssa Wang [arwang26@gmail.com](mailto:arwang26@gmail.com)