

What Our Future Foretells Us, and What the Present Shows



DECEMBER 2024 E-NEWS

As December comes to an end, it's inspiring to see the amazing work our AASuccess students have done this month.

Aashee Balani has led the Winter Supply Drive, buying items with help from stores like Costco and Giant to support the Second Story Homeless Shelter in Vienna, VA. Thanks to her hard work and the kindness of our community, a great collection of supplies is ready to make a meaningful impact for those in need this holiday season.

Meanwhile, Mason Le and Hillary Nguyen have been busy working on their Shark Tank-inspired Education Camp. They've been creating lesson plans, choosing the best topics for underprivileged 4th and 5th graders, and preparing to start recruiting. Their efforts show how much they care about helping younger students grow and succeed.

As we look toward 2025, we're proud of everything our students have achieved so far. Their dedication and creativity continue to inspire us, and we can't wait to see the positive change they'll bring in the new year. Here's to a year of continued growth and success for everyone in the AASuccess community.

Wishing everyone a joyful holiday season and a bright New Year!

Best regards,

Kingston Ho, AASuccess Level 2 Student

PARTNER OF THE MONTH

Rotary Club of Bailey's Crossroads

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Dr. Kieu Le James Pan





AASUCCESS, THE HOLIDAYS, AND WHAT IT MEANS TO BE CONNECTED

We feel love at our most vulnerable moments, and before we doits fear at our thickest. What connects us as humans is feeling, and the holidays are the most beautiful times to experience everything, all at once, together.

AASuccess has been a significant, but tumultuous journey for my state of mind. I've always been, in some way, a little bit seclusive of myself. I never lied saying I was socially inept, furthermore had it made me incapable of reaching out, making connections- and most importantly: finding a way of love.

Platonic, romantic, or familial, you can't just think of a concept when it comes to someone and fall in love with it, much like fear. When it comes to this organization (this damned organization,) I remember when I first started: shy, but outspoken- trying my best to make something of myself while shackled by all the means of my anxiety. Truthfully, my growth doesn't come in power, not one of independence, but instead- acceptance.

You take in others in order to cooperate, and you must acknowledge the person before you work with them, so on and so forth. I had to ask for help this year, not the biggest achievement- but knowing that you (I) can't work solitarily has been one of the most humbling, and albeit, exposing things accomplishable.

That being said, I'm happy to be in AASuccess. I'm happy to be typing this while I sit in-office amidst everyone in conversation, and more importantly- I'm happy to the extent that I do, and boundlessly, love everyone at my most vulnerable, and that is joy.

Allyson Nguyen, AASuccesss Level 1 Student





AASuccess high school students in one of our Saturday Life Skills sessions

MERRY HOLIDAYS, HAPPY DECEMBER

This year, the AASuccess team has made many leaps and bounds in serving our community. From our flagship Youthcon Scholarship Program to our various fundraisers, we have had a successful year. Most pertinent is the ever-expanding growth of our community network, which continues to serve our mission of giving back.

It would be remiss to talk about 2024 without mentioning our Annual "Beyond The Horizon" Gala. The Gala was our best yet, and we would like to thank every guest, volunteer, speaker, mentor, and student who made the night possible. We look forward to hosting the 2025 Gala! (More on that soon!)

Going into 2025, we have several student-led projects and events slated. Using our new "Shark Tank" style student project system, students advocate for projects that address key issues in the community. In addition, we are excited to see everyone at the Pickleball Fundraiser on January 5th, from 12:00-5:00 at Dill Dinkers. More information can be found on our social media and website. We hope to see everyone there!

Finally, we would like to thank the AASuccess community for your continued support as we head into a new year!

AASuccess Operations Team









SAVE THE DATE - PICKLEBALL FUNDRAISER SUNDAY, JANUARY 5TH, 2025

we are having our Pickleball fundraiser on January 5th from 12:00 to 5:00 pm at Dill Dinkers (8300 Sudley Rd Unit A4, Manassas, VA 20109). The 2025 AASuccess PickleBall Fundraiser will be a thrilling event filled with a duo tournament, networking opportunities, delicious food, and a closer look at our upcoming or recent projects. Your registration fee will cover everything, including food, drinks, and entertainment.

We would love to have you as a player, sponsor, volunteer or even as an attendee, cheering on your fellow Pickleball players!

The price for a registered player is \$25 and non-player/social is \$20. To encourage student participants, students (up to college seniors) will be given a discounted price of \$20 when signing up for the tournament. The first place team will be awarded a trophy and a collective cash prize of \$100. Additionally, the second place team will be awarded medals and a surprise prize!

If you would like to attend the social or play in the tournament, please use the following link to register: <u>PickleBall Player Sign-Up</u>. To participate as a player, please sign up with a partner as a duo. Only one form is needed per team, so be sure to register together.

Please note that player slots are limited and the deadline to register as a player is Sunday, December 29th, so make sure to sign up ASAP! If you know any coworkers, friends, or family members who would be interested in this event, feel free to forward this email to them!

If you are looking to volunteer, please enter your information via <u>this link!</u> Volunteers will be expected to arrive at the venue at 11:30am to prepare and clean-up time will extend to 6:00pm.

Thank you and if you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or nathan.le@aasuccess.org!

Nathan Le, AASuccess Level 2 Student