

Howard: Asian Network is a group that's meant to really raise awareness of the different cultures and the diversity of all the Asian countries. We try to create a sense of awareness of the issues that a lot of Asians do face.

Sharon: I remember there was this kid, I used to wear this big Buddhist necklace, like a big Buddha on my neck and some kid was like do you pray to that fat man?

Simon: Growing up people used to think I was a Kung Fu master or something like that. That's pretty normal.

Sharon: I guess some misconceptions typically you hear they're shy or they're soft spoken.

Simon: Like that we're all I guess obsessed about money, obsessed about family.

Howard: Asians might be perceived as being very timid and shy sometimes, however, that's not to say that they're not willing to step up and to take leadership roles.

Sharon: I think what makes Asian Network unique is that we have a lot of people who aren't from America. Like there are a lot of people who were born in India or maybe China or places around Asia and they're new to the country and I want Asian Network to be a place where they have a sense of community and that they can have a place to celebrate traditions or holidays that maybe they might end up spending alone.

Howard: It's a sense of belonging, which is really important for me to make sure that everyone feels like that they have a place of belonging and they have the community they can rely on to really talk to each other, to go to events together to help educate others.

Sharon: We had an event where we had like a Lunar New Year specific event where we offered food from countries that celebrate and recognize the holiday and then we had a mid-day treat where we brought in bubble tea and we also made these little Chinese sesame balls.

Simon: One of the misconceptions we always get is that you need to be Asian to be a part of it. You don't. We're all colors of the rainbow and I think there's no limitation.

Howard: The proudest moment that I have is making sure that Asian Network is present in as many cities as possible so that every Indeedian has the opportunity.