

SWARTHMORE

Alumni of Color

Dear friends and allies,

As the world continues to adjust to the ongoing challenges presented by the pandemic, the Alumni of Color (AOC) Steering Committee will also be doing some adjusting of its own this year. We have the good fortune of announcing that as of August 2021 Salman Safir '16 is serving as chair of the AOC Steering Committee. We are grateful for all of the dedication and leadership of outgoing committee chair Angela Meng '12, who will continue to serve as a general member of the AOC Steering Committee to assist with the transition of duties and launch of new initiatives. ([Read Steering Committee member bios.](#))

The AOC Steering Committee remains firmly committed to engaging and supporting its members within the Swarthmore College alumni community. Our goals for the upcoming months will be to concretize our mission and methods of alumni engagement as well as to establish deeper campus and alumni partnerships globally. We hope to allow greater engagement among members of AOC through the launch of our new social media channels detailed in this and future newsletters. We also invite you to talk to us — tell us what you would like to see, what might be helpful to you or others, or ideas you have. And, as always, if you'd like to be involved with the Steering Committee or have nominations for folks who may be excellent members, please do reach out.

The AOC biannual newsletter remains the primary mode of communication to self-identified alumni of color and allies. In this fall's edition, we are excited to announce new volunteer opportunities, share updates from campus, and debut a new Alumni Spotlight. We look forward to sharing additional group milestones and celebrating the work and accomplishments of our membership in the months ahead.

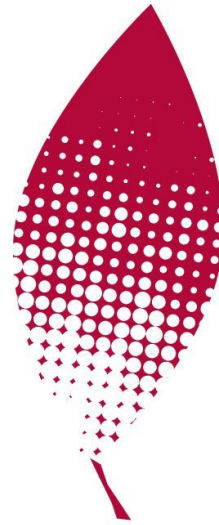
In solidarity,
Alumni of Color Steering Committee

Update your Alumni Profile and Help Us Expand the AOC Network

If you identify as an alum of color, please add AOC (Alumni of Color) to your profile "Groups" in the [Alumni Online Community](#). This will

include you in the searchable group in the alumni directory!

If you do not identify as an alum of color, or do not wish to add to your groups in the directory, but would still like to receive the AOC newsletter, please contact Caitlin Halloran Edwards (challor2@swarthmore.edu) to be added to the AOC mailing list. Also be sure to forward this newsletter/information to fellow alumni who you think may be interested in joining the AOC network!



We are pleased to announce a new private Facebook group ([Swarthmore Alumni of Color](#)) and Instagram account ([@SwatAOC](#)). Give us a follow and join fellow alums of color online!



Join the AOC Team!

Are you interested in getting involved in the AOC Steering Committee or as an AOC volunteer?

Committee members and volunteers spend 1–2 hours a month contributing to AOC initiatives and shaping the direction of the network. Recent examples of AOC initiatives include creating the Alumni of Color mentorship program, hosting and organizing career panels with Career Services, liaising with the Admissions Office, and supporting our commitment to ending racial injustice in our communities (see our statements of solidarity [here](#) and [here](#)). We also welcome fresh ideas for future AOC initiatives!

[You can view all the current ways to get involved with AOC on our volunteer webpage.](#)

If interested, please contact alumniofcolor@swarthmore.edu.

Host a virtual event

Interested in hosting a virtual event for the Alumni of Color network? We are looking for volunteers to help host virtual Alumni of Color gatherings.



Volunteers pick the date, time, and topic of the event they wish to host. AOC will advertise the event on its website, send out registration information, and set up the Zoom. Once the date rolls around, you'll help greet folks and keep the conversation flowing. Ideas for events include a virtual Happy Hour or coffee break, our Dec. 2020 event on how to curate a diverse bookshelf, or small group discussion around alumni research, hobbies, etc. [Check out our event page for more information.](#)



Alumni Spotlight

June Xie '11 is currently a senior food producer at Delish.com and produces online recipe videos for the now viral series [Budget Eats](#). The most popular [Budget Eats](#) video currently has more than 3.9 million views. Prior to working at Delish, June worked briefly as an educator in China and as a social worker in New York City, where she then made her start in the food industry working in numerous restaurant kitchens. June holds a bachelors in English literature and double minor in education and religion from Swarthmore College. [Read more about June Xie '11](#), including her professional journey, why she thinks the [Budget Eats](#) video series became viral, and how her Swarthmore experience has impacted her worldview and approach to navigating her personal and professional identity.

Have recommendations for alumni of color to spotlight in the AOC Newsletter? We want to celebrate alumni from all walks of life who have interesting experiences to share with the community in their personal, professional, and/or artistic lives. The spotlight involves a Q&A-style format that includes both standard questions and questions specific to each featured alum. Self-nominations are encouraged! [Submit your nomination here.](#)

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