

DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS AND CAMPUS DIVERSITY

SDSU Office of AANAPISI Affairs & APIDA Center



Read all about it!!!

Check your email! Newsletter #129 is out!

If you didn't get it, don't miss out! Everyone is reading it!

Join the APIDA Center contact list: <https://bit.ly/SDSUAPIDA>

Hours:

Mon-Thurs 10:00-8:00pm

Fridays 10:00-4:30pm

Location: 2nd floor of Student Union

Rooms #210A-K (directly above Starbucks)

Center Website: <https://sacd.sdsu.edu/apida>

Center Email: apida@sdsu.edu

Executive Director: Dr. Loh-Hagan at vloh-hagan@sdsu.edu

Associate Director: Matthew H Garcia at mhgarcia@sdsu.edu

Assistant Coordinator: Gi Vargas at ggonzales3@sdsu.edu



@sdsuapidacenter

SDSU APIDA

Resource Center

SA+CD

SDSU Office of AANAPISI Affairs & APIDA Center Executive Director's Message

March 14, 2025

All students, regardless of race, sex, ethnicity or national origin, who are interested in APIDA Center programming and services, are welcome.



From Dr. Loh-Hagan: Elevate Women!

I was honored and thrilled to be the keynote speaker for the 2nd annual [Elevate Her conference](#) on Tuesday, March 11th hosted by the SDSU Career Services and the Women's Resource Center. (Last year, I was a panelist for the inaugural conference.) It was such a delight to be in company with so many amazing women. I spoke about my own personal and professional journey and shared some tips for navigating the workforce as a woman of color. Many thanks to **Vivian Jin**, Career Management Lead, for inviting me! Also, shout-out to fellow conference speakers: Dr. **Erica Aros**, Dr. **Rosalia Arellano**, Dr. **Tonika Green**, **Karina Perez-Helgeson**, and Dr. **Rachael Stewart**.

To all my sisters out there - Be brave, be bold, and dare to dream. And most importantly, *nolite te bastardes carborundum*. (IYKYK = If you know, you know.)

**SDSU APIDA wishes
you a Happy Holi!**



Happy Holi Festival!

Holi 2025 celebrations will occur March 13-14, 2025. The Holi Festival of Colors is an ancient and highly revered Hindu festival originating in India. This festival celebrates the triumph of good over evil, the arrival of spring, and the love of the Hindu gods Radha and Krishna. Holi is a dazzling spectacle of vibrant colors, with Holi powder, flower petals, Rangoli art, dancing, and playful festivities. It is a time for celebration, new beginnings, and spreading joy. The APIDA Center hosted several Holi events today including a celebration at the [Children's Center](#), a [watercolor](#) activity, and a Holi-themed dinner at [The Garden](#) in collaboration with SDSU Dining.

Know APIDA History!

(Video on wall behind you)

TT Takemoto

On the Line
2018

Running time 6:40 minutes
Single channel digital video, hand-processed
8mm/16mm, paint, digital video.
Sound design by Kadet Kuhne

Courtesy of the artist

On the Line is inspired by Isa Shimoda, a butch gender nonconforming immigrant who served meals to Japanese American tuna cannery workers in her restaurant on the docks of San Diego in the 1930s. She was known for her masculine attire as well as her skills at naginata, a sword-based martial art practiced by Japanese women. Her restaurant was a refuge for the women who endured gruesome hours cleaning fish and lived in meager housing shelters known as "fish camp." Shimoda has two sets of wartime records from the incarceration camps—one identifying her as female, the other as male.

On the Line uses Shimoda's story as a point of departure for honoring the Japanese American women who lived, loved, and worked together during the prewar era and beyond. The film uses hand-painted and hand-processed Super 8 and 16mm film combined with archival footage from the Center for Asian American Media's home movie collection. It conjures up the homosocial world of the tuna factory, the restaurant, and naginata, where women might find same-sex intimacy amid sale and fish guts while the men were off to work.



APIDA Center learns about Isa Shimoda!

Isa Shimoda (years of life unknown) immigrated to San Francisco from Japan in 1903. She later moved to San Diego and opened a restaurant that served lunch to Japanese Americans working in the local tuna canneries. Shimoda's restaurant became a refuge for Japanese American women who endured gruesome hours cleaning fish and who lived in meager housing shelters known as "fish camp."

Shimoda was butch and gender nonconforming. She was also known to wear masculine attire while operating her restaurant. She also practiced *naginata*, a sword-based martial art practiced by women in Japan and would challenge men to sword fights for fun. When Executive Order 9066 was issued in 1942 authorizing the forced incarceration of all persons of Japanese ancestry, Shimoda was imprisoned in the Poston incarceration camp in Arizona (along with many other San Diegan Japanese Americans). Shimoda's archives revealed that she had two sets of government records: one listed Shimoda as "female" upon entering Poston and the other identified Shimoda as "male" upon release.

Shimoda's story and legacy is preserved at the [Japanese American Historical Society of San Diego](#). Her story also inspired the work of queer Japanese American artist and scholar [TT Takemoto](#). Takemoto featured Shimoda's story in their experimental film *On The Line* to honor the experiences of Japanese American women who worked during the prewar era and beyond. This film is on display at the [University Art Gallery's](#) exhibit, "Reflecting on Ruth Asawa and the Garden of Remembrance." The exhibit runs through Saturday, April 12, 2025. Gallery hours are 12-4 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday. Admission is free and open to the public. Visit today!

APIDA Center Highlights: News to Know!



APIDA Center hosts AI Student Panel!

On Friday, March 7th, the CSU Chancellor's Office's [California Counseling & Academic Advising Network](#) hosted a two-day virtual conference with over 2000 attendees. The SDSU Office of AANAPISI Affairs and APIDA Center hosted a student panel about using Artificial Intelligence in higher education. The panel featured **Jake De Los Reyes, Frances Fernandez, Shaye Phung**, and Dr. **Loh-Hagan** as the moderator. Our students were so impressive! (Fun Fact: Dr. Loh-Hagan hosted the conference at SDSU in 2019.) **Matt Garcia** hosted a watch party at the APIDA Center.



APIDA Center hosts Ruth Asawa craft night!

On Monday, March 10th, the APIDA Center hosted our first cultural crafting night in honor of this year's Women's History Month. We featured [Ruth Asawa](#) (1926-2013), a Japanese American multimedia artist best known for her wire sculptures. We learned about Asawa's legacy and made our own wire sculptures.



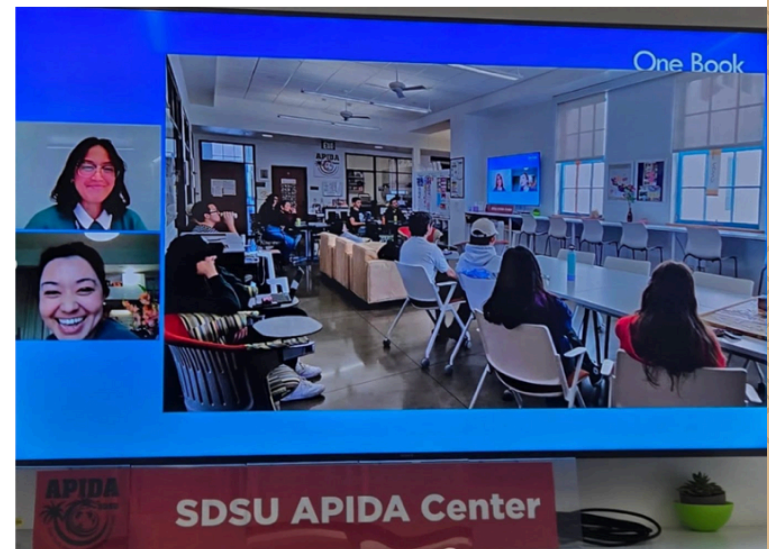
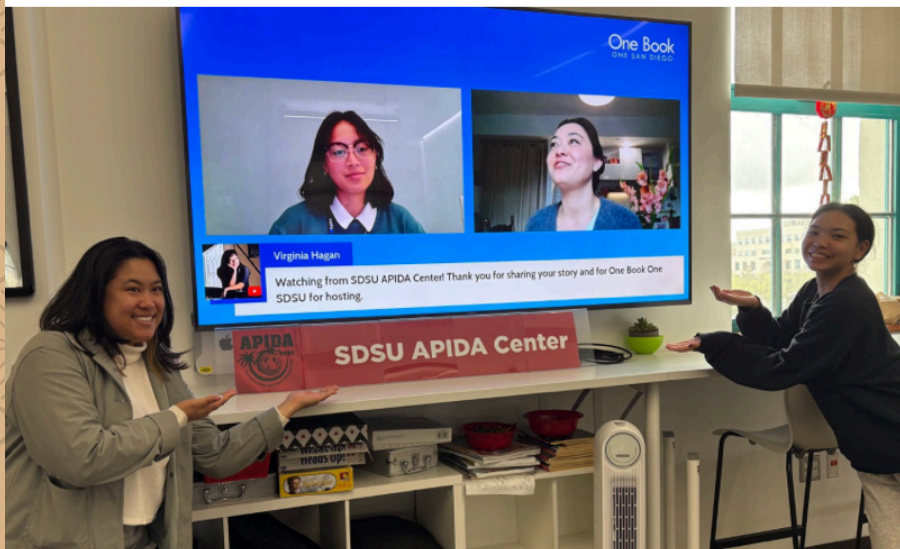
APIDA Center attends Ruth Asawa exhibit!

On Tuesday, March 11th, the APIDA Center visited the SDSU University Art Gallery to see their current exhibit entitled, "Reflecting on Ruth Asawa and the Garden of Remembrance." SDSU School of Art & Design's Galleries and Exhibitions Coordinator Dr. **Chantel Paul** provided a tour of the exhibit. We learned about the work of Japanese American artists including Ruth Asawa, Mark Baugh Sasaki, Ruka Kashiwagi, Paul Kitagaki Jr., Lisa Solomon, TT Takemoto, and [Wendy Maruyama](#) (SDSU alumna, one of the first two women to enroll in a MFA in furniture making in the United States, and head of the SDSU furniture design program).



APIDA Center learns about SPAM in Guam!

On Wednesday, March 12th, the APIDA Center launched our Mes Chamoru programming and hosted a cultural education program about SPAM in Guam. Students discussed the impacts of colonization and militarization on the Chamoru people and the historical and cultural significance of SPAM in Guam and beyond. We also made and ate SPAM kelonguen. Hot Tip: Lemon and SPAM are a delicious combo!



APIDA Center hosts a Chanel Miller watch party!

On Wednesday, March 12th, the APIDA Center hosted a watch party of a virtual author talk with Chanel Miller, the author of *Know My Name: A Memoir*. As a proud partner of One Book One San Diego, we were thrilled to participate in this community reading initiative. We even got a shout out during the webinar - KPBS scrolled us and displayed a picture of our watch party!

APIDA Flex Alerts!

Christie Yeung, News Editor for The Daily Aztec and President of SDSU's AAJA chapter and journalism major, has had several of her photographs featured in the student newspaper. For example, check out her latest photo featuring **Naomi Panganiban**, SDSU guard for women's basketball.

The 2025 **Albert W. Johnson University Research Lecture** recipient is Dr. **Ping Lu**, professor of aerospace engineering at SDSU. On March 12th, he presented "Many Humans on Mars," which explored the challenges of landing humans on the Red Planet. Lu's groundbreaking guidance algorithms are used by NASA for lunar and Mars missions. He ranks among the top aerospace researchers globally.



We want to celebrate the SDSU APIDA community!

Have a flex to share?

Email us at apida@sdsu.edu.

APIDA Recommendation: Stefano Peluso



Stefano Peluso is a third-year transfer student majoring in Kinesiology and a member of the Alpha Phi Omega fraternity. Stefano recommends Somi Somi, a Korean American-owned soft serve and taiyaki shop. Taiyaki is a Japanese fish-shaped cake with filling. (Fun Fact: *Tai* means "sea bream" and *yaki* means "bake" or "grill.") Founded in L.A.'s Koreatown in 2016, now there are over 35 locations in SoCal, TX, NV, AZ, and WA. Stefano said, "My friends first took me to the Somi Somi location on Convoy and I've been hooked ever since. I typically order a Nutella-filled *Ah-boong* (a fish-shaped waffle cone) with *ube* ice cream. Overall, Somi Somi is a fantastic ice cream shop, and I highly recommend it to anyone looking for a delicious and affordable dessert."

Share all things APIDA (i.e., books, movies, food, restaurants, etc.).

Send a picture of you with the product and your glowing review.

Email us at apida@sdsu.edu.

Upcoming APIDA Center Events

Talk it Out!

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Monday, March 17, 2025 from 4:30-6:30pm

In collaboration with Counseling & Psychological Services, the APIDA Center is hosting "Talk It Out," a program where students can speak with a therapist for about 20 minutes about anything and everything. No appointments are needed. Just come and talk it out with Dr. Tri Nguyễn.

Women's History Month Cultural Crafting Night: Mary Pritchard-Inspired Art*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Monday, March 17, 2025 from 6-8pm

Mary J. Pritchard (1905-1992) was born and raised in American Samoa. She was an artist and advocate for the rebirth of the art of Siapo. She is known as the "Savior of Siapo" as she was among the few who passed on the cultural form to future generations after its decline during World War II (1939-1945). Learn about Siapo and Pritchard's role in preserving the art form. Then, create our own versions of Siapo!

Mes CHamoru Screening and Cultural Education Program: Jazz in Guam*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Tuesday, March 18, 2025 from 6-7pm

Watch "Tradewinds" (PBS short film) with us and learn about Patrick Palomo, a CHamoru jazz pianist and composer. Learn about the history of jazz in Guam and then practice some jazz exercises with us!

APIDA Field Trip: CHamoru Cultural Festival*

Location: Oceanside Pier Ampitheater

Date: Saturday, March 22, 2025 from 10-6pm

Join the APIDA Center on a field trip to the CHamoru Cultural Festival at the Oceanside Pier. Celebrate Mes CHamoru and connect with the local community! [RSVP](#) by 5pm on March 14th.

Women's History Month Cultural Crafting Night: Pacita Abad-Inspired Art*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Monday, March 24, 2025 from 6-8pm

Pacita Abad (1946-2004) was an Ivatan and Filipina American painter. She created over 4500 artworks and developed a technique of trapunto painting that included stitching and stuffing. She used found objects she collected from around the world to enhance her art. We will create our own paintings inspired by Abad.

APIDA Women & Sexual Violence Prevention*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Tuesday, March 25, 2025 from 4-5pm

Learn about the history of hypersexualization and fetishization of APIDA women. Then, participate in a sexual violence prevention training.

Cambodian Refugees in San Diego

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Wednesday, March 26, 2025 from 1-2pm

San Diego was a significant resettlement location for Cambodian refugees, especially after the Fall of Saigon in 1975. Cambodian refugees faced and continue to face challenges, including trauma from the Khmer Rouge genocide, threats of deportation, and more. Over the past few weeks, more than 100 Cambodians have been detained awaiting potential removal from the United States. Come learn more and then write letters to political leaders to support Cambodian refugee families with [SEA^3](#).

Mes CHamoru Featured Speaker: Mr. Melvin Won Pat-Borja

Location: Watch Party at APIDA Center or [Zoom](#)

Date: Wednesday, March 26, 2025 from 4-5pm

Join us to learn more about the history of colonization and decolonization in Guam from Mr. Melvin Won Pat-Borja, Executive Director of the Commission on Decolonization and President of the Department of CHamoru Affairs

Mes CHamoru: CHamoru Feast!*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Thursday, March 27, 2025 from 12-1pm

Learn about Mes CHamoru and then join us for a catered feast. We will be serving kadun pika, chicken kelaguen, red rice, kimchee daigo, cucumber salad, finedene sauce, latiya, and more.

Music Festival 101: Alcohol and Drug Safety

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Thursday, March 27, 2025 from 2-3pm

Will you be attending a rave or concert? Learn about music festival etiquette, safety tips, and the history of APIDA substance use. Participate in a training to learn about alcohol and other drug basics, Narcan use, and how to prevent opioid overdose. Attendees will have access to FREE Narcan and Fentanyl testing strips.

Mes CHamoru Cultural Education Program: Climate Change & Guam*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Thursday, March 27, 2025 from 4-5pm

Learn more about the impacts of climate change on Guam. Human-caused climate change is a serious threat to the Pacific Islands, causing rising sea levels, more frequent extreme weather, and damage to coral reefs. Colonization and militarization have played a big role.

Craft for a Cause

Location: APIDA Center

Dates: All Semester Long!

Crochet, knit, and loom hats, scarves, blankets, etc. with us. We will donate our hand/heart-made goods to local communities in need! Come to the APIDA Center and craft away. Instructions and supplies will be provided.

NOTE: In order to participate in the workshop (i.e., crafts, food, etc.) and/or earn [APIDA SWAG](#), course extra credit, etc., you must attend events on time and in their entirety and be engaged for the entire event. For events marked with an asterisk (), we will not permit attendees after the indicated start time. We don't want you to miss out on anything and we want to be courteous to the presenters.*

Opportunities & Events

APIDA Student Organizations:

- [SDSU Korean American Student Association \(KASA\)](#) is currently hosting a [BINGO Dare Fundraiser](#). [Participate](#) today!
- [SDSU Sanskriti](#) is hosting [Happy Holi](#) on Sat, March 15th at 12pm at Clay Neighborhood Park.
- [SDSU Vietnamese Student Association \(VSA\)](#) is hosting [The Great VSA Pie-Off](#) on Sun, March 16th from 1:30-5:00pm at Ward Canyon Neighborhood Park.
- Breaking Club at SDSU, aka Stateside Breaks, is hosting a Breaking Session on Tues, March 18th from 7:30-9:30pm in Art South Floor 5.
- [SDSU Young Men of Color Alliance \(YMOCA\)](#) is hosting a Fish Bowl study group on Wed, March 19th from 10-12pm in Tula.
- [SDSU Badminton Club](#) is hosting a [Rubio's Fundraiser](#) from 10-8pm on Thurs, March 20th. They are also hosting an [Aztec Lanes Social](#) on Thurs, March 20th at 8pm.

Community Center Partners:

- The [SDSU Undocumented Resource Center \(URC\)](#) is hosting [UndocuAlly Training for Faculty, Staff, and Administrators](#) on Mon, March 17th from 1-4pm in PSFA 308. [RSVP](#) today!
- The [SDSU Pride Center](#), CHIP, and San Ysidro Health are providing [Free HIV Testing](#) on Tues, March 18th from 11-4pm.
- The [SDSU Women's Resource Center \(WRC\)](#) and the [SDSU Black Resource Center \(BRC\)](#) are hosting [Brush Away the Tears](#), a collaboration program presented by Black Women's Healing Circle and Paint Talks, on Tues, March 18th from 6:00-7:30pm.
- The [SDSU Center for Intercultural Relations \(CIR\)](#) is hosting a [In The Mix](#) discussion group on Wed, March 19th from 1-2pm.
- The [SDSU Gus and Emma Thompson Black Resource Center \(BRC\)](#) and the [SDSU Diamonds](#) are hosting [Dance with the Diamonds](#) on Wed, March 19th at 4pm.
- The [SDSU Native Resource Center \(NRC\)](#) is currently hosting [March Career Madness](#). Their next program is [LinkedIn Lab](#) on Thurs, March 20th at 12:30pm. [RSVP](#) today!
- The [SDSU Latinx Resource Center \(LRC\)](#) is hosting a screening of [The Feminist on Cell Block Y](#) on Thurs, March 20th from 1:15-2:45pm.

Campus Partners:

- The [SDSU Charles Wei-hsun Fu Center for Asian & Pacific Studies \(CAPS\)](#) is hosting a field trip to the [San Diego Museum of Art](#) on Sat, March 15th from 3:15-5:00pm.
- [Asian American Studies](#) department is hosting career readiness workshops. The first workshop is "Resume Prep with AI" on Mon, March 17th from 4-5pm or Fri, March 21st from 5-6pm.
- [SDSU Career Services](#) is hosting an [Education Career Fair](#) on Tues, March 18th from 12-2pm in Montezuma Hall. Register on [Handshake](#).
- [SDSU Cal Coast Student Financial Center](#) is hosting [Aztec Scholarship: Help with Essays Workshop](#) on Tues, March 18th at 12pm in SSW 2620.
- [SDSU Glazer Center for Leadership & Service](#) is accepting applications for their [2025-2026 Launch into Leadership](#) cohort. [Apply](#) by Wed, March 19th!
- The [SDSU Charles Wei-hsun Fu Center for Asian & Pacific Studies \(CAPS\)](#) is hosting a screening of [The Sympathizer](#) on Thurs, March 20th at 4pm at AL 462. [RSVP](#) today!
- The [SDSU Office for Graduate Life & Diversity](#) is hosting [Mental Health with Mario: Mindfulness & Meditation](#) on Thurs, March 20th from 5:00-6:30pm. [RSVP](#) today!
- Struggling with basic needs? Need resources? Connect with the [Economic Crisis Resource Team](#).

Community Partners:

- The Oceanside Museum of Art is hosting a solo exhibition entitled, "In Losing Sleep, I Painted" by [Mary Jhun](#) from March 15th to June 15th.
- Tamasha Nights and Tandoori Group is hosting [Rang De San Diego Holi Color Fest 2025](#) on Sun, March 16th from 12-8pm at Del Mar Social. Get [tickets](#) today!
- The San Diego County Public Library Rancho Bernardo Branch is hosting [Holi Celebration](#) on Wed, March 19th from 4-5pm.
- The Asian American Education Project offers free APIDA resources on their [website](#) and [Instagram](#). Their next workshop is "Chinese American Excellence in Business & STEM" on Thurs, March 27th from 1-2pm or 4-5pm. [Register](#) today!

Do you have an opportunity to share?
Email us at apida@sdsu.edu.

Paid Internships & Scholarships

Paid Internships:

- Viet Voices is accepting applications for San Diego's first AAPI Emerging Artist Fellowship. [Apply](#) by March 16th.
- EdTrust-West is accepting applications for their Parenting Students Success Summer Fellowship Program. [Apply](#) by March 16th.
- **NEW!** Peak Pasifika is now accepting applications for the Writers Fellowship for New and Emerging Pasifika TV Writers. [Apply](#) by 5pm on March 17th.
- The Asian American Journalists Association (AAJA) extended their deadline for the [VOICES Fellowship Program application](#) until 11:59pm on March 21st.
- **NEW!** The Office of Assemblymember Chris Ward is looking for student interns for Summer 2025. [Apply](#) by March 28th.
- Leadership Education for Asian Pacifics (LEAP) is looking for participants for their LEAP Emerge Fellowship Program. [Apply](#) by April 11th.
- CVS Pharmacy in El Cajon is looking for a Graduate Pharmacist Intern. [Apply](#) by May 1st.

Scholarships:

- The AICPA Foundation is offering up to \$10,000 to minority accounting students. [Apply](#) by March 15th.
- The Lao Community Cultural Center of San Diego is offering \$500 to undergraduate students of Lao American heritage. [Apply](#) by March 15th.
- Banatao Family Filipino American Education Fund is offering up to \$20,000 to college freshmen of Filipino descent enrolled at a four-year college or university. [Apply](#) by March 21st.
- The Bettersworth Law Firm is offering \$1,000 to students pursuing a career in legal, law enforcement, pre-law, or government. [Apply](#) by March 26th.
- **NEW!** The Asian Pacific American Coalition is offering the Tom Hom Civic Engagement Scholarship to two full-time students enrolled in a college in San Diego County. [Apply](#) by March 31st.
- Self-Help Federal Credit Union is offering \$1,000 to students attending or who will attend any post-secondary educational institution. [Apply](#) by March 31st.
- Earl Pascua Filipino-American Scholarship is offering \$500 to an undergraduate or graduate student pursuing a STEM or History degree. [Apply](#) by March 31st.
- The Aga Khan Foundation is offering scholarships to graduate students. [Apply](#) by March 31st.
- The Women in Technology Scholarship Program is offering up to \$2,500 to students who identify as female pursuing a degree in computer science, information management system, and other IT-related fields. [Apply](#) by March 31st.
- The Society for the Psychology of Sexual Orientation and Gender Diversity is offering the Bisexual Foundation Scholarship Award of up to \$1,000 to graduate students interested in advancing the research on the psychology of bisexuality. [Apply](#) by March 31st.
- The Japanese American Citizens League is now accepting applications for their 2025 JACL National Scholarship Program. They are offering a variety of scholarship awards. [Apply](#) by March and April.
- The BHW Group is accepting applications for the Women in STEM scholarship. [Apply](#) by April 15th.
- Ho'omau Foundation is offering scholarships to college students of Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander descent. [Apply](#) by April 16th.
- **NEW!** The Asian American Journalists Association Sports Task Force is offering the Jimmie & Suey Fong Yee Grants of \$2,000 each to two undergraduate or graduate students pursuing careers in sports journalism. [Apply](#) by April 30th.
- Against The Grain Productions is offering \$1,500 to current college students of Asian and/or Pacific Islander ethnicity. [Apply](#) by May 31st.

Do you have a resource to share?
Email us at apida@sdsu.edu.