

# DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS AND CAMPUS DIVERSITY

## SDSU Asian Pacific Islander Desi American (APIDA) Center



Read all about it!!!

Check your email! Newsletter #33 is out!

If you didn't get it, don't miss out -

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



### Location:

2nd floor of Aztec Student Union

Rooms #210A-K (Directly above Starbucks)

### Hours:

Mon-Thurs 10am-8pm

Friday 10am-4:30pm

Connect with us!

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

Center Email: [apida@sdsu.edu](mailto:apida@sdsu.edu)

Director: Dr. Loh-Hagan at [vloh-hagan@sdsu.edu](mailto:vloh-hagan@sdsu.edu)

Associate Director: Matt Garcia at [mhgarcia@sdsu.edu](mailto:mhgarcia@sdsu.edu)



@sdsuapidacenter



SDSU APIDA

Resource Center

SA+CD

# Director's Message from Dr. Loh-Hagan

June 3, 2022



## Celebrate APIDA Excellence!

*"It's an honor just to be Asian." - Sandra Oh*

APIDA Excellence is all around us. Over the past couple of months, I have been lucky enough to attend various galas and convenings; as such, I have had the opportunity to meet some amazing APIDA role models like [Wenda Fong](#) (the first APIDA Chair of the CSU Board of Trustees), [Lisa Ling](#) (APIDA journalist and TV personality), [Stewart Kwoh](#) (first APIDA attorney and human rights activist to be named a MacArthur genius), [Tamlyn Tomita](#) (APIDA actress from "The Joy Luck Club" and "Karate Kid"), and many others.

Being around strong, successful APIDA folks is empowering and inspiring. I am so proud of our APIDA community. I am also super proud to be APIDA. Our community is rich, vibrant, and amazing. Look to the heroes and pioneers before us and around us. APIDA Excellence is everywhere, especially at SDSU. I am truly grateful for my APIDA mentors, APIDA colleagues, and APIDA students.

As we wrap up APIDA History and Heritage Month (May 2022), please continue to celebrate APIDA Joy and APIDA Excellence all year long.

Note: Moving into the summer months, we will be sending out our newsletter once a month and resume our regular weekly schedule when school starts in the Fall.

# A Moment in APIDA History:

Know our histories to Know ourselves!



## APIDA Center remembers early San Diego politicians!

June is an important month for voting - As an APIDA community, we have the collective power to shape California and San Diego's future. Don't forget to [vote](#) on or by June 7th!

Did you know that the first APIDA politician in San Diego was Ah Quin (1848-1914)? Ah Quin was the unofficial mayor of San Diego's Chinatown (which is essentially the area known today as the Gaslamp Quarter). Early Asian immigrants, including Ah Quin, came to San Diego in the 1880s for work. Ah Quin had studied English and Christianity at a missionary school in China. As such, when he came to California, he was able to navigate life in the U.S. better than other immigrants. He was recruited to San Diego to procure Chinese labor to help build the city's first railroads which would eventually turn San Diego into a major port city. He opened a business in downtown San Diego, got married, and had 12 children - including the first Chinese boy to be born in San Diego. Ah Quin was a powerful resource, linking the Chinese and white communities. In addition to being one of San Diego's founding fathers, Ah Quin was also a historian; he wrote about 11 diaries, which have become an essential resource for learning about early APIDA history in San Diego.

In 1963, Tom Hom (born 1927) was the first person of color to be elected to the San Diego City Council; he also served as deputy mayor. Having served in the California State Assembly from 1968 to 1970, he was the second APIDA person elected to the California State Legislature. Starting at age 15, Hom worked in his family's produce business and as a farmer on the land where the stadium is currently located. He started a real estate business and helped revitalize downtown San Diego. In 2022, Hom was honored with a street named after him and an honorary doctorate from SDSU.

Today, notable San Diego APIDA politicians include Chris Cate and Todd Gloria. There's room for more! Vote and run for office!

# APIDA Center Highlights: News to Know!



## APIDA Center guest edits articles for NCSS journal!

[The Asian American Education Project](#), an organization committed to including APIDA histories and narratives in K-12, invited the SDSU APIDA Center to guest edit a [special issue](#) of the National Council for the Social Studies' flagship peer-reviewed journal, *Social Education*. This issue celebrated APIDA History and Heritage Month.

Dr. Loh-Hagan worked with several SDSU students, SDSU teacher alumni, and other community partners to write eight articles which are featured in the issue:

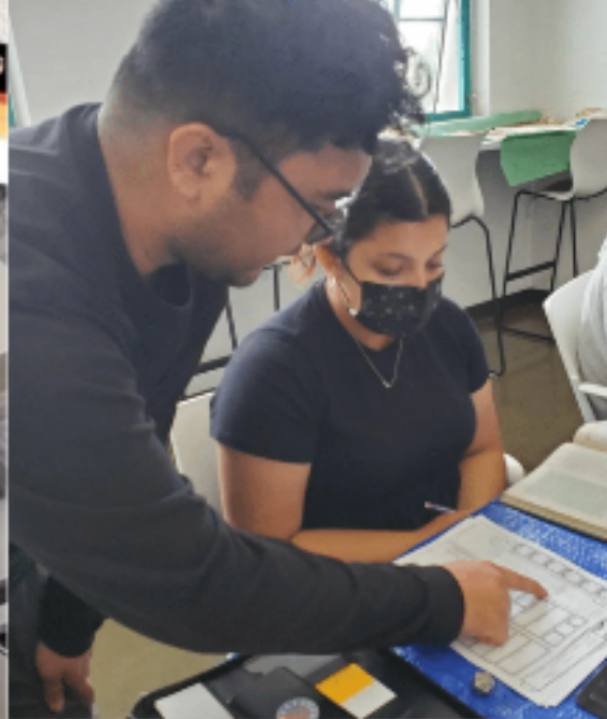
- "Introduction" by Dr. **Virginia Loh-Hagan**, Stewart Kwoh, and Pat Kwoh
- "Excluded From History: The Page Act of 1875" by Dr. **Virginia Loh-Hagan**, Dr. Jing Kwoh, Jayson Chang, and Pat Kwoh
- "Japanese American Incarceration: Seeking Truth, Healing, and Reconciliation Through Art" by Dr. **Virginia Loh-Hagan** and **Terry Matsuoka**
- "Southeast Asian Refugees: Make Them Count" by **Giannela Gonzales**, **Kathy Ho**, and Dr. **Virginia Loh-Hagan**
- "Tactics Used to Promote Civic Participation and Action in APIDA Communities" by Prabneek (Niki) Heer
- "'Unhiding' the Impact of U.S. Imperialism in the Pacific" by Dr. James O. Fabionar
- "Historical Timeline of APIDA History" by Dr. **Virginia Loh-Hagan**
- "APIDA Resources" by **Giannela Gonzales** and **Alexa Lawrence**



## **APIDA ERG celebrates the end of the school year!**

On June 3, 2022, the [APIDA Employee Resource Group](#) hosted an end-of-year party. Many, many thanks to [Agnes Wong Nickerson](#), Vice President of Business and Financial Affairs and Chief Financial Officer, for graciously hosting the shindig at her gorgeous home. It was a great opportunity for friends and colleague to gather and unwind. We told stories, ate yummy food, and laughed a lot. A great time was had by all.

If you identify as APIDA and you're employed at SDSU, please consider joining the APIDA ERG. Just email Dr. Loh-Hagan at [vloh-hagan@sdsu.edu](mailto:vloh-hagan@sdsu.edu) to be added to our contact list.



## **APIDA Center is getting ready for Dungeons and Dragons!**

Throughout the year, the APIDA Center has been hosting game nights. Over the past couple of months, however, we have been focusing on Dungeons and Dragons. We are getting ready to host our own campaign based on "The Islands of Sina Una," a new DnD campaign that is inspired by pre-colonial Filipino mythology and culture.

On May 27th, we were thrilled to host a Q&A with APIDA game designer, [Makenzie De Armas](#). She was the lead writer for "Sina Una." We talked about APIDA representation in gaming and completely nerded out about all things DnD.

In addition, on May 28th, board members for [Creators Assemble!](#) hosted a [DnD Dungeon Master training boot camp](#); they had also hosted a game play session during our [GameCon event](#) on May 1.

"Stranger Things" are happening at the APIDA Center (get it??)...Connect with us on [Instagram](#) to learn about our gaming events, or just drop on in.

# APIDA Flex Alerts!

- **Alexa Lawrence**, recent graduate of the Liberal Studies Integrated Teacher Education Program, just got her first job. In fact, she was hired on the spot! She will be teaching at an elementary school in Chula Vista. (Fun Fact: Alexa has been working with Dr. Loh-Hagan for the past four years.)
- "**The Daily Aztec**" has announced its editorial board for this upcoming 2022-23 school year. **Brittany Cruz-Fejeren** will serve as the Photo Editor. **Emily Forschen** will serve as Graphics Editor.
- Dr. **Chuyun Oh**, Assistant Professor of Dance, just published her book entitled **K-pop Dance: Fandoming Yourself on Social Media** (Routledge, 2022). This book is based on her six-year-long ethnographic fieldwork with K-pop dancers and fans in California, New York, and Korea. It traces the evolution of K-pop dance since the 1980s. It highlights Asian American collegiate dancers in California and Southeast Asian refugee teens in New York, who use K-pop to build a sense of community and alternative identities. (The APIDA Center will be hosting a workshop about her work this school year!)
- Dr. **Minjeong Kim**, Director of Center for Asian Pacific Studies and Chair of Sociology, has a new book out: **Redefining Multicultural Families in South Korea: Reflections and Future Directors** (Rutgers University Press, 2022). The book examines the diverse experiences of families who crossed the Korean border during and after the 1990s.

**We want to celebrate the SDSU APIDA community!**

**Have a flex to share?**

# All Things APIDA: Recommendations



**Alexa Lawrence**, APIDA Center Lead Student Assistant, is recommending the movie, "[Everything Everywhere All at Once](#)." Directed by Daniel Kwan and Daniel Scheinert and starring Michelle Yeoh, this comedy-drama is about an exhausted Chinese American woman (Yeoh) who is being audited by the IRS; she has to connect with parallel universe versions of herself to prevent a powerful being from destroying the multiverse. Alexa said, "I was so surprised by this movie. It had me laughing and crying every couple minutes. My favorite quote from the movie is: 'Every new discovery is just a reminder... we're all just small and stupid.' Watching this movie has increased my critical thinking skills by 100. I also love seeing more APIDA representation in movies and TV."

**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](mailto:apida@sdsu.edu).**



# Upcoming APIDA Center Events

## APIDA Community Conversations

**Location: APIDA Center**

**Date: Friday, June 10 and Friday July 15 from 2-3pm**

Pride Month is currently celebrated each year in the month of June to honor the 1969 Stonewall Uprising in Manhattan. The Stonewall Uprising was a tipping point for the Gay Liberation Movement in the U.S. At SDSU, we celebrate Pride Month in July. The San Diego Pride parade, the largest single-day civic event in the region and one of the largest Pride parades in the U.S., will take place on July 16. The APIDA Center looks forward to supporting the SDSU Pride Center and to serving our APIDA LGBTQ+ folks. Due to the success of our APIDA Community Conversation events in May, we are hosting PRIDE-themed APIDA Community Conversations in June and July. Join us! We will serve Asian snacks and drinks!

- Friday, June 10 from 2-3pm - Topic: APIDA LGBTQ+ Representation
- Friday, July 15 from 2-3pm - Topic: Double+ Marginalization

## Student-Led Workshops & Student-Created Social Media Campaigns

Do you have expertise on a topic? Do you have a special skill? Consider sharing your knowledge with us! APIDA Center launched our Student-Led Workshops and Student-Created Social Media Campaigns. This is a great opportunity to show off your expertise and share your passion with others. It's also an opportunity to learn how to plan an event or prepare a campaign with our support. Work with an APIDA Center staff member who will serve as your project mentor. We are interested in any and all APIDA-related topics! If you are interested in participating, email us at [vloh-hagan@sdsu.edu](mailto:vloh-hagan@sdsu.edu).

## Opportunities

- The CSU's inaugural [Juneteenth Symposium](#) will take place June 15-16. This two-day event will celebrate African American history and excellence. Our very own Vice President of Student Affairs and Campus Diversity, **Dr. J. Luke Wood** is one of the speakers.
- Starting on June 11, the [San Diego Chinese Historical Museum](#) will be hosting TaiChi in the Garden on Saturday mornings at 9am.
- [Aztec Student Union](#) will continue to actively serve students this summer. The A.S. Food Pantry is open on Wednesdays from 10-4pm. Backdoor Studio is open every day from 10-8pm. Aztec Lanes is also open every day.
- This summer, [Student Life and Leadership](#) is offering [virtual summer training](#) sessions: RSO Officer Obligations Training and Inclusive Leadership Awareness Training (ILAT).
- Need basic needs resources? Need help through a financial crisis? Connect with [Economic Crisis Response Team](#).

**Do you have an opportunity to share?  
Email us at [apida@sdsu.edu](mailto:apida@sdsu.edu).**

# Scholarships

- Bold.org is offering a [\\$25,000 "Be Bold" scholarship](#) (no essay required). The scholarship will be given to an applicant with the "boldest" profile. Apply now for a greater chance of winning.
- The [Asian American Architects and Engineers Foundation](#) is offering scholarships to full-time students studying architecture, engineering, design, or construction. Apply by June 10, 2022.
- The [Karen of San Diego](#) is offering a Higher Education Scholarship. Refugee students from Burma who are living in San Diego, who are involved in their communities, and who are working toward a college degree are eligible. Up to \$5000 will be awarded; community service is required. [Apply](#) by June 20, 2022.
- The [Western Regional Chapter of the Korean American Scholarship Foundation](#) is offering \$5000 scholarships for students of Korean heritage studying in the western region (which includes California). Apply by June 30, 2022.
- The [Gen and Kelly Tanabe Scholarship](#) is a merit-based program. Applicants are judged on the quality of their personal statements (250-word essay). Apply by July 31, 2022.
- Apply for [SDSU Aztec Scholarships](#). The general application for 22-23 awards will be open from April 18 to August 5, 2022.

**Do you have a scholarship opportunity to share?  
Email us at [apida@sdsu.edu](mailto:apida@sdsu.edu).**

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Your donation, big or small, makes a huge difference for our center!**

**Give to the APIDA Center!**

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