

# DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS AND CAMPUS DIVERSITY

SDSU Asian Pacific Islander Desi American (APIDA) Center



Read all about it!!!

Check your email! Newsletter #40 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!



@sdsuapidacenter



SDSU APIDA

Resource Center

SA+CD

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

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# Director's Message from Dr. Loh-Hagan

September 23, 2022



## Ban ignorance, not books!

Books unite us; Censorship divides us! This past week from September 18-24 was [Banned Books Week](https://www.bannedbooksweek.org/). Launched in the 1980s, this is an annual event celebrating the freedom to read. Did you know that it was born from student activism? High school senior, Steven Pico led a group of students activists (aged 13-17) to challenge the New York school board's 1976 banning of books by Kurt Vonnegut, Langston Hughes, Richard Wright, and others. In *Island Trees School District v. Pico* (1982), the Supreme Court ruled in favor of the students, championing the right under the First Amendment.

LGBTQ+ and BIPOC authors have suffered greatly under censorship. Book banning also harms APIDA communities. Recently, books about the Japanese American Incarceration are being challenged/banned in schools. Historically, the U.S. colonization of Hawai'i resulted in the banning of Hawaiian stories and language. Banning is not good for anyone. As an author myself, I fiercely fight for the freedom to read and learn. Our stories matter and they should not be censored. I challenge you all to read a banned/challenged book this week and all the weeks!

# A Moment in APIDA History:

Know our histories to Know ourselves!



## APIDA Center celebrates AANAPISI Week!

AANAPISI, which stands for Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander Serving Institution, is a federal program that provides funding to close equity gaps for APIDA students in higher education. This year's AANAPISI Week (September 26-October 2) marks the 15th Anniversary of the creation of AANAPISIs by Congress. In 2021, [SDSU](#) officially embraced our designation as an AANAPISI-eligible campus; Dr. Loh-Hagan led efforts to apply for federal grants and built AANAPISI networks across the state.

The fight for federal support for APIDA college students were documented as early as the 1980s with champions such as Congressmen Robert Matsui (California) and Norman Mineta (California) who made it known that APIDA students were not included in the funding allocation for minority-serving institutions. In the late 1990s, APIDA advocacy groups fought for the establishment of the White House Initiative on AAPIs (WHIAAPI) and the President's Advisory Commission on AAPIs. In 2001, these groups drafted a proposal for AANAPISIs.

In 2002, Representative Robert Underwood (Guam) introduced a bill to amend the Higher Education Act to include APIDA students. This cause was championed by other legislators: Representative David Wu (Oregon), Senator Daniel Akaka (Hawaii) and Senator Barbara Boxer (California). The bill pointed out the harmful effects of the model minority stereotype, which reduces APIDA people to a monolithic group that achieves academic success. The reality, however, is that APIDA communities are diverse and face obstacles in educational attainment. AANAPISI has brought to light the need for data disaggregation and the need to better serve our APIDA students.

Esther Kia'aina (Hawaii), Underwood's chief of staff, was a fierce supporter of AANAPISIs; she said, "...[ supporting AANAPISIs] is simply an extension of a privilege that is given to other minority groups." In 2001, Lisa Hasegawa, executive director for the National Center for Asian Pacific American Community Development (NCAPADC), organized to fight for the AANAPISI designation. In addition, in Fall 2003, the National Asian American Student Conference (NAASCon) lobbied for the AANAPISI legislation. Over 43 college campuses engaged by writing letters to Congress, petitioning university administrators, and launching awareness campaigns.

In 2007, AANAPISIs were created and funded for two years through the College Cost Reduction Act, which became the largest federal investment in higher education since the G.I. Bill. Finally - in 2008, the Higher Education Opportunity Act was reauthorized to include AANAPISIs. That stated, AANAPISI programs receive the least amount of federal funding. Since its founding, only about 50 campuses have received the grant. In 2022, out of 199 eligible AANAPISIs (of which SDSU is one), only 30 campuses have grants due to limited funding. The fight continues...

# APIDA Center Highlights: News to Know!



## APIDA Center hosts VSA social!

On Friday, September 16, the [Vietnamese Student Association](#) hosted one of their [welcome week events](#) at the APIDA Center. Student leaders **Tracy Lam** (VSA President) and **Phil Vo** organized a super fun after-hours video game night. Evidently, a lot of smashing and slaying was happening...



## APIDA Center loves making popsicle stick art!

Did you know that popsicle sticks make the best crafts? On Monday, September 19, the APIDA Center hosted its second craft event of the semester. We made popsicle stick canvas art. One participant commented how thrilled she was to find a space like the APIDA Center. A community that crafts together stays together. Remember to join us on Monday nights from 6-8pm for our craft nights. Stay connected with us on Instagram to learn about the specific activities.



## **APIDA Center hosted J.P with J.P!**

**Justin Pacheco**, aka J.P., was the star of APIDA Center's Music Night on Tuesday, September 20th. The program was entitled, "J.P. with J.P" - Just Play with Justin Pacheco. Thanks to **Giselle Sarmiento** for the clever name!

J.P. played songs on request as we sang-along. He said, "Making music is a way for me to express my feelings. Playing piano and hearing people sing along makes me happy." He has been playing piano and taking lessons since he was five years old. He has a large repertoire, has perfect pitch, and can play by ear. He can practically play any song - although Ace of Base's "The Sign" stumped him. In addition to playing piano, he also plays the drums and other instruments, especially percussive instruments. His favorite instrument are crash cymbals.

As a reminder, APIDA Center hosts Music Nights on Tuesdays from 6-8pm. J.P, said, "I love creating a sense of community around the piano. I'm thrilled that the APIDA Center has made space for us to hang out, sing, and make music."

# News from APIDA ERG



## APIDA ERG wants you!

The [SDSU APIDA Employee Resource Group](#) (ERG) is a network for APIDA faculty and staff members. We are open to all SDSU employees who identify as APIDA and/or who support the APIDA community at SDSU. If you would like to join the APIDA ERG, please contact Dr. Loh-Hagan at [vloh-hagan@sdsu.edu](mailto:vloh-hagan@sdsu.edu).

## APIDA Flex Alerts!

- **JR Ramoso** was featured in the [@sdsurockthevote](#) posting on National Voter Registration Day.
- Dr. **Loh-Hagan** will speak at Cal State Los Angeles's College of Ethnic Studies' book festival entitled, "I Read to See Me: A Celebration of Multicultural Children's Books." This event takes place on Saturday, September 24 at CSULA.

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

**Have a flex to share?**

**Email us at [apida@sdsu.edu](mailto:apida@sdsu.edu).**

# All Things APIDA: Recommendations



**Jenny Tran**, first year Finance major, is recommending Hello Panda snacks. Hello Panda is a brand of Japanese biscuit. Jenny said, "Asian snacks are the best snacks out there. And, Hello Panda snacks are at the top of the list. (I also like pocky sticks.) The strawberry flavor is the best one. These snacks are crunchy on the outside and filled with a creamy surprise in the inside. They're usually not too sweet and they're super cute. I love the panda shapes." Fun Fact: The pandas are portrayed doing various sporty poses; some are depicted in napping or eating poses.

**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

## **Mix and Mingle with Chitra Divakaruni**

**Location: APIDA Center**

**Date: Thursday, October 13, 2022 from 3:30-4:30pm**

Chitra Divakaruni is an award-winning author, activist, and teacher. During this event, participants will have an opportunity to chat with Chitra in an intimate setting. APIDA Center will provide Indian snacks!

## **Author Talk: Chitra Divakaruni**

**Location: SSW 1560**

**Date: Thursday, October 13, 2022 from 5:00-6:30pm**

Chitra Divakaruni's talk is entitled, "Unsilenced: Women's Voices in Indian and Diasporic Literature." She will discuss her female protagonists, ranging from contemporary South Asian/South Asian American women to historical and mythological heroines. She will discuss how she has placed them center-stage in her books and why such an enterprise is relevant in the United States today.

## **One SDSU x APIDA Center Makers' Market**

**Location: Student Union Courtyard**

**Date: Thursday, October 20, 2022 from 1-6pm**

Back by popular demand! Calling all Makers, D.I.Y.ers, entrepreneurs, and singer-songwriters! Sign up to sell your homemade products and/or sign up to perform your original songs on stage. We are paying vendor fees for students. Sign up here: <https://tinyurl.com/SDSUMakersOct2022>.

## **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).

## **Happy Hours at the APIDA Center**

The APIDA Center is hosting "Happy Hours" at the APIDA Center! On Mondays through Thursday from 6-8pm, we will be hanging out in the lounge. Come on over and play with us. Craft with us on Mondays. Make music with us on Tuesdays. Watch TV with us on Wednesdays. Play games with us on Thursdays. Open to all while supplies last and while space is available. Most nights will be unstructured and free. However, there will be times when we host specific activities. Keep up with us on Instagram to learn more. Also, there may be times when we need to cancel our Happy Hour to support another program. There's always something fun going on at the APIDA Center!

# Opportunities & Events

## APIDA Student Organizations:

- APSA is hosting [FamBam](#) at Crown Point Park on September 24 from 11-4pm.
- AB Samahan is hosting a [Karaoke Social](#) on September 30 from 6-8pm at The Hive Convoy.
- VSA launched their [Intern Program](#). Apply by October 7.

## Cultural Center Partners:

- The BRC is hosting their [Sister to Sister Luncheon](#) on September 28.
- The [URC](#) is hosting "Introduction to Higher Education Legal Services" on September 28 from 12-1pm and "Know Your Rights - Removal Proceedings" on September 29 at 12pm.
- The Pride Center's annual [QTPOC Retreat](#) will take place on Saturday, October 1, 2022 from 8:30am-4:00pm. This year's theme is "QTPOChild Healing"! Register by September 26.

## Campus Partners:

- The Center for Human Resources is hiring Federal Work Study student assistants.
- On September 28 from 12-1pm, students can attend the [First Gen Success Panel: Navigating SDSU](#).
- Need basic needs resources? Need help through a financial crisis? Connect with [Economic Crisis Response Team](#).

## Community Partners:

- The [28th Annual Pacific Islander Festival](#) is taking place on September 24-25 from 8-4pm at Mission Bay's Ski Beach.
- The New Student and Parent Programs is recruiting for [SDSU Ambassadors](#) who serve as official student representatives, tour guides, and orientation leaders. The [application](#) is due October 9.
- The Pacific Arts Movement is recruiting volunteers for various [internship](#) opportunities: programming, digital marketing, graphic design, video production, membership and community outreach, and public relations,
- CSU Fullerton is working on a study to compare Asian American and Latinx ethnic identity development across a lifetime to determine what motivates individuals to engage in social activism. The data collection process consists of a one-on-one interview. [Apply](#) to participate in the study.
- The [Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund](#) needs [volunteers](#) to defend APIDA voting rights. Volunteers will conduct multilingual exit poll interviews or support poll monitoring.

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

# Scholarships

Please research criteria and deadlines.

- The [Chris Jackson Computer Science Education Scholarship](#) awards \$5000 to one recipient. Apply by October 1, 2022.
- The [Annual Prevounce Preventative Health Scholarship Program](#) is offering one \$1000 scholarship for an undergraduate and one \$1500 for a graduate student pursuing a healthcare career. Apply by October 15, 2022.
- Scholarship America has established a [Dream Award](#) which offers \$5000-\$15,000 to awardees. Apply by October 15, 2022.
- The [Sikora Drake STEM Scholarship](#) supports minority students so they can pursue higher education in STEM. Any first-generation, BIPOC, female identifying, and/or LGBTQ+ student who is pursuing a degree in STEM may apply for this scholarship. Apply by November 1, 2022.
- Pacific Coast Medical Billing & Coding is offering a [Female Empowerment Scholarship](#) which awards \$1500 to a BIPOC, female student. Apply by November 1, 2022.
- The [APIA Scholars Scholarship](#) is open to APIDA undergraduates. Amounts range from \$2500-\$20,000. Applications are available between September 7 to January 19, 2023.

**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!**

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