

DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS AND CAMPUS DIVERSITY

SDSU Asian Pacific Islander Desi American (APIDA) Center



Read all about it!!!

Check your email! Newsletter #90 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 Student Union

Rooms #210A-K (Directly above Starbucks)

Hours:

Mon-Thurs 10-8pm

Friday 10:00-4:30pm

Connect with us!



@sdsuapidacenter



SDSU APIDA
Resource Center

SA+CD

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

Center Email: apida@sdsu.edu

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

Associate Director: Matt Garcia at mhgarcia@sdsu.edu

Assistant Coordinator: Angela Subido at asubido@sdsu.edu

Director's Message from Dr. Loh-Hagan

February 16, 2024



Building CSU-wide connections!

On Wednesday and Thursday, I had the distinct pleasure of hanging out at Sacramento State and ran into our old friends, Dr. **J. Luke Wood** and **Aniesha K. Mitchell**. Dr. Wood (former SDSU Vice President of Student Affairs and Campus Diversity) is currently serving as Sac State's President and Ms. Mitchell (former SDSU Senior Associate Vice President for Student Affairs and Campus Diversity) is Sac State's interim Vice President of Student Affairs.

In addition, I met my new best friends: Dr. **Mia Settles-Tidwell** (Sac State's Vice President for Inclusive Excellence) and Dr. **Darlene Daclan**, Director of Academic and Student Affairs Business Systems at CSU Chancellor's Office). We are working together to help establish a CSU-wide AANHPI Student Achievement Program housed at Sac State. This office will be essential for advocating for APIDA students across the CSU. I am thrilled to be a part of this endeavor. More soon as lots of cool things are coming our way!

Know APIDA History!



APIDA Center learns about San Diego's Miss Vietnam!

In Vietnam, Lunar New Year is known as Tết nguyên đán. This celebration is held over the course of 3-7 days. During this time, it is common to celebrate by creating ancestral altars, eating traditional food, and decorating Tết trees to welcome prosperity. Symbolic carvings on watermelons, festive lanterns, and flowers are abundant at Tết celebrations. The San Diego Tết Festival is the second largest Vietnamese New Year celebration in Southern California. This year the festival will be held in Mira Mesa from February 16-18, 2024. This festival is a significant gathering space for 35,000+ Vietnamese-identifying residents across San Diego. Some features of this festival include lion dances, a Golden Voice singing competition, and the Miss Vietnam San Diego Pageant.

In Southern Vietnam, a local Miss Vietnam beauty contest was held in Saigon. It later became a nation-wide event. In 1955, Công Thị Nghĩa was the first Miss Vietnam. This tradition has traveled to the United States through the Vietnamese diaspora and serves as an act of cultural preservation. Vietnamese American participants enter the beauty contest with the intention to learn about and represent their Vietnamese heritage. Contestants are evaluated based on their poise, grace, intellectuality, and individuality. Some competitions of Miss Vietnam in the United States enforce more restrictions related to morality and the public display of the female body. During the competition, women wear the traditional Áo Dài. This garment with 300 years of history has become a symbol of Vietnamese femininity. Pageant participants are also expected to embody teamwork through a group cultural dance. They also respond to questions about the Vietnamese culture.

Several SDSU students and alumni have participated in the [local pageant](#) and have even claimed the crown. Some SDSU contestants include **Jenny Hoang Lai, Tam-Nhu Lam, Tran Tran, Kathy Vu, Linh Tran,** and more!

APIDA Center Highlights: News to Know!



APIDA Center hosts APIDA A Capella!

The APIDA Center hosted the first meeting of our newly established [APIDA A Capella](#) group. Led by **Kaylee Lace**, the group came up with an awesome name: SDSU APIDA ScaleS, or SASS for short! (Kudos to **Caeleb Collins** for the name!) We have a goal to present a showcase by the end of the semester and also one day, strive to compete in APIDA collegiate a capella competitions. But, for now, we are just having fun, singing out hearts out while amplifying APIDA/Asian artists and music.



APIDA Center hosts various events!

The APIDA Center hosted and/or supported several events this past week. First, **Angela Subido** hosted an [UndocuAPIDA Support Group](#) and a workshop about [Dating Safety](#). Second, **Matt Garcia** hosted a workshop for Sophomore Week entitled, "[Leveling Up: Navigating Upper Division Status](#)."



APIDA Center learns about Hmong history!

This week, we partnered with [The Asian American Education Project](#) to present workshops about the Hmong experience. On February 14th, we hosted an info session and focus group about the [Hmong American Model Curriculum](#). On February 15th, we hosted a webinar about the [Hmong breakdance community](#) in Fresno, featuring Gary Yang. Yang said, "Many young Hmong, Laotians, Cambodians, and and other Southeast Asian kids took to breaking as a way of feeling safe and belongingness."

APIDA Flex Alerts!

Jessica-Belle Pansky and her family were mentioned in the SDSU Newsletter. The article is entitled, "[From an SDSU residence hall to everlasting love.](#)" Fun Fact: JB's parents and SDSU alumni, **Scott Pansky** and **Yovita Pansky**, met at SDSU and eventually got married. JB is continuing the SDSU legacy. Read the article to learn more. It's a super cute-meet story!

[Kat Hernandez](#) is the Sustainability Commission Representative. She accepted the "Leadership Legend - Organization" award by the San Diego Green Building Council on behalf of the Associated Students of SDSU. The [Council](#) said, "This remarkable organization has inspired positive change through ultra-green operations, maintenance, and services within existing buildings."



We want to celebrate the SDSU APIDA community!

Have a flex to share?

Email us at apida@sdsu.edu.

Upcoming APIDA Center Events

Meet and Greet: Curtis Chin

Location: SSW 1560

Date: Wednesday, February 21 from 5-7pm

Meet Chinese American author, Curtis Chin. Chin's debut memoir "Everything I Learned in a Chinese Restaurant" shares his memories of growing up in a diverse working-class immigrant community.

Meet the APIDA Counselors

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Thursday, February 22 from 2-3pm

Meet APIDA-identifying counselors from Counseling & Psychological Services. On February 22th, connect with Dr. Tri Nguyễn. Upcoming event in this series: Meet Dr. Michael Juan on March 7.

Vietnamese American Model Curriculum Info Session

Location: Zoom

Date: Wednesday, February 21 from 1-4pm

The SDSU APIDA Center and [The Asian American Education Project](#) teamed up with the Orange County Department of Education to develop three model curricula centering on the Cambodian, Hmong, and Vietnamese American experiences. We are hosting info and focus group sessions. These efforts support AB 1354.

Living That Healthy APIDA Life!

Location: APIDA Conference Room & Zoom

Date: Thursday, February 22 from 5-6pm

We are hosting a Living that Healthy APIDA Life! Workshop Series every Thursday from 5-6pm this February 2024. In APIDA communities, there is a hesitance to discuss sexuality, relationships, and dating. To ensure privacy, we are providing an in-person session and a Zoom option. The Feb 22 theme is navigating LGBTQ+ and APIDA relationships.

Jumping Through Hoops & Eating Froot Loops

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Tuesday, February 27 from 6-7pm

As APIDA folks, we deal with many barriers and obstacles. Sometimes, it feels like we're constantly having to jump through hoops. Let's talk about it! Share your personal experiences, hear other perspectives, meet new friends, and eat Froot Loops with us!

Blasian Support Group

Location: APIDA Center Conference Room

Date: Wednesday, February 28 from 1-2pm

If you identify as Black and APIDA, this group is for you. The theme for this meeting will be "Black Enough? APIDA Enough?" Folks with mixed-raced identities may struggle with their cultural affiliations. Come discuss your experiences with others.

Kristina Wong Performance and Q&A

Location: Student Union Theater

Dates: Tuesday, March 5 from 5-7pm

Asian American Comedian and Pulitzer Prize Finalist in Drama, Kristina Wong will be performing her new work-in-progress show, "Kristina Wong: Food Bank Influencer."

APIDA Field Trip to Cherry Blossom Festival with SDSU Go!

Location: Japanese Friendship Garden

Date: Saturday, March 9 from 10am-4pm

Join us for a trip to the Cherry Blossom Festival at Balboa Park on March 9th from 10-4pm. Snacks, transportation, and entrance to the event are included. [Register](#) and learn more.

Opportunities & Events

APIDA Student Organizations:

- [AB Samahan](#) is hosting several dates for [Mentor & Mentee Orientation](#).
- [KASA](#) is hosting a [Movie Night](#) on February 16 from 7-9pm.
- [VSA](#) is hosting a [Picnic Social](#) on February 17 from 2-4pm at Kate Sessions.
- [APSA](#) is hosting their [26th Fashion Talent Show Auditions](#) on February 23 from 2-4pm.

Cultural Center Partners:

- The [Latinx Resource Center](#) and the [Learning Support Center](#) are hosting [Applying to Grad School: Series 1](#) on February 20 from 12-2pm.
- The [Center for Intercultural Relations](#), Office for [Graduate Life and Diversity](#), and Young Men of Color Alliance are hosting [Real Talk: The Dynamics of Code Switching](#) on February 21 from 12-1pm.
- The [Black Resource Center](#) is attending the [Women's Basketball Black History Month Game](#) on February 21 from 6-8pm.
- The [PRIDE Center](#) and [Black Resource Center](#) are hosting [Unity Film Series: Black History Month Movie Night](#) on February 22 from 4:00-6:30pm.
- The [Native Resource Center](#) is hosting [Native & Indigenous Research & Arts Symposium](#) on February 23 from 10-4pm.

Campus Partners:

- [Career Services](#) is hosting a [2-Day STEM Career & Internship Fair](#) from February 20-22, from 10-2pm in Montezuma Hall.
- The [Center for Community Counseling and Engagement](#) is seeking to hire Student Assistants. Applicants must be eligible for work study. Submit a resume and cover letter to [Dr. Nellie Tran](#).
- Struggling with basic needs? Need resources? Connect with [Economic Crisis Response Team](#).

Community Partners:

- The [San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance Lunar New Year](#) celebration is from February 17-18.
- The [Year of the Dragon: Southwestern College Inaugural Lunar New Year Celebration](#) is on February 20 from 12-3pm.
- The [41st Annual San Diego Chinese New Year Fair](#) is from February 24-25 from 10am-5pm.

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

Paid Internships & Scholarships

Paid Internships:

- **NEW!** [Encore](#) is seeking an [Event Psychology Intern for Fall 2024](#). Students pursuing a degree in hospitality, business, media production, etc. may apply today!
- **NEW!** [BioMed Realty](#) is seeking students for their [Accounting Internship](#). Apply today!
- Asian Pacific Islander Capitol Association is hosting [APICA Summer Capitol Fellowship](#) from June 17- August 23. Apply by February 23.
- [LEAP Emerge](#) is an eight-week summer internship program centered on API community leadership. It runs June 10-August 9. Apply by March 1.
- **NEW!** The [Students for Economic Justice Summer Internship](#) is a six-week summer internship on economic justice campaigns. Apply by March 10.
- JusticeCorps is seeking [Legal Access Interns](#) for the 2024-2025 school year. Apply by March 12.
- [Create Scholars](#) is seeking students for [Summer Research \(2025\) and Academic Year Research \(2024-2025\)](#). Apply by March 15.
- [Olami Public Relations and Social Media Internship](#) is seeking interns. Apply on Handshake by May 6.

Scholarships:

- The [Japanese American Citizen's League 2024 Scholarships](#) are now open. Apply today!
- **NEW!** The Japanese American Bar Association Educational Foundation is offering [scholarships](#) for law students. Apply by February 18.
- The [SBB Research Group Foundation STEM Scholarship](#) is awarding \$2500 scholarships to undergraduate and graduate students with a 3.5 GPA pursuing a degree in STEM. Apply between December 1 - February 28.
- The [LAGRANT Foundation](#) is awarding \$2,500-\$3,750 in scholarships to undergraduate, graduate, and Ph.D. ethnic minorities. Apply by February 29.
- The [Community Health Ambassador Scholarship](#) is awarding \$1000 to a student studying nursing. Apply by March 1.
- The [Banatao Family Filipino American Education Fund](#) is awarding \$5,000 to students of Filipino heritage pursuing STEM. Apply by March 1.
- The Pacific Gas and Electric Company's [Better Together STEM Scholarship](#) is awarding \$2,500-\$10,000 to students pursuing science, math, technology, or engineering. Apply by March 15.
- The [Equal Opportunity Scholarship](#) is awarding two students \$500. Apply by March 30.
- The [Bright Minds Scholarship](#) is awarding \$5,000 to one student pursuing a career in technology. Apply by March 31.
- The [Mama Verang & Lola Remi Scholarship Fund](#) is awarding three \$1,000 scholarships. Filipinx college students in California may apply by April 17.
- The [Redefining Victory Scholarship](#) is awarding four students \$2,500. Apply by April 27.
- The [Across Cultures: Expand Your Horizons Scholarship](#) is awarding \$1,000 to a student open to learning about other cultures. Apply by April 28.
- The [Jennifer Gephart Memorial Working Mothers Scholarship](#) is awarding \$3025 to a mother pursuing higher education. Apply by May 10.
- The [Hicks Scholarship Award](#) is awarding \$2000 to a student impacted by cancer. Apply by May 15.
- [The Concrete Rose Scholarship](#) is awarding two \$1,150 scholarships. BIPOC women with a minimum 2.0 GPA are eligible to apply. Apply by May 24.