

SDSU Office of AANHPISI Affairs & APIDA Center



Stay informed! Stay connected!

Check your email! Newsletter #143 is out!

Subscribe to the newsletter: <https://bit.ly/SDSUAPIDA>

Read previous newsletters: <https://apida.sdsu.edu/archives/newsletters>



APIDA Center Hours:

Monday-Thursday 10:00-7:00pm

Friday 10:00-4:30pm

Location: 2nd floor of Student Union

Rooms #210A-K (directly above Starbucks)

Connect with us!



@sdsuapidacenter



**SDSU APIDA
Resource Center**

SA+CD

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

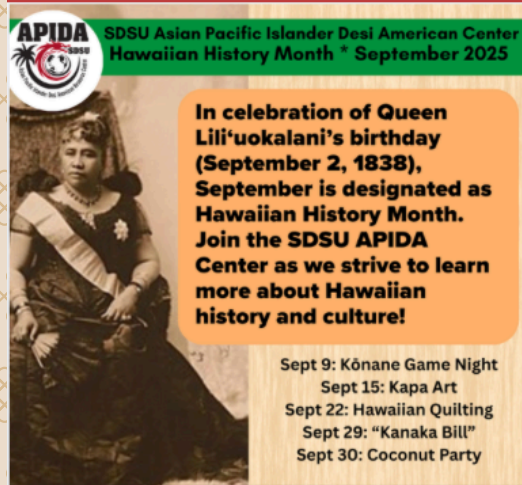
APIDA Center Email: apida@sdsu.edu

Office of AANHPISI Affairs: <https://aanhpisi.sdsu.edu>

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

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

September 5, 2025



From Dr. Loh-Hagan: Remember September!

With the end of summer and the beginning of autumn, September is full of fresh starts. For the APIDA Center, September is Hawaiian History Month, AANAPISI Week, and more.

In celebration of Queen Lili'uokalani's birthday (i.e., September 2, 1838), September is designated as Hawaiian History Month. Join us as we strive to learn more about Hawaiian history and culture. We are planning more events but these are the ones we have scheduled so far:

- Sept 9: Kōnane Game Night
- Sept 15: Kapa Art
- Sept 22: Hawaiian Quilting
- Sept 29: "Kanaka Bill"
- Sept 30: Coconut Party

In addition, I want to highlight two of our upcoming signature events:

- Sept 24: APIDA Resource Fair
- Oct 30: Makers Market - If you want to be a vendor, sign up asap! This is a great opportunity to show off your talents!

Make sure to check out our newsletter and Instagram to keep up-to-date with our events.

Know APIDA History!



APIDA Center learns about George Douglas Freeth!

George Douglas Freeth Jr. (1883–1919) was born on O‘ahu to a part-Native Hawaiian mother and an English father. From an early age, he was drawn to the ocean, excelling as a champion swimmer and skilled diver. Surfing came naturally to him. In 1907, Freeth left Hawaii and moved to Los Angeles, where he introduced surfing to wide audiences by performing for crowds at Venice Beach. He also promoted swimming, water polo, and diving.

At the time, drowning deaths were at an all-time high, which made Freeth’s deep knowledge of the ocean especially invaluable. He dedicated himself to teaching water safety and training groups of young swimmers who later became the foundation of lifeguard services across SoCal counties, including Los Angeles, Long Beach, and San Diego. His methods emphasized quick thinking and decisive action; his advice to swim parallel to shore when caught in a rip current is still used today. His most famous act of heroism came in 1908, when he leapt repeatedly from Venice Pier during a storm to save seven Japanese fishermen.

In 1915, the San Diego Rowing Club recruited him to direct its expanding swim program. Under his guidance, the club’s small team developed into one of the strongest in the state. For several summers on Coronado Island, he worked as an instructor and pool supervisor. At night, Freeth balanced his teaching with public exhibitions of diving and swimming. Freeth’s role in San Diego became especially important in May 1918 when a heat wave brought thousands to Ocean Beach and rip currents claimed thirteen lives. Soon after, the city hired him to organize professional lifeguard services. He introduced equipment such as the tripod rescue reel and adapted a motorcycle with a sidecar for rapid response, raising the standard for ocean rescue in the region.

This September 2025, let's learn about Hawaiian histories and highlight individuals like Freeth, whose knowledge and skill carried Native Hawaiian traditions into new communities. Freeth’s lifesaving work in San Diego stands as a testament to the enduring contributions of Native Hawaiians beyond the islands.

APIDA Center Highlights: News to Know!



APIDA Center launches our HAPI Hours!

We have revamped and launched our themed activities, or [HAPI Hours](#)! Mondays are our cultural crafting nights. Tuesdays are our game nights. Wednesdays are our watch parties. And, Thursdays are our takeover nights in which we host various guest speakers.

This past week, we hosted a game night on Tuesday focused on [social deduction games](#) like Saboteur and Werewolf. On Wednesday, we hosted a [Hawaiian-themed watch party](#) and watched "Lilo & Stitch." On Thursday, we shared [strategies](#) for how to organize for a successful semester. Many thanks to Dr. **Tri Nguyen** for hosting this session.



APIDA Center launches A-LIST!

These past two weeks, we welcomed our fifth cohort of A-LIST students. (A-LIST stands for APIDA Leadership, Identity, Scholarship, and Togetherness.) We are proud host a residential learning community and a university seminar taught by **Matthew H Garcia**, our Associate Director.

News from APIDA ERG

A promotional poster for an APIDA info session. The top half features a collage of images: a church tower, a person in a colorful costume, and a group of people in a boat. The text is bold and colorful, with 'CELEBRATE APIDA HERITAGES THIS FALL 2025' in large red letters. Below this, it says 'Wednesday, Sept. 10th from 1-2pm' in red. A red button-like shape contains the email 'apida@sdsu.edu for link'. A red box at the bottom contains a paragraph of text. The bottom of the poster has a black bar with white text for the center website, email, and executive director, along with logos for APIDA, Center for Inclusive Excellence, and SA+GO.

INFO SESSION FOR FACULTY & STAFF
CELEBRATE APIDA HERITAGES THIS FALL 2025
Wednesday, Sept. 10th from 1-2pm

Email apida@sdsu.edu for link

Hawaiian History Month, Moon Festival, Filipinx American History Month, Diwali...oh my! In this session with the APIDA Center, learn about all the different APIDA heritage celebrations we will be amplifying this Fall 2025. Participants will get a sneak preview of our plans and gain some strategies for supporting these cultures in your courses and/or programs.

Center Website: <https://sacd.sdsu.edu/apida>
Center Email: apida@sdsu.edu
Executive Director: Dr. Loh-Hagan at vloh-hagan@sdsu.edu

APIDA CENTER FOR INCLUSIVE EXCELLENCE SA+GO

FOR FACULTY AND STAFF ONLY: We are partnering with the Center for Inclusive Excellence (CIE) to host a workshop entitled, "Celebrate APIDA Heritages this Fall 2025," on Wednesday, September 10th from 1-2pm. Learn about all the APIDA heritage celebrations we will be amplifying this Fall 2025. Participants will get a sneak preview of our plans and gain some strategies for supporting these cultures in your courses and/or programs. Register via the [CSULearn Link](#).

SDSU FACULTY & STAFF: JOIN AN EMPLOYEE RESOURCE GROUP

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.

The [SDSU Bayanihan \(ERG\)](#) is a network for Filipino-American faculty and staff members. The mission of the Bayanihan ERG is to increase awareness, education, and promotion of Filipino-American culture at SDSU. If you would like to join the Bayanihan ERG, please contact [ERG-FilAm@sdsu.edu](#). Follow the [Bayanihan ERG](#) to learn more. T

SDSU has several [employee resource groups](#). Find your community!

Upcoming APIDA Center Events

Cultural Crafting Night: Chinese Paper-Making*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Monday, Sept 8, 2025 from 5-7pm

Ancient China was known for "The Four Great Inventions" - which refers to the compass, gunpowder, paper-making, and printing. Learn more about the historical and cultural significance of paper-making. Then, make some paper with us.

SDSU Food Safety Training*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Tuesday, Sept 9, 2025 from 3-4pm

Are you planning to serve food at a public event? If so, SDSU requires food safety training. Attend one of the [Fall 2025 sessions](#). The training is good for one year.

Game Night Tuesday: Kōnane*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Tuesday, Sept 9, 2025 from 5-7pm

Kōnane is a traditional Hawaiian board game known as Hawaiian checkers. Learn its history and how to play it.

Watch Party Wednesday: Impacts of 9/11 on Asian Americans*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Wednesday, Sept 10, 2025 from 5-7pm

In remembrance of 9/11, join us for a film screening and conversation on its long-lasting impacts on Asian Americans.

Takeover Thursday: Journaling for Success*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Thursday, Sept 11, 2025 from 5-7pm

Journaling is a great way to set yourself up for success and to boost your creativity. Learn some tips and strategies from our Takeover Host, Jacqueline Toy.

Cultural Crafting Night: Kapa Art*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Monday, Sept 15, 2025 from 5-7pm

Learn about the historical and cultural significance of Hawaiian kapa art (textiles with dye-stamped geometric patterns). Then, make kapa art with us.

Cultural Crafting Night: Hawaiian Quilting*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Monday, Sept 22, 2025 from 5-7pm

Learn about the historical and cultural significance of Hawaiian quilting, plus its colonial roots. Then, make a Hawaiian quilting project with us.

Cultural Education Program: Kanaka Bill*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Monday, Sept 29, 2025 from 4-5pm

Did you know William Heath Davis, Jr., a founding father of San Diego, was part-Native Hawaiian? Learn more about him.

Coconut Party*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Tuesday, Sept 30, 2025 from 4-5pm

Although not native to Hawaii, coconuts (or niu) are significant to Hawaiian history and culture. Learn all about coconuts and then eat some coconuts with us.

APIDA Resource Fair*

Location: Student Union Courtyard

Date: Wednesday, Sept 24, 2025 from 5-7pm

Come to our third annual APIDA Resource Fair! Connect with campus organizations and meet new friends!

APIDA Sexual Health Awareness*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Thursday, Sept 25, 2025 from 2-3pm

September is Sexual Health Awareness Month! Join the APIDA Center and Well-being & Health Promotion to learn more about Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI) & Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STD) and their impacts on the APIDA community.

Makers' Market*

Location: Student Union Courtyard

Date: Thursday, Oct 30, 2025 from 1-6pm

The APIDA Center's 6th annual Makers' Market is here! Calling all Makers, DIYers, and Entrepreneurs! [Sign up](#) by Oct 13 for priority consideration - open until filled. All are welcome to shop on October 30th!

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.*

SAVE THE DATES!

Here are some upcoming APIDA Center events:

- Fri, Oct 3, 2025 from 3-4pm: Family Weekend Open House
- Wed, Dec 3, 2025 from 12-3pm: APIDA Collectibles Fair
- Tues, Feb 17, 2026 from 12-2pm: Lunar New Year Festival
- Thurs, May 7, 2026 from 5-9pm: APIDA Excellence Celebration

Opportunities & Events

APIDA Student Organizations:

- [Japanese Student Association \(JSA\)](#) launched sign-ups for their [Big/Little Program](#). [Sign up](#) today.
- [Pacific Islander Student Association \(PISA\)](#) is hosting a [PISA Bonfire](#) on Fri, Sept 5 at 3pm in Mission Bay Beach.
- [AB Samahan's Catalyst Dance Team](#) is hosting their first workshop on Fri, Sept 5 from 6-8pm in Parking Structure 4 Level 1.
- [Sikh Student Association \(SSA\)](#) is hosting a [Gurdwara Trip](#) to the Poway Gurdwara on Sun, Sept 7 from 11-2pm.
- [Vietnamese Student Association \(VSA\)](#) is hosting their [first GBM](#) on Mon, Sept 8 from 4:30-5:30pm in Pride Suite.
- [Korean American Student Association \(KASA\)](#) is hosting their [first Fall GBM](#) on Tues, Sept 9 from 2-3pm in Metzli Suite.

Community Center Partners:

- The [Pride Center](#) is hosting [Building Belonging Game Time](#) on Wed, Sept 10 from 3:30-4:30pm.
- The [Black Resource Center \(BRC\)](#) and the [Women's Resource Center \(WRC\)](#) are hosting [Women of Color Empowerment Group](#) sessions on Thu, Sept 11 from 5:30-7:00pm.

Campus Partners:

- Child and Family Development is looking for a Student Assistant. Apply on [Handshake](#).
- SDSU Undergraduate Research Program (SURP) is hosting a Professional Development Workshop on Wed, Sept 10 from 11:30am-12:30pm at Love Library 430-431.
- Glazer Center for Leadership & Service is hosting a virtual Suicide Prevention Training on Wed, Sept 10 from 12:30-2pm. [Sign up](#) today.
- Global Education is hosting a series of info sessions for a Faculty-led Study Abroad program in South Korea. They will be hosting a session on Sept 16 from 12-2pm in Love Library 528 and on Oct 10 and Nov 14 from 12-1pm on [Zoom](#). Applications open on Jan 26.
- The Center for Asian Pacific Studies is hosting a [Meet & Greet](#) on Thurs, Sept 18 at 4pm in AL473.
- Struggling with basic needs? Need resources? Connect with the [Economic Crisis Resource Team](#).

Community Partners:

- Center for California Studies is accepting applications for the Capital Fellows Program. [Apply](#) by Dec 8.
- The Asian American Education Project offers free APIDA resources on their [website](#) and [Instagram](#).

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

Research Opportunities

- Abstract submissions for the CSU Biotechnology Research Symposia are now open. [Apply](#) by Sept 15.
- **NEW!** Cal-State AI Builders is hosting a "AI Agents Pop-up Event" from Oct 21-24. This is a hands-on learning event where students, faculty, and staff collaborate to solve real-world problems using AI. Students must [apply](#) by 5pm on Sept 19.
- The Getty Library is accepting research grant applications from students researching art history, visual culture, culinary studies, or conservation. [Apply](#) by Oct 1.
- **NEW!** Career Services is hosting the Graduate School & Continuing Education Fair on Oct 2 from 10-2pm in Montezuma Hall. [Register](#) today.
- The *Journal of the American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry* is looking for [research proposals](#) on the impacts of structural and social determinants of health, including multiple forms of racism and minoritization, in child and adolescent mental health. Submit a proposal by Dec 1.
- **NEW!** The [2026 SDSU Student Symposium](#) is on Feb 27. [Register](#) to present by Dec 11. The APIDA Center and Office of AANHPISI Affairs is hosting a [Special Session](#).



Attend & Participate AAAS Conference: Honolulu, HI

Travel Dates: April 1 - 5, 2026
Location: Honolulu, Hawai'i



WELCOME TO THE
AAAS
ASSOCIATION FOR
ASIAN AMERICAN STUDIES
CONFERENCE
<http://aaasudies.org>

NEW! The APIDA Center is offering a great opportunity for students to attend and/or present at the Association for Asian American Studies 2026 Conference in Honolulu, Hawai'i. The APIDA Center will be covering flights, lodging, conference registration, activity costs, and some meals. Students must agree to support APIDA research and scholarship. Apply by October 15, 2025. [Make sure to read criteria and instructions](#).

Paid Internships

- **NEW!** Kimley Horn is looking for Civil Engineering interns. [Apply](#) today.
- **NEW!** AFTAS is looking for a Business Development Intern. [Apply](#) today.
- **NEW!** OJB Architecture is looking for a Design Intern. [Apply](#) today.

Scholarships

- Education Dynamics is offering \$10,000 to a first-generation minority college student. [Apply](#) by Sept 15.
- Headway is offering the Book Lovers Scholarship worth \$1,500 to all students pursuing higher education. [Apply](#) by Sept 15.
- **NEW!** The Fund for Education Abroad Scholarship is offering funding for undergraduate students planning to study abroad. [Apply](#) by Sept 17.
- The Asian American & Pacific Islander Legislative Caucus Foundation is offering \$2,500 to AANHPI college students. [Apply](#) by Sept 30.
- The Creative Biolabs scholarship is offering \$1,000 to an undergraduate, graduate, or Ph.D. student pursuing a career in a science-related field. [Apply](#) by Sept 30.
- The Buckfire Law's Medical Diversity Scholarship is offering \$2,000 to one student of an ethnic, racial, or other minority background. [Apply](#) by Oct 1.
- The DP Law Encouraging Diversity Scholarship is offering \$1,000 to a minority law or pre-law student. [Apply](#) by Oct 3.
- **NEW!** The Law Office of Jae Lee is offering the Immigrant Student Scholarship. [Apply](#) by Nov 3.