

SDSU Office of AANHPISI Affairs & APIDA Center



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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!



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

APIDA Center Email: apida@sdsu.edu

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

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



@sdsuapidacenter



**SDSU APIDA
Resource Center**

SA+CD

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

October 3, 2025



From Dr. Loh-Hagan: Hanging out with Dr. Manning!

On Monday, September 29th, the APIDA Center hosted a very special guest - our very own Vice President of Student Affairs and Campus Diversity, Dr. **Christopher Manning**. Some lucky students got the opportunity to ask him questions. Dr. Manning offered leadership tips and of course, took some photos/selfies.

Also, on Wednesday, October 1st, Dr. Manning and I sent campus-wide messaging kicking off Filipinx American History Month (FAHM) and Hindu American Awareness and Appreciation Month. Learn more about APIDA/Asian heritage celebrations!

Join us for a month of learning and fun! We can't wait to share our histories and heritages with you!

2025 HAAAM Programs

Location: APIDA Center



Oct 15th from 1-2 pm: Hinduism 101

Oct 20th from 5-7 pm: Diwali Craft Night: Shisha

Oct 21st from 5-7 pm: Diwali Poker Night

Oct 23rd from 5-7 pm: Rangoli Coasters

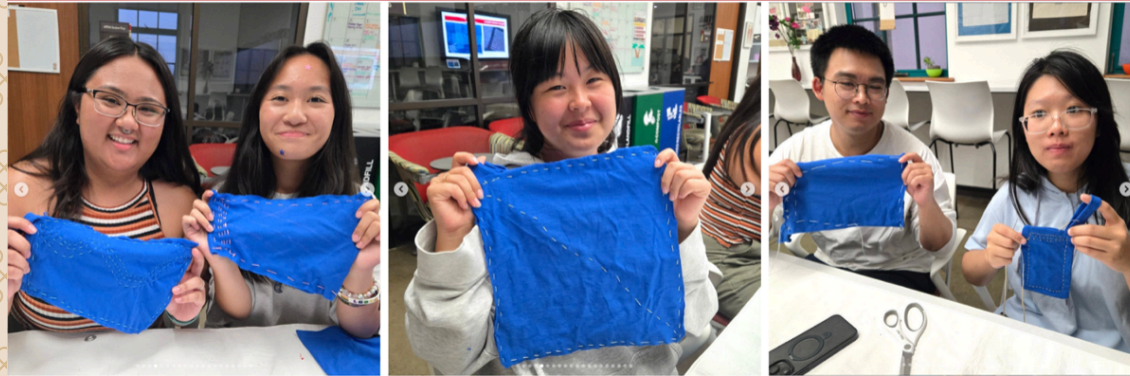
APIDA Center learns about HAAAM!

In addition to Filipinx American History Month (FAHM), October is also [Hindu American Awareness and Appreciation Month \(HAAAM\)](#). HAAAM is a global movement that highlights the Hindu American experience, showcasing the community's contributions while also acknowledging their struggles. October holds special significance in the Hindu faith, as it is the month when major holidays like Navaratri and Diwali are celebrated. It also marks the birth of Mahatma Gandhi (1869–1948), an Indian anti-colonial activist. In 2013, the Hindu American Foundation partnered with California State Assemblymember Ash Kalra (born 1972) to introduce a statewide resolution recognizing the contributions of Hindu Americans. California has been at the heart of Hindu American history and is now home to the largest Hindu American population in the nation, at approximately 800,000 in 2025.

California's connection to Hinduism spans more than a century and is rooted in the early waves of South Asian immigration in the 1900s. Many of the first Hindu immigrants arrived as agricultural workers and laborers in the Central Valley. In 1906, San Francisco became home to the "First Hindu Temple in the Whole Western World." Immigration reforms in the mid-20th century (i.e., 1965 Immigration and Nationality Act) later opened the door for larger numbers of Hindus. Today, California is home to more than 120 Hindu temples, religious centers, and cultural institutions.

In San Diego, about 2% of the adult population identifies as Hindu. Hindu Americans represent a wide range of ethnicities, languages, and cultural traditions. Hinduism has deep roots in San Diego, visible through its temples, spiritual centers, and vibrant community life. Shri Mandir, one of the city's most well-known temples, has served the community since its founding in 1994. Located in Mira Mesa, off Miramar Road, this small shopping center is often referred to as "Little India," the temple is surrounded by a hub of Indian culture, featuring restaurants, clothing shops, and grocery stores. In 2023, San Diego declared October as Hindu Heritage Month (HHM). Although both HHM and HAAAM celebrate Hinduism, it is important to distinguish between them. HHM highlights the faith's traditions and culture. HAAAM focuses on the lived experiences of Hindu Americans by recognizing their contributions and the challenges they face. This distinction is important because it honors Hinduism as a religion while also amplifying Hindu American voices within the larger story of American history.

APIDA Center Highlights: News to Know!



APIDA Center makes sashiko zokin!

On Monday, September 29th, we learned about the history and cultural significance of sashiko, a traditional Japanese decorative reinforcement embroidery technique. At the heart of sashiko is the commitment to sustainability, DIY, and visible mending. As such, we focused our sashiko stitching on making zokin - a Japanese type of reusable cleaning cloths made with scrap fabrics and reinforced with stitching. (Many thanks to **SDSU Pierce Greek Life Center** for the t-shirt donations!)



APIDA Center hosts a coconut party!

On Tuesday, September 30th, we hosted a coconut party! We learned all about coconuts, including coconut science, history and culture, and more. Then, we enjoyed some coconut snacks. (We tried to eat real coconuts but Dr. Loh-Hagan had some struggles - Watch this [video](#) from **Meghan Dang** featuring **Andy Chen's** reactions.)



APIDA Center crafts for a cause!

On Thursday, October 2nd, we teamed up with the APIDA Pre-Teachers Alliance (PTA) to host a craft for a cause events. We crocheted, knitted, and/or stitched! We'll host these throughout the year. Communities that craft together, stay together. Get crafty with us!



APIDA Center kicks off FAHM with lumpia & romcoms!

On Wednesday, October 1st, we launched our 2025 [FAHM](#) programming with a lumpia party and a Fil-Am Rom-Com watch party. Of course, we learned about the historical and cultural significance and then enjoyed some lumpia, rice, and romcom - which of course, included a love scene in the rain.



The best part of our Fil-Am Watch Party was the commentary. We had a blast "critiquing" the film. **Elijah Guiao** suggested that we host a "APIDA Reacts" podcast. Hmmmm...standby for more! :)

APIDA Flex Alerts!

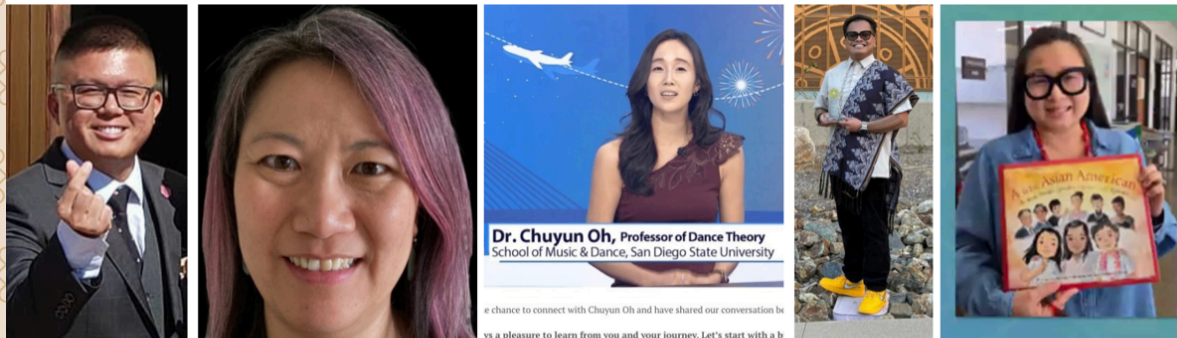
Anthony Nguyen, a SDSU Alum, has a new job. He is the Government Affairs Manager for the Inland Empire Health Plan. He will help lead their advocacy efforts to shape federal and state legislative and regulatory policy for Medi-Cal, Medicare, and Covered California for the 1.5 million Riverside and San Bernardino County residents.

Dr. **Yea-Wen Chen**, Professor in School of Communication, has published a new article entitled, "[Spirituality and Family Communication: Proposing 'Taoist Family Spirituality' As Co-Constituted Practices Among Minnan-Speaking Taiwanese Families](#)" in the 2025 issue of *Journal of Family Communication*.

Dr. **Chuyun Oh**, Associate Professor of Dance Theory, is featured in an article in the *SDVoyager* entitled, "[An Inspired Chat with Chuyun Oh of San Diego](#)." She is recognized as a pioneer and leading expert of K-pop dance studies in the United States.

Joseph Ruanto-Ramirez, lecturer in Asian American Studies, was recognized as Southwestern Community College's Faculty of the Year.

Dr. **Loh-Hagan** was a panelist in a webinar entitled, "Ignite Your Passion: A Conversation about Building Successful and Joyful Reading Experiences." The webinar was hosted by the *School Library Journal* and Sleeping Bear Press/Cherry Lake Publishing.



Gi Gonzales and Dr. **Loh-Hagan** spoke at the Vietnamese American Experiences Model Curriculum conference hosted by the Orange County Department of Education and California Department of Education. They spoke about Vietnamese American K-12 curriculum and interacted with hundreds of teachers. In addition, they went to a film screening of "New Wave" and visited historical sites including the Vietnamese Heritage Museum, Asian Garden Mall, Little Saigon, Lynda Sandwich, and more! We picked up some great ideas for a future field trip! (We even ran into SDSU alumni like Anthony Nguyen!)



Upcoming APIDA Center Events

Mooncakes & Tea Party*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Monday, Oct 6, 2025 from 3-4pm

Celebrate Moon/Mid-Autumn Festival with the APIDA Center! We will be serving mooncakes and tea from 3-4pm.

Bo Bing*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Monday, Oct 6, 2025 from 4-5pm

Bo Bing is a Chinese dice game traditionally played as part of the Moon Festival. Learn more about it and win mooncakes!

Hoi An Decorated Paper Lanterns*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Monday, Oct 6, 2025 from 5-7pm

Lanterns play a significant role in Moon Festival celebrations. Learn more about this iconic Vietnamese symbol and decorate paper lanterns with us!

APIDA in Hip Hop: A Chat with Logistx*

Location: Zoom

Date: Tuesday, Oct 7, 2025 from 4-5pm

Join us for a discussion with Logan "Logistx" Edra to learn more about her journey as a global dancer and mental health advocate. [Register](#) today!

Game Night: Yut Nori*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Tuesday, Oct 7, 2025 from 5-7pm

Learn more about Chuseok and Yut Nori. Then, play and eat Korean snacks with us.

Filipino Immigration History in Hawaii*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Wednesday, Oct 8, 2025 from 1-2pm

Learn more about Filipinos migrating to Hawaii and their contributions to Hawaii's economy and culture.

Let's Share Aloha!*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Wednesday, Oct 8, 2025 from 4-5pm

Join the APIDA Center, PISA, and Hawaii Club of SDSU for a fun mixer!

Paniolos: Hawaiian Cowboys & Cowgirls*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Wednesday, Oct 8, 2025 from 5-7pm

Learn about Paniolos, Hawaiian cowboys and cowgirls, who shaped ranching culture in Hawai'i. Join our Watch Party and discussion!

Filipino Repatriation Act of 1935*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Thursday, Oct 9, 2025 from 2-3pm

This year marks the 90th anniversary of the Filipino Repatriation Act of 1935. Learn more about its history and impacts.

Food Safety Training*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Friday, Oct 10, 2025 from 12-1pm

Are you planning to serve food at a public event?

If so, SDSU requires FOOD SAFETY training. The training is good for one year.

Filipino Immigration Post-1965*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Friday, Oct 10, 2025 from 2-3pm

This year marks the 60th anniversary of the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965. Learn more about its history and impacts on Filipinx communities in the United States.

Share Your Story: Post-1965 Immigration Stories*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Friday, Oct 10, 2025 from 3-4pm

For many of us, the 1965 Act changed our family's histories and legacies. Join us and share your family immigration story.

Pacita Abad-Inspired Art*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Monday, Oct 13 from 5-7pm

Learn about Filipina American painter Pacita Abad and make paintings inspired by her! This is one of our most popular events.

Hinduism 101 Presentation*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Wednesday, Oct 15 from 1-2pm

Learn about the core beliefs, practices, and traditions of Hinduism. This is a student-led workshop hosted by Alisha Sukhu.

Filipino Karaoke Culture*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Thursday, Oct 16 from 5-7pm

Originating in Japan, karaoke became a big hit in the Philippines. Learn more about the history and impacts of karaoke on Filipino culture.

Club Karaoke*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Thursday, Oct 16 from 7-10pm

Club Karaoke is back! Hang out at the APIDA Center and sing your heart out. There is a song for everyone.

FAHM at The Garden

Location: The Garden

Date: Friday, Oct 17, 2025 from 4-8pm

For the third time, the APIDA Center and SDSU Dining are teaming up to host a yummy Filipino-themed dinner night.

Diwali Cultural Crafting Night: Shisha*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Monday, Oct 20 from 5-7pm

Learn about Shisha, a traditional Indian embroidery technique involving stitching small, reflective mirrors or metal pieces onto fabric. This is a student-led workshop hosted by Alisha Sukhu.

Diwali Game Night: Poker*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Tuesday, Oct 21 from 5-7pm

Card-playing invokes Lakshmi, the Goddess of Wealth, who showers blessings on the players' households for the rest of the year. Play poker with us!

Asian American Children's Book Authors in Conversation*

Location: SSW 1560

Date: Tuesday, Oct 21 from 1-2pm

Asian American Studies is hosting a panel about Asian American children's book authors featuring Dr. Radhika Natarajan and Dr. Loh-Hagan and moderated by Dr. Alvin Henry.

Takeover Thursday: Make Rangoli Coasters!*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Thursday, Oct 23 from 5-7pm

Learn about the historical, cultural, and religious significance of Rangoli and then make your own Rangoli coaster. Takeover Host: SDSU CHAI Club

Merienda & Mancala*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Friday, Oct 24 from 1-3pm

The APIDA Center and Andrés Bonifacio Samahan are hosting an afternoon of "merienda" which is Filipino for snack and "sungka" which is a Filipino variant of the mancala game.

Game Night: Tong-its*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Tuesday, Oct 28 from 5-7pm

Tong-its is a popular three-player rummy card game from the Philippines. Learn more about its history and then play. This is a student-led workshop hosted by Patricia Alfonso.

Dr. Rey Monzon Data Lecture: Filipinx Student Success Data Story*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Wednesday, Oct 29, 2025 from 1-2pm

Hear from Christine V. Molina, Associate Dean of Students, as she shares how we use data to determine and inform Filipinx student success.

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!

FAHM Field Trip*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Friday, Oct 31, 2025 from 10-6pm

Join the APIDA Center on a field trip to the "Filipinos of South Bay" (FoSBE) exhibit at the Chula Vista Library and other Filipinx American historic sites in San Diego. [Sign up](#) today!

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.

APIDA Student Organizations:

- The Society of Asian Scientists and Engineers is looking for a [Website Developer Lead](#). [Apply](#) today!
- AB Samahan is accepting [Phase 2 applications](#) for their Hataw Board. [Apply](#) by Oct 5.
- The Japanese Student Association is hosting a [Moon Festival](#) program on Oct 6 from 11:00-12:30pm in Pride Suite.
- The Asian Pacific Student Alliance is hosting their [12th annual Night Market](#) on Oct 8 from 4-9pm in the Student Union Courtyard.
- Asian American InterVarsity is hosting "Celebrating FAHM" on Oct 9 from 5-7pm in the Commuter Resource Center.

Community Center Partners:

- The [Women's Resource Center](#) and [Pride Center](#) are hosting the next [Queer Femme Healing Circle](#) on Oct 8 from 4-5pm.
- The [Monarch Unity Resource Center](#) is hosting "[Reclaim Your Story](#)" every Thursday from 2:30-3:45pm. Join the next session on Oct 9.
- The [Latinx Resource Center](#) and Well-being & Health Promotion are hosting a Chilaquiles CHEF cooking class on Oct 9 from 12-1pm. [Sign up](#) today!
- Struggling with basic needs? Need resources? Connect with the [Economic Crisis Resource Team](#).

Campus Partners:

- The SDSU Department of Dual Language & English Learner Education and several collaborators are hosting the [11th annual Voice Your Language forum](#) on Oct 4 from 9-2pm in Storm Hall West 11. [Register](#) today!
- The Glazer Center for Leadership & Service is hosting a "Leadership Theories" workshop on Oct 6 at 10am. [Register](#) today!
- The Office of Grad Life & Diversity is hosting a "Graduate Funding Opportunities" webinar on Oct 6 from 5-6pm. [Register](#) today!
- Center for Asian and Pacific Studies is hosting a [Rondalla](#) on Oct 8 from 2:30-4:00pm at Scripps Cottage. [Register](#) today!
- Career Services is hosting a virtual Career Fair Preparation workshop on Oct 9 from 12-1pm. [Register](#) on Handshake.
- The Community-Based Block Multicultural Community Counseling and Social Justice Education graduate program is hosting an Info Session Open House on Nov 14 at 6pm in North Ed 60. [Register](#) today!
- Struggling with basic needs? Need resources? Connect with the [Economic Crisis Resource Team](#).

Community Partners:

- Bridge The Gap San Diego is hosting an [Academic Summit](#) on Oct 6 from 4-8pm at the La Atalaya Theater in the Mingei Museum. Email apida@sdsu.edu for a special code for SDSU students to register for free.
- The Asian American Education Project offers free APIDA resources on their [website](#) and [Instagram](#).

Research Opportunities

 SDSU APIDA Center x
San Francisco State University AA CARES

**Navigating Wellness:
A Survey of Asian & Asian
American California State
University (CSU) Students**

Scan the QR code to complete
the survey for a chance to win
a \$50 gift card!



bit.ly/AACARESSurvey

 Please take this survey (approx. 15
mins) and help ensure we are
counted in the data about our
wellbeing and mental health. Data
matters! Your voice matters!

APIDA Center Website: <https://sacsd.sdsu.edu/apida>
SDSU Office of AANAPISI Affairs: <https://aanapisi.sdsu.edu/>
Center Email: apida@sdsu.edu

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NEW! The SDSU APIDA Center and SFSU'S AA CARES Program is looking for student participants for the Navigating Wellness survey. Please take a few minutes to answer questions to help inform us on how we can best serve you and your mental health. Your voice matters! Complete the survey for a chance to win a \$50 gift card!

- SDSU College of Education is offering up to \$500 for the Student Difference Makers Research Support Program. Apply by 4pm on Oct 6.
- **NEW!** The SDSU Stoke Sessions 2.0 Conference starts on Thurs, Oct 9. The event is free and open to the public!
- **NEW!** The RE:BORDER Conference is on Wed, Oct 29 at Universidad Autónoma de Baja California (UABC) in Mexicali, Mexico. Students can register for free and sign up for SDSU's bus transportation to the event.
- Sacramento State's Japanese American Archival Collection is offering an undergraduate research travel grant for 2026-2027. Apply by Nov 7.
- 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.
- 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>

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.

Jobs & Paid Internships

- **NEW!** Aerotek is looking for a Sales Intern. [Apply](#) today!
- **NEW!** Western Alliance Bank is looking for a Summer 2026 intern. [Apply](#) today!
- **NEW!** Penguin Random House is looking for summer 2026 interns. [Apply](#) by Oct 6.
- **NEW!** Center for California Studies is looking for paid fellows for their Capital Fellowship Programs. [Apply](#) by Dec. 8.
- Google is looking for a Research Intern for Summer 2026. [Apply](#) by Feb 27.

Scholarships

- **NEW!** The Bill Kane Undergraduate Scholarship offers \$1,000 to undergraduate health education majors. [Apply](#) by Oct 15.
- The DP Law Encouraging Diversity Scholarship is offering \$1,000 to a minority law or pre-law student. [Apply](#) by Nov 20.
- The Law Office of Jae Lee is offering the Immigrant Student Scholarship. [Apply](#) by Nov 3.
- The Beverly Murphy MLA Scholarship for Underrepresented Students is offering \$5,000 to eligible college students. [Apply](#) by Nov 15.
- The Balance Mental Health Group is offering \$500 to a student pursuing a career in mental health. [Apply](#) by Nov 30.
- **NEW!** The It Takes a Village "Bayanihan" Scholarship by Tinidor Foods is offering \$500 to a Filipino immigrant undergraduate or graduate student. [Apply](#) by Dec 5.

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

Give to the APIDA Center and help support our programs directly!
Your donation, big or small, makes a huge difference for our center!

Give to the APIDA Center!

To read past newsletters, visit the [APIDA Center newsletter archive](#)!

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