

SDSU Office of AANHPISI Affairs & APIDA Center

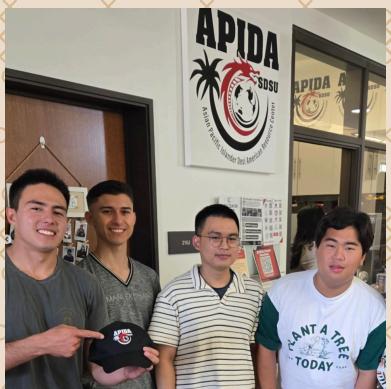


Stay informed! Stay connected!

Check your email! Newsletter #148 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 AANHPI/AAPI Affairs & APIDA Center Executive Director's Message

October 10, 2025



From Dr. Loh-Hagan: Moon Festival & Banned Books!

October 6th this year was a busy day for us - It was Moon Festival and the start of Banned Books Week, which celebrates the freedom to read by raising awareness of censorship and challenges to books in libraries and schools. The SDSU Library hosted its annual "Readout for Banned Books" - an event where students, faculty, and staff read excerpts from challenged or banned books to highlight the importance of the right to read. (Many thanks to **Rebecca Williamson** and Dean **Scott Walter** for hosting.)

So, of course, I just had to read aloud Grace Lin's *A Big Mooncake for Little Star*, which is about mooncakes, Moon Festival, and the moon. Surprisingly, it was temporarily removed from circulation in a city in Pennsylvania due to its inclusion on a list of diverse books with some criticizing its focus on Chinese culture and characters. The decision was reversed after news of the ban gained national attention, leading to public backlash and protests.

The SDSU APIDA Center proudly celebrated the Moon Festival with activities and a gathering hosted by our very own CFO and VP, **Agnes Wong Nickerson**. I feel over the moon to have a community of strong Chinese/Chinese American/APIDA leaders and allies at SDSU. May the force (of the moon) be with all of us!



SIGN UP FOR MAKERS' MARKET!

Calling all Makers, DIYers, and Entrepreneurs! Our 6th annual [Makers' Market](#) is taking place on Thursday, October 30th from 1-6pm in the Student Union Courtyard! [Sign up by October 13th for priority consideration!](#) The APIDA Center is paying vendor fees for matriculated students. This is a great opportunity to show off your crafts, practice small business skills, and raise money! Apply soon as we are finalizing vendors this week!

Know APIDA History!



SDSU Asian Pacific Islander Desi American Center

APIDAx LGBTQ+ History Month

APIDA Center learns about LGBTQ+ History Month!

October is also LGBTQ+ History Month. It is distinct from Pride Month, which commemorates the 1969 Stonewall protests against police raids at the Stonewall Inn in New York. LGBTQ+ History Month focuses on education and visibility. Established in 1994 by Missouri teacher Rodney Wilson (born 1965) - the first openly gay public school teacher in the state - the month was created to focus on history. October was specifically selected. First, it coincides with National Coming Out Day on October 11th. Second, it also commemorates the first and second marches on Washington for LGBTQ+ rights in 1979 and 1987. Third, school is still in session in October (versus Pride month which is in June). Equality Forum helps to coordinate LGBTQ+ History Month and aims to highlight 31 LGBTQ+ icons or pioneers - one for each day of the month in October.

In thinking about APIDA LGBTQ+ pioneers from San Diego, we would like to amplify Christopher Lee (1964–2012). Born in San Diego, Lee was a pioneering filmmaker and activist who built community within Bay Area Asian Pacific Islander queer spaces. His award-winning films centered around BIPOC trans men and helped shape the beginnings of transgender topics in film. In 1997, he co-founded the San Francisco Transgender Film Festival, the first of its kind in North America. Lee made history as the first openly transgender man elected as Grand Marshal for the 2002 San Francisco Pride. Following his passing in 2012, community members rallied to address the misgendering on his death certificate. Their advocacy led to the creation of California's Respect After Death Act in 2014; this act ensures that coroners and funeral directors accurately record a person's gender identity on death certificates. San Diego-based organization Equality California supported the law's passage, continuing the legacy of dignity and visibility that Lee championed throughout his life.

Join the APIDA Center in honoring [LGBTQ+ History Month](#) with a discussion and watch party.

APIDA Center Highlights: News to Know!



APIDA Center hosts Family Weekend Open House!

We were thrilled to welcome students and their families on Friday, October 3rd for Family Weekend. Folks toured the space and learned more about our resources and services.



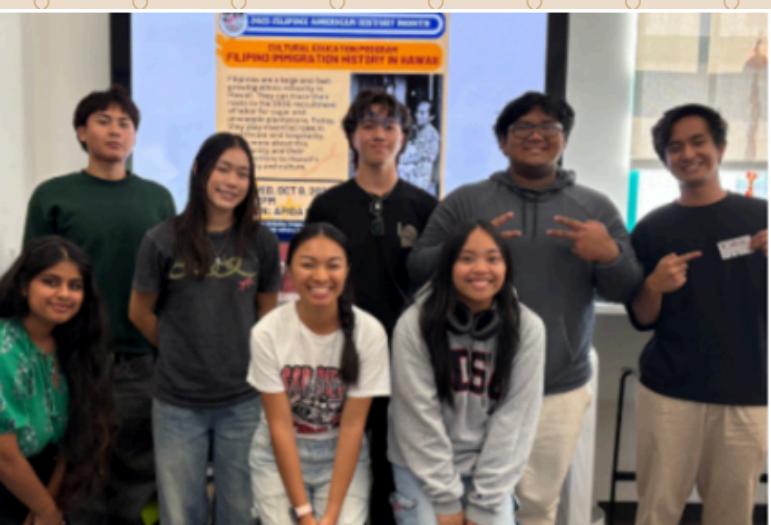
APIDA Center co-hosts a Suite 210 social!

On Monday, October 6th, the APIDA Center teamed up with the Center for Student Organizations and Activities, Commuter Center, and Glazer Center for Leadership and Community Service. We hosted a potluck social for our student staff. Student staff got to learn more about each other by playing a human bingo and then ate some yummy food.



APIDA Center celebrates Moon/Mid-Autumn Festival!

On Monday, October 6th, we celebrated the Moon/Mid-Autumn Festival. We hosted three events in a row: Mooncakes and Tea Party, Bo Bing (traditional Chinese dice game), and Hoi An Decorated Paper Lanterns cultural crafting workshop. On Tuesday, October 7th, we also celebrated Chuseok (Korean harvest festival) by playing Yut Nori, a traditional Korean board game. It was a long, fun day of activities and educational presentations.



APIDA Center learns a lot about Hawaii!

On Wednesday, October 8th, we took a little "trip" to Hawaii. First, we learned about Filipino migration and movements in Hawaii. Second, we also hosted a mixer with the Pacific Islander Student Association and Hawaii Club at SDSU. Third, we learned about Paniolos (Hawaiian cowboys) and watched a documentary.



Upcoming APIDA Center Events

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.

Game Night: Get Personal with APIDA!*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Tuesday, Oct 14 from 5-7pm

Get personal with us! Make new friends and play some conversation-based games.

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.

Watch Party: Manny Jacinto Fan Club*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Wednesday, Oct 15 from 5-7pm

Are you a fan of Manny Jacinto?! Join us to learn more about him.

UndocuAPIDA Support Group*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Thursday, Oct 16 from 3-4pm

Learn more about "We Belong Week of Action" and ways to support the UndocuAPIDA community!

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.

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!

APIDA x LGBTQ+ History Month*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Wednesday, Oct 22 from 5-7pm

October is LGBTQ+ History Month. Learn about APIDA LGBTQ+ contributions to history.

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.

**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.*

Opportunities & Events

APIDA Student Organizations:

- The [Vietnamese Student Association](#) is hosting its [first ACE Social](#) on Fri, Oct 10 from 5-7pm in the Engineering Quad.
- [Sanskriti](#) is hosting [Garba Night](#) on Sat, Oct 11 from 5-9pm in Montezuma Hall.
- The [Taiwanese Student Association](#) is hosting a [Boba Social at Camellia Rd](#) on Mon, Oct 13 from 7:20-9:30pm.
- [Hawaii Club at SDSU](#) is hosting their first [general body meeting](#) on Tues, Oct 14 at 4pm in Aztlán Suite.
- [\(AAPI\)Phany](#) is hosting [Journaling for the Soul](#) on Thurs, Oct 16 from 3:30-5:30pm at PSFA 100.
- The [Asian Pacific Student Alliance](#) is hosting [Meet Your Potential Mentor/Mentee Night](#) on Fri, Oct 17 from 3:15-6pm on Aztec Greens.

Community Center Partners:

- The [Latinx Resource Center](#) is hosting a [Heritage Spirit Week](#) from Oct 13-17.
- The [Monarch Unity Resource Center](#) is hosting [We Belong Week of Action](#) from Oct 13-17.
- The [Native Resource Center](#) is hosting [Indigenous Peoples' Day Week of Action](#) from Oct 13-17.
- The [Women's Resource Center](#) and [Black Resource Center](#) are hosting [Portraits of Gratitude](#) on Tue, Oct 14 at 5:30pm.
- The [Pride Center](#) is hosting [GraduAte](#) support group on Wed, Oct 15 from 4:30-5:30pm.

Campus Partners:

- SDSU Basic Needs is offering the Fee Relief Grant to enrolled students. [Apply](#) today!
- Well-Being and Health Promotion is hosting [AOD/Recovery Popcorn Pop-up](#) on Tues, Oct 14 from 11-1pm in the Calpulli Center Courtyard.
- Career Services is hosting [Career and Internship Fair](#) on Thurs, Oct 16 from 10a-2pm at Montezuma Hall. [Register](#) to attend!
- Glazer Center for Leadership and Service is hosting a Service Organization Fair on Thurs, Oct 16 from 2-4pm in the Student Union Courtyard.
- The Office for Graduate Life and Diversity is hosting [Research Success on Social Media](#) workshop on Thurs, Oct 16 from 4-5pm in Student Union 250. [Register](#) to attend!
- Struggling with basic needs? Need resources? Connect with the [Economic Crisis Resource Team](#).

Community Partners:

- The San Diego History Center and the Council of Philippine American Organizations are hosting Filipino Karaoke Night on Fri, Oct 17 from 6:30-9:30pm. [Register](#) to attend!
- The Asian American Education Project offers free APIDA resources on their [website](#) and [Instagram](#).

Research Opportunities

- **NEW!** SDSU Research Foundation and McLean Hospital are looking for participants for their study. Contact strive_study@sdsu.edu for more information.
- 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](#).



APIDA SDSU

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://aaastudies.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!** Qualcomm is looking for a Finance & Accounting Intern for Summer 2026. [Apply](#) today!
- **NEW!** DreamWorks is looking for a Music Intern. [Apply](#) by Oct 23.
- 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 Musical Arts Scholarship is offering \$1,000 to students of Filipino descent. [Apply](#) by Oct 15.
- The Bill Kane Undergraduate Scholarship offers \$1,000 to undergraduate health education majors. [Apply](#) by Oct 15.
- **NEW!** The Paul & Daisy Soros Fellowship offers up to \$90,000 to 30 graduate students. [Apply](#) by Oct 30.
- 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.
- 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.