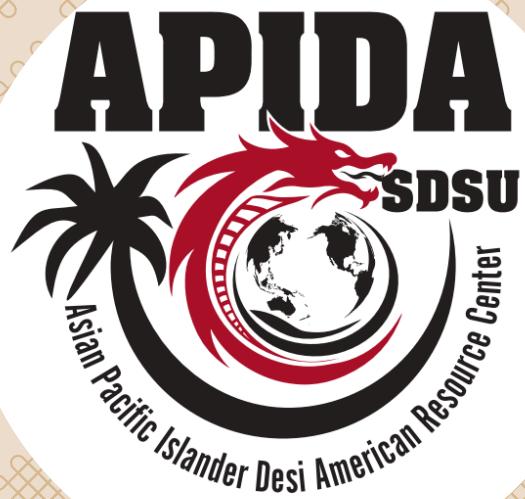


SDSU Office of AANHPISI Affairs & APIDA Center



Stay informed! Stay connected!

Check your email! Newsletter #150 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)

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

Connect with us!



@sdsuapidacenter



SDSU APIDA
Resource Center

SA+CD

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

October 24, 2025



FROM DR. LOH-HAGAN: CCPA, L.A., and Makers' Market!

On October 19th, SDSU was the site host of the California College Personnel Association (CCPA) Fall Institute. The APIDA Center was lucky enough to host two presentations: "Mattering and AANHPI Students" and "Increasing Belonging: Place-Based Learning." It was a great opportunity to show off our work, to network, and to learn about new practices and scholarships. I also appreciated the opportunity to build community with current and former colleagues such as **Gi Gonzales, Gabby Gloria, Ryan Gesmundo, Sam Blair, Dr. Erika Aros, Dr. Nicole Belisle**, and others.

FREE DAY TRIP TO L.A.! SIGN UP!

On Friday, November 7th, we are cruising up to Los Angeles to learn about the early Japanese American experience. We will be visiting the ["Cruising in J-Town: Behind the Wheel of the Nikkei Community"](#) exhibit and the [USC Pacific Asia Museum](#). Then, we will end our day with a little shopping and sightseeing in Little Tokyo and Chinatown. Limited seats. [Sign up right now!](#) (Many thanks to [REO](#) for their continued support.)



SHOP AT MAKERS' MARKET!

Our 6th annual [Makers' Market](#) is taking place on Thursday, October 30th from 1-6pm in the Student Union Courtyard! Find some time to support our SDSU Maker community and get a jump start on your holiday gift shopping - Who wouldn't want a unique, handmade gift?! Venmo, checks, or credit cards only; no cash! Buy local, shop small. When you buy local, you invest in your community. Supporting a local business means supporting an actual person. Shop! Shop!

Donate to the APIDA Center!



APIDA Center thanks Dr. Bauer!

Did you know that puzzles have many benefits for the brain? They improve cognitive function, reduce stress, and build community. Since our first year in our space, our puzzles have been the start of many friendships. We love puzzles! And, we are so grateful to friends like Dr. **Kara Bauer**, Interim Chief Student Development Officer, and the Bauer family for gifting us with puzzles. (Puzzle-lovers unite!)

The APIDA Center welcomes any and all types of gifts - even your time. We are always looking for high-quality puzzles, tabletop games, video games, Asian American books, craft supplies, and more.

Know APIDA History!



APIDA Center learns about Virgil Sales Yalong Jr.!

As we move into the last week of Filipinx American History Month (FAHM), we would like to spotlight **Virgil Sales Yalong, Jr.** (1980–2016), a SDSU alumnus, whose work made a lasting impact on San Diego's arts and nonprofit scene. Yalong Jr. earned his B.A. in art and graphic design in 2005. After graduating, he contributed to organizations such as Rising Arts Leaders of San Diego as the Advocacy Chair, Asian Story Theatre as a playwright, and A Reason to Survive (ARTS) as a teaching artist. He was also a playwright with the Old Globe Community Voices and Malcolm X Library Playwright workshop. Through these roles, he mentored young creatives and worked to expand access to the arts to the San Diego Fil-Am community.

He also served as the assistant festival director of the Filipino American Festival (FilAmFest) in San Diego and was often referred to as the "heart of FilAmFest." Established in the early 2000s in the Paradise Hills neighborhood, this festival was founded to celebrate Fil-Am heritage through art, culture, and education. His leadership helped FilAmFest grow into a cornerstone community event that celebrates local talent and helps students get scholarships. He had said, "As a member of the [FilAmFest](#), I do a lot of outreach to high schools and the information about scholarships was a helpful addition for me to continue encouraging students to pursue their educational goals."

Even after his passing in 2016, Yalong's influence continues. The [Council of Philippine American Organizations of San Diego \(COPAO\)](#) established the [Virgil Yalong – Larry Itliong FAHM Essay Contest](#) in 2024, which is a highlight of the Larry Itliong Community Breakfast. (Fun Facts: Last year, the APIDA Center sponsored a table at the inaugural Larry Itliong Community Breakfast and met Cynthia Bonta, a legacy labor rights activist. We also visited the COPAO office during our FAHM field trip.)

APIDA Center Highlights: News to Know!



APIDA Center learns about Shisha!

On October 20th, we hosted our first Diwali event and learned about Shisha embroidery, an ornamental technique that attaches small mirrors onto fabric with decorative stitches. This Indian mirror-work embroidery is often used in Diwali celebrations to catch and reflect light, which is a central theme of Diwali. The event was developed and hosted by **Alisha Sukhu**, our APIDA Student Intern. (Alicia supported most of our Diwali programming this year.)



APIDA Center participates in AAS KidLit panel!

On October 21st, Dr. **Alvin J. Henry**, Director of the Asian American Studies department, hosted a panel about Asian American children's literature. He invited Dr. **Loh-Hagan** and Dr. Radhika Natarajan to be guest speakers. We talked about representation, authenticity, capitalism, and more. Dr. Henry said, "...children's literature is now also increasingly a site of intervention and resistance - writers like Drs. Natarajan and Loh-Hagan are creating new archives, new aesthetics, new ways of seeing, and sparking the imaginations of children across the globe....Today, we're going to think about children's literature as aesthetic practice, historical methodology, and political work."



APIDA Center plays poker for Diwali!

To honor the Goddess Lakshmi, the Hindu goddess of wealth, many Hindus play poker and other card games during Diwali. This is believed to bring blessings of wealth and prosperity. So, naturally, on October 21st, we played poker!



APIDA Center observes APIDA LGBTQ+ History Month!

On October 22nd, we learned about LGBTQ+ history month and about 31 APIDA LGBTQ+ pioneers. (Part of the celebrations is to honor 31 icons each year.) We also hosted a watch party featuring "Saving Face," a 2004 rom-com-dram. It was the first Hollywood movie that centered on Chinese Americans since "The Joy Luck Club" in 1993. It was also pioneering in its depiction of a lesbian romance. A landmark Asian American film, it provided much-needed representation tackling multigenerational conflict and the struggle for personal happiness against cultural pressures.



APIDA Center makes rangoli coasters!

On October 23rd, we hosted our last Diwali event and learned about rangoli and then made rangoli coasters. Rangoli is a traditional art form of creating decorative, colorful patterns on the floor or tabletop using materials like colored powders, rice flour, sand, flower petals, etc. It is a significant part of Diwali and is believed to bring good luck, prosperity, and happiness while warding off evil spirits.

APIDA Recommendation



APIDA recommends Marlene's Tea and Cakes!

On Saturday, October 18th, APIDA ERG members - Dr. **Minjeong Kim**, Dr. **Loh-Hagan** (who is a big high tea aficionado), and Dr. **Alvin Henry** - enjoyed a delicious FAHM Merienda at [Marlene's Tea and Cakes](#), a Filipina-owned small business in northern San Diego. Born in the Philippines, Marlene moved to San Diego at age 4, became a software engineer, and then decided to turn her love of the British afternoon tea tradition into a business. (Fun Fact: Her husband is a SDSU alum!) We highly recommend you check out Marlene's and enjoy all the teas and cakes. We hope the ube scone will become part of the regular menu! Pinky up, drink up!

FYI: Merienda has been referred to as "Filipino Afternoon Tea." It is a Filipino tradition, rooted in the Spanish custom of snacking in the mid-afternoon. Of course, Filipino meriendas feature Filipino dishes like pancit, lumpia, siomai, arroz caldo, puto, bibingka, and more.

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.

Upcoming APIDA Center Events

Build A Gundam*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Monday, October 27, 2025 from 5-7pm

Learn about Gunpla, or Gundam Plastic Models, and then build a gundam! Hosted by Teddy Morando, APIDA Student Intern.

Game Night: Tong-its*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Tuesday, October 28, 2025 from 5-7pm

Tong-its is a popular three-player rummy card game from the Philippines. Learn about its history and then play. Hosted by Patricia Alfonso, APIDA Student Intern.

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

Location: APIDA Center

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

Christine V. Molina, Associate Dean of Students, shares how we use data to tell the story of Filipinx student success.

APIDA Transfer Students Mixer*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Wednesday, October 29, 2025 from 3-4pm

Celebrate National Transfer Student Week with us, albeit a week late. Learn about the APIDA Center and mingle with other APIDA Transfer Students!

Watch Party: Asian Horror*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Wednesday, October 29, 2025 from 5-7pm

Dare to be scared? Join us for our Asian horror watch party. Grab your friends, settle in, and prepare to scream (just a little)!

Makers' Market

Location: Student Union Courtyard

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

Our 6th annual Makers' Market is almost here! Shop and support our [2025 vendors](#). Get a head start on your holiday gift shopping.

FAHM Field Trip*

Location: Various sites in San Diego

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

We are visiting the "Filipinos of South Bay" (FoSBE) exhibit at the Chula Vista Library and other Filipinx American historic sites in San Diego.

APIDA Commuter Student Panel*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Tuesday, November 4, 2025 from 12-1pm

Learn about the APIDA commuter experience and hear directly from APIDA commuter students who will share their struggles, experiences, tips, and more! Hosted by Jazmine Ibarra, APIDA Student Intern.

Workshop: Commuter Student Resources*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Tuesday, Nov 4, 2025 from 1-2pm

In this workshop, learn about resources available to help navigate the campus/city and learn about tips to stay connected and be involved with campus life. Hosted by Jazmine Ibarra!

APIDA L.A. Field Trip: "Cruising J-Town," Little Tokyo, and More!*

Location: Various sites in Los Angeles

Date: Friday, November 7, 2025 from 9-7pm

Take a day trip to Los Angeles with us. We will be visiting the "Cruising in J-Town: Behind the Wheel of the Nikkei Community" exhibit. We are also going to the USC Pacific Asia Museum, Little Tokyo, and Chinatown. [Sign up](#) by Fri, Oct 31!

Ô Ăn Quan with VSA*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Thursday, November 13, 2025 from 5-7pm

Ô Ăn Quan is a traditional Vietnamese game stemming from the mancala family of games. Learn more about its origins and significance and then play with us. This program is a collaboration between the APIDA Center and Vietnamese Student Association.

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:

- 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:

- The Japanese Student Association (JSA) is hosting a [Big/Little Reveal](#) on Fri, Oct 24 in the Engineering Quad.
- The Korean American Student Association (KASA) is hosting a [Big and Little Social](#) on Sat, Oct 25 from 4-6pm in the Engineering Quad.
- The Taiwanese Student Association (TSA) is accepting Big and Little Sign-ups until 11:59pm on Oct 25.
- Sanskriti SDSU is accepting [performance applications](#) for their [Diwali Celebration](#). [Apply](#) by Sun, Oct 26.
- Society of Asian Scientists and Engineers (SASE) is hosting a [Halloween Study Sesh](#) on Tues, 28 at 5:30pm in EIS 320.
- Asian American Journalists Association (AAJA) at SDSU is attending [AAJA San Diego's Networking Event](#) on Wed, Oct 29 from 7:00-8:30pm at Oggi's Pizza.
- The Pacific Islander Student Association (PISA) is looking for volunteers for the annual [High School Conference](#) on Sat, Nov 8 from 9-5pm in the Student Union. [Sign up](#) by Oct 30.

Community Center Partners:

- Latinx Resource Center (LRC) is facilitating a [Día de Muertos Virtual Pet Altar](#).
- The Black Resource Center (BRC) is accepting applications for the annual [Lip Sync Battle](#). [Sign up](#) by Sun, Oct 26.
- Center for Intercultural Relations (CIR) is hosting [National Immigrants Day](#) on Tues, Oct 28 from 4:30-6:00pm.
- Project Rebound is hosting a [Farewell Potluck](#) on Wed, Oct 29 from 1-3pm in PSFA 108.

Campus Partners:

- The Office of Grad Life and Office Diversity (GLAD) is hosting a [Grad First-Gen Celebration](#) on Thurs, Oct 30 from 11-1pm in Scripps Cottage. [RSVP](#) today!
- Career Services is hosting a virtual workshop entitled, "Smarter Resumes with AI" on Wed, Oct 29 from 1-2pm. Register on Handshake!
- Center for Asian and Pacific Studies (CAPS) is hosting a screening of [Ziam](#) on Thurs, Oct 30 at 4pm in Storm Hall 204. [RSVP](#) today!
- Struggling with basic needs? Need resources? Connect with the [Economic Crisis Resource Team](#).

Community Partners:

- Bridge The Gap San Diego is hosting "Sarap Sounds" on Sat, Oct 25 from 3-10pm at Pizza Kaiju.
- The Asian American Education Project offers free APIDA resources on their [website](#) and [Instagram](#).

Jobs & Paid Internships

- **NEW!** Kitchell CEM, Inc is looking for an Architectural Intern for Summer 2026. [Apply](#) today!
- **NEW!** Nasland Engineering is looking for a Civil Engineer Intern. [Apply](#) today!
- KPBS is looking for a part-time a Student Assistant. [Apply](#) by Oct 29.
- **NEW!** Axos Bank is looking for a Strategy & Data Analyst Intern. [Apply](#) by Nov 1.
- 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

- The Paul & Daisy Soros Fellowship offers up to \$90,000 to 30 graduate students. [Apply](#) by Oct 30.
- The ACES Scholarship is offering \$1500 to students pursuing a career in editing. [Apply](#) by Nov 15.
- The DP Law Encouraging Diversity Scholarship is offering \$1000 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 \$5000 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!** Boster Bio is offering \$1000 to graduate students working in a biology or related lab. [Apply](#) by Nov 30.
- **NEW!** Forte Business Leaders Scholarship is offering \$1000 to business majors or minors. [Apply](#) by Dec 1.
- 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.