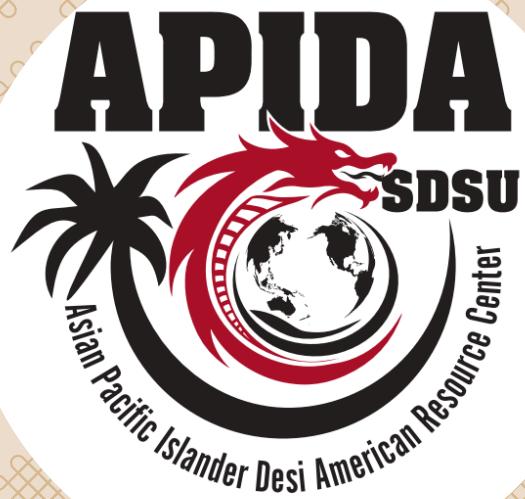


# SDSU Office of AANHPISI Affairs & APIDA Center



**Stay informed! Stay connected!**

**Check your email! Newsletter #151 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](mailto:apida@sdsu.edu)

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

Executive Director: Dr. Loh-Hagan at [vloh-hagan@sdsu.edu](mailto:vloh-hagan@sdsu.edu)

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

October 31, 2025



### From Dr. Loh-Hagan: Makers to Collectibles!

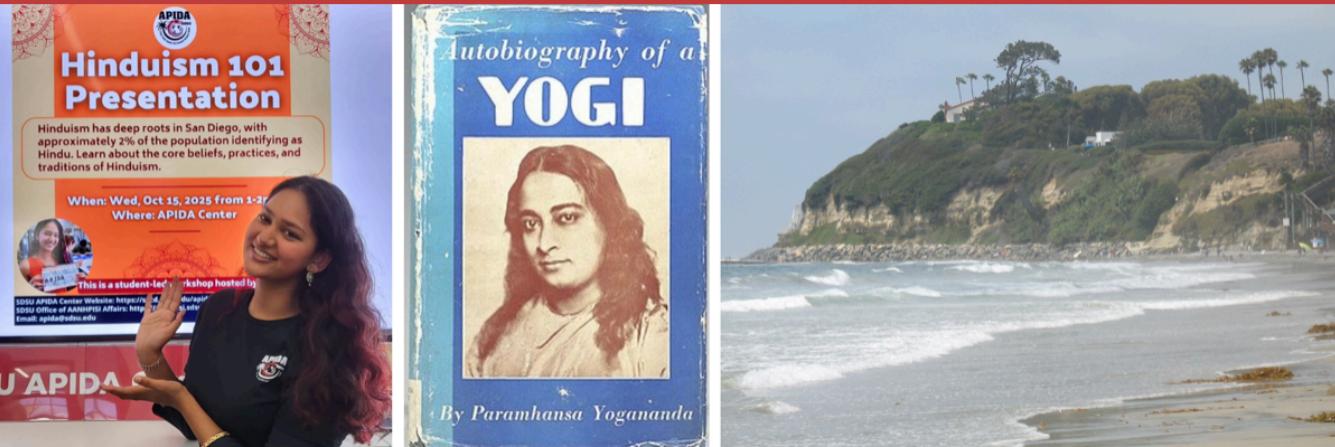
On Thursday, October 30th, we hosted our 6th annual Makers Market with about 30 vendors and a ton of shoppers - including some V.I.P. shoppers like President **Adela de la Torre**, Provost **Bill Tong**, and Vice President of Student Affairs and Campus Diversity **Chris Manning**.

The Makers Market is our most popular signature event. It has been described as a transformational experience that has fostered students' entrepreneurial and creative talents. We are so proud of our Makers - some of whom have even started their own small businesses.

We plan on continuing our commitment to supporting the creative community at SDSU. For our next "big" event, we will be hosting a Collectibles Fair on December 3rd in which we want to exhibit people's collections. More information coming soon!



# Know APIDA History!



## APIDA Center learns about Paramahansa Yogananda (1893-1952)!

This week was the last week of Hindu American Awareness & Appreciation Month. There are about 6500 Hindus in San Diego. Did you know San Diego was once the center of Hindu and yoga practice in the United States?

Established in 1937, the Self-Realization Fellowship (SRF) in Encinitas, California, served as the headquarters for Hindu philosophy and practice in the nation. The SRF's founder was Paramahansa Yogananda (1893-1952). Born in Gorakhpur, India, he devoted himself to rigorous study and discipline. His work began in 1917 with the establishment of a boys' academy, where modern educational methods were integrated with yoga training and instruction in spiritual principles. It was there that he had a vision calling him to the United States, where he lectured on "The Science of Religion." In 1920, he founded the Self-Realization Fellowship (SRF) to disseminate his teachings on Kriya Yoga.

He returned to India to teach and returned in 1936 to stay at a hermitage built by a devoted disciple in Encinitas, California. Two years later, on January 2, 1938, the Golden Lotus Temple was dedicated. The temple featured a four-story glass observation tower overlooking the Pacific Ocean. In the following years, thousands have attended his services at this site. Over time, however, coastal erosion forced a relocation.

In September 1943 during World War II (1939-1945), Yogananda established the San Diego Temple in Bankers Hill, which served as a branch of the SRF. He planted cypress trees lining the front walkway.

During his time in Encinitas, Yogananda had conducted sunrise services and translated traditional melodies (Cosmic Chants) into English. However, the majority of his time was spent writing his autobiography about his 25 years of travel and stories of individuals he met.

# APIDA Center Highlights: News to Know!



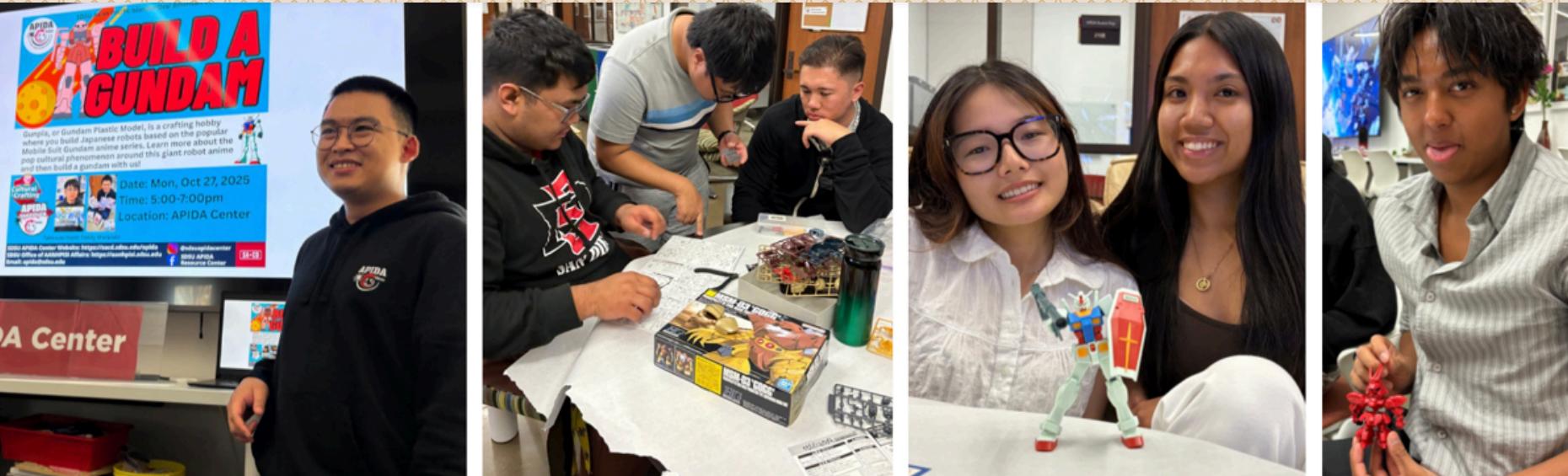
## APIDA Center co-hosts Merienda & Mancala!

On Friday, October 24th, the APIDA Center and AB Samahan teamed up to host a FAHM event, Merienda & Mancala. We learned about the historical and cultural significance of both traditions and then ate a bunch of yummy Filipino snacks (merienda) and played sungka (which is a specific type of Mancala game originating in the Philippines). Many thanks to **Christopher De Las Alas** and **Kassidy Quiambao** for being great co-hosts!



## APIDA Center co-hosted FAHM at The Garden!

On Friday, October 24th, we teamed up with SDSU Dining and hosted the third annual FAHM at The Garden. No cap, the lumpia was amazing - a student even commented that it was better than his mom's (a hot take, for sure!). Many thanks to Executive Chef **Tiago Battastini** for his continued partnership and friendship over the years. It's always a delicious adventure!



## APIDA Center hosts a Gundam workshop!

APIDA Student Intern, **Teddy Morando**, hosted a super popular gundam/gunpla workshop on October 27th. Attendees learned all about these giant robots and then worked on model kits. (No shade, but...it was kinda amazing to see students reading instructions, willingly and for fun!)



## APIDA Center plays Tong-its!

On Tuesday, October 28th, APIDA Student Intern, **Patricia Alfonso**, hosted a game night about Tong-its, a three-player rummy card game popular in the Philippines that is believed to have originated from the American card game, Tonk, and likely introduced by the U.S. military presence in the 1940s.



## APIDA Center hosts Christina Molina!

On Wednesday, October 29th, **Christina Molina**, Associate Dean of Students, presented our FAHM's Dr. Rey Monzon Data Lecture. Her talk was entitled, "How Data Drives Student Success." She said, "Organized data becomes information. Information helps us make decisions." She also emphasized, "Every data point represents a student story."



## APIDA Center hosts a Transfer Mixer!

On Wednesday, October 29th, we hosted a Transfer Mixer as part of National Transfer Student Week - which technically was last week but it's better late than never!



## APIDA Center hosts an Asian Horror watch party!

In recognition of Halloween, we hosted a watch party about Asian horror on Wednesday, October 29th. Did you know that Asian horror films are way scarier because they focus heavily on the psychological aspect of fear (versus jump scares and gore)? Dare to be scared this Halloween weekend and watch an Asian American horror film. We recommend: "It Lives Inside (2023), "Umma" (2022), or "Daughter" (2022).

# Spotlight on APIDA Alum: Justin Pacheco



The APIDA Center was thrilled to catch up with recent graduate, **Justin Pacheco** (or JP, as those in-the-know call him!). He shared, "Since graduating last December [with a Television, Film and New Media degree], I've been building my career in film and media as a freelance sound mixer, boom operator, and post-production sound designer under my brand, JP Audio Co. I've worked on a variety of projects across Southern California, including three feature films set to stream soon on Amazon Prime Video! Outside of film, I'm developing interactive game projects that blend storytelling, sound design, and tech. I'm grateful to the APIDA Center for giving me a welcoming space to hang out, grow, and learn more about Asian culture and history during my time at SDSU."

# Upcoming APIDA Center Events

## APIDA Center Drop-In Advising

**Location: APIDA Center or Zoom**

**Date: November 3-18**

Come to the APIDA Center for all your academic needs, No appointment needed. Dates and times are available on [Instagram](#).

## Weave with APIDA!\*

**Location: APIDA Center**

**Date: Monday, November 3, 2025 from 5-7pm**

Learn how weaving has been used to share stories, preserve traditions, and build community across generations. Then, get hands-on and create your own unique weaving project.

## 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 and city. Learn tips to stay connected and be involved with campus life. Hosted by Jazmine Ibarra, APIDA Student Intern.

## IYKYK: Cringey Game Night\*

**Location: APIDA Center**

**Date: Tuesday, November 4, 2025 from 5-7pm**

Let's play Cards Against Humanity! (In addition to voting on the best answers, make sure to vote on the best candidates on this Election Day!)

## Filipino Supernatural Folklore in Anime\*

**Location: APIDA Center**

**Date: Wednesday, November 5, 2025 from 5-7pm**

Come to the APIDA Center and pass into our realm of mythical creatures. Join our discussion and Watch Party about Filipino supernatural folklore. Hosted by Jordan Alfaro, APIDA Student Intern!

## Book Club: Thien Pham's Family Style\*

**Location: APIDA Center**

**Date: Thursday, November 6, 2025 from 5-7pm**

Let's read and discuss the graphic autobiographical novel "Family Style" by Thien Pham. Share your favorite food memories and eat snacks that are mentioned in the book. Attendees will receive a free copy of the book!

## 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**

We are hosting a day trip to Los Angeles. We will be visiting the "Cruising in J-Town: Behind the Wheel of the Nikkei Community" exhibit, Little Tokyo, and Chinatown. (Sign-ups are closed.)

## Musubi Mixer with PISA\*

**Location: APIDA Center**

**Date: Wednesday, November 12, 2025 from 4-5pm**

Join us to learn about the historical and cultural significance of Spam Musubi and enjoy some tasty treats with us. Then, play some games. This event is co-hosted by PISA.

## History of the Philippine Jeepney\*

**Location: APIDA Center**

**Date: Thursday, November 13, 2025 from 12-1pm**

Jeepneys are repurposed surplus U.S. military jeeps and thus, a symbol of Filipino resilience and creativity. Learn more and design your own jeepney! Hosted by Marianne Lababit, APIDA Student Intern.

## 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 event is co-hosted by VSA.

## 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:

- Asian American InterVarsity is hosting [Ramen & Prayer Part 2](#) on Sat, Nov 1 at 10:30pm on Greek Circle.
- Sanskriti is hosting [Diwali 2025](#) on Sun, Nov 2 from 5-9pm in Montezuma Hall.
- AAPI Pre-Law Society is hosting [Guest Speaker Viet Nguyen](#) from DLA Piper on Tues, Nov 4 from 2-3pm in State Suite.
- PISA is hosting the annual High School Conference on Sat, Nov 8. [Register](#) by Wed, Nov 5.
- VSA is hosting [Back to the Jamprov](#) on Sat, Nov 8 at 6pm in Montezuma Theater. [Register](#) by Wed, Nov 5.
- NSA is hosting a [merch design contest](#). [Submit](#) by Fri, Nov 7!

## Community Center Partners:

- The LRC is hosting "Caminos in STEM: Latino Student Stories Through Community Cultural Wealth" on Tues, Nov 4 from 2-3:30pm. [RSVP](#) today!
- The CIR is hosting "Lift as You Climb: First Generation Panel" on Tues, Nov 4 from 5-6pm. [RSVP](#) today!
- The BRC is hosting [Wellness Wednesday](#) on Wed, Nov 5 from 12-1pm.
- Pride Center's [SafeZones Training Program](#) sessions begin on Wed, Nov 5 from 12-2pm. [Register](#) today!
- The WRC is facilitating a Craft & Chat video project. [Sign up](#) today!

## Campus Partners:

- GLaD is hosting a workshop entitled, "Graduate Writing Seminar Papers and IMRaD Format" on Mon, Nov 3 from 5-6pm on Zoom. [RSVP](#) today!
- EOPOS is hosting [First Gen Day Celebration](#) on Wed, Nov 5 from 11-1pm at Scripps Cottage. [RSVP](#) today!
- Career Services is hosting a [Part-Time Job Fair](#) on Thurs, Nov 6 from 10-2pm in Montezuma Hall.
- Center for Asian and Pacific Studies is hosting "Feeding the Ancestors: Cross-Cultural Celebrations of the Dead" on Thurs, Nov 6 at 4pm in Storm Hall 205. [RSVP](#) today!
- Struggling with basic needs? Need resources? Connect with the [Economic Crisis Resource Team](#).

## Community Partners:

- The Asian American Education Project offers free APIDA resources on their [website](#) and [Instagram](#). Their next FREE workshop is entitled, "Honoring Asian American WWI Veterans: Bringing Hidden Stories into the Classroom" on Wed, Nov 5 from 4-5pm. [Register](#) today!
- Asian Business Association San Diego is hosting a workshop entitled, "The Basics of Product Photography" on Thurs, Nov 6 from 11-12pm at Studio Luniste. [RSVP](#) today!
- The Japanese American Citizens League San Diego Chapter is hosting a [Shamisen and Minyo performance](#) on Thurs, Nov 6 at 4pm at the Mission Valley Public Library.
- San Diego Miramar College is hosting "Hip Hop Meets Ceramics: Power, Pedagogy, and Art" on Fri, Nov 7 from 8:30-1:00pm. [Register](#) today!

## Research Opportunities

- **NEW!** Galley Way is looking for 2026 Fresh Voices Fellows to contribute to the Epiphany Literary Journal. [Apply](#) by Nov 1.
- Sacramento State's Japanese American Archival Collection is offering an undergraduate research travel grant for 2026-2027. [Apply](#) by Nov 7.
- **NEW!** The Asian Pacific American Institute for Congressional Studies' Kakehaski Project provides an opportunity to travel to Japan. [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](#).
- SDSU Entrepreneurship Initiatives is accepting applications for the 2026 Social Venture Challenge themed "Achieving Food Security Through Innovation." [Apply](#) by Dec 12.
- CREATE Scholars is accepting applications for the 2026 Summer Research cohort. [Apply](#) by Jan 16, 2026.

## Jobs & Paid Internships

- **NEW!** TTM Technologies is looking for an Engineering Intern for Summer 2026. [Apply](#) today!
- Axos Bank is looking for a Strategy & Data Analyst Intern. [Apply](#) by Nov 1.
- **NEW!** Oak Ridge Institute is hosting a virtual session to provide more information about the U.S. Department of Energy National Library internship on Thurs, Nov 6 from 10-2pm. [Register](#) today!
- Center for California Studies is looking for paid fellows for their Capital Fellowship Programs. [Apply](#) by Dec. 8.
- **NEW!** The Asian Pacific American Institute for Congressional Studies is looking for Congressional Fellows. [Apply](#) by Dec 12.
- **NEW!** The Asian Pacific American Institute for Congressional Studies is looking for Congressional Interns for Summer 2026. [Apply](#) by Feb 1, 2026.
- Google is looking for a Research Intern for Summer 2026. [Apply](#) by Feb 27, 2026.

## Scholarships

- 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.
- Boster Bio is offering \$1000 to graduate students working in a biology or related lab. [Apply](#) by Nov 30.
- **NEW!** The American Physical Therapy Association is offering the Mary McMillan Scholarship Award to physical therapist and physical therapist assistant students. [Apply](#) by Dec 2025.
- 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.
- **NEW!** ASNT Foundation is offering the Robert B. Oliver Scholarship for pursuing studies in nondestructive testing or related disciplines. [Apply](#) by Jan 31, 2026.