

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://aanhpisi.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

November 14, 2025



From Dr. Loh-Hagan: Let's go to the movies!

This week has been all about the [San Diego Asian Film Festival](#) (SDAFF)! For 26 years, this festival has brought us amazing films about Asian and APIDA experiences. On Saturday, November 8th, **Agnes Wong Nickerson** (SDSU's Chief Financial Officer) and I attended the SDAFF gala and had the pleasure of running into other SDSU folks: Dr. **Brian Hu** (Professor and the Artistic Director for SDAFF), **Terry Matsuoka** (alum), **Alex Villafuerte** (alum), **Alex Kim** (CDO at KPBS), **Deanna Magpali** (alum), and others!

In addition, we took students to go see "Characters Disappearing" and had a special meet and greet with the director and actor, Connor Sen Warnick. Our students asked amazing questions and had some provocative insights. They also learned firsthand about the realities of pursuing a career in the arts.

You still have one more day left of the festival, which ran from November 6-15th! Go see a movie!



Sign Up Today!

SDSU Office of AANHPI Affairs & APIDA Center

LET'S GO CAMPING!
Student Leadership Retreat
When: December 5-7, 2025



Sign up by 5pm on November 17, 2025!
Link: <https://bit.ly/APIDACamp25>



Don't miss out! Sign up for our next adventures!

APIDA Student Leadership Retreat

Location: Cuyamaca Outdoor School

Date: December 5-7, 2025

Don't miss out! We are hosting our second weekend trip to Camp Cuyamaca. All expenses will be provided. All you need to do is sign up and commit! **SIGN UP NOW!** Priority applications are due November 17th.



SDSU Asian Pacific Islander Desi American Center
x One SDSU



**COLLECTIBLES
FAIR & MEET-UP**

Date: Wednesday, December 3, 2025
Time: 12:00-3:00pm
Location: Student Union Courtyard

What do you collect? From toys, trinkets, art, sports memorabilia, and more - collectibles come in all forms. Celebrate collectible culture and meet fellow enthusiasts!

WANT TO SHOWCASE YOUR COLLECTION?
Email: apida@sdsu.edu





SDSU Asian Pacific Islander Desi American Center
x One SDSU



**COLLECTIBLES
FAIR & MEET-UP**

If you have a collection, we want you!

You can host a table at our Collectibles Fair and share your collection with others. Meet other enthusiasts, trade collectibles, and/or meet new fans & friends.

Email apida@sdsu.edu with your name and your collection. Sign up today! Open until spaces are filled.



Collectibles Fair & Meet-Up

Location: Student Union Courtyard

Date: Wednesday, December 3, 2025 from 12-3pm

The SDSU APIDA Center and One SDSU are hosting a Collectibles Fair & Meet-Up. If you have a collection, we want you! Host a table at our Collectibles Fair. Meet other enthusiasts, trade collectibles, and/or meet new fans & friends. Email apida@sdsu.edu with your name and your collection. Sign up today! Open until spaces are filled.

Donor Spotlight: Davette Kawachi



APIDA Center thanks Davette Kawachi!

Davette Kawachi was the Director of Resource Management for Fowler College of Business. To us, she has been one of our most popular vendors at our Makers Market. Her creativity shines through in all her wonderfully cute crocheted products. In addition, we also appreciate her generosity as she always gives us a little extra. Kawachi said, "The APIDA Makers Market is a wonderful annual event that promotes creativity and entrepreneurship. Kawachi Crafts has been a proud vendor since the beginning. I am always happy to support the work of the APIDA Center through our participation and our donation. As a retired emeritus administrator at SDSU, I love the opportunity to come back to campus and interact with students, faculty, and staff. The work that Dr. Loh-Hagan does brings accessible programming, resources, and services to the SDSU community and I am happy to donate to support her endeavors. I look forward to the weekly newsletters to learn all about the wonderful things that the APIDA Center is doing!"

Follow [Kawachi Crafts](#) and support a fellow SDSU's small business! Feel free to donate to the [APIDA Center's Program Fund](#) to help us continue to support events like our Makers Market! Every little bit matters to us!

Know APIDA History!



APIDA Center learns about Japanese American SoCal car culture!

On November 7th in partnership with Residential Education Office (many thanks to Dr. **Kara Bauer**, **Ray Savage**, **Citklali Ibarra-Hernandez**, and **Alexa Gonzalez**), we took a field trip to Los Angeles. We went to the *Cruising J-Town: Behind the Wheel of the Nikkei Community* exhibit, hosted by the ArtCenter College of Design and The Japanese American National Museum (JANM). Lucky for us - We got a special tour from Dr. Oliver Wang, who curated the exhibit and gifted us with a copy of his book.

Japanese Americans in Los Angeles have a deep and complex car culture, using automobiles as a tool for social and economic mobility, a means of community building, and a form of personal expression. From early farming and fish truck drivers to hot-rodding, drifting, and the import car scene, their involvement spans over 100 years and has influenced various aspects of Southern California's car culture.

Japanese American farmers were early users of trucks to transport their produce to markets, with postwar communities developing a strong tradition of running businesses like fish and produce delivery trucks. Car clubs like the Japanese Auto Club of Southern California (JACSC) were formed to bring people together, and local gas stations and mechanics served as community centers. The automobile became a vehicle for personal expression, from pre-war hot rods to mid-century customization, and continues today in scenes like modern drift racing and the import tuner community. Incarceration during World War II (1939-1945) saw many families driven to concentration camps, with their impounded cars serving as a stark symbol of lost freedom. Post-war, the community fully embraced Southern California's car culture.

The 1990s and early 2000s saw a boom in the "JDM" (Japanese Domestic Market) and import tuning scene in Southern California, which was heavily driven by Japanese Americans. This burgeoning import scene served as the direct inspiration for the first *Fast & Furious* franchise. This fascination with cars continues today.



In addition, we visited the USC Pacific Asia Museum, Little Saigon's Japanese Village Plaza, and Chinatown.

APIDA Center Highlights: News to Know!



APIDA Center braids Kumihimo!

On November 10th, we repeated one of our popular programs, Kumihimo - a Japanese braiding technique that has been practiced for over 1400 years to create decorative and functional cords.



APIDA Center learns about baseball in incarceration camps!

On November 12th, we hosted two programs to learn about the significant role baseball played in building community and identity in the Japanese American incarceration camps during World War II. First, **Quinton Sagisi**, APIDA Student Intern, hosted a presentation about baseball's history, its spread in Japan, its influence in Japanese American early immigrant communities, and its importance in the camps. In addition, he shared notable Japanese and Japanese American MLB players. Then, we hosted a watch party and showed, "American Pastime," which is about the Nomura family who turned to baseball while incarcerated at Topaz.



APIDA Center co-hosts Musubi Mixer!

On November 12th, we collaborated with the Pacific Islander Student Association (PISA) to host a Musubi Mixer. We learned about the history of SPAM, its spread to the Pacific Islands, and Musubi. SPAM Musubi is a result of impacts by U.S. soldiers in the islands and Japanese immigrants as well as local cultural exchanges. Of course, we closed the event by eating SPAM musubi!



APIDA Center learns about the Philippine Jeepney!

Jeepneys are popular public utility vehicles in the Philippines. They are repurposed U.S. military jeeps that were left after World War II. They have become cultural icons with vibrant decorations. On November 13th, Marianne Lababit, APIDA Student Intern, hosted a workshop about this beloved vehicle. She shared the history and then led a craft activity where participants designed their own jeepney!



APIDA Center plays Ô Ăn Quan!

On November 13th, we teamed up with the Vietnamese Student Association (VSA) to learn about and to play Ô Ăn Quan, a traditional Vietnamese game stemming from the mancala family of games.

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](#).

Meet the Author: Thien Pham*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Monday, November 17, 2025 from 4-5pm

Meet Thien Pham, author of *Family Style*! Eat all the snacks mentioned in the book and get a free signed copy of the book!

APIDA Collectible Culture*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Wednesday, November 19, 2025 from 2-3pm

Learn more about APIDA collectible culture and the science behind it. Then, decorate toploaders for your own collectible photo cards! This event is in collaboration with APSA.

Watch Party: Sikh Captain America*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Wednesday, Nov 19, 2025 from 5-6pm

Learn about Vishavjit Singh who uses his cartooning powers for good by creating the "Sikh Captain American" persona as a way to combat hate and raise awareness about the Sikh community.

History of Hello Kitty*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Thursday, Nov 20, 2025 from 4-5pm

Learn more about the history and popularization of Hello Kitty! Then, make a simple Hello Kitty craft with us! Hosted by Jaelynn Delfin, APIDA Student Intern.

Social Anxiety in the APIDA Community*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Thursday, Nov 20, 2025 from 5-7pm

Join us for an interactive workshop exploring social anxiety in APIDA Youth. Hosted by Krissa Jackson, APIDA Student Assistant.

Japanese Calligraphy*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Friday, November 21, 2025 from 1-3pm

Learn about the history, techniques, and timeless beauty of Japanese calligraphy. Then, practice with us! Hosted by Yurie Hara, APIDA Student Intern.

Daylight San Diego*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Friday, November 21, 2025 from 3-4pm

Join us to learn more about Daylight San Diego! This event is in collaboration with AAJA at SDSU.

Gratitude Craft Night*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Monday, November 24, 2025 from 5-7pm

Make gratitude crafts with us - like thank-you cards, friendship bracelets, small gifts, and more! Take a moment to share appreciation through handmade creations. Get crafty and spread a little kindness!

Players' Choice Game Night*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Tuesday, November 25, 2025 from 5-7pm

Join us for a chill Players' Choice Game Night! Pick your own games to play. Whether you're feeling competitive/spicy or just along for the vibes, APIDA has the right game for you.

Tò He*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Monday, December 1, 2025 from 5-7pm

Learn about the historical and cultural significance of Tò he, the colorful Vietnamese toy figurines made from glutinous rice flour. Then, create your own Tò he-inspired art!

Collectibles Fair & Meet-Up

Location: Student Union Courtyard

Date: Wednesday, December 3, 2025 from 12-3pm

The SDSU APIDA Center and One SDSU are hosting a Collectibles Fair & Meet-Up. If you have a collection, host a table at our Collectibles Fair. Meet other enthusiasts, trade collectibles, and/or meet new fans & friends. Email apida@sdsu.edu with your name and your collection. Sign up today! Open until spaces are filled.

Shichi Narabe*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Thursday, December 4, 2025 from 1-2pm

Learn about the historical and cultural significance of Shichi Narabe (or the Japanese version of Sevens) and play this popular card game with us. Hosted by Yurie Hara, APIDA Student Intern.

APIDA Student Leadership Retreat*

Location: Cuyamaca Outdoor School

Date: December 5-7, 2025

Don't miss out! We are hosting our second weekend trip to Camp Cuyamaca. All expenses will be provided. All you need to do is sign up and commit! [SIGN UP NOW!](#)

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.

Opportunities & Events

APIDA Student Organizations:

- AB Samahan is offering 1-on-1 peer check-in meetings with their [Student Advisors](#). [Schedule a meeting](#) today!
- Japanese Student Association is hosting an [Ice Skating Social](#) on Sat, Nov 15 from 1:00-2:30pm at Kroc Center.
- Nikkei Student Union is hosting [NSU Friendsgiving](#) on Sun, Nov 16 at Thrive Park.
- Asian American Journalists Association at SDSU is hosting Japanese American journalist [Kori Suzuki](#) on Mon, Nov 17 from 2:30-3:30pm in Adams Humanities 4175.
- Korean American Student Association is hosting a [General Body Meeting](#) on Tues, Nov 18 from 2-3pm in Metztli Suite.

Community Center Partners:

- The Black Resource Center and Women's Resource Center are hosting [Pour Into Yourself](#) on Tues, Nov 18 from 1-2pm.
- Project Rebound and Young Men of Color are hosting a [Changing the Narrative](#) discussion on Tues, Nov 18 from 3-4pm in PSFA 108.
- The Center for Intercultural Relations is hosting a [MENA/SWANA Friendsgiving](#) on Tues, Nov 18 from 6-8pm. [RSVP](#) today!
- The Pride Center is hosting a [Transgender Day of Remembrance Vigil](#) on Wed, Nov 19 from 3-5pm at Scripps Cottage.

Campus Partners:

- Transportation Services is conducting a [Transportation Demand Management Plan survey](#) for SDSU students, faculty, and staff.
- Basic Needs Center is hosting a [Basic Needs Resource Fair](#) on Mon, Nov 17 from 12-2pm in the Student Union.
- Glazer Center for Leadership & Service is hosting [Pastries with Peers](#) on Mon, Nov 17 from 2:30-3:30pm.
- Career Services is hosting [Beyond Borders: Empowering International Students for Career Pathways](#) on Tues, Nov 18 from 12-2pm in SSE 1200. Register on Handshake!
- The Asian American Studies department is hosting a lecture entitled, "The Rock Springs Massacre: A Narrative and Remembrance" by Dr. Robert Henry on Fri, Nov 21 from 3-5pm in the Finch Conference Room.
- Struggling with basic needs? Need resources? Connect with the [Economic Crisis Resource Team](#).

Community Partners:

- One Book One San Diego is hosting Noodles & Doodles with Thien Pham on Sat, Nov 15 from 11-1pm. [Register](#) today!
- The Asian American Journalists Association is hosting a VOICES 2026 Q&A Session on Mon, Nov 17 at 5:30pm on Zoom. [Register](#) today!
- The Asian American Education Project offers free APIDA resources on their [website](#) and [Instagram](#).

Research Opportunities

- **NEW!** SDSU's School of Public Health is conducting a Healthy Aging Study and seeking participants. Participants will be asked to complete a short survey, answer daily phone calls, and attend one on-site measurement visit. [Enroll](#) to participate today!
- 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 AANHPSI 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.

Participate in AAS Research Study!

Get a \$20 gift card for participating in a focus group via zoom. If you identify as APIDA, you are eligible. Help our Asian American Studies department learn more about AI usage and careers for the APIDA community.

Jobs & Paid Internships

- **NEW!** Teradata is looking for an AI Engineer Intern. [Apply](#) today!
- Center for California Studies is looking for paid fellows for their Capital Fellowship Programs. [Apply](#) by Dec. 8.
- The Asian Pacific American Institute for Congressional Studies is looking for Congressional Fellows. [Apply](#) by Dec 12.
- **NEW!** The US-Asia Institute is looking for participants for the IMPACT! Filipino American National Internship Program. [Apply](#) by Jan 31.
- The Asian Pacific American Institute for Congressional Studies is looking for Congressional Interns for Summer 2026. [Apply](#) by Feb 1.
- Google is looking for a Research Intern for Summer 2026. [Apply](#) by Feb 27.

Scholarships

- The ACES Scholarship is offering \$1500 to students pursuing a career in editing. [Apply](#) by Nov 15.
- The Beverly Murphy MLA Scholarship for Underrepresented Students is offering \$5000 to eligible college students. [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 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.
- The American Physical Therapy Association is offering the Mary McMillan Scholarship Award to physical therapist and physical therapist assistant students. [Apply](#) by Dec 2025.
- **NEW!** The Barbara Lotze Scholarship is offering up to \$3000 to students pursuing a career in high school physics education. [Apply](#) by Dec 1.
- The Willis H. Carrier Scholarship is offering two \$10,000 awards to undergraduate engineering majors. [Apply](#) by Dec 1.
- The Lynn G. Bellenger Scholarship is offering \$5000 to women in engineering. [Apply](#) by Dec 1.
- 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!** The RevPart 2026 STEM Scholarship is offering awards to undergraduate students pursuing a STEM-related career. [Apply](#) by Dec 31.
- ASNT Foundation is offering the Robert B. Oliver Scholarship for pursuing studies in nondestructive testing or related disciplines. [Apply](#) by Jan 31, 2026.