SDSU Office of AANHPISI Affairs & APIDA Center

APIDA SDSU
Asian Pacific Islander Desi American Resource 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

From Dr. Loh-Hagan: Celebrating student engagement!

On Wednesday, January 28th, the APIDA Center celebrated a special achievement - **Teddy Morando**, fourth year civil engineering major and APIDA Center Student Assistant, attended his 100th event. That's right - Teddy has attended 100 APIDA Center events since Fall 2024. Teddy said, "I have learned so much from the APIDA Center - not only about history but also culture. I have learned things that were not taught in public schools. One of my favorite events was learning about the history and significance of Bo Bing (a traditional Chinese dice game); I was excited to teach and explain it to my family and friends who also love playing games with me! I also enjoy participating in other events, especially craft nights which give me the opportunity to share and give away my handicrafts to family and friends!"

Since we started the APIDA VIP SWAG club last year, students, faculty, and staff attend events to earn shirts, tote bags, sweatshirts, bento boxes, and more. Folks earn swag for every five events they attend. There are special prizes for folks who attend 30, 50, and 75 events. And, now, because of Teddy, we have a tier for 100 events!

Last year, **Alex Yung** attended the most events (around 70). So, I took Alex and Teddy out for a special dinner to celebrate their achievement. They helped give input about future programs.

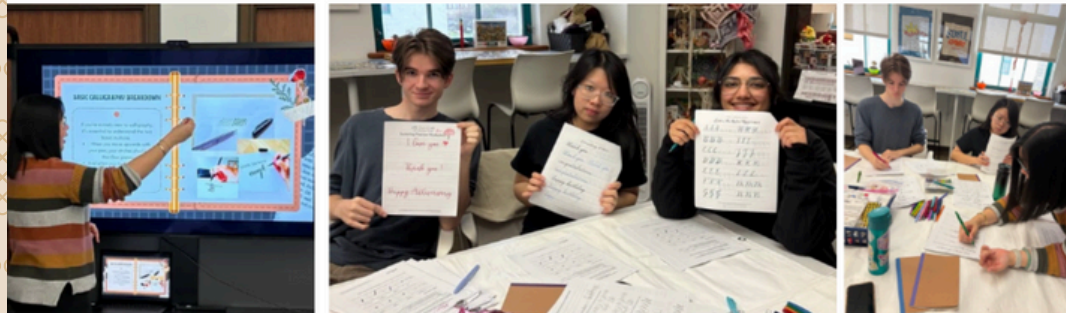Attend our events. Earn swag. Learn stuff!

APIDA Center makes nature journals!

This week, the APIDA Center hosted four journaling workshops to support student success. We learned various strategies to use journaling as a tool for personal and professional growth. We made nature journals, art journals, junk journals, and more! As you can tell from the pictures, the nature journals were beautiful! Many thanks to Ms. **Jacqueline Toy** for hosting this workshop. (Don't worry - We returned the unused leaves back to nature!)

APIDA Center learns lettering!

On Wednesday, January 28th, Ms. **Jacqueline Toy** taught a session on lettering. We made strokes, loops, and more. Lettering turns regular notes into beautiful art. Plus, it's fun!

APIDA Center makes junk journals!

On Thursday, January 29th, we learned about ways to use journals as a reflection tool. Then, we made junk journals - a sustainable way to turn scraps into art.

APIDA Center hosts Asian origins of bookbinding!

On Monday, January 26the, we learned about the historical and cultural significance of bookbinding. (Paper and bookbinding originated in ancient China.) Then, we utilized accordion binding and made our own sustainable books!

APIDA Center learns about VCN!

On Thursday, January 29th, we collaborated with the Vietnamese Student Association (VSA) to host a takeover about the history and significance of student-led Culture Nights. VSA talked about their upcoming Vietnamese Culture Night and gave us a sneak peek of their performances.

APIDA Center plays Power Ranger games!

On Tuesday, January 27th, we learned about the tokusatsu ("special filming) and the history of "Power Rangers." Then, we played a Power Rangers-themed board game. Go Go Power Rangers!

APIDA Center hosts other events!

This past week, we also launched food safety trainings with Ms. **Claire Smoke** from Environmental Health and Safety. We also celebrated National Puzzle Day and hosted a Mindy Kaling Fan Club.

News from APIDA ERG

APIDA ERG host a Journaling & Potluck Party!

The SDSU APIDA Employee Resource Group (ERG) is a network for APIDA faculty and staff members. We are open to all SDSU employees who identify as APIDA and/or who support the APIDA community at SDSU. If you would like to join the APIDA ERG, please contact Dr. Loh-Hagan at vloh-hagan@sdsu.edu.

On January 23rd, we hosted a nerdy gathering of journaling enthusiasts. We ate, made journals, and gabbed.
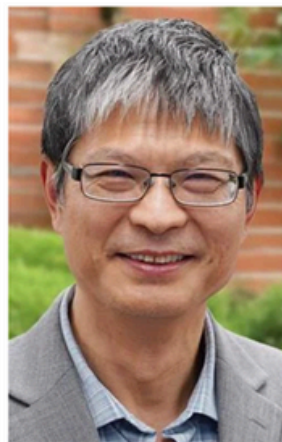
APIDA Flex Alerts!

Julia Hong and **Loc Nguyen** are SDSU Engineering and Sciences students. They were among several who were selected to attend the 2025 Mathematics, Engineering, Science Achievement Student Leadership Conference.

Mingyue Zhang is an Aerospace Engineering Ph.D. student. Along with other scholars, Zhang recently published a research article investigating the mechanisms at the origin of local defect resonance.

Dr. **Chunting Chris Mi** is a distinguished professor in the SDSU Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering. He has been recognized as one of the world's Highly Cited Researchers in 2025 by *Clarivate's Web of Science.* He was also awarded the Wang Family Excellence Award by the CSU Board of Trustees.

Matthew H Garcia, Associate Director of the APIDA Center, led a Conocimientos activity at the Third Annual Young Men of Color Study Group.

Dr. **Loh-Hagan** and **Gi Gonzales Vargas** presented at the Vietnamese American Experiences Model Curriculum conference on January 17th. They spoke about Camp Pendleton, the first Vietnamese refugee camp in the United States. Dr. **Giang Pham** and Dr. **Tri Nguyen** also presented. **Diego Del Mundo** helped table at the event. SDSU was well represented.

We want to celebrate the SDSU APIDA community!
Have a flex to share?
Email us at apida@sdsu.edu.

Upcoming APIDA Center Events

Asian American Studies: Meet & Greet Faculty Candidates*
Location: APIDA Center
Dates: Monday, February 2, 2026 and Wednesday, February 4, 2026 and Thursday, February 5, 2026 from 4-5pm
The Asian American Studies department is hiring new faculty! Students, faculty, and staff are invite to meet the candidates. Chat, ask questions, provide input, and eat snacks. Upcoming dates are Feb 9 and Feb 11.

Cultural Crafting Night: Mongolian Felt Craft*
Location: APIDA Center
Dates: Monday, February 2, 2026 from 5-7pm
Learn more about Tsaagan Sar (Mongolian New Year), Mongolian felting practices, and the significance of horses in Mongolian culture. Then, create your own felt craft to welcome in the year of the horse!

SDSU Food Safety Training*
Location: APIDA Center
Date: Tuesday, February 3, 2026 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. All are welcome! Additional upcoming dates are: Feb 11 and Feb 19.

Game Night: Setsubun*
Location: APIDA Center
Date: Tuesday, February 3, 2026 from 5-7pm
Celebrate Setsubun, a Japanese festival marking the end of winter and beginning of spring. Play traditional games, eat ehōmaki rolls, and more.

Watch Party: Mongol Derby*
Location: APIDA Center
Date: Wednesday, February 4, 2026 from 5-7pm
Learn about the history and cultural significance of horses to Mongolia, specifically about the Mongol Derby, the world's longest and toughest horse race.

Takeover Thursday: Apollo 14 Mission*
Location: APIDA Center
Date: Thursday, February 5, 2026 from 5-7pm
On February 5, 1971, *Apollo 14* landed on the moon. Learn about APIDA contributions and hidden figures in STEM. Then, do a science activity with us!

Careers in K-pop*
Location: APIDA Center
Date: Thursday, February 12, 2026 from 1-2pm
Do you want to work in K-pop? Hear from Dr. Chuyun Oh as she shares the latest news in the K-pop industry, especially job market and career options.

Lunar New Year Celebration*
Location: Student Union Courtyard
Date: Tuesday, February 17, 2026 from 12-2pm
Celebrate the Year of the Horse with the APIDA Center and other APIDA campus organizations. Join us for lion dancing, martial arts demonstration, activities, Asian snacks, and more.

Watch Party: Wong Fu Productions*
Location: APIDA Center
Date: Wednesday, February 18, 2026 from 5-7pm
Wesley Chan, Ted Fu, and Philip Wang are UCSD graduates and the creators of Wong Fu Productions. They are significant for pioneering Asian American representation in digital media, amassing millions of subscribers on YouTube. Learn more and watch Wong Fu Lunar New Year-themed videos with us.

Cultural Crafting Night: Torma*
Location: APIDA Center
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 from 5-7pm
Torma are sculpted ritual offerings traditionally made of barley flour and yak butter. These sculpted offerings are created during Losar (or Tibetan New Year) to honor deities. Learn about Losar and the significance of torma. Then, create your own torma-inspired craft!

Role-Playing Game Night*
Location: APIDA Center
Date: Tuesday, February 24, 2026 from 5-7pm
Join us and roll for initiative! Create your character and go on a quest with the APIDA Center gang. We will play a Lunar New Year themed campaign entitled, "The Jade Emperor's Invitation" (5e DnD adventure) by Kim Richards. All levels welcome.

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:

- Japanese Student Association welcomed seven new JSA Interns.
- Alpha Phi Gamma is hosting a series of Spring 2026 Recruitment events from Jan 29 to Feb 6. Sign up today!
- Alpha Psi Rho is hosting a series of Spring 2026 Recruitment events from Jan 29 to Feb 6. Sign up today!
- Delta Sigma Psi is hosting a series of Spring 2026 Recruitment Events from Jan 29 to Feb 6. Sign up today!
- Sigma Phi Omega is hosting a series of Spring 2026 Recruitment Events from Jan 29 to Feb 6. Sign up today!

Community Center Partners:

- The Latinx Resource Center is hosting "Investiga con María" on Thursdays from 12-2pm.
- The Center for Intercultural Relations is hosting a Beading & Crafting Workshop on Tues, Feb 3 from 11:30-1:00pm. RSVP today!
- The Pride Center is hosting the next "Gender Journey" support group on Tues, Feb 3 from 12:30-1:30pm.
- The Women's Resource Center and Counseling & Psychological Services are hosting "Rise" on Tuesdays from 4:00-5:30pm starting on Feb 3.
- The Black Resource Center is hosting "Black Culture Art & Soul" on Wed, Feb 4 at 6pm.

Campus Partners:

- The Office for Graduate Life & Diversity is hosting "A Quest for Work-Life Harmony: Time Management for Graduate Students" on Tues, Feb 3 from 4-5pm. RSVP today!
- Career Services is hosting the Spring 2026 STEM Career Fair on Thurs, Feb 5 from 10-2pm in Montezuma Hall. Register today!
- The Basic Needs Center is hosting a Free Market on Thurs, Feb 5 from 11-2pm by Hepner Hall.
- Struggling with basic needs? Need resources? Connect with the Economic Crisis Resource Team.

Community Partners:

- The Asian Business Association of San Diego is hosting "Small Business, Big Ideas: Coffee & Networking" on Fri, Feb 6 from 9-11am at Finjan Coffee Shop Co. RSVP today!
- The Asian American Education Project offers free APIDA resources on their website and Instagram.

Research Opportunities

- The SDSU Native Resource Center and Elymash Yuuchaap Indigenous Scholars & Leaders are accepting research presentation proposals for the Native and Indigenous Research and Arts symposium in March 2026. Apply by Feb 6.
- **NEW!** The California Pre-Doctoral Program supports upper-division undergraduate and graduate students who aspire to earn research doctorate degrees by providing fully funded summer research experiences. Apply by Feb 13.
- The San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance is accepting applications for the Conservation Science Summer Fellowship Program. Apply by Feb 15.
- The SDSU Pride Center and LGBTQ+ Studies Department are calling for research presentation proposals for the 2026 Pride Symposium. Apply by April 17.
- **NEW!** The Southern California Conference for Undergraduate Research will take place at SDSU in November 2026. Sign for the interest form today!

Jobs & Paid Internships

- **NEW!** The Baran Lab at the Scripps Research Institute is hiring a Research Intern. Apply today!
- The Asian Pacific American Institute for Congressional Studies is looking for Congressional Interns for Summer 2026. Apply by Feb 1.
- The Asian American Journalists Association is seeking interns for the ESPN/AAJA Sports Task Force. Apply by Feb 4.
- Google is looking for a Research Intern for Summer 2026. Apply by Feb 27.
- **NEW!** HMC Architects is looking for a Student Intern. Apply by March 31.

Scholarships

- The Archie Motley Memorial Scholarship for Students of Color is offering two $1,500 awards to students pursuing courses related to archival administration. Apply by March 1.
- The San Diego Foundation's common application for scholarships is open. Apply by March 4.
- The ASML Innovators Scholarship Award offers $5,000 to undergraduate students enrolled in engineering or science programs. Apply by March 20.
- **NEW!** The AAPI Arts & Media Scholarship is offering $3,500 to five undergraduate students. Apply by April 20.
- **NEW!** The Empowering Future Female Leaders Scholarship is offering $5,000 to ten first- and second-year female students pursuing careers in business, economics, or STEM. Apply by April 20.
- The Matt Fong Asian Americans in Public Finance Scholarship is offering four $5,000 awards to Asian American undergraduate students majoring in Social Science, Accounting, Business Administration, or related fields. Apply by April 20.
- The Stanford Chen Internship Grant is offering $1,500 to college juniors, seniors, or graduate students who have secured a summer internship at a news outlet. Apply by April 30.