

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://aanhpsi.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

February 6, 2026



From Dr. Loh-Hagan: Thanks to RSO Advisors!

Did you know that SDSU has over 30 APIDA-focused Recognized Student Organizations (RSOs)? These organizations are cultural, professional, recreational, and interest-based. RSOs help students gain valuable leadership and professional skills. Campus involvement increases retention and sense of belonging. As such, these RSOs are the heartbeat of campus life.

On Monday January 26th, the APIDA Center hosted a luncheon for the faculty/staff advisors of our APIDA RSOs. We wanted to show our gratitude and create a support network. Many thanks to all the advisors who showed up and who serve our students in these volunteer roles. In addition, thanks to **Kevin Araujo-Lipine**, Director of the Center for Student Organizations and Activities, for sharing updated policies and best practices.

Know APIDA History!



聖地牙哥中文學校 Chinese School of San Diego

APIDA Center learns about the Chinese School of San Diego!

Gung Hay Fat Choy! (Happy New Year!) Dr. Loh-Hagan is a Chinese School dropout. She didn't like waking up early on Saturday mornings and recalls wanting to watch "Smurfs" instead. Of course, she regrets it today. For many children of immigrants, Chinese School is a rite of passage. It is a way to promote cultural identity and maintain heritage.

The Chinese School of San Diego (CSSD) is one of the oldest non-profit organizations in San Diego dedicated to preserving Chinese culture through education. In 1870, the First Presbyterian Church on Eighth St. and D St. (now Broadway) offered English classes for male Chinese immigrants to learn English and Christianity as part of their Sunday School programming. In 1885, a local Chinese resident named Lee Hong, convinced Dr. William C. Pond (1830-1925), the superintendent of Chinese Work for the American Missionary Association in San Diego, to start an independent Chinese Mission School, where Chinese immigrants could learn to read, write, and speak English. Pond rented a small house from George W. Marston (1850-1946), who was an American politician, department store owner, and philanthropist. The Chinese Mission School was established. It offered free English classes six evenings a week. By 1907, the Presbyterian Church had discontinued their Sunday school programs, so only the Chinese Mission School remained.

In 1925, Reverend Ching Chong "C.C." Hung (1903-1984) started the first Chinese language class. Originally born in China, he came to San Diego from Hawaii as a part-time pastor. He was bilingual and delivered sermons in both English and Cantonese. Hung left in 1928, which ended the Chinese language program.

In March 1937, Reverend Kei Tin "K.T." Wong partnered with the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association (CCBA) to form the first Chinese language school in San Diego. The school was originally named the Chung Wah School of San Diego (CSSD). Chung Wah refers to people of Chinese descent. CSSD formally opened in August 1937 with 60 students (including one White student); the next year, enrollment had increased to 80 students. The majority of the Chinese people in San Diego were from Guangdong (Canton) in China, so the school primarily taught Cantonese but advanced students also studied Mandarin. Wong left the church in 1946. CSSD closed in 1969 until it was revived by Dr. Irene Cheng (1904-2007) in 1970. In 1984, Sally Wong-Avery (1952-present) was named principal. However, in 1993, due to diminishing funding, CSSD closed. Wong-Avery re-opened it in 1993 with her own personal funding.

Located in Kearny Mesa, CSSD continues to teach Chinese language and culture, serving all students from age five to adult and at all levels. It is the only Chinese school in San Diego that offers both Mandarin and Cantonese classes.

This article was written by **Alisha Sukhu.*



Get ready for Chinese New Year! Join us for lion dancing, martial arts demonstrations, activities, and Asian snacks! The APIDA Center along with several other APIDA campus organizations will be hosting fun activities to celebrate the Year of the Fire Horse! This year symbolizes passion, energy, change, and innovation. It favors bold action, courage, and willingness to transform. Happy Lunar New Year!

APIDA Center Highlights: News to Know!



APIDA Center celebrates Tsagaan Sar!

Different cultures in Asia celebrate their own version of Lunar New Year. This month, the APIDA Center will be hosting various events examining the diversity of these celebrations. On Monday, February 2nd, we celebrated Tsagaan Sar, or Mongolian Lunar New Year. After learning more about Mongolia and the holiday, we learned about Mongolian felt traditions. Then, we made felt crafts!



APIDA Center celebrates Setsubun!

On Tuesday, February 3rd, we celebrated Setsubun, a traditional Japanese holiday marking the arrival of Spring. Although not the official Japanese New Year, it marks a seasonal division. In honor of this holiday, we practiced a variety of traditional customs like singing a song, making masu origami boxes, eating roasted soybeans, playing games, and making and eating ehōmaki sushi rolls. Many of these activities are aimed at chasing away oni (or demons) and ensuring a lucky new year.



APIDA Center learns about the Mongol Derby!

We continued celebrating Mongolian Tsagaan Sar. On Wednesday, February 4th, we learned about the significance of horses to Mongolian culture. We also learned about the history and cultural significance of the Mongol Derby. Then, we watched a documentary to learn more! (The Mongol Derby is the longest and toughest horse race in the world. It is inspired by Genghis Khan's 13th-century postal relay system.)



APIDA Center studies moon rocks!

On February 5, 1971, *Apollo 14* landed on the moon. To commemorate this day in history, we collaborated with the SDSU Math Science Teacher Initiative (MSTI) and hosted a workshop about the *Apollo 14* mission, specifically focusing on Asian American contributions and the minimizing of these contributions. That stated, the highlight of the evening was studying rocks and creating rock journals. Many thanks to **Jose Segura** and the geology department for letting us borrow the rocks!

News from APIDA ERG



INFO SESSION FOR FACULTY & STAFF
CELEBRATE APIDA HERITAGES AT SDSU

Hawaiian History Month, Filipinx American History Month, Diwali, Lunar New Year, Mes Chamoru, APIDA Heritage and History Month...oh my! In this session with the APIDA Center, learn about all the different APIDA heritage celebrations we will be amplifying throughout the school year. Participants will get a sneak preview of our plans and gain some strategies for supporting these cultures in your courses and/or programs.



Heritage Celebrations

- National Hawaiian History Month (September)
- Moon/Mid-Autumn Festival (September)
- AANAPISI Week (September)
- Filipinx American History Month (October)
- Diwali (October)
- CA Sikh Awareness & Appreciation Month (November)
- Lunar New Year (February)
- Holi Festival (March)
- CHamoru History Month (March)
- Thai/Laotian/Cambodian New Year (April)
- APIDA History & Heritage Month (May)



APIDA Center & APIDA ERG hosts a CIE info session!

On Wednesday, February 4th, we hosted a workshop entitled, "Celebrate APIDA Heritages at SDSU" for the Center for Inclusive Excellence. We shared the main heritage celebrations we amplify over the course of the semester and then shared a sneak previews of events. Many thanks to **Rachel Hart** for the invitation and support.

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.

Upcoming APIDA Center Events

Asian American Studies: Meet & Greet Faculty Candidates*

Location: APIDA Center

Dates: Monday, February 9, 2026 and Wednesday, February 11, 2026 from 4-5pm

The Asian American Studies department is hiring new faculty! Students, faculty, and staff are invited to meet the candidates. Chat, ask questions, provide input, and eat snacks.

Cultural Crafting Night: Chinese Thread Books*

Location: APIDA Center

Dates: Monday, February 9, 2026 from 5-7pm

Chinese thread books, also known as Zhen Xian Bao, are a traditional Chinese folk art. They are multi-layered, origami-style storage books with secret pockets - perfect for Valentine gifts. Learn more about them and then make your own!

Lunar New Year: Superstitions & Lucky Dice Games*

Location: APIDA Center

Dates: Tuesday, February 10, 2026 from 5-7pm

A lucky new year is hard work. Learn about various superstitions to ensure the year of the fire horse is a lucky one. Then, play some dice games like Bo Bing, Farkle, and more.

SDSU Food Safety Training*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Wednesday, February 11, 2026 from 1-2pm

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! An additional upcoming training is on Feb 19.

Watch Party: Meet-Cute Magic*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Wednesday, February 11, 2026 from 5-7pm

A meet-cute is a charming first encounter. Join us as we discuss iconic APIDA meet-cutes in film and TV. Nominate the best movie meet-cute and win prizes!

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.

Fil-Am Veterans & Rescission Act*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Thursday, February 12, 2026 from 4-5pm

Many Fil-Am WWII veterans have been denied promised U.S. benefits. Learn about the impacts of the 1946 Rescission Act and about the ongoing fight for full recognition. Co-hosted by the Asian American Studies Department.

Panel: Fil-Am Veterans*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Thursday, February 12, 2026 from 5-7pm

The military has played a significant role in Fil-Am migration and citizenship. Join us and hear from a panel of Filipino American veterans. Co-hosted by the Asian American Studies Department.

Cultural Crafting Night: Dây Trang Trí Tết*

Location: APIDA Center

Dates: Monday, February 16, 2026 from 5-7pm

Dây Trang Trí Tết are Vietnamese Lunar New Year hanging decorations. They symbolize luck and prosperity. Learn more and make some with us.

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.

Film Screening: "Nurse Unseen"*

Location: Student Union Theater

Date: Thursday, February 19, 2026 from 5-7pm

"Nurse Unseen" (2023) is a documentary that highlights the experiences of Filipino & Filipino American nurses who risked their lives on the frontlines of the COVID-19 pandemic. Learn more about the history and contributions of Filipino American nurses. Co-hosted by the Asian American Studies Department.

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!

Leveling Up: Navigating Upper Division Status*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Tuesday, February 24, 2026 from 3-4pm

Are you planning to take upper division courses soon? Learn about what being "upper division" status means. Also, learn about campus resources that will help you complete your degree. Level up!

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.

Watch Party: Seollal & K-Drama*

Location: APIDA Center

Dates: Wednesday, February 25, 2026 from 5-7pm

Celebrate Seollal (Korean Lunar New Year) with us by learning about K-dramas. Seollal's emphasis on family gatherings, traditional rituals, and food is a key backdrop for some of our favorite K-dramas.

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:

- Sanskriti SDSU is hosting a [Movie Night](#) on Fri, Feb 6 from 5-9pm in HH 221.
- AB Samahan is hosting a [SamaSunrise Hike](#) on Sat, Feb 7 at 5:50am at Cowles Mountain. [RSVP](#) today!
- Badminton Club at SDSU is hosting a [Hiking Social](#) to Oak Canyon Waterfall on Sun, Feb 8 from 9-11am.
- The Japanese Student Association is hosting a [Setsubun Battle](#) on Mon, Feb 9 from 1:15-2:30pm on the ENS Field.
- Society of Asian Scientists and Engineers is hosting a [Valentine's Day Social](#) on Wed, Feb 11 from 2-3pm in NE 272.

Community Center Partners:

- The Latinx Resource Center is hosting "[Semana de Amistades](#)" from Mon, Feb 9 to Thurs, Feb 12.
- The Black Resource Center and the Pride Center are hosting "Black Queer History Trivia" on Mon, Feb 9 from 2:30-3:30pm in the Pride Center Multipurpose Room.
- The Women's Resource Center is hosting "[Love is in the Cards](#)" on Wed, Feb 11 from 2:30-4:00pm.
- The Pride Center, Women's Resource Center, Monarch Unity Resource Center, Feminist Outreach Coalition, and Student Success Fee are hosting "[A Conversation with Amber St. James](#)" on Wed, Feb 11 from 5-7pm at Scripps Cottage.

Campus Partners:

- The Center for Commuter Life is hosting "Commuter Cupids" on Mon, Feb 9 from 1-3pm.
- The Office of Graduate Life & Diversity is hosting "Mental Health with Mario: Refresh & Restart" on Wed, Feb 11 from 12:00-1:30pm. [RSVP](#) today!
- Glazer Center for Leadership and Service is hosting a [Quest for the Best Info Session](#) on Thurs, Feb 12 from 1-3pm.
- SDSU University Library is hosting a workshop entitled, "SDSU in the 1960s: Student Action and Educational Change" on Thurs, Feb 12 from 4:00-5:30pm in LL 430.
- 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](#). The next webinar is entitled, "Teaching AAPI Studies K-8: Celebrating the Diversity of Lunar New Year" on Tues, Feb 10 from 4-5pm and Thurs, Feb 12 from 1-2pm. [Register](#) today!
- Bridge the Gap San Diego is looking for UX Design/ Graphic Design Volunteer Interns. [Apply](#) by Feb 13.

Research Opportunities

- **NEW!** SDSU Well-being & Health Promotion is hosting the 2026 Recovery Science Colloquium on Fri, Feb 13 from 9-2pm at the Parma Payne Goodall Alumni Center. [Register](#) today!
- 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!** Call for proposals for the 8th Annual RE:BORDER Conference is now open. [Register](#) by April 17.
- 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 Center for Asian and Pacific Studies is looking for an undergraduate student assistant of sophomore or junior standing for Spring 2026. [Apply](#) today!
- Google is looking for a Research Intern for Summer 2026. [Apply](#) by Feb 27.
- **NEW!** The Pride Center is seeking part-time undergraduate Pride Center educators and mentors. [Apply](#) by March 2.
- **NEW!** The Pride Center is seeking a Graduate Student Pride House Lead. [Apply](#) by March 2.
- **NEW!** The Pride Center is seeking a Graduate Student SafeZones House Lead. [Apply](#) by March 2.
- **NEW!** HMC Architects is looking for a Student Intern. [Apply](#) by March 31.

Scholarships

- **NEW!** The TIAA First-Gen Scholarship offers \$5,000-\$10,000 to first-generation college undergraduate students. [Apply](#) by Feb 26.
- 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.
- **NEW!** The American Association on Health & Disability is offering \$1,000 to undergraduate students with disabilities. [Apply](#) by March 6.
- The ASML Innovators Scholarship Award offers \$5,000 to undergraduate students enrolled in engineering or science programs. [Apply](#) by March 20.
- The AAPI Arts & Media Scholarship is offering \$3,500 to five undergraduate students. [Apply](#) by April 20.
- 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.