

# 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](mailto:apida@sdsu.edu)

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

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



**@sdsuapidacenter**

**SDSU APIDA  
Resource Center**

**SA+CD**

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

February 13, 2026



## From Dr. Loh-Hagan: Be our Valentine!

Love is in the air at the APIDA Center. (Fun Fact: The APIDA Center has been the site of several meet-cutes....and, unfortunately, break-ups.) We started the week making Chinese Thread Books, which have been modernized to be handmade Valentine's Day gifts as lovers can include personalized, hidden treasures in each compartment. Over the course of the week, we made valentine cards and even hosted a "Meet-Cute Magic" watch party. In general, we just lived in APIDA joy and love. Yay!

Will you be our valentine? Show some love to the APIDA Center by attending our events! We hope to see you in our space!

Take time to love all the valentines in your life. My valentines are my doggies (and, of course, my husband is in the top five - fur real). Here are some pawsitively pupperific jokes for you:

Q: What did the dog write in his valentine card?

A: "My love for you is fur-ever and my tail only wags for you."

Q: What are popular pick-up lines for a dog?

A: "No bones about it, I dig you." Or, "I chews you." Or, "You're the weiner of my heart." Or, "I'm mutts about you."



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.

# APIDA Center Highlights: News to Know!



## APIDA Center makes Chinese Thread Books!

Chinese Thread Books were traditionally made by the Miao, Dong, and Yao people of China to store needles, thread, embroidery materials, and more. Today, it's also used to store memorabilia and precious items. On Monday, February 9th, we learned about the history of Chinese Thread Books and made our own versions!



## APIDA Center learns about careers in K-pop!

On Thursday, February 12th, we hosted Dr. **Chyun Oh**, Professor of Dance Theory and a pioneer of K-pop dance studies in the United States. We learned about how the K-pop industry works. We also shared our majors and career interests and then made connections to potential K-pop careers. There are so many options beyond performing.



## **APIDA Center learns about the Fil-Am veteran experience!**

On Thursday, February 12th, we collaborated with Asian American Studies, specifically Professor **Kirsten Curtis'** AAS 460 (Filipino American Experiences) course. To learn more about the Fil-Am veteran experience and its connections to migration, U.S. policies, empire, etc., we hosted a lecture about the 1946 Rescission Act and then hosted a panel with Mr. Joe Garbanzos, Mr. Israel "Ace" Isip, and Mr. Jon Del Mundo. The panelists graciously shared their time and lived experiences.

# APIDA Recommendation



## APIDA Center loves Sala Thai!

The APIDA Center highly recommends [Sala Thai](#), one of the first Thai-owned and operated restaurants in San Diego. Located in the College Area, it is close and convenient to SDSU. This is a popular spot for APIDA Center's off-campus dining adventures. We love taking guests here and hosting our staff appreciation meals here.

This year, Sala Thai is celebrating 35 years of "Thai-tanic flavors." The owner, Chiravan Svangvitaya, was born in Thailand and came to the United States in pursuit of higher education, where she discovered her passion for culinary arts. She opened her first restaurant in 1985 in Chicago and then relocated to San Diego in 1990. She named her restaurant "Sala Thai," after her favorite restaurant in Bangkok.

Some APIDA Center favorites:

- **Dr. Loh-Hagan** loves the steamed sole fillet with brown sauce and their iced tea!
- **Matthew H Garcia** has ordered the chicken khao soi (curry ramen) multiple times. (Not many Thai restaurants carry this dish.)
- **Diego Del Mundo** literally can't stop talking about the "Cashew Nuts Delight."

And, of course, for our annual Thai/Laotian/Cambodian New Year kickoff event in April, we order papaya salad from Sala Thai. The next time you want a quick, delicious meal with great service, go to Sala Thai!

**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](mailto:apida@sdsu.edu).**

## Upcoming APIDA Center Events

### **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.

### **Lunar New Year at The Garden\***

**Location: The Garden Restaurant**

**Date: Tuesday, February 17, 2026 from 4-9pm**

To celebrate Lunar New Year, we are teaming up with SDSU Dining! The Garden is serving a special menu. Join us for a Lunar New Year feast!

### **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.

### **SDSU Food Safety Training\***

**Location: APIDA Center**

**Date: Thursday, February 19, 2026 from 2-3pm**

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!

### **Day of Remembrance\***

**Location: APIDA Center**

**Date: Thursday, February 19, 2026 from 3-4pm**

The Day of Remembrance refers to the signing of Executive Order 9066 on February 19, 1942, authorizing the unconstitutional forced removal and incarceration of 120,000+ Japanese Americans. Join us to learn more about the impacts of incarceration and how Japanese Americans resisted through art. Then, make paper flowers 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.

### **Buffalo Soldiers in the Philippines\***

**Location: APIDA Center**

**Dates: Thursday, February 26, 2026 from 2-3pm**

Did you know that black soldiers served in the Philippine-American War? In honor of Black History Month, learn about the involvement of "Buffalo Soldier" regiments during the Philippine-American War from 1899-1902.

# Opportunities & Events

## APIDA Student Organizations:

- The Hindu Student Association announced their [2026-2027 Executive Board](#).
- AB Samahan's [Catalyst Dance Team](#) is scheduled to practice on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6-8pm in Parking Structure 3 Level 5 starting Tues, Feb 17. The [Spring 2026 Commitment Form](#) is due Sun, Feb 15.
- The Asian Pacific Student Alliance is hosting a [Field Day](#) on Sat, Feb 21 from 11:00-3:30pm at Crown Point Park. [Sign up](#) by Sun, Feb 15.
- The Japanese Student Association is hosting a [Undoukai Merch Design Contest](#). [Submit your design](#) by Wed, Feb 18.
- Asian American InterVarsity is hosting a [Lunar New Year Celebration](#) on Thurs, Feb 19. [RSVP](#) today!

## Community Center Partners:

- The Latinx Resource Center is hosting [Job Opportunities Info Sessions](#) from Mon, Feb 16 to Thurs, Feb 19. Additional upcoming dates include Feb 23, Feb 25, and Feb 26.
- The Black Resource Center is hosting a [Men's Basketball Pre-Game Party](#) on Tues, Feb 17 from 5-6pm.
- The Women's Resource Center is hosting their first Brave Project virtual session on Fri, Feb 20 from 1:30-3pm. [Register](#) today!

## Campus Partners:

- The College of Graduate Studies is looking for volunteers for the 2026 SDSU Grad Slam. [Sign up](#) today!
- The Office for Graduate Life and Diversity and One SDSU are hosting [S3 Grad Slam Mock Presentations](#) on Tues, Feb 17 from 10:30am-2:30pm in Templo Mayor and Metztl. [Sign up](#) today!
- The Glazer Center for Leadership and Service is hosting [Pastries with Peers](#) on Tues, Feb 17 at 3pm.
- The Center for Asian and Pacific Studies is hosting a [Lunar New Year Craft Workshop](#) on Thurs, Feb 19 at 4pm in AL 473. [RSVP](#) today!
- SDSU MCTEN is hosting a workshop entitled, "AI in Research Development: An Introductory Guide" on Fri, Feb 20 from 12:00-1:30pm at the Lipinsky Hospitality Center. [Register](#) today!
- Career Services and the Black Resource Center are hosting the 4th Annual Career and Professional Development Fair on Fri, Feb 20 from 12-2pm at the Parma Payne Goodall Alumni Center. [Register](#) today!
- Struggling with basic needs? Need resources? Connect with the [Economic Crisis Resource Team](#).

## Community Partners:

- Little Saigon San Diego and the San Diego Public Library are hosting a [Lunar New Year Festival](#) on Sat, Feb 14 and Sun, Feb 15 at Officer Jeremy Henwood Memorial Park.
- The [Escondido Children's Museum of Discovery](#) is hosting a Lunar New Year event on Sat, Feb 14 from 10-12pm. Dr. Loh-Hagan will be reading aloud her book and emceeding the event.
- Asian Business Association San Diego is hosting a ["Creating Your Own Website"](#) workshop on Fri, Feb 20 from 10-12pm at the Asian Business Association's Office. [Register](#) today!
- The Asian American Education Project offers free APIDA resources on their [website](#) and [Instagram](#).

# Research Opportunities

- The San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance is accepting applications for the Conservation Science Summer Fellowship Program. [Apply](#) by Feb 15.
- **NEW!** CSU San Marcos's Cross-Cultural Center is accepting proposals for their annual Social Justice Symposium. [Submit](#) by Feb 16.
- The SDSU Pride Center and LGBTQ+ Studies Department are calling for research presentation proposals for the 2026 Pride Symposium. [Apply](#) by April 17.
- 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 Campaign for College Opportunity is looking for various positions: Policy Analyst Fellow, Summer Policy Impact Fellow, and Legislative Affairs Fellow. [Apply](#) by Feb 15.
- **NEW!** Counseling & Psychological Services is hiring Student Assistants. [Apply](#) by Feb 18.
- **NEW!** CNN is seeking News Show Team Interns in NYC for Summer 2026. [Apply](#) by Feb 22.
- Google is looking for a Research Intern for Summer 2026. [Apply](#) by Feb 27.
- The Pride Center is seeking part-time undergraduate Pride Center educators and mentors. [Apply](#) by March 2.
- The Pride Center is seeking a Graduate Student Pride House Lead. [Apply](#) by March 2.
- The Pride Center is seeking a Graduate Student SafeZones House Lead. [Apply](#) by March 2.
- HMC Architects is looking for a Student Intern. [Apply](#) by March 31.

# Scholarships

- **NEW!** Arc'teryx and Ori Magazine are offering the Women's Creative Grant of \$5,000 to women photographers, journalists, and artists. [Apply](#) by Feb 14.
- **NEW!** The Udall Undergraduate Scholarship is offering \$7,500 to undergraduate sophomores and juniors passionate about environment and conservation issues or Native health care and Tribal policy. [Pre-apply](#) by Feb 18!
- **NEW!** The Dream.US National Scholarship is offering financial support for first-generation immigrant students. [Apply](#) by Feb 28.
- 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.
- 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.