

SDSU Office of AANHPISI Affairs & APIDA Center

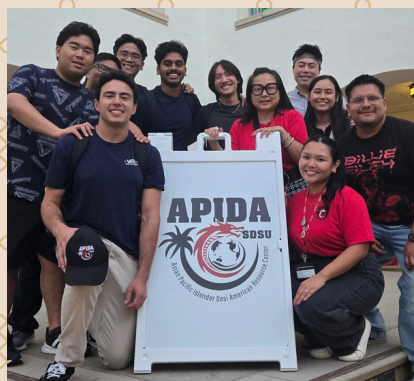


Stay informed! Stay connected!

Check your email! Newsletter #167 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!

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 AANHPI Affairs & APIDA Center Executive Director's Message

March 20, 2026



From Dr. Loh-Hagan: March Madness at the APIDA Center!

Today, many fans will be filling our campus with tons of basketball love as we host the NCAA tournament. That stated, the APIDA Center is also full of "March Madness." This month, we are celebrating Holi Festival, Mes Chamoru (Guam History and CHamoru Heritage Month), Women's History Month, Spring Festivals, and more! We still have a lot of other events that we are cooking up so make some time to come to the APIDA Center!

SDSU Office of AANHPI Affairs & APIDA Center
2026 APIDA EXCELLENCE CELEBRATION
GRADUATION & END-OF-YEAR PARTY

Date: Thursday, May 7, 2026 from 5-9pm
Location: Student Union Courtyard
RSVP by May 4th: <https://bit.ly/APIDAGrad2026>

We will be recognizing our December 2025, May 2026, and August 2026 Graduates.
All are welcome but you must RSVP in order to be admitted!

Grads must attend from 5-7pm in order to get an APIDA grad cord and charm!
RSVP REQUIRED: <https://bit.ly/APIDAGrad2026>

All students (regardless of race, sex, ethnicity or national origin) who are interested in AANHPI/APIDA Center programming and services are welcome.

RSVP for 2026 APIDA Excellence Celebration

RSVP to the [2026 APIDA Excellence Celebration](https://bit.ly/APIDAGrad2026) on Thursday, May 7, 2026 from 5-9pm in the Student Union Courtyard. There will be cake, food, dancing, fun activity booths, karaoke, and more! We will be celebrating our December 2025, May 2026, and August 2026 graduates! We will be honoring both SDSU undergraduate and graduate students. We will also be celebrating the end of year so come one, come all!

RSVP by May 4th: bit.ly/APIDAGrad2026. The event is open to all. However, **ONLY FOLKS WHO RSVP WILL BE ADMITTED**. Also, only graduates who RSVP and attend from 5-7pm will be recognized and receive an APIDA honor cord. We will have a strict sign-in system so please RSVP in advance.

We're hiring! Spread the word!

SDSU Office of AANHPI Affairs & APIDA Center

WE'RE HIRING!

Associate Program Director for AANHPI Initiatives (SSPIV)



For priority consideration, please apply asap!

Apply Here: <https://careers.sdsu.edu/en-us/job/555099/associate-program-director-for-aanhpi-initiatives-student-services-professional-iv>

SDSU Office of AANHPI Affairs & APIDA Center

WE'RE HIRING!

Coordinator for AANHPI Initiatives (SSPII)



For priority consideration, please apply asap!

Apply Here: <https://careers.sdsu.edu/en-us/job/555095/coordinator-for-aanhpi-affairs-student-services-professional-ii>

SDSU Office of AANHPI Affairs & APIDA Center

WE'RE HIRING!

Administrative Support & Budget Coordinator (ASCII)



For priority consideration, please apply asap!

Apply Here: <https://careers.sdsu.edu/en-us/job/554974/administrative-support-and-budget-coordinator-administrative-support-coordinator-ii>

Work for the SDSU Office of AANHPI Affairs & APIDA Center!

Although our priority deadline has passed, feel free to continue to apply as the positions will remain open until filled but don't wait too long as we can't wait to meet our team members! Apply today and/or spread the word:

- [Associate Program Director for AANHPI Initiatives](#) (SSPIV)
- [Coordinator for AANHPI Affairs](#) (SSPII)
- [Administrative Support and Budget Coordinator](#) (ASCII)



Know APIDA History!

SDSU APIDA Center x Student Success Fee

TEREZA LEE

THE FIRST DREAMer

TALK: The DREAM Act
Date: Thurs, March 26, 2026
Time: 4:00-5:00pm
Location: MUSIC 113

PIANO PERFORMANCE + Q&A
Date: Thurs, March 26, 2026
Time: 5:00-7:00pm
Location: MUSIC 113

Pianist. Activist. Dreamer. Join us to learn more about Tereza Lee's inspiring story. In addition to sharing her journey from student to change agent, she will be performing a special piano recital.

Please arrive early. Everyone must check in. First come, first served. Late arrivals will not be admitted.



APIDA Center learns about Tereza Lee!

by Alisha Sukhu

On March 26th from 4-7pm, we will be hosting Tereza Lee at SDSU. This is a truly special opportunity - do not miss out! She will be giving a public talk and playing piano for us! AMAZING! (Many thanks to the Student Success Fee, School of Music and Dance, Asian American Studies, Monarch Unity Resource Center, and student leaders: Jose Segura and Krissa Jackson.)

Tereza Lee (born 1963) is a Brazilian-born, South Korean immigrant. Lee came to the United States at the age of two and grew up undocumented in Chicago. Her undocumented status instilled anxiety and fear; as such, she turned to the piano, teaching herself and practicing for hours at a time. She went on to attend the Merit School of Music in Chicago. There, she met Ann Monaco, who was the artistic director of the school. Monaco urged Lee to apply for universities; but Lee, unable to apply due to her lack of a social security number, confided to Monaco about her undocumented status. Together, they called Senator Dick Durbin (born 1944), who eventually drafted a bill on behalf of Lee and sixty other undocumented students. The bill expanded and became known as the DREAM Act. Thus, Tereza Lee became the first or original DREAMer, marking a historic milestone for Asian American history.

The DREAM (Development, Relief, And Education for Alien Minors) Act, first introduced in 2001, is a proposed federal bill that would provide a pathway to legal residency and citizenship for undocumented immigrants brought to the United States as children. Many variations of the DREAM Act have been introduced in Congress with bipartisan support, but have never successfully passed into law. Much work still needs to be done.

In San Diego, there is an estimated 20,000+ undocumented Asian immigrants within San Diego County. While larger regions of San Diego contain higher undocumented Latinx populations, Asian immigrants make up roughly 10-15% of the undocumented community. Many undocumented Asian immigrants have deep roots in San Diego, with roughly 58% having lived in the United States for over 20 years. Undocumented residents in San Diego County contribute over \$218 million annually in local and state taxes. Join us to learn more about the UndocuAPIDA experience.

APIDA Center Highlights: News to Know!



APIDA Center welcomes Golden West College!

On Friday, March 13th, we welcomed students from Golden West College! Prospective transfer students learned about the resources offered at the APIDA Center. We gave a tour and hosted a Transfer Student Panel featuring **Leilani Javier** and **Earvin Lim**. Then, Golden West students learned about the undocumented APIDA experiences and made zines!



APIDA Center learns about Bhutanese paper-making!

On Monday, March 16th, we learned about Paro Tshechu and Bhutanese paper-making. Paro Tshechu is a significant festival in Bhutan that honors Guru Rimpoche, the saint who brought Buddhism to Bhutan. We also learned about Dezo, a traditional papermaking practice in Bhutan. Then, we made our own paper! (This is one of our favorite workshops - it's messy and wet but you get your own paper at the end!)



APIDA Center plays games!

On Tuesday, March 17th, we hosted a Players' Choice Game Night. Students played a variety of card games and board games. (Fun Fact: The APIDA Center has tons of tabletop board games.)



APIDA Center learns about Chamoru folklore!

On Wednesday, March 18th, we learned about the history and cultural significance of CHamoru folklore. We watched the short film entitled, "Maisa: The CHamoru Girl Who Saves Guåhan." Then, we met Mr. Michael Q. Ceballos, founder of Twiddle Productions, Inc. and one of the filmmakers of "Maisa." We learned about the importance and impacts of indigenous representation in film as well as the processes in making an animated short film.



APIDA Center learns to use a sewing machine!

On Thursday, March 19th, we hosted a workshop entitled, "Sweatshops, Garment Work, and Asian America." We learned about the role of Asian immigrant women in the garment industry and their fights for labor rights. In general, sewing has shaped APIDA communities through tradition, labor, and creative expression. Then, to support our efforts to teach essential skills, we taught participants how to use a sewing machine.



APIDA Center analyzes Filipino cookbooks!

On Thursday, March 19th, we continued our partnership with Asian American Studies by learning about the history of cookbooks, especially the development of Asian cookbooks in the United States. Then, we analyzed several Filipino cookbooks. The main idea was to think of cookbooks as cultural artifacts - as tools for resistance, preservation, and community-building. (Make sure that you write down all your precious family recipes and annotate your cookbooks!)



APIDA Center eats lumpia!

On Thursday, March 19th, we teamed up with Asian American Studies and hosted a workshop about the historical and cultural significance of lumpia as a meal of migration. Then, of course, we ate lumpia! Yummy!



APIDA Center hosts Club Karaoke!

On Thursday, March 19th, we stayed after hours and hosted our fan-favorite, Club Karaoke. Our students are talented and silly. What a fun night!

APIDA Flex & Recommendation: Jose Segura



Jose Segura is an APIDA Center Student Assistant and a fourth year student double-majoring in Geology and Astronomy. We are so proud of him for several reasons. First, he represented the APIDA Center at the 2026 SDSU Student Symposium with his research entitled, "Reframing the Stars: Ancient Chinese Astronomy and AsianAm Scientific Legitimacy." Second, he was recently accepted into the 2026 Stanford University Sustainability Undergraduate Research in Geoscience and Engineering (SURGE) program. Through the program, he will be supporting research investigating oceanic rock samples during Earth's largest mass extinction. Third, he was recognized as a recipient of a scholarship on Friday, March 13th.



For his APIDA Recommendation, Jose Segura recommends the film entitled, "Coming Soon" (2008). This is a supernatural horror film based in Thailand. Directed by Sophon Sakdaphisit (born 1982), the film features two film projectionists who are haunted by a vengeful spirit after pirating a horror movie. Jose stated, "This film is what made me really interested in the horror genre. It was the first foreign horror film I watched beyond the more mainstream western horror movies. I recommend this film because it provides a global perspective of the horror genre." The film is a staple in the "Asian Horror" discussions among U.S. horror fans; in fact, it is frequently recommended alongside other Thai classics like *Shutter* (which received a direct U.S. remake in 2008). The director gained recognition in the West as the co-writer of *Shutter* and *Alone*, two films that were instrumental in introducing Thai horror to the American market.

Share all things APIDA, including recommendations and flexes!

Email us at apida@sdsu.edu.

Upcoming APIDA Center Events

Spam Kelaguen*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Monday, March 23, 2026 from 12:00-1:00pm

Guam is the world's largest consumer of SPAM. Learn about the historical and cultural significance of SPAM in Guam. Then, make and eat SPAM Kelaguen!

How to Read Manga*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Monday, March 23, 2026 from 4:00-5:00pm

Learn about things to look for when reading and discussing manga: Graphic weight! Figure rendering! Subgenres! Common tropes! We will be reading from "My Hero Academia" (available for free on the Manga Plus app). All are welcome! Takeover Host: Professor Van Tarpley

Yayoi Kusama-Inspired Art*

Location: APIDA Center

Dates: Monday, March 23, 2026 from 5:00-7:00pm

Yayoi Kusama, a significant figure in the 1960s New York avant-garde scene, is a Japanese contemporary artist. She was born on March 22, 1929. Celebrate her birthday by learning more about her and making some Yayoi Kusama-inspired art!

The Fight for the DREAM Act*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Tuesday, March 24, 2026 from 2:00-3:00pm

Learn about the fight for the DREAM ACT and the Asian American heroes behind this historic endeavor. It is important to recognize undocumented Asian American experiences in immigration conversations.

Game Night: Yam: Bhutanese Dice Game*

Location: APIDA Center

Date: Tuesday, March 24, 2026 from 5:00-7:00pm

This year, Paro Tshechu, a Bhutanese spring festival, takes place from March 29-April 2. Yam, a traditional Bhutanese dice game, is played during Bhutanese festivals.

CHamoru Canoe-Building & Seafaring*

Location: APIDA Center

Dates: Wednesday, March 25, 2026 from 3:00-5:00pm

Canoe-building (agad'na) is a deeply rooted maritime tradition in the Mariana Islands, characterized by sailing vessels called sakman. Learn about the history and culture of CHamoru canoe-building and seafaring and the STEM elements behind the tradition from Sakman Mario Reyes Borja!

Tereza Lee: The First DREAMer*

Location: MUSIC 113

Dates: Thursday, March 26, 2026 from 4:00-7:00pm

Pianist. Activist. Dreamer. Join us to learn more about Tereza Lee's inspiring story. In addition to sharing her journey from student to change agent, she will be performing a special piano recital.

Navigating Summer Courses*

Location: APIDA Center

Dates: Wednesday, April 8, 2026 from 1:00-2:00pm

Do you need help navigating enrollment for Summer 2026 courses? Join us to learn more about summer course options, the enrollment process, and how to maintain academic success over summer break.

Guest Speaker: Arasha*

Location: APIDA Center

Dates: Wednesday, April 8, 2026 from 2:00-4:00pm

Meet Arasha, an Indian American actress, comedian, and Internet personality. Then, engage in some improv activities with us!

2026 APIDA Excellence Celebration*

Location: Student Union Courtyard

Dates: Thursday, May 7, 2026 from 5:00-9:00pm

Join us for cake, food, dancing, fun activity booths, karaoke, and more! We will be celebrating our December 2025, May 2026, and August 2026 graduates! We will also be celebrating the end of year so come one, come all! [RSVP](#) by May 4th!

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:

- Sikh Student Association is hosting a [Bonfire Night](#) on Fri, March 20 from 5:30-8:30pm at The Rive. They are also hosting a [Gurdwara Trip](#) on Sun, March 22 from 11-2pm at the Escondido Gurdwara.
- AB Samahan is hosting "Kain with Community" on Sat, March 21 at 1:30pm at Villa Manila.
- Sanskriti SDSU is hosting [Holi 2026](#) on Sat, March 21 from 1:30-4:30pm at Clay Neighborhood Park.
- Asian Pacific Student Alliance is hosting an E² Spring Picnic on Sat, March 21 from 4-5pm at Kate Sessions Park. [RSVP](#) today.
- Vietnamese Student Association is hosting a [Hiking Social](#) on Sun, March 22 at 8am at Cowles Mountain Service Road Loop.
- Korean American Student Association is hosting their next [General Body Meeting](#) on Tues, March 24 from 3:30-4:30pm in Matayuum.

Community Center Partners:

- Pride Center is hosting [Free HIV Testing](#) on Wed, March 25 from 11:00-4:30pm.
- Monarch Unity Resource Center is hosting "Paint Your Chosen Image: Paint by Numbers" on Wed, March 25 from 12:00-1:30pm.
- Black Resource Center and Student African American Sisterhood are hosting a [Sister to Sister Luncheon](#) on Thurs, March 26 from 11-1pm at the Faculty/Staff Club. [RSVP](#) today.
- Women's Resource Center is hosting another [Period Pop-Up](#) on Thurs, March 26 from 11:30-2:30pm by the Campanile Walkway Flagpole.

Campus Partners:

- Career Services is hosting a Public Health Career Fair on Mon, Mar 23 from 12-2pm in Templo Mayor. [Register](#) today!
- The Office of Graduate Life and Diversity is hosting a [Tax Workshop](#) on Mon, Mar 23 from 4-5pm. [RSVP](#) today!
- The Student Union is hosting "Buzz Into Spring" on Mon, Mar 23 from 7-9pm in the Student Union Courtyard.
- Student Disability Services is hosting "SDS x TRiO: Connecting Through Conversation and Celebration" on Wed, Mar 25 from 2:30-4pm in Calpulli Center Conference Room 3.
- Struggling with basic needs? Need resources? Connect with the [Economic Crisis Resource Team](#).

Community Partners:

- Asian Business Association San Diego is looking for Mandarin, Korean, and Tagalog speakers to participate in focus groups to improve food access in San Diego. [Register](#) today!
- The [14th Annual Chamorro Cultural Festival](#) is on Sat, March 21 from 10-6pm at the Oceanside Amphitheatre. We are tabling there! Join us!
- The Asian American Education Project offers free APIDA resources on their [website](#) and [Instagram](#). The next free webinar is entitled, "Teaching APIDA Cross-Cultural Solidarity" on Thurs, March 26 from 4-5pm. [Register](#) today!

Research Opportunities

- **NEW!** SDSU Doctoral Candidate Akinjide Famoyegun is looking for participants to support his research study entitled, "Navigating Identity: Heritage language and well-being in Filipino and Vietnamese American college students." Participants will earn an Amazon gift card! [Sign up](#) today!
- **NEW!** *Social Moments: A Student Journal of Social Relations* accepts undergraduate and graduate research article submissions for publication focused on social sciences. [Submit](#) an article today!
- Call for presentation proposals for the 2026 California Science Education Conference is now open. [Submit](#) by April 15.
- Call for proposals for the 8th Annual RE:BORDER Conference is now open. [Register](#) by April 17.
- Pacific Arts Movement is now accepting film submissions for the 27th San Diego Asian Film Festival. [Apply](#) by April 20.
- *Piano Magazine* is hosting a Collegiate Writing Contest about piano pedagogy for their upcoming issue. [Submit](#) by May 1.

Jobs & Paid Internships

- **NEW!** TTM Technologies is looking for a Chemical Intern Engineer. [Apply](#) today!
- **NEW!** Margaret Baird Interiors is looking for an Interior Design Intern. [Apply](#) today!
- **NEW!** The SDSU Gus and Emma Thompson Black Resource Center is hiring 2026-2027 Student Assistants. [Apply](#) by March 23!
- **NEW!** The SDSU Office of Educational Opportunity Programs, Outreach, and Success is hiring Compact Mentors. [Apply](#) by March 25!
- The SDSU Latinx Resource Center is hiring a [Graduate Assistant](#), [Program Assistant](#), [El Pueblo Peer Mentor](#), and [Peer Navigator & Graphic Designer](#). [Apply](#) by March 23.
- The SDSU Center for Intercultural Relations is hiring Student Assistants and Graduate Assistants. [Apply](#) by March 30.
- HMC Architects is looking for a Student Intern. [Apply](#) by March 31.
- The Frances Clark Center is seeking 2026-2027 Interns. [Apply](#) by May 1.

Scholarships

- The OCA-UPS Gold Mountain Scholarship is offering \$2500 to four first-gen undergraduate students approaching their final year of college. [Apply](#) by March 22.
- The 1,000 Dreams Fund Scholarship is offering up to \$1,000 to women enrolled in a four-year college or graduate school. [Apply](#) by March 31.
- The Letters to Strangers Mental Health Changemaker Scholarship is offering up to \$8,000 to multiple eligible recipients ages 13-26. [Apply](#) by March 31.
- The Letters to Strangers Mental Health Warrior Scholarship is offering \$3,000 to one eligible recipient. [Apply](#) by March 31.
- **NEW!** Project Yellow Light is offering \$8,000 scholarships to college students. [Apply](#) by April 1.
- The Japanese American Citizens League is offering National Creative and Performing Arts Scholarships. [Apply](#) by April 3.
- The Hawai'i's Daughters Guild of California's Annual Scholarship is offering up to \$2000 to college undergraduate and graduate female students of Pacific Islander ancestry. [Apply](#) by April 15.
- 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.
- **NEW!** The Brave of Heart Scholarship is offering up to \$50,000 to undergraduate and graduate students who are children, spouses or domestic partners of a frontline healthcare worker who lost their life to a COVID-19-related cause. [Apply](#) by April 22.
- **NEW!** The Jimmye & Suey Fong Yee Grants are offering two \$2,000 grants to students or recent graduates pursuing careers in sports journalism. [Apply](#) by April 30!
- 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.
- The Lily Pabilona Emerging Entrepreneur Scholarship is offering up to \$5,000 to full-time college students in all majors. [Apply](#) by May 31.
- The Against the Grain Artistic Scholarship is offering \$1,000 to Asian American college students majoring in performing, visual arts, journalism and/or mass communications. [Apply](#) by May 31.