SDSU Asian Pacific Islander Desi American (APIDA) Center

Read all about it!!!

Check your email! Newsletter #26 is out!

If you didn't get it, don't miss out -
Join the APIDA Center contact list: https://bit.ly/SDSUAPIDA

Location:
2nd floor of Aztec Student Union
Rooms #210A-K (Directly above Starbucks)

Hours:
Mon-Thurs 10am-8pm
Friday 10am-4:30pm

Connect with us!

Center Website: https://sacd.sdsu.edu/apida
Center Email: apida@sdsu.edu
Director: Dr. Loh-Hagan at vloh-hagan@sdsu.edu
Associate Director: Matt Garcia at mhgarcia@sdsu.edu
Welcome Mr. Matt Garcia, our inaugural Associate Director!

I am so pleased to announce that the APIDA Center has hired our inaugural Associate Director: Mr. Matthew H Garcia (He/Him/His). His first day at the Center is April 11th. I’m beyond happy to have him be a part of the team!

Matt is originally from Santa Maria, a small town on the Central Coast of California. He attended California State University, Long Beach where he earned a Bachelor’s degree in Interpersonal and Organizational Communication Studies and went on to earn a Master’s degree in Postsecondary Educational Leadership with a Specialization in Student Affairs from San Diego State University. Matt has worked at SDSU for over seven years serving in various positions starting in Student Organizations & Activities before transitioning to the Center for Fraternity & Sorority Life where he most recently served as the Interim Director. (Fun Fact: SDSU has the fourth largest fraternity and sorority community in California.)

Matt said, "I am thrilled to be working at the APIDA center as the inaugural Associate Director. I have seen the space and community that the APIDA Center has offered to the SDSU community and I am excited to be a part of the Center's endeavors. I identify as a member of the APIDA community as I was raised by family members who immigrated from the Philippines, including my father. Besides identifying as Filipinx, I also identify as a member of the Latinx and LGBTQ+ communities."

The search committee was especially impressed with Matt's extensive leadership and programming experiences. In addition to general merry-making, Matt will be in charge of the Center's advising initiatives and support programming and outreach efforts. In his free time, he enjoys exploring new restaurants and activities in San Diego.
APIDA Center represents at SDSU Explore!

On Saturday, April 9, APIDA Center participated in SDSU Explore. This is an annual event that offers prospective and admitted SDSU students an opportunity to explore various resources at SDSU. It gives attendees an inside look at the vibrant community at SDSU.

Many thanks to APIDA Center Student Staff members, Gi Gonzales, Alexa Lawrence, and Mirei Kubota! They did a phenomenal job representing the APIDA Center.
Support Asian American Studies!

SDSU is well on its way to developing an Asian American Studies department. For the past couple of months, the APIDA Center and APIDA ERG hosted seven Meet and Greets with candidates for the Assistant Professor and Associate Professor positions in Asian American Studies.

The Search Committee members are: Dr. Minjeong Kim (Chair), Dr. Michael Dominguez, Dr. Sureshi M. Jayawardene, Dr. Virginia Loh-Hagan, and Dr. Sandra Wawrytko. We were so thrilled to be a part of this momentous event. We are also grateful to the College of Arts and Letters Dean, Monica Casper, who has been a tremendous support and leader.

Brittany Cruz-Ferejan wrote an article about our efforts in "The Daily Aztec." Other news outlets picked up the article including AsAm News, Next Shark, and ABC 10. Dr. Loh-Hagan was interviewed by ABC 10 live news. Now is the time! It’s important to know our history or we will have no history!

Students: Sign up for Asian American courses! For example, this Fall 2022 semester, consider taking ASIAN/HIST 422: Asian American Experience.
• Starting this June, Catlan Nguyen, Editor-in-Chief of The Daily Aztec, will be working at KING 5 News in Seattle under TEGNA's Producer-in-Residence program. She said, "I can't wait to work alongside some of the greatest journalists in the country!"

• Dr. Brian Hu, Associate Professor in the School of Theatre, Television, and Film, co-curated the series "Asian American Filmmaking 2000-2009," which is on Criterion Channel. Dr. Hu said, "2000-2009 was such a pivotal decade, when Asian American filmmakers embraced feature filmmaking, responded to a post-9/11 America, and challenged all the 'proper' notions of Asian America altogether." This collection has 20 features and shorts and is available until August 1.

• Dr. Loh-Hagan presented three sessions at the APAHE (Asian Pacific Americans in Higher Education) conference which was held from April 6-9 in Long Beach, CA. Her session topics were: "Sustaining the Moment: Building an APIDA-Supportive Campus Community," "Asian American Studies is For Everyone: What You Can Do!," and "Dealing with Allies Who Mean Well (I Think?)." She was thrilled to be flexing about all the great things the SDSU APIDA Center is doing.

We want to celebrate the SDSU APIDA community!

Have a flex to share?
Email us at apida@sdsu.edu.
Dr. Brian Hu, Associate Professor in the School of Theatre, Television, and Film, is recommending Terminal USA. He said, "In the early 90s, public television realized they needed more diversity and fresher voices, so they commissioned several films for a series they called 'TV Families.' If they thought they were getting all-American values on the network that Big Bird built, think again. Director Jon Moritsugu turned in the filthiest, most anarchic and despicable, deliciously 'negative' representation of Asian Americans that still shocks to this day. It's a Japanese American nuclear family sitcom: mom, dad, kids, and grandpa under one roof. But hidden in the closet is a deranged underbelly to the so-called model minority. Cocaine and sex tapes, skinheads and patricide. Nearly a third of PBS affiliates around the nation refused to show Terminal USA, but clearly Mortisugu didn't care. He spits in the eye of authority and standards of quality, a brazen call for Asian American cinema to be punk rock rather than just play by the rules. Don't believe me? Search Terminal USA in the SDSU library catalog and stream it for yourself. Just don't watch it with your family around."

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.
Upcoming APIDA Center Events

Crafty Mondays
Location: APIDA Center
Dates: Mondays in March and April from 6-8pm
APIDA Center and Allies for Education with generous funding from Student Success Fee Programs will be hosting a crafty series. Participants will learn about the culture and history of various crafts, get a demonstration, and have time to get crafty. Space is limited to about 20 participants while supplies last; first come, first served. All participants must attend lecture in order to participate in craft-making.
(Hosted by Alexa Lawrence)
- April 11th: Indian Jute Crafts (Special Guest Speaker: Dr. Amsamani Sundaravel)
- April 18th: Batin (Philippines, India, Indonesia, Singapore)
- April 25th: Chinese Knotting/Macrame

JACL Community Dialogue with Dr. Loh-Hagan
RSVP for Zoom Link: sandiegocoacl@gmail.com
Date: Thursday, April 14 from 6:30-8:00pm
San Diego Japanese American Citizens League is hosting a virtual Community Dialogue with Dr. Virginia Loh-Hagan. The purpose of the SD JACL Monthly Dialogues is to help build and inform on important topics in the community.

Why APIDA Stories Matter
Zoom Link: https://fresnostate.zoom.us/j/85368971052?pwd=TJRDWFZSW5GMTY4TVkSUSERUpxQT09
Date: Thursday, April 21 from 2:00-3:15pm
As part of Fresno State's America Week, Dr. Loh-Hagan will be discussing the importance of APIDA stories for both APIDA communities and non-APIDA communities. Stories matter because we matter.

Film Screenings & Discussion with Ursula Liang
Location: NE 60
Dates: April 22 from 4-8pm
SDSU Division of Research and Innovation, in collaboration with the APIDA Center, is hosting screenings of Ursula Liang's films, "9-Man" and "Down a Dark Stairwell." In addition, we will host an exclusive Q & A discussion with Ursula Liang (in person).

Grand Opening Celebration
Location: Student Union Courtyard and APIDA Center
Dates: April 25 from 1-3pm
The APIDA Center virtually opened during the pandemic. We just moved into our physical space in Fall 2021 and are still setting things up. But, the Center is definitely starting to feel like home. Join us for our official grand opening. Speakers include President Adela de la Torre, Vice President J. Luke Wood, and Dr. Loh-Hagan. Student performances from APSA Music, PISA, and KASA Ignite.

APIDA Conference
Location: Virtual (Standby for zoom and RSVP)
Dates: Saturday, April 30 from 9-4pm
Join for our 2nd annual APIDA Conference. This year's theme is "Unity in Community: How Communities Work Together to Solve Problems." We will be hearing from several APIDA organizations who are doing amazing things for our communities. We'll be announcing speakers soon. Thanks to generous funding from Student Success Fee programs. (Hosted by Gi Gonzalez)

GameCon
Location: APIDA Center
Dates: Sunday, May 1 from 11-7pm
With generous funding from Student Success Fee Programs, we will be hosting a Game Conference. This will be the first of many events for SDSU gaming enthusiasts. We will be discussing the benefits of playing tabletop games, video games, and role-playing games. We will also play games! Settlers of Catan, Dungeons & Dragons, mah jong...we got it all! (Hosted by Krishna Ramamoorthy and Alexa Lawrence)

AFE 101: Teaching Tough Topics
Location: Virtual (Standby for zoom and RSVP)
Dates: Saturday, May 7 from 10-4pm
With generous funding from Student Success Fee Programs, Allies for Education and the APIDA Center will be hosting our third annual AFE 101 professional development conference. This conference is developed by teachers for teachers! (Hosted by Nadia Hernandez Ruelas and Alexa Lawrence)

Student-Led Workshops & Student-Created Social Media Campaigns
Do you have expertise on a topic? Do you have a special skill? Consider sharing your knowledge with us! APIDA Center launched our Student-Led Workshops and Student-Created Social Media Campaigns. This is a great opportunity to show off your expertise and share your passion with others. It's also an opportunity to learn how to plan an event or prepare a campaign with our support. Work with an APIDA Center staff member who will serve as your project mentor. We are interested in any and all APIDA-related topics! If you are interested in participating, email us at vloah-hagan@sdsu.edu.
APIDA Center Grand Opening

When: Mon, April 25 from 1-3pm
Where: Student Union Courtyard

RSVP: bit.ly/APIDAGrandOpening

Schedule of Events
1:00 - Welcome and Land Acknowledgement
1:10 - Speakers:
   • Dr. Adela de la Torre, President
   • Dr. J. Luke Wood, SA+CD Vice President
   • Dr. V. Loh-Hagan, APIDA Center Director
1:30 - Student Performers:
   • APSA Music
   • PISA
   • KASA Ignite
2:00 - Open House and Mix & Mingle

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@sdsuapidacenter
SDSU APIDA Resource Center
Opportunities

- The Women's Resource Center is hosting "Take Back the Week" from April 11-15. Honor this collaborative effort to spread awareness about issues surrounding sexual violence and rape and to provide support to survivors.
- Vietnamese Student Association (VSA) is hosting their Vietnamese Culture Night on Friday, April 15th from 6:30-9:30pm at Patrick Henry High School. The theme this year is "Back to the Childhood Land."
- AB Samahan is hosting their 37th annual Filipino American Culture Night on April 15th from 6-9pm at Montezuma Hall. Join them for a night of singing, dancing, and acting.
- RSO Presidents and Treasurers: The RSO Renewal Symposium takes place on May 1, 2022. This is a one day event where student org leaders can complete all the required training and renew their applications for the 22-23 school year.

Do you have an opportunity to share?
Email us at apida@sdsu.edu.

Scholarships

- The Beverley Yip Scholarship is a $2,500 scholarship for students who are pursuing post-secondary education toward a degree in social work, behavioral health, or related fields in health and human services. Two winners are selected annually. Apply by April 15.

- The Hsiao Memorial Social Sciences Scholarship is a $1000 scholarship for a student to pursue graduate level studies in the social sciences/economics. Apply by May 16.

Do you have a scholarship opportunity to share?
Email us at apida@sdsu.edu.

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Your donation, big or small, makes a huge difference for our center!

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To read past newsletters, visit the APIDA Center newsletter archive!