

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY,
DOMINGUEZ HILLS

ASIAN & PACIFIC
ISLANDER
GRADUATION
CELEBRATION

Class of 2024

MAY 11, 2024 • 10 AM

Loker Student Union, Ballroom C
1000 E. Victoria Street
Carson, CA 90747





SPECIAL THANKS

Asian & Pacific Cultural Center
Associated Students, Inc.
Asian Pacific Studies
Academic Affairs
Division of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Justice
Student Affairs
President Thomas Parham
Executive Cabinet Members
VP of Administration & Finance Deborah Wallace
Honda

Performers

Troy Fernandez, Ukulele

Photography

Matt Brown

2024 API GRADUATION CELEBRATION COMMITTEE

Co Chairs: Anna Liza Garcia & Cailin White

Committee Members:

Annalyn Valdez Dadia, Estela Melendez,
Hannah Nguyen, Jonathon Carter, Kirti Celly
Patrick Naranjo, Sara Napoli, Y Nguyen



HONDA
The Power of Dreams



PROGRAM

CLASS OF 2024

Welcome & Reception
Remarks by Vice President Deb Wallace
Presentation of Awards:
Don Hata "Poised to Prevail" Award &
Journey To Success Student Award
Acknowledgement of APP Majors & Minors
Presentation of Graduates
Closing Remarks

thank you for joining us
to celebrate this special occasion!





GRADUATES

Ahmed Hasan

Computer Science

Eileen Ann Topacio

Psychology

Alaina Baclaan

Education: Curriculum &
Instruction, MA

Gabrielle Silva

Design

Alexandria Hamilton

Cellular and Molecular Biology



Jamie Ann Marie Saturno

Health Science: Community Health

Andrea Marie Cocjin

Kinesiology: Pre-Physical Therapy

Jaiden Villanueva

Psychology

Carlo Batac

Clinical Laboratory Science

Jascha Tuscano

Clinical Science: Medical Technology

Carol Trac

Labor Studies

Jay Banes

Kinesiology

Chelsea Valdez

Clinical Science: Medical
Technology

Jhanella Mae Martinez

Art History



ASIAN-PACIFIC STUDIES MAJORS & MINORS





GRADUATES

Jill Pascual

Clinical Science: Medical Technology

Rozlind Silva

Counseling, MS

Johnathan Nguyen

Computer Science

Russell Legaspi

Clinical Laboratory Science:
Medical Technology



Joshua-Jeff Manarang

Computer Technology & Asian-
Pacific Studies

Ryan Nguyen

Clinical Laboratory Science

Kristine Lei Villaraza

Business Administration:
Management

Shanelle Banawa

Clinical Laboratory Science

Mary Princess Otamias

Sports, Entertainment & Hospitality
Management

Shelley Lau

Psychology

Monica Sasis

Child Development

Trinity Siu

Psychology

Reginald Chua

Clinical Science

Zeina El Haty

Advertising and Public
Relations



ASIAN-PACIFIC STUDIES MAJORS & MINORS






DON HATA “POISED TO PREVAIL” AWARD

Presented to: Dr. Mary Lacanlale

The Don Hata Poised to Prevail award was established at the First Annual API Graduation Celebration in May of 2011 and is bestowed upon a member of the CSUDH faculty, administration, staff, or alumni in recognition of outstanding service provided to the API and SWANA student population at CSUDH.

Dr. Mary Lacanlale has been an advocate for API students at CSUDH, consistently championing their needs and fostering a supportive environment. Her pivotal role in establishing the Asian & Pacific Studies major underscores her dedication to enriching the educational journey of API students, while also advocating for the recognition and inclusion of API histories and cultures within academia. Dr. Lacanlale has also actively supported API faculty and staff, serving on the executive board of the API Faculty and Staff Association and ensuring their voices are heard in the campus community. As a mentor and advisor, she has guided countless students through their educational journey. Her efforts extend to organizing events and celebrations, such as API heritage month events and API Graduation, which have amplified the visibility and engagement of API communities on campus. Moreover, her engagement in various community organizations reflects her commitment to supporting the broader API community beyond the university. With an extensive list of involvements, Mary Lacanlale's impact on the CSUDH API community is profound and deserving of recognition. We are proud to recognize Dr. Mary Lacanlale as the 2024 recipient of the Donald T. Hata "Poised to Prevail" Award.





JOURNEY TO SUCCESS STUDENT AWARD

Presented to: Jaiden Villanueva & Joshua-Jeff Manarang

The Journey to Success Student Award aims to honor an exceptional graduating student from CSUDH who has demonstrated outstanding leadership and service to the Asian & Pacific Islander (API) community throughout their time at California State University, Dominguez Hills.

Jaiden Villanueva serves as the Vice President of Academic Affairs for Associated Students Incorporated (ASI). Jaiden played a pivotal role in helping to found the Asian and Pacific Culture Center at CSUDH. Jaiden's dedication to student welfare is evident through their involvement in initiatives addressing mental health, basic needs, and food insecurity. Jaiden has exhibited strong leadership, empathy, and a commitment to creating more inclusive spaces for all students. Jaiden's advocacy work, collaborative nature, and desire to improve the lives of others have left a lasting impact on the CSUDH community.

Joshua-Jeff Manarang has been deeply involved in the API community at CSUDH throughout his six-year undergraduate career. His leadership roles within organizations like Pagsikapan Pilipinx-American Student Community and the Asian Pacific Cultural Center showcase his dedication to fostering inclusivity and activism on campus. Joshua's friendly demeanor and commitment to making students feel welcome have made him a respected figure, earning him the title of "kuya" or older brother among his peers. As a Program & Activity Lead with APCC, Joshua has demonstrated exceptional leadership in supporting peer staff and fostering collaboration among API-affiliated clubs.

