Sacramento State to host first Hmong Heritage Week

Sacramento State will celebrate the campus-based Hmong Heritage Week, highlighting the culture’s history, legacy and future. “Recognizing Our Legacy. Envisioning Our Future. Seizing the Moment.” is the theme of the inaugural event, beginning Monday, April 21, and concluding Saturday, April 26. The events are free and open to the public.

Hmong Heritage Week is organized by Sacramento State’s Hmong University Student Association (HUSA), which was founded in 1987. The weeklong celebration will promote an appreciation for and education on the complex history, culture and tradition of the Hmong people among campus members and the greater Sacramento community. The events are meant to be impactful and informative experiences for University students, staff/faculty and community members.

There are more than 26,000 Hmong in Sacramento, according to Sacramento State’s Office of Institutional Research, and the 900-plus attending Sac State give the University one of the nation’s largest concentrations of such students.

Schedule:

- Monday, April 21 – Lecture: “History and Diaspora of the Hmong,” 6-8 p.m., University Union, Hinde Auditorium
- Tuesday, April 22 – Documentary screening: “Witness to a Secret War,” 7:30-9:30 p.m., University Union Ballroom II
- Wednesday, April 23 – Panel: “Empowering Hmong Women in the 21st Century,” 6-8 p.m., University Union, Hinde Auditorium
- Thursday, April 23 – The Gallery: “Hmong Arts and Cultural Exhibit,” 11 a.m.-6 p.m., University Union, Orchard Suite
- Friday, April 25 – Hmong Performing Arts: “Vitality and Diversity,” 7-9 p.m., University Union, Redwood Room
- Saturday, April 26 – 11th annual HUSA Culture Show, 4-7 p.m., University Union Ballroom

The festivities will include a contest prompting Hmong students to participate and wear traditional cultural attire.
Spearheading the event is Sacramento State doctoral student Chao Vang, whose community involvement has been his hallmark since coming to Sacramento in 2005. Visit www.csus.edu/sacstatenews/Articles/2014/04/ChaoVang04-16-14.html to read a profile about Vang. For media assistance, contact Sacramento State Public Affairs office at (916) 278-6156. – Alan Miller

Sacramento State is making a difference in California’s Capital Region and beyond. We offer a life-changing opportunity for our 28,000 students, preparing them to be leaders in their professions and communities. Our professors are known for their dedication to great teaching. And our location in the capital of the nation’s most populous state allows students to pursue unique internships and research.

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