

Celebrating Filipino American History Month



Dear Hornet Community,

Filipino American History Month (FAHM) is one of the many commemorations we observe and acknowledge in October. Each year, FAHM has a theme designated by the [Filipino American National Historical Society \(FAHNS\)](#). This year, the theme is [“Celebrating Our History and Legacies: 50 Years of Filipino American Studies, 40 Years of FANHS, and 30 years of Filipino American History Month.”](#) The month was chosen by FAHNS in 1992. It mark October 1587, the first recorded presence of Filipinos in North America, when “Luzones Indios” from the Philippines came ashore at present-day Morro Bay, Calif. In 2009, Congress passed [House Resolution 780](#), recognizing October as Filipino American History Month, “a time of reflection and remembrance.” In 2013, [California Assembly Bill 123](#) ensured that the [contributions of Filipino American farm laborers](#), and the influence of their culture on the farmworker labor movement, are highlighted in the state public school curriculum for grades 7 to 12.

[Filipinos](#) are one of the fastest-growing Asian-origin groups in the United States. At [Sacramento State](#), 2021 data show Asians make up 19% of all enrolled students. Within this, Filipinos are the largest ethnicity identified at 7%. Sacramento State is proud of its designation as an Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander Serving Institution (AANAPISI). In 2019, Sacramento State participated in the Wide Open Walls mural festival and brought Eliseo Silva on campus to create [“Magkasama Tayo Aangat \(Together We Rise\),”](#) which is outside of Brighton Hall. The mural pays tribute to Filipino migration and displays the merging of Filipino and American cultures.

Several student-lead organizations on campus are focused on Filipino culture. Kappa Psi Epsilon hosts a Veterano luncheon each fall in honor of Filipino veterans who served in World War II. Samahang Pilipino has long been a space for students to build community and find mentorship. For faculty and staff, there is the Asian Pacific Islander Desi American Faculty and Staff Association (APIDAFSA). As a campus, we want to uplift the work that is done by our students, faculty, staff, and community members to honor the history and culture of Filipino Americans.

As an Anchor University, Sacramento State has partnered with many Filipino American community organizations in the area, and specifically with the Philippine National Day Association (PNDA) to host its annual Filipino American Youth Leadership Conference (FAYLC) over the summer on campus. Commemorating the contributions of Filipino Americans in the struggles to build and maintain American society is an important focus we should not lose. As we continue to make progress on our Sac State [Antiracism and Inclusive Campus Action Plan](#), we want to highlight communities and tell untold stories to ensure that inclusion and belonging are valued and practiced on our campus every day.

In partnership,

Dr. Mia Settles-Tidwell,
VP for Inclusive Excellence and University Diversity Officer

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