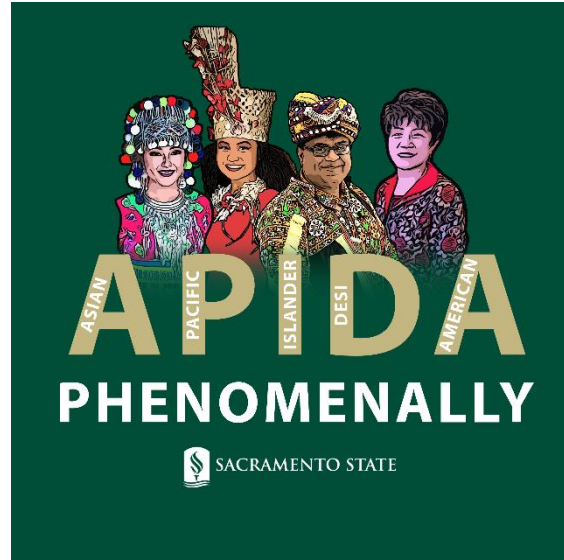




SACRAMENTO
STATE
STUDENT AFFAIRS

Asian Pacific Islander Desi American
Center



APIDA Student Art Contest

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STUDENT ACADEMIC SUCCESS AND EDUCATIONAL EQUITY PROGRAMS

First Place: Melak Nasser

Description: This is an imaginary scene from Mesopotamia where people are living their daily lives, fishing, selling goods in the market, and walking around. We can see there are some animals like camels and dogs next to the Fields of palm and dates trees. Iraq (Mesopotamia) is very famous for it is date fruit, inventing the first watering system, first farming system, boats, the wheel, astronomy, astrology, and horoscopes. To the left there is the gardens of Babylon, a semi mythical building and also one of the original seven wonders of the ancient world, to the far right there is the tower of babel that is mentioned in the je wish biblical stories. The woman laying down is t e Goddess of love, lust, and war in Mesopotamia mythology, her name is Ishtar, she is older than Venus or Aphrodite from the roman and Greek culture. The Lion sitting next to her is a symbol of herself and it is also her lion, it is also known as the lion of Babylon who protects her. To the right the black sculpture is the first widely written law, the la w of Hammurabi that included first (women rights, children rights, inheritance, land rights etc) the too part we can see the God Shamash sitting and giving instructions to Hammurabi to write these laws. On the floor to the right there is the sculpture of the just king Gudea the first person who wore the traditional Head wrap (Agal) that is used by many Arabian countries nowadays. The vases and jars on the floor are actual ones that were found in modern day Iraq, and the nails to the left far side is a clay nail that is found in buildings to document any information about it. The small statue with hands holding each other is one of the many offering statues that were given to the Gods and temples as gifts. The face sculpture is the first king and emperor found in the world (Sargon of akkad) who asked for the headed winged bull of the heavens to be build (the large sculpture on the le ft). The walls have the original writing from the first written text and poem found in history (the epic of Gilgamesh). The gate around the city is the gate of Ishtar the Goddess of love, the big part of it was destroyed but the small part was moved to Berlin. Mesopotamia as known nowadays Iraq is famous for war and distraction but I think my country has contributed so much more to the world since it was the first civilization on earth. I would like to show the rest of the world and remind them of our great history.



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Second Place: Mia Jaraba

Description: I chose to paint a scene of the Philippines. Although I have never been, my dad was born in the Philippines and always talked about how beautiful it was. The islands are so unique and full of life, and I wanted to highlight that in my painting. I also wanted to add representation with the sun from the national flag, whose rays represent the 8 provinces of the Philippines. Nature and beauty are at the heart of this community, and the islands speak for themselves. I have so much respect for the people that care for this land, and I hope one day I will be able to see it in person. I made this painting as a sort of love letter to the islands, so I hope you enjoy!



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Third Place: Leah Do

Description: I dedicated my first large-scale work to my grandmother, whose passing in late 2020 after months of battling dementia has left in me an empty space. Grandma raised me, and she represents the bridge standing between a post-colonial world and a new world, between Eastern and Western values - the beginning of my journey. Although painted from an old photograph, seeing grandma emerge from the canvas hit me with powerful surges of emotions. I pictured her wearing the aodai - the traditional Vietnamese costume, in an undiscerned space that is floating between two worlds, for my memories of her are as impermanent and fragile as these otherwise colorful ripples.



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Campus' Choice award winner: Che Thao

Description: This drawing has a Southeast girl who is Hmong (left) and a Polynesian girl (right). The tiger in the background represents bravery, strength, and power for both people and throughout their time for fighting in a war. Such as the Hmong people who fought along the United State during the war called "The Secret War". The plants represent the jungle that these people live along with throughout their lives. The butterflies represent death, of the people that we have lost along the way, in another way freedom as they may be free to fly away.



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