



# NATIONAL PACIFIC ISLANDER EDUCATION NETWORK

*"Uniting the resources of the village to strengthen families, the community and to promote educational excellence."* 501.c.3 Nonprofit Organization

**Sinlaku Mutual Aid Disaster Relief - Drop Off Locations**

In the wake of the storm, many of our relatives in the Marianas lack access to basic necessities. Our most vulnerable community members—including members of the underserved and people with disabilities—urgently need support.

As part of our statewide mutual aid efforts, we are collecting essential supplies to fill shipping containers bound directly for the islands. MCCA's top priority is getting supplies in and distributing them to those in need. Join the organizations below in sending aid by helping fill a Macon shipping container with your donations.

| Northern California  | Southern California  |
|--|--|
| <b>Fresno</b><br>Mighty Community Advocacy<br>Hours: Mon-Fri 10am-2pm<br>1803 Van Ness Ave, Fresno, CA 93721<br>Contact: Neha Trivedi (408-656-2623)<br><br><b>Roseville</b><br>Hours: 5-9pm<br>2000 Shropshire St., Roseville, CA 95747<br>Contact: Lyle Alquist-Arroyo (510-386-3768)<br><br><b>Sacramento</b><br>Party for Socialism and Liberation (PSL)<br>Hours: Weekdays 5-9pm, Weekends 10am-5pm<br>3109 Clay Street, Sacramento, CA 95815<br>Contact: Travis Walls (916-995-6756)<br><br><b>San Francisco</b><br>Mission Dolores Basilica<br>Hours: Mon-Fri 9am-5pm<br>3321 16th Street, San Francisco, CA 94114<br>Contact: Fr. Francis Garbo (415-421-8203)<br><br><b>San Francisco</b><br>SALT Pacific Islander Association<br>Hours: Mon-Fri 9am-5pm<br>46 Leland Ave, San Francisco, CA 94134<br>Contact: Guyonemere Santiago (415-246-8700) | <b>San Diego</b><br>Sons & Daughters of Guam Club, Inc.<br>Hours: 9am-7pm<br>334 Willie James Jones Ave,<br>San Diego, CA 92102<br>Contact: Tali Quichocho (6198841626)<br><br><b>Long Beach</b><br>Pacific Island Ethnic Art Museum<br>Hours: 11am-5pm (Wed-Sun)<br>695 Alambra Ave., Long Beach, CA 90802<br>Contact: Fran Lujan (562-269-8844)<br><br><b>San Diego</b><br>Hours: 5-10pm<br>3015 Poinsettia Drive, San Diego, CA 92106<br>Contact: April Ricoso (6073737143)<br><br><b>Los Angeles</b><br>Pilele Projects<br>Hours: 11am-6pm<br>1307A West Washington Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90018<br>Contact: Mariquita Davis (6785241920) |

In partnership with:

For a live list of supplies needed and dropoff locations, go to [linktr.ee/miaedemutualaid](https://linktr.ee/miaedemutualaid)  
 List updated as of 4/17

## Typhoon Sinlaku: Support the Mariana Islands

Please support the many in the Mariana Islands in need of basic necessities due to the Typhoon, Visit the QR Code for information on needed supplies and also now to make a donation.

## Vote in the NPIEN Election, June 1-19, 2026

Make your vote count and support the future leaders of NPIEN. Voting is open from June 1 to June 19, 2026 only. Cast your vote here:

<https://forms.gle/bPbY3vcUNnnPwYLu8>

Not yet a member? Join NPIEN today to stay updated on announcements, events, and opportunities: <https://www.npien.com/home/join-npien> Thank you for your support and participation!



## Congratulations to NPIEN Staff Member Sharma Uma, the New CASCWA State President



Vinaka vakalevu! Congratulations President Sharma! Read more here <https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/cascwa-state-president-sharma-uma-leading-purpose-erica-peterson-ej4dc/>

By National Pacific Islander Education Network

### 25TH ANNUAL NPIEN EDUCATION CONFERENCE IN LAKEWOOD, CA

Oct 24 · 8:30 AM  
 Odyssey STEM Academy  
 Lakewood



## Morse High School Conference

Over 240 students participated in the Morse High School Islander Association conference in April. More information coming.

## Apply/Nominate Someone Now for Student Scholar Awards, Attendance Awards and Adult Awards Christina and Ray Diaz Scholars, Attendance, Educator, Counselor, School Administrator, and Community Awards 2026 Deadline is June 12th

NPIEN is happy to continue its tradition of honoring students, educators, and community members who have made significant contributions to the Pacific Islander community. Visit this link <https://www.npien.com/resources/npien-awards>

## Falanai Ala Guest Speaker and Mentoring Program Update by Lisa Lewis

For the Falanai Ala Guest Speaker and Mentoring program, we have connected with 670 total students at institutions including Lakewood High School (200 students), Orange Coast College (50 students), Starr King Elementary School, Long Beach USD (100 students), Puente Latino Association (30 students), Rogers MS (90 students), and Islander Association Conference in San Diego (200 students). We have four upcoming scheduled visits in April and May and an additional four visits still pending confirmation.

## June is National Candy Month and Father's Day. Buy See's Candies to Support NPIEN's YUM Raising

Our new campaign has started and you will be able to purchase See's Candies year-round. New link <https://www.yumraising.com/store/all-year-2026-national-pacific-islander-education-network-dddd/VicTho51109>



## Did you visit the Dr. Tino Store for an NPIEN T-Shirt? Order today. Annual Conference Shirt Coming Soon

[National Pacific Islander Education Network by my-island-surprises](#)



## Information about Immigration from Asian Americans Advancing Justice, the California Department of Education, the Los Angeles County Office of Education and the State of California

Click here for further information on Knowing Your Rights, Schools as Safe Havens, and the Red Card <https://www.npien.com/news-events/news/313-schools-and-immigration-safe-haven>

## Aloha Music and Mindfulness on Mondays at 11:00-11:15 a.m. PST

15 Minutes of Escape: Aloha Music and Mindfulness Now on YouTube  
In our busy weeks, sometimes all we need is a few quiet minutes to breathe, listen, and reconnect. Aloha Music and Mindfulness offers exactly that — a 15-minute escape designed to refresh your spirit and bring a little calm to your Monday mornings. Our YouTube Channel  
[https://www.youtube.com/live/H6\\_zNt-mbpg?si=DdCGD1JCKh7DPOW6](https://www.youtube.com/live/H6_zNt-mbpg?si=DdCGD1JCKh7DPOW6)



## Lesona Ukulele Class on May 21st, Cinco de Mayo on May 5th! Juneteenth on June 2nd! by Gene Alyanah

- **May 5th:** Over 30 attended, sang songs for Cinco de Mayo (De Colores Cielito Lindo) and Asian and Pacific Islander Heritage Month (Tian mi mi, Dahil Saiyo, We Know the Way from Moana)
- **May 21st:** Five class members learned The More We Get Together, Banana Boat and we recorded songs for the Asian and Pacific Islander Heritage Month Celebration at the LA County Office of Education: Mot con vit, Thai Polite Words, Sakura, Sakura and Te Manu Pukurua
- **June 2nd:** Over 30 attended including Dr. Tino Andres, Board Member and Alex Justianiano, NPIEN Staff. We played He's Got the Whole World in His Hands, We Shall Overcome and Michael Row the Boat Ashore for Juneteenth, Hawaii Aloha and He Mele e Lilo for Kamehameha Day, You're a Grand 'OI Flag for Flag Day, and Surfin' USA for Summer.



## Join Us for School Talk Story on Thursdays at 12:00 p.m. PST on Twitch

Visit this page for the music and chord charts for Ukulele Class  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/511301896632709> Also here  
[https://drive.google.com/drive/u/2/folders/1U\\_ara7SxQd19a47Lzfs1wS-DWcxzXSiw](https://drive.google.com/drive/u/2/folders/1U_ara7SxQd19a47Lzfs1wS-DWcxzXSiw) Live on Twitch, streamed to YouTube, Facebook and Link-in!!! [https://twitch.tv/ukulele\\_dad](https://twitch.tv/ukulele_dad) Please subscribe to Twitch and YouTube to support NPIEN.

## LA Island Radio Daily: Join the Show Daily

Here is the link for LA Island Radio <https://www.laislandradio.com/> Listen to the show on Tuesdays at 9:00 a.m. to hear NPIEN News. Thank You David Brown, Mylay, for your support! We also need guests for School Talk and LA Island Radio. Let us know of your interest [npien@npien.com](mailto:npien@npien.com)

# Register for the Annual Conference on Event Brite!

Visit this link <https://www.npien.com/news-events/upcoming-events/331-the-25th-annual-education-conference-at-odyssey-stem-academy-lakewood-ca>



## Community Health News

by Andrew Dysim

### We Can Do This! Take Care of Your Health

Visit these two websites for additional information

<https://www.pacificislanderhealth.org/>

<https://www.socalpicrt.org/>

## Announcements

- Happy birthday to Ele Thompson, Mark Ecker, Ethan Nguyen!
- Time to apply for the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) Visit this link [https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/afsa?mc\\_cid=5ffd567a2b&mc\\_eid=6c7fc3df7d](https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/afsa?mc_cid=5ffd567a2b&mc_eid=6c7fc3df7d)
- All new members and renewing members eligible for a scholarship from Grand Canyon University (GCU)! <https://www.npien.com/home/join-npien> Contact Jaylin Pedicord or Kara Kahler for information on GCU. 1-800-800-9776 ext. 2427522 [jaylin.pedicord@gcu.edu](mailto:jaylin.pedicord@gcu.edu) [kara.kahler@gcu.edu](mailto:kara.kahler@gcu.edu)
  - **New Members:** Thomas Swanson, Avis Hartley, Lehua Taitano, Yesenia Vasquez,

#### BOARD OFFICERS National Pacific Islander Education Network (NPIEN)

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