

**RESOLUTION
OF THE GOVERNING BOARD
OF THE SANTA BARBARA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT**

**Resolution No. 13
ASIAN AMERICAN, PACIFIC ISLANDER, AND DESI AMERICAN HERITAGE
MONTH**

WHEREAS, Asian American, Pacific Islander, and Desi American Heritage Month is celebrated throughout the United States during the month of May to recognize the contributions, heritage, and culture of Asians and Pacific Islanders in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Asian American, Pacific Islander, and Desi American Heritage Month originated with Congress through a joint Congressional Resolution in 1978 to commemorate the arrival of the first Japanese immigrants to the United States on May 7, 1843, and to mark the anniversary of the completion of the transcontinental railroad on May 10, 1869, the majority of whose workers were Chinese immigrants; and

WHEREAS, the Asian American, Pacific Islander, and Desi American community is an integral part of our national fabric, with millions contributing to the arts, sciences, education, government, military, commerce, and family life in America. Individuals of this descent began arriving in Santa Barbara as early as the 1860s and worked in industries as diverse as abalone fishing, farming, laundry enterprises and domestic service; and

WHEREAS, Asian Americans, Pacific Islanders, and Desi Americans created a community for themselves in Santa Barbara at the block of Canon Perdido Street between State Street and Anacapa Street which served as the cultural and residential hub for this community. This area included rooming houses, several businesses, a school, places of worship and community meeting spaces. After the 1925 earthquake, several efforts were made to unify the look of the city's commercial district. Fortunately, Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation and key Asian and Pacific Islander community members have worked to restore these buildings and culture locally; and

WHEREAS, Santa Barbara City College prides itself on its commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion, recognizing the importance of acknowledging and celebrating the vast contributions of Asian American, Pacific Islander, and Desi Americans and all cultural groups to our community and society at large; and

WHEREAS, we are grateful for the Santa Barbara City College Asian American Pacific Islander Staff and Faculty Group (SBCC AAPI+) that includes founders Jeanette Chian Brooks, Roxane Byrne, and Hong Lieu, and members Sally Chuah, Ruie Garnica, Vandana Gavaskar, Elizabeth Giles, Jing Liu, Agatha Louie, Bruce Oda, Lynnae Onishi, Celine Park, Darleen Principe, Yingying Shao, Natsuki Smith, Cami Vignoe, Zane Wann and Chien-ei Yu. The SBCC AAPI+ organized the Asian American, Pacific Islander, and Desi American Heritage Mural that was

dedicated at the Santa Barbara City College Campus Center in October 2023. This mural and event highlight the local contributions, challenges, and triumphs of the vibrant community; and

WHEREAS, it is essential for the community to understand and appreciate the histories, cultures, and contributions of Asian and Pacific Islander Americans as part of our collective American history; and

NOW, THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Santa Barbara Community College District, hereby recognizes May as Asian American, Pacific Islander, and Desi American Heritage Month and encourages all faculty, staff, and students to celebrate this month with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities that honor the history, contributions, and achievements of Asian Americans, Pacific Islanders, and Desi Americans this May 2024.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Trustees of the SANTA BARBARA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT this 25th day of April, 2024, by the following vote:

Aye: 5

No:

Abstain:

Absent: 2

Concur: 1



Jonathan Abboud, President
Santa Barbara Community College District
Board of Trustees



Erika Endrijonas, Ph.D.
Superintendent/President and Secretary/Clerk
to the Board of Trustees