

### **Sambathany Chen – Alay Personal Statement:**

This year I was a regular community member and was in a KAMP family. Coming into UCSC, I felt like it was very hard to find a community, but FSA has proved me wrong. FSA is a big family. It is a network of support that caters to not only fun, but to attaining higher education as well. FSA in addition wonderfully provides everything for everyone - from acting, to singing, to dancing, to spoken word, to even learning about the Filipino culture through PHD.

I am applying for this position because I feel like it would be a perfect outlet for me to become more involved in the FSA community. As a first year, I feel like I was not able to fully utilize FSA and what it has to offer. Seeing how much of a beautiful community it is, I am ready and excited to become more involved. As someone who loves spoken word and art in general, I feel like this would be the perfect aspect for me to continue pursuing my love for spoken word and art, as well as doing organizing work simultaneously.

If elected, I plan to continue publishing the publication which provides an opportunity for anyone who would like to share their work and art. I believe in this publication and think it is a very vital resource to keep the work of culture and community alive. In addition, I would love to provide spaces where people can come together and engage in various artistic activities; whether it may be painting, spray paint, spoken word, crayons, chalk, anything! Furthermore, I plan to continue putting on open mics, as ALAY did this year - where everyone can share their talents. I also hope to be able to bring various performers from outside of UCSC to showcase that there are other Filipino/Asian Pacific Islander folks out there making their mark, and sharing their art as well.

This year I have been involved with the Asian Pacific Islander Student Alliance as a core member. In addition, I am also an intern for Motivation Conference. As an intern I have been exposed with the ins and outs of organizing and have become quite familiar with logistics, and networking. I am also taking the SIO class this quarter which has been teaching me various leadership skills such as facilitating, paperwork, etc.