Inside and outside of the Wu-Tang Clan, the inventive hip-hop supergroup he co-founded, Staten Island, NY native GZA/Genius likes to make his own rules when it comes to his music. GZA/Genius (born Gary Grice) grew up in a large, musically-inclined family that included cousins Ol’ Dirty Bastard and RZA; as the eldest of the three, he was the first to absorb hip-hop culture and the first to make a record. 1989’s “Words From the Genius” was released on Cold Chillin’ Records; when problems with the label stifled record sales, GZA/Genius saw the other side of the record industry. This inspired him to join forces with Ol’ Dirty Bastard and RZA among others as the Wu-Tang Clan; the group’s clever wordplay, twisted humor and innovative production techniques provided them with platinum-level success on their own terms. It also provided Genius the opportunity to have an equally lucrative solo career, which started with the 1995 album “Liquid Swords” and continued with 1999’s “Beneath the Surface.” As with other Wu-Tang side-projects, Genius/GZA’s albums featured guest appearances from most of the other Wu-Tang Clan members.
Directions to Montezuma Hall, Conrad Prebys Aztec Student Union, San Diego State University

Complimentary Parking in Lot P3, 6th Floor, off of College Ave.

Lot P3 is on the east side of College Ave. To access Lot P3, turn left at Zura Way (after second pedestrian bridge). Lot P3 will be straight ahead. Park on the 6th floor. You don’t need to purchase a parking pass.

From Lot P3, head west on pedestrian walkway, passed housing, then turn right to cross over College Ave. on the suspension bridge. Cross the bridge and then take the main staircase to the right to Conrad Prebys Aztec Student Union. Montezuma Hall is located on the second level.

GZA: On Race, Globalization, and Hip-Hop in American Culture
Tuesday, April 11, at noon, Conrad Prebys Aztec Student Union Montezuma Hall