

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
Weatherhead East Asian Institute



ANNUAL REPORT
2025-2026

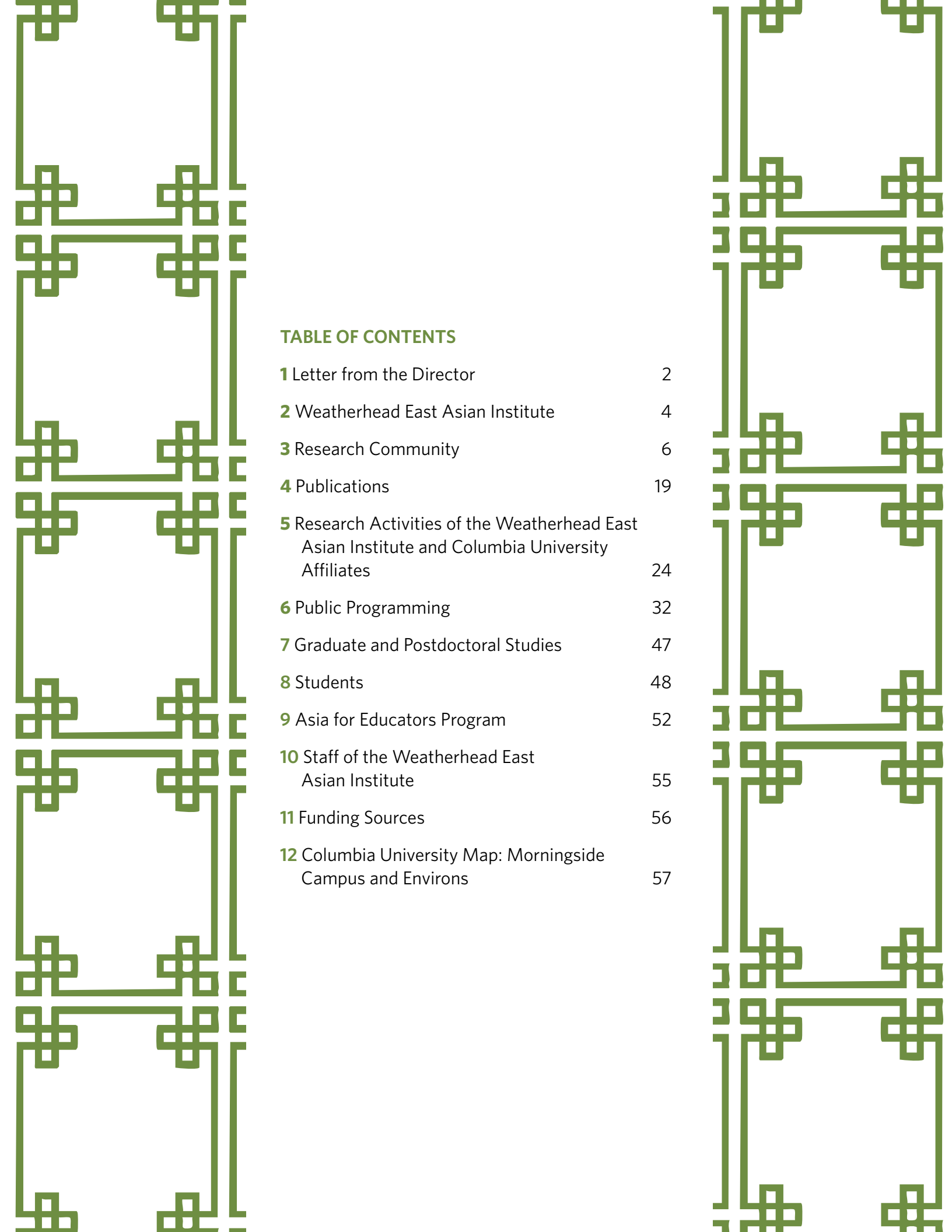


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1 LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR



I write this introduction for a fourth time as director of the Weatherhead East Asian Institute, and once again this space is an opportunity to reflect on the dizzying rate of change in the world beyond the Columbia University campus. More war has meant more economic shocks, in particular for the Asian countries to which we are dedicated, while disruptive technologies are upending many of the certainties with which our students began their college education just a few years ago.

But in this time of flaring geopolitical tensions, we believe more than ever in our core mission of advancing knowledge of East, Inner, and Southeast Asia, both among our students and the larger public. In the 2025–26 academic year, new relationships and new partner organizations have been integral to that mission, in demonstration of the strategies needed to navigate an increasingly multipolar world.

We are perhaps most proud to announce the Institute's first major initiative with a European academic institution: Panteion University of Social and Political Sciences, of Athens, Greece. Our collaboration with Panteion will center on a forthcoming dual master's degree program that joins their MSc in Global China with our MA in Regional Studies: East Asia (MARSEA). Scheduled to launch in fall 2027 at Panteion, and then in 2028 at Columbia, the dual program will allow graduate students to attend both programs and receive degrees from both universities.

We like to think of our agreement with Panteion as a convergence of intellectual interests that will eventually open the door to other mutually beneficial activities.

Possibilities include hosting visiting scholars; cosponsoring panel discussions and academic symposia; and conducting cross-departmental research on China's foreign policy in southern Europe and other parts of the so-called periphery.

On the other side of the world, along the coast of Japan's Fukuoka Prefecture, we launched Columbia Summer in Itoshima, an innovative summer program that convenes students, faculty, and the local community in an immersive learning environment meant to reimagine liberal arts education from the roots up. A small group of students studies ecology, anthropology, literature, history, and economics while planting rice, cutting bamboo, and harvesting oysters—all of which is in keeping with the mission of our partner organization, the Unson Foundation, a Japanese nonprofit dedicated to studying the social and environmental costs attendant on modern-day capitalism and to imagining new social systems that might foster long-term human well-being.

In its first year, Columbia Summer in Itoshima awarded research fellowships to Columbia PhDs who helped us plan the new program in a weeklong survey trip to Itoshima last July. Their groundwork bore fruit this June, when the initial cohort of Columbia undergrads and MA and PhD students explored the relationship between human society and water, in the form of river systems and watersheds, with the ultimate goal of understanding what it would mean to live with water responsibly.

Here on campus, we launched the Andrew J. Nathan Taiwan Lecture Series, a dynamic new platform for talks, workshops, panel discussions, screenings, and other programming on the island that plays such an outsized role in world affairs. Named for our faculty member Andrew J. Nathan, the Class of 1919 Professor of Political Science and a world-renowned scholar of Chinese politics and policy, the series encompasses a range of subject matter, from technology and engineering to public health and literature; in its inaugural year it has already brought leading voices to campus and created new opportunities for scholarship and engagement.

Some first-year series highlights include the sold-out screening of *A Chip Odyssey*, a stirring locally made documentary history of Taiwan's semiconductor industry, and the ensuing discussion with its director and co-producers; and our book talk with Yáng Shuāng-zǐ and Lin King, the author and translator, respectively, of the novel *Taiwan Travelogue*, which since its English-language publication in 2024 has won not only a National Book Award and the inaugural Baifang Schell Book Prize from the Asia Society but also, just this spring, the International Booker Prize. The *Taiwan Travelogue* book talk was especially gratifying because it was our chance to reunite with Lin, Weatherhead's former student affairs coordinator.

The Institute was also pleased to launch a new student fellowship opportunity this winter. The Yu San Ma Taiwan Fellowship provides grants for Columbia undergraduates and graduate students in all disciplines whose research projects, internships, and other activities are centered on Taiwan and its context in the broader global community. The Fellowship was made possible through a generous gift from Columbia alumnus Mike Ma (GSAS '02), chairman of the Taipei-based real estate firm Kindom Development Co., Ltd., and is named in memory of Mike's father Yu San Ma, founder and onetime head of the company.

This year's other major lecture series took a holistic approach toward the defining public health crisis of modern times. Funded by the Henry Luce Foundation and directed by Professor Qin Gao of the Columbia China Center for Social Policy, "COVID-19 Governance and Impacts: China from Comparative Perspectives" foregrounded new empirical and theoretical research into China's post-COVID standing by scholars working on governance, public health, and civil society responses not only in the PRC but also in Hong Kong, Taiwan, Singapore, South Korea, and the United States. Already an important source of public dialogue (with all the lectures accessible online via our YouTube channel), the series will undoubtedly prove to be a lasting contribution to analysis and documentation of the pandemic's still-unfolding legacy.

Our research programs continue to move forward in their respective spheres. In its second year under director Ruth Barraclough, the Center for Korean Research (CKR) decisively reestablished itself as a vital hub for Korean studies at Columbia through courses, faculty, public programs, and a redesigned and relaunched website. Peter Yoon came on as CKR's new assistant director last July; with his support the CKR Executive Committee implemented a varied slate of events—ranging from domestic life in the Chosŏn era to modernist midcentury fiction to North Korea's nuclear program—that culminated in a two-day, interdisciplinary graduate workshop with faculty and students from the University of Southern California.

The Global Vietnam (GV) program also had a busy year at Columbia and in Vietnam itself. In September, a visit to New York by Minister of Foreign Affairs Le Hoai Trung and President Luong Cuong allowed GV to bring two of its programs, Vietnam Leadership and Policy (VLP) and Viet Arts in Action (VAiA), to global renown. Further bridge-building took place in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City in November, when a delegation of GV faculty established new ties and strengthened existing ones with four major educational and civic institutions. Back on campus, meanwhile, classical scholarship and cutting-edge technology found a happy meeting place in April, when Global Vietnam held a one-day conference in Butler Library, "Digitizing Việt Nam: Vietnamese Studies in the Age of Digital Humanities and Artificial Intelligence," that demonstrated the eminently practical uses of AI for the study and preservation of premodern texts. In terms of the arts, GV engaged French Vietnamese director Tran Anh Hung in a riveting film conversation at Asia Society New York. Over the summer, GV faculty returned to Vietnam with VAiA's script lab at Vietnam's largest film festival as well as VLP's high-profile strategic dialogue forums with leaders in government and the private sector in the United States and Vietnam. The year ended on a strong note as GV faculty enjoyed a private meeting with President and General Secretary To Lam to discuss future collaboration.

Two noteworthy new arrivals distinguished the Modern Tibetan Studies Program (MTSP) in the 2025–26 academic year. Filmmaker Khashem Gyal joined MTSP as Weatherhead's new Asia in Action Fellow; an April screening of his 2024 feature documentary *Daughter of the Light* at the Lenfest Center for the Arts, presented in collaboration with the School of the Arts, yielded an indelible portrayal of how the broader changes transforming a traditional society upend individual lives. Postdoctoral Research Scholar Tashi Dekyid Monet brought her expertise in Indigenous Land-based traditions to a fall course on climate change on the Tibetan Plateau and, in the spring, co-led a two-day conference dedicated to the same subject.

Lastly, this year we were elated by the news that our campus affiliate the C.V. Starr East Asian Library launched its critical renovation project after securing approval by the University's Board of Trustees. Current projections call for the library to reopen in June 2027.

Members at all levels of our scholarly community distinguished themselves on multiple fronts. We congratulate first-year MARSEA student Zihan Zhang on winning a 2025–26 Davis Fellowship. The Shanghai native is writing his MA thesis on conservative political leanings among Chinese American immigrants, which is the kind of original research on an underexplored topic our Institute is dedicated to supporting. Members of the Asia Pacific Affairs Council (APAC), our one formally affiliated student group, outdid themselves with this year's edition of the annual *APAC Journal*, whose superior production values are matched by its commitment to scholarly rigor.

After two years as a Weatherhead postdoctoral research scholar focusing on modern China, Sau-yi Fong was appointed academic director of our MARSEA program at the start of the academic year. Sau-yi's affiliation with us goes back even further, as she received her PhD from the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures (EALAC) in 2022; we hope that in her position at the helm of MARSEA, she'll continue the relationship for many more years to come. Qin Gao, Maurice V. Russell Professor of Social Policy and Social Work

Practice and associate dean for doctoral education at the School of Social Work, became the acting director of Columbia's new Asian American Initiative (AAI)—a role for which her long experience in researching poverty, inequality, social policy, and population well-being, both in China and among Asian Americans, makes her uniquely well suited.

Senior Research Scholar at the Saltzman Institute for War and Peace Sarah Kover received a grant from the Northeast Asia Council (NEAC) of the Association for Asian Studies for a new book project on the internment of Japanese civilians worldwide during WWII. Benjamin L. Liebman, director of Columbia Law School's Hong Yen Chang Center for Chinese Legal Studies, won the Senior Scholar Prize from the American Society of Comparative Law for "Redefining Law in China," an article he co-wrote with his student Zeming Liu (JD, Columbia Law School '24). Anne Marie Murphy, another senior research scholar, won a Fulbright ASEAN Research Program U.S. Scholar Award that will allow her to study how Indonesia, Malaysia, and Singapore balance domestic political considerations in an increasingly uncertain geopolitical environment.

Sadly, any account of our faculty would be incomplete without a mention of our friend and colleague Professor Takatoshi Ito, who passed away last September at the age of 74. An established authority on international economics when he joined the Weatherhead community in 2014, Professor Ito became known throughout Columbia as a generous teacher, mentor, and collaborator. His example—the best kind of legacy—will continue to inspire us all as we persevere through today's challenges and the ones waiting in years to come.

Sincerely,



Lien-Hang T. Nguyen
Director, Weatherhead East Asian Institute

2 WEATHERHEAD EAST ASIAN INSTITUTE

Since its establishment in 1949 as the East Asian Institute, the Institute has been the center for modern and contemporary East Asia research, studies, and publication at Columbia, covering China, Japan, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Korea, Mongolia, Tibet, and, increasingly, the countries of Southeast Asia. In 2003, the Institute was renamed the Weatherhead East Asian Institute to honor the generosity of the Weatherhead Foundation.

The faculty members of the Institute are members of Columbia’s Schools of Business, Law, International and Public Affairs, Social Work, and Arts and Sciences; and of Barnard College. The Institute hosts a diverse group of visiting scholars, professionals, and students from the United States and abroad each year.

The mission of the Institute is:

- To bring together faculty, research scholars, and students in an integrated program of teaching and research on Northeast, Southeast, and Inner Asia; and to train students to understand the countries, peoples, and cultures of all these regions in order to enable them to function with knowledge of Asia in academic teaching and research, in government service, in business, in journalism, and in nonprofit and nongovernmental organizations.
- To advance the general understanding and knowledge of Northeast, Southeast, and Inner Asia, both inside and outside the University, through meetings, conferences, publications, and otherwise.

Faculty and scholars at the Institute are distinguished by their interdisciplinary and multinational focus. Resources available to the Institute community include Columbia University’s renowned C.V. Starr East Asian Library and the Institute’s extensive ties to the business, diplomatic, legal, and media communities in New York City, the nation, and abroad. The Institute is also one of the leading centers for developing K-12

teacher resource and training programs in the United States. The importance of East Asian studies at Columbia is recognized by a wide variety of funding sources, including the US Department of Education, which from 1960 until 2025 designated Columbia an East Asia National Resource Center and provided 3 percent of the Center’s annual funding needs.

Through its research projects, conferences, and seminars, the Institute creates an international forum on economic, political, and security issues facing East and Southeast Asia.

Directors of the Weatherhead East Asian Institute

Sir George Sansom	1949–1953
Hugh Borton	1953–1958
C. Martin Wilbur	1958–1964
James W. Morley	1964–1967
John M. H. Lindbeck	1967–1970
James W. Morley	1970–1973
Gerald L. Curtis	1973–1975
Myron L. Cohen	1975–1976
Gerald L. Curtis	1976–1984
James W. Morley	1984–1987
Gerald L. Curtis	1987–1991
Andrew J. Nathan	1991–1992
Madeleine Zelin	1992–1993
Andrew J. Nathan	1993–1995
Madeleine Zelin	1995–2001
Xiaobo Lü	2001–2006
Myron L. Cohen	2006–2014
Eugenia Lean	2014–2017
Madeleine Zelin	Fall 2017
Xiaobo Lü	Spring 2018
Eugenia Lean	Fall 2018–Fall 2019
Lien-Hang T. Nguyen	Spring 2020
Eugenia Lean	Fall 2020–Fall 2022
Lien-Hang T. Nguyen	Spring 2023–



NEW MEMBER JOINING IN 2025-2026



Khashem Gyal

Artist in Residence, Weatherhead East Asian Institute; Adjunct Assistant Professor, Film

Tibet; Inner Asia; film

Khashem Gyal, an award-winning writer, director, cinematographer, and producer from the Amdo region of Tibet, currently serves as an Asia in Action Fellow at Columbia University's Weatherhead East Asian Institute and teaches in Columbia's School of the Arts graduate film program. He is the recipient of the Colors of Asia Award and a nominee for the Adeste Gold Medal, which honors global changemakers under 40 who inspire others to "touch the stars."

His filmography includes *Valley of the Heroes*, *Daughters' Courage*, *Daughter of the Light*, *A Day in the Life of a Tibetan Pastoralist*, *Awang Jigme: Walking Among the Peaks*, *The Guardians of the Three Rivers*, and *A Green Trip*. His work has earned numerous national and international awards, establishing him as a unique voice in Tibetan cinema.

Gyal's debut feature, *Daughter of the Light*, was the first Tibetan international coproduction film and received the Colors of Asia Award. The film went on to win the ATP Grand Prize for Excellence in Japan, the Audience Award at Korea's EIDF Film Festival, and the One Hundred Flowers Award at China's Golden Rooster Film Festival. It was also nominated for the NETPAC Award at the Ulju Mountain Film Festival, Best Film at the China Documentary Film Academy, and both Best Chinese Story and Best First Feature Documentary at GZDOC.

In 2024, *Daughter of the Light* was released in theaters across China, becoming the first Tibetan documentary film in Chinese cinema history to receive a nationwide theatrical release. It ranked as one of the most-watched documentary films in China that year, marking a significant milestone for Tibetan filmmaking.

Gyal is also deeply committed to using film as a tool for preserving intangible cultural heritage and promoting environmental awareness. His film *Huangnan Unveiled: A Tapestry of Living Heritage* was recognized as one of the top 20 heritage short films in China that year.

Over the years, Gyal has documented Tibetan Indigenous knowledge in the context of global warming and climate change. His collaborations include *The Guardians of the Three Rivers*, a seven-part series coproduced with CCTV, and *A Green Trip*, a 10-episode documentary by Shanghai Media Group exploring the relationship between humanity and nature. Gyal directed two episodes of *A Green Trip*, which received over one million ratings in China. In these works, he highlights the role of Indigenous knowledge and communities in land stewardship—perspectives often underrepresented in mainstream environmental narratives.

He is also in postproduction on *Yeshe*, a short film that follows a Tibetan girl as she journeys from the source of the Yangtze River in Tibet to Thailand and Vietnam. Along the way, she confronts a personal crisis of identity and environmental loss, turning her river-bound journey into a self-reflection and human connection—from origin to end.

Currently, he is working on a new documentary film exploring the life and legacy of the late Pema Tseden, the pioneering figure of Tibetan cinema. Alongside this project, he is also developing his first narrative feature film and writing two forthcoming books: *Movie Mindfulness* and *Four Seasons with Pema Tseden*.

MEMBERS

Nicholas Bartlett

Assistant Professor, Asian and Middle Eastern Cultures, Barnard College

Addiction and recovery; labor; civil society; psychoanalysis, groups and authority

Thomas J. Christensen

James T. Shotwell Professor of International Relations; Director, Columbia-Harvard China and the World Program

China's foreign relations; international relations of East Asia; international security

Myron L. Cohen

Professor of Anthropology, Department of Anthropology

Chinese culture and society: economic culture, popular religion, family and kinship, social change

Qin Gao

Maurice V. Russell Professor of Social Policy and Social Work Practice; Associate Dean for Doctoral Education, School of Social Work; Director, China Center for Social Policy; Acting Director, the Asian American Initiative at Columbia University

Poverty, inequality, social policy, and economic and subjective well-being in China and their international comparisons; rural-to-urban migration in China and Asian American immigrants; international social and economic development; international program and impact evaluation

Theodore Hughes

The Korea Foundation Professor of Korean Studies in the Humanities, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures

Modern and contemporary Korean literature and film

Merit E. Janow

Dean Emerita, School of International and Public Affairs; Professor of Professional Practice in International Economic Law and International Affairs

International trade and competition law and policy; economic and trade policy in Asia Pacific economies; WTO law and dispute settlement; US-Japan trade and economic issues; China trade and investment

Junyan Jiang

Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science

Political economy of China; Chinese public opinion; elite politics and mass-elite interactions; power and institutions

Jungwon Kim

King Sejong Assistant Professor of Korean Studies in the Humanities, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures

Gender, family, and legal history of Chosŏn Korea (1392-1910)

Seong Uk Kim

Il Hwan and Soon Ja Cho Assistant Professor of Korean Culture and Religion, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures

Korean Buddhism; religion and politics

Dorothy Ko

Professor of History, Barnard College

History of women, gender, and material cultures in early modern China

Paul Kreitman

Research Scholar; Director, Columbia Summer in Itoshima

Twentieth-century Japanese history; environmental history; global history; commodity history; histories of science and technology

Eugenia Lean

Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs; Professor of East Asian Languages and Cultures, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures

Modern Chinese history; history of science, technology, and industry; mass media; affect studies and emotions; law and society; historiography and critical theory

Benjamin L. Liebman

Robert L. Lieff Professor of Law, Columbia Law School; Director, Hong Yen Chang Center for Chinese Legal Studies

Chinese law; medical disputes in China; popular access to the courts in China; the evolving roles of legal institutions and lawyers; environmental law; Chinese tort law

Lydia H. Liu

The Wun Tsun Tam Professor in the Humanities, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures; Director, Institute for Comparative Literature and Society

Modern Chinese literature and culture; critical translation theory; postcolonial theory; new empire studies; material culture, semiotics, and new media

Xiaobo Lü

Ann Whitney Olin Professor of Political Science, Barnard College

Political economy of postsocialist transition; political corruption; Chinese politics

Yao Lu

**Associate Professor of Sociology,
Department of Sociology**

Internal migration in China and Chinese immigration; collective resistance; public health; child development; labor market inequality

Andrew J. Nathan

**Class of 1919 Professor of Political Science,
Department of Political Science**

Chinese politics and foreign policy; the comparative study of political participation and political culture; human rights

Lien-Hang T. Nguyen

Director, Weatherhead East Asian Institute; Dorothy Borg Associate Professor in the History of the United States and East Asia, Department of History

United States foreign relations; Southeast Asia; the Cold War

Gregory Pflugfelder

Associate Professor of East Asian Languages and Cultures, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures and Department of History

Early modern and modern Japanese history; gender and sexuality studies

John D. Phan

Associate Professor of East Asian Languages and Cultures, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures

Vietnamese writing systems and vernacular scripts; historical linguistics; linguistic contact between China and Vietnam

Ying Qian

Associate Professor of East Asian Languages and Cultures, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures

Chinese-language cinema and media; documentary, industrial, and scientific films; progressive and activist cinema; labor, craft, and industry in media production; media ecology

Jonathan M. Reynolds

Professor of Art History, Barnard College

Japanese architecture and visual culture

Wei Shang

Wm. Theodore and Fanny Brett de Bary and Class of 1941 Collegiate Professor of Asian Humanities; Du Family Professor of Chinese Culture

Premodern Chinese literature and cultural history

Haruo Shirane

Shincho Professor of Japanese Literature, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures; Vice Chair, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures; Faculty Director, Donald Keene Center of Japanese Culture

Japanese literature, visual culture, and cultural history, with particular focus on the interaction between popular and elite cultures

Nick R. Smith

Assistant Professor of Architecture and Urban Studies, Barnard College

Urbanization; urban planning; sociospatiality; community development; industrial development; decolonization

Tomi Suzuki

Professor of East Asian Languages and Cultures, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures

Modern Japanese literature and criticism in comparative context; literary and cultural theory, particularly theory of narrative, genre and gender, modernism and modernity; intellectual history of modern Japan; history of reading, canon formation, and literary histories

Takuya Tsunoda

Assistant Professor of East Asian Languages and Cultures, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures

Japanese cinema and media; industrial and science film; history and theory of audiovisual pedagogy; media archaeology; cinematic modernism; microcinematography and film theory; television; new cinemas of the 1960s

Duy Linh Tu

Professor of Professional Practice in the Faculty of Journalism, Columbia Journalism School

Video storytelling; photography; multimedia networking

Gray Tuttle

Leila Hadley Luce Associate Professor of Modern Tibetan Studies, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures; Chair, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures

Modern Tibetan history; Manchu Qing Empire frontiers; role of Tibetan Buddhism in Sino-Tibetan relations

Shang-Jin Wei

N.T. Wang Professor of Chinese Business and Economy and Professor of International and Public Affairs, Columbia Business School

Chinese economy; corruption; international finance and trade

David E. Weinstein

**Carl Sumner Shoup Professor of the Japanese Economy, Department of Economics;
Director, Center on Japanese Economy and Business, Columbia Business School**

International economics, macroeconomics, corporate finance, the Japanese economy, and industrial policy

Weiping Wu

Professor of Architecture, Planning and Preservation; Director, MS Urban Planning Program in the Faculty of Architecture, Planning and Preservation

Global urbanization, migration, housing, and infrastructure of Chinese cities

Madeleine Zelin

Dean Lung Professor of Chinese Studies; Professor of History, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures and Department of History

Modern legal history and the role of law in the Chinese economy



IN MEMORIAM

Takatoshi Ito, 1950–2025

Professor of International and Public Affairs, School of International and Public Affairs; Associate Director of Research and Director of Program on Public Pension and Sovereign Funds, Center on Japanese Economy and Business, Columbia Business School

This year the entire Weatherhead community mourned the loss of friend and colleague Takatoshi Ito, who died in Tokyo on September 20, 2025, at the age of 74.

Professor Ito joined the Weatherhead community in 2014, and scores of people both inside and outside Columbia came to know him not only as a distinguished scholar of international economics but also as a generous teacher, mentor, and collaborator. At Columbia, he was a Professor of International and Public Affairs at SIPA and directed the Program on Public Pension and Sovereign Funds at the Center on Japanese Economy and Business (CJEB). He will be especially remembered for his lectures on the Japanese economy, which became known as can't-miss events every academic year.

Among many other honors in his long and distinguished career, Professor Ito received Japan's National Medal with Purple Ribbon for academic achievement in 2011 and the Order of the Sacred Treasure, Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon in 2024.

Weatherhead faculty member Merit E. Janow, SIPA Dean Emerita and Professor of Practice, said Professor Ito "embodied everything we hope for in a colleague. His scholarly brilliance was matched only by his genuine care for his students and his enthusiasm for his work. . . . Those of us fortunate enough to work alongside him witnessed daily his rare combination of intellectual rigor and an engaging and generous personality."

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Adrian Jacques H. Ambrose

Assistant Professor of Psychiatry,
Columbia University Medical Center

System-based barriers in healthcare for vulnerable and marginalized communities; structural and ethical factors in technological development; artificial intelligence and digital therapeutics; health inequity

Jim Cheng

Director, C.V. Starr East Asian Library,
Columbia University

Library and information science; film studies

Sheila Coronel

Toni Stabile Professor of Professional Practice in Investigative Journalism in the Faculty of Journalism; Director, Toni Stabile Center for Investigative Journalism, Columbia Journalism School

Investigative journalism; journalism in the Philippines

Gerald L. Curtis

Director, Japan Research Program; Burgess Professor Emeritus of Political Science, Department of Political Science; Special Research Scholar

Modern Japanese politics, foreign policy, social change, political economy; East Asia international relations

Nicola Di Cosmo

Luce Foundation Professor in East Asian Studies, Institute for Advanced Study

History of relations between China and Inner Asia from prehistory to the modern period; climate and history; history of the Mongol empire; history of nomadic societies; Manchu language and history

Alex Eble

Associate Professor of Economics and Education, Teachers College

Development economics; applied microeconomics; economics of education; China

Jane Gaines

Professor of Film in the Faculty of the Arts, School of the Arts

Film

Carol Gluck

George Sansom Professor Emerita of History and Professor of East Asian Languages and Cultures, Department of History

Modern Japan (19th century to the present); 20th-century international history; World War II; history-writing and public memory in Asia and the world

Lauran Hartley

Director, Modern Tibetan Studies Program; Adjunct Lecturer in Tibetan Literature

Tibetan literature and cultural production; translation studies

Shigeo Hirano

Professor of Political Science, Department of Political Science

Comparative politics; American politics; political economy; Japanese politics

Nobuhisa Ishizuka

Executive Director, Center for Japanese Legal Studies, Columbia Law School

Japanese law; corporate law

Sarah Kovner

Senior Research Scholar, Arnold A. Saltzman Institute of War and Peace Studies; Adjunct Professor of International and Public Affairs

East Asian history; Japanese history; gender and sexuality; international and transnational history; military history

Roberta H. Martin

Director Emerita, Asia for Educators; National Co-Director, Columbia University National Coordinating Site of the National Consortium for Teaching about Asia

Education about East Asia in US schools; education in China

Meg McLagan

Visiting Professor of Professional Practice, Barnard College

Film, anthropology

Laura Neitzel

Senior Lecturer in the Discipline of History, Department of History

Modern Japanese history

Hugh T. Patrick

Robert D. Calkins Professor of International Business Emeritus; Founder, Center on Japanese Economy and Business, Columbia Business School

Pacific Basin economic relations; Japanese economy and business

Morris Rossabi

Associate Adjunct Professor of East Asian Languages and Cultures, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures

Mongolian history

Chengzhi Wang

Collection Development/Reference Librarian (Chinese), C.V. Starr East Asian Library; Adjunct Assistant Professor of Architecture, Planning and Preservation, Columbia University

Library and information science; library history; bibliometrics/webmetrics; Chinese educational policy

RESEARCH SCHOLARS AND AFFILIATES

Paul Anderer

Fred and Fannie Mack Professor Emeritus of Humanities, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures

Modern Japanese literature, film, and cultural criticism; narrative topography; city cultures; modern tragedy

Thomas P. Bernstein

Professor Emeritus, Department of Political Science

Comparative politics with a focus on China and communist political systems

Maria Adele Carrai

Associate Research Scholar; Assistant Professor of Global China Studies, New York University, Shanghai

Legal history; conceptual history; international relations; China foreign policy; US-China relations; China-EU relations; law and development; foreign direct investments

Michael C. Davis

Research Associate; Professor of Law and International Affairs, Jindal Global University

Democracy; governance; human rights; conflict resolution and peacebuilding; global governance; international development; society and culture; Asia; China Mainland; South Asia; Southeast Asia

Amy L. Freedman

Senior Research Scholar; Professor of Political Science, Pace University

Political Islam in Indonesia and Malaysia

Aaron Glasserman

Adjunct Associate Research Scholar; Postdoctoral Research Scholar, Center for the Study of Contemporary China, University of Pennsylvania

Chinese politics; US-China competition; nationalism, secularism, and Islamic religious and political movements

Harry Harootunian

Research Associate; Max Palevsky Professor Emeritus of History, the University of Chicago; Professor Emeritus of East Asian Studies, New York University

Early modern and modern Japanese history; historical theory

Ann Marie Murphy

Senior Research Scholar; Professor, School of Diplomacy and International Relations, Seton Hall University

International relations of Southeast Asia; political development in Southeast Asia; US foreign policy toward Southeast Asia

Tram Thi Phuong Nguyen

Research Associate

Cultural anthropology; intangible cultural heritage; Inner, Northeast, and Southeast Asian folklore; linguistics

Shotaro Oshima

Honorary Affiliate

U.S.-Japan relations; trade; foreign policy

Orville Schell

Arthur Ross Director of the Center on U.S.-China Relations, Asia Society in New York

Chinese history

Henry D. Smith II

Professor Emeritus of Japanese History, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures

Late Edo landscape prints; the history of color and pigments in Japanese woodblock prints of the 18th and 19th centuries; woodblock views of Edo and Tokyo; "Chūshingura" and the relationship between history and legend in early modern and modern Japan; history of modern Tokyo; history of modern Japanese architecture

Thomas Vallely

Senior Advisor for Vietnam

Vietnam

Elizabeth Wishnick

Senior Research Scholar; Professor of Political Science and Law, Montclair State University

Chinese foreign policy; nontraditional security in Asia; great power relations in Central Asia

Chuck Wooldridge

Research Scholar; Associate Professor of History, Lehman College, City University of New York

History of East Asia; world history; history of religions; history of technology

Chün-fang Yü

Sheng Yen Professor Emerita of Chinese Buddhism, Department of Religion and Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures

Chinese Buddhism; East Asian religions; Buddhism and gender; Buddhism and modernization

POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWS 2025-2026

**Stephanie Char**

Postdoctoral Research Scholar, Weatherhead East Asian Institute; Fellow, Columbia-Harvard China and the World Program

Economic and military coercion; international institutions; human rights

Stephanie Char is a postdoctoral research scholar at the Weatherhead East Asian Institute at Columbia University and fellow in the Columbia-Harvard China and the World Program. Her research interests span economic and military coercion, international institutions, and human rights. Her research has been funded by Columbia University's Weatherhead East Asian Institute, Institute for Social and Economic Research and Policy, and Columbia Experimental Laboratory in the Social Sciences, and she was previously a Hans J. Morgenthau Fellow at the Notre Dame International Security Center. Char received her PhD in political science at Columbia University and BA from the School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University.

**Cameron Foltz**

Postdoctoral Research Scholar, Weatherhead East Asian Institute

History; religion

Cameron Foltz is a postdoctoral research scholar at Weatherhead East Asian Institute and lecturer in the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures at Columbia University. His research examines the intersections of religion, governance, and territoriality in Inner Asia, with a focus on the environmental and political histories of the Tibetan plateau. Broadly, his work engages questions of sovereignty, monastic institutions, and the transformation of frontier zones through religious and economic exchange.

His book project, "Constructing Qinghai: Pastoralist Settlement, Monastic Territorialization, and State Incorporation (1724-1935)," argues that Tibetan pastoralists territorialized the Blue Lake (Chinese: *Qinghai hu*; Tibetan: *Tsongönpö*; Mongolian: *Kokenuur*) grasslands through the establishment of permanent monasteries. The monasteries' integration of Tibetan pastoralists as their patron communities, their wider religious networks, and their role in taming local territorial deities remade the Blue Lake region. The Tibetan communities funded monastery construction through the sale of their sheep's wool during an international wool boom (c. 1880-1929) fueled by US carpet production. After the collapse of the Qing Empire in 1912, the wool trade drew the Xining-based Ma militarists into the Blue Lake region. Ma Qi (1869-1931) and his brother and son, Ma Lin (1876-1945) and Ma Bufang (1903-1975), engaged in their own practice of territorialization that sought to secure their place in the nascent Republic of China. This process resulted in the establishment of Qinghai Province in 1929. However, the Chinese administrative presence on the Blue Lake grasslands was hollow and contingent upon the monastic territorialization established by Tibetan pastoralists.

Support for Foltz's research has been provided by the Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Award, the Institute of History and Philology at Academia Sinica, the Weatherhead East Asian Institute at Columbia, and the Sasakawa Young Leaders Fellowship Fund.



Sau-yi Fong

Postdoctoral Research Scholar, Weatherhead East Asian Institute; Academic Director, MARSEA Program

History; China; transimperial histories of military mobilization; maritime technology; oceanic knowledge

Sau-yi Fong is a historian of late imperial and modern China. Her research interests include the transimperial histories of military mobilization, maritime technology, and oceanic knowledge. She is currently working on a book project that examines late Qing China's naval rebuilding projects to explore the politics of military-industrial technological transfer from the West to China in the 19th century. Tracing the personal, material, and institutional networks connecting the Qing empire to the world's naval technology, her research uncovers a global regime of arms production that blurred the boundaries between the arms race and the arms trade, secrecy and openness, competition and collaboration.

In addition, Fong wrote an article investigating the career trajectory of Ding Gongchen (1800–1875), a Muslim maritime merchant and amateur military technologist in mid-19th-century China, which appeared in the journal *Late Imperial China* in 2022. In 2023 *Modern China* published her article examining the Guomindang's student military training program from 1928 to 1937.

Her research has been supported by grants and fellowships from the D. Kim Foundation, the Japan Foundation, the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, and the Weatherhead East Asian Institute. She received her PhD in East Asian history from Columbia University in 2022, and she is currently the academic director for the Master of Arts in Regional Studies: East Asia (MARSEA) program.



Tashi Dekyid Monet

Postdoctoral Research Scholar, Weatherhead East Asian Institute

Tibet; education; environmentalism

Tashi Dekyid Monet is a Tibetan scholar, writer, and translator whose academic and literary work explores Indigenous land-based traditions; multispecies justice; and the intersections of literature, spirituality, peoplehood, and the environment.

Born and raised in Minyak Rabgang, one of the Six Mountain Ranges of eastern Tibet, she earned her BA in Tibetan literature from Minzu University of China. Her undergraduate thesis focused on environmental ethics and grief in Tibetan fiction, including the works of Tsering Dhondrub. She received her PhD in education from the University of Virginia (2024), where her research connects Tibetan literary and oral traditions of land, Buddhist sacred geography, Indigenous storytelling, and popular culture—art, music, literature, and film—with global conversations on decolonial methodologies, critical Indigenous education, traditional ecological knowledge, human geography, environmental humanities, and multispecies justice.

Tashi Dekyid's academic writing includes *Translating the Tibetan Lifeworld: An Ontological Bridge or Erasure* (Yeshe); the forthcoming trilingual anthology *Hope That Burns, Friendship That Heals: An Anthology by Tibetan Women Writers*; and "Rejoicing in Reciprocity" (The Brooklyn Rail, 2023). She has authored three Tibetan-language children's books—*Ten Precious Yaks*, *Snow Friend*, and *Where Are You?*—and translated works by Joy Harjo, Leslie Marmon Silko, Margaret Atwood, and others into Tibetan.

She co-organized the 2022 international Symposium of Tibetan Women Writers and organized numerous events supporting emerging Tibetan scholars in Western academia. In the 2025-26 academic year, she co-led the project "Indigenous Knowledge and Climate Change on the Tibetan Plateau and the Himalayas" in the Modern Tibetan Studies Program at the Weatherhead East Asian Institute, Columbia University. Tashi Dekyid's current projects include turning her PhD thesis into a book project, developing an Indigenous land education model for Tibetan youth, and designing contemplative practices grounded in Tibetan Buddhist elemental philosophy and Indigenous land education. She also aspires to explore and collaborate on comparative studies of high mountain Indigenous communities from the Tibetan Plateau and the Altai to the Andes to understand their lifeways, strategies, and aspirations for environmental ethics, cultural survival, and multispecies justice.



Isaac C. K. Tan

Postdoctoral Research Scholar, Weatherhead East Asian Institute

History of medicine; Japan; imperialism/colonialism

Isaac C. K. Tan's current book project looks at the history of ABO blood group research in Japan—charting its historical development since the 1910s and highlighting its wider political, social, and cultural implications in contemporary Japan.

He has also written journal articles on topics ranging from geopolitics in medieval East Asia to the natural history of British colonial India and has received the 2021 AIHP Glenn Sonnedecker Prize for a manuscript on the prescribing-dispensing separation issue in modern Japan.

More information on his academic profile can be found at <https://tckisaac.wordpress.com>.



Raymond Wang

Postdoctoral Research Scholar, Weatherhead East Asian Institute; Fellow, Columbia-Harvard China and the World Program

History; China; international relations

Raymond Wang is a postdoctoral research scholar at the Weatherhead East Asian Institute and a fellow at the Columbia-Harvard China and the World Program. He is also a research fellow at the Harvard Kennedy School. His research examines how rising powers shape international order by commandeering the existing rules, rather than overturning them or building alternative institutions. He is also interested in economic statecraft and knowledge transfer between the military and civilian sectors. He received his PhD in political science from MIT and will be an assistant professor at the Pardee School at Boston University starting fall 2026.

VISITING SCHOLARS 2025–2026

Aram Hur

October 2025–October 2026

Associate Professor of Political Science, Tufts University

Democratic ceilings: The national roots of democratic weakness

Do-wook Kim

January 2025–January 2027

Researcher, Institute for World Buddhist Studies, Dongguk University

Buddhism and its application for healing addiction

Shuyun Li

September 2025–June 2026

Lecturer, Henan University of Science and Technology

China and human rights law

Yao Lin

September 2025–August 2026

Assistant Professor, New York University, Shanghai

Authoritarianism and its resistance in China

Shougang Liu

January–July 2026

Professor, Shanghai University of Finance and Economics

Fiscal history and politics in China and the evolution of Western fiscal thought

Akinobu Matsumoto

August 2025–July 2026

Assistant Professor, Waseda University

Radio documentaries in East Asia during the US military occupation

Jarmila Ptackova

September–December 2025

Research Fellow, Oriental Institute of the Czech Academy of Sciences

The Eastern Tibet (PRC)–Nepal border and the Walung community

Xue Qiao

September 2025–August 2026

Lecturer, Lanzhou University

Flying apsara visual images and aesthetic cultural reproduction on the Silk Road

Hiroki Tsukiyama

March 2026–March 2027

Professor of Political Science and Faculty of Law, Keio University

Natural experiments in Japanese local elections

Zhen Yang

February 2025–February 2026

Associate Professor, Institute of Tibetan Studies, Minzu University of China

The social and cultural history of Tibet since the Qing Dynasty (1642–1959)

ROBERT M. IMMERMANN PROFESSIONAL FELLOWS 2025–2026

Kumie Shimizu Ito

July 1, 2025–June 30, 2026

Deputy General Manager, Development Bank of Japan Inc.

Atsushi Kusubata

July 1, 2025–June 30, 2026

Deputy General Manager, Development Bank of Japan Inc.

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATES

Jongwon Chae

September 1, 2025–August 30, 2026

Reporter, Maeil Business Newspaper

Shangguan Hong

January 1, 2025–December 30, 2026

Executive Director, Legend Capital

Doyoung Kwak

June 23, 2025–June 22, 2026

Reporter, Dong-A Ilbo

Yunlin Peng

September 1, 2025–December 30, 2026

Founder and Director, Cicely Western China Education Aid Charity Fund

Eunji Shim

September 1, 2025–August 30, 2026

Deputy General Manager, The Korea Economic Daily

Shotaro Tanaka

September 1, 2025–August 30, 2026

Managing Director, Hokulea Limited

Toko Tanaka

September 1, 2025–August 30, 2026

Staff Writer, The Asahi Shimbun

DOCTORATES AWARDED 2025–2026

Nolan Bensen

East Asian Languages and Cultures: “The Tripod of Ming Foreign Policy: Land Borders, State Language Training, and Maritime Borders in the Long Shadow of the Mongol Empire”

Nicolle Bertozzi

East Asian Languages and Cultures: “Lu Ban’s Ruler and Shōtoku’s Saw: An Intellectual History of Carpentry in Premodern Japan”

David Borjonjon

East Asian Languages and Cultures: “Red Nanyang: Chinese-Language Literature of Indonesia, 1945–1965”

Cameron Foltz

East Asian Languages and Cultures: “Constructing Qinghai: Pastoralist Settlement, Monastic Territorialization, and State Incorporation (1850–1935)”

Palden Gyal Wang

East Asian Languages and Cultures: “Shifting Terrains of Authority: Religio-Political Governance in the Sino-Tibetan Borderlands, 1650–1911”

Tenggeer Hao

East Asian Languages and Cultures: “The Mind Medium: A Yin-Yang Philosophy of Media”

Tianyuan Huang

East Asian Languages and Cultures: “Making Way for Uncertainty: Gender, Power, and the Epistemology of Illness in Japan, 1585–1953”

Stella Kim

East Asian Languages and Cultures: “Embodied Belongings: Gender, Reproduction, and Motherhood in Late Chosŏn Korea”

Hana Lethen

East Asian Languages and Cultures: “Choreographies of Eccentricity: Madness, Dance, and Gender in Medieval Noh Theater”

Constantine Lignos

East Asian Languages and Cultures: “Dancing Tantra: Body, Text, and Performance in Tibetan Tantric Buddhism”

Maho Miyazaki

East Asian Languages and Cultures: “Aged to Perfection: Performing Old Age and the Elderly Actor in Noh Theater”

Deanna Nardy

East Asian Languages and Cultures: “Countervisions of Postwar Japan”

Komei Sakai

East Asian Languages and Cultures: “Wrath of the Rising Sun: The Gods of War and Military Rituals in Premodern Japan”

Yihang Sun

Social Work: “Voices and Visions: Engaging Youth in Addressing Stigma Using Community-Based Participatory Approaches”

DOCTORAL STUDENTS PREPARING DISSERTATIONS UNDER GUIDANCE OF INSTITUTE FACULTY

Jason Butters

East Asian Languages and Cultures/History: “Nationalized Culture for Power: The Japan Tourist Bureau, Foreign Perspectives of Japanese Empire, and the History of Cultural Diplomacy, 1912–1945”

Xuexin Cai

East Asian Languages and Cultures: “Between Wasteland and Wilderness: Rubber Farms, Nature Reserves, and Rural Life in Southwest China, 1945–2020”

Vincent Chartray

Economics: Essays on international trade and financial economics

Peter Chen

East Asian Languages and Cultures: “Otherwise Than Empire: Anarchist Philology in Late Qing China”

Danny Ching

East Asian Languages and Cultures: “Visualizing the Divine Warrior King: Visualizations as Cultural Rewriting of the Gesar Epic Since the 18th Century”

Suhyun Choi

Art History and Archaeology: “Transnational Socialism, Decolonial Worldmaking, and the Development of Modern Art in North Korea”

Roya Chu

East Asian Languages and Cultures: Tea manufacturing in early 20th-century Yunnan

Kexin Dai

East Asian Languages and Cultures: “Botanical Poetics and Ecological Visions: Exploring Natural Environment in Japanese Literature and Print Media, 1890s–1920s”

Yi Deng

East Asian Languages and Cultures:
"Defeated Heroes, Exiles, and Their Rebel
Children in Late-Edo Historical Fiction"

Albert Errickson

East Asian Languages and Cultures:
Writing and speech in premodern Vietnam

Patrick Farrell

Economics: Essays on spatial economics
and development

Yuri Handa

Art History and Archaeology: "Lens
Across Boundaries: Ogawa Kazumasa
(1860-1929) and His Photographic Journey
in Meiji Japan"

Samuel Hellmann

East Asian Languages and Cultures:
"International Form, Socialist Context:
Revolution and Renewal in the Chinese
Built Environment"

Mairead Hynes

History: "Activist Histories of Women's
War Mobilization in 20th-Century Japan
and the United States"

Shizuka Inoue

Economics: Essays on structural
transformation and technology adoption

Andrew Kahn

East Asian Languages and Cultures:
Japanese media culture

Joanna Lee

East Asian Languages and Cultures:
"Visions of Emancipation: Islam, Socialism,
and Third World Internationalism in the
People's Republic of China from the Cold
War to the Present"

Kyu Dong Lee

History: Cold War history/memory

Meng Hsian Lee

Art History and Archaeology: "Shophouse,
Verandah Arcade, Decorated Facade: An
Excavation of Commercial Architecture in
Modern Taiwan"

Melissa Guoyi Li

East Asian Languages and Cultures:
"Reforming Kabuki, Reinventing Japan:
Kawatake Mokuami and the Politics of
Meiji Kabuki Theater"

Yan Liu

East Asian Languages and Cultures: "China
in the Cultural Cold War: Little Magazines,
Paperbacks, and Socialist Print Culture,
1953-1980"

Yuyuan Liu

East Asian Languages and Cultures: "The
Rashomon of Seeing: Photography and
Visual Modernity Across the Tibetan
Plateau"

Daniel Penner

East Asian Languages and Cultures:
"Languages of Critical Enlightenment:
Science, Literature, and the Aesthetics of
Writing in Meiji Japan"

Alexis Rangell-Onwuegbuzia

East Asian Languages and Cultures:
Japanese media culture

Zhanjie Si

Social Work: "Forbidden Love and Sex:
Structural Stigma Against Leprosy as
Represented by the Marriage Law of China"

Kanako Tajima

Art History and Archaeology: "Between
Tokyo, California, and New York: Feminist
Transnational Art Practice by Women
Artists from Japan in the 1970s-1980s"

Danping Wang

History: "The Chinese War on Cancer:
Cancer Research, Prevention, and
Treatment, 1950s-1990s"

Jiaqi Wang

East Asian Languages and Cultures:
"Unfulfilled Prophecies: Literary
Temporalities of Shishi (Current Affair)
Writing in 17th-Century China"

Hao Wen

Social Work: "Three Essays on Mental
Health Among Delivery Gig Workers
in China: Latent Profiles, Longitudinal
Trajectories, and Structural Determinants"

Angelo Wong

East Asian Languages and Cultures:
"Collectors of the Strange: Cosmology,
Genre, and Community in 17th-20th
Century Japanese Literature"

Dongcheng Yang

Economics: Essays on financial frictions,
misallocation, and urban dynamics

Hekang Yang

East Asian Languages and Cultures: Qing
fiscal policy: 1875-1916

Heewon Yoon

Political Science: "Essays on the Political
Economy of Candidate Selection"

Hongyi Yu

East Asian Languages and Cultures:
"Mobilizing the Nation, Governing the
Populace: Propaganda and Propagandists
in Wartime and Socialist China, 1937-1961"

Jiemin Zhao

East Asian Languages and Cultures:
"Making Yuan Drama Our Own: Zaju on the
Ming (1368-1644) Imperial Stage"

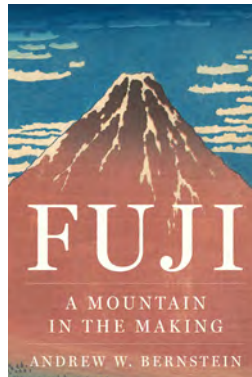
Xun Zheng

East Asian Languages and Cultures:
"Communicative Publics: Broadcasting
Infrastructures and TV Theory, 1950-1972"

4 PUBLICATIONS

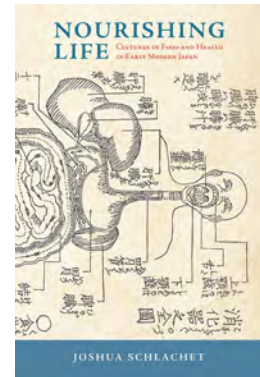
STUDIES OF THE WEATHERHEAD EAST ASIAN INSTITUTE

The Studies of the Weatherhead East Asian Institute is a series sponsored by the Institute and directed by Professors Ruth Barraclough, Nicholas Bartlett, Carol Gluck, Luran Hartley, John D. Phan, and Ying Qian. The aim of this series is to bring to light new scholarship on modern and contemporary East and Southeast Asia. The series, established in 1962, now comprises more than 200 titles by scholars from all over the world, including many from Columbia University. The studies are published individually by a variety of university and trade presses. Five titles were published during the 2025–26 academic year:



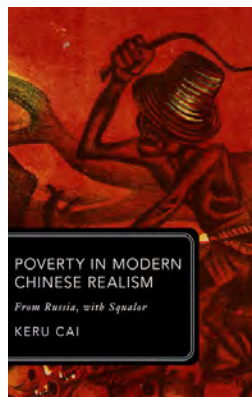
Andrew W. Bernstein

Fuji: A Mountain in the Making.
Princeton University Press, 2025.



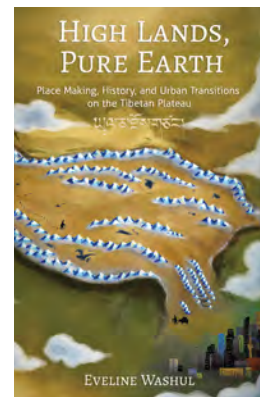
Joshua Schlachet

Nourishing Life: Cultures of Food and Health in Early Modern Japan.
University of Hawai'i Press, 2026.



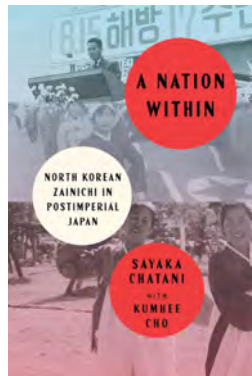
Keru Cai

Poverty in Modern Chinese Realism: From Russia, with Squalor. Oxford University Press, 2025.



Eveline Washul

High Lands, Pure Earth: Place Making, History, and Urban Transitions on the Tibetan Plateau. Cornell University Press, 2026.



Sayaka Chatani, with KumHee Cho

A Nation Within: North Korean Zainichi in Postimperial Japan. Stanford University Press, 2026.

THE MERVYN W. ADAMS SELDON FIRST BOOKS ENDOWMENT OF THE WEATHERHEAD EAST ASIAN INSTITUTE

This endowment was created to enable young scholars to publish their first work. The donor, Mervyn Seldon, was a SIPA alumna who worked for the Institute's publications program more than 30 years ago. It was her hope, through this endowment, that the Institute's publications programs will continue to benefit young scholars of East Asia for many years to come. In 2025–26, the awardee was Takuya Tsunoda of the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures, Columbia University, for his book *Processive Technics: Industrial Documentary, Audio-Visual Education, and New Cinemas in Postwar Japan*, which is expected from Columbia University Press in 2027.

PUBLISHED WORKS BY INSTITUTE FACULTY

Ruth Barraclough

Ed., with Jae-Yong Kim, Jin-kyung Lee, and Sang-Kyung Lee. *Island Ablaze and Other Stories: The US Empire in North and South Korean Literatures*. Cornell University Press, 2025.

Nicholas Bartlett

With Ying Qian. "Editor's Introduction: Neng 能 and China's Long 1980s: A Reevaluation." *positions* 33, no. 3 (August 2025): 367–382. <https://doi.org/10.1215/10679847-11818914>.

"Toward an Ethnography of 'Release' (*Fangkai*): Labor, Minerals, and the Opening of a Mountain Region in China's Long 1980s." *positions* 33, no. 3 (August 2025): 425–449. <https://doi.org/10.1215/10679847-11818938>.

Maria Adele Carrai

"The Belt and Road Initiative and Emerging US-China Rivalries in Africa: The Case of the Lobito Corridor." *Global Policy* 16, no. 4 (2025): 739–750. <https://doi.org/10.1111/1758-5899.70055>.

Jim Cheng

"From Collection to Documentary: An Eventful Journey of Developing and Managing the Wan-go H. C. Weng Film Collection." *Journal of East Asian Libraries* 2026, No. 182 (April 2026): 12–28.

Thomas J. Christensen

"Will China Overplay Its Hand? How Beijing's Confidence Could Shake Up the Trump-Xi Summit." *Foreign Affairs*, March 6, 2026. <https://www.foreignaffairs.com/china/will-china-overplay-its-hand>.

"What Does Zhang Youxia's Arrest Mean?" In *Assessing Xi's Unprecedented Purges of China's Military: Key Developments and Potential Implications*. A Report of the CSIS China Power Project. Center for Strategic and International Studies, February 2026. <https://www.csis.org/analysis/assessing-xi-unprecedented-purges-chinas-military-key-developments-and-potential>.

Qin Gao

With Jing Guo, Yookyong Lee, Huangshu Xu, and Fuhua Zhai. "Intergenerational Continuity of Child Maltreatment in East Asian American Families: Roles of Parents' Beliefs in Physical Punishment and Social Support." *Child & Family Social Work* (December 2025). <https://doi.org/10.1111/cfs.70085>.

With Christine Harris, Nancy R. Mudrick, Fei Pei, Yixuan Wang, and Fuhua Zhai. "Neighborhood Environment, Cultural Orientation, and Parenting: Understanding the Intergenerational Conflict in Asian Immigrant Families." *Child and Adolescent Social Work Journal* 42 (2025): 249–259. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10560-023-00949-6>.

Nobuhisa Ishizuka

"Shareholder Activism in the U.S.: Convergence with Japan," *Journal of Japanese Law*, Special Edition No. 18 (May 2026): 113–131. <https://doi.org/10.71163/zjapanr.sh.18.2026>.

Carol Gluck

"Histories of Public Pasts." In *Cognition, Culture, and Political Momentum: A Companion to Interdisciplinary Memory Research*, edited by Astrid Erll and William Hirst. Oxford University Press, 2026.

"Interview with Dr. Carol Gluck, the Sixth Winner of the NIHU International Prize in Japanese Studies," [Japanese & English]; Summary of Kuraray Lecture "Living in Uncertain Times: A Historian's View of the 21st Century," *NIHU Magazine*, no. 118, July 2025.

Kristy Kelly

Ed., *Global Education: Linking Theory and Practice*. Emerald Publishing, 2025.

With Jamie L. Callahan, Yasmeen Makarem, Manisha Desai, Firuzeh Shokooh Valle, and Akosua Adomako Ampofo. "Editorial Introduction to the Special Issue: Crises and the (Re)Organizing of Gender and Work." *Gender, Work, and Organization* 33, no. 3 (May 2026): 703–707. <https://doi.org/10.1111/gwao.70109>.

With Jordana Benblatt. "Who Gets to Learn Through Research? Rethinking Undergraduate Research as Inclusive Pedagogy." *Teaching in Higher Education: Critical Perspectives* (June 2026), 1–20. doi:10.1080/13562517.2026.2670361.

With John Issahaku. "Understanding Policy Overload in Sub-Saharan African Education Reforms." *Nordic Journal of Comparative and International Education* 10, no. 1 (2026). <https://doi.org/10.7577/njcie.6405>.

With Aisulu Ayapbergenova and B. S. Imangaliyev. "Gender Stereotypes in U.S. Media Narratives: A Thematic Review."

Bulletin of L. N. Gumilyov Eurasian National University, Journalism Series 152, no. 3 (2025): 20–33. <https://buljourn.enu.kz/index.php/main/article/view/785/405>.

"From Parity to Power: Gender Mainstreaming and the Contradictions of Equality in Vietnam's Education Sector." *Global Social Policy* OnlineFirst (June 2026). <https://doi.org/10.1177/14680181261453829>.

"Climate Change, Agriculture, and Women's Poverty in Viet Nam's Mekong Delta." In *International Handbook of Women's Poverty: Global Essays and Social Justice Initiatives*, edited by Sheila M. Katz. Bloomsbury, 2026.

With John Issahaku. "A Global Agenda for Gender Justice in STEM." In *Global Agenda for Social Justice 3*, edited by Kristen M. Budd, Heather Dillaway, Manjusha Nair, David C. Lane, and Jason Smith. Polity, 2026.

With Rianka Roy, Özlem Altıok, Natascia Boeri, Manisha Desai, Tamanika Ferguson, Daniela Jauk-Ajamie, and Edelweiss Murillo Lafuente. Statement Submitted by Sociologists for Women in Society, a Non-Governmental Organization in Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council (2025). United Nations document E/CN.6/2026/NGO/93.

CSW70 Justice for Women Brief: Education Justice. U.S. Women's Caucus at the United Nations (2025). <https://www.uswomenscaucus.org/2025/11/11/csw70-justice-for-women-brief-education-justice/>.

Sarah Kovner

With Benjamin Hiramatsu Ireland, Jordan Stanger-Ross, Anoma Pieris, and Rowena Ward. "Contingent Captivity: Resettling Japanese Men, Women, and Children 1941–1945." *Verge: Studies in Global Asias* 12, no. 1 (2026): 45–74. <https://dx.doi.org/10.1353/vrg.2026.a984884>.

"Captivity in Japan and Its Empire." In *Globalizing the History of the World Wars*,

edited by Bruno Cabanes and Cameron Givens. Cambridge University Press, 2026.

"Four Recommended Books." In *Dokusho ankēto 2024: shikisha ga eranda, kono ichi-nen no hon*. Misuzu Shobo, 2026.

Benjamin L. Liebman

With Rachel E. Stern, Eva Wenwa Gao, and Xiaohan Wu. "Tort Law Heterodoxy in China." In *Legal Heterodoxy in the Global South*, edited by Kevin E. Davis and Mariana Pargendler, 149–82. Cambridge University Press, 2025.

With Zeming Liu. "Redefining Law in China," *The American Journal of Comparative Law* 73, no. 3 (Fall 2025): 672–735. <https://doi.org/10.1093/ajcl/avaf025>.

With Madhav Khosla. "Comparative authoritarian law." *Theoretical Inquiries in Law* 26, no. 2 (2025): 1–22. <https://doi.org/10.1515/til-2025-0014>.

With Eva Gao, Xiaohan Wu, Rachel E. Stern, and Margaret E. Roberts. "Out from the Shadows: Party Documents in Chinese Courts." *Berkeley Journal of International Law*, ahead of print, 2025. <https://doi.org/10.15779/Z381J97978>.

Yao Lu

With Xiaoguang Li. "Employment Challenges of Chinese College Graduates: Trends, Heterogeneity, and Employer Responses." *China Economic Review* (in press).

With Yuhan Li. "Precarity Without Protest: The Muted Political Consequences of College-Graduate Employment Hardship in China." *The China Journal* 95, no. 1 (January 2026): 50–76. <https://doi.org/10.1086/739397>.

With Xiaoguang Li. "Family Background and School-to-Work Trajectories in China." *Social Science Research* 134 (February 2026): 103300. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ssresearch.2025.103300>.

With Zhang Ruochen and Haifeng Du. "Vulnerability and Resilience During COVID-19: Family Resources and Children's Well-being in China." *Routledge International Handbook of the COVID-19 Pandemic in China*, edited by Yida Zhai and Cary Wu. Routledge, 2026.

With Xiaoguang Li and Xiaogang Wu. "Education-Occupation Mismatch Among Highly Educated Workers in China." *The Frontier of Education Reform and Development in China*, edited by Gang Wu and Fang Chen. Springer, 2025. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-96-7396-4_18.

With Linda Hong Cheng. "Chinese Computational Sociology: Applications of Machine Learning and Natural Language Processing Methods in Chinese-Language Contexts." *The Oxford Handbook of the Sociology of Machine Learning*, edited by Christian Borch and Juan Pablo Pardo-Guerra. Oxford Academic, 2025.

Arvid J. Lukauskas

With Yumiko Shimabukuro. "Shrinking East Asia needs a safety net." *East Asia Forum*, December 5, 2025, <https://doi.org/10.59425/eabc.1766008800>.

Andrew J. Nathan

With Parviz Mullojonov and Morris Rossabi. "China's Role and Involvement in Post-Soviet Central Asia: Specifics, Main Trends, and Prospects." *United States-Central Asia Perspectives on China*. American Councils for International Education, 2025.

"China's Fragile Future: How Secure Is the CCP?" *Foreign Affairs*, March/April 2026, 152–158.

"Zero-Sum" (review essay), *China Books Review*, April 9, 2026, <https://chinabooksreview.com/2026/04/09/taiwan-war/>.

"An unplanned journey: Contingent events and the study of China," *China Information* 40, no. 2 (July 2026): 1-13. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0920203X251371141>.

Zhongguo weiquan zhi mi 中國威權之謎 (The puzzle of Chinese authoritarianism). *Youli wenhua youxian gongsi*, 2026.

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Morris Rossabi

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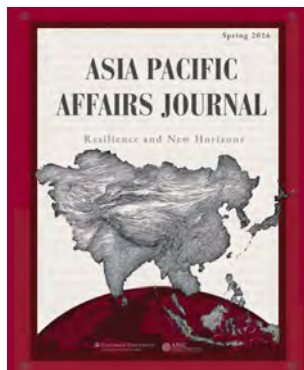
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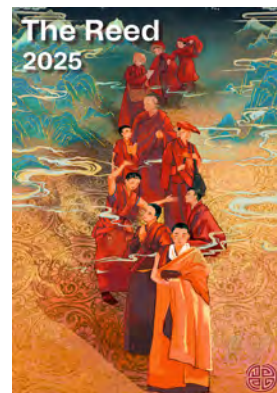
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STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

The APAC Journal

The *APAC Journal* is the annual publication of the Asia Pacific Affairs Council (APAC), Weatherhead's one formally affiliated student group. APAC's 2025-26 President and Editor in Chief Yingyi Tan (SIPA '26) and the APAC Executive Board chose as the theme of this year's edition "Resilience and New Horizons." Contributors explored the theme through not only faculty-reviewed research papers but also op-eds and a photo essay, with the latter two formats appearing in the publication for the first time. Countries covered include North and South Korea, China, Indonesia, India, and Vietnam.



The Reed

In 2025-26, WEAI celebrated the return of its annual student journal *The Reed* by releasing a print edition after several years in which it had appeared in PDF-only format. Weatherhead solicits written and visual essay submissions for *The Reed* from current Columbia graduate and undergraduate students once a year. Staff then select one winner and one runner-up in each category, and all four prizewinners appear in that year's issue, with the winning visual work featured on the cover.

The cover of this year's *Reed* is an enlarged view of *Echoes of Devotion*, a digital painting by Yuhan Zhang (CC '26) that takes its inspiration from the 2022 ordination, in Bhutan, of 144 nuns in the Tibetan Buddhist tradition—a milestone in a religious tradition that extends back to the seventh century CE. (The painting appears in full inside the issue.)

The 2026 *APAC Journal* editorial team at the launch event on May 4, 2026. Left to right: Alice Chen, Jin Park, Subin Moon, Yingyi Tan, Ying-jia Ke, Ludovica Duchini, and Najiihah Ahmad.



5 RESEARCH ACTIVITIES OF THE WEATHERHEAD EAST ASIAN INSTITUTE AND COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY AFFILIATES

WEAI RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

Asia in Action

The Weatherhead East Asian Institute's Asia in Action initiative highlights scholarly, artistic, and advocacy work related to East, Inner, and Southeast Asia that extends beyond traditional academic frameworks. It brings attention to the practices and lived experiences of innovative professionals—including writers, filmmakers, artists, and activists—whose work engages with pressing issues in a rapidly changing world.

Through public programming, interdisciplinary research support, and collaborative projects, the initiative fosters meaningful connections between academic and broader communities. By amplifying voices and perspectives often overlooked by academia, Asia in Action widens our understanding of Asia and underscores the importance of action-driven narratives.

Khashem Gyal, adjunct assistant professor of film at the School of the Arts, became the Institute's latest Asia in Action Fellow in 2026.

Center for Korean Research

The Center for Korean Research (CKR) at the Weatherhead East Asian Institute concluded a rich and wide-ranging 2025–26 academic year, with 21 events spanning nine disciplines and drawing scholars from institutions across the United States, Korea, and beyond.

Through its Lecture and Book Talk series, CKR brought 21 leading domestic and international researchers to campus. Spanning multiple disciplines, these events covered topics ranging from Korea's liberation and US occupation, postcolonial fascism, and nuclear diplomacy, to North Korea's consumer culture, women's domestic life in the Chosŏn period, Korean diasporic art and literature, Buddhist iconography, and the cultural memory of

the Koryo-saram diaspora. The diversity of subjects and approaches reflects CKR's ongoing commitment to fostering rigorous, interdisciplinary dialogue across all dimensions of Korean and Korean diasporic studies—and to building a scholarly community at Columbia that is responsive to developments across the field.

A particular highlight of the year was CKR's inaugural two-day joint conference with the University of Southern California's Korean Studies Institute, held May 11–12, 2026. Bringing together faculty and graduate students from both institutions, the event drew enthusiastic responses from participants and directors alike and has since been formalized as an ongoing annual exchange, with the 2027 iteration set to take place at USC.

On the development front, CKR marked an important milestone with a \$250,000 contribution this year, reflecting the depth of support for the center's mission and the vitality of Korean studies at Columbia. This gift will help sustain CKR's endowment, programming, and student support initiatives for years to come.

As CKR looks ahead to 2026–27, it does so with momentum on multiple fronts: a deepening USC partnership; an expanding programming portfolio; and a growing community of scholars, students, and supporters invested in the future of Korean studies.

Columbia Summer in Itoshima

A new annual program in Itoshima, Japan, Columbia Summer in Itoshima is offered in partnership with Unson Foundation, a nonprofit foundation that exists to study the most challenging social and environmental problems generated by capitalism and to help build new social systems that will foster long-term human well-being.

The program brings together students, faculty, and local community members in an immersive learning environment that spans the mountains, rivers, and coastlines of rural Japan. Its pedagogical model rests on three pillars: physical labor; deep reading; and shared governance. A small, multidisciplinary group of students spend two weeks living communally in a restored farmhouse and reading texts on history, ecology, anthropology, literature, and economics while thinning bamboo forests, planting crops alongside local farmers, and harvesting oysters.

In 2025, the program's inaugural year, the Weatherhead East Asian Institute awarded summer research fellowships to three Columbia PhD students who helped plan the new program in a weeklong survey trip to Itoshima. In summer 2026, the initial cohort of 13 Columbia undergraduate, MA, and PhD students explored the relationship between water and human society at multiple scales—investigating how, throughout history, river systems have shaped the way people have lived, and how human interventions have rechanneled the flow of watersheds. Throughout, students and faculty asked two related questions: What would it mean to “think like a watershed,” and how do institutions mediate relationships between people and places?

<https://weai.columbia.edu/itoshima>

Global Vietnam Program

The Global Vietnam (GV) program comprises four WEAI initiatives, including Digitizing Vietnam (DVN); Vietnam Leadership and Policy (VLP); Viet Arts in Action (VAiA); and Summer Language, Culture, and Career in Vietnam, as well as the Vietnamese Studies Program (VSP) in the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures and Department of History.

VSP offers courses at the undergraduate and graduate levels focused on the society, history, politics, and culture of Vietnam from the premodern era to the present day, in addition to language courses at all levels. Faculty include Lien-Hang T. Nguyen, who holds the Dorothy Borg Chair in the History of the United States and East Asia (History), and John D. Phan, who teaches Vietnamese humanities and cultures in the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures (EALAC). They are joined by Chung Nguyen, the director of (and an instructor in) EALAC's Vietnamese language program; award-winning filmmaker Tony Bui, an instructor in Columbia's School of the Arts and a recent Weatherhead Artist in Residence; EALAC Adjunct Lecturer in Vietnamese Vinh Q. Nguyen; and Kristy Kelly, adjunct associate professor of international and public affairs at the School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA). VLP Fellow Thomas Valley serves as guest lecturer in courses focused on the Vietnam War.

This year GV built on its multidisciplinary strengths both at Columbia and in Vietnam itself. In September, a visit to campus by Minister of Foreign Affairs Le Hoai Trung hosted by Thomas Valley provided the occasion for WEAI to announce Vietnam Leadership and Policy (VLP), a GV project focused on the study and research of Vietnam's economic and political development. Growing out of President and General Secretary To Lam's World Leaders Forum speech and campus visit in 2024, VLP also hosts high-level government and private sector leaders from Vietnam and the United States. During the same week that the 80th United Nations General Assembly was held, VAIa Director Tony Bui served as artistic director and producer of Vietnam's 80th celebration of its independence at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. With then President Luong Cuong in attendance, Director Bui transported the distinguished guests at the Temple of Dendur back to Ba Dinh Square in 1945. During the spring and summer of 2026, VLP hosted two strategic dialogue

forums: the first in Washington, DC, with Ambassador Nguyen Quoc Dung in March; and the second in Hanoi with Minister of Science and Technology Vu Hai Quan, featuring SIPA Dean Emerita Merit Janow, in June. Before departing Hanoi, Professor Valley, Dean Janow, Professor Nguyen, and VLP Business Manager Hien Le enjoyed a private meeting with President and General Secretary To Lam in which they discussed future collaboration.

Further bridge-building took place in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City in November, when a delegation of GV faculty established new ties and strengthened existing ones with four major educational and civic institutions. In Hanoi, the team visited the Temple of Literature–Quốc Tử Giám, the oldest center of higher learning in Vietnam, and the Vietnam National Academy of Music, the country's preeminent center for music teaching and training. In Ho Chi Minh City, GV faculty joined US Ambassador to Vietnam Marc Knapper for a policy dialogue at the Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam, at which Deputy Minister Nguyen Minh Hang touted the benefits of deepening education exchange between the two countries. Lastly, GV built on its current partnership with Fulbright University Vietnam (FUV) by signing a formal agreement toward long-term collaboration between Vietnamese higher education and Columbia's international research network.

In New York, an event with renowned Vietnamese fashion designer Minh Hanh transformed Columbia's Morningside Heights campus into a showcase for more than 200 silk ao dai (the Vietnamese national dress) and hand-embroidered and brocade costumes created by the designer and modeled by Columbia student volunteers. The day's best takeaway was the unsolicited testimonial from a Columbia parent, who reported that afterward her daughter "returned home tired but with a sense of pride, confidence, and a deeper connection to her roots and fashion. For a 15-year-old Vietnamese

American girl growing up in New York City . . . it was a memory and a source of cultural grounding."

Classical scholarship and cutting-edge technology found a happy meeting place on campus in April, when GV held a one-day conference in Butler Library, "Digitizing Việt Nam: Vietnamese Studies in the Age of Digital Humanities and Artificial Intelligence," that demonstrated the practical uses of AI for the study and preservation of premodern texts. In his stirring keynote, conference co-organizer John D. Phan acknowledged the unease AI inspires among some scholars in the liberal arts but urged skeptics to think of digital humanities and AI as means deployed toward specific ends. "We must find a way to use them to empower and enhance our human critical analysis," he said, "not to replace it."

In the spring GV also introduced Viet Arts in Action (VAiA), a program that promotes the study, research, and practice of Vietnamese arts and culture globally under the inaugural directorship of Tony Bui. VAIa includes three initiatives: The Stories Within Us Speaker Series; Mentorship Program; and Academic and Arts Fellowships. The Speaker Series got off to a high-profile start at Asia Society New York on April 8, when Director Bui led a public talk with French Vietnamese director Tran Anh Hung, the celebrated auteur behind such films as *The Scent of Green Papaya* (1993), *Cyclo* (1995), and 2023's *The Taste of Things*, which won him the Best Director Award at the Cannes Film Festival. Centered on cinematic craft, the two filmmakers' conversation became a seminar-level immersion in the fine points of filmmaking technique. Ambassador Do Hung Viet of Vietnam and Ambassador Jerome Bonnafont of France, both representatives of their respective countries at the United Nations, were among the appreciative attendees in the

On following pages: Participants in the Weatherhead East Asian Institute's new Columbia Summer in Itoshima program in Itoshima, Japan, June 2026.





Asia Society auditorium. The Mentorship Program also received an international launch at the Da Nang Asian Film Festival IV, where Director Bui brought the first-ever Sundance script lab including Columbia School of the Arts Film Professor Jack Lechner. Working closely with festival organizer Madame Ngo Phuong Lan, Director Bui also hosted a VAI luncheon celebrating Vietnamese filmmakers alongside the US Mission in Vietnam.

Japan Research Program

In fall 2022, the Weatherhead East Asian Institute (WEAI) inaugurated a new program directed by Professor Gerald Curtis that focuses on Japan's evolving foreign policy strategy. It incorporates and builds on activities that were previously sponsored by the Institute's Toyota Research Program. The Japan Research Program continues to enjoy the generous support of Toyota and is currently seeking support from other corporations, foundations, and individuals for its public policy-related events and activities concerned with Japan's relations with the United States, with other countries in the Indo-Pacific region, and globally.

Modern Tibetan Studies Program

The Modern Tibetan Studies Program (MTSP) at Columbia University is integral to the Weatherhead East Asian Institute, which has hosted MTSP since its inception and provides funding for a significant share of its public programming.

Upon its establishment in fall 1999, MTSP became the first academic program in the world dedicated to bringing a contemporary focus to Tibetan studies. Since October 2021, it has been directed by Luran Hartley, building on two decades of growth under Robert Barnett (1999–2018) and Eveline Washul (2019–21). Gray Tuttle, Leila Hadley Luce Professor of Modern Tibetan Studies; Dominique Townsend, Jey Tsongkhapa Associate Professor of Indo-

Tibetan Buddhism; and Kristina Dy-Liacco, Tibetan Studies Librarian, actively assist on the MTSP Core Team. Tuttle and Townsend also serve on the WEAI Executive Committee.

In cooperation with Columbia's Departments of Religion and of East Asian Languages and Cultures (EALAC), the program supports instruction in both modern and classical Tibetan language and courses at the graduate and undergraduate levels, covering Tibetan history from the 17th to the 20th century, material culture, religion, contemporary Tibetan art, biography, film, climate change, and other subjects. Recent courses have included early modern and 20th-century Tibetan history, Sino-Tibetan relations, Tibetan sacred geography, Tibetan literature, infrastructure, and urbanization, as well as Tibetan Buddhist philosophy, aesthetics, and dreams.

Tibetan studies courses can be taken as part of Columbia College's Core Curriculum requirement for undergraduates; and Tibetan Studies can be chosen as a specialization for MA degrees in East Asian Studies (EALAC) or in Regional Studies-East Asia (MARSEA). At the PhD level, students can specialize in Tibetan studies within EALAC.

The program is supported by an outstanding library collection of books and manuscripts about Tibet. The collection, one of the largest in the world, is based at Columbia's C.V. Starr East Asian Library and includes more than 20,000 books on Tibet in English, Tibetan, and Chinese and a major digital library of classical Tibetan texts, as well as audiovisual materials and archives. With WEAI funding, several hundred archival items have also been digitized and are available in Columbia's Digital Library Collections. Kristina Dy-Liacco has served since 2022 as Tibetan Studies Librarian at the Starr Library and jointly through a cooperative program at the University of Toronto.

In 2025–26, MTSP expanded its partnerships, working with the Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation (GSAPP) to host Studio Nyandak and its film *Living Sanctuaries: The Monasteries of Zaskar*; CU School of the Arts (SOA) to screen *Daughter of the Light*, an award-winning documentary by director and WEAI Asia in Action Fellow Khashem Gyal; Teachers College to organize a daylong workshop, "Tibetan Education: Theory and Praxis," and YindaYin Coaching to discuss those findings with parents in Queens; the Latse Project to host a Tibetan Calligraphy Day demonstration and exhibit; and the Rubin Museum of Himalayan Art to engage artist Tenzing Rigdol on the topic of "Responding to History." Senior curator Elena Pakhoutova, who moderated the event with Tenzing Rigdol, taught the seminar "Tibetan Art and Material Culture" for EALAC in the spring semester.

MTSP also helped celebrate in February the revival of the Center for Buddhist Studies, which is directed by Professor Townsend, at its inaugural event: "Buddhist Practice as Creative Practice" with Laurie Anderson and Ocean Vuong. Four additional MTSP public events during the year showcased two Tibetan writers, a Newar filmmaker, and several scholars and performing artists for the conference "Ocean of Song & Dance: Emerging Currents in Tibetan & Himalayan Performance Studies." This two-day extravaganza was organized by EALAC graduate student Constantine Lignos, who has since earned his PhD and begins a postdoctoral position at Yale University this coming fall. MTSP discussions were also enriched by the contributions of visiting scholar Dr. Jarmila Ptáčková from the Oriental Institute of the Czech Academy of Sciences.

The year closed with an international conference, "Living with Climate Change in the Himalayas and on the Tibetan Plateau" (May 27–28), part of a five-year project supported by the Henry Luce Foundation to engage Tibetan and Himalayan-based scholars and practitioners working on

related topics. This initiative leverages work with the Climate School/Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory and researchers around the world, including two course initiatives at Columbia: “The Third Pole: A Climate History of the Tibetan Plateau,” taught by Gray Tuttle with Hung Nguyen, a hydrologist and dendrologist at the Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory of the Climate School; and “Climate Change: The Tibetan Plateau as a Case Study,” taught in fall 2025 by WEAI postdoctoral research scholar Tashi Dekyid Monet, who also led the spring conference.

The Henry Luce Foundation’s recent award renewed critical support that laid the cornerstone for MTSP in 2004, when the Foundation provided a \$3 million gift to establish the world’s first chair in modern Tibetan studies. Gray Tuttle has held the position since its founding and has served as chair of the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures since July 2023.

The Modern Tibetan Studies Program is part of the Weatherhead East Asian Institute’s initiative to include the borderlands of China and the frontiers of Inner and Central Asia in the American map of knowledge about East Asia.

In the wake of hard-hitting cuts in government funding, MTSP now seeks donors to help secure core operations and the capacity to continue providing contemporary Tibetan studies programming on campus and for a growing base of local and online community members. For more information, please contact Dr. Lauran Hartley, mtspdiretor@columbia.edu.

For event recordings and more: <https://mtsp.weai.columbia.edu>

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY AFFILIATES

APEC Study Center

Columbia University established the APEC Study Center in 1994 at the request of the US Department of State in response to the APEC Leaders’ Education Initiative, introduced by President Clinton and endorsed by the leaders of the other APEC member nations at their historic meetings on Blake Island and in Seattle in November 1993. This initiative calls on institutions of higher education in the United States and throughout the Asia Pacific to collaborate on Asia Pacific policy research and—through exchanges, joint research, conferences, and other contacts—to help establish an emerging region-wide network of personal and institutional relationships for all member economies.

<https://business.columbia.edu/apec>

Center on Japanese Economy and Business

Established at Columbia Business School in 1986 under the direction of its founder, Professor Hugh Patrick, and led currently by its director, Professor David E. Weinstein, the Center on Japanese Economy and Business (CJEB) promotes knowledge and understanding of Japanese business and economics in an international context. CJEB is a research organization widely recognized for its vigorous research activities, international symposia, conferences, and lectures held in New York City and Tokyo, and most recently online, which provide prominent speakers from the public and private sectors a forum for collaboration and reflection on Japan, the United States, and the global economy.

<https://business.columbia.edu/cjeb>

Center for Japanese Legal Studies

The Center for Japanese Legal Studies, with executive director Nobuhisa Ishizuka, was established in 1980 with financial support from the Fuyo Group (a group of leading Japanese companies) and the Japan-U.S. Friendship Commission. The center administers a range of research-oriented, programmatic, and informal programs designed to enhance understanding of the Japanese legal system. It also maintains strong ties with the Weatherhead East Asian Institute and the Center on Japanese Economy and Business. Currently, the center is expanding its activities to reflect the dynamic legal shift underway in Japan in response to the geopolitical environment in Asia—changes that affect Japan’s security posture under the postwar constitution.

<https://jls.law.columbia.edu/>

Center for Korean Legal Studies

The Center for Korean Legal Studies was founded in 1994 with funding from the Korea Foundation and the Hankook Tire Group. Columbia Law School is proud to be the first law school in the United States to have a center dedicated to studying issues in Korean law and regulations. Directed by Jeong-Ho Roh, the center encourages research and teaching in Korean law and the Korean legal system. Visiting scholars to the center include Korean lawyers, judges, and government and company officials.

<http://www.law.columbia.edu/korean-legal-studies>

China Center for Social Policy

As the first center of its kind founded within a US school of social work, the China Center for Social Policy is a hub for innovation and action on social welfare in China. Partnerships with major universities, think tanks, and international organizations make the center a global platform to share scientific findings, develop policy proposals,

and build community. The center's global relationships also make it a natural career incubator for Chinese students and others working on social welfare topics pertaining to China and beyond.

Through interdisciplinary research, the center's scholars address social concerns from an international comparative perspective, including but not limited to poverty, income distribution, population aging, gender equality, rural-to-urban migration, and social policies in China and to the Asian American immigration experience in the United States.

Columbia Global Centers | Beijing

Columbia Global Centers | Beijing serves as an important regional hub for the Columbia community in East Asia, facilitating and promoting academic exchange, research, and scholarship programs in the region. It helps provide faculty, students, and alumni with a broader global view and international experience by forging connections with regional intelligence.

Columbia-Harvard China and the World Program

Founded in 2004, the Columbia-Harvard China and the World program (C&WP) is committed to integrating the advanced study of China's foreign relations into the field of international relations by bringing exceptional young scholars whose work bridges China studies and international relations together with recognized scholars in these fields.

Whether China's economic and political development is advancing toward rapid expansion in its relative power, or an implosion born of socioeconomic and political inequality, there is growing demand in universities, government, and the business sector for reliable analysis of China's role in global and regional

economic, social, and security affairs. We think that a sound understanding of China's foreign relations depends on research that draws both on theories and methods from the discipline of international relations and on deep knowledge of China's interaction with the outside world. To this end, China and the World offers postdoctoral fellowships to encourage exceptional advanced graduate students and new PhDs to integrate their knowledge of international relations as a discipline with their knowledge of China. The program provides an opportunity for scholars to advance their research, to develop a stronger sense of community with others working on both China and international relations, to forge interdisciplinary ties with China experts in other fields as well as with policy makers and intellectuals without China expertise, and to access the first-class resources in international relations and China that both Columbia and Harvard have to offer.

<https://cwp.sipa.columbia.edu/>

C.V. Starr East Asian Library

The C.V. Starr East Asian Library holds the third largest collection for the study of East Asia in North America, with more than 1.3 million print items of Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Tibetan, Mongol, Manchu, and Western-language materials and more than 13,000 print periodical titles as well as 4.2 million volumes of ebooks in Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Tibetan, and English. The collection is particularly strong in Chinese history, literature, and social sciences; Japanese literature, history, and religion, particularly Buddhism; and Korean history. The Kress Special Collections Reading Room provides access to the rare book and special collections, which are especially strong in Chinese local histories and genealogies; Japanese Edo period woodblock printed books; the Makino Collection in East Asian film studies and Wan-go Weng Film Collection; and the Korean Yi Song-yi Collection of rare books,

as well as collections of ancient Chinese oracle bones, Chinese paper gods from the early 20th century, signed first editions of modern Japanese authors, Edo-period *ukiyo-e*, and Chinese archival collections, such as Tsuyee Pei Papers. The library's microfilm collection is also extensive; and its East Asian Film Collection focuses on early Korean and Japanese feature films and documentaries and on contemporary Chinese feature and independent films, documentaries, television series, local operas, and martial arts, with more than 10,000 DVD titles. Online records have been created for almost all the collection. With its critical renovation project (approved by the University's Board of Trustees) now underway, the C.V. Starr East Asian Library is currently closed and projected to reopen in June 2027.

<http://library.columbia.edu/locations/eastasian.html>

Donald Keene Center of Japanese Culture

Founded in 1986, the center is named in honor of Columbia's internationally renowned scholar of Japanese literature. The primary goal of the center is to advance understanding of Japan and Japanese culture in the United States through university instruction, research, and public outreach.

www.keenecenter.org

Hong Yen Chang Center for Chinese Legal Studies

The Hong Yen Chang Center for Chinese Legal Studies provides in-depth coursework, international fellowships, expert lectures, and academic exchanges to foster a deeper understanding of China's dynamic legal landscape. The center invites students, scholars, faculty, professionals, and alumni to explore emerging topics and ongoing debates; and it connects Columbia

Law School to the global Chinese legal community. By engaging with the center's programming, students are equipped to navigate China's legal environment in both domestic and international contexts. The center was established in 1983 by Professor Emeritus R. Randle Edwards and, in 2021, was named in honor of Columbia Law School's first Chinese graduate, Hong Yen Chang, Class of 1886, who was also the first Chinese American to be admitted as a lawyer in the United States. The center is now directed by Professor Benjamin L. Liebman.

<https://chinese-legal-studies.law.columbia.edu/>

New York Southeast Asia Network

Columbia University serves as host of the New York Southeast Asia Network (NYSEAN). Created in 2015 and generously supported by the Henry Luce Foundation, NYSEAN is a nonprofit organization that aims to promote mutual understanding and forge partnerships among individuals, groups, and institutions of New York and Southeast Asia. It seeks to create a community of scholars, thought leaders, practitioners, professionals, and students across the fields of policy, business, and the arts to generate fresh ideas for collaboration in addressing present-day challenges in the region. Working with partners at New York University and Seton Hall University, NYSEAN sponsors approximately 30 events annually in the greater New York area.

<http://www.nysean.org>

Participants in the
Weatherhead East Asian
Institute's new Columbia
Summer in Itoshima program in
Itoshima, Japan, June 2026.



6 PUBLIC PROGRAMMING

SPECIAL EVENTS

7/24 Vietnam on Screen: Generations in Dialogue

The Weatherhead East Asian Institute celebrated Vietnam Day at the 2025 New York Asian Film Festival with artist in residence Tony Bui moderating an onstage conversation among some of the leading voices in contemporary Vietnamese cinema at Film at Lincoln Center's Elinor Bunin Munroe Film Center. Bui led actors Kiều Chinh, Việt Hương, Nguyễn Lâm Thảo Tâm, and Công Dương and director/producer Catherine T. Nguyen in an absorbing talk that explored how on-screen narratives of Vietnam have evolved over decades. Sponsored by WEAL. Cosponsored by New York Asian Film Festival (NYAFF).

10/3 The Journey Connecting Heritage: Celebrating Vietnamese Culture through Arts and the Áo Dài

A fall fashion show dedicated to the work of internationally renowned designer Minh Hanh transformed the Morningside Heights campus into a glamorous if unlikely stage for the *ao dai*, Vietnam's national dress. In a pageant of more than 200 silk *ao dai*, Columbia student volunteers modeled hand-embroidered and brocade costumes that demonstrated Minh Hanh's eclecticism and her ability to combine cosmopolitan influence with traditional practice. As further evidence of the designer's commitment to helping sustain traditional practices, she was accompanied at the Columbia event by Huynh Tan Phuoc, a veteran silk craftsman from Bao Loc with nearly 40 years of experience at his loom, and Ho Thi Hop, a Ta Oi artisan from A Luoi, Hue, who has woven Zeng brocade for over half a century.

11/3 "East-West Cultural and Educational Heritage" Seminar at the Temple of Literature – Quốc Tử Giám, Hanoi

In Vietnam in the first week of November, faculty from the Weatherhead East Asian Institute's Global Vietnam (GV) program held a series of bridge-building events with four major educational and civic institutions in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City. The kickoff event was a seminar at Hanoi's Temple of Literature–Quốc Tử Giám, Vietnam's oldest center of higher learning, which serves today as both a heritage site and a center for academic and cultural exchange. In an address titled "A Case for Global Vietnam Studies," EALAC Professor of Vietnamese Humanities John D. Phan made an eloquent case for the program, singling out its ability to combine the benefits of Columbia's famed Core Curriculum with "the specific strengths, values, and richness of Vietnamese culture."

11/10 A Chip Odyssey: Screening and Discussion

The intersection of geopolitics and cutting-edge technology made for a riveting night at the Lenfest Center for the Arts when the Taiwanese documentary feature *A Chip Odyssey* played before a packed audience. Director Hsiao Chu-chen and producers Ben Chen and Ben Tsiang joined Columbia faculty—among them Eugenia Lean, vice provost for faculty affairs and professor of Chinese history; Andrew Nathan, Class of 1919 Professor of Political Science; Jane Gaines, professor of film at the School of the Arts; and Harish Krishnaswamy, professor of electrical engineering—for a lively panel discussion before the screening and an equally animated Q&A session afterward. The program was a joint undertaking by the Weatherhead East Asian Institute, the C.V. Starr East Asian Library, and the School of the Arts. SIPA student group Taiwan Focus and the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in New York City provided additional support.



Columbia faculty joined the production team behind *A Chip Odyssey* for a panel discussion prior to the screening of the film at the Lenfest Center for the Arts on November 10, 2026.

12/5–12/6 Ocean of Song & Dance: Emerging Currents in Tibetan & Himalayan Performance Studies

MTSP's two-day conference brought together scholars, artists, and practitioners to explore the shifting currents of song, dance, ritual, and theater across the Tibetan and Himalayan worlds. After a keynote address by essayist, novelist, and playwright Jamyang Norbu and panels on performance, gender, and identity, the program subsequently included immersive live demonstrations and participatory workshops on *ache Lhamo* (Tibetan opera). The conference highlighted performance at the intersections of tradition and innovation, the sacred and the secular, and the local and the global, and culminated in a participatory discussion on new directions for performance studies in Tibetan and Himalayan contexts.

4/8 The Language of Cinema: In Conversation with Tran Anh Hung

Internationally renowned French Vietnamese director Tran Anh Hung joined fellow filmmaker Tony Bui at Asia Society New York for a remarkable conversation that explored his distinctive approach to moviemaking through selected scenes from his work and films







Tony Bui (left) and Tran Anh Hung at Asia Society New York on April 8, 2026.

by other acknowledged masters. The packed auditorium included such guests as Ambassador Do Hung Viet of Vietnam and Ambassador Jerome Bonnafont of France, both representatives of their respective countries at the United Nations.

4/18 Digitizing Vietnam: Vietnamese Studies in the Age of Digital Humanities and Artificial Intelligence

The Global Vietnam (GV) program's one-day conference in Butler Library married state-of-the-art tech with timeless scholarship. The conference was a showcase for the new Digitizing Vietnam website, a digital humanities hub and AI platform dedicated to Vietnamese language and culture that GV recently launched in collaboration with its program partner, Fulbright University Vietnam, using a seed grant from the Henry Luce Foundation. The day was also an opportunity for experts to meet across disciplines: AI specialists and other technologists heard from scholars in Vietnamese studies about how digital tools can best serve the field, while digital humanities innovators from Harvard University, Keio University in Japan, and KU Leuven Belgium who specialize in China and Southeast Asia shared presentations with Vietnam specialists in the hope of fostering future collaboration. Attendees hailed from many Columbia departments

and libraries as well as from Harvard, Cornell, and UC Berkeley, in addition to Vietnam National University in Ho Chi Minh City; Japan's University of Osaka; and L'École française d'Extrême-Orient in Paris.

4/24 Daughter of the Light

The Columbia community enjoyed an unusually intimate perspective on the changes transforming contemporary Tibet when filmmaker Khashem Gyal (Weatherhead's current Asia in Action Fellow) screened his documentary feature *Daughter of the Light* (2024) before a sold-out crowd at the Lenfest Center for the Arts. A moving depiction of a family fracturing under pressures of a rapidly changing world, *Daughter of the Light* was the first Tibetan documentary film in Chinese cinema history to receive a nationwide theatrical release, and it later became one of the most-watched documentaries in China that year. A post-screening panel discussion brought Gyal onstage with Ron Gregg, Senior Lecturer in Film and Media Studies at Columbia School

of the Arts, and filmmaker Nelson Walker of the Maysles Documentary Center.

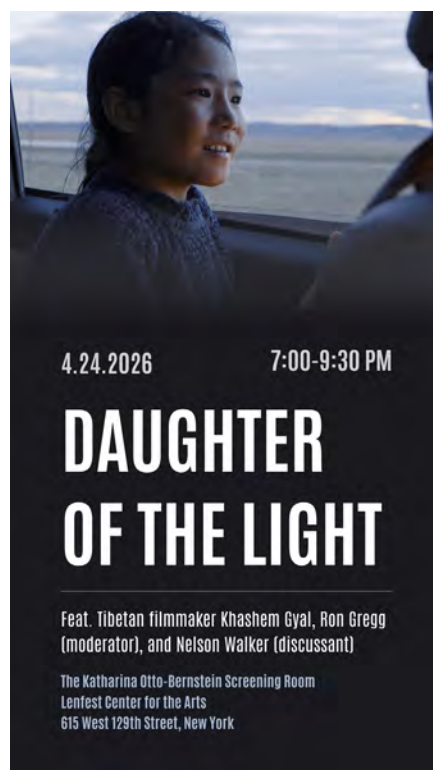
4/27-4/28 Living with Climate Change in the Himalayas and on the Tibetan Plateau

Supported by a grant from the Henry Luce Foundation, this two-day conference convened scholars, community leaders, and practitioners from the Himalayas and the Tibetan Plateau to discuss global warming, environmental transformations, community priorities, and the role of Indigenous traditions and creativity in addressing complex and interconnected changes in the Asian Highlands. It marked the culmination of a yearlong collaborative project examining the impacts of climate change, climate research, and policies on Himalayan and Tibetan communities across this transnational region. Grounded in centuries-old place-based traditions and knowledge of long-term ecological change, as well as informed by global Indigenous climate scholarship, the project sought to identify and articulate more effective models and visions for responding to climate change and other intersecting challenges affecting these communities and their homelands.

ANNUAL LECTURES

The Sixteenth Annual N.T. Wang Distinguished Lecture

10/27 **Slow Tech Dragon: A Balanced Assessment of China's Economic Trajectory.** *Scott Kennedy*, Senior Adviser and Trustee Chair in Chinese Business and Economics, Center for Strategic & International Studies (CSIS). Moderator: *Thomas J. Christensen*, James T. Shotwell Professor of International Relations; Director, China and the World Program, Columbia University. Cosponsored by WEAI, the Jerome A. Chazen Institute for Global Business, and the China and the World Program.



The Borton-Mosely Distinguished Lecture

2/9 **Backlash: How Central Asia Is Reshaping China's Rise.** *Bradley Jardine*, Managing Director of the Oxus Society for Central Asian Affairs; *Edward Lemon*, President of the Oxus Society for Central Asian Affairs. Moderators: *Andrew J. Nathan*, Class of 1919 Professor of Political Science, Department of Political Science, Columbia University; *Alexander Cooley*, Claire Tow Professor of Political Science, Barnard College; Harriman Institute, Columbia University. Discussant: *Elizabeth Wishnick*, Adjunct Senior Research Scholar, WEAL; Senior Research Scientist, CAN. Cosponsored by WEAL, the Harriman Institute, and the China and the World Program.

EVENTS SERIES

The Andrew J. Nathan Taiwan Lecture Series

Launched in fall 2025, the Andrew J. Nathan Taiwan Lecture Series is intended to foster a dynamic platform for lectures, workshops, and related programming on Taiwan. Covering a wide range of topics—including art, literature, history, economics, society, urban design, technology, engineering, public health, domestic politics, foreign policy, and Taiwan-US relations—the series brings leading voices to campus and creates new opportunities for scholarship and engagement.

9/17 **A Prize-Winning Book: Taiwan Travelogue** by **Yáng Shuāng-zǐ**. *Yáng Shuāng-zǐ*, author; *Lin King*, translator. Moderator: *Andrew J. Nathan*, Class of 1919 Professor of Political Science, Department of Political Science, Columbia University. Cosponsored by the Taipei Cultural Center in New York.

9/29 **Tales of an Asia Investor.** *Edmond Ng*, Founder and Managing Partner, Axiom Asia. Moderator: *Andrew J. Nathan*, Class



Left to right: Translator Lin King, *Taiwan Travelogue* author Yáng Shuāng-zǐ, and Andrew J. Nathan at the Weatherhead East Asian Institute on September 17, 2025.

of 1919 Professor of Political Science, Department of Political Science, Columbia University. Cosponsored by the APEC Study Center and the Jerome A. Chazen Institute for Global Business.

11/5 **Increasing Taiwan's Resilience: Policy Options and Debates.** *Four representatives of the Research Institute for Democracy, Society, and Emerging Technologies (DSET).* Moderator: *Andrew J. Nathan*, Class of 1919 Professor of Political Science, Department of Political Science, Columbia University.

11/17 **China's Military Options in the Taiwan Strait.** *Joel Wuthnow*, Senior Research Fellow, Center for the Study of Chinese Military Affairs, the Institute for National Strategic Studies, NDU.

Moderator: *Andrew J. Nathan*, Class of 1919 Professor of Political Science, Department of Political Science, Columbia University. Cosponsored by the China and the World Program.

2/11 **A Trio of Books from Taiwan: Ocean, Ecology, and White Terror.** *Kaori Lai*, author of *Portraits in White*; *Ian Rowen*, editor of *Taiwanese Ecoliterature Reader*; *Brian Skerratt* (Hunter College, translator of *Ecoliterature* chapter and previous LiFT story). Moderator: *Andrew J. Nathan*, Class of 1919 Professor of Political Science, Department of Political Science, Columbia University. Cosponsored by National Museum of Taiwan Lit. (NMTL), Taipei Cultural Center in New York (TCC), and International Taiwan Studies Center (ITSC).

2/18 **Feeling Political: Art as Public Sphere in the Cross-Strait Worlds.** *I-Yi Hsieh*, Assistant Professor at the Institute of Visual Studies, Taiwan National Yangming Chiao Tung University. Moderator: *Nicholas Bartlett*, Assistant Professor of Contemporary Chinese Culture and Society, AMEC/EALAC, Barnard College.

3/9 **Taiwan's Energy Security Dilemma.** *Clara Gillispie*, Senior Fellow for Climate and Energy, Council on Foreign Relations; *Joseph Webster*, Senior Fellow, Global Energy Center, Atlantic Council's Global Energy Center; *Yu-Hsuan Yeh*, MPA Candidate in Climate, Energy and Environment, Columbia University. Discussant: *Thomas Christensen*, James T. Shotwell Professor of International Relations; Director, China and the World Program. Moderator: *Andrew J. Nathan*, Class of 1919 Professor of Political Science, Columbia University. Cosponsored by the China and the World Program.

3/11 **Contested Taiwan: Sovereignty, Social Movements, and Party Formation.** *Lev Nachman*, Assistant Professor, Graduate Institute of National Development, National Taiwan University. Moderator: *Andrew J. Nathan*, Class of 1919 Professor of Political Science, Columbia University.

4/24 **One Boat, Many Islands: Indigeneity, Solidarity, and Resistance in Contemporary Taiwan.** *Nicolai Volland*, Associate Professor of Asian Studies and Comparative Literature, Penn State University. Moderator: *Ying Qian*, Associate Professor of East Asian Languages and Cultures, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures.

COVID-19 Governance and Impacts: China from Comparative Perspectives

This series of public lectures was part of the China COVID Project, a multi-institutional, interdisciplinary research

initiative led by Professor Qin Gao and funded by the Henry Luce Foundation. The series was intended to foster public dialogue and spotlight new empirical and theoretical research that investigates China's post-COVID standing through social, economic, political, and gender-based lenses. It showcased scholars working on governance, public health, digital statecraft, labor, gender, and civil society responses in China and Asia. With videos of all seven presentations now available on the Weatherhead YouTube channel, the series will stand as a lasting contribution to the documentation and analysis of the pandemic's legacy.

The project capstone was a two-day workshop held in New York City on April 24–25, 2026. This event brought together a group of approximately 20 leading scholars to share research findings and engage in an intensive book workshop for a forthcoming edited volume that is one of the core deliverables of the Luce-funded project. Participants included scholars across various social science disciplines from institutions across the US and beyond.

The Weatherhead East Asian Institute and the China Center for Social Policy at the Columbia School of Social Work cosponsored all events.

Annual Lecture Series 2025-2026

COVID-19 GOVERNANCE AND IMPACTS: CHINA FROM COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVES

FALL 2025

Monday, Sept. 15, 12 pm Leveraging Coordination Capacity: Medical Resource Mobilization in Asia's Developmental States During COVID-19 Wei-Ting Yen, Institute of Political Science at Academia Sinica, Taiwan <i>The Andrew J. Nathan Taiwan Lecture Series</i>	Friday, Sept. 26, 12 pm Impacts of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Chinese and Chinese American Women: Racisms, Feminisms, and Foodways Ziying You, University of Georgia
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More series information: 

SPRING 2026

Wednesday, Jan. 21, 12 pm Social Policy Responses During COVID-19 in East Asia and Beyond from a Comparative Perspective Julia Shu-Huah Wang, National Taiwan University <i>The Andrew J. Nathan Taiwan Lecture Series</i>	Thursday, Feb. 5, 12 pm The China COVID Project: Document History, Advance Analysis, Foster Collaboration Qin Gao, Columbia University; Stacie Tao, University of Chicago; April Goh, Columbia University
Thursday, Apr. 23, 12 pm Authoritarian Absorption: The Transnational Remaking of Epidemic Politics in China Yan Long, University of California, Berkeley	Thursday, Apr. 23, 4 pm Lessons from COVID-19 for Chinese Governance and State-Society Relations Xueguang Zhou, Stanford University

All events will be held in the International Affairs Building, Room 918.

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY Weatherhead East Asian Institute COLUMBIA CHINA CENTER for Social Policy 中国社政策中心 CHINA COVID PROJECT

OCEAN OF SONG AND DANCE

Emerging Currents in Tibetan & Himalayan Performance Studies

**DECEMBER
5-6, 2025**

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS BUILDING, ROOM 918
KENT HALL, ROOM 403

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COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
THE CENTER FOR KOREAN RESEARCH

A Fractured Liberation: Korea Under U.S. Occupation

Historian Kornel Chang discusses his new book, *A Fractured Liberation: Korea under U.S. Occupation*, which examines Korea's turbulent transition after liberation from Japanese rule in 1945. The book traces how hopes for freedom were experienced by political leaders, activists, peasants, workers, and women, and how U.S. occupation forces reshaped—and often limited—those aspirations. Driven by fears of instability and communism, American officials clashed with reformers pushing for democratization and social change. Chang reveals a moment of contested possibility, reminding us that Korea's postwar division and conflict were not inevitable.

WHEN AND WHERE
Thursday, November 6, 2025
4:00-5:30 PM ET

International Affairs Building
420 W 118th St, Room 918
New York, NY 10027
And online via Zoom

BOOK TALK



SPEAKER

Kornel Chang
Associate Professor and Chair
History Department at Rutgers,
The State University of New
Jersey, Newark

MODERATOR

Kyu Dong Lee
Ph.D. Candidate
Department of History
Columbia University

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
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Registration
required

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
Weatherhead East Asian Institute

Independent Podcasting, Feminist Awakening, and Collective Feeling in a Changing China

Over the past decade, podcasts have emerged as an important form of alternative media, offering intimate yet public spaces for storytelling, emotional exchange, and shared reflection, particularly for young women navigating rapid social change. Qing Wang is the co-founder and co-host of *The Weirdo Podcast* (不合时宜), a leading independent Chinese-language podcast with over one million followers, dedicated to amplifying progressive and non-conformist voices. This event will be a dialogue between Qing Wang and the faculty host Qin Gao to explore the rise of independent podcasting in China and its convergence with feminist awakening and collective feeling among a younger generation.

WHEN AND WHERE
Tuesday, February 10, 2026
12:00-1:30 PM ET

International Affairs Building
420 W 118th St, Room 918
New York, NY 10027
and online via Zoom

LECTURES AND PANELS



SPEAKER

Qing Wang
Co-founder and co-host of
The Weirdo Podcast (不合时宜),
Fellow at Asia Society

MODERATOR

Qin Gao
Columbia University

**PART OF THE 2025-2026 ASIA
IN ACTION SERIES**

CO-SPONSORED BY

COLUMBIA CHINA CENTER for Social Policy
中国社会政策中心



Registration
required

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
Weatherhead East Asian Institute

Why Ghosts Matter: An Underground History of Japan

Ghosts are a key to understanding anxieties about family, social injustice, and political violence in Japan. Unpacking four types of ghosts in Japan — political ghosts, homeless ghosts, ancestral ghosts, and vengeful spirits — the talk shows how these ghost lineages interlink, how they transform over time, and what they tell us about notions of personhood, community, power, and the non-human in Japanese history.

WHEN AND WHERE
Tuesday, May 5, 2026
4:00-6:00 PM ET

Kent Hall, Lounge 403
1140 Amsterdam Ave
New York, NY 10027

LECTURES AND PANELS



SPEAKER

Haruo Shirane
Shincho Professor of Japanese
Literature and Culture, EALAC,
Columbia University

RESPONDENT

Robert Hymes,
Carpentier Professor of
Chinese History, EALAC,
Columbia University

MODERATOR

Takuya Tsunoda
Columbia University

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH
Department of East Asian
Languages and Cultures,
Columbia University

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
Donald Eastman Center of Japanese Studies



Registration
required

9/15 Leveraging Coordination Capacity: Medical Resource Mobilization in Asia's Developmental States During COVID-19.

Wei-Ting Yen, Assistant Research Fellow, Institute of Political Science, Academia Sinica. Moderator: *Qin Gao*, Maurice V. Russell Professor of Social Policy and Social Work Practice, Associate Dean for Doctoral Education, Director of China Center for Social Policy, Columbia School of Social Work.

(Also part of the Andrew J. Nathan Taiwan Lecture Series.)

9/26 Impacts of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Chinese and Chinese American Women: Racisms, Feminisms, and Foodways.

Ziying You, Associate Professor of Comparative Literature and Intercultural Studies, University of Georgia. Moderator: *Qin Gao*, Maurice V. Russell Professor of Social Policy and Social Work Practice, Associate Dean for Doctoral Education, Director of China Center for Social Policy, Columbia School of Social Work.

(Also part of the Andrew J. Nathan Taiwan Lecture Series.)

11/14 Generation Xi: Youth Attitudes Toward Civic Engagement in China.

Jessica Teets, Professor of Political Science,

Middlebury College. Moderator: *Qin Gao*, Maurice V. Russell Professor of Social Policy and Social Work Practice; Acting Director of the Asian American Initiative; Associate Dean for Doctoral Education; Director of China Center for Social Policy, Columbia School of Social Work.

1/21 Social Policy Responses During COVID-19 in East Asia and Beyond from a Comparative Perspective.

Julia Shu-Huah Wang, Associate Professor, National Taiwan University. Moderator: *Qin Gao*, Maurice V. Russell Professor of Social Policy and Social Work Practice; Acting Director of the Asian American Initiative; Associate Dean for Doctoral Education; Director of China Center for Social Policy, Columbia School of Social Work.

2/5 The China COVID Project: Document History. Advance Analysis. Foster Collaboration.

Stacie Tao, Postdoctoral Scholar, the University of Chicago; *April Goh*, Fellow, China Center for Social Policy, Columbia School of Social Work. Moderator: *Qin Gao*, Maurice V. Russell Professor of Social Policy and Social Work Practice; Acting Director of the Asian American Initiative; Associate Dean for Doctoral Education; Director of China Center for Social Policy, Columbia School of Social Work.

4/23 Authoritarian Absorption: The Transnational Remaking of Epidemic Politics in China.

Yan Long, Associate Professor of Sociology, UC Berkeley. Moderator: *Qin Gao*, Maurice V. Russell Professor of Social Policy and Social Work Practice; Acting Director of the Asian American Initiative; Associate Dean for Doctoral Education; Director of China Center for Social Policy, Columbia School of Social Work.

(Also part of the Andrew J. Nathan Taiwan Lecture Series.)

4/23 Lessons from COVID-19 for Chinese Governance and State-Society Relations.

Xueguang Zhou, Kwoh-Ting Li Professor in Economic Development and Professor of Sociology, Stanford University. Moderator: *Qin Gao*, Maurice V. Russell Professor of Social Policy and Social Work Practice; Acting Director of the Asian American Initiative; Associate Dean for Doctoral Education; Director of China Center for Social Policy, Columbia School of Social Work.

(Also part of the Andrew J. Nathan Taiwan Lecture Series.)

On our website: <https://weai.columbia.edu/chinacovidproject>

Weatherhead faculty member *Qin Gao* (front row, red jacket) with participants in the concluding China-COVID workshop on April 25, 2026.



WEAI EVENTS

September

Book Talk

9/12 **Traveling in Bardo: The Art of Living in an Impermanent World.** *Ann Tashi Slater*, author. Moderator: *Lauran Hartley*, Director, Modern Tibetan Studies Program, WEAI, Columbia University; Adjunct Assistant Professor, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures. Sponsored by the Modern Tibetan Studies Program. Cosponsored by WEAI.

Lectures and Panels

9/16 **Crossing the Frozen Frontier: Ice, Climate, and Warfare in Ming and Qing China.** *Tristan Brown*, S.C. Fang Chinese Language and Culture Career Development Professor, MIT. Moderator: *Eugenia Lean*, Professor, East Asian Languages and Cultures, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures; Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs, Columbia University. Sponsored by WEAI.

October

Lectures and Panels

10/1 **Bureaucracies at War: China's Decision-Making in Comparative Perspective.** *Tyler Jost*, Watson Institute Assistant Professor of China Studies, Assistant Professor of Political Science, International and Public Affairs, Brown University. Moderator: *Andrew J. Nathan*, Class of 1919 Professor of Political Science, Department of Political Science, Columbia University. Sponsored by WEAI. Cosponsored by the China and the World Program.

Lectures and Panels

10/2 **High-Performance Performance: Digital Technologies in Contemporary Chinese Theatre.** *Tarryn Chun*, Associate Professor, Department of Film, Television, and Theater, University of Notre Dame.

Moderators: *Ying Qian*, Associate Professor of East Asian Languages and Cultures, East Asian Languages and Cultures, Columbia University; *Lu Kou*, Assistant Professor, East Asian Languages and Cultures, Columbia University. Sponsored by the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures. Cosponsored by WEAI, the Society of Fellows and Heyman Center for the Humanities, the Institute for Comparative Literature and Society, and the Center for Comparative Media.

Film Screening

10/3 **Living Sanctuaries: The Monasteries of Zanskar (2025).** *Tenzin Nyandak*, Founding Principal, Studio Nyandak; *Sonal Sahni Beri*, Adjunct Associate Professor, Columbia University's Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation (GSAPP). Moderator: *Gray Tuttle*, Leila Hadley Luce Professor of Modern Tibetan Studies, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures. Sponsored by the Modern Tibetan Studies Program. Cosponsored by WEAI.

Book Talk

10/9 **From Japanese Empire to American Hegemony: A Book Talk with Matthew R. Augustine.** *Matthew R. Augustine*, Associate Professor of Modern Japanese and East Asian History, Kyushu University, Japan. Moderator: *Ruth Barraclough*, Korea Foundation Associate Professor of the Social Sciences, Department of History, Columbia University. Sponsored by WEAI.

Lectures and Panels

10/9 **The Question of Postcolonial Fascism in Cold War Korea.** *Sungik Yang*, Assistant Professor, Center For Asian Research, Arizona State University. Moderator: *Ruth Barraclough*, Korea Foundation Associate Professor of the Social Sciences, Department of History, Columbia University. Sponsored by the Center for Korean Research. Cosponsored by WEAI, the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures, and the Department of History.

Book Talk

10/14 **Cornerstone of the Nation: The Defense Industry and the Building of Modern Korea under Park Chung Hee.**

Peter Banseok Kwon, Associate Professor of Korean Studies, Department of East Asian Studies and Department of History, University at Albany. Moderator: *Jungwon Kim*, the King Sejong Assistant Professor of Korean Studies, Columbia University. Sponsored by the Center for Korean Research. Cosponsored by WEAI, the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures, and the Department of History.

Book Talk

10/16 **Translating Pyongyang Modernism: On Ch'oe Myŏngik's Short Fiction.** *Janet E. Poole*, Associate Professor, Department of East Asian Studies, Distinguished Professor of the Humanities and Chair, University of Toronto. Moderator: *Ruth Barraclough*, Korea Foundation Associate Professor of the Social Sciences, Department of History, Columbia University. Sponsored by WEAI. Cosponsored by the Center for Korean Research.

Book Talk

10/16 **Everyday Democracy – Civil Society, Youth, and the Struggle Against Authoritarian Culture in China.** *Anthony J. Spires*, Associate Professor, Centre for Contemporary Chinese Studies, the University of Melbourne. Moderator: *Yao Lu*, Professor of Sociology, Columbia University. Sponsored by WEAI.

Lectures and Panels

10/17 **Status Recognition and Great Power Conflicts Today: US, China, and Russia.** *T.V. Paul*, Distinguished James McGill Professor, Department of Political Science, McGill University. Moderator: *Qin Gao*, Maurice V. Russell Professor of Social Policy and Social Work Practice, Associate Dean for Doctoral Education, Director of China Center for Social Policy, Columbia School of Social Work. Sponsored by WEAI. Cosponsored by the China Center for Social Policy, Columbia School of

Social Work; the China and the World Program; and the Harriman Institute.

Lectures and Panels

10/20 **One Woman's Teaching in Late Chosŏn Korea.** *Michael Pettid*, Professor of Korean Studies, Department of Asian and Asian American Studies, Binghamton University. Moderator: *Jungwon Kim*, the King Sejong Assistant Professor of Korean Studies, Columbia University. Sponsored by the Center for Korean Research. Cosponsored by WEAI, the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures, and the Department of History.

Lectures and Panels

10/21 **Unconscious Encounters: Digital Dreaming and Group Dynamics Across China and North America.** *Samuele Collu*, Assistant Professor, Medical and Psychological Anthropologist, McGill University; *Nicholas Bartlett*, Assistant Professor of Contemporary Chinese Culture and Society, AMEC/EALAC, Columbia University. Moderator: *Ying Qian*, Associate Professor of East Asian Languages and Cultures, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures, Columbia University. Sponsored by WEAI.

Lectures and Panels

10/24 **Radio in the Global 1980s: From Amateur Writing to Labor Organizing.** *Paola Iovene*, Associate Professor in Chinese Literature, East Asian Languages and Civilizations, University of Chicago; *Kaitlin Hao*, PhD Student, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures, Columbia University. Moderator: *Ying Qian*, Associate Professor of East Asian Languages and Cultures, East Asian Languages and Cultures, Columbia University. Sponsored by WEAI.

Lectures and Panels

10/30 **When the Dead Defend the State: Spectral Loyalty in Late Chosŏn Korea.** *Solmi Chung*, Associate Professor, Department of Sinographic Literatures at Korea University. Moderator: *Jungwon Kim*, the King Sejong Assistant Professor of Korean Studies, Columbia University. Sponsored by the Center for Korean Research. Cosponsored by WEAI.

Lectures and Panels

10/30 **The Man Who Bridges Worlds: Math, Vietnam, and Beyond.** *Ngo Bao Chau*, Professor, University of Chicago. Moderators: *Tony Bui*, Artist in Residence, Weatherhead East Asian Institute; Sundance Award-winning director; *Lien-Hang T. Nguyen*, Dorothy Borg Associate Professor in the History of the United States and East Asia; Director, Weatherhead East Asian Institute. Sponsored by WEAI.

November

Book Talk

11/6 **A Fractured Liberation: Korea Under US Occupation.** *Kornel Chang*, Professor of History and Chair of the History Department at Rutgers University-Newark. Moderator: *Kyu-dong Lee*, PhD Student in the Department of History. Sponsored by the Center for Korean Research. Cosponsored by WEAI, the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures, and the Department of History.

Book Talk

11/7 **Fallout: The Inside Story of America's Failure to Disarm North Korea.** *Joel S. Wit*, Distinguished Fellow in Asian and Security Studies, The Stimson Center. Moderator: *Barbara Demick*, author of *Nothing to Envy: Ordinary Lives in North Korea*. Sponsored by the Center for Korean Research. Cosponsored by WEAI, the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures, and the Department of History.

Lectures and Panels

11/12 **The Silence of the Silk Road: A Conversation and Film Screening with Uyghur Scholar Abduweli Ayup.** *Abduweli Ayup*, Uyghur Scholar and Rights Advocate. Moderator: *Tenzin Dorjee*, Adjunct Assistant Professor of Political Science, Columbia University. Introduction: *Kristy Kelly*, Associate Clinical Professor of Global Education, Drexel University; Associate Research Scholar, WEAI, Columbia University. Sponsored by WEAI.

Book Talk

11/13 **The Red Wind Howls by Tsering Dondrup.** *Christopher Peacock*, Assistant Professor of East Asian Studies, Dickinson College. Moderator: *Lauran Hartley*, Director, Modern Tibetan Studies Program, WEAI, Columbia University. Sponsored by the Modern Tibetan Studies Program. Cosponsored by WEAI and the C.V. Starr East Asian Library.

Lectures and Panels

11/18 **Legal Officials, Justice, and the King in Late Chosŏn Korea.** *Ha-kyoung Lee*, Associate Professor, Academy of Korean Studies (South Korea). Moderator: *Jungwon Kim*, the King Sejong Assistant Professor of Korean Studies, Columbia University. Sponsored by the Center for Korean Research. Cosponsored by WEAI, the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures, and the Department of History.

Film Screening

11/18 **Vietnamerica: A Simulcast Film Screening and Discussion.** *Nancy Bui*, Executive Producer. Sponsored by WEAI. Cosponsored by Graduate Education and Training in Southeast Asian Studies (GETSEA) and hosted by the Vietnamese Students Association (VSA).

On opposite page: Ambassador Do Hung Viet, Permanent Representative of Viet Nam to the United Nations (*back row, center*) with students and Weatherhead faculty in Room 918 of the International Affairs Building on February 26, 2026.

December

Lectures and Panels

12/5 **Cham Living Archives and the Long Nineteenth Century.** *Nicolas Weber*, Senior Faculty Member, the Vietnam Studies Major, Fulbright University of Vietnam. Moderator: *John D. Phan*, Associate Professor of East Asian Languages and Cultures, Columbia University. Sponsored by WEAL. Cosponsored by the New York Southeast Asian Network (NYSEAN).

January

Lectures and Panels

1/29 **Himalayan Dreams: Tales of Lhasa Newar Traders: A Film Screening and Discussion.** *Tenzing Jigme*, film director; President, Ottawa Tibetan Community Association. Moderator: *Lauran Hartley*, Associate Research Scholar and Director, Modern Tibetan Studies Program, WEAL; and Adjunct Assistant Professor, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures, Columbia University. Sponsored by the Modern Tibetan Studies Program. Cosponsored by WEAL.

February

Lectures and Panels

2/10 **Independent Podcasting, Feminist Awakening, and Collective Feeling in a Changing China.** *Qing Wang*, cofounder and cohost of *The Weirdo* podcast, Asia Society Fellow. Moderator: *Qin Gao*, Maurice V. Russell Professor of Social Policy and Social Work Practice; Acting Director of the Asian American Initiative; Associate Dean for Doctoral Education; Director of China Center for Social Policy, Columbia School of Social Work. An Asia in Action event sponsored by WEAL. Cosponsored by the China Center for Social Policy.

Book Talk

2/19 **Forgotten Modernist: Lee Qoede, Muralism, and the Geopolitics of Memory.** *Jinyoung Anna Jin*, Director of Asian Art and Culture, Charles B. Wang Center, Stony Brook University. Moderator: *Suhyun Choi*, PhD Student in the Department of Art History and Archeology. Sponsored by the Center for Korean Research. Cosponsored by WEAL.

Lectures and Panels

2/19 **Sufficiency for All—Exploring Small-Scale, Low-Tech, Pro-Poor Initiatives.** *John Donaldson*, Associate Professor of Political Science, School of Social Sciences, Singapore Management University. Moderator: *Nick R. Smith*, Assistant Professor of Architecture and Urban Studies, Barnard College. Sponsored by WEAL and supported by the NT and Mabel Wang Endowment Fund.

Lectures and Panels

2/25 **Paradoxes of Chinese Feminism: Transnational Social Movement, Party-State Authoritarianism, and the Regimatic Politics of Solidarity.** *Yao Lin*, Visiting Scholar, WEAL. Moderator: *Andrew J. Nathan*, Class of 1919 Professor of Political Science, Department of Political Science. Sponsored by WEAL.

Lectures and Panels

2/25 **The Special Collection of the Extensive Correspondence of Chin-Tang Lo.** *Juliet Tierney*, freelance writer. Discussant: *Allison Bernard*, MA Program Director and Lecturer in Discipline, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures. Moderator: *Chengzhi Wang*, Chinese Studies Librarian, C.V. Starr East Asian Library. Sponsored by WEAL. Cosponsored by the C.V. Starr East Asian Library and the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures.

Special Event

2/26 **A Conversation with Ambassador Do Hung Viet: On the Future of the US-Viet Nam Partnership After the 14th Party Congress.** *Ambassador Do Hung Viet*, Permanent Representative of Viet Nam to the United Nations. Moderator: *Lien-Hang T. Nguyen*, Dorothy Borg Chair in the History of the United States and East Asia, Department of History; Director of the Weatherhead East Asian Institute. Sponsored by WEAL.

Book Talk

2/26 **Diasporic Linkage Between Manchukuo and Korean State-formation.** *Han Suk-jung*, Visiting Scholar at the Asian-Pacific Studies Institute, Duke University; former President of Dong-A University. Moderator: *Ruth Barraclough*, Korean Foundation Associate Professor of Modern Korean History, Department of History; Director, Center for Korean Research. Sponsored by the Center for Korean Research. Cosponsored by WEAL.

March

Lectures and Panels

3/4 **Becoming Ungovernable: Hill Peoples, Decentralized Resistance, and Buddhist Nationalism in Myanmar.** *David Thang Moe*, Visiting Scholar, Columbia University. Moderator: *Andrew J. Nathan*, Class of 1919 Professor of Political Science, Department of Political Science. Sponsored by WEAL. Cosponsored by the Arnold A. Saltzman Institute of War and Peace Studies and the Institute for the Study of Human Rights.

Lectures and Panels

3/6 **Insider's Lens: Two Decades of a Grassroots Fight for Education Equality in Western China.** *Cicely Peng*, Founder, Cicely Education Aid Charity Fund; Professional Fellow, WEAL. Moderator: *Xiaobo Lü*, Ann Whitney Olin Professor of Political Science, Barnard College. Sponsored by WEAL. Cosponsored by the Columbia China Center for Social Policy.



Book Talk

3/9 **Civic Activism in South Korea: The Intertwining of Democracy and Neoliberalism.** *Seungsook Moon*, Professor of Sociology, Department of Sociology, Vassar College. Moderator: *Aram Hur*, Associate Professor of Political Science, Kim Koo-Korea Foundation Professorship in Korean Studies, the Fletcher School, Tufts University; 2025-2026 Visiting Scholar at the Center for Korean Research. Sponsored by the Center for Korean Research. Cosponsored by WEAI.

Lectures and Panels

3/12 **Vietnam's High-Tech Ambitions: From Vision to Execution.** *Nguyen Trong Khang*, Founder and Chairman, MK Group. Moderator: *Lien-Hang T. Nguyen*, Dorothy Borg Chair in the History of the United States and East Asia, Department of History; Director of the Weatherhead East Asian Institute. Sponsored by WEAI.

Book Talk

3/12 **Subjects and Sojourners: A History of Indochinese in France.** *Charles Keith*, Professor, Department of History, Michigan State University. Moderator: *Lien-Hang T. Nguyen*, Dorothy Borg Chair in the History of the United States and East Asia, Department of History; Director of the Weatherhead East Asian Institute. Sponsored by WEAI.

Lectures and Panels

3/16 **Stories We Carry: Diaspora Storytellers Shaping American Culture.** *Dustin Nguyen*, actor and director; *Dužan Duong*, filmmaker, cofounder of the Czech production company AZN kru; *Hien*, singer, producer, and sound designer; *Kevin Nguyen*, author, features editor at *The Verge*. Introduction: *Lien-Hang T. Nguyen*, Dorothy Borg Chair in the History of the United States and East Asia, Department of History; Director of the Weatherhead East Asian Institute. Hosts: *Tony Bui*, filmmaker and Adjunct Professor, Columbia University; *Kenneth Nguyen*, host of *The Vietnamese* podcast. A Viet Arts in Action program sponsored by WEAI. Cosponsored by Citrus and the Columbia Journalism School.

Lectures and Panels

3/23 **Beyond Consent: Structural Violence and the Myth of Safety in Contemporary Japan.** *Asato Ikeda*, Associate Professor of Art History, Fordham University; *Akiko Takeyama*, Professor of Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies and Director of the Center for East Asian Studies, University of Kansas; *David H. Slater*, Professor of Cultural Anthropology, Sophia University, Tokyo. *Sarah Kovner*, Senior Research Scholar, Arnold A. Saltzman Institute of War and Peace. Sponsored by WEAI.

Lectures and Panels

3/23 **Why Are We So Determined to Find Amitābha in Gandhāra?** *Juhyung Rhi*, Professor Emeritus, Department of Archaeology and Art History, Seoul National University. Sponsored by the Center for Korean Research. Cosponsored by WEAI and the Center for Buddhist Studies.

Lectures and Panels

3/24 **Fragile Relations: Form, History, and Embodiment in Theresa Hak Kyung Cha.** *Ina Choi*, Research Scholar in Asian and Middle Eastern Cultures at Barnard College, Columbia University. Moderator: *Ye Lim Oh*, PhD Student in the Department of East Asian Cultures and Languages. Sponsored by the Center for Korean Research. Cosponsored by WEAI.

Lectures and Panels

3/24 **Victimhood Nationalism: History and Memory in a Global Age - A Book Talk by Jie-Hyun Lim.** *Jie-Hyun Lim*, Distinguished Professor, Sogang University, and Class of '55 Visiting Professor, Williams College. Discussants: *Carol Gluck*, George Sansom Professor Emerita of History, Department of History; *Ruth Barraclough*, Korea Foundation Associate Professor of the Social Sciences, Department of History; *Andreas Huyssen*, Villard Professor Emeritus of German

and Comparative Literature. Moderator: *Małgorzata Mazurek*, Associate Professor of Polish Studies, Department of History. Sponsored by WEAL. Cosponsored by the Center for Korean Research, the Harriman Institute, the Society of Fellows and Heyman Center for the Humanities, the Heyman Center Fellows, Columbia University Press, the University Seminar on Cultural Memory, and the East Central European Center.

Lectures and Panels

3/25 **Decommodifying the Kisaeng: Women's Waged Entertainment Labor in Korea's Transition to Capitalism.**

Laurie Lee, Assistant Professor of Music, University of Pennsylvania. Sponsored by the Center for Korean Research. Cosponsored by WEAL and the Department of Music.

Book Talk

3/25 **Fuji: A Mountain in the Making – A Book Talk with Andrew W. Bernstein.**

Andrew W. Bernstein, Professor of History, Lewis & Clark College. Moderator: *Andrew Kahn*, PhD Student, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures. A Studies of the Weatherhead East Asian Institute book talk. Sponsored by WEAL.

Lectures and Panels

3/25 **From Mao to Now: China's 20th-Century Global Development Finance.**

Austin Strange, Associate Professor of International Relations, Department of Politics and Public Administration, University of Hong Kong. Introduction: *Thomas J. Christensen*, James T. Shotwell Professor of International Relations; Director, China and the World Program. Moderator: *Zongyuan (Zoe) Liu*, Senior Research Scholar at the Institute of Global Politics, SIPA, and Adjunct Professor of International and Public Affairs. Sponsored by WEAL. Cosponsored by the China and the World Program and the APEC Study Center.

Roundtable

3/26 **The Future of China-Russia Relations: How Beijing Sees the Costs and Benefits of Friendship with Moscow.**

Thomas Eder, Research Fellow, Austrian Institute for International Affairs (OIIP). Moderator: *Elizabeth Wishnick*, Adjunct Senior Research Scholar, WEAL; Senior Research Scientist, CAN. Sponsored by WEAL. Cosponsored by the Harriman Institute.

Lectures and Panels

3/27 **Do Not Try to Bend the Spoon. There Is No Spoon: Korean Shamanism and Myth in K-Pop Demon Hunters.**

Kim Bo-young, award-winning South Korean science fiction writer. Moderator: *Seoeun Choi*, MA Student in the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures. Sponsored by the Center for Korean Research. Cosponsored by WEAL.

Book Talk

3/30 **Asia's Aging Security: How Demographic Change Affects America's Allies and Adversaries.**

Andrew L. Oros, Professor of Political Science and International Studies, Washington College, Maryland. Moderator: *Andrew J. Nathan*, Class of 1919 Professor of Political Science, Department of Political Science. Sponsored by WEAL. Cosponsored by the APEC Study Center and the China and the World Program.

April

Lectures and Panels

4/2 **Cybernetics of Influence: Set Design in the Age of Television.**

WeiHong Bao, Pamela P. Fong and Family Distinguished Chair in China Studies and Associate Professor of Film and Media and East Asian Languages and Cultures, UC Berkeley. Moderators: *Ying Qian*, Associate Professor of East Asian Languages and Cultures, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures; *Lydia Liu*, Wun Tsun Tam Professor in the Humanities,

Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures. Sponsored by the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures. Cosponsored by the Weatherhead East Asian Institute, the Society of Fellows and Heyman Center for the Humanities, the Institute for Comparative Literature and Society, and the Center for Comparative Media.

Lectures and Panels

4/6 **Sticky Attachments, Clean Connections: Senior-Junior (Sōnbae-Hubae) Relations Among South Korean Professionals.**

Olga Fedorenko, Professor of Anthropology, Seoul National University. Moderator: *Ludovica Duchini*, MA Student, Master of Arts in Regional Studies: East Asia (MARSEA), WEAL. Sponsored by the Center for Korean Research. Cosponsored by WEAL.

Book Talk

4/7 **Haunting Hands: Artistic Remembrance of Hiroshima in 21st-Century Japan.**

Yoshikuni Igarashi, Distinguished Professor of History Vanderbilt University. Moderator: *Sarah Kovner*, Senior Research Scholar in the Arnold A. Saltzman Institute of War and Peace. Sponsored by WEAL.

Lectures and Panels

4/10 **The Ecology of Worldism at the Edge: Koryo-saram and Exile Trilogy.**

Kim Soyoung, documentary filmmaker and Professor, Seoul National University of Arts. Moderator: *Iris Kim*, PhD Candidate in the Department of East Asian Cultures and Languages. Sponsored by the Center for Korean Research. Cosponsored by WEAL and a part of the Asia in Action series.

Lectures and Panels

4/13 **Scrolling in China: A Look at Social Media, Podcasts, and Young People Today.** *Fang Weng*, Asia Society Fellow; Visiting Scholar, Columbia Journalism School. Introduction: *Duy Linh Tu*, Professor of Professional Practice in the Faculty of Journalism, Graduate School of Journalism, Columbia University. Sponsored by WEAL. Cosponsored by Columbia Journalism School.

Lectures and Panels

4/15 **US-PRC Defense Relations: Looking Back and Looking Forward.** *David Finkelstein*, Distinguished Research Fellow for National Security Affairs, CAN. Moderator: *Elizabeth Wishnick*, Adjunct Senior Research Scholar, WEAL; Senior Research Scientist, CAN. Introduction: *Thomas J. Christensen*, James T. Shotwell Professor of International Relations; Director, China and the World Program, Columbia University. Sponsored by WEAL. Cosponsored by the China and the World Program.

Film Screening

4/15 **Light of the Setting Sun: A Documentary Film Screening and Discussion with Vicky Du.** *Vicky Du*, Director and Producer. Moderators: *Nicholas Bartlett*, Assistant Professor of Contemporary Chinese Culture and Society, AMEC/EALAC, Barnard College; *Kaitlin Hao*, PhD Student, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures. Sponsored by WEAL. Cosponsored by the Asian American Initiative, the Film and Media Studies Program, and the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures.

Book Talk

4/16 **Korean Messiah, with Jonathan Cheng.** *Jonathan Cheng*, author, *Korean Messiah*; China bureau chief, *The Wall Street Journal*. Moderator: *Sarah Kovner*, Senior Research Scholar, Arnold A. Saltzman Institute of War and Peace, Columbia University. Sponsored by WEAL. Cosponsored by Korea Focus.

Book Talk

4/16 **Rebranding North Korea: Changes in Consumer Culture and Visual Media.** *Immanuel Kim*, Department Chair, the Korea Foundation Kim-Renaud Professor of Korean Literature and Culture Studies, George Washington University. Moderator: *Noël Um-Lo*, PhD Student, Applied Anthropology, Department of International and Transcultural Studies, Teachers College. Sponsored by the Center for Korean Research. Cosponsored by WEAL.

Workshops and Conferences

4/17 **Ghosts of the Present: Nationalism and Sinitic Cosmopolitanism in the Medieval Far South.** Moderators: *Lu Kou*, Director of Undergraduate Studies, Assistant Professor, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures; *John D. Phan*, Associate Professor of East Asian Languages and Cultures, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures. Cosponsored by WEAL with the Critical Chinese Humanities, the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures, Medieval and Renaissance Studies, the Department of History, the Linguistics Program, the Tang Center for Early China, and the Society of Fellows and Heyman Center for the Humanities.

Lectures and Panels

4/20 **Everyday Economies of Survival: Gender in Cold War South Korea.** *Eunhee Park*, Postdoctoral Instructor, Department of History, University of Chicago. Moderator: *Jungwon Kim*, King Sejong Associate Professor of Korean Studies, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures. Sponsored by the Center for Korean Research. Cosponsored by WEAL.

Workshops and Conferences

4/24 **Tibetan Education: Theory and Praxis (Workshop).** *Tashi Dekyid Monet*, Columbia University; *Shamo Thar*, University of Massachusetts Amherst; *Tsepakjab Washul*, University of Virginia; *Stuart Wright*, University of Sheffield; *Chime Dolma*, YindaYin Coaching; *Yumten Rinchen Tara*, YindaYin Coaching; *Rebecca Clothey*, Drexel University. Moderator: *Lauran Hartley*, Director, Modern Tibetan Studies Program; Adjunct Assistant Professor in Tibetan Literature, Columbia University. Sponsored by the Modern Tibetan Studies Program. Cosponsored by WEAL.

May

Lectures and Panels

5/1 **Forklift Disease: The Making of an Occupational Illness in Postwar Japan.** *Victor Seow*, John L. Loeb Associate Professor of the Social Sciences, Department of History of Science, Harvard University. Discussant: *Eugenia Y. Lean*, Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs; Professor of East Asian Languages and Cultures, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures. Moderator: *Kavita Sivaramakrishnan*, Co-Director, History Center, Sociomedical Sciences, Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University Medical Center. Sponsored by WEAL. Cosponsored by the Center for the History and Ethics of Public Health at the Mailman School.

Lectures and Panels

5/4 Tuning Into the Occupation: Radio and Media Policy in Postwar Okinawa and Japan. *Akinobu Matsumoto*, Junior Researcher at the Faculty of Letters, Arts and Sciences, Waseda University; WEAL Visiting Scholar (2025–26). Moderator: *Takuya Tsunoda*, Assistant Professor of Japanese Film and Media, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures, Columbia University. Sponsored by WEAL.

Lectures and Panels

5/6 Why Ghosts Matter: An Underground History of Japan. *Haruo Shirane*, Shincho Professor of Japanese Literature and Culture, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures, Columbia University. Respondent: *Robert Hymes*, Carpentier Professor of Chinese History, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures, Columbia University. Moderator: *Takuya Tsunoda*, Assistant Professor of Japanese Film and Media, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures, Columbia University. Sponsored by WEAL. Cosponsored by the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures and the Donald Keene Center of Japanese Culture.

Lectures and Panels

5/6 Responding to History: A Discussion with Tibetan Artist Tenzing Rigdol and Elena Pakhoutova. *Tenzing Rigdol*, Tibetan contemporary artist. Discussant: *Elena Pakhoutova*, Senior Curator, Rubin Museum of Himalayan Art, NYC; Adjunct Instructor, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures: Tibetan Art and Material Culture (Spring 2026). Moderator: *Lauran Hartley*, Associate Research Scholar and Director, Modern Tibetan Studies Program, WEAL; Adjunct Assistant Professor, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures, Columbia University. Sponsored by the Modern Tibetan Studies Program. Cosponsored by WEAL.





7 GRADUATE AND POSTDOCTORAL STUDIES

The Institute supports advanced study of Northeast, Southeast, and Inner Asia through programs in the School of International and Public Affairs; the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences (GSAS) (MA in Regional Studies—East Asia); and the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures. Institute faculty members also sponsor PhD candidates from various schools and departments at Columbia University.

MASTER OF ARTS IN REGIONAL STUDIES—EAST ASIA (MARSEA)

The Institute administers the Master of Arts in Regional Studies—East Asia (MARSEA) through the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences for those wishing to focus on a social science approach to modern East Asia. The program provides interdisciplinary training (intensive exposure to the politics, international relations, modern history, and cultural and social formations of the region) with a country and transregional focus. The program is tailored to meet the needs of persons entering professional careers; midcareer professionals; students preparing for entry into doctoral programs; and those pursuing a professional degree, such as a JD or MBA, who want to gain regional expertise.

2025-2026 MARSEA GRADUATES AND THEIR AREAS OF FOCUS:

Gaogang Deng, China

Yunna Han, China

Dazhong Jin, China

Yixi Lin, China

Ligang Liu, China

Devin Sanders, Japan

Grace Shin, Korea

Andrew Small, Japan

Bingqi (Yaya) Wang, China

Yueheng (Joyce) Wang, China

Pu (Andy) Zhang, China

Zihan Zhang, China

THE CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

The Institute Certificate curriculum allows students matriculated in one of Columbia's graduate programs to pursue an intensive program of study designed for a career related to East Asian affairs in academia, government, or the private sector. The certificate attests to a specialized knowledge of a language and an area of the Asia Pacific region. A student may choose from among three program options: a focus on modern China, modern Japan, or modern Korea.

8 STUDENTS

WEATHERHEAD EAST ASIAN INSTITUTE UNDERGRADUATE INITIATIVE

The Weatherhead East Asian Institute Undergraduate Initiative is the product of our Institute-wide recognition that Columbia University undergraduate students are key constituents of our Institute's mission. The Institute strives to enrich students' education at Columbia with exposure to East Asia through a continuous stream of events, programs, and opportunities, including the support of student groups and key experiences such as research abroad.

AFFILIATED GRADUATE STUDENT GROUPS BASED IN THE SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Asia Pacific Affairs Council

The Asia Pacific Affairs Council (APAC) is a forum for Columbia graduate students interested in East, Southeast, and Inner Asian affairs. Founded and run by students, APAC serves the entire University community by organizing events, distributing information, and coordinating Asia-related activities while building a community for students interested in the region. APAC works with the Weatherhead East Asian Institute to fulfill its mission. The 2025–2026 APAC Board included Ying Yi Tan as president and editor in chief, Jinhyun Aron Park as vice president, Subin Moon as event lead, and Alice Chen as media lead. Lauren Ashley Kim, Ludovica Duchini, Najihah Ahmad, Tanya Reddy Sattineni, and Ying-Jia Ke served as assistant editors.

Greater China Initiative

The Greater China Initiative (GCI) aims to promote interaction and connection between students who are interested in

the economy, politics, business, and media of the Greater China region. It also aims to serve as a resource center for students who are planning to work, live, or travel in— or learn more about—the region. It taps mainly into the resources and network available with the School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA) and Columbia University.

Japan Study Student Association

The Japan Study Student Association (JASSA) is open to all who are interested in Japan's politics, economy, language, and culture. The goals of the group are (1) to establish mutually beneficial friendships between Japanese students and those from other countries by hosting seminars and social events; (2) to supply students who seek job opportunities in Japan with information on recruiting and internships; (3) to help students in their study of the Japanese language through regular language tables; and (4) to increase the level of interest in and awareness of Japan. Events are held in English and Japanese and are open to the Columbia University community.

Korea Focus

Korea Focus serves members of the SIPA and greater Columbia communities by enhancing the level of student relations and understanding of Korea-related issues. The group organizes film nights, lecture series, language tables, internship panels, and various social events.

Southeast Asian Student Association

The Southeast Asian Student Association (SEASA) is a student-run organization that serves as a forum for interaction among members of the SIPA and greater Columbia communities who share an interest in the Southeast Asia region. The group is

committed to promoting awareness and understanding of, and dialogue on, the region's culture, politics, and economics through activities such as discussions, internship panels, movie screenings, and lecture series.

Taiwan Focus

Taiwan Focus aims to foster understanding and awareness of this island country and to encourage dialogue and research on Taiwan-related issues at Columbia University. Taiwan Focus also serves as a platform to provide resources for those who are interested in studying and/or traveling in Taiwan. The group organizes and promotes events including movie nights, collaborative talks, seminars, cultural events, and art exhibitions on and off campus.

AFFILIATED GRADUATE STUDENT GROUPS BASED IN EAST ASIAN LANGUAGES AND CULTURES

Benkyōkai Japan Studies Group

The aim of Benkyōkai is to foster collaboration and conversation between colleagues across fields with an interest in Japan or East Asia in order to build a strong, multidisciplinary community of young scholars at Columbia University.

Paeumt'ō Korean Studies Group

Paeumt'ō is an organization for graduate students who have a research interest in Korea. The fields of research of Paeumt'ō's students include history, literature, art history, sociology, public policy, and law. Paeumt'ō is a working group and provides a space in which the students can be critical and supportive of each other's work. Paeumt'ō also invites speakers, shows Korean cinema, and holds several social events throughout the year.

Rikpé Khorlo Tibetan Studies Group

Rikpé Khorlo (“Khorlo”) is the Columbia University Modern Tibetan Studies graduate student group. The group meets several times a semester to discuss common intellectual interests across disciplines in Tibetan studies, share research and advice, and host talks by visiting professors and experts.

Xingzhihui China Studies Group

Xingzhihui is a graduate student-driven group that promotes the study of Chinese history and literature by organizing speakers, seminars, and professional development workshops for graduate students across disciplines within the Columbia community.

STUDENT SUPPORT

Support for East Asian studies at the graduate level comes from generous contributors and foundations. The endowment provided by the Weatherhead Foundation is the largest resource. Every year the Institute grants nearly \$1 million in awards on behalf of these donors, as well as the federal government, in support of advancing research and training new generations of experts on East Asia.

Fellowships Administered by the Institute

The abbreviations used in the following lists are as below:

AMEC: Asian and Middle Eastern Cultures
BC: Barnard College
CC: Columbia College
CCS: Columbia Climate School
EALAC: East Asian Languages and Cultures
ENCL: English and Comparative Literature
GS: School of General Studies
GSAPP: Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation
GSAS: Graduate School of Arts and Sciences

MARSEA: Master of Arts in Regional Studies—East Asia

MIA: Master of International Affairs

MSPH: Mailman School of Public Health

QMSS: Quantitative Methods in the Social Sciences

SEAS: School of Engineering and Applied Science

SGS: School of General Studies

SIPA: School of International and Public Affairs

SOA: School of the Arts

SPS: School of Professional Studies

SSW: School of Social Work

TC: Teachers College

Columbia Summer in Itoshima

Columbia Summer in Itoshima brings students, faculty and the local community together in an immersive learning environment spanning the mountains, rivers, and coastlines of rural Japan. The program is generously funded by the Unson Foundation, a philanthropic foundation that exists to study the most challenging social and environmental problems generated by capitalism and to help build new social systems that will foster long-term human well-being.

Doctoral Grants:

Caixia Mao (GSAPP)

Hekang Yang (GSAS: EALAC)

Master's Grants:

Caroline Gaskin (GSAS: Ecology, Evolution, and Environmental Biology)

Shannon Lewis (SPS)

Laura Lock (CCS)

Janaki Nair (CC: Ecology, Evolution, and Environmental Biology)

Undergraduate Grants:

Elizabeth Adeoye (CC: Political Science)

Noah Bernstein (CC: Journalism, Law, and Economics)

Kieran Eldredge (CC: Earth and Environmental Sciences)

Ayano Ishimura (CC: Psychology)

Maxwell Read (SGS: Economics)

Elle Sumarakov (SGS: Political Science)

Maia Zasler (SGS: Earth Institute)

Julie How Fellowship

This fellowship, established in May 2001, honors the memory of Julie Lien-ying How. It offers partial support to advanced doctoral students who are enrolled in a PhD program in a social sciences department and have a research focus on China.

Xuexin Cai (GSAS: EALAC)

Junior Fellowship in Japan Studies

These fellowships, generously funded by the Japan Foundation, are awarded to doctoral students at the write-up stage of their dissertations focusing on modern and contemporary Japan.

Caixia Mao (GSAPP)

Sasakawa Young Leaders Fellowship Fund (SYLFF) Fellowship

The SYLFF program was established at Columbia in 1991 by the Tokyo Foundation “to provide fellowships to graduate students concentrating in the study of the Pacific Basin region who have demonstrated high potential for future leadership in international affairs, in public life as well as in private endeavor.”

SYLFF Academic Year Fellowships

These fellowships provide support to graduate students in the study of modern East Asia:

Doctoral Grants:

Suhyun Choi (GSAS: Art History and Archaeology)

Albert Errickson (GSA: EALAC)

Meng-Hsuan Lee (GSAS: Art History and Archaeology)

Hekang Yang (GSAS: EALAC)

Hongyi Yu (GSAS: EALAC)

SYLFF Summer Grants

The SYLFF Summer Grants are awarded for internships and research in the Asia Pacific.

Doctoral Grants:

Tianxin Chen (GSAS: Religion)
Yingtong Chen (GSAS: Political Science)
Mackenzie Fox (GSAS: EALAC)
Oliver Friedmann (GSAS: Anthropology)
James Gui (GSAS: Music)
Joanna Suwen Lee (GSAS: EALAC)
Melissa Guoyi Li (GSAS: EALAC)
Taylor Mitchell (GSAS: Anthropology)
Dany Luz Carmona Niangar (GSAS: Political Science)
Ton-Nu Dinh Nguyen (GSAS: History)
Tabitha Payne (GSAS: Anthropology)
Hekang Yang (GSAS: EALAC)
Yanze Yu (GSAS: Sociology)
Fran Zhao (GSAS: EALAC)
Yujun Jasmine Zhou (GSAS: History)

Master's Grants:

Myla Abernathy (SIPA)
Yu-Hsin Chen (SIPA)
Samuel Wiley McClellan Groh (GSAS: EALAC)
Jordan Halpern (SIPA)
Helena Han (GSAS: EALAC)
Laura Jaramillo (GSAS: History)
Kendall Kelley (SIPA)
Jiawen Li (GSAS: QMSS)
Stephanie Maurer (GSAS: History)
Sun Min Park (SIPA)
Xiaoping Xue (GSAS: EALAC)

V. K. Wellington Koo Fellowship

This fellowship, named for the distinguished diplomat and Columbia University alumnus V. K. Wellington Koo (Columbia College 1908, PhD 1912), is awarded to doctoral students at the

write-up stage of their dissertations, focusing on modern China.

Peter Yuanxi Chen (GSAS: EALAC)
Samuel Hellmann (GSAS: EALAC)
Melissa Guoyi Li (GSAS: EALAC)

C. Martin Wilbur Fellowship

This fellowship, named for Columbia University alumnus and China scholar C. Martin Wilbur, is awarded to doctoral students at the write-up stage of their dissertations, focusing on China.

Mackenzie Fox (GSA: EALAC)

Weatherhead Fellowships

These fellowships are made possible by the support of the Weatherhead Foundation and are awarded to students doing summer research and for academic year support. The Weatherhead fellowship recipients are Columbia students representing a variety of academic disciplines who are given fellowships in recognition of their dedication to the study of East Asia.

Weatherhead Academic Year Fellowships

Doctoral Grants:

Kampanart Chaiyarat (TC)
Mako Miura (TC)
Hongyi Yu (GSAS: EALAC)

Weatherhead Training Grants (Summer)

Doctoral Grants:

Suhyun Choi (GSAS: Art History and Archaeology)

Haejo Kang (GSAS: Political Science)
Xiaoyang Ma (GSAS: Art History and Archaeology)
Catherine Otachime (GSAS: Religion)
Beenish Riaz (GSAS: Political Science)
Mary Rzepczynski (GSAS: Art History and Archaeology)
Misaki Sanui (GSAS: Art History and Archaeology)
Kanako Tajima (GSAS: Art History and Archaeology)
Julia Walton (GSAS: ENCL)

Master's Grants:

Aisha Catena (SIPA)
Wanonno Iqtyider (SIPA)
Kelvin Lee (SIPA)
Guo Sheng Liu (GSAS: EALAC)
Sun Min Park (SIPA)
Shiyun Qiu (GSAS: EALAC)
Serene Xie (SOA: Film)
Melanie Zhang (GS: Religion)

Undergraduate Grants:

Rachel Fils-Aime (CC: Political Science)
Jeanine Huang (BC: Comparative Literature)
Shenisis Kirkland (SGS: Economics)
Thomas Wang (CC: EALAC)

Theodore de Bary Fellowship

In 2018, the University Committee on Asia and the Middle East (UCAME) inaugurated this fellowship in honor of William Theodore de Bary, an American sinologist and East Asian literary scholar who was a professor and administrator at Columbia for nearly 70 years. The fellowship supports students at Columbia and Barnard Colleges and the Schools of Engineering and General Studies in language study.

Undergraduate Grants:

Niyah Besley (BC: Psychology)

Quint Johnson (CC: Comparative Literature)

Tai Nakamura (CC: Comparative Literature)

Amy Zhang (BC: AMEC)

Yu San Ma Taiwan Fellowship Grant

Made possible through a generous gift from Columbia alumnus Mike Ma (GSAS '02), the Yu San Ma Taiwan Fellowship offers financial support for Columbia students at all levels, undergraduate and postgraduate, who are committed to outstanding work centered on Taiwan.

Doctoral Grants:

Meng-Hsuan Lee (GSAS: Art History and Archaeology)

Hanying Wei (GSAS: Political Science)

Master's Grants:

Shu L. Xu (GSAS: EALAC)

Undergraduate Grants:

Hayden Idson (CC: Political Science)



9 ASIA FOR EDUCATORS PROGRAM

Asia for Educators, founded in 1977 and led for 49 years by Roberta (Robin) Martin, is now directed by Sarah Jessup, with Robin in phased retirement until June 2027. The program is one of seven “national coordinating sites” in the National Consortium for Teaching about Asia (NCTA), funded by the Freeman Foundation, with a mandate to help teachers integrate education about East Asia into the K-12 curriculum in the United States. That challenge is met in a variety of ways, channeled through three key approaches described in detail below:

- **Online resources**, including primary source documents;
- **Professional development** for educators; and
- Freeman **Book Awards**.

Online Resources

The AFE website (afe.easia.columbia.edu) offers a combination of written and video resources about East Asia aimed at helping teachers, students, and faculty by offering materials from basic timelines

to more in-depth descriptions of East Asian culture, history, and literature. Many of the explanatory essays were written by WEAL faculty over the years. The site is highly respected and widely used; it had 2.5 million page views in 2025–26. It is organized in different ways to help teachers access different types of information; there are in-depth modules (based on teacher demand) on religion, geography, literature, art, the Song dynasty, the Qing dynasty (each of these last two use iconic scrolls as teaching resources), and the Mongols. The site also offers a variety of teaching tools and resources including primary sources, key points, and themes for studying or teaching, organized by country or region: China, Japan, Korea, Vietnam, and Southeast Asia. Significant improvements were made to the Qing module last year to add different images and make the pages and links easier to navigate. The site also includes listings of selected outside resources and topic-specific articles and lesson plans, as well as an annotated list of online museum educational resources on Asian art history; and teachers’ guides and student lessons for elementary, middle, and high school teachers of world history, world cultures, world geography, economics, current events, literature, and art.

The video library has over 67 short videos on a wide variety of topics on history and culture such as Shintoism, the Cultural Revolution, Vietnamese language, and teaching East Asian art. These recorded videos by faculty specialists received 21,000 views in 2025–26. Ranging from 30 seconds to 30 minutes in length, the videos include PowerPoint images and brief primers (Viewing Guides) on a variety of topics in Asian studies. Topics such as Global May 4th, China and the World in 1919, Confucian Thought, the Silver Trade, China and Europe in the 1800s, and Buddhism are central to standardized school curriculums and therefore to AFE resources. AFE’s video library has the capacity to filter by subject and region. Last year AFE recorded 16 new videos and integrated 40 detailed Viewing Guides to accompany each video. Creating these videos and managing their usability is a continuous process. Editing and presentation of the videos on the AFE site are under the direction of Kim Madalinski, associate director of AFE and a media specialist.



Professional Development

AFE offers professional development through a live pedagogy discussion series on Zoom, called “Asian Topics Discussions,” aimed specifically at educators. These hour-long sessions are half content review followed by an interactive discussion about pedagogy and how to navigate the AFE site for relevant sources. The Fall 2025 series had 10 events on “East Asian Poetry,” and the Spring 2026 series had 10 on “The US-China Relationship in Historical Context.” An average of 40 educators attended each event, which were presided over by experts from across the country, including WEAI faculty Andrew J. Nathan, Thomas J. Christensen, Xiaobo Lü, and John D. Phan, as well as noted journalists and scholars. Some of the topics covered include “The Cold War and Nixon’s China Trip” and “The One China Policy and Taiwan” as well as “Poetry of Vietnam” and “China’s Literary Tradition, 1050-771 BCE.”

As one of the founding, national coordinating sites of the NCTA, formed in 1998 with funding from the Freeman Foundation, AFE works directly, on behalf of the Foundation, with East Asian

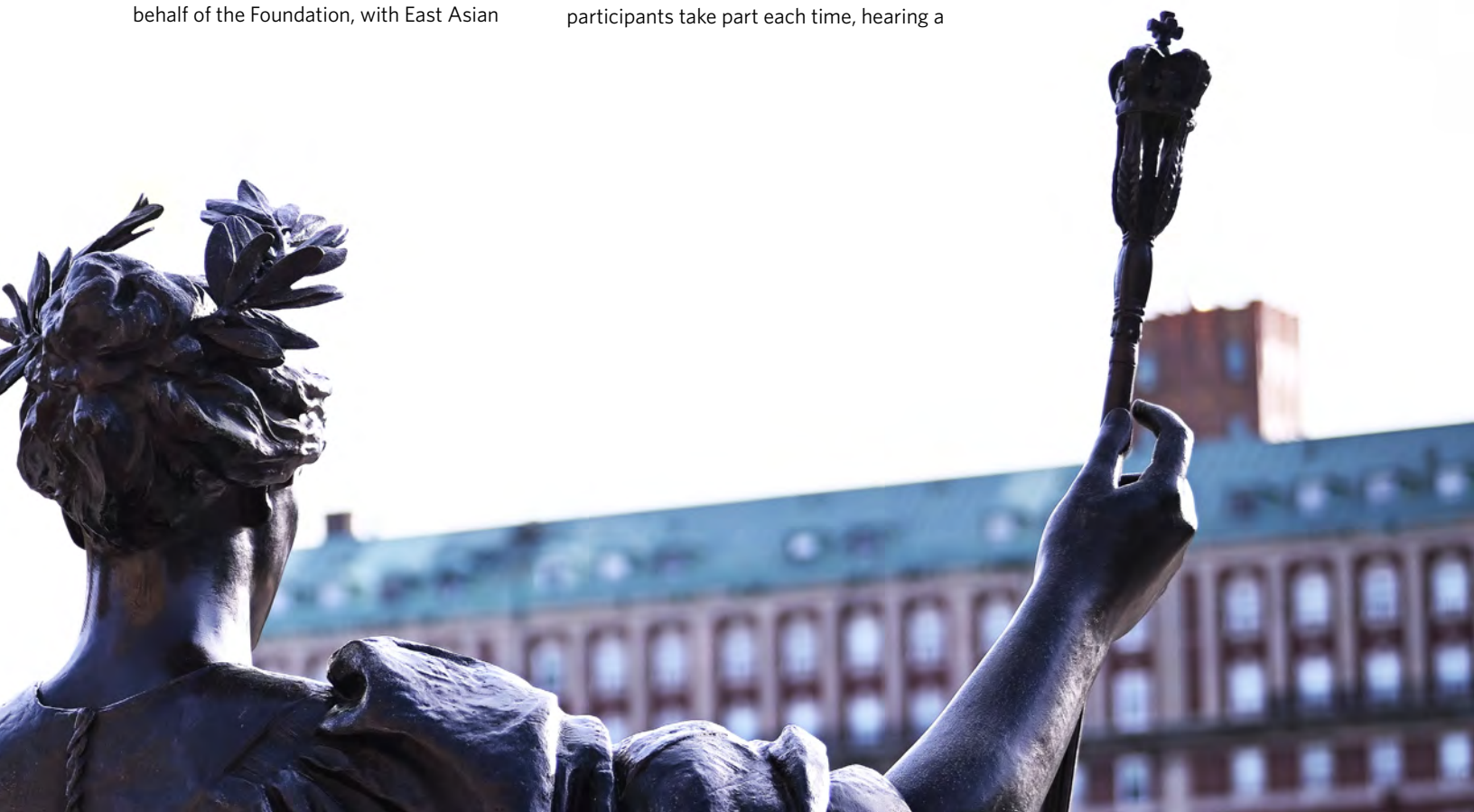
studies colleagues at partner universities to develop programs for teachers in states where, in many cases, there have historically been few opportunities for teachers to gain background on East Asia. Columbia’s partner sites are Princeton University (New Jersey); University of North Carolina (for North and South Carolina); Georgia State University (Georgia); Central Arkansas University (Arkansas and Oklahoma); Rhodes College (Tennessee and Mississippi); and Texas Christian University (Texas). AFE is developing a relationship with the University of Florida to continue work in that state as well as in Kansas at the University of Kansas. Columbia and WEAI graduates, teaching at universities around the country, often serve as directors of NCTA partner sites. AFE works with the state site directors to develop programming for local K-12 teachers hosted by specialists on East Asian history, politics, culture, and literature.

Nationally, AFE supports Asia specialists for the “AP-Comparative Government” national pedagogy Zoom session for teachers and students. An average of 90 participants take part each time, hearing a

specialist give a PowerPoint presentation on current issues in government and foreign policy, followed by time to ask questions and interact directly with a leading specialist on China from Columbia University. This year Professor Ruth Barraclough participated, sharing her insights and expertise on Korean history with students.

Freeman Book Awards

AFE also administers the Freeman Book Awards (FBA), now in its ninth year. Created by AFE with the NCTA and the Committee on Teaching about Asia (CTA) of the Association for Asian Studies (AAS), these annual awards recognize quality books for children and young adults that contribute meaningfully to an understanding of East and Southeast Asia, bringing first-person experiences of East and Southeast Asian youth into the homes and libraries of students throughout the US. This initiative is funded with support from the Freeman Foundation, and AFE administers the selection procedures with





Weatherhead East Asian Institute
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Professional Development Options

Video Presentations for Teachers & Students

Central Themes

Primary Sources — DBQs

Key Points

Timelines



Elementary Resources



Lesson Plans

ASIA in WORLD HISTORY Resources

>4000 BCE

4000 BCE

1000 BCE

300 CE

600 CE

1000 CE

1450

1750

1900

1950

21stC



TOPIC MODULE

GEOGRAPHY

East Asia in Geographic Perspective



TOPIC MODULE

LITERATURE

Freeman Award Winners & Recommended Titles





TOPIC MODULE

ART / OMuERAA

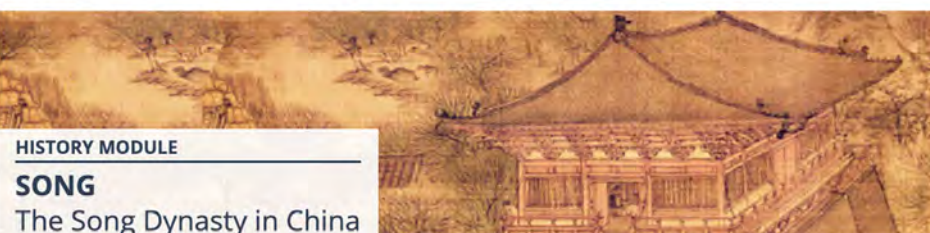
Online Museum Resources on Asian Art



TOPIC MODULE

RELIGION

Living in the Chinese Cosmos



HISTORY MODULE

SONG

The Song Dynasty in China

ABOUT ASIA FOR EDUCATORS

A part of the [National Consortium for Teaching about Asia \(NCTA\)](#)





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Nancy Hope, the executive director of the Freeman Book Awards, who also works to increase coverage of the award winners in newsletters and on websites of interested groups including national libraries. Submissions continued to increase dramatically in 2025, with 94 titles sent by publishers, signaling growing interest in the awards by both community and school librarians. The nomination process for 2026 titles is now open. Additional information on the awards is available at <http://nctasia.org/book-awards>. Many of the national sites offer programs featuring the Freeman Award books and have collaborated with Nancy Hope for book talks with the authors. The Freeman Book Awards parallel similar awards administered by area studies consortia in Middle Eastern, South Asian, African, and Latin American studies.

This year's geographic setting of submissions continued to favor East Asia, specifically Japan, China, Korea, and Taiwan (in that order), while some were also set in Vietnam, the Philippines, Indonesia, and Tibet. Awards were made in four categories: winner, honorable mention, "of note," and graphic novel. The 2025 winners:

- Children's:** *Sarang Saves the School*, by Korena Di Roma Howley; illustrated by Joowon Oh (Candlewick Press), set in Korea and inspired by real events
- YA Middle School:** *The Beasts Beneath the Winds: Tales of Southeast Asia's Mythical Creatures*, a collection of stories edited by Hanna Alkaf; illustrated by Jes Wibowo and Cin Wibowo (Amulet Books), fiction, set in Southeast Asia
- YA High School:** *My Mother, the Mermaid Chaser*, by Jamie Jo Hoang (Crown Books for Young Readers), fiction, set in Vietnam and America
- Middle and High School Graphic Novel:** *Spacewalking with You, Volume 1*, by Inuhiko Doronoda (Kodansha), fiction, set in Japan

10 STAFF OF THE WEATHERHEAD EAST ASIAN INSTITUTE



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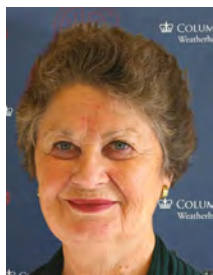


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ASIA FOR EDUCATORS (AFE) PROGRAM



**Roberta H.
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Kim Madalinski
Associate Director

2025-2026 Work-Study and Casual Worker Students

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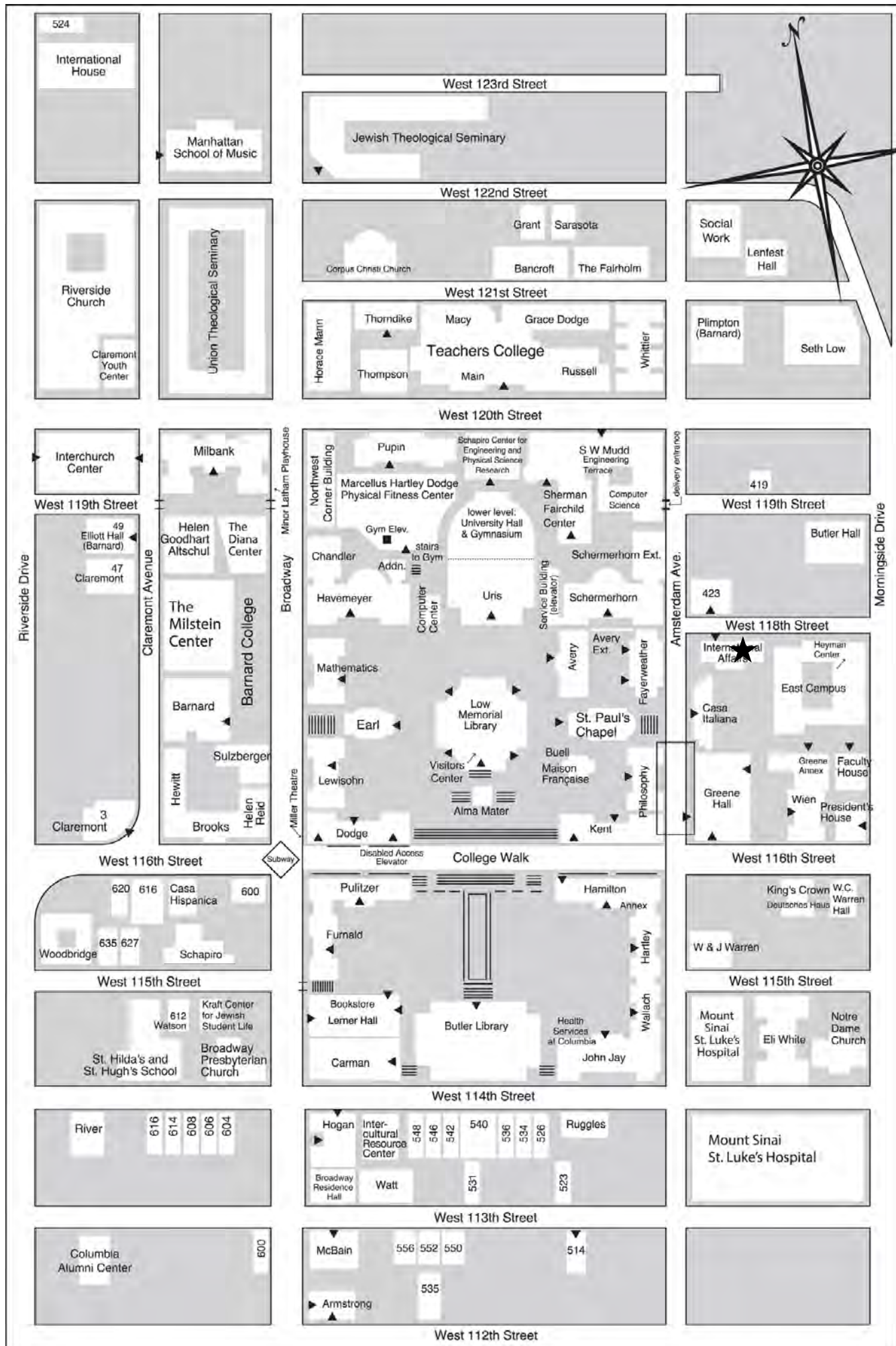
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