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USC Dornsife

East Asian Studies Center

May 5, 2025



Student Journal of Asian Studies@ USC - 2025 Issue

We are delighted to announce the release of the third issue of the **Student Journal of Asian Studies @ USC (SJAS @ USC)**, a student-run academic journal supported by the **USC East Asian Studies Center**. This issue is introduced by **Alice (Ruotong) Dong** editor-in-chief and features five papers by **Aruna Balasubramanian, Brian Trat, Bridget Zhang, Cooper Brown, and Vivian Ton**. Their work engages with a wide range of topics—from the development of religious and cultural traditions to contemporary discussions on cyberpunk aesthetics and mental health. Several papers also explore transnational and diasporic perspectives, reflecting the evolving global scope of Asian Studies.

Please read the journal here >



EASC Graduating Student Feature - Jaden Stovall

EASC wants to highlight **Jaden Stovall**, a graduating Master's student in Literary Editing and Publishing in Dornsife and a long-time student staff member for EASC! Since joining EASC in Spring 2021, Jaden has contributed so much to our community — from event support to building connections across campus. Academically, Jaden double majored in English and Narrative Studies and is now completing his master's in Literary Editing and Publishing through USC's Progressive Degree Program. His scholarship explores Black American history, cross-cultural exchange among communities of color, and representations of race and gender in fantasy and science fiction media. Beyond the classroom, Jaden served as a graduate fellow with the **USC Prison Education Project** and recently earned the prestigious JIMMY Award from the English Department for outstanding achievement. Reflecting on his time at EASC, Jaden shared that the importance of a supportive workplace culture will stay with him long after graduation. As he moves into the

publishing world, he's excited to keep working with stories and amplifying diverse voices across media. We are so proud of all you have accomplished, Jaden, and we can't wait to see the stories you bring to life!

Congratulations Jaden and thank you for everything you've done for the EASC community! 🎉

Please see Jaden's full feature here ➤

Event Reminder



2025 EASC Commencement Open House

Thurs, May 15 | 2:00PM-4:00PM | CAS 100

On Thursday, May 15, EASC faculty, staff, family and friends will gather to celebrate our East Asian Area Studies graduating seniors and M.A. students. Please join us from 2:00PM - 4:00PM at CAS 100 for the EASC Commencement Open House before the USC Main Commencement Ceremony!

Invitation Only

EASC Faculty Affiliate Announcement David Bialock's Retirement

It is with a mix of gratitude and sadness that we announce the retirement of Prof. **David Bialock** effective at the end of the 2025 calendar year. Professor Bialock has 28 years of distinguished service to the **Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures** and also served as Chair from 2011 to 2014. A scholar of classical Japanese literature, Professor Bialock's work spans a wide range of research interests, including medieval Japanese literature, music in literature and ritual, ecocriticism and environmental humanities, and translation studies. He is the author of *Eccentric Spaces, Hidden Histories: Narrative, Ritual, and Royal Authority from The Chronicles of Japan to The Tale of the Heike* (Stanford University Press, 2007), a work that reflects the depth and interdisciplinary reach of his scholarship.



We thank him for his many contributions to the university and wish him all the best in his retirement!

Opportunities

PhD position at University of Amsterdam

Deadline: Sunday, May 11

The Amsterdam School for Historical Studies is offering a fully funded 4-year PhD

position as part of the ERC-funded BLOCKADE project, which investigates global blockades during the World Wars and their aftermaths. This specific PhD will focus on Japan's analysis of resilience and vulnerability during WWI and the interwar period, examining the roots of its wartime strategies and empire-building in Asia from 1931 onward. Research will draw on sources from Japanese governmental archives and will be co-supervised by experts including Sheldon Garon and Samuël Kruizinga. The position is one of five within the international BLOCKADE team, exploring economic, strategic, and social responses to blockades. [Learn more here](#) ►



USC Museums Student Educator Program Deadline: Friday, May 23

This paid academic-year program trains students to lead tours and facilitate conversations at the [USC Pacific Asia Museum](#) in Pasadena and the [USC Fisher Museum of Art](#) on campus. Participants receive hands-on instruction in museum education, public speaking, and community engagement, with ongoing mentorship and training. The role includes leading weekend tours, occasional evening events, and weekday sessions with high school students in the

spring. A mandatory week-long training kicks off the program, with some at-home assignments and virtual sessions. Students must commit from August through May, with monthly paid prep time and office hours. [Please see the application here](#) ►

Events Around USC & LA

State of Dispossession: Politics of Land and Memory on the Sino-Kazakh Borderland

Tues, May 6 | 3:00PM-5:00PM | UCLA Asia Pacific Center | [RSVP](#)

Screening: CHINATOWN CHA-CHA

Wed, May 7 | 7:00PM | School of Cinematic Arts | [RSVP](#)

Fantasies of Ito Michio

Thurs, May 8 | 2:00PM | UCLA Terasaki Center for Japanese Studies

Historic Matcha Tasting Game: Sensory Awakening through Tocha

Thurs, May 8 | 7:00PM-8:30PM | Japan Foundation Los Angeles | [RSVP](#)

Screening: Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon in 35mm

Fri, May 9 | 7:30PM | Academy Museum of Motion Pictures | [RSVP](#)

Conversation@PAM: The Art and Influence of Sadequain

Sat, May 10 | 1:30PM-3:30PM | Pacific Asia Museum | [RSVP](#)

Temporary Detention: A New Multimedia Project About "Assembly Centers"

Sat, May 10 | 2:00PM-3:30PM | Japanese American National Museum | [RSVP](#)

Hirokazu Kore-eda: An American Cinematheque Retrospective

Sat, May 10 - Sun, May 11 | Japan House LA | [RSVP](#)

Screening: *This Woman*

Sun, May 11 | 2:30PM | Gardena Cinema | [Tickets](#)

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