



# USCDornsife *East Asian Studies Center*

September 2, 2025



## Upcoming Event

### Student Journal of Asian Studies @ USC Symposium

**Friday, September 12 | 2:00PM-3:00PM | CAS 100 or via Zoom | [RSVP](#)**

We are excited to invite you to the [Student Journal of Asian Studies @ USC Symposium](#), celebrating the release of its third issue! This year's symposium will feature presentations from the authors of the newly published issue, introduced by editor-in-chief, **Alice (Ruotong) Dong**. The third issue highlights five outstanding papers by **Aruna Balasubramanian**, **Brian Trat**, **Bridget Zhang**, **Cooper Brown**, and **Vivian Ton**, covering topics that span from the evolution of religious and cultural traditions to cyberpunk aesthetics, mental health, and transnational/diasporic perspectives in Asian Studies.

The symposium will be an opportunity to hear directly from the authors about their research journeys and insights from their work, while also celebrating the growth of [SJAS @ USC](#) as a platform for student scholarship. Students who are interested in submitting as a contributor for the journal or participating as an editor for the next issue are highly encouraged to attend!

We invite students, faculty, and community members to join us in supporting this year's contributors and engaging in dialogue about the exciting directions of Asian Studies at USC.

**You can also read the full journal here ➤**

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## EASC Guest Speaker Series

EASC is excited to announce the [EASC Guest Speaker Series](#) for AY 2025-26. This series supports affiliated faculty by enriching their course content with guest speakers and inviting the wider community to participate in academic programming.

This semester, we are able to partner with faculty from diverse fields and invite guests from all over the country! Our first round of talks include topics on geopolitics in the Indo-Pacific, bilingual authorship, and China's domestic and foreign policies. Stay tuned for more guest speaker series events happening later in the semester and see below for details and to RSVP for events happening soon!



### **Asia's Aging Security: How Demographic Change Affects America's Allies and Adversaries**

***Saori Katada invites Andrew Oros (Washington College)***

**Fri, Oct 3 | 12:00PM-1:30PM | SOS B40**

Asia-Pacific is undergoing major demographic shifts, with some populations rapidly aging and shrinking while others continue to grow. Learn how these changes and the rise of technologies may reshape regional security and the U.S.-led alliance structure in the Indo-Pacific.

**RSVP**



### **Bilingual Authorship and Self-Translation: Publishing in Chinese & English**

***Brian Bernards invites Jianan Qian (Towson Univ.)***

**Tues, Oct 7 | 11:30AM-12:50PM | Zoom**

How does an author navigate two distinct publishing markets and balance different aesthetic traditions? USC alum and fiction writer Jianan Qian will share her experiences and reflect on the challenges and creative possibilities of bilingual authorship.

**RSVP**



### **China's Domestic Politics Beyond Water's Edge: BRI and China's Fragmented Foreign Policy**

***Stanley Rosen invites Andrew Mertha (John Hopkins Univ)***

**Mon, Oct 13 | 2:00PM-4:50PM | Location: TBD**

Prof. Mertha challenges the view of China's Belt and Road Initiative as a unified global strategy, showing through case studies how China's fragmented domestic politics and local dynamics complicate its foreign policy and reshape the impact of its rise.

**RSVP**

## **Get to know our EASC Student Staff!**

Please join us in welcoming our new and returning student staff!

**See our IG post here ►**

### **Ben Nava**

Ben is a junior majoring in Public Policy and is from St. Louis, Missouri! This summer

he worked at a summer camp in the Midwest and took the Amtrak to Chicago with his girlfriend to see The Weeknd's *After Hours til Dawn* Tour.



### Mirai Sanjuan-Takebayashi

Mirai is a sophomore studying Architecture and is originally from New York City! This summer she worked at a Japanese immersion preschool and also went backpacking from Berlin to Istanbul, and was able to visit a bunch of cities in between.



### Daniel Yu

Daniel is our returning student worker and is now in his final semester of his PDP MA program in Computer Science. Daniel's summer was busy as he was interning at Amazing Season Games, winning a BAFTA and attending Lady Gaga's concert in Las Vegas.



## Event Reminders



### Study Abroad Fair

**Wed, Sept 3 | 10:00AM - 2:00PM | Trousdale Pkwy**

The Study Abroad Fair is happening tomorrow on Trousdale Parkway! Please stop by the EASC Global East Asia Maymester table and learn more about our Maymester program to Tokyo, Japan in Spring 2026. We will have information on application requirements, cost sheets and site visits while in Japan!

### KSI 399: Korean Studies Seminar

Last Wednesday was the inaugural class for KSI 399, an advanced undergraduate seminar that joins mentoring in the development of Korea-related research with seminar-style instruction on key issues in Korean history, culture and society, culminating in a joint conference with the Korean studies centers of U. of Mich. and U. of Penn.



## Opportunities

### Call for Abstracts: 2026 International Graduate Student Conference

**Deadline: September 30**

The **East-West Center** invites graduate students and emerging scholars to participate in the **25th International Graduate Student Conference (IGSC)**, to be held February 12–15, 2026 in Honolulu, Hawai'i. Since 2001, IGSC has served as a



vibrant forum for interdisciplinary and cross-cultural exchange. To mark its 25th year, the conference theme is: Legacies Through Time: Rethinking the Past, Confronting the Present, Shaping the Future. **Please see [here for more information](#) ►**

## Events Around USC & LA

**AGFA Movie Hooky Club IMAX Matinee Screening: *A Tale of Sorrow and Sadness* (1977)**

Tues, Sept 2 | 3:00PM | USC Cinematic Arts | **RSVP**

**Screening: *MY HONG KONG DIARIES IN 2022***

Tues, Sept 2 | 7:00PM | USC Cinematic Arts | **RSVP**

**Korean Picture Book Storytime**

Sat, Sept 6 - Sun, Sept 7 | 12:00PM | Korean Cultural Center, Los Angeles | **RSVP**

**"Undiscovered Chinatown" Tour**

Sat, Sept 6 | 10:20AM-1:00PM | Chinatown | **RSVP**

**LA Chinatown Hungry Ghost Festival**

Sun, Sept 7 | 4:00PM-7:00PM | East Wind Foundation; LA Rec & Parks



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# USC Dornsife

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