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Asian Cultural Council (ACC) Launches Global Alumni Network to Strengthen Alumni Relationships and Advance Its Mission

New York, NY (January 26, 2026) — Today, the Asian Cultural Council (ACC) announced the launch of the ACC Global Alumni Network, a new initiative designed to connect and engage thousands of ACC alumni worldwide while further advancing the organization’s long-standing mission of supporting international dialogue and cultural exchange between the U.S. and Asia.

“The Global Alumni Network reflects ACC’s commitment to sustaining the relationships that begin with our grants,” stated Judy Kim, Executive Director of the Asian Cultural Council. “Our alumni represent an extraordinary collective of creative and cultural leaders. This initiative provides a framework to seamlessly convene, amplify their impact, and support cross-cultural exchange well beyond the grant period.”

For more than sixty years, ACC has advanced international dialogue and understanding through cultural exchange, connecting the U.S. and Asia through an immersive fellowship and grantmaking model. Rooted

in the belief that living, working, and sharing across borders builds trust, empathy, and lasting global relationships, ACC awards grants that enable meaningful cross-cultural experiences. Through this approach, ACC has cultivated a global network of artists, scholars, and cultural leaders whose exchanges strengthen dialogue and mutual understanding, reinforcing ACC's enduring mission to use culture as a bridge between communities worldwide.

Founded in 1963 by John D. Rockefeller 3rd, ACC has awarded nearly 6,000 grants to artists, scholars, arts professionals, and organizations across the U.S. and Asia, advancing cultural exchange and global understanding. The launch of ACC's Global Alumni Network marks a significant expansion of the organization's programming, creating a platform for sustained engagement opportunities across countries, generations, and disciplines. ACC alumni have gone on to shape the art, humanities, and cultural sectors as creators, institutional leaders, educators, and innovators, influencing cultural policy, advancing artistic practice, and strengthening international dialogue. The Network will further support collaboration, knowledge-sharing, and meaningful exchange—extending ACC's long-standing impact on the global cultural ecosystem.

ACC's global alumni community includes many influential, internationally recognized artists whose work continues to shape contemporary artistic discourse. ACC's distinguished alumni roster includes prominent artists such as Cai Guo-Qiang, Takashi Murakami, Julie Taymor, Viet Thanh Nguyen, Barbara London, Kengo Kuma, Yayoi Kusama, Meredith Monk, Lu Yang, and Aki Onda, to name a few.

About the Asian Cultural Council (ACC)

The Asian Cultural Council (ACC) is a grant-giving and grant-seeking global nonprofit organization founded and headquartered in New York City that fosters cultural exchange between the U.S. and Asia, and within Asia. ACC provides artists, scholars, arts professionals, and organizations opportunities to engage in cultural exchange activities by offering grants and fellowships during an annual application period. Compared to other grant-giving organizations that fund production-focused activities, ACC's grant opportunities allow grantees to fully and freely immerse themselves in a culture other than their own to advance international dialogue, understanding, and respect. Since 1963, ACC has awarded over \$100

million to support nearly 6,000 fellowship exchanges across 16 disciplines to grantees from 26 countries, regions, and territories. For more information, please visit <https://www.asianculturalcouncil.org>.

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