

2019 & 2020 Annual Report



Mission

The Asian Cultural Council advances international dialogue, understanding, and respect through cultural exchange activities in Asia and the United States to create a more harmonious and peaceful world.



Photo of Chobi Mela International Festival of Photography in Dhaka, Bangladesh from Pathshala South Asian Media Institute (ACC 2019)

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Annual reports represent a moment in organizational history. They are a record of programs, grantees, financials, leadership and events worldwide. Divided by the pandemic's seismic fault line and the global shifts that followed, 2019 and 2020 seem not of one moment. In the following report, there are two periods of organizational activity: how ACC carried out our operations before and how we adapted to all that came after.

As a nonprofit with offices and foundations in New York, Hong Kong, Manila, Taipei, and Tokyo, serving 26 countries and regions across Asia and the United States, the Asian Cultural Council is no stranger to working across temporal, geographic, social, and cultural divides. Two core elements of cultural exchange are adaptability and connectivity. ACC used these skills to navigate the unfamiliar terrain of the pandemic by adapting grantmaking to accommodate virtual, in-person, and hybrid programming, and by connecting artists and audiences worldwide through online public programs.

Responding to the rise in xenophobia, isolationism, and racism exacerbated by the ongoing health crisis, ACC's work to advance international dialogue, understanding, and respect through cultural exchange has remained crucial. We are grateful to our partners in this work. It is the innovation, flexibility, creativity, and constancy of our international network of artists, cultural workers, grantees, Board, donors, and staff that have supported ACC through these past two years. Together, we have emerged confidently positioned to support the global arts community moving forward.



Wendy O'Neill Chairman



Eileen ConnorInterim Executive Director

Eleen Connor

Hong Kong



Josephine Wai ACC Hong Kong

Manila



Teresa Rances
ACC Philippines

Taipei



Rita Chang ACC Taiwan

Tokyo



Ritsu Yoshino ACC Japan



In 2019, ACC awarded 49 fellowships to individuals pursuing research, study, exploration, and collaborative projects across Asia and the United States, and 18 grants to organizations and projects facilitating cultural exchange opportunities. Grants awarded, included those to artists exploring beyond their training and tradition, scholars deepening their research, and arts administrators and cultural workers building regional networks across Asia and the U.S. Support for these grants included funding from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation towards enhancing the diversity and regional representation of American artists traveling to Asia, and from Beijing Contemporary Art Foundation to support U.S.-China exchange.

In 2020, when the pandemic struck, 22 of these grants were underway. ACC's Programs team coordinated safe travel home for grantees across Asia and the U.S., and ensured stable housing, mental health services, and financial support for those who remained in the U.S. In the months that followed, ACC worked with grantees to reschedule their programs or adapt to a virtual format. We are proud to have partnered with these infinitely resourceful and creative individuals and organizations as they worked to maintain international connectivity, despite the challenges of this difficult moment in history. In the following pages, alongside our biannual awards and public programs, you will find a programmatic overview, grantee highlights, and a full grants list.



East-West Dialogue

The East-West Dialogue lecture series engages thought leaders from arts and cultural fields in Asia and the United States. It was endowed in 2013 with a million-dollar gift from longtime ACC supporters Shoji and Tsuneko Sadao.

2019's East-West Dialogue featured world-renowned architect Kengo Kuma (ACC 1985) discussing his signature approach, designing in harmony with environmental and cultural contexts worldwide. Co-presented by Japan Society, the talk coincided with a survey of his work, *Made in Tokyo:*Architecture and Living, 1964/2020, which unveiled the New National Stadium in Tokyo, designed by Kengo Kuma and Associates with Taisei Corporation and Azusa Sekkei Co., Ltd.

inDialogue

ACC launched in Dialogue, an online series of public programs to address the critical need for international dialogue in the wake of the pandemic, and provide a platform for diverse artists and arts professionals across Asia and the U.S. Click below, or view all at <u>asianculturalcouncil.org/indialogue</u>.



The Role of the Artist in Community



Playwrights in Process



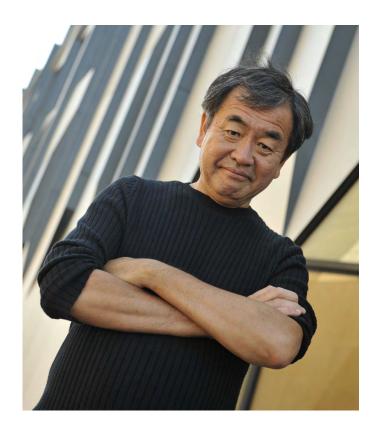
Our Futures Are Tied



East-West Dialogue, co-hosted by Japan Society

Felon – An American Washi Tale

Awards



John D. Rockefeller 3rd Award

recognizes significant professional achievement and contribution to global understanding, practice, or study of the visual or performing arts of Asia.

Learn More

Kengo Kuma (ACC 1985)

Architect, Kengo Kuma & Associates



Blanchette Hooker Rockefeller Award

recognizes philanthropists who have partnered with ACC and made outstanding contributions to advancing international dialogue, understanding, and respect in Asia and the U.S.

Learn More

Elizabeth J. McCormack

Chairman Emeritus, Asian Cultural Council

Fellowship & Grants

2019

64 \$1,542,498

46 \$1,167,338

18 Organizations \$375,160

Disciplines

Architecture (3) Arts Criticism (1) Dance (8) Music (10)
Art History (3) Conservation (1) Ethnomusicology (1) Theater (10)
Arts Administration (2) Curation (7) Film/Video/Photography (2) Visual Art (16)

Countries & Regions

ACC Fellows From...



In Exchange With...

ChinaIndonesiaLaosPhilippinesThailandHong Kong SARJapanMalaysiaSingaporeUnited StatesCambodiaKoreaMyanmarTaiwanVietnam

India

2020

48 Total Grants \$1,183,206

26 \$622,040

21 \$477,398

1* Public Programs \$83,768

Disciplines

Architecture (2) Curation (4) Film/Video/Photography (4) Theater (9)

Art History (1) Dance (5) Museum Studies (1) Visual Art (11)

Arts Criticism (1) Ethnomusicology (1) Music (8)

Countries & Regions

ACC Fellows From...



In Exchange With...

CambodiaIndiaKoreaSingaporeUnited StatesChinaIndonesiaMalaysiaTaiwanVietnamHong Kong SARJapanMyanmarThailand

^{*}Public Programs: East-West Dialogue lecture series (including 12 online public programs)

2019-2020 Grants List

Afghanistan

Muheb Esmat Curation, 2019, 2020

Bangladesh

Pathshala South Asian Media Institute Film, Video, Photography, 2019

Cambodia

Sa Sa Art Projects Visual Art, 2019

China

Birdhead 鳥頭 Visual Art, 2019

Cai Yingqian, Nikita 蔡影茜 Curation, 2019

Chen Li, Leo 陳立 Curation, 2019

Gu Jiani 古佳妮 Dance, 2019, 2020

Guo Yong 郭湧 Architecture, 2020

Lijiang Studio 麗江工作室 Music, 2019, 2020

Sun Shimeng 孫詩萌 Architecture, 2019

Wu Damin 吳達民 Ethnomusicology, 2020

Yu Ji 于吉 Visual Art, 2019

Zhu Jinglun 朱經倫 Curation, 2020

Hong Kong

Au Hoi Lam 區凱琳 Visual Art, 2019

Chan Ho Lun, Fredie 陳浩倫 Film, Video, & Photography, 2020

Cheng Tak Yan, Enoch 鄭得恩 Visual Art, 2019, 2020

Cheuk Wing Nam 卓穎嵐 Visual Art, 2020

Hung Ka Yeung, Thomas 洪嘉揚 Music, 2019

Kung Yick Ho, Alvin 龔翊豪 Architecture, 2019

Lau Hochi 劉浩知 Visual Art, 2019, 2020

Lee Kai Chung 李繼忠 Visual Art, 2020

Lee Wing Ki, Kalen 李泳麒 Film, Video, & Photography, 2020

Mike Orange 麥啟聰 Music, 2019

No Discipline Limited Theater, 2020

Poon Wai Shun, Wayson 盤彥燊 Dance, 2019, 2020

Wong Chi-Ching 王梓靜 Music, 2020

Wong Yok Fai, Arnold 黃鋈暉 Architecture, 2020

Yu Ching Shan, Helen 余靜姍 Music, 2020

India

Utsa Hazarika Visual Art, 2020

Indonesia

Yayasan Kelola Dance, 2019, 2020

Joned Suryatmoko Theater, 2019, 2020

Japan

Bridge for the Arts and Education 特定非営利活動法 人 ブリッジフォージアーツアンドエデュ

ケーション 2019, 2020

Don't Follow the Wind 2019, 2020

NPO Dance Box 特定非営利活動法人 ダンスボックス 2020

Drifters International

一般社団法人ドリフターズインターナショナル 2020

Hojo Tomoko 北條 知子 Music, 2019, 2020

Isomura Dan 磯村 暖 Visual Art, 2019

Japan Center, Pacific Basin Arts Communication (PARC)

国際舞台芸術交流センター 2019

Kawachi Takashi 河内 崇 Arts Administration, 2019

Kuma Kengo 隈研吾 Architecture (JDR 3rd Award), 2019

Shimada Yoshiko 嶋田 美子 Art History, 2019

Sugihara Nobuyuki 杉原 信幸 Visual Art, 2019

General Non-Profit Incorporated Organization Tokyo

Biennale 一般社団法人東京ビエンナーレ 2020

Yebisu International Festival for Art & Alternative Visions, Tokyo Photographic Art Museum 恵比寿映像祭 東京都写真美術館 2020

Korea

Chae Sangmin 채상민 Theater, 2019

Myanmar

Gitameit Music Institute 2020

Pakistan

Aziz Sohail Curation, 2019, 2020

Philippines

Ballet Philippines, 2019

Kevin Julius Castelo Music, 2019, 2020

Abner Delina, Jr. Theater, 2019, 2020

King Kong Art Projects Unlimited (MM Yu & Gail Vicente) 2019

Maria Sofia Amparo Santiago & Ana Victoria Tamula

Museum Studies, 2020

VIVA ExCon 2020

Zeny May Recidoro Arts Criticism, 2019, 2020

Charles Yee Theater, 2020

Taiwan

Absolute Space for the Arts 絕對空間 2019

Bamboo Curtain Studio 竹圍工作室 2020

Chiu Hsin Yi 邱心依 & Chiu Hsin Yueh 邱心悅 Music, 2019

Chiu Yihsuan 邱薏璇 Curation, 2020

Contemporary Legend Theatre 當代傳奇劇場 2020

Gang-A-Tsui Theater 江之翠劇場 2020

Hao Theater 好劇團 2020

DJ Hatfield & Rahic Talif 拉黑子·達立夫 Music, 2020

HORSE 驫舞劇場 2020

National Taiwan Museum of Fine Arts

國立臺灣美術館 2020

Su Huang-Sheng 蘇煌盛 Visual Art, 2019

Tseng Jui-Hsuan, Ray 曾睿琁 Visual Art, 2019

VT Artsalon 非常廟藝文空間 2019

Wang Wen Yi, Victoria 王文儀 Theater, 2019

Wu Chien-Wei 吳建緯 Dance, 2019

United States

Kai (Kari) Altmann Visual Art, 2019

American Dance Festival 2019

Asian Art Museum 2020

Association for Asian Studies 2020

Margarita Blush Theater, 2019

Florina Capistrano-Baker Art History, 2019

Kirsten Carey Music, 2019

Chinese Culture Center of San Francisco 2019

Beth Citron Art History, 2019

Collaborative Cataloging Japan 2020

Hyde Park Art Center 2019

Edward Herbst Ethnomusicology, 2019

J'Sun Howard Dance, 2019

Emma Jaster & Matthew Pearson Theater, 2019

Gabriel Kuperman Film, Video, Photography, 2019

Inta Inc. (Eiko Otake & Wen Hui) Dance, 2019

Cathy Lu Visual Art, 2019

Alex Peh Music, 2019

The Savong Foundation 2019, 2020

Roberto Sifuentes & Aram Han Sifuentes

Performance Art, 2019

Fiona Templeton Theater, 2019

Triangle Arts Association Visual Art, 2019

Vietnam

Dom Dom-The Hub for Experimental Music & Art 2019

ACC Impact

"I embarked on this trip with certain questions in mind, especially those related to the current socio-political divides related to gender, culture, color, and class...I grew up as [part of] the majority of my own culture, so my self-perception related to my cultural identity was never really challenged... [In the U.S.,] I became more aware of how cultural identity is constructed in different contexts."

Nikita Yingqian Cai

Deputy Director and Chief Curator, Times Museum

Nikita Yingqian Cai received a two-month fellowship to conduct research in the U.S. towards large-scale exhibition "Neither Black / Red / Yellow Nor Woman."





"Cultural Exchange is a rehearsal for empathy...

By borrowing each other's lenses, we are provided opportunities to actually filter very essential issues of the world. Through discovering our sameness and difference and all other nuances and layers and intersections of all our issues, we get clarity. And clarity is important in mapping solutions—not only in bridging gaps in equity and justice (racial and climate), not only in nurturing a humane or generative society—but also in achieving a sustainable world."

Abner Delina, Jr.

Theater Director/Cultural Worker, Philippines

When Abner Delina, Jr. made the decision to remain in the U.S. as the COVID pandemic spread across the country, his initial six-month fellowship to research theater in New York City grew into a yearlong exploration of ecological art practices and responses to the pandemic across rural and urban America.



"My first intention was to study only alternative art institutions (So-ken experimental art school). However, now I realize that it was only a small part of the complicated history of the New Left political movement and avant-garde art (starting in the late 1960s) to now...I found out that there was a Japanese activist/linguist involved in political and cultural magazines in Hong Kong in the 1970s, and exchanges of activities and performance artists in the 1980s through 90s...There seems to be this under-studied history of Hong Kong and Japan's relationship that I will continue to research."

Yoshiko Shimada

Researcher/Artist/Director, Yutaka Matsuzawa Psi Room Foundation

Yoshiko Shimada received a one-month fellowship to research alternative modes of art education in 1960s & 70s Hong Kong.



"What I see ACC is, is not about rationalizing cultures and imposing it on others, but to find the platform and vernacular to share, listen, contribute and support, or even move out of the boundaries of cultures."

Enoch Cheng

Artist/Curator, Hong Kong

Enoch Cheng received a six-month fellowship to research contemporary art and be an artist-in-residence at the American Museum of Natural History. Enoch chose to remain in New York City throughout the worst of the COVID outbreak and continued to research art practices, cultural responses to the pandemic, and reflect on his own personal journey through this difficult period in the city's history.

"To be a Southeast Asian choreographer is very challenging, because the ecosystem [lacks the capacity] to support them with resources—knowledge, space, and funding. If we want to contribute to their growth, it should be by developing a dedicated and safe space for them to express and explore their ideas and feelings, and discuss in a serious way the issues they have to tackle in the global contemporary art world."

Gita Hastarika

Director, Kelola Foundation (2018-2020)

Grants to Yayasan Kelola supported the second and third year of the Southeast Asian Choreographers Network Program, providing in-person workshops and training in partnership with American Dance Festival in 2019, and a longer, more expansive series of virtual workshops across Southeast Asia in 2020.



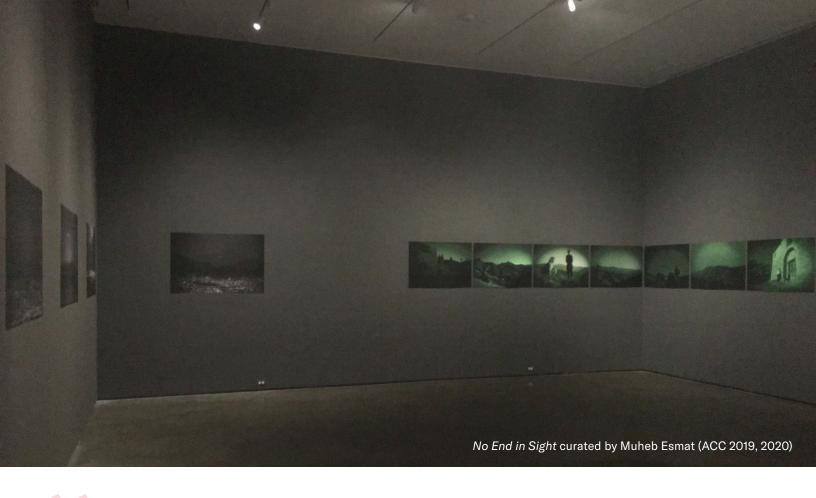


"We realized we had a unique opportunity to interrogate the role of "being in the field" in terms of a residency. Instead of the artist doing their own field work, we asked an artist and local inhabitant at Lijiang Studio, He Jixing, to make their own field recordings...Each participating artist was then provided with He Jixing's [sound] recordings and asked to respond. We found that with this format of substituting Jixing's uncategorizable recordings for each artist's personal residency experience, we were able to facilitate a new way of connecting with the location, uniquely adapted to the restrictions of Covid-19."

Jay Brown

Director, Lijiang Studio

Following a reciprocal exchange program that supported sound artists from Lijiang Province in China and Hokkaido Prefecture in Japan to travel for residencies in both locations, a 2020 grant to Lijiang Studio supported a virtual experiment in sound recording between women sound artists from Japan, China, Taiwan, and the U.S. Conceived specifically as a response to working under the conditions of the COVID pandemic, Lijiang With/Out piloted a collaborative process that challenged its participants to connect with a landscape rendered inaccessible due to the global lockdown.



"The support I received from ACC, I don't think it could have come at a better time...The past two years have been a journey of learning. Coming from Kabul—I don't think I would have expected myself to be where I am ten years ago. When I was at grad school, I focused most of my work on visual culture and the idea of what visual culture in contemporary Afghanistan means and how it's unfolding."

Muheb Esmat

Artist/Curator, Afghanistan

Muheb Esmat received a one-year fellowship towards his graduate studies at Center for Curatorial Studies, Bard College. A subsequent year of support enabled him to gain work experience in the arts post-graduation in the midst of the turmoil of the COVID pandemic and the economic and cultural upheaval that roiled the arts landscape of the U.S. in 2020. His thesis exhibition No End in Sight was the first U.S. solo exhibition of interdisciplinary artist Aziz Hazara's work on politics, power structures, technology, and image making around the war in Afghanistan.



Gitameit Music Institute

A grant to Gitameit Music Institute supported the Gitameit-SUNY New Paltz Myanmar Spirit Worship Project, connecting musicians in the U.S. and Myanmar through traditional training, ethnographic research, and exploration of religious diversity through the lens of nat pwe (spirit worship).

Watch their inDialogue talk to learn more about the Myanmar Spirit Worship Project.

Pictured above: photo excerpted from Dr. Lauren Meeker's video of Kyaw Kyaw Naing's rehearsal of his arrangement of "Ko Kyi Kyaw" with SUNY New Paltz Naing Ensemble musicians and Thin Thin Hla, dancer/singer. Naing Ensemble members: Kyaw Kyaw Naing, pat waing; Thin Thin Hla, dancer/singer; Alex Endres, six side drums; Bianca Checa, square gongs; Ryan Diener, 4 large drums; Alyson Hummer, cymbals; Mark Laaninen, circle gongs; Tim Melvin, large gongs; Noah Wurster, wood block; Lois Hicks-Wozniak, saxophone; Christiana Fortune-Reader, violin; Alex Peh, piano.



"It is interesting to see how people in the United States view the cultural traditions of Taiwan or Asia. I never thought about this perspective before...Ink painting is part of the cultural context of Taiwan. We've all grown up with it. In New York, however, ink painting is unique—something people have often not come across before. Through conversations with New Yorkers, I've been able to understand what is unique in my work [and perspective]."

Su Huang-Sheng

Visual Artist, Taiwan

Su Huang-Sheng received a five-month ACC/Mandarin Oriental Foundation fellowship to research contemporary art practices and ink art collections in the U.S. To facilitate his program and exploration, ACC engaged art historian (and ACC alumna) Alfreda Murck, who provided him with mentorship and introductions to a wide range of artists and specialists in the region.

"This experience was invaluable for me on a personal and professional level. For many years I had been hoping to return to India for an extended stay to begin a new research project...so this was a really critical reset in terms of slowing down, recommitting to scholarly work, and also recommitting to a period of art history with which I began my studies nearly 20 years ago."

Beth Citron

Artistic Director, terrain.art

Beth Citron received a four-month grant to investigate a critical history of Indian modernity through research on the work of Ebrahim Alkazi (ACC 1967), one of India's foremost theater directors, as well as an important collector and interlocutor of Indian modernist art and South Asian photography in the years after independence.





"When the pandemic started, I was thinking, we would have to stay put for a while. Then, you [ACC] encouraged me, saying "How about remote teaching?" ...Finally, I decided to go ahead. We decided to take two generations of musicians who have no prior knowledge in composition.

Among the finalists we were about to pick, I interviewed a few. One picked up his phone when I called using FaceTime. I could see him, I could hear the noise of the neighborhood, I could hear a child was crying. He almost broke into tears, because of the opportunity."

To hear Nirmita Composer's Institute in action, watch here.

Chinary Ung

(ACC Multiple Grants, 1970-2013) Composer, U.S./Cambodia

Celebrated Cambodian American composer Chinary Ung founded the Nirmita Composer's Institute in 2016 to nurture the next generation of Cambodian composers and foster exchange and collaboration within Southeast Asia. A grant to support a two-week composition workshop in Phnom Penh was transformed to a program of online, intergenerational, international workshops that enabled musicians from Cambodia to work with master artists from the U.S. and Thailand during the height of the pandemic.

ACC Events Around the World

New York Highlights (2019-2020)











- 1 ACC Trustees at New York Gala (November 2019). From left: Trustees Janet Nathanail, Hans Michael Jebsen, Ernest Escaler, Valerie Rockefeller, Julie Ann Kohn, Mercedes Zobel, Life Trustee Michael Sovern, Wendy O'Neill, Ruby Shang, Jonathan Fanton, Kazuko Aso, Missie Rennie, Executive Director Miho Walsh, and Life Trustee William G. Spears
- 2 David and Susan Rockefeller and Cai Guo-Qiang at panel on art, philanthropy & cultural exchange at Christie's in New York
- 3 Board of Trustees visit Hiroshi Senju's Studio
- 4 Cai Guo-Qiang preview of Peony and Dahlia No. 2 in advance of ACC & Christie's auction
- 5 ACC Alumni at New York Gala (November 2019). Back row: Eric Schorr, Alice Reyes, Issui Minegishi, Basil Twist, Cai Guo-Qiang, Kengo Kuma, Ruby Shang, Sangmin Chae; Middle row: Madge Reyes, Joselina Cruz, Dan Isomura, Chen Yu-An, Dex Fernandez, ACC Executive Director Miho Walsh, Jennifer Wen Ma; Front row: Suguru Yamamoto, Michiko Tsuda, Su Huang-Sheng, Morgan Wong, Tong Shanshan, Joned Suryatmoko, Utsa Hazarika

Hong Kong Highlights (2019-2020)







- 1 ACC HK Patrons' Circle luncheon with ACC Chairman Wendy O'Neill (October 22, 2019)
- Opening of ACC Fellows Exhibition at Alisan Fine Arts (January 13, 2020). From left: Jean Ho (Membership Committee Chairman), Wucius Wong (ACC 1971); Hans Michael Jebsen (ACCHKF Chairman), Daphne King (ACC HK Patrons and Director, Alisan Fine Arts), and Ho Siu Kee (ACC 2000)
- 3 2019 Annual General Meeting of ACCHKF (October 23, 2019) at Hong Kong Club. From left: Roxanne Wong (staff), Kathy Ip (staff), Alvin Kung (ACC 2019), Mike Orange (ACC 2019), Yama Chan (ACCHKF Board Director), Jean Ho (ACCHKF Board Director) and Chairman, Membership Committee), Janet Nathanail (ACCHKF Board Director), Hans Michael Jebsen (ACCHKF Chairman), Wendy O'Neill (ACC Chairman), Enoch Cheng (ACC 2019), Nadim Abbas (ACC 2014), Au Hoi Lam (ACC 2019), Kenneth Fung (ACCHKF Honorary Chairman), Nelly Fung, Josephine Wai (staff), Jocelyn Mui (staff)

Manila Highlights (2019-2020)













- 1-2 Musical soiree and performance by grantee Hiyas Hila (pianist) in the home of ACC supporter Nene Quimson; Hiyas Hila with US Ambassador to the Philippines He Sung Yong Kim (L) and ACCPF Chairman Ernest Escaler.
- Visual artist Yusuke Kamata (ACC 2017) visits from Japan for research fellowship in Bacolod City. From left: ACC Philippines' Eyna Villar, Program Director Teresa Rances, and grantees visual artist Yusuke Kamata, curator/museum director Dr. Patrick Flores, and visual artist Leeroy New
- 4 Lighting Design Masterclass participant from Baguio City Mark Erguiza, grantee Maree Barbara Tan-Tiongco, Jennifer Tipton and assistant Krista Smith
- Preview cocktail for ACC Art Auction benefit event held in February 2019. From left: ACC Grantee Anton del Castillo, ACC Phils. Trustees Ernest Escaler, Rajo Laurel; Leon Gallery's Jaime Ponce de Leon; Trustees Malu Gamboa-Lindo and Maribel Ongpin; Lisa Nakpil of Leon Gallery; Trustee Joven Cuanang, Grantee Dex Fernandez, ACC Philippines Program Director Teresa Rances, and Grantee Sam Penaso
- Press conference for the ACC Art Auction at Leon Gallery (February 2020). From left: ACC Philippines Program Director Teresa Rances with theater artist Abner Delina, Jr. (ACC 2019, 2020), ACCPF Trustee Rajo Laurel, President Maribel Ongpin, grantees Gail Vicente and MM Yu of King Kong Art Projects; Trustees Malu Gamboa-Lindo and Dr. Joven Cuanang, and Leon Gallery Director Jaime Ponce De Leon

Taipei Highlights (2019-2020)







- 1 ACC Taiwan Group 33 20th Anniversary Celebration (December 2020)
- 2 ACC Taiwan Foundation 25th Anniversary Celebration (August 2020)
- 3 First Board meeting with two new ACCTF board members, Aaron Lee and Tina Lin (Jan 2020)

Toyko Highlights (2019-2020)











- ACC Japan Foundation Announcement Dinner (March 2019). ACCJF was launched among ACC's closest friends, supporters and leading members of both business and cultural sectors. Chairman Mrs. Kazuko Aso gave opening remarks and ACCJF Councilor Mr. Hiroshi Ogawa provided closing remarks. During the dinner, ACC grantee Mr. Fumihiko Maki (1976) and Mr. Hiroshi Koike (1994) shared the importance of ACC's work for the future development of the arts and international exchange.
- A Conversation on Philanthropy with David Rockefeller, Jr., at Mikimoto Hall (November 2019). This special talk supported by K. Mikimoto, Co., Ltd., featured David Rockefeller, Jr.—ACC trustee of more than 30 years—to discuss the long history of Rockefeller Family philanthropy and the family's special relationship to ACC. 2009 ACC grantee, Issui Minegishi, gave a solo performance of a one-string *koto* (Japanese zither) at the venue.
- 3-4 ACC 2019 Grant Awards Ceremony (September 2019). This was the first ACC awards ceremony in Japan to invite ACC supporters, friends and past grantees to celebrate the new grant recipients. 2018 grantee, Miyama Mcqueen-Tokita, performed a solo piece of 17-string *koto* (Japanese zither), "While I was Crossing the Bridge" composed by 1967 grantee Mr. Yuji Takahashi.
- In June 2020, ACC launched an interactive online conversation series with ACC grantees in Japan around the theme "Thinking About Art in the Time of 'The New Normal.'" This included conversations on theater/performing arts with Kyoko Iwaki (ACC 2017), Akane Nakamura (ACC 2016), and Suguru Yamamoto (ACC 2018); on contemporary art with Mizuko Endo (ACC 2006), Koki Tanaka (ACC 2003), and Aya Momose (ACC 2016); and dance with Daisuke Muto (ACC 2005), Shirotama Hitsujiya (ACC 2000), and Fumi Yokobori (ACC 2008).

In Memoriam

Elizabeth J. McCormack (1922-2020)

The trustees and staff of the Asian Cultural Council (ACC) mourn the passing of ACC Trustee and Chairman Emeritus Elizabeth J. McCormack. Elizabeth joined ACC as Vice President and Founding Board Member in 1980. She was committed to continuing ACC founder John D. Rockefeller 3rd's vision of a world made more peaceful through cultural exchange.

A trusted friend and colleague of Blanchette Hooker Rockefeller, Elizabeth succeeded Mrs. Rockefeller as ACC's second Chairman of the Board of Trustees from 1990 to 2012. At age 98, Elizabeth was a lifelong champion of international cultural exchange. Throughout her 40 years as a trustee, ACC invested more than \$100 million in the exchange of artists and scholars across Asia and the U.S. Elizabeth's own contributions are unparalleled. ACC's first endowment campaign, the Elizabeth J. McCormack Fund, raised \$10 million in her name.

Elizabeth's decades-long philanthropic legacy will carry forward for generations to come. Her dedicated service was recognized with the Blanchette Hooker Rockefeller Award in 2019. ACC is honored to have worked alongside Elizabeth and her inspiring wisdom, integrity, and leadership.



Global Partners

ACC's work is made possible in partnership with our global network of Trustees, donors, alumni, institutional partners, and staff. It is with gratitude we list our partners below. In particular, we would like to thank our global Boards of Trustees for their unwavering commitment, visionary leadership, and generous support as Asian Cultural Council adapted to the challenges of 2020.

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Artistic Advisory Council

Yael Buencamino

Cai Guo-Qiang

ACC 1995, 2006

Chen Kaige

ACC 1986-1988

Tiffany Chung

ACC 2015

Patrick Flores

ACC 2009

Oscar Ho

ACC 1992

David Henry Hwang

ACC 2012

Jin Xing

ACC 1988

Kengo Kuma

ACC 1985

Dinh Q. Le

ACC 2008, 2010

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Meredith Monk

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Sheu Fang-Yi

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Louisa So Yuk Wa

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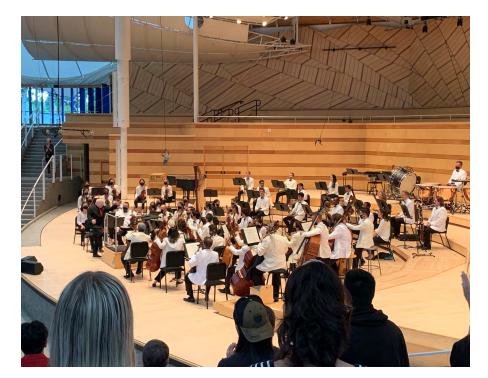
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Helen Yu (ACC 2020) performing with Aspen Chamber Symphony Orchestra

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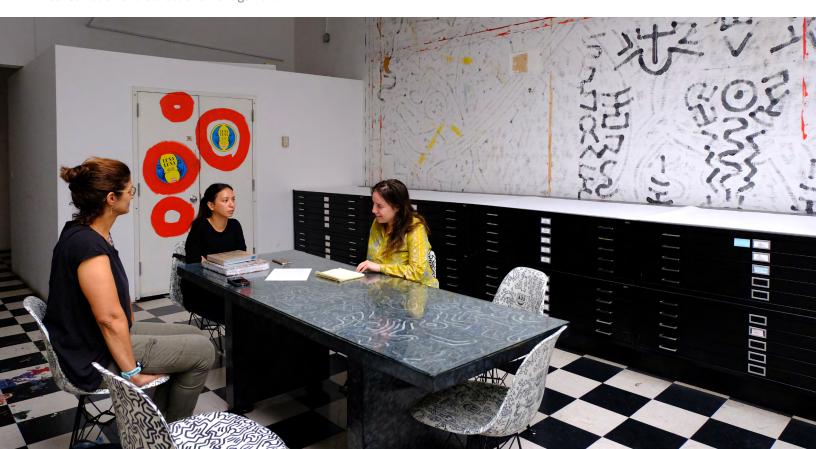
Frances Robertson

Association for the Corporate Support of the Arts (Kigyo Mecenat Kyogikai) León Gallery

Motoko Tanaka

*ACC alumni

King Kong Arts Project (ACC 2019) researching conservation and collections management



Financial Summary

Condensed Statement of Financial Position

Year ending December 31	_	
S	2019	2020
Assets		
Cash & cash equivalents	\$ 647,731	\$ 569,997
Contributions receivable	1,166,858	823,265
Accounts receivable	7,892	5,085
Prepaid expenses	49,172	68,982
Total current assets	1,871,653	1,467,329
Investments, at fair value	30,794,053	35,251,075
Property & equipment, net	144,135	70,282
Security deposits	50,700	46,025
Total assets	\$ 32,860,541	\$ 36,834,711
Liabilities and Net Assets		
Accounts payable & accrued expenses	\$ 269,426	\$ 430,870
Grants payable	612,030	751,299
Accrued pension & post-retirement benefits	3,197,946	2,977,360
Accrued post-retirement benefits		
Deferred rent	11,282	
Pension loan payable		588,698
Total liabilities	\$ 4,090,684	\$ 4,748,227
Net Assets		
Without donor restrictrions	(560,060)	(1,428,530)
With donor restrictions	29,329,917	33,515,014
Total net assets	28,769,857	32,086,484
Total liabilities and net assets	\$ 32,860,541	36,834,711





The financial summary shown is derived from ACC's financial statements, audited by independent certified public accountants PKF O'Connor Davies.

Financial Summary

Consolidated Statement of Activities

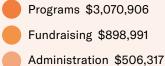
Year end	ling Decerr	ıber 31
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	2019	2020
Operating Support and Revenue		
Contributions	\$ 3,412,712	4,339,307
Investment return designated for operations, net	1,918,325	1,658,288
Endowment draw	(523,091)	(1,521,381)
Total support and revenue	\$ 4,807,946	\$4,476,214
Expenses		
Program services Grants, fellowships, & related expenses	\$ 3,114,702	\$3,070,906
Supporting services	-	
General & administrative	\$ 400,067	506,317
Fundraising	1,293,177	898,991
Total supporting expenses	\$ 1,693,244	\$ 1,405,308
Total expenses	\$ 4,807,946	\$ 4,476,214
Results from operations	\$ 174,823	\$36,352
Bad debt		(645,000)
Investment return not designated for operations	3,244,083	2,700,068
Temporarily restricted contributions	248,268	(617,643)
Permanently restricted contributions	100,000	2,102,672
Benefit plan adjustment	(107,279)	(259,822)
Change in net assets	\$ 3,659,895	3,316,627
Net assets, beginning of year	\$ 25,109,962	\$ 28,769,857
Net assets, end of year	\$ 28,769,857	\$ 32,086,484

Total Programmatic Efficiency 2019







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