



asian cultural council

**For Immediate Release
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**Asian Cultural Council to Receive \$30,000 Grant
from the National Endowment for the Arts**

New York, NY... Asian Cultural Council (ACC) is pleased to announce it has been approved by the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) for a Grants for Arts Projects award of \$30,000. This award will support ACC's Alumni Archive Project by recruiting a part-time archivist/researcher to record key historical data to improve impact reporting practices on ACC's earliest alumni from 1963–1978.

"Projects like the Asian Cultural Council's exemplify the creativity and care with which communities are telling their stories, creating connections, and responding to challenges and opportunities in their communities—all through the arts," said NEA Chair Maria Rosario Jackson, PhD. "So many aspects of our communities such as cultural vitality, health and wellbeing, infrastructure, and the economy are advanced and improved through investments in art and design, and the National Endowment for the Arts is committed to ensuring people across the country benefit."

In total, the NEA will award 1,135 Grants for Arts Projects awards totaling more than \$37 million as part of its second round of fiscal year 2024 grants.

ACC Executive Director Judy Kim said, "We are profoundly grateful to the NEA for enabling this important project. Since 1963, ACC has awarded nearly 6000 exchanges between the U.S. and Asia, supporting grantees from 26 countries in 16 artistic disciplines. As a part of a greater effort to activate our alumni network, it is crucial to ensure that our alumni database is accurate and accessible. Understandably, our least complete records fall between our initial founding as the Asian Cultural Program of the John D. Rockefeller 3rd Fund in 1963 and our incorporation as an independent nonprofit in 1980. This period includes grants made to now-high-profile recipients like Merce Cunningham Dance Company (ACC 1964), Yayoi Kusama (ACC 1964, 1996), and Nam June Paik (ACC 1965), and many others. This project will enhance what is already a rich, publicly accessible archive of cultural exchange from some of the most influential artists of the 20th century."

Project Description

The NEA grant enables the ACC Alumni Archive Project to expand and improve its digital alumni database—an essential internal tool and public resource. Funds will support a part-time archivist/researcher who will complete a thorough review of the hard-copy records and extant materials from ACC's earliest years since its founding 61 years ago.

The archivist will focus on recording key historical data in the database, which will immensely improve impact reporting practices and benefit ACC's ever-growing network of grantees and alumni. The physical records in question are the property of and housed by the Rockefeller Archive Center (RAC) located in

Sleepy Hollow, NY. RAC—which is in full support of the project—is a major repository and research center for the study of philanthropy and its impact internationally.

The archivist will also make note of any collateral associated with individual alumni, such as documentation of exhibitions, performances, or presentations conducted during their grant period.

Asian Cultural Council

The Asian Cultural Council (ACC) connects artists, humanities scholars, and arts professionals across and within Asia and the U.S. Through fellowships, grants, achievement awards, public programs, alumni engagement, and other cultural exchange initiatives, ACC aims to build global arts communities whose individual and collective work serves to advance international dialogue for mutual understanding and respect. ACC is headquartered in New York City with global offices in Hong Kong, Manila, Taipei, and Tokyo.

For additional information on the Asian Cultural Council, visit <https://www.asianculturalcouncil.org>

For more information on other projects included in the NEA's grant announcement, visit [arts.gov/news](https://www.arts.gov/news).

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