



1990
INSTITUTE

ANNUAL REPORT 2023

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Letter from the Chair

Dear Friends,

Developments here at home and abroad in 2023 presented opportunities and challenges for The 1990 Institute. For one, the adoption of Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) and ethnic studies by states around the country has been an exciting journey to follow, but implementation still varies depending on how the legislative mandate was written. Curriculum standards are emerging at various state and local levels, and a majority of the current primary and secondary school teachers are now clamoring to absorb the material to deliver the subject matters to their students.

The geographic dispersion of AAPIs in the U.S. further complicates the focus and topics being considered at the school, district, and state levels. Moreover, while the Biden Administration attempts to stabilize U.S.-China relations, the general negative perception about China and her people continues to harm Chinese Americans, and to a larger extent Asian Americans, due to the perpetual foreigner, model minority, and monolith myths.

It is under this environment that in early 2023 at our annual Board retreat, The 1990 Institute reviewed and reaffirmed our mission of advocating for equitable treatment of Asian Americans and a constructive bilateral relationship between the U.S. and China. We scaffolded our mission with a North Star vision to be a leading national education and information hub for AAPI and US-China studies and a robust three-year strategy and activities to ensure that our youth and life-long learners are equipped with apolitical, nuanced information. We collaborated with our allies, calling for the visibility of Asian American stories, the critical link between U.S.-China relations and the rise of anti-Asian sentiments in the U.S., particularly within educational settings.

Collaborating with other like-minded organizations has been a key strategy of the Institute to maximize the impact of our work in the current complicated environment, and we appreciated learning from while sharing our experiences with our peers and colleagues.

Looking ahead to 2024, we stay the course for our educational programs while working to increase adoption of our materials and engagement in the classrooms and building stronger partnerships with allies to address the local AAPI education needs and call for a national solution that creates a sense of belonging for all students and their communities.

Education is a long game, and the seeds we sow now may take time to bear fruit. But we have accomplished so much in 2023 thanks to you; I am grateful for your steadfast support over the years as we built our organization over three decades to what we are today.

It is with great pleasure that I present to you our 2023 Annual Report, which encapsulates the collective efforts, milestones, and impact we achieved together. It serves as a testament to the dedication, resilience, and unwavering commitment of our entire 1990 Institute community. Thank you for shaping the trajectory of our journey throughout this year and for your continued generosity to help us in making 2024 another transformative year.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Grace Yu', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Grace Yu
Chair

2023 at a glance

With generous support from our funders and partners, the 1990 Institute continued grow its reach and impact, while finding its place as one of the leading voices in middle and high school education on Asian American Pacific Islander and ethnic studies.

We were featured in:



- "Asian American Students Weigh in on the End of Affirmative Action" - PBS NewsHour, August 9, 2023
 - "In the face of racism, Asian Americans keep moving forward on the road of resistance" - UN News (China Division), March 30, 2023
-

Together with you, we organized, produced, and published:

- 4 Teachers Workshops
 - 1 Teachers affinity group meeting
 - 4 original long-form videos
 - 25 short-form videos
 - 2 webinars
 - 25 newsletters
 - 95 profiles of Asian American trailblazers whose stories you should know
 - 1 essay contest, with 2 first-place winners and 2 runner-up winners
 - 4 new educational toolkits
-

We also had the great privilege of being able to support, participate, and co-organize many events with our partners.

PRESERVING FAMILY ROOTS WITH TECHNOLOGY

MAY 30
8PM EDT



HUIHAN LIE
CEO, My China Roots



BRIAN WONG
Vice Chair, 1990 Institute

A Fireside Chat with Huihan Lie and Brian Wong

THE PAST IS ALWAYS PRESENT

1990 INSTITUTE



CLIMATE CHANGE:

CAN THE U.S. AND CHINA WORK TOGETHER?

A Fireside Chat with Professor Michael Davidson from UC San Diego

JULY 31
7PM ET
4PM PT

UC San Diego
SCHOOL OF GLOBAL POLICY AND STRATEGY
21st Century China Center

THE CARTER CENTER
1990 INSTITUTE






FEATURING CHINA FOCUS ESSAY CONTEST PRIZE WINNERS
Graham Wilnot Revere, University of Kansas
Ann-Alice Ticha & Katerina Yang, Johns Hopkins

Organizing for Climate Action

The Opportunities of US-China Cooperation



Rep. Jamaal Bowman (D-NY-16)



Brandon Wu
ActionAid USA



Terry Fitzgibbons
Veterans For Peace



Sandy Shan
Justice Is Global



Russell Jeung
Co-founder of Stop AAPI Hate



Jake Werner
Quincy Institute

WED, SEPT 27TH | 8PM EST | ON ZOOM









1990 INSTITUTE

IS A PROUD SUPPORTER OF

THE CHINA PROJECT

NEXTChina '23 Conference

What Does CHINA Want?

The Shape of World Power Tomorrow

Teacher Support



1990 Institute Teachers Workshop

ASIAN AMERICAN TRAILBLAZERS IN CIVIL RIGHTS

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, 2023
5:00-6:30 PM PT

LOCATION: Alice Fong Yu Alternative School in San Francisco, CA

REGISTER: [OW.LY/QG9U50MYVCG](#)

This multifaceted event for middle/high school teachers highlights Asian American pioneers and pivotal court cases that changed the landscape of U.S. civil rights

- Build solidarity and community with others
- Share open-source tools and resources that can be incorporated into the classroom
- Learn about experiences and advocacy efforts in implementing AAPI/ethnic studies curricula

LAUREN CHEW
Asian American Studies Professor Emerita
San Francisco State University

RUSSELL JEUNG
Asian American Studies Professor
San Francisco State University
Stop AAPI Hate Co-Founder

DAVID LEI
Community Advocate
Historian

LIANA SZETO
Principal
Alice Fong Yu Alternative School

TEACHERS WORKSHOP

Since 2013, the 1990 Institute has organized and convened educators on the West Coast at in-person one-day workshops to learn about contemporary China and U.S.-China relations. Over the years, we shifted from in-person to virtual workshops and expanded our offering to include education about AAPI history and culture to combat anti-Asian discrimination and violence against our communities while supporting the nascent movement in implementing AAPI/ethnic studies in K-12 curricula.

Considered our flagship program, the Teachers Workshop program's main objective is to provide middle and high school teachers with curated 90-minute lectures and discussions with leading experts on the proposed topics so that teachers have the resources and tools to effectively implement AAPI and ethnic studies within the context of today's geopolitical realities.

In 2023, we organized four quarterly workshops, with two workshops focused on AAPI studies and two workshops focused on contemporary China or U.S.-China relations. Still the same great content and opportunity for educators to be in dialogue with the experts.



U.S.-CHINA RELATIONS

COEXISTENCE IN A CHANGING WORLD

TEACHERS WORKSHOP

DAVID FIRESTEIN
President and CEO of the George H. W. Bush Foundation for U.S.-China Relations

MARY KAY MAGISTAD
Deputy Director of the Center on U.S.-China Relations at Asia Society

ROBERT DALY
Director of the Kissinger Institute on China and the United States at the Wilson Center

JUNE 28 | 6PM EDT / 3PM PDT

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TEACHERS FORUM

In 2023, in an effort to provide additional support in implementing AAPI/ethnic studies to our educator cohort, many of whom are teaching it for the first time, we organized an inaugural closed-door affinity group meeting to continue the conversations from the Workshops. Our first event focused on mindfulness and mental health for students and teachers in and outside of the classroom, especially when navigating difficult topics, like exclusion.



1990 Institute's Inaugural Teachers Forum

Thursday, April 27

Julie Nguyen

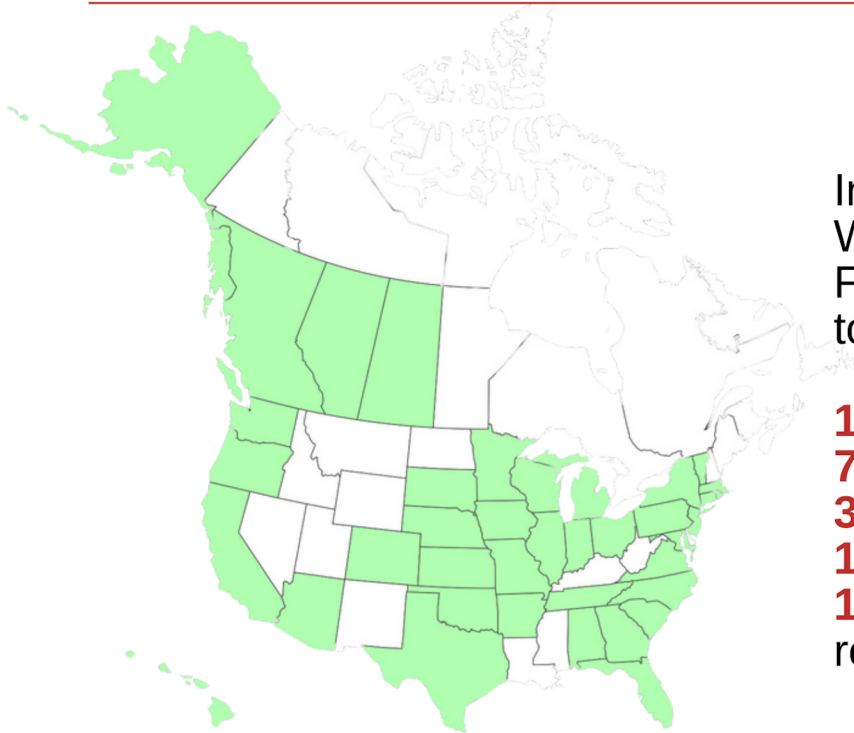
Dr. Elizabeth Bambacis

Supporting school teachers to network, learn, and strategize on implementing AAPI or ethnic studies.

Registration link in bio.

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Teacher Support



In 2023, our Teachers Workshop and Teachers Forum convening brought together:

19 speakers
780+ registrants
37 states
11 countries
1,400 additional views on recordings

TEACHING ASIAN AMERICAN NARRATIVES THROUGH LITERATURE

TEACHERS WORKSHOP



NOREEN NASEEM RODRÍGUEZ
Assistant Professor of Elementary Education and Educational Justice in the Department of Teacher Education at Michigan State University



DIANA LIU
Secondary Educator of English Language Arts and English as a New Language in the New York City Public School System

 **SEPT 27** | 6:30 PM ET
3:30 PM PT

1990 INSTITUTE

U.S.-CHINA RELATIONS

Media Narratives: Evaluating U.S.-China Headlines

TEACHERS WORKSHOP



Bochen Han
South China Morning Post
U.S. Correspondent



Kaiser Kuo
Sinica Podcast Founder & The China Project
Editor at Large



Amy Qin
The New York Times
National Correspondent

 **NOV 15** | 3:30 PM PT
6:30 PM ET

1990 INSTITUTE

"Thank you and the 1990 Institute for hosting the June Teachers Workshop featuring very distinguished guest speakers. I found the workshop inspiring and informative." – New York educator

"I was excited for this learning activity and learning about titles to use in the classroom. Thank you for providing this webinar." – Chicago Public School teacher

"This is a topic I've been looking for. Thank you." – San Francisco Unified School District teacher

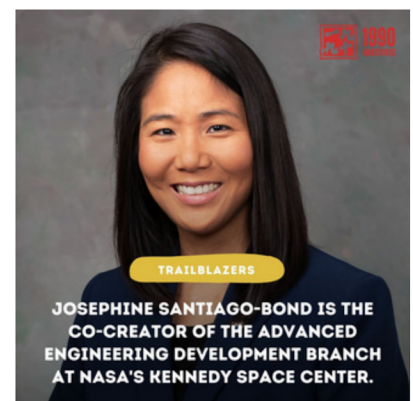
"A most wonderful seminar." – Adjunct Professor at Tongji University Shanghai, and co-founder of a platform/ a circle of 100 K-12 principals across Asia

Teacher Resources

Supplementing our Teachers Workshop and Forum, 1990 Institute creates and curates **essays, profiles of individuals that highlight AAPI's multifaceted history and culture, and videos** – all of which are housed in our Reference Library, with a goal of revamping and establishing our Reference Library as **the one-stop digital content platform** for teachers, students, and the public **for apolitical, nuanced information on AAPI and US-China studies.**



1990 Institute's Reference Library featured in a write-up by Ray Pun, academic and research librarian at the Alder Graduate School of Education and 50th President of the Chinese American Librarians Association (CALA) & the 42nd President of the Asian Pacific American Librarians Association (APALA).



In 2023, we continued our highly successful **New Asian American Voices** features, posting 95 profiles of Asian American trailblazers, whose stories and experiences are often unsung. The program has grown since 2022, amassing an increase of 35% in audience and 1315% in impressions. Be on the lookout for exciting news about this project in 2024!

We also partnered again with UC San Diego and welcomed new partner the Carter Center on our China Focus College Essay Contest to encourage undergraduate students and recent graduates to develop a more nuanced understanding of modern China and the implications of its rise as a superpower through research and writing.. Two first prizes and 2 runner up prizes were awarded, and the winners of the "1990 Institute Prize" participated in a webinar and wrote teaching materials for our educator cohort.

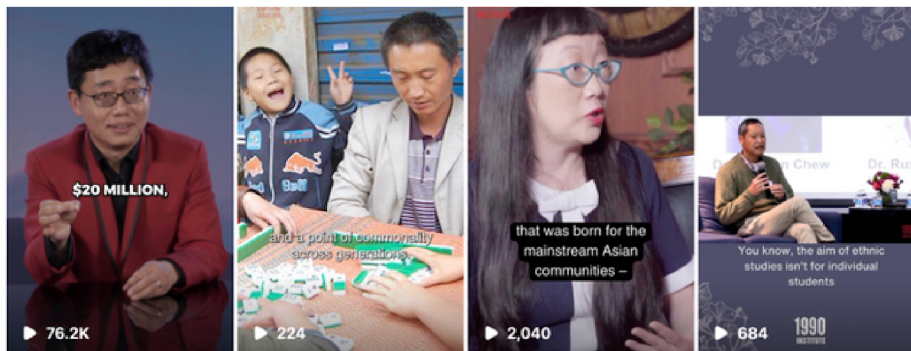


vision, voices, visibility: video program

Since the start of our video program in 2020, 1990 Institute has gained a large following of our educational content. In late 2022 and early 2023, in anticipation of the launch of our two foundational videos on AAPI history and experiences on migration and exclusion, we updated our already robust and coordinated marketing and communications strategy, which allowed us to expand our reach.

Our goal in producing videos are to change the narrative -- whether it is biased perceptions of AAPIs or to foster a better U.S.-China relationship through understanding culture and lives of ordinary Chinese individuals. We strive to bring trustworthy, balanced content, with guidance from leading academics and experts, to secondary teachers and youth through a visual medium to encourage more ways of learning while meeting the interests of our audience.

While we have experimented with various styles and formats over the years, our pivot to produce short-form videos, which range from 60-120 seconds each, in addition to our standing long-form videos have allowed us to widen our audience and to better engage with students who prefer this medium of entertainment and learning.



4
88

long-form (5-15 min) videos produced
short-form (60-90 seconds) videos produced

23,900
670
275,000+
4120.26%

avg monthly views on YouTube
avg monthly Likes on Instagram
avg monthly impressions on Instagram
avg increase across our social media platforms

5M

total number of impressions across all platforms
from Mar-Dec

Video Program



We launched two key foundational videos for AAPI studies:

The first, "Waves of Immigrants: The Asian American Journey," was narrated by "Reboot" and "Dr. Ken" actress Krista Marie Yu. Through the lens of the earliest surviving films and the eyes and pens of historical illustrators and photographers, the video covered how, together as a community, Asian Americans endured politics, imperialism, capitalistic development, and xenophobia, and how their tenacity helped shape immigrant rights – not just for Asian Americans – but for many who are citizens of America today.

The second foundational video, titled "Exclusion: The Shared Asian American Experience," was produced in partnership with Dr. Russell Jeung (Co-Founder of Stop AAPI Hate, Professor at San Francisco State University) and Dr. Madeline Hsu (Professor, University of Maryland). This video explored the exclusion experiences that the Asian diaspora endured throughout history and what the community continues to face as Americans now.

Dr. Jeung uses the Exclusion video as a teaching resource in his Asian American Studies courses at San Francisco State University, and his students have responded positively after its viewing, sharing that they feel more solidarity with other AAPI and minority groups. A snippet of his students' reactions are below:

“

"Given this shared history of exclusion and discrimination, I personally feel that there exists a compelling basis for connection and solidarity with Asian Americans. I can only imagine how the people at that time would have felt being categorized as aliens and the feeling of leaving one's own home. I had no prior knowledge about the kind of struggle faced by the people who left their homeland in the hope of a better future for them and their succeeding generations."

"The struggles and triumphs of Asian communities in the face of adversity should resonate with anyone who values justice and equality. These stories of resistance can serve as powerful reminders of the need to stand together against discrimination."

Video Program

The Video Program also produced and released two additional videos.

Hosted by comedian Joe Wong with special guest Paula Yoo (“From A Whisper To A Rallying Cry: The Killing of Vincent Chin and the Trial that Galvanized the Asian American Movement”) and correspondent Victor Li (also known as Riceman), we released a 30-minute pilot episode of ChatAAPI, an original comedy and news satire show that sought to bring issues important to Asian Americans to the forefront in sobering but humorous ways. The episode garnered 13,000 views, and clips from the show average 45,000 views per clip on social media.



Beyond the Tiles: Making Connections Through Mahjong is a 6-minute video covering the history of mahjong, how the game came to the U.S., and how it acts as a unifying force among diverse groups today. To celebrate the launch of the video and to support teachers using mahjong as a fun way for students to practice their math skills, we held a giveaway of a set of mahjong tiles and were pleased to award the prize to a fourth grade teacher in Michigan who is now using the game in her classroom.

THANK YOU

We would not have been able to carry out our mission without the support from our generous donors, supporters, and partners. We are deeply appreciative.

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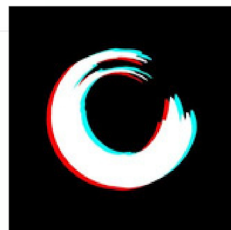
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