



Association for
Asian Studies

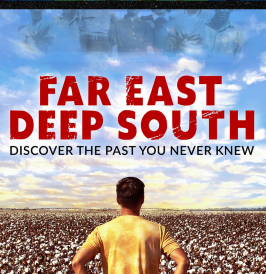
aems
Asian Educational Media Service

AAS 2022 FILM EXPO



GEOGRAPHIES of
KINSHIP

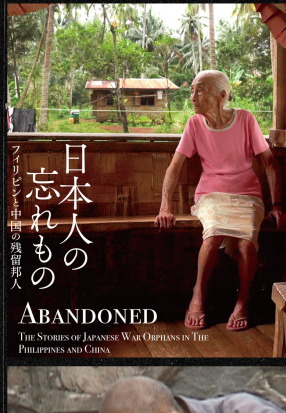
**KINGDOM
OF ARCHERS**



**FAR EAST
DEEP SOUTH**
DISCOVER THE PAST YOU NEVER KNEW



**Death
of the One who
Knows**
Toraja, Sulawesi, Indonesia



日本人的
忘れもの
ABANDONED
THE STORIES OF JAPANESE WAR ORPHANS IN THE
PHILIPPINES AND CHINA



ALL FILM SCREENINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC*

*Conference registration is not required.

Thursday, March 24, 2022

SCREENING TIME	FILM TITLE	LENGTH	Q&A	COUNTRY OF FOCUS	PAGE
12:30pm	<i>Americaville</i>	80 min	ONLINE	China, United States	6
2:00pm	<i>THE MOUNTAIN PATH - my search for a hermit Zen master in China</i>	96 min	ONLINE	China	6
3:50pm	<i>Zero as You Are</i>	84 min	ONLINE	Japan	8
5:25pm	<i>DWANDHA (The Duel): A Tale of Two Rebels</i>	52 min	IN PERSON	Sri Lanka	11

Friday, March 25, 2022

SCREENING TIME	FILM TITLE	LENGTH	Q&A	COUNTRY/REGION OF FOCUS	PAGE
8:30am	<i>Death of the One who Knows</i>	82 min		Indonesia	13
10:00am	<i>The Ice Cream Sellers</i>	75 min	ONLINE	Bangladesh	11
11:25am	<i>Baato</i>	81 min	ONLINE	Nepal	12
12:55pm	<i>Abandoned: The Stories of Japanese War Orphans in The Philippines and China</i>	98 min	ONLINE	The Philippines, China, Japan	8
2:45pm	<i>KIM IL SUNG's Children</i>	85 min	ONLINE	North Korea, Eastern Europe	9
4:20pm	<i>Now Is the Past – My Father, Java & the Phantom Films</i>	88 min	IN PERSON	Japan, Indonesia, and Netherlands	13
6:00pm	<i>COMFORT</i>	73 min	IN PERSON	South Korea, China	9

Saturday, March 26, 2022

SCREENING TIME	FILM TITLE	LENGTH	Q&A	COUNTRY OF FOCUS	PAGE
8:30am	<i>Forget Me Not</i>	86 min	ONLINE	South Korea	10
10:05am	<i>Kingdom of Archers</i>	87 min	ONLINE	Bhutan	12
11:35am	<i>Geographies of Kinship</i>	80 min	IN PERSON	Republic of Korea, United States, Switzerland, Sweden	10
1:05pm	<i>Far East Deep South</i>	77 min	IN PERSON	United States	14
2:35pm	<i>Beethoven in Beijing</i>	86 min	IN PERSON	China	7
4:10pm	<i>Our Time Machine</i>	81 min	ONLINE	China	7
5:40pm	<i>Banyak Ayam Banyak Rejeki (Many Chickens, Lots of Luck)</i>	102 min	ONLINE	Indonesia/Yogyakarta (and Central Java)	14

Film titles in each regional section are listed in order of presentation and include director/producer, year of release, countries of focus, duration, film description, and distribution contacts.

**Screenings are located in the Hawai'i Convention Center,
Theatre 320, Level 3**

On-demand screenings are located in the Hawai'i Convention Center, Theatre 319A, Level 3

CHINA & INNER ASIA

SCREENING DATE	TIME	FILM TITLE	LENGTH	Q&A	COUNTRY OF FOCUS	PAGE
Thursday, 3/24	12:30pm	Americaville	80 min	ONLINE	China, United States	6
Thursday, 3/24	2:00pm	THE MOUNTAIN PATH - my search for a hermit Zen master in China	96 min	ONLINE	China	6
Saturday, 3/26	2:35pm	Beethoven in Beijing	84 min	IN PERSON	China	7
Saturday, 3/26	4:10pm	Our Time Machine	81 min	ONLINE	China	7

NORTHEAST ASIA

SCREENING DATE	TIME	FILM TITLE	LENGTH	Q&A	COUNTRY OF FOCUS	PAGE
Thursday, 3/24	3:50pm	Zero as You Are	84 min	ONLINE	Japan	8
Friday, 3/25	12:55pm	Abandoned: The Stories of Japanese War Orphans in The Philippines and China	98 min	ONLINE	The Philippines, China, Japan	8
Friday, 3/25	2:45pm	KIM IL SUNG's Children	85 min	ONLINE	North Korea, Eastern Europe	9
Friday, 3/25	6:00pm	COMFORT	73 min	IN PERSON	South Korea, China	9
Saturday, 3/26	8:30am	Forget Me Not	86 min	ONLINE	South Korea	10
Saturday, 3/26	11:35am	Geographies of Kinship	80 min	IN PERSON	Republic of Korea, United States, Switzerland, Sweden	10

SOUTH ASIA

SCREENING DATE	TIME	FILM TITLE	LENGTH	Q&A	COUNTRY OF FOCUS	PAGE
Thursday, 3/24	5:25pm	<i>DWANDHA (The Duel): A Tale of Two Rebels</i>	52 min	IN PERSON	Sri Lanka	11
Friday, 3/25	10:00am	<i>The Ice Cream Sellers</i>	75 min	ONLINE	Bangladesh	11
Friday, 3/25	11:25am	<i>Baato</i>	81 min	ONLINE	Nepal	12
Saturday, 3/26	10:05am	<i>Kingdom of Archers</i>	87 min	ONLINE	Bhutan	12

SOUTHEAST ASIA & PACIFIC ISLANDS

SCREENING DATE	TIME	FILM TITLE	LENGTH	Q&A	COUNTRY OF FOCUS	PAGE
Friday, 3/25	8:30am	<i>Death of the One who Knows</i>	82 min		Indonesia	13
Friday, 3/25	4:20pm	<i>Now Is the Past – My Father, Java & the Phantom Films</i>	88 min	IN PERSON	Japan, Indonesia, and Netherlands	13
Saturday, 3/26	5:40pm	<i>Banyak Ayam Banyak Rejeki (Many Chickens, Lots of Luck)</i>	102 min	ONLINE	Indonesia/Yogyakarta (and Central Java)	14

ASIAN AMERICAN

SCREENING DATE	TIME	FILM TITLE	LENGTH	Q&A	COUNTRY OF FOCUS	PAGE
Saturday, 3/26	1:05pm	<i>Far East Deep South</i>	77 min	IN PERSON	United States	14



Americaville

Thursday, March 24, 12:30pm

Directed by Adam James Smith. 2020. China / United States. 80 minutes.

Country/Region Featured: China, United States

Online Q&A with Adam James Smith

Hidden among Beijing's northern mountain range, a replica of the Wyoming town of Jackson Hole promises to deliver the American dream to its several thousand Chinese residents. In *Americaville*, Annie Liu escapes China's increasingly uninhabitable capital city to pursue happiness, freedom, romance, and spiritual fulfillment in Jackson Hole; only to find the American idyll harder to attain than what was promised to her.

Distributed by Adam James Smith, *Archfilm*
www.americavillefilm.com



THE MOUNTAIN PATH - my search for a hermit Zen master in China

Thursday, March 24, 2:00pm

A film by Edward A. Burger. Produced by Agnes Lam. 2021. USA/China. 96 minutes.

Country/Region Featured: China

Online Q&A with Edward Burger

Inspired by China's Tang Dynasty hermit poets, Buddhist filmmaker Edward A. Burger went to China at the age of 23 to learn Mandarin and find an old mountain hermit to teach him Zen. *THE MOUNTAIN PATH* takes viewers into the Zhongnan Mountains to meet Burger's life-long teacher and other recluse Buddhist practitioners living in the surrounding valleys. We witness the practical everyday challenges of mountain solitude, while the hermits share precious teachings on life, death, and the journey within.

Distributed by One Mind Productions, LLC
www.onemindproductions.com



Beethoven in Beijing

Saturday, March 26, 2:35pm

A film by Jennifer Lin and Sharon Mullally. 2021. USA. 86 minutes.

Country/Region Featured: China

IN-PERSON Q&A with Jennifer Lin

Beethoven in Beijing spotlights the resurgence of classical music in China through the legacy of the Philadelphia Orchestra, the first American orchestra to perform in China in 1973. Following the end of China's Cultural Revolution, when Western classical music was banned in favor of politically themed works, the onset of "Beethoven fever" began. Narrated by American and Chinese musicians and historians, the film explores the impact of the Philadelphia Orchestra's historic tour on China both then and now.

Distributed by History Making Productions.

www.historymakingproductions.com | beethoveninbeijing.com



Our Time Machine

Saturday, March 26, 4:10pm

A film by Yang Sun & S. Leo Chiang. 2020. China. 81 minutes.

Country/Region Featured: China

ONLINE Q&A with S. Leo Chiang

When artist Maleonn realizes that his father suffers from Alzheimer's disease, he creates "Papa's Time Machine," a magical, autobiographical stage performance featuring life-size mechanical puppets. Through the production of this play, the two men confront their mortality before time runs out and memories are lost forever.

Distributed by Passion River Films.

<http://edu.passionriver.com/our-time-machine-documentary.html>



Zero as You Are

Thursday, March 24, 3:50pm

Directed by Miyuki Tokoi. 2020. Japan. 84 minutes.

Country/region featured: Japan

ONLINE Q&A with Miyuki Tokoi.

24-year-old Sky Kobayashi has been trying to find his true gender since childhood. Born as a girl, he was one of the first students in Japan to persuade a junior high school to accept a female as a boy. At 20, he underwent surgeries so that he could legally become a man, the youngest case in Japan. But this was just the beginning. Sky then discovered that he does not identify as a man either and is now searching beyond binary genders. We followed Sky for nine years on his journey through genders.

Distributed by MUSUBI Productions.

<https://musubiproductions.amebaownd.com> | <https://konomi.work>



Abandoned: The Stories of Japanese War Orphans in The Philippines and China

Friday, March 25, 12:55pm

A film by Hiroyasu Obara. 2020. Japan. 98 minutes.

Country/region featured: Philippines, China, Japan

ONLINE Q&A with Eri Kitada (Rutgers University-New Brunswick).

Addressing family and transnationalism, citizenship and empire, and history and memory across East and Southeast Asia, this documentary traces forgotten and disappeared Japanese communities in the Philippines and former Manchuria from the perspective and testimonies of orphans left behind. Now approaching the end of their lives, children of former migrants share how families grapple with legal, economic, and emotional questions of historically fraught diaspora communities from areas colonized or occupied by Japan which were destroyed during and after World War II, along with the Japanese empire itself.

Distributed by K-Project | <http://wasure-mono.com/>



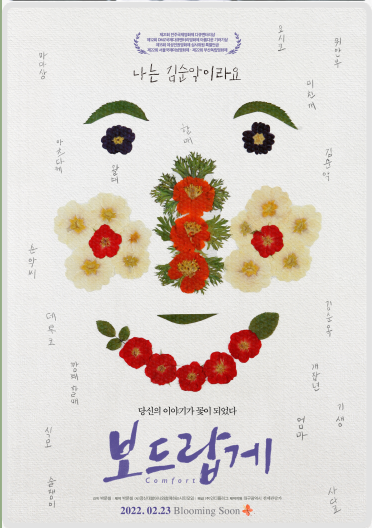
KIM IL SUNG's Children

Friday, March 25, 2:45pm

Directed by Young Kim. 2020. Korea. 85 minutes.
Country/region featured: North Korea, Eastern Europe
ONLINE Q&A Young Kim.

This documentary is a true story of the North Korean orphans sent out to Eastern Europe in the 1950s. During the war, orphans in the North and South totaled 100,000. While South Korean orphans moved to Europe and the United States through 'International Adoption', the North Korea government choose a unique method called 'Commissioned Education'. In contrast with adoption, it was a new life for orphans in foreign countries practicing Socialist Cosmopolitanism, or Solidarity of socialism, helping each other evacuate war orphans to safe places. The story of children who were shaped by KIM IL SUNG's ideal, instead of Stalin's provides a key to understanding North Korea.

Distributed by Docustory Production | <https://www.2twohomes.com/>



COMFORT

Friday, March 25, 6:00pm

Directed by Emmanuel Moonchil PARK. 2020. South Korea. 73 minutes.
Country/region featured: South Korea, China
IN PERSON Q&A with Emmanuel Moonchil PARK.

KIM Soonak was a survivor of Japanese military sexual slavery and so much more. Her life after the war was another war in itself. In order to survive, she engaged in prostitution, US camptown sex trade, and manual labor. Weaving interviews of activists, archive footage, animation, and the recital of testimonies, the film reconstructs the life stories of the late KIM Soonak.

Distributed by the filmmaker.
 Contact: jazzurup@gmail.com



Forget Me Not

Saturday, March 26, 8:30am

Directed by Sun Hee Engelstoft. 2019. Korea. 83 minutes.

Country/region featured: South Korea

ONLINE Q&A with Sun Hee Engelstoft.

Forget Me Not follows three unwed mothers staying at a shelter in the countryside on Jeju Island in South Korea. Each mother must decide if she wants to keep the baby or give it up for adoption. Engelstoft's sensitive portrait brings us close to a forbidden world and through her own experience as a Korean adoptee, she gives a deeply personal and extraordinary insight into a culture in which women can't choose their own fate.

Distributed by Grasshopper Film.

<http://store.grasshopperfilm.com/forget-me-not.html>

<http://www.finalcutforreal.dk/forget-me-not>



GEOGRAPHIES of KINSHIP

A FILM BY DEANN BORSHAY LIEM

Geographies of Kinship

Saturday, March 26, 11:35am

Produced and directed by Deann Borshay Liem. 2019. USA. 80 minutes.

Country/region featured: Republic of Korea, United States, Switzerland, Sweden

IN-PERSON Q&A with Deann Borshay Liem.

In this powerful tale about the rise of Korea's global adoption program, four adult adoptees return to their country of birth and recover the personal histories that were erased when they were adopted. Raised in foreign families, each sets out on a journey to reconnect with their roots, mapping the geographies of kinship that bind them to a homeland they never knew. *Geographies of Kinship* will have its premiere national broadcast as part of America Reframed on public television's World Channel on May 19th, 2022.

Distributed by Mu Films.

www.mufilms.org



DWANDHA (The Duel): A Tale of Two Rebels

Thursday, March 24, 5:25pm

Directed by Udan Fernando. 2019. Sri Lanka. 52 minutes.

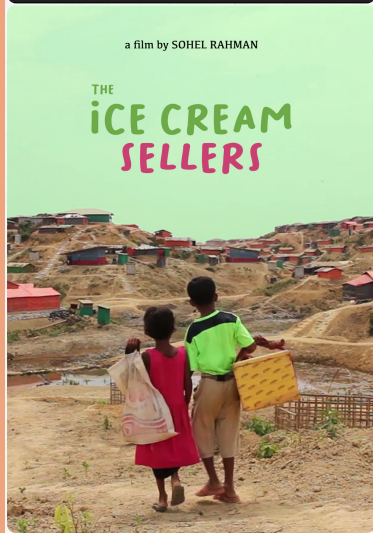
Country/region featured: Sri Lanka

IN-PERSON Q&A with Udan Fernando.

DWANDHA (Duel) is about two prominent and influential leaders of two rebel movements and insurrections in Sri Lanka from the South and North. The film unfolds a period of six decades of their life trajectories, particularly the childhood experiences that defined their destinies and their subsequent political choices which eventually influenced many young followers. Now in their late seventies, having survived to tell the tale, they reminisce the history they created and failed to create.

Distributed by the filmmaker.

Contact: udanfer2014@gmail.com



The Ice Cream Sellers

Friday, March 25, 10:00am

A film by Sohel Rahman. 2021. Bangladesh. 75 minutes.

Country/region featured: Bangladesh.

ONLINE Q&A with Sohel Rahman.

The Ice Cream Sellers is a story of two siblings and the genocide survivors of the Rohingya community who fled from Myanmar into Bangladesh after a brutal genocide. While most of the Rohingya people were exhausted from the weight of their trauma, the two siblings began their new life with hard work, selling cheap ice cream door to door in the world's largest refugee camp in Cox's Bazar, Chittagong, Bangladesh. Their aim is to earn enough money to bribe officials for the release of their father from prison in Myanmar.

Distributed by the filmmaker.

Contact: sohelvdcinema@gmail.com | <https://www.facebook.com/afilmbysohelrahman>



Baato

Friday, March 25, 11:25am

A film by Lucas Millard and Kate Stryker. 2020. Nepal / USA. 81 minutes.

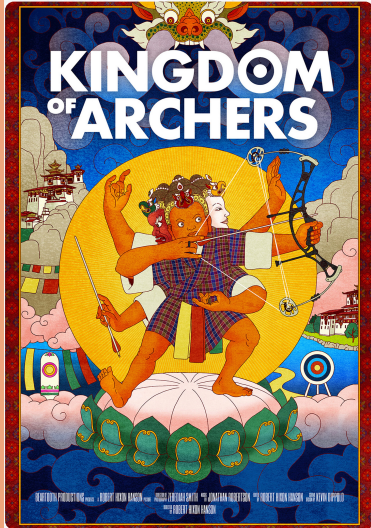
Country/region featured: Nepal

ONLINE Q&A with Lucas Millard

Every winter Mikma and her family travel by foot from their village deep in the Himalaya of Nepal to sell local medicinal plants in urban markets. This year, construction of a new highway to China has begun in their roadless valley, and things are never going to be the same. With the new road will come new challenges, new opportunities, and ultimately a new way of being to those who live along its path.

Distributed by Grasshopper Film

<http://store.grasshopperfilm.com/baato.html> | <https://baatofilm.com/>



Kingdom of Archers

Saturday, March 26, 10:05am

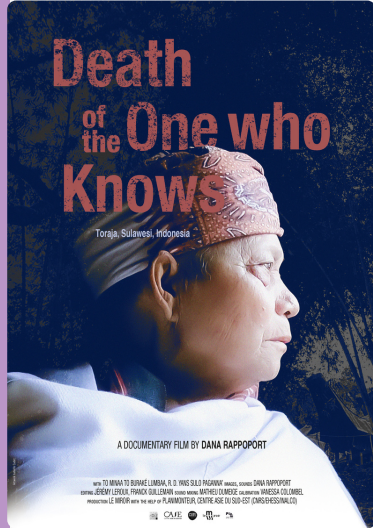
Directed by Robert Hixon Hanson. 2021. USA. 87 minutes.

Country/region featured: Bhutan

ONLINE Q&A with Robert Hixon Hanson

Traditional archery matches are community-wide events involving song, dance, food, and drink in Bhutan, but internal and external forces are changing the game. Imported high-tech equipment is replacing traditional bamboo bows and arrows, and a government campaign has introduced international-style archery competition to every school. Through individual stories intertwined with interviews from the country's leaders, this film explores many facets of archery in Bhutan, addressing the challenges of cultural preservation against the forces of modernization, westernization, and economic development.

Distributed by Passion River Films | <http://edu.passionriver.com/kingdom-of-archers.html>



Death of the One who Knows

Friday, March 25, 8:30am

Directed by Dana Rappoport. 2020. France. 82 minutes.

Country/region featured: Indonesia

In the Toraja highlands of Sulawesi (Indonesia), Lumbaa is one of the last masters of ritual speech. After his forced conversion to Pentecostalism, he is compelled to stop all his ritual activity and oratory. Concerned by the disappearance of “those who know”, a young Catholic priest named Yans Sulo sets out in search of the society’s ancient oral genres, seeking to invent new forms that would keep them alive. The two men meet. But it is too late. By recounting the life and death of Lumbaa, the film shows how the intrusion of world religion disrupts a Southeast Asian society.

Distributed by LE MIROIR.

CONTACT: Gabriel CHABANIER, producer gabchab@free.fr



Now Is the Past – My Father, Java & the Phantom Films

Friday, March 25, 4:20pm

Directed by Shin-ichi Ise. 2021. Japan. 88 minutes.

Country/region featured: Japan, Indonesia, and the Netherlands

IN-PERSON Q&A with Shin-ichi Ise.

During WWII, Japan occupied many regions in Asia, claiming release from European colonialism. Chounosuke Ise, a Japanese film editor, created a variety of propaganda movies in Indonesia to rationalize Japan’s hegemony in Asia. ‘Now is the Past’ examines the journey of his son, Shin-ichi Ise, a Japanese documentary filmmaker who started research 30 years ago while following his father’s path. Meanwhile, almost 130 of senior Ise’s propaganda films were preserved at the Netherlands Institute for Sound and Vision. The son has tried to see the truth of war in Indonesia by seeking the father’s work.

Distributed by Ise Film. | www.isefilm.com



Banyak Ayam Banyak Rejeki (Many Chickens, Lots of Luck)

Saturday, March 26, 5:40pm

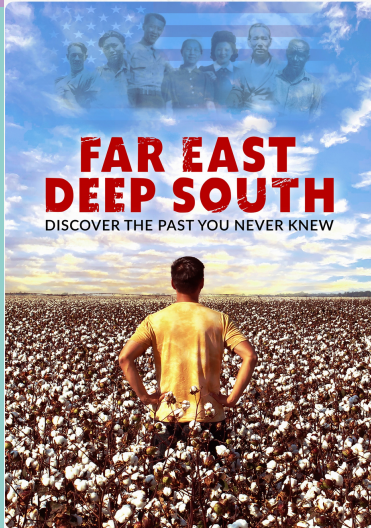
Directed by Önar Önarsson & Riboet Akbar. **Produced by** Koes Yuliadi & Dag Yngvesson. 2020. Indonesia. 102 minutes.

Country/region featured: Indonesia / Yogyakarta and Central Java.

ONLINE Q&A with Dag Yngvesson and Koes Yuliadi.

Banyak Ayam Banyak Rejeki is a hybrid film that documents the growth of critical perspectives in three very different Indonesian women who happen to share the same husband. Made over the course of 11 years in the city of Yogyakarta, the film's unusually lengthy process compelled its participants to engage with major social and political shifts that radically alter the courses of the narrative and their lives. Drawing on local cinematic wisdom, satire and humor are deployed as "safe" ways to address rapidly expanding Islamic conservatism and vigilantism and the complex effects of social media on individual agency.

Self-distributed by 5 Monkeys & A Duck | Contact: dag.yngvesson@nottingham.edu.my



Far East Deep South

Saturday, March 26, 1:05pm

Directed by Larissa Lam. **Produced by** Baldwin Chiu. 2020. USA. 77 minutes.

Country/region featured: Mississippi, USA

IN-PERSON Q&A with Larissa Lam and Baldwin Chiu.

When a Chinese-American man from California, travels to Mississippi to visit the grave of his father who abandoned him as a baby, he and his family stumble upon surprising revelations that change their lives. Along the way, they meet a diverse group of local residents and historians, who shed light on the racially complex history of Chinese immigrants in the segregated South. Their emotional journey leads them to discover how deep their roots run in America but how the Chinese Exclusion Act separated their family for generations.

Distributed by New Day Films. | newday.com | FarEastDeepSouth.com

AAS 2022 FILM EXPO

Curator:

Jason Finkelman, Global Arts Performance Initiatives, Krannert Center for the Performing Arts; AsiaLENS Film Series, Center for East Asian and Pacific Studies, *University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign*.

Film Reviewers:

Tim Liao, Head, Department of Sociology; Professor of Sociology, Statistics, and East Asian Languages and Cultures, *University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign*.

Misumi Sadler, Director, Center for East Asian and Pacific Studies; Associate Professor of Japanese Linguistics and Pedagogy, East Asian Languages and Cultures, *University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign*.

Mara L. Thacker, Associate Professor, Global Popular Culture and South Asian Studies Librarian, University Library, *University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign*.

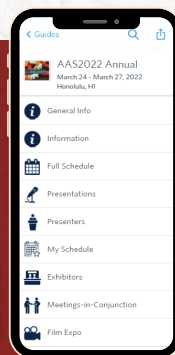
Matthew S. Winters, Associate Professor and Associate Head for Graduate Programs, Department of Political Science, *University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign*.

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<https://guidebook.com/g/aas2022/>



The **CENTER FOR EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC STUDIES (CEAPS) AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN** is the steward of campus-wide teaching, research, programming, and outreach on East Asia, as well as Southeast Asia and the Pacific. Asian Educational Media Service (AEMS) is an engagement program of CEAPS promoting the understanding of Asian cultures and peoples by assisting educators at all levels, from elementary schools to colleges and universities, in finding resources for learning and teaching about Asia. Established in 1998, AEMS has curated the Association for Asia Studies Film Expo at the annual conference since 2011, and the AsiaLENS Film Series at the University of Illinois since 2008.

CEAPS formed The East Asia National Resource Center Consortium in partnership with the East Asian Studies Center at Indiana University, Bloomington in 2005. The IL/IN Consortium has flourished as a Title VI program of the U.S. Department of Education since 2006 and comprises one of the largest faculty concentrations and most rigorous training programs on East Asian scholarship in the Midwest.

www.ceaps.illinois.edu

The **ASSOCIATION FOR ASIAN STUDIES (AAS)** is a non-profit dedicated to the advancement of the field of Asian Studies through international exchange, networking, publications, research support, and career development. With over 5,500 members worldwide, representing all regions and countries of Asia and all academic disciplines, the AAS is the largest organization of its kind. Through its publications, online resources, regional conferences, and annual conference, the AAS provides its members with a unique and invaluable professional network.

www.asianstudies.org

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