

CEAPS E-News February 16th - 20th, 2026

Event Recap



Mochitsuki & Lunar New Year Event

On Monday, Feb 9th, CEAPS hosted a traditional Mochitsuki event where participants experienced mochi-making using a mortar and mallet. University High School Japanese teacher Hikaru Takeyama gave a lecture on the brief history of Mochitsuki and demonstrated how to pound steamed rice into rice dough and have people make mochi with different ingredients inside the rice dough. It was a lot of fun to learn about Japanese traditional food and engage in the mochi-making process. Thank you all for your participation!

Event This Week



CEAPS Brown Bag

Dr. Cheeno Marlo Sayuno | "Tales of Asian Boys' Love: Translanguaging and Transmediality of Romance in Selected Japanese, Thai, and Filipino Series"

Friday, Feb 20th
1:30pm - 3pm
Hybrid: 306 Coble Hall & Zoom

About the Speaker:
Dr. Cheeno Marlo Sayuno is a Postdoctoral Research Associate at the School of Information Sciences, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and an Associate Professor of Communication, Research, and Children's Literature from the University of the Philippines Los Baños. He has received recognition from the prestigious Carlos Palanca Memorial Awards for Literature, the National Book Awards in the Philippines, the Philippine Board on Books for Young People's Salanga Prize, and the Normal Awards for Gender-Inclusive Literature for his stories for and research about children. His research interests include children's literature and media, digital narratives, social media studies, and popular culture. He has coauthored a chapter on Filipino young people's mobile communication experience in Springer's Mobile Media Use Among Children and Youth in Asia. His book on children's agentic transmedia engagement is forthcoming with Palgrave Macmillan.

[More Information & Registration Here](#)

The baseament of Coble Hall will be undergoing renovations during Spring semester. The elevator access to the building is adjacent to an active construction site. It may at times be dusty or have construction traffic.

Upcoming Events



CEAPS Brown Bag

Dr. Jingling Chen | "Zhou Zuoren at Tiger Bridge"

Friday, Feb 27th
1:30pm - 3pm
Hybrid: 306 Coble Hall & Zoom

About the Speaker:
Jingling Chen received her Ph.D. at Harvard University and is teaching in the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures at University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Her interests include Chinese and Greek Comparative Literature, modern and contemporary Chinese narrative, and modern Chinese intellectual history. Her book on the Greek Imaginary and Chinese intellectual and cultural modernity An Acropolis in China: Modern China and Ancient Greece is forthcoming with Duke University

[More Information & Registration Here](#)

Upcoming Opportunities



Women's and Gender History Symposium 2026

Women's and Gender History Symposium 2026 will be held on March 5-7 at the Levis 210, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (Hybrid Format), featuring graduate research and keynote speakers Arunima Datta (Associate Professor of History, University of North Texas) and Erik McDuffie (Associate Professor of History, UIUC).

[More Information & Registration Here](#)



2026 Usindo Summer Studies Program Application Open

Applications are open for the 2026 USINDO Summer Studies Program, a ten-week immersive program in Yogyakarta and Jakarta that combines intensive Bahasa Indonesia study, homestays, community engagement, and structured cultural programming running June 2-August 7, 2026. The program is largely funded (80% subsidized), with a student contribution of \$2,000. Multiple need-based scholarships are available to reduce the cost to \$500. The application deadline is February 21, 2026 (8:30 pm EST).

Contact: usindo@iitj.org or gmelatanun@usindo.org

[More Information & Registration Here](#)



Call for Submissions: Undergraduate History Conference at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

On April 17 and 18, 2026, the Undergraduate History Journal at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign will hold the second Undergraduate History Conference for the state of Illinois and the surrounding area, in partnership with the Phi Alpha Theta Epsilon chapter at Illinois. We are now accepting submissions for titles and abstract of papers to be presented at this conference that reasonably align with the theme of "Reflections of Power." We do not need your paper in its entirety, only the title and a cohesive abstract.

This call is open to any discussions surrounding power throughout history and its various reflections. Power is found and tested in conflict, romance, or nostalgia. It is reflected in the rise and fall of empire, the pursuit of the few against the many, in the challenge to the status quo, and in the defense of the establishment; it is seen in the historiographies and afterlives of the past. Power reflects in many ways in every time period and geographic location. You may also choose to challenge the theme in your paper presentation. Additionally, we welcome interdisciplinary projects that may emanate from fields outside of history. We do, however, require that your presentations focus on a historical topic or approach.

Submission Guidelines:

1. Submissions from any discipline, as long as they focus on a historical topic or approach, are encouraged. The submission deadline is **February 17, 2026 at 11:59 pm**.
2. Submissions must be the original work of the author. These submissions should take the form of the title and abstract of the paper the author wishes to present. Abstracts should be 250 words or fewer.
3. Submissions will be considered if they are submitted by undergraduate and/or recently graduated students.
4. Submissions should be entered into the [Conference Google Form](#).

If your proposal is accepted, you will have until **March 17** to submit a completed draft of your conference paper to share with conference panel discussants. Whether you are planning to present at or attend Illinois' Undergraduate History Conference this April, please fill out the [Google Form](#) to register.

Contact: Reflections of Power Committee (uiuc_undergraduate_histcon@gmail.com)

[More Information on Conference](#)



Call for Submissions: Student Colloquium: "Cross-cutting perspectives in Asia" at the University of Montréal

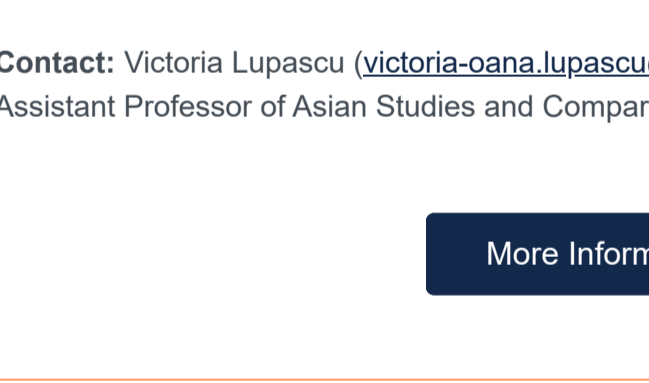
The Center for Asian Studies at the University of Montréal and its Student Association are pleased to announce their first student colloquium, "Cross-cutting perspectives in Asia"/(Perspective de transversalité en Asie), to be held in a hybrid format (in person and online) at the University of Montréal on **March 14, 2026**. Undergraduate and graduate students currently researching Asia-related topics are invited to submit proposals either individually or for a full panel. The colloquium's focus is on Asia, and we suggest the following themes:

1. Geography and contemporary politics
2. History, culture, and society
3. Literature, philosophy, and spirituality

This call for papers aims to involve students interested in issues related to Asia in a multidisciplinary space where they can share ideas with other enthusiasts. We accept proposals both in French and English, but encourage the use of French, if possible. Please send your proposal to assocetase@gmail.com before **February 10** at 11:59 p.m. EST in a Word or PDF file. It should contain a provisional title and should not be longer than 250 words. Please also include the following information: your email address, full name, program of study, and university. The full schedule will be announced a week after the call for papers closes.

Contact: Victoria Lupascu (victoria-ana.lupascu@umontreal.ca), Director of Undergraduate Studies, Assistant Professor of Asian Studies and Comparative Literature

[More Information on Colloquium](#)



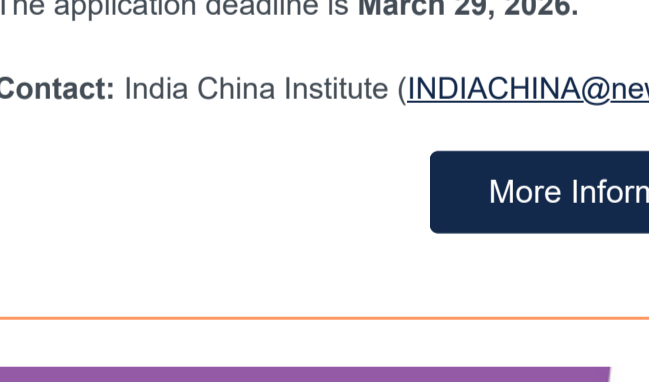
Applications Open: Global Health Fellowship

The India China Institute (ICI) is delighted to invite applications for the upcoming Global Health Fellowship. It is a year-long, international research seminar on the histories, sociologies and political economies of public health in Asia. The seminar will be interdisciplinary, including scholars and practitioners in relevant sciences, humanities and social science disciplines or in professional fields. A PhD (or in some fields of practice, a Master's) in a relevant field is required. The seminar is open to both younger and to more established scholars and practitioners. The fellowship award comes with a \$5,000 payment and fully paid travel and room and board for the workshops.

The application deadline is **March 29, 2026**.

Contact: India China Institute (INDIACHINA@newschool.edu)

[More Information on Application](#)

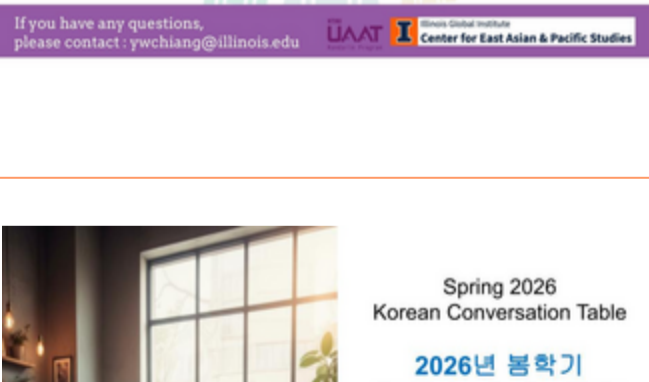


2026 UAAT Mandarin Speech Contest

The 2026 UAAT Mandarin Speech Contest welcomes young Mandarin learners to join in on an upcoming community event. If you are interested in building confidence in public speaking and meeting other Mandarin learners, we'd love for you to register. We warmly welcome attendees of different ages and Mandarin backgrounds from Central Illinois to participate. Don't forget that the deadline for application is this Wednesday (3/18)!

Date: Saturday, April 18, 2026
Time: 10:00 AM – 1:30 PM
Venue: Levis Faculty Center, Room 210
Registration Deadline: This Wednesday, March 18, 2026
Contact: YiWen Chiang (ywchiang@illinois.edu)

[More Information and Registration](#)



Spring 2026 Korean Conversation Table

The SP26 Korean Conversation Table will start its in-person meeting this week on Friday, January 30, 2026.
Date and Time: 5-6 pm every Friday (1/30-4/24) during SP26 semester except for March 14-28
Location: **Everitt Lab 2233** across Illini Union
Contact: Jeeyoung Ahn [Ha\(jahn3@illinois.edu\)](mailto:Ha(jahn3@illinois.edu)), Director of the Korean language program or Jihey Yun (jhy26@illinois.edu), KCT coordinator for any questions!

Korean Conversation Table (KCT) is an informal, no-pressure space for learners of Korean who would like to practice speaking in a relaxed and supportive environment. Participants can build confidence through casual conversation, interact with fellow learners and facilitators, and engage with Korean language use at various levels. KCT also provides an opportunity to learn about and experience aspects of Korean culture. Everyone is welcome so please join us!

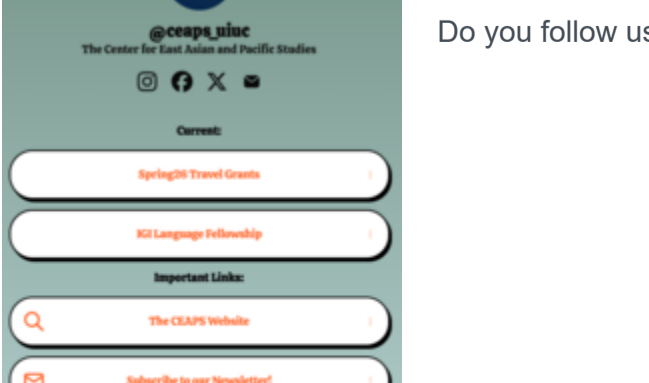
Spring 2026 Chinese Language Table

The Spring 2026 Chinese Language Table will begin its in-person meetings on Friday, February 6, 2026.

- Date and Time: 2-3 pm, every other Friday (2/6-4/25/2026)
- Location: LCLB 2050 (EALC Library)
- Contact: Ying Pin Chen (ypchen@illinois.edu)

The Chinese Language Table is an informal, no-pressure space for students and community members of all proficiency levels to practice communicating in Mandarin Chinese, engage in Chinese cultural activities, and connect with one another. Meeting topics and dates include Chinese Zodiac and Personality (2/6), Mahjong (2/13), Lantern Festival (3/6), Calligraphy (3/27), Chinese Tea Culture (4/17), and Making Sachets (4/24). Join us!

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