

# TEA News

*Featuring opportunities for educators,  
updates, and resources*

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#### **The Program for Teaching East Asia**

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## TEA Programs

### Director's Note

With this issue of the TEA E-News, I'm retiring as Director of the Program for Teaching East Asia after 38 amazing years. My retirement comes with appreciation to all those who have enriched my professional life and the TEA program over the years.

TEA began in 1985 as the Rocky Mountain Region Japan Project, sparked by a one-month Fulbright Group Project in Japan for 20 Colorado teachers. Twelve years later, we expanded to become the Program for Teaching East Asia. In 2001, I accepted a great opportunity to move TEA to the University of Colorado Boulder's Center for Asian Studies.

TEA has been sustained through the generous support of many foundations and grants, but none more visionary or generous than The Freeman Foundation, beginning in 1997. That support for TEA and our flagship project, the National Consortium for Teaching about Asia, has empowered us to work with thousands of K-12 teachers and Asianists over the past 26 years. I cannot leave TEA without expressing my deep gratitude for the support of this unique foundation and its sustained commitment and partnership in impacting education about Asia.

It has been a privilege to collaborate with exceptional colleagues and scholars at the University of Colorado and nationally, as well as with so many outstanding K-12 educators. Each year, we offer professional development programs that ask busy elementary and secondary teachers to spend many hours reading, learning, discussing, and applying our courses in their classrooms. And each semester, our courses, institutes, and study tours fill with teacher-scholars committed to enriching their own knowledge of East Asia and sending their students on as globally minded citizens. Teachers inspire our programs. Thank you!

Many of you reading the TEA E-news are familiar with Dr. Lynn Kalinauskas as TEA's China program specialist or know her work with NCTA nationally. I'm pleased to announce that Lynn succeeds me as director of the Program for Teaching East Asia. I'm excited that TEA will greet its fifth decade and explore new possibilities with her creative leadership.  
Lynn Parisi

**NCTA 25th-Anniversary May Lesson Plans.** This month, as we head into summer, we're recognizing two teachers and their NCTA-inspired middle-grade lessons. Congratulations to **Christine Schaefer** and **Jennifer Smith**, our May 2023 Anniversary Curriculum Awardees! Christine, from Waukee, IA, has been involved with TEA-NCTA since 2006. Her lesson

focuses on "What was special about Deng Xiaoping's economic reforms?" Jennifer Smith, from Mahomet, IL, has completed multiple book studies in TEA-NCTA's Japan through Children's Literature series. Her featured lesson integrates social studies and literacy study through an exploration of the Korean picture book *I am the Subway* by Kim Hyo-eun. Access these lessons and our growing collection (January-May 2023) of Awardee lessons [here](#).

**TEA's NCTA 25th-Anniversary Curriculum Recognition Project continues in fall 2023.** This anniversary lasts all year! Although our *TEA E-News* takes a break over the summer, we'll be back in the fall and will feature anniversary lesson awardees from September through December. Alumni of our NCTA seminars, institutes, and study tours are invited to submit an original lesson plan on East Asia related to their participation in one of our programs. Featured authors receive a gift card, Freeman Award-winning books, and NCTA 25th Anniversary tote. [Details](#).

## National Opportunities

### Upcoming National Programs from our NCTA Colleagues

#### May and Summer Programs from the Five College Center for East Asian Studies

- *Teaching East Asia: A Virtual Workshop in Honor of Arlene Kowal*. May 10, 6:30-8:30 p.m. ET. Recognizing the contributions of a long-time contributor to NCTA in New England, this evening workshop features presentations by NCTA alums from the region. [Details](#).
- Seminar: *Walking the Tōkaidō*, May 22 - August 28. Using the My Virtual Mission platform, participants will walk (both virtually and the distance in reality) from Edo to Kyoto, stopping at stations to complete readings, view webinars/videos, and respond to discussion prompts. Participants progress at their own pace. [Details](#).
- Seminar: *Exploring the Two Koreas II*, July 10 - 14, 10 a.m.-noon ET Complements the Summer 2022 course to examine new topics including Korea's modern history, Korean popular culture, North-South relations, geopolitics and other contemporary issues. [Details](#).

## Colorado Programs

**2023 Children's Day Festival. May 6, 10:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.** Hosted by the Japan-America Society of Southern Colorado on the Colorado College campus, this free event features Japanese crafts and activities for children of all ages, as well as demonstrations of dance, martial arts, and fashion. [Details](#).

### May Programs from the Asian Chamber of Commerce

- *Denver Art Museum*. May 9, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Meet Denver Art Museum Asian Art curator and Associate Curator and view the "Her Brush" exhibit or the Arts of Asia galleries. [Registration](#).

- *Cultural Experience Series - Mongolian Community*. May 24, 5:30-8:00 p.m. Learn more about Mongolia through performances and food sampling. [Registration](#).

**Upcycled Indigo Dyeing. May 27, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.** Featuring Japanese botanical dye fiber artist Maki Teshima, this workshop will include Japanese dyeing techniques of *shibori* and *ita-jime*. Denver Art Museum. [Details](#).

**Tokyo Stories film screening. May 28, 4:30-6:00 p.m.** This film is based on an art exhibit on 400 years of art from Tokyo. Through the film, viewers travel to Tokyo and explore the art and artists of the city. SteamPlant Event Center, Salida. [Tickets](#).

**Cherry Blossom Festival. June 17/18, 11:00 a.m.-6:00/4:00 p.m.** The 49<sup>th</sup> annual “Sakura Matsuri” celebrates Japanese heritage and culture through live entertainment, a marketplace, food and drink, and other informational exhibits and demonstrations. Sakura Square, Denver. [Details](#).

**Colorado Dragon Boat Festival. July 22 - 23.** This festival features dragon boat races, food, an Asian marketplace, and performances on multiple stages to showcase Asian culture and community. Sloan’s Lake Park, Denver. [Details](#).

**Fantastic Brush: Twentieth-Century Chinese Ink Art from the Robert and Lisa Kessler Collection.** This Denver Art Museum exhibit includes 23 ink paintings by some of the most important Chinese artists of the twentieth century. The collection tells the story of these Chinese traditional ink artists' encounters with varying global arts, politics, and socioeconomics across the 20th century. [More information](#).

#### Previously Mentioned Colorado Programs

**Her Brush: Japanese Women Artists from the Fong-Johnstone Collection. Through July 16.** This Denver Art Museum exhibit addresses voice, gender, and agency through painting, calligraphy, and ceramics by Japanese female artists from the 1600s to 1900s. [Details](#).

## NCTA State and Regional Programs

Programs cited below are limited to specific states or regions. Please check eligibility.

**North and South Carolina. Workshop: Timely Resources for Teaching about China. May 13, 10 a.m-1 p.m.** This in-person program will provide Inquiry Design Model lesson plans and primary source materials for classroom instruction. [Registration](#).

**Florida. Seminar: East Asian Culture. May 20 - June 24.** Registration is through Maria Sol Echarren, Program Manager, via [asian@fiu.edu](mailto:asian@fiu.edu).

## Featured Resources

***Korea Gone Global: K-Pop and Technologies of Soft Power*** is a three-day unit for high school students available online from the Stanford Program for International and Cross-Cultural Education (SPICE). The unit was developed around a video lecture by Dr. Dafna Zur, Stanford Associate Professor of Korean literature and culture. Students consider definitions of culture, popular culture, soft power, and *Hallyu* (the Korean wave) while learning about the K-Pop industry. For the culminating activity, students apply what they learned about the features and staying power of South Korea's soft power to develop a plan for another country to elevate its soft power.