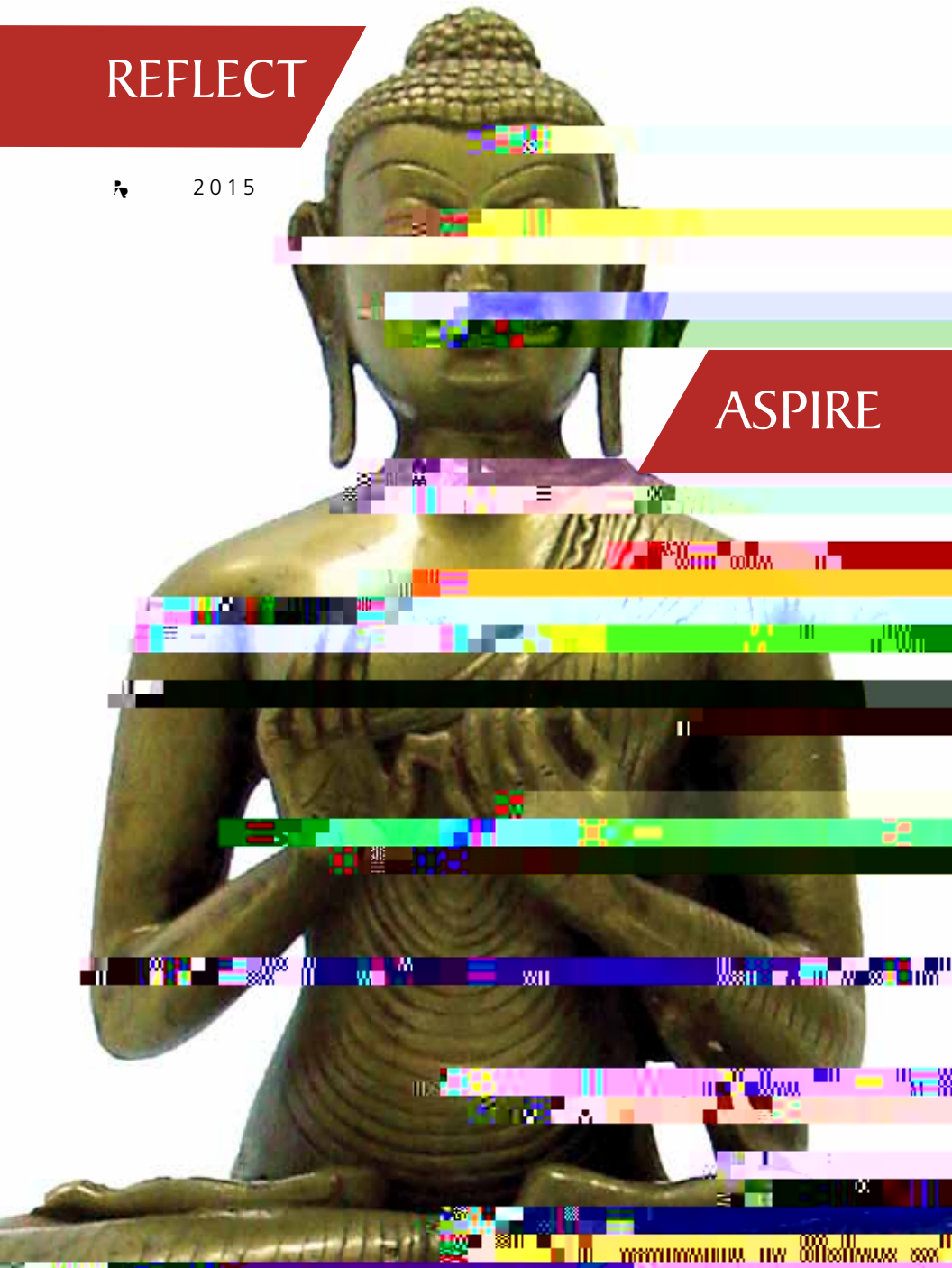


REFLECT

2015

ASPIRE



Meditation

1500 visitors explored the diverse traditions, histories, purposes and approaches to meditation through objects from the Asian Arts & Culture Center's permanent collection and more. Goals for the show included experimenting with diverse approaches to:

- Interpreting the AA&CC collection
- Interacting with exhibitions, their objects, and ideas
- Broadening the appeal of and engagement with AA&CC exhibitions by TU students and the local community

The Asian Arts & Culture Center expresses its gratitude to John Ford for contributing his curatorial and design expertise to this exhibition. We also thank John and Berthe Ford for lending two beautiful Tibetan thangkas to the exhibition. We thank Theresa Esterlund for her guidance with the interactive gallery elements and Joseph Grace for his expert work on lighting the show.

- 91% of survey respondents reported that the exhibit increased their understanding of Asian art and culture
 - 82% of survey respondents were TU students
 - 23% of survey respondents liked the interactive elements of the exhibition most
- "The interactive nature of the beads, pillows and journals caused me to do more personal reflection than I typically would have done."

"The exhibit makes me want to learn more about Asian arts and culture."

This exhibition theme was inspired by the Center's performance by Taiwan's U-Theatre, held on October 18. The group integrates meditation and introspection into its training.

Coming Soon! Online version of this exhibition.

Thank You Tierney Gormley, AA&CC intern; Daniel Cannella, Photographer; Jackie Durbin, Director of Content Strategy,

AA&CC Members Cocktail Reception

Sunday, September 21, 1 - 3 p.m.

Center for the Arts Asian Arts Gallery and Atrium



This special event, for Crane Level members and above, featured an exclusive presentation by Hindustani [North Indian] classical vocalist Samia Mahbub Ahmad.



U-Theatre: Sword of Wisdom

Saturday, October 18, 7:30 p.m.

Stephens Hall Theatre

Through a fusion of drumming, martial arts, and meditation, Taiwan's U-Theatre performance troupe presented *Sword of Wisdom*, a story of courage in the face of life's challenges, to 250 audience members.

Presented with support from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Culture, and the Overseas Community Affairs Council-Republic of China (Taiwan); a program grant from the Maryland State Arts Council, an agency dedicated to cultivating a vibrant community where the arts thrive, with funding from the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency; the citizens of Baltimore County; McCormick & Co., Inc.; Capital Partners Securities, Co., Ltd.; the Ro and Marius P. Johnson Charitable Legacy, Inc.; and the Hanlin Chinese Culture Association.

Mid-Day Meditation

Thursday, November 6 & Monday, November 10, 1 - 2 p.m.

Center for the Arts Asian Arts Gallery

TU Counseling Center therapists, Jaime Fenton and Sheila Graham, led free meditation sessions in the Meditation exhibition for TU students, faculty and staff.



Family Art Days



Saturdays October 11, November 15 and March 14

Center for the Arts Atrium and Galleries

The Asian Arts & Culture Center partnered with TU's Community Art Center to host family-friendly hands-on and gallery activities related to current exhibitions. Thank you to our volunteers who made these days successful!



Art Collection Acquisition

In November 2014 the AA&CC accepted a generous gift of a Song Dynasty (960–1368 AD) Qingbai porcelain bowl with a beautiful, semi-abstract wave-like oral pattern from Mr. & Mrs. Stephen C. Walke.

We thank Mrs. Jeannette Walke for thinking of the AA&CC as a new home for this exquisite bowl.

Dress to Express Museum Module

The AA&CC is proud to participate in Local Learning's pilot of the Dress to Express online learning resource exploring dress and adornment across time and cultural groups. The resource offers strategies for interdisciplinary lessons linking museum collections to communities and students' lives. The three pilot modules were created by educators at the Arizona State Museum, the Michigan State University Museum, and the Asian Arts & Culture Center. They are housed at Local Learning's online Discovery Studio: <http://locallearningnetwork.org/index.php/guest-artist/dress-to-express-museum-modules/>

The AA&CC plans to work with Towson University students to create additional collection-based modules for the resource and to create a direct link to the resource from its website.

Local Learning is a national network of professionals interested in connecting young people to folklore and traditional and local culture. Local Learning and the Dress to Express project are supported by the National Endowment for the Arts.



Japanese Woodblock Print of Kabuki Actor, Otawa-ya Onoe Matsusuke, as Oboshi Yuranosuke In the Play, The Forty-seven Samurai Asian Arts & Culture Center Collection, P-026

DeVos Arts Management Program

The AA&CC is excited about its acceptance into the DeVos Institute of Arts Management, a two-year arts management training and consultancy program for 20 arts and culture organizations in the Greater Baltimore area. Through the program, Capacity Building: Baltimore, AA&CC will gain training in several areas such as strategic planning, board development and engagement, and fundraising. The DeVos Institute of Arts Management is based at the University of Maryland, College Park.

DEVOS INSTITUTE
OF ARTS MANAGEMENT
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND

CAPACITY BUILDING BALTIMORE
A PROGRAM OF THE DEVOS INSTITUTE OF ARTS MANAGEMENT

Capacity Building: Baltimore is made possible with the support of the University of Maryland. Organizing Support for Capacity Building: Baltimore is provided by the Greater Baltimore Cultural Alliance and the Maryland Humanities Council.

February 5 - May 2, 2015 • Center for the Arts Asian Arts Gallery

Opening Reception: Thursday, February 12, 7:30 - 9 p.m.

2179 visitors have enjoyed this exhibition of photographs by Kip Fulbeck exploring the master craftsmanship and ongoing influence of traditional Japanese tattooing. Curated by master tattoo artist and author Takahiro Kitamura, the exhibition presents the work of seven internationally-acclaimed Japanese-style tattoo artists: Horishiki (Chris Brand), Horitaka,

Monday, February 9, 1 - 1:50 p.m. | FREE

College of Liberal Arts, LA 4110

AA&CC Members Perseverance Gall

& Reception with Dr. Greg Kimura
for Crane Level members and above
Sunday, February 15, 1 - 3 p.m.
Center for the Arts Asian Arts Gallery



Dr. Greg Kimura, President and CEO of the Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles, introduced the Perseverance exhibition and provided insight into Japanese tattoo as an indigenous, full- edged art form.



Perseverance Student Mixer

Thursday, March 26. 6pm
Center for the Arts Atrium
& Asian Arts Gallery

Thirty TU students joined the AA&CC and the Student Government Association to celebrate our new partnership with an evening of art, music, food and fun.

Tattoo Fest!

Wednesday, April 15, 5 - 9 p.m.
West Village Ballroom

One hundred fty TU students, faculty, staff and community members explored the diversity of tattoo art and culture from Asia and beyond at Tattoo Fest! on April 15.



Presented by the Asian Arts & Culture Center, TU Center for Student Diversity, and the TU Student Government Association.



THE CITIZENS OF
BALTIMORE COUNTY



Tattoo Fest! (cont'd)

Tattoo fest participants made, discussed, learned about and acquired tattoos of diverse cultures including traditional ink, henna, and airbrush. They also shared their tattoos and thoughts about them at the event photo booth and a Twitter feed.



71% of survey respondents were TU students
74.2% of survey respondents were in the 18-24 year-old age range



Participant responses included:

What interested you most about the event?

“The interactive learning as well as vendors”

“Opportunity to see and experience new things”

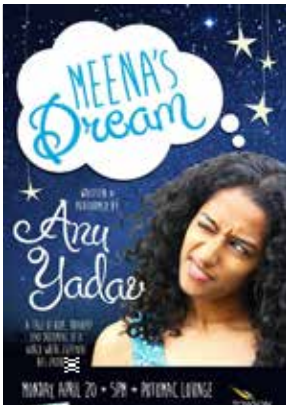
“Asian culture, diverse experience, and henna art”



Other:

“Broadened my perspective on Asian culture”

“The event was really awesome and I like every thing that it had to offer!”



Meena's Dream

Monday, April 20. 5pm

Potomac Lounge, University Union

AA&CC co-sponsored this Center for Student Diversity-Women's Resources program, a one-woman show by playwright/actress Anu Yadav. Audience members joined Yadav on a young girl's fantastical quest to face her fears and still dream of a world where everyone, including her family, can have enough.

As a self-supporting department of Towson University, the Asian Arts & Culture Center relies on generous donations to accomplish its mission. To learn how you can help, contact Joanna Pecore, AA&CC Director, at 410-704-2718

The Asia in Maryland (AIM) Cultural History Project

The Asia in Maryland (AIM) Cultural History Project (cont'd.)

In spring 2016, we will initiate the Asia in Maryland (AIM) Cultural History Project with an interdisciplinary studies course in Towson University's College of Fine Arts & Communication. The course will be open to students across campus. The course combines ethnography and oral history to explore, understand and document Asian arts and culture in Maryland. Students will use interdisciplinary approaches such as ethnographic field work and oral history interviewing to generate primary-source documentation on the history of the cultural life of Asian communities in Maryland. Students will also work with the Center to develop professional museum-quality public presentations from project resources.

PROPOSED FOR FALL 2015

THE ASIA IN MARYLAND (AIM) CULTURAL CONNECTION: CAMBODIAN ARTS & CULTURE

Sounding the Spirit of Cambodia: Khmer Music and Dance-drama in a Mid-Atlantic Community

This exhibition explores stories of art and immigration through the experience of musicians, dancers, and community members who practice and support Khmer classical dance-drama in Maryland, Washington, DC, and Virginia. Through the voices of the artists and community members themselves, the exhibition will explore 1) the transformations and continuity of the tradition as it has traveled across geographical and cultural boundaries, and 2) the roles that the tradition plays in keeping the participants connected to Cambodia. The exhibition will highlight not only the beauty of the classical dance-drama tradition, but it will also illuminate the important roles that Khmer music and dance-drama activities have played in creating and maintaining community networks in the United States.

Cambodian Classical Music Ensemble at Towson University

In collaboration with the Department of Music, the Asian Arts & Culture Center, will establish the first Asian music ensemble available as a for-credit course for Towson University students. Under the direction of Cambodian master musician, Chum Ngeek, students will learn to perform pin peat, a Khmer classical music genre that has been performed for centuries as the driving force behind classical dance and for sacred, royal, and religious ceremonies.



Cambodian Classical Dance Intensi

The Department of Dance and the Asian Arts & Culture Center will collaborate on semester-long technique class involving master Cambodian dancers living in Maryland, Virginia, and Washington, DC. Dancers will introduce the classical dance tradition; teach the basic moves and gestures of the four main character types: female, male, monkey and demon; and discuss the symbolic meaning behind these gestures and roles.



Classical Dance and Music Performance by the Cambodian American Heritage, Inc.

The Cambodian-American Heritage (CAHI), based in Arlington, VA, perpetuates the traditional culture of Cambodia through music and dance instruction, performances and workshops. Master instructors include Sam Ouen Tes, former court dancer of the Cambodian Royal Ballet and 1998 NEA National Heritage Fellow; Devi Yim, Cambodia's prima ballerina in the 1980s; and master musician Ngeek Chum, 2005 NEA National Heritage Fellow.

Classical Dance and Music Performance by the Cambodian Buddhist Society, Inc. Culture Group

The Cambodian Buddhist Society Culture Group (CBSCG), based in Silver Spring, MD, preserves and transmits the traditional culture of Cambodia through music and dance instruction, performances and workshops. Master instructors include Masady Mani is a 1987 graduate of the Royal University of Fine Arts in Phnom Penh, Cambodia; Heng Vipas, former performer with Cambodia's Royal Palace, and master musician Ngeek Chum, 2005 NEA National Heritage Fellow.



Family Art Day Performance by the Young Students of Cambodian American Heritage, Inc.

In collaboration with Towson University's Community Arts Center, the Asian Arts & Culture Center will host a family-friendly performance by the youngest students of the Cambodian American Heritage, Inc.

Family Art Day Performance by the Young Students of Cambodian Buddhist Society, Inc. Culture Group

In collaboration with Towson University's Community Arts Center, the Asian Arts & Culture Center will host a family-friendly performance by the youngest students of the Cambodian Buddhist Society, Inc. Culture Group.

Cambodian Classical Music.

In collaboration with the Department of Music, the Asian Arts & Culture Center, will host a hands-on Cambodian classical music workshop, under the direction of Cambodian master musician, Chum Ngeek, for students at Towson University

Cambodian Classical Costume-Making

In collaboration with the Towson University Department of Theater, the Asian Arts & Culture Center, will organize and host a one-day classical Cambodian costume-making intensive with master costume-maker, Sochietah Ung. Ung will introduce the basic crowns, masks, jewelry, and clothing for each of the main character types: female, male, monkey and demon. The workshop will be open to both Towson students from all disciplines and to the local community.



Community Project: Stories of Many Cultures: Family Storytelling Festival

A multi-cultural family event at the Towson branch of the Baltimore public library exploring local and global stories, including performances, workshops, and hands-on activities.

Collections Access: AA&CC Art Collection Online

In collaboration with TU's Special Collections & Archives, Albert S. Cook Library, AA&CC is digitizing, cataloguing, and posting our art collection online in ways that are useful and relevant to teachers and students.



Nerissa Paglinauan • Program Manager

What are you studying at Towson University?

I'm doing my Master's in Professional Studies - Art History.

What do you do at AA&CC?

As a Program Manager, I have a part in every aspect of running the center, working with Joanna, from

Dorian Andrews • Gallery Attendant

What are you studying at Towson University?

International studies major, and a film minor.

What do you do at AA&CC?

I'm a Gallery Assistant. I oversee the gallery as well as help with various tasks, calling people or making spreadsheets, doing all kinds of work with people at the office.

How did you first get involved with AA&CC?

I went to a job fair in freshmen year, and AA&CC was the first place I went to, and I thought this place was the best compared to others.

What's the best thing you like about AA&CC?

It's not just based on one culture, and it's not catered to one specific Asian group. It sheds light on the whole spectrum. It's also a good work environment.

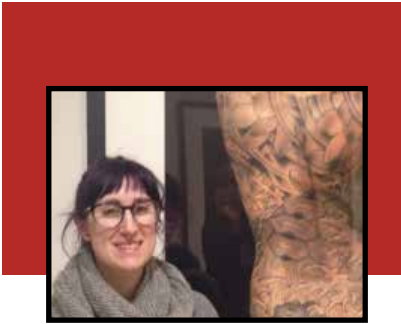
What do you wish other people knew about AA&CC?

They hire people! I want people to know that there are a lot of big things coming up in the future. We have exhibits coming up specialized for students.

What would people be surprised to know about you?

People are surprised when I tell them I am a singer. I've been singing since I was around the age of 14, and I participated in my high school's show choir. I also received acceptances into various All-State Choirs and Scholarships into multiple schools during my experiences! I ultimately chose to decline the college offers and accepted Towson University...and I have no regrets! I currently sing at my new-found church home, The Tabernacle at Greater Bethlehem Temple (under Pastor and Stellar Award-winning singer and song-writer Jason Nelson).

What is your favorite place in the world?



sites; work on ancient things, instead of contemporary culture. I did Field School, which was awesome. It was an amazing experience. There's this moment I'm in the pit, slowly shaving off centimeters of dirt so I don't miss anything, and I come across several pinched-off bits of unred clay from pottery making. One had a perfectly imprinted ngerprint. I just felt this connection with another human being who probably lived around six hundred years ago. It was an amazing experience. However, I didn't see it sustainable. I had reservations about working in academia, which is inescapable with Anthropology. I didn't want to spend my whole life just traveling, crouched in pits. I'm still passionate about it though, but not as a career.

What are you studying at Towson University?

I'm an Anthropology major, and a Museum Studies minor.

What do you do at AA&CC?

I'm a programs intern. For the past month, I've been tying loose ends from the Meditation exhibit, generating reports for all the reports that visitors fill out and observation forms that gallery guards fill out. This is to help us figure out what types of interactive elements worked out, what attracted the most attention to the exhibition. I'm also helping out with Tattoo Fest that's happening in April.

How did you first get involved with AA&CC?

I needed an internship for my minor. I talked to the director of museum studies, she's my advisor, she said the AA&CC might be a good option. The program being prepared for 2016 is perfect for me, it falls along the lines of my major.

What's the best thing you like about AA&CC?

I like being challenged. I'm doing things that I've literally never done before. It's intimidating at times, but I'm really learning. I'm not doing random things; I'm doing things that are helping me grow in my field. It's very rewarding. I also like the freedom I get to just learn on my own. The people trust that you're going to get it done.

What do you wish other people knew about AA&CC?

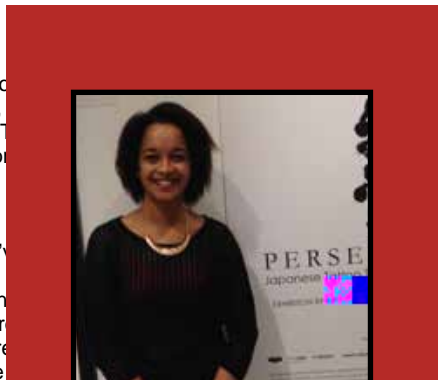
I wish people knew we are here. I only knew it was here because I have classes in this building and my sister was a gallery guard. There are many wonderful things we're doing, and it's so frustrating trying to tell your friends to come here and get them excited.

What would people be surprised to know about you?

I feel like I'm an open book. When I first came to Towson, I was an Anthropology major concentrating in archeology. I wanted to work on archaeological

What is your favorite place in the world?

I admire nature, especially the woods. I love backpacking, especially in Appalachia where the mountains are so old. I'm planning on backpacking mid-July to August, on the Long Trail in Vermont. I love the peace of it; it's nice to get away from the craziness of life in general. Your physical surroundings are so beautiful. There's an innate calm and stillness in the mountains, like nothing else I've ever felt. It's like pressing the restart button, everything just wiped clean.



What are you studying at Towson University?

Early Childhood Education major, and a Biology minor.

What do you do at AA&CC?

I'm a gallery guard; I make sure that during the exhibits people don't touch anything, and make sure that the artwork is right where it's supposed to be. When the exhibits are over, I help in taking them down and putting the new ones up.

Tierney Gormley • Intern



What are you studying at Towson University?

Art History major, and museum studies minor.

What do you do at AA&CC?

I'm an intern. I work on more than one area.

Right now, I'm working on getting the Meditation exhibition online. I'm a programming intern. So, I'm working on a family fun day and a student reception

Laura Latis • Graduate Assistant

What are you studying at Towson University?

I'm in the Professional Studies graduate program,
under the Art History track. I already have a Master's

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