

THE CHARLES B. WANG CENTER

SPRING 2025 CULTURAL PROGRAMS



THE CHARLES B. WANG CENTER

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Parking Info: parking.thewangcenter.org

GALLERY & BUILDING HOURS

Monday through Friday: 8 AM – 8 PM
Saturdays and Sundays: 12 PM – 8 PM
Admission is free and open to the public.

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Image credit (front and back cover):
Sunkoo Yuh, *Can You Hear Me?* (2007). Glazed porcelain, 27 x 22 x 17 inches.



Dear Friends,

Welcome to the Charles B. Wang Center! We are excited to share another dynamic lineup of exhibitions, workshops, and events that celebrate Asian art, culture, and community. This vibrant spring season highlights renewal, creativity, and connection, and we invite you to explore the richness of Asian artistic traditions.

Our featured exhibition, *Cycles of Clay: The Ceramic Narratives of Sunkoo Yuh*, showcases the transformative artistry of Sunkoo Yuh, whose intricate ceramic narratives explore themes of life, death, and rebirth.

Be sure not to miss the return of our annual Cherry Blossom Festival, a lively celebration of spring with music, dance, and festivities. Join the fun by dressing up in your favorite comic or anime costume—whether manga-inspired or superhero chic—to celebrate the blossoms in full color!

We are also honored to host Dr. OiYan Poon for our Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Celebration. This event recognizes the diverse cultures, resilience, and community storytelling traditions of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

This season's film series presents four compelling cinematic journeys into Asian culture, and our hands-on workshops in Japanese flower arrangements and bonsai cultivation make a return, offering attendees creative ways to connect with nature.

Whether you're drawn to the storytelling power of ceramics, the joy of cultural festivals, or the artistry of *ikebana*, this spring season promises something special for everyone. Mark your calendars, bring your friends, and join us in celebrating the beauty and diversity of Asian culture. We can't wait to see you!

Warm regards,

Jinyoung A. Jin
Director of Asian Art and Culture, Charles B. Wang Center

THE CHARLES B. WANG CENTER CALENDAR

SPRING 2025 EXHIBITIONS

OPENING RECEPTION

Friday, 3/7 @ 5–7 PM
Skylight Gallery

CYCLES OF CLAY: THE CERAMIC NARRATIVES OF SUNKOO YUH

ON VIEW THROUGH 5/24
Skylight Gallery

ORGANIC SERENITY: REFLECTIONS OF LIFE IN SUI PARK'S SCULPTURES

Long-term Installation
East Hall

THE STUDIO: THROUGH A SURREALISTIC LENS

BY PROJECT GROUP GREEM

Long-term Installation
Theatre Gallery

SIMPLICITY OVER COMPLEXITY

BY JONGIL MA

Long-term Installation
Wang Center Outdoor Garden

AGAIN

BY SEONGMIN AHN

Long-term Installation
Charles B. Wang Center Main Lobby

LECTURES, FILMS, & OTHER PROGRAMS

2/4
6–7:30 PM
FILM | *TALES OF THE NIGHT*
Theatre

2/20
6–7 PM
PERFORMANCE | CELEBRATING LUNAR NEW
YEAR WITH KOREAN FOLK GYPSY SWING
Theatre

3/4
6–8 PM
FILM | *NAPPING PRINCESS*
Theatre

3/7
4–5 PM
LECTURE | GLAZED REALITIES: A JOURNEY IN
CLAY BY SUNKOO YUH
Theatre

3/28
11 AM–
12:30 PM
WORKSHOP | IKEBANA ESSENTIALS: DISCOVER
THE ART OF JAPANESE FLOWER ARRANGEMENT
Skylight Gallery

3/28
1–2:30 PM
WORKSHOP | IKEBANA MASTERY: ELEVATING
TECHNIQUE AND CREATIVE EXPRESSION
Skylight Gallery

4/1
6–8 PM
FILM | *ROBOT DREAMS*
Theatre

4/3
12:30–
1:30 PM
LECTURE | “MAMA, ARE WE BLACK OR
WHITE?” AND OTHER INTERGENERATIONAL
CONVERSATIONS FOR FREEDOM
East Hall

4/27
12–5 PM
FESTIVAL | *SAKURA MATSURI*: CHERRY
BLOSSOM FESTIVAL
Charles B. Wang Center

5/2
11 AM–
1 PM
WORKSHOP | BONSAI BASICS: CULTIVATING
YOUR FIRST TREE
East Hall

5/2
2–4 PM
WORKSHOP | MASTERING BONSAI: ADVANCED
TECHNIQUES AND ARTISTIC REFINEMENT
East Hall

5/7
6–7:30 PM
FILM | *GENIUS PARTY*
Theatre

EXHIBITION

OPENING RECEPTION
FRI, MAR 7 at 5 PM

Skylight Gallery
Free and Open to the Public
RSVP at thewangcenter.org

RELATED PROGRAMS

LECTURE | **GLAZED REALITIES: A JOURNEY IN
CLAY BY SUNKOO YUH** |
FRIDAY, MARCH 7, 4 PM |
THEATRE (PAGES 8–9)



CYCLES OF CLAY

THE CERAMIC NARRATIVES OF SUNKOO YUH

Skylight Gallery

Cycles of Clay explores the profound creativity of Sunkoo Yuh, an artist who navigates the intersections of cultural heritage and contemporary expression. Yuh's ceramic sculptures combine bold colors, evocative imagery, and intricate figures layered vertically to evoke histories and community connection. Themes of Buddhist cycles, Confucian ideals, and sociopolitical commentary permeate his works, which includes monumental pieces like *Long Beach Summer* and *Athens Winter*. Through experimental glazing and unpredictable firing techniques, Yuh captures the tension between order and chaos to create visually compelling sculptures that explore life's beauty, fragility, and complexity.

This exhibition is curated by Jinyoung A. Jin, the director of Asian art and culture at the Charles B. Wang Center.

The Wang Center will host the opening reception for this exhibition with Club Red, an informal gathering for all faculty and staff from every department across Stony Brook University, including both East and West Campuses. Join us for engaging conversations and getting to know each other better over refreshments, good company, and art!



**ASIAN AMERICAN
PACIFIC ISLANDER
HERITAGE MONTH**

ON VIEW

MARCH 7, 2025 TO MAY 24, 2025

*Image credit: Sunkoo Yuh, Can You Hear Me? (2007). Glazed porcelain,
27 x 22 x 17 inches.*

LECTURES



GLAZED REALITIES A JOURNEY IN CLAY

By Sunkoo Yuh

FRI, MAR 7 at 4 PM

Theatre
Free Admission
Tickets at thewangcenter.org

Explore the transformative artistry of Sunkoo Yuh, a celebrated ceramicist and professor of art at the University of Georgia, Athens, whose works are exhibited in esteemed institutions like the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Philadelphia Museum of Art. Best known for his intricate groupings of forms—plants, animals, fish, and human figures—Yuh's sculptures are reflections of "stacked histories,"

drawing deeply from personal experiences, cultural background, and daily encounters.

In this lecture, Yuh offers a rare glimpse into his creative journey, exploring the inspirations, relationships, and concerns that shape his art. He will discuss his symbolic language, his vibrant and innovative use of high-temperature glazes, and his distinctive approach to crafting three-dimensional narrative sculptures that weave themes of identity, spirituality, and the human experience. The lecture concludes with the opening reception of Yuh's solo exhibition, providing an opportunity to engage further with his transformative work.

Image credit: Sunkoo Yuh, *Family Guardian* (2013). Ink on paper, 39 x 26 inches.

“MAMA, ARE WE BLACK OR WHITE?”

AND OTHER INTERGENERATIONAL CONVERSATIONS FOR FREEDOM

By OiYan Poon

THURS, APR 3 at 12:30 PM

Theatre

Free Admission

Tickets at thewangcenter.org

Dr. OiYan Poon, a nationally recognized scholar on race and education, will discuss how answering her daughter's questions about race inspired her book *Asian American Is Not a Color: Conversations About Race, Affirmative Action, and Family*. Recognizing that even young children seek to understand complex issues, Dr. Poon emphasizes the importance of nurturing curiosity about race, gender, and oppression.

Amidst nationwide debates and restrictive policies targeting educators and librarians, Dr. Poon reflects on the challenges of parenting and teaching in this current political climate. She advocates for fostering intergenerational conversations about how communities and leaders resist marginalization and advance social justice. Her talk underscores the critical role of education in cultivating knowledge and understanding in a diverse society.

Presented in partnership with the AAPI Heritages Committee.

ASIAN AMERICAN IS NOT A COLOR

CONVERSATIONS ON RACE,
AFFIRMATIVE ACTION,
AND FAMILY

OIYAN A. POON

Co-sponsored by the Department of Asian & Asian American Studies, University Libraries, and the Office of Diversity, Inclusion, and Intercultural Initiatives.

WORKSHOPS

THE ELEGANT CRAFT OF JAPANESE FLOWER ARRANGEMENTS

By Toyomi Sobue

The Charles B. Wang Center is proud to again offer a series of *ikebana* workshops led by Toyomi Sobue. These hands-on sessions invite participants to explore the fundamental principles and techniques of *ikebana*, the Japanese art of flower arrangement. Designed for all skill levels, from beginners to experienced practitioners, these workshops provide a serene and creative space to delve into this timeless art form.

IKEBANA ESSENTIALS

DISCOVER THE ART OF JAPANESE FLOWER ARRANGEMENT

FRI, MAR 28 at 11 AM

Skylight Gallery

Admission: \$60 (General) per workshop.

\$50 (Students/Seniors) per workshop.

Sign up for both workshops and save!

\$100 (General) for both workshops (save \$20!)

\$85 (Students/Seniors) for both workshops (save \$15!)

Fee includes all materials. Limited to 15 people per workshop.

Advance reservation is required. Tickets at thewangcenter.org

Each session includes all necessary materials, enabling participants to craft their own unique floral arrangements to take home. Guided by Toyomi Sobue's expertise, you'll gain a deeper appreciation for the elegance, simplicity, and mindfulness inherent in *ikebana*. Perfect for those seeking to explore new artistic expressions or unwind in a peaceful environment, this workshop series offers an opportunity to infuse your life with the beauty of floral artistry.

Join us regularly to nurture your creativity and bring a touch of Japanese elegance to your surroundings!



IKEBANA MASTERY

ELEVATING TECHNIQUE AND CREATIVE EXPRESSION

FRI, MAR 28 at 1 PM

Skylight Gallery

← Fee information

Advance reservation is required. Tickets at thewangcenter.org

THE ART OF BONSAI

By Robert Mahler



The Charles B. Wang Center is thrilled to welcome back Robert Mahler, the renowned bonsai master, for our seasonal bonsai workshops in collaboration with the Long Island Bonsai Society. Building on the success of his previous sessions, Mahler returns this spring to guide both beginners and seasoned enthusiasts through the art and science of bonsai. Through expert instruction and engaging hands-on demonstrations, participants will gain the knowledge and techniques necessary to nurture and shape their own bonsai creations. Don't miss this opportunity to learn from one of the best and embark on your own bonsai journey in a supportive and inspiring environment!

Co-presented by the Long Island Bonsai Society.



BONSAI BASICS CULTIVATING YOUR FIRST TREE

FRI, MAY 2 at 11 AM

East Hall

Admission: \$20 (General) **each session.**

\$15 (Students/Seniors) **each session.**

Sign up for both workshops and save!

\$30 (General) **for both workshops** (save \$10!)

\$20 (Students/Seniors) **for both workshops** (save \$10!)

Fee includes all materials. **Limited to 20 people per workshop.**

Advance reservation is required. Tickets at thewangcenter.org

MASTERING BONSAI ADVANCED TECHNIQUES AND ARTISTIC REFINEMENT

FRI, MAY 2 at 2 PM

East Hall

Admission: \$20 (General) **each session.**

\$15 (Students/Seniors) **each session.**

Sign up for both workshops and save!

\$30 (General) **for both workshops** (save \$10!)

\$20 (Students/Seniors) **for both workshops** (save \$10!)

Fee includes all materials. **Limited to 20 people per workshop.**

Advance reservation is required. Tickets at thewangcenter.org

FILMS

Tales of the Night



TALES OF THE NIGHT

(2011 | 84 minutes | Animation | Directed by Michel Ocelot)

Tales of the Night marks renowned animator Michel Ocelot's stunning debut in 3D animation. A hit at the Berlin Film Festival, the film builds on the shadow puppet style of Ocelot's 2000 film *Princes and Princesses*, featuring silhouetted characters set against dazzling, kaleidoscopic Day-Glo backgrounds. The subtle 3D effect enhances the visual splendor, creating a magical diorama-like experience.

The film weaves six enchanting fables set in diverse locales—Tibet, medieval Europe, an Aztec kingdom, the African plains, and even the Land of the Dead. Dragons, werewolves, sorcerers, and talking bees fill these visual stories as history meets fairytale, each ending with a delightful twist.

TUES, FEB 4 at 6 PM

Theatre

Admission: \$5 (General/Students/Seniors)

Tickets at thewangcenter.org



NAPPING PRINCESS

(2017 | 110 minutes | Animation | Directed by Kenji Kamiyama)

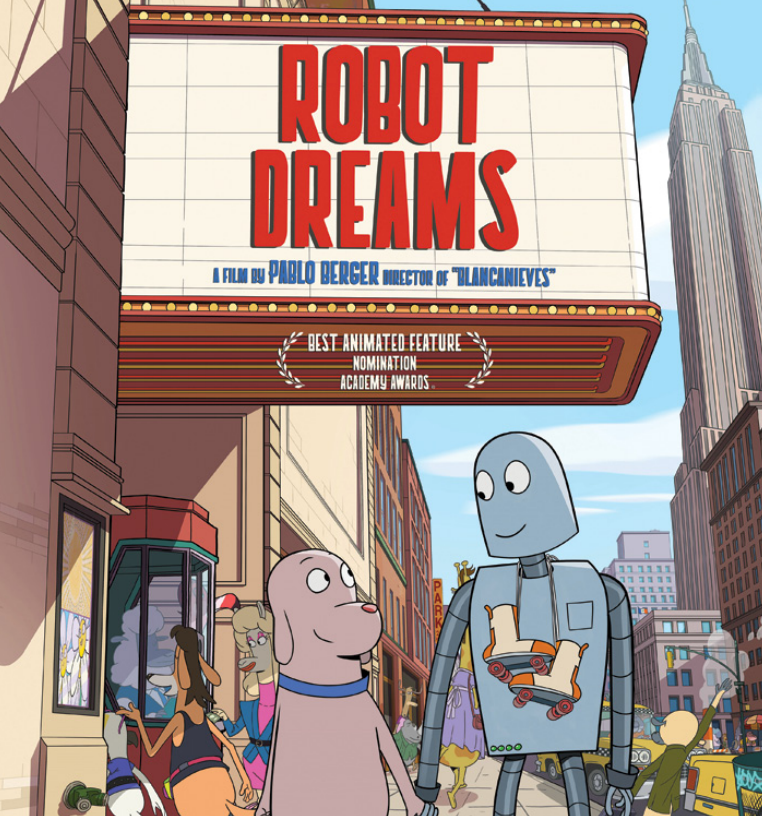
Just days before the 2020 Tokyo Olympics, Kokone Morikawa finds herself caught between reality and a vivid dream world of fantastical machines. When her father, a skilled mechanic, is kidnapped over stolen technology, Kokone and her friend Morio must unravel the mystery. As they journey through dreams and reality, they uncover clues to her father's disappearance and a startling truth about her family.

TUES, MAR 4 at 6 PM

Theatre

Admission: \$5 (General/Students/Seniors)

Tickets at thewangcenter.org



ROBOT DREAMS

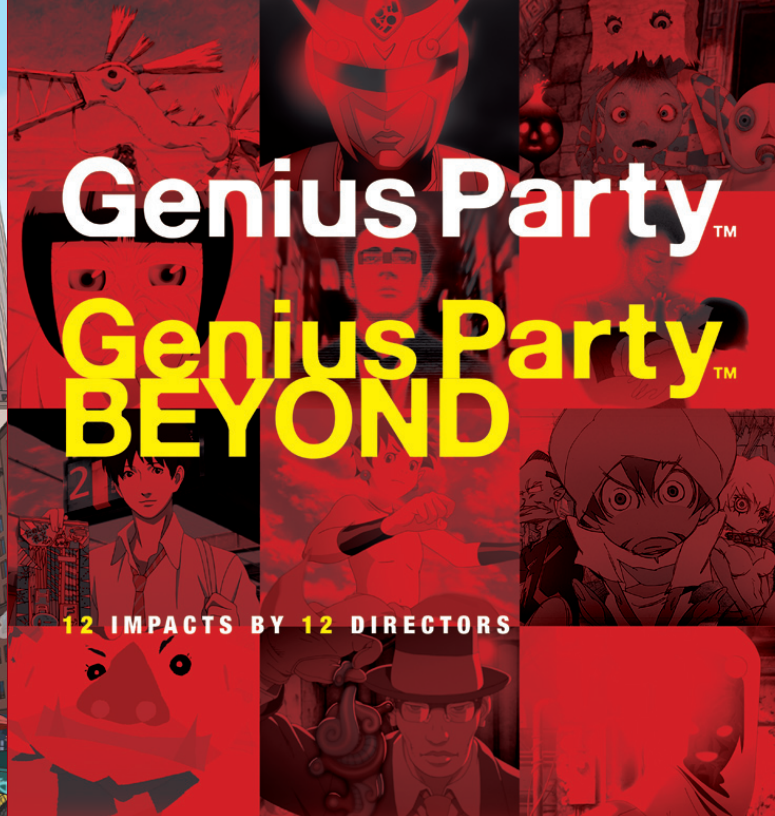
(2023 | 102 minutes | Animation | Directed by Pablo Berger)

In bustling 1980s Manhattan, DOG, weary of solitude, builds a robot companion to share his days. Their bond grows strong, set against the vibrant rhythm of the city. Together, they explore life's joys. But one fateful summer night, DOG is faced with a heartbreaking decision and must leave ROBOT behind on the beach. However, their friendship is forever etched in the sands of time.

Will they ever meet again?

TUES, APR 1 at 6 PM

Theatre
Admission: \$5 (General/Students/Seniors)
Tickets at thewangcenter.org



GENIUS PARTY

(2007 | 85 minutes | Animation | Directed by Atsuko Fukushima, Shōji Kawamori, Shinji Kimura, Yoji Fukuyama, Hideki Futamura, Masaaki Yuasa, and Shinichirō Watanabe)

From the visionary animation house STUDIO 4°C, creators of *MFZ* and *Children of the Sea*, comes *Genius Party*, an anthology celebrating the limitless creativity found in Japanese animation. Featuring an all-star lineup of animators given full artistic freedom, this is an extraordinary collection of stunning and imaginative short films. Each piece is a unique journey through fantastic worlds and showcases diverse storytelling and groundbreaking animation styles.

WED, MAY 7 at 6 PM

Theatre
Admission: \$5 (General/Students/Seniors)
Tickets at thewangcenter.org



CELEBRATING LUNAR NEW YEAR WITH KOREAN FOLK GYPSY SWING

THURS, FEB 20 at 6 PM

Theatre

Admission:

\$20 (General)

\$15 (Students/Seniors/Children ages 6–12)

FREE for children aged 5 and under

Tickets at thewangcenter.org



The performance is presented with the support of the Center for Korean Studies at SBU.

Join us for an unforgettable Lunar New Year celebration featuring Sangjaru, the dynamic Korean folk fusion band that masterfully blends traditional Korean music with the vibrant rhythms of gypsy swing, funk, rock, and improvisation. The band's name, "Sangjaru," combines the Korean words "sangja" (box) and "jaru" (sack), referencing their mission to infuse new creativity into the rich traditions of Korean music. The winner of the prestigious Sori Frontier music competition in 2019, Sangjaru is recognized for its exceptional talent and unique approach. Experience the innovative and exhilarating cultural expressions of Cho Sungyoon on guitar, Kwon Hyochang on *janggu* (hourglass drum) and *kkwaenggwari* (small gong), and Nam Seonghun on *ajaeng* (bowed zither). Don't miss this captivating Lunar New Year event!

FESTIVAL



Image credit: Photos by Frank L. Fumelli

SAKURA MATSURI CHERRY BLOSSOM FESTIVAL

Welcome spring to Long Island with the blooming of sakura (cherry blossoms), the sounds of *taiko* drums, and a wondrous array of Japanese cultural exhibits at the Wang Center! The Wang Center will provide many exciting activities, including *koto* plays, Japanese traditional dances, martial arts demonstrations, bonsai workshops, calligraphy workshops, *ikebana* flower arrangement, tea workshops, manga drawing, origami paper folding, kimono dress-ups, and cosplay (costumed role-play of a Japanese manga character) for all ages. Join us in your favorite manga character costume!

This festival is co-produced by the Japan
Center at Stony Brook University and the
Ryu Shu Kan Japanese Arts Center.



SUN, APR 27 at 12 PM

Charles B. Wang Center
(Rain or Shine)

Admission: \$30 (General) | \$20 (Students/Seniors)
\$10 (Children ages 6–12)

FREE for children aged 5 and under

Admission includes all film viewings, workshops, and theater presentations.
Tickets at thewangcenter.org

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