

# NORTHWEST CHINA COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

#11, October — December, 1983



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## *“GOLDEN MOUNTAIN” FILM SHOWS CHINESE EXPERIENCE IN AMERICA*

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In mid-August, seven professors from the People's Republic of China spent eight days re-discovering the Chinese immigrant experience in Eastern Oregon. Fred Hutchison, director/producer with Metamedia of Beaverton, and a crew of fourteen captured their responses on film. The documentary film, "Golden Mountain," is adapted from the book, China Doctor of John Day by Jeffrey G. Barlow and Christine Richardson. A grant from the Oregon Committee for the Humanities which was matched by Citicorp helped to support the film production. The grant applications were assisted by the Northwest China Council.

The film is unique in that it features contemporary Chinese who reflect on their countrymen who came to America in the late 19th century seeking their fortune and who ended up contributing significantly to the development of the American West.

The seven professors, who have spent the past two years studying at Lewis & Clark College, began their exploration at the Kam Wah Chung Museum of John Day. The building was the site of a successful business partnership between two Chinese immigrants, Ing Hay and

Lung On. Both men came to America as laborers or miners, but, unlike most of their compatriots, remained. They developed a company which served the entire community, both Chinese and white, by hiring out Chinese laborers, conducting a retail and wholesale business, and practicing herbal medicine. The Kam Wah Chung building, now a museum, holds the entire Chinese experience within its walls.

At Kam Wah Chung, the professors learned about two individuals who came to America and found the elusive fortune so many others sought in vain. The professors also visited several other sites to participate in the backbreaking labor of mining, laying railroad ties, constructing ditches and canals, and cowpoking. They were amazed by the difficult tasks, but proud that the Chinese laborers could endure and transcend such harsh conditions.

While in Eastern Oregon, the professors also were introduced to a variety of Americans, including loggers-turned-miners, cowboys, ranch owners, bankers, electricians, schoolteachers, and mechanics. Perhaps their most memorable encounter was with one of the last Chinese living in the goldmining area, Annie

Wong, a descendant of the early immigrants, who became a telephone operator and then went into the restaurant business with her husband in Baker. All of these people warmly greeted the Chinese visitors and proudly shared their own memories of the Chinese who once were so numerous in the area.

As the on-camera guide for the professors, I found the film particularly gratifying because I could share an historical connection with my Chinese friends.

Future plans are to edit the five miles of film, for release sometime this winter, when it will be available for showing. It is also the hope of Metamedia to take "Golden Mountain" to China.

Incidentally, Professor Wu Jian-xiu discovered, to his surprise, that he may be related to Ing Hay, the China doctor himself, as he happens to come from the same district and county as Hay. Also, his father and grandfather share generation names with that of Hay and his father. "Wu" in Cantonese is often transliterated as Ing or Ng in Mandarin. Perhaps even more Chinese and American Chinese will find common ancestors and roots through seeing "Golden Mountain."

Christine Richardson-Barlow

**Northwest China Council Newsletter**  
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**1912 S.W. Sixth, #252  
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(503) 229-3049**

*Editor: Jeffrey Barlow  
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## SPECIAL EVENTS

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### **"BEHIND THE RHETORIC: THE REALITIES OF THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN TAIWAN AND THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA" - LUNCHEON LECTURE**

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Sponsored by the Northwest China Council and the World Affairs Council of Oregon

Tuesday, October 11, Noon

Lui Chi Restaurant  
818 SW Broadway

\$6.00 luncheon, members of World Affairs Council, subscribers to China Council newsletter; \$7.50 guests. \$1.00 audit (no lunch), members and subscribers; \$2.00 guests.

Reservations: 229-3049

What is the current and future relationship between Taiwan and the People's Republic of China? Trade, people to people visits, perhaps even contact between the two governments, are rumored to be occurring in spite of official pronouncements to the contrary. Is reunification possible, and what terms will the Taiwanese accept?

Discussing these delicate questions will be one of Taiwan's most experienced diplomats, Daniel Yu-Tang Lew, now director of the Institute of Sino-American Relations at the Chinese Culture University. He was the Ambassador to New Zealand (1963-6) and to the United Nations (1970-1), as well as a member of the Chinese delegation to the U.N. Charter Conference in 1945. He was

educated at Yenching University in China and has a Ph.D. from Harvard University. He edits the English-language journal, Sino-American Relations.

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## **"TAIWAN IN THE 1980'S "** **A CONFERENCE**

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Tuesday, December 6  
9:00 AM--2:00 PM (luncheon: noon--  
2:00 PM)

Portland Marriott Hotel  
1401 SW Front

Sponsored by the Northwest China Council, in cooperation with the American Institute in Taiwan, China Council of The Asia Society, District Export Council, and Governor of Oregon.

Full Conference: \$28.00  
Morning only: \$17.50  
Luncheon only: \$12.50

Call 229-3049 for more information.  
A flier will be sent to all on  
China Council mailing list.

Taiwan in the 1980's is facing diplomatic, political, economic, and social challenges that will surely alter Oregon's special relationship to the island. As Oregon's fourth most important trading partner (with more than twice the imports and exports of the People's Republic of China), Taiwan is an important market for Oregon goods, from wheat to electronics, and a production site for many Oregon companies.

Over the next few years, Taiwan will need to work out a relationship with China; achieve an "economic miracle" in its high technology sector; meet the demands of its 85% native Taiwanese population for increased political power; and, when Chiang Ching-kuo dies, find a successor who can maintain the stability of

the government. American response to these changes, and the effect on U.S., particularly Northwest, trade, are issues of concern to business and government alike. Also, many Americans have lost touch with the reality of present-day Taiwan, as they turned their attention to developments on the mainland.

This conference is designed for business people who want to establish or expand trade with Taiwan and for other interested citizens who want to update their knowledge of the island. The morning session will be geared specifically to the needs of business, and will examine current and projected trends in imports, exports, and joint ventures, as well as such obstacles to trade as counterfeiting and tariffs. The confirmed speakers are Joseph Kyle, Corporate Secretary for the American Institute in Taiwan (Washington, DC); Joseph Duane, attorney with the San Francisco firm, Lee and Li; a delegation of Taiwanese government and business representatives, including a Vice-Minister of Economic Affairs; and a representative of the Coordination Council for North American Affairs.

The luncheon speaker will be Orville Schell, China scholar, author and producer of a 1983 PBS "Frontline" television documentary on Taiwan. He will address the questions: What is Taiwanese society like, five years after de-recognition by the U.S.? Are China and Taiwan becoming more alike? What do the people of Taiwan want for their future? Schell, the most highly rated speaker at the 1979 Portland League of Women Voters conference on U.S. - China relations, has written many books on China, most recently, Watch Out for the Foreign Guests, and is now preparing a New Yorker article on free enterprise in China.

Participants may attend the full conference, or only one part. Details will be sent to the China Council mailing list, early in November.

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## **"CHINA: 7,000 YEARS OF DISCOVERY" - BUS TOURS**

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Seattle's Pacific Science Center will host one of China's most ambitious exhibitions next year, and the Northwest China Council plans to be there. This exhibition of over 500 artifacts illustrating ancient Chinese discoveries, from silk embroidery to seismographs, features 18 artisans from China who will demonstrate papermaking, bronze casting, silk weaving, and other fascinating technologies. It begins March 1 and runs for six months until August 31.

The Northwest China Council is organizing at least one overnight tour in April and two day trips in March and May, each escorted by a China scholar, to visit the show. The overnight tours will include visits to the Seattle Art Museum to see their newly displayed Chinese collection and to Chinatown to enjoy a dim sum lunch followed by a visit to the Wing Luke Museum where a Chinese medicine exhibit is on display. The overnight tour will cost about \$150 and the day trip \$50, both including tax-deductible contributions to the China Council. You can reserve a seat by calling the China Council, 229-3049. Details will follow.

A lecture series on Chinese art, science and technology will prepare Portlanders for their exploration of "China: 7,000 Years of Discovery."

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## **ENCORE: GOURMET CHINESE DINNER**

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On October 10, at 7:00 PM, China Council board member Wen Chen will serve another Northwest China Council benefit Chinese dinner at her Vancouver home, following her beautiful and delicious August 18

dinner.

A few seats are still available for this intimate 8-course meal, which Wen Chen prepares with the finest ingredients and the perfection of an artist. The cost is \$40 per person and is tax-deductible. Your reservation is guaranteed with a check (to "World Affairs Council for NWRCC") A map and letter of confirmation of your reservation will be sent to you upon receipt of your check.

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## **HUMAN RESOURCES**

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### Wendy Larson

Portland has a new professor of Chinese--Wendy Larson, who has been appointed to teach the language at Portland State University.

Larson brings fourteen years of academic and field experience to her teaching. She has a master's degree and nearly completed Ph.D. from the University of California at Berkeley, where she has been teaching intermediate Chinese.

As an undergraduate, she spent two years studying Chinese in Taiwan. As a graduate student, she lived from 1979 to 1981 in China, where she did research for her dissertation and took courses at Beijing University in grammar and modern Chinese literature.

A summer class in calligraphy taught by Reed College's Lloyd Reynolds sparked Larson's initial interest in Chinese. Disappointed to find, as a freshman at the University of Oregon, that she could not study Chinese calligraphy directly, she began study of the language.

At PSU, Larson will be teaching First, Second, and Third Year Chinese (and, in the future, modern Chinese literature in translation. Students will learn both simplified and regular Chinese characters by second year.

# Northwest Regional China Council

1912 S. W. Sixth, #252  
Portland, Oregon 97201  
503-229-3049



October 1, 1983

Many thanks to:

Mr. & Mrs. Samuel Anderson	Jay M. Fountain	George Nakata
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...for your 1983 contributions to the Northwest Regional China Council! If your name is not above, and you have been receiving our newsletter, we'd love you to join the roster of Northwest China Council supporters. Your contribution is tax-deductible and will be used to keep the China Council operating.

A contributor of \$25 to \$50 will receive the newest China Briefing from the national China Council, which includes up-to-date articles on China's energy outlook, international posture, politics, and religion. Donors of \$50 to \$100 will receive Robert Kapp's Communicating With China, reviewed in this issue of the newsletter. If you give \$100 or more, we will send you Jonathan Spence's book on the Chinese revolution, The Gate of Heavenly Peace.

Thank you for your help,

*Jane Larson*  
Jane Leung Larson, Coordinator

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## NORTHWEST CHINA COUNCIL CONTRIBUTION FORM

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Amount of Contribution \_\_\_\_\_, or check box \$100  \$75  \$50  \$25

Please write checks to "World Affairs Council for NWRCC"



Psychology 300

Exam 1

1. The process of learning is most closely associated with which of the following?	a. the ability to acquire new information	b. the ability to store information	c. the ability to retrieve information	d. the ability to use information
2. Which of the following is NOT a characteristic of classical conditioning?	a. it is a form of learning	b. it involves the association of two stimuli	c. it is a form of operant conditioning	d. it is a form of learning
3. In classical conditioning, the unconditioned response is:	a. a learned response	b. a response that is elicited by an unconditioned stimulus	c. a response that is elicited by a conditioned stimulus	d. a response that is elicited by a neutral stimulus
4. The process of learning is most closely associated with which of the following?	a. the ability to acquire new information	b. the ability to store information	c. the ability to retrieve information	d. the ability to use information
5. Which of the following is NOT a characteristic of classical conditioning?	a. it is a form of learning	b. it involves the association of two stimuli	c. it is a form of operant conditioning	d. it is a form of learning
6. In classical conditioning, the unconditioned response is:	a. a learned response	b. a response that is elicited by an unconditioned stimulus	c. a response that is elicited by a conditioned stimulus	d. a response that is elicited by a neutral stimulus

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d. a response that is elicited by a neutral stimulus

## Su Lee

Surely one of the most successful Chinese-American businesswomen in the Northwest is the owner of the Orientale Motif Shop in Portland, Su Lee. Su Lee, like her shop on NW 23rd Ave., a Victorian house ornamented with dragon-entwined columns and guarded by porcelain tigers, is a combination of Chinese and American influences and values. Su Lee was raised in China in a Confucian family, then fled with them to Hong Kong in 1949. She was sent to study in Japan, Ceylon, and Thailand, and came to the U.S. about fifteen years ago.

She travels to Asia about five times a year, returning with unique art objects accumulated through her wide circle of friends and business contacts. She slowly established relations with the Chinese mainland, which is now a major supplier for her, and she is recognized there as an expert on Oriental art. She likens herself to a salmon, which although it may live elsewhere, must return periodically to its native streams, as she returns so frequently to Asia from Portland.

Su Lee puts her customers' interests ahead of every other aspect of business. "If I can make you feel good as a customer, then I feel good."

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## BOOKS IN THE NEWS

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### Communicating with China

Edited by Robert A. Kapp for the China Council of The Asia Society Intercultural Press Inc., 1983  
\$5.95 (available from the Northwest China Council)

It is easy to jeer at and fear those who culturally, linguistically or in appearance differ from us. The best antidote must be an understanding and appreciation of the differences that separate us all. Robert A. Kapp, of the China Council of The

Asia Society, has edited Communicating with China, a book of five articles designed to help us overcome misunderstanding and xenophobia and smooth the way to better relations. The articles are about the People's Republic of China (PRC), but much of the information and analysis presented could be applied to any cross-national or cultural exchange.

In his introduction, Kapp, executive director of the Washington State China Relations Council, writes: "We hope that Communicating with China will stimulate and inform a wide range of readers, from those with no prior contact with China to those who have been engaged with Chinese counterparts for years", and points out that "Americans tend to look at their interactions with foreigners by analyzing the way the other side behaves while paying scant attention to the way they themselves behave."

Douglas P. Murray, vice-president of the East-West Center in Honolulu, writes the longest article, examining our history of love-hate relations with China through its various phases of "pollyanna-ism" and paranoia, approach and retrenchment. With cogent analysis and anecdote, he offers probable reasons why these patterns have existed, from both American and Chinese viewpoints. For example, all those who have been to China are aware of the protective net placed around foreigners. One could view this annoying constraint as a deliberate effort to conceal the real China from us, or as over-zealous mother-henning. From my own personal experience in Shandong Province, after six months of cloistered hotel living, I asked for and was granted an apartment on the campus where I taught. With obvious pleasure, the school cadres showed me two rooms they had set up for me. Although prettily decorated, they were located in a semi-basement with bars on the windows, triple-locked doors to enter, and five "servants" to care for my needs. Once I got

over the astonishment and outrage, I realized, as Murray suggests, there was no sinister intent in this arrangement, only a desire to keep me safe, thereby ensuring both my well-being and the reputations of the cadres responsible for me.

In the second article, Timothy Light, teacher of Chinese language and literature at Ohio State University, offers a rudimentary explanation of the differences between the Chinese and English languages, and a brief introduction to Chinese language history and structure. Throughout the article, he maintains the debatable premise that the form of a language does not at all influence thought patterns, but rather that thought and national character are expressed through the tool of language.

In an article entitled "The Art of Interpreting", Jan Carol Berris of the National Committee on U.S. China Relations gives as well-ordered and clear outline of the requirements and availability of good interpreting. She writes that less than twenty Chinese delegations visited the U.S. in 1977. However, post Cultural Revolution visits to the U.S. quickly escalated, and by 1982 Chinese delegations averaged about 100 a month. The resultant need for interpreters is difficult to meet. Although studying English is almost a national hobby in China, they have neither the schools nor the experience to meet this demand. Berris further points out that beyond language skills, bicultural awareness is required for successful communication, and biculturalism can often only be learned by osmosis while living for an extended time in the other country. In one section, she lists the needs of both speakers and interpreters, with suggestions on how they can work together more effectively. In its succinct clarity, her outline of the interpreting arts is thoroughly intelligible and useful.

Lawyer Stanley B. Lubman's article

on legal negotiations with China is short but gives an ample introductory overview of why contractual negotiations between the U.S. and China have so often been unsatisfactory to both sides. He suggests this results in part from Chinese inexperience and their intricate bureaucratic okaying system, a bulky vehicle that sometimes gives the last word to a cadre who may be high in party standing but lacking in legalese. Considering this, it can be imagined how disconcerting a presentation of one of our prolix and overly complex American contracts, perhaps presented by a high-pressure, even bombastic lawyer, can be to the Chinese.

The final article is a short essay by Yao Wei of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the PRC. In almost parable form, he reminds us that even the prescripts of polite behavior differ greatly between our cultures; that even with the best intentions great social bloopers can be made, as in the case of the Chinese visitor who was hosted at a banquet by American bankers. He stood up, glass in hand, and toasted his host, saying, "I wish your wife bottoms up!" Yao ends with a plea for mutual accommodation and understanding between our peoples. The articles are followed by suggestions for further reading.

Communicating with China is not a book of advice. It does not give concrete admonitions such as "Don't drink until your host does" or "It's more polite to accept gifts with both hands". Its charm is that, in well-organized fashion, it presents the reader with a set of realities, usually with causal explanation, and often analyzes the corresponding American behavior that can also create problems. It appeals to our intelligence on the premise that awareness of potential problems is the first step towards mastering them.

Ellie Pine  
Returned China English teacher



# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## October

- 10/2--11/6 "DE-CODING DRAGONS": exhibition of Qing (Ch'ing) Dynasty costumes; University of Oregon Art Museum, Eugene; Wednesday--Sunday, noon to 5:00 PM (free public tours, Sundays, 2:00 PM); no admission charge.
- 2 "FIFTH ANNUAL CHINESE FOOD FAIRE '83": Sponsored by Chinese American Citizens Alliance and Chinese Chamber of Commerce; Western Forestry Center, Miller Hall; 4:00 and 6:00 PM; \$25 tax-deductible ticket available at Bass Ticket Centers; information: Betty Jean Lee, 224-4082 or Fong Yee, 286-9703.
- 4 "PRECEDENTS FOR CH'ING DYNASTY DRAGON COATS: RECONSTRUCTING 17TH CENTURY MANCHU WARDROBE": Lecture by John E. Vollmer, Royal Ontario Museum; University of Oregon, Lawrence Hall, room 107; 7:30 PM; no admission charge; information: 686-3027.
- 10/4--10/15 "CHINESE PHOTOGRAPHY FROM SZECHUAN PROVINCE": exhibition at Wing Luke Museum, 414 Eighth Ave. S, Seattle; Tuesday--Friday, 11:00 AM to 4:30 PM and Saturday, noon to 4:00 PM.
- 10 \* GOURMET CHINESE DINNER: Prepared by Wen Chen in her Vancouver home, as a benefit for the Northwest China Council. \$40 per person; call 229-3049 for information.
- 11 \* "BEHIND THE RHETORIC: THE REALITIES OF THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN TAIWAN AND THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA": luncheon lecture by Daniel Lew, Taiwanese diplomat and educator; Liu Chi Restaurant, 818 SW Broadway, noon; \$6/\$7.50 luncheon; \$1/\$2 audit. Sponsored jointly by Northwest China Council and World Affairs Council. Reservations: 229-3049.
- 17 CHINESE GOURMET DINNER: Sponsored by the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association for its Chinese Language School; Chinese Village Restaurant, SE 82nd and Stark St.; 6:00 PM; \$25 tax-deductible tickets; information: George or Mary Leong, 284-2592 or 231-4711.
- 18 "GARDENS AND HALLS: THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT FOR CHINESE CLOTHING": a lecture by Ellen Laing, Oriental Art Professor; University of Oregon, 107 Lawrence Hall, 7:30 PM; no admission charge.
- 23 "RICKSHAW BOY": Chinese film (1982), Bijou Theatre, 13th St., Eugene; sponsored by the Asian Studies Association, University of Oregon; 2:00 PM.
- 29 NORTHWEST REGIONAL SEMINAR ON EAST ASIA: Panels on various topics of scholarly interest; sponsored by the East Asia Resource Center; 8:30 AM to 4:45 PM; University of Washington, Thompson Hall, Seattle; no admission charge; information: 206-543-1921.
- INVTATIONAL WORKSHOP FOR TEACHERS OF ASIAN LANGUAGES: Featuring Eleanor Jordan, president of American Association of Teachers of Japanese; workshop is part of annual meeting of Oregon International Council; University of Oregon campus; information: Bob Willner, 378-4960.
- 30 "ROMANCE ON LUSHAN MOUNTAIN": Chinese film (1980), Bijou Theatre, 13th St., Eugene; 2:00 PM; sponsored by the Univ. of Oregon Asian Studies Association.

## November

- 6 "THE XIAN INCIDENT": Chinese film (1982), Bijou Theatre, 13th St., Eugene; 2:00 PM; sponsored by the Asian Studies Association, U of O.
- 12 ART AUCTION: Sponsored by Wing Luke Museum; Nippon Kan Theatre, 622 S Washington, Seattle; \$15/person; 6:30 PM; information: 206-623-5124.
- 13 "THE IN-LAWS": Chinese film (1981), Bijou Theatre, 13th St., Eugene; sponsored by the Asian Studies Association, Univ. of Oregon; 2:00 PM.
- 20 "THE HERDSMAN": Chinese film (1982), Bijou Theatre, 13th St., Eugene; 2:00 PM; sponsored by the Asian Studies Assoc., Univ. of Oregon.

## December

- 12/2-2/5/84 "THE PEAR GARDEN IN THE WEST: CHINESE OPERA IN THE UNITED STATES, 1860-1980": educational program sponsored by Wing Luke Museum, Seattle; information: 206-623-5124.
- 6 \* "TAIWAN IN THE 1980'S": conference sponsored by Northwest China Council; Marriott Hotel, 1401 SW Front; 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Full conference: \$28; morning only: \$17.50; luncheon only, \$12.50; information: 229-3049.

\* Program sponsored by Northwest China Council

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This issue was prepared by Jeffrey Barlow, Diane Fox, Jane Larson, Ellie Pine, and Christine Richardson-Barlow.

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NORTHWEST CHINA COUNCIL MAILING LIST We welcome you to receive this quarterly newsletter and other special mailings, at no charge.

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Please describe your special interest in China (trade, scholarly, lived in or traveled to China, Chinese descent, etc.). Let us know what programs we should organize for the future.

WANT OFF THE MAILING LIST? Just call the World Affairs Council office, 229-3049, give us your name and zip code, and we will gladly remove your name from the list.

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*The Northwest Regional China Council is formed to deepen public understanding of China's history, culture, and contemporary affairs (in the People's Republic, Taiwan, Hong Kong, and among Chinese-Americans). Our events are held all over Oregon and in Vancouver and Seattle, Washington and include exhibitions, lectures, conferences, teacher workshops, and business seminars. The Northwest China Council is a program of the World Affairs Council of Oregon and one of twelve regional China councils in the U.S. affiliated with The Asia Society.*

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World Affairs Council of Oregon  
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