



ITASA DONATION PROSPECTUS 2008

the intercollegiate
taiwanese american
students association



ITASA

Intercollegiate Taiwanese American Students Association

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INTRODUCTION

On behalf of the Board of Directors and the National Board, thank you for your interest in the Intercollegiate Taiwanese American Students Association (ITASA). Only through the gracious support of donors is ITASA able to maintain its vitality and to achieve its goals.

ITASA provides a forum for Taiwanese American students to network and to explore their unique heritage through conferences, leadership retreats, summer programs, and partnerships. Over 8,000 students have attended ITASA-sponsored activities, and the organization continues to grow in programming and influence.

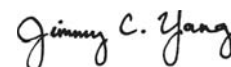
The following is a brief summary of what ITASA has been working on:

- The hosts of this year's regional conferences will be the University of Pennsylvania and Northwestern University. For many months, the conference committees have been hard at work organizing impressive programs that will include prominent speakers and engaging workshops. Based on initial figures, we are expecting tremendous turnout as always.
- Pathfinder Taiwan, ITASA's summer program, has continued its tradition of success, and we are planning to organize the program again this summer. Through the joint sponsorship of the Eden Social Welfare Foundation, the Taiwan Ministry of Education, and ITASA, U.S. college students will spend several weeks in Taiwan teaching English to visually-impaired children in the Taipei area.
- The ITASA Information department has completely renovated the ITASA website (www.itasa.org) to allow for easier navigation and better organization. We hope that the new website will serve as a conduit for disseminating information about ITASA and its resources.
- At a more local level, ITASA will continue to offer Leadership Retreats and Regional Grants. The Leadership Retreats are important in facilitating the development of critical leadership skills in budding Taiwanese American student leaders, and the Regional Grants program offers Taiwanese American Student Associations (TASAs) funding for intercollegiate events.
- We will continue to seek strategic partnerships with first-generation Taiwanese organizations. Creating closer ties with these organizations will further our primary goal of educating college students and allow us to assist the larger Taiwanese community in addressing its issues.

The following pages describe our operations in greater detail. We hope you find this material informative and inspiring. With your help, we can create a stronger ITASA, and in turn, a stronger Taiwanese community in America.

Should you have additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact our National Development Director, Jimmy C. Yang, at jimmy.yang@itasa.org. Thank you again for your interest. We look forward to hearing from you!

Warmest Regards,



Jimmy C. Yang
National Development Director



Eric Lin
President



Phoebe Lee
Vice President

1 OVERVIEW

The Intercollegiate Taiwanese American Students Association (ITASA) is a non-profit organization that aims to build an educated community of young Taiwanese Americans across the country. ITASA provides the opportunity for networking, community-building, leadership training, and identity-forging, which are all critical to the future of this new generation of Taiwanese Americans.

Founded in 1992 by a group of students who had the vision of bringing together Taiwanese American students under a national umbrella, ITASA began as two conferences: one held at Brown University and the other at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. These events became a series of annual conferences that sought to explore and to celebrate the Taiwanese American identity.

In recent years, ITASA has expanded in geography, organizational structure, and programming. Traditionally, ITASA has had the strongest participation on the East Coast due to the close proximity of the colleges in that region. Today, the organization also has strong networks in the Midwest, Southwest, and along the West Coast. ITASA now unites thousands of students on campuses from coast to coast.

ITASA is staffed by students and recent graduates who seek to connect their peers and their respective campuses. What began as a small group of students dedicated to celebrating their Taiwanese American heritage through conferences has now expanded into a board of directors, a national board, and three conference boards. Each year, these students organize events that have served thousands and, in 2006-2007, included three national conferences, five leadership retreats, and numerous intercollegiate events.

ITASA is proud of its history. Countless students have helped shape ITASA into the influential organization that it is today. Yet, our work is not done. We are very excited about our potential for growth, and, with your help, we hope to continue generating new and exciting programs and to extend our reach to more Taiwanese Americans in this country.

“ITASA is a foundation through which I found a family of Taiwanese Americans, discovered new roots I never knew existed in Taiwan and America, and created new visions for the journey ahead.”



- LIZ WANG
WELLESLEY COLLEGE, 2007

2 CONFERENCES

“Having spent part of my childhood in Taiwan but hailing from the Midwest, joining ITASA has helped me find my own identity and place within Taiwanese America. What I love about ITASA is the opportunity it gives me to work at a grassroots level with the Taiwanese American student community nationwide... being a part of the ITASA team means working with a group of motivated students who share our ideals of empowering the Taiwanese American community to make a difference.”



- CALVIN CHEN
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN, 2005

ITASA holds three conferences annually, one in each of its regions: East Coast, Midwest, and West Coast. These regional conferences attract students from over one hundred colleges and universities nationwide. Typically spanning three days, conferences allow students to engage in a series of lectures, workshops, and performances relating to Taiwanese and Taiwanese American issues. They emphasize a fair and balanced education for the Taiwanese American community, the growth of Taiwanese American student groups across the country, and most of all, the promotion of a strong Taiwanese American network nationwide.

ITASA has been especially successful in attracting the enthusiasm and participation of prominent individuals. Keynote speakers have included: Annette Lu, Vice President of Taiwan; Dr. David Ho, CEO of the Aaron Diamond AIDS Research Center and Time Magazine’s 1996 Man of the Year; New York City councilman John Liu; Randall Schriver, co-founder of Armitage International LLC; and Alberta Lee, daughter of Wen-Ho Lee.

In 2006, New York University; the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign; and the University of California, Los Angeles hosted ITASA National conferences. The 2007 conferences were held at Harvard University, the University of Michigan, and Stanford University.

3 LEADERSHIP RETREATS

Through annual Leadership Retreats, ITASA connects student leaders from university campuses nationwide to further develop their leadership skills, network with one another, and plan cross-campus exchanges. These retreats represent ITASA's ongoing effort to better understand the needs of the Taiwanese American student community and to develop effective solutions.

Each region holds at least one Leadership Retreat annually. Participants include student leaders from the various universities in each region. Typical Leadership Retreats span one day at a host university during which ITASA's National Board members guide participants through a series of exercises that focus on developing individual leadership capacities. Notable emphasis is placed on critical skills such as effective event organization and public speaking. Students also engage in group discussions regarding various issues unique to Taiwanese Americans and collectively develop solutions to these concerns.

Attendance at Leadership Retreats is, by design, smaller than at conferences, and thereby presents a more collaborative and intimate setting. This environment enables students to build stronger bonds and serves as an invaluable opportunity for students from different universities to share their collective knowledge. Leadership Retreats provide an excellent route through which student leaders can extend the resources available to them.

Leadership Retreats also serve as a useful tool for ITASA to establish a stronger Taiwanese American presence at universities nationwide. With active guidance from the ITASA National Board, these retreats often spark the requisite interest in student leaders to build an active membership and to host a variety of innovative and meaningful events on their respective campuses.

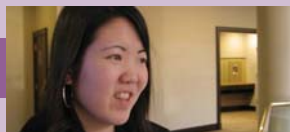
“For me, ITASA has truly been a life changing experience. It has allowed me to grow in leadership and meet some of the most talented and capable people in the Taiwanese American community.... Through ITASA, I have made amazing friends and developed awesome memories.”



DAVID K. LEE
HARVARD UNIVERSITY, 2004

4 REGIONAL GRANTS

“The most important lesson that ITASA has taught me is how to harness the power of Taiwanese American youth activism to change attitudes and raise awareness about our community in the U.S. and the world today. The Taiwanese American community is one of the most tight-knit and passionate Asian American groups, and at every ITASA conference or leadership retreat, I’m faced with the best evidence of this passion: young men and women who aren’t afraid to learn about controversial or difficult issues, who speak up for their different causes, and who want to integrate Taiwanese American interests into their future careers and life paths.”



CHRISTINE HUNG
YALE UNIVERSITY, 2006

While ITASA hosts and sponsors numerous events on a national scale, the grassroots efforts of Taiwanese American Student Associations (TASAs) on college campuses nationwide play a strong role in galvanizing and strengthening the Taiwanese American community. Each TASA has its own governance committee that organizes numerous events held throughout the academic year at each school.

TASAs provide an excellent opportunity, through creating positions of substantial responsibility, for college students to develop their leadership capacities. Funding provided by universities, however, is often restricted to events hosted on the campus of each TASA and does not support collaborative events between TASAs. In response, ITASA instituted regional grants to facilitate more activities for the TASAs and for intercollegiate events among them.

In general, regional grants are awarded to events hosted by the TASAs of two or more schools. Interested applicants must assemble a portfolio of information including a detailed description of the planned event and an estimated budget. The associated ITASA Regional Governor reviews and renders a decision on the applications. Special emphasis is placed on the size and scope of the event and whether it reflects ITASA’s mission statement.

Recognizing that TASAs play a key role as centers of growth for the Taiwanese American community, ITASA actively publicizes its regional grants program. The program has grown tremendously throughout the years. Past events for which regional grants have been allotted include:

- Massachusetts Institute of Technology’s TAI.101 Night Market with Harvard University, Wellesley College, and the Franklin W. Olin College of Engineering
- TASA Mixer: Princeton, Yale, Columbia, and New York Universities
- Stanford-Berkeley Beach BBQ
- Brown University’s Strait-Talk Symposium

5 PARTNERSHIPS & PUBLICATIONS

SUMMER PROGRAMS

One of ITASA's primary goals is to foster exchange between second-generation Taiwanese Americans and Taiwan itself. ITASA currently sponsors a summer program and also provides young Taiwanese Americans with information regarding summer and full-time opportunities in Taiwan.

- *Pathfinder Taiwan - Summer English Program for the Visually Impaired*

Sponsors: Eden Social Welfare Foundation, ITASA
Contributors: R.O.C.-Taiwan Ministry of Education
Location: Taipei, Taiwan

Each summer, ITASA recruits a team of Taiwanese American volunteers to staff the Pathfinder Taiwan Summer Program, a two week residential camp that provides visually impaired Taiwanese students the opportunity to learn English through a series of fun activities. This exciting project unites the programming abilities of ITASA, the Eden Social Welfare Foundation, and the Taiwanese Ministry of Education. We look forward to sponsoring the program again this year and providing another group of Taiwanese American students with the chance to give back to Taiwan.

"OUR TREASURY"

Through the generous support of its donors, ITASA published *Our Treasury: The Shaping of First Generation Taiwanese Americans*. This book seeks to bridge the generation gap between first and second generation Taiwanese Americans through the stories of eleven diverse Taiwanese Americans who came in pursuit of the same dreams: higher education, greater opportunities, and a better future for their families. Their experiences reveal both the obstacles common to life in a new country and the struggles unique to being Taiwanese. Each individual has helped forge a distinct, hybridized identity for our community -- one that combines the rich values and traditions of Taiwan with the democratic ideals and opportunities of America.

ITASA iNEWSLETTER

The free ITASA iNewsletter has been a great way to keep individual TASA chapters, key participants, and donors alike informed. The iNewsletter highlights ITASA events (regional and nationwide), individual TASA chapter updates, and information about summer internships, programs, and scholarships. Subscription requests can be directed to newsletter@itasa.org.

"To me, ITASA is about great people coming together to do great things. It is about searching and finding that passion for our identity. It is about stepping forward and taking Taiwanese America to the next level. We put in a bit of ourselves into ITASA, and ITASA rewards us with much more than we will ever have the ability to imagine."

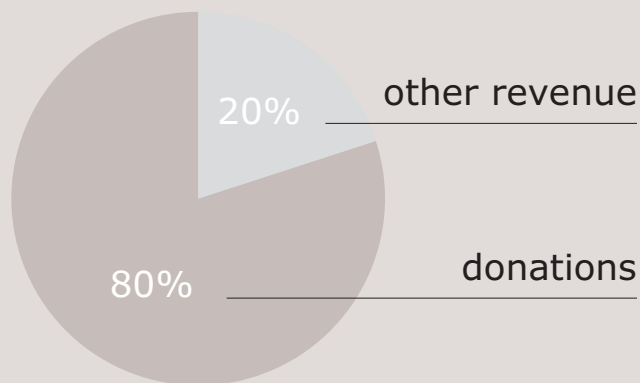


CHIEH-TING YEH
HARVARD UNIVERSITY, 2004

6 FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Note: ITASA's fiscal year currently runs from July to the following July. Our yearly activities schedule runs along the academic year, usually August 1 to July 31. Due to the difference between our fiscal year and our activities year, some overlap exists between the figures displayed in this section and how they correspond with the activities.

description	estimated budget
Administrative Expenses (supplies, marketing, website, etc.)	\$5,000
Regional Grants	\$5,000
National Summit	\$3,000
Leadership Retreats	\$2,000
Summer Programs	\$2,000
Regional Conferences (for all three regions)	\$100,000
Total	\$117,000



The Internal Revenue Service has granted ITASA 501(c)(3) non-profit status. Accordingly, all donations are fully tax deductible. The ITASA staff works hard to keep accurate and detailed financial records to maintain this privileged status.

The ITASA Development team is focused on creating a long-term fundraising strategy. A strong emphasis will be placed on strengthening relationships with existing donors and identifying promising opportunities for future growth. All ITASA departments will also work together to make advances in fundraising and to recognize donors.

ITASA knows that none of its events would be possible without the generous contributions of its donors. 80% of our budget consists of donations. The rest is derived from university budgetary allotments and other revenue.

The generosity of donors has allowed ITASA to make advances in accomplishing its mission, which has subsequently led to the:

- Development of the next generation of successful Taiwanese American leaders who will be responsible members of the Asian American community and the rest of society.
- Promotion of a culture of giving back and volunteerism in the Taiwanese American student community.
- Celebration of diversity in culture, heritage, and ideas both within and outside the Taiwanese American community.

