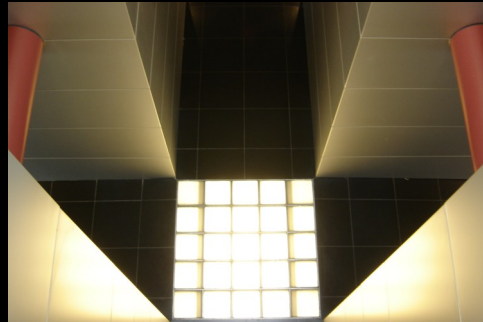


Charles B. Wang
Asian American Center
Guidebook



PH Tuan, Architect

Stony Brook University, New York



AA E-Zine - SBU AA E-Zine

SBU Campus Office: Union Room 071
11794-3200 / 631 632 1395 / 631 831 6062

Off Campus Mail: P.O. Box 4
Stony Brook, NY 11790
aezine@yahoo.com

AA E-Zine!

On-line news, events, photos, videos
focusing on Asian and Asian American
Long Island / metro New York community

www.aezine.org

Stony Brook University Section

www.aa2sbu.org/aezine

Free! Every week a link is sent to your inbox via Yahoo
Groups (no spam or junk ever!) Sign up in left column
of Zine or send e-mail to aezine@yahoo.com

SBU students: Join first (2002) and only continuously
published Asian Am college 'paper' in the country!

Volunteer or earn academic credit.

Hard copy published in SB Press and AAJ.

Videotaped events streamed on web.

Learn video editing. Show your creativity!

All Welcome! Community members too! Journalists,
columnists, essayists, poets, researchers, cartoonists,
photographers, videographers, and media techies!

Great Advertising Opportunities

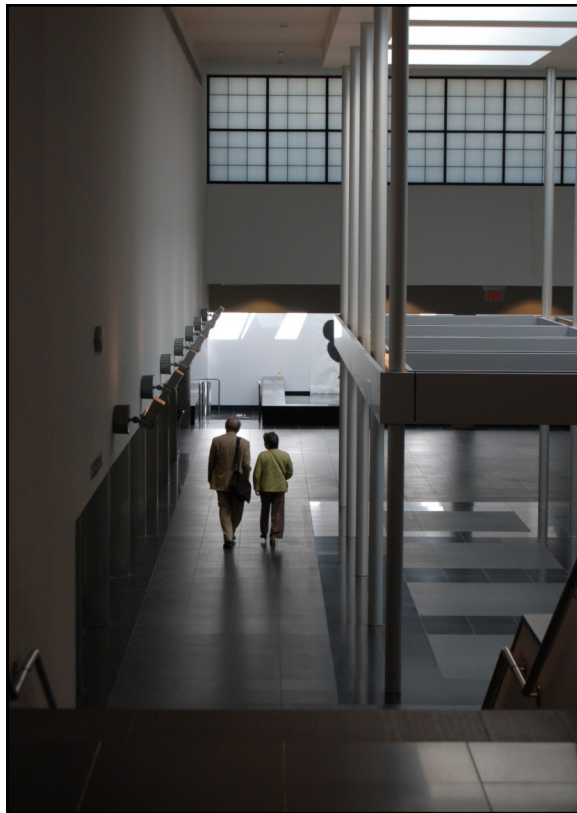
Help students while helping your business.

Internships supported by advertising.

Combined online and hard copy reaches SBU campus
plus thousands of alumni and community members.

Funded by [AA]²: **A**sians, **A**mericans & **A**sian **A**mericans
and USG: Undergraduate Student Government

Charles B. Wang Center
Celebrating Asian and
Asian American Cultures
Stony Brook University



© A A 2 / A A E Z I N E

5th Anniversary
Celebration
27 October 2007

27 October 2007

Welcome! You will now get to experience what we have the pleasure of experiencing every day!



The entrance to the University was redesigned to showcase the pagoda sculpture tower - it has become Stony Brook's icon. Sometimes we wish the building was not quite so beautiful because then there would be less competition for available dates for events. The same with Jasmine - when classes are in session it is packed because it's the best and most appealing place to eat on campus.

But we really cannot complain - it was the first building that gave this campus a work of art and we love it! So to those of you who helped P.H. bring the Wang Center to us - thank you!

SBU AA E-Zine Students

Charles B. Wang Center

Celebrating Asian and
Asian American Cultures
Stony Brook University



© AA2 / AA E Z I N E

Architect
P.H. Tuan

Photo Tribute Guidebook



AA E-Zine & SBU AA E-Zine

Asians, Americans, & Asian Americans

www.aa2sbu.org/aaezine  www.aasquared.org



© A A 2 / A A E Z I N E

Charles B. Wang

Philanthropist, Owner: NY Islanders Hockey

Founder: CA, Computer Associates

In the largest gift in SUNY history, Wang made a personal donation of over \$50 million to design and build the Wang Center to bring knowledge of Asia and Asian America to New York. In his dedication speech he said, "My fondest wish is that what we dedicate today is like no other.... It can be an environment where minds are enlightened and spirits are uplifted - where inspiration can walk hand and hand with celebration... Most importantly, my hope is that it will forge relationships because, in my experience, it is relationships that change lives and write history. Relationships ultimately bring us peace, prosperity, and a richer quality of life... Let's hope that this wonderful Center does its small part to inspire future generations to build the kind of cross-cultural relationships that make the world a more peaceful and happier place."

Charles B. Wang Center

Celebrating Asian & Asian American Cultures

The Wang Center provides a dramatic entrance to the campus with its modernistic Tower to Heaven pagoda and red gates. In its exquisite interior are held professional, community, and student events, conferences, lectures, even weddings in the chapel. The red trellised Chinese scholar's and bamboo garden around the koi and lotus pond is the most beautiful spot on campus and used for outdoor receptions, dining, and meditation. The state of the art lecture halls and theatre are filled during the academic year with a wide variety of Asian and Asian American programs ranging from traditional and modern actors, musicians, and dancers, and foreign language films to serious talks on world affairs. Virtually every wall is designed for permanent and temporary art exhibits. The restaurant is casual and fine dining and catering is provided by on and off-campus eateries. It is a treat not to be missed for its beauty or offerings. Whether being enjoyed as a peaceful place to sit and read or a crowd-filled venue for an event, the Charles B. Wang Center has it all. We promise you will not be disappointed!

Whether being enjoyed as a peaceful place to sit and read or a crowd-filled venue for an event, the Charles B. Wang Center has it all. We promise you will not be disappointed!



[AA]2's Freshmen BBQ
donated by SBU alumni
at FalconStor Software

Whether being enjoyed as a peaceful place to sit and read or a crowd-filled venue for an event, the Charles B. Wang Center has it all. We promise you will not be disappointed!

www.stonybrook.edu/wang

P. H. Tuan, Architect

Director of IACCA : The Institute for the
Advancement of Contemporary Chinese Architecture



© A A 2 / A A E Z I N E

Pao-Hwa Tuan, raised in Shanghai and a graduate of the University of Michigan, has had a wide ranging architectural career. His diversified practice includes award-winning projects here and abroad, and first-of-their-kind contemporary versions of traditional Chinese facilities in the United States. With the philosophy that an architect should be responsible from concept to completion in the tradition of master builder, his designs include exterior, interior, and construction management. This ensures his vision, guarantees quality workmanship and materials, and makes enhancements possible. He formed IACCA to give Chinese architects the resources to foster their own unique style. His latest award-winning design, China's most modern law school at Soochow University, exemplifies the concept he wants to promote - architecture that is bold and daring, not at all traditional, yet still looks Chinese.

A Symphony for the Soul

With poetry, we put into words the majesty of what our senses feel, and thus poetry is synonymous with beauty. Wonderful architecture then is the poetry of a space. With its visual words it creates a rich artistic environment that captures our sensual feelings.

Those visual words are also the musical notes of a symphony played for our eyes. The rhythmic variation of the patterns of the brick and the contrasting strength of the massive gray walls are the adagio movements, graceful curves that become a rapid succession of angles are the andantes, the sudden bursts of vibrant reds the allegrettos.

Great architecture contains all the best elements of poetry, music, and art. P.H. Tuan's design of the Charles Wang Center achieves just that: Li Po and Shakespeare in a Tan Dun contemporary composition - the canvas of a poetic masterpiece - his Mozart for our eyes.

Though of Chinese birth, P.H. Tuan is Western trained. He has a deep abiding religious faith and gives his designs elements of God's natural beauty. Charles Wang's intention with the Center was cross-cultural understanding. Raised here, he too was born in Shanghai and lived the bi-cultural immigrant life. Tuan deliberately chose to bring in the historical elements of their Eastern heritage with the Western heritage of their Christian faith to accomplish that cross-cultural understanding architecturally.



Leaving the West Behind

The ceremonial entrance to the Wang Center is a series of red gates evocative of imperial China like those leading into the Forbidden City. Smaller red gate entrances are on the east and west sides. What is so wonderful about them is that they provide magnificent color to brighten even the dreariest day.

One looks up to the Tower to Heaven pagoda from the main entrance from the south. In the West, north is the primary point on a compass but in the East it is the south as it symbolizes the sun's warmth.

Walking in entrance shown cross the bright the photograph crossing is one of i m p o r t a n t Center - that the 'West' to go why all windows e n c l o s e d gardens. Within space, visitors feel as though experiencing other side of the



that South Gate here, visitors red bridge in on the right. The t h e m o s t concepts of the one is leaving to the 'East'. It is look out into courtyards and all this enclosed were meant to they were really being on the world.

Below the bridge is a 90' pool with the 12 heads of the zodiac spouting streams of water that murmur throughout the building. Above is a skylight view of the tower. Ahead is the main floor in front of the Tower to Heaven columns. To each side are silk banners, designed by award-winning artist Chun Wo Pat, with the names of different countries in contrasting colors meant to hang in order based upon longitude. Woven into the fabric of each, visible only with concentrated effort, one sees in the language of that country the words 'Charles B. Wang Asian American Center'.



South Gate Main 'Imperial Entrance' Bridge
crossing over Zodiac Fountain
Charles B. Wang Center
Celebrating Asian & Asian American Cultures
Architect: P.H. Tuan
Banners by Graphic Designer: Chun Wo Pat
Photographer: Kevin Quan

Zigzag bridge
over koi and lily
pool in the rear
enclosed garden

Charles B. Wang
Center Celebrating
Asian and
Asian American
Cultures

Architect
P.H. Tuan

Photographer
Maria Ng



First Impressions

Entering the main lobby there is a wide expanse in all directions. The imperial red columns of the Tower to Heaven lift your eyes upward. Behind them is a shoji 'rice paper' clerestory window. The tower rises 55 feet inside and another 80 feet outside. Directly ahead is the garden with its pool and red trellis'. To the right are thin silver columns and something below, though one cannot see what, and a clerestory window in the distance. To the left the main floor continues but through a high cutout bright red windows can be seen in the distance. How to describe it all? But there is one thing visitors should know. It was the architect's intent that on your first visit, you would get lost!



The drop on the right of the main lobby goes down into the Sculpture Gallery. On its left are the Interfaith Chapel and theatre. The theatre is meant to be intimate and seats 250, but the stage was designed to be large enough to have any kind of performance. At its rear are two octagonal windows with a view to the garden. The windows replicate the eight sided Tower to Heaven but as a pair. Traditional Chinese culture holds that blessings come in pairs.



The far side of the Sculpture Gallery is a scholar's pool, shown here with a future scholar. On the left is the East Gate. On the right are state of the art video-teleconferencing lecture halls. One goal is lectures in real time with students in both Asia and America.



Looking west over three-story skylight to four-story one
Charles B. Wang Center Celebrating
Asian & Asian American Cultures
Architect: P.H. Tuan Photographer: Huy Huynh

Tower to Heaven

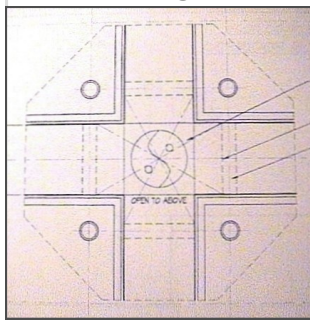
Atop high elevation in Beijing sits the ancient Temple of Heaven. Within, four large columns in Imperial Red soar to a multi-hued symbolism of Heaven. The Wang Center Tower to Heaven does that literally. Standing on the lit tower base one looks up through two stories of confined lateral view. All that is visible is an infinite view straight up through the center of the tower to Heaven above.



Whether a blue sky or twinkling stars, it is the center of attraction. Some gaze silently up, marveling at the ingenuity. Others point excitedly when they realize what they are seeing. Few realize the reflection they



see at night is 'in God's image'. It is THE place to have photos taken at special events like the Nations of Asia Semi-formal on the right. Lovers kiss, marriages are proposed, brides in weddings too large for the chapel walk through it on their way to an altar at the Zodiac



Fountain. Originally designed to be a yin yang symbol, that artistic touch meant a special glass durable enough to 'theoretically' withstand multitudes cramming onto it - which is exactly what is tried! Any design would not change its popularity!

Guests at the
Nations of Asia Semi
-formal
on the
Tower to Heaven
light base

Charles B. Wang
Center Celebrating
Asian and
Asian American
Cultures

Architect
P.H. Tuan

Photographer
Zayd Daruwala





Department of Asian and Asian American Studies

**Stony Brook University
Department of
Asian and
Asian American
Studies (AAAS)
proudly supports
cross-cultural and
global learning and
understanding**

**[www.stonybrook.
edu/aaas](http://www.stonybrook.edu/aaas)**

Please join us

*Department Chair S.N. Sridhar
China Studies Agnes Weiyun He
India Studies Kamal Sridhar
Japan Studies Sachiko Murata
Korea Studies Sung Bae Park*

**Humanities
1046**

632-7690



Art
Healing
Space
annual
exhibit in
four story
skylight
area

Charles
Wang
Center
Celebrating
Asian and
Asian
American
Cultures

Architect
P.H. Tuan

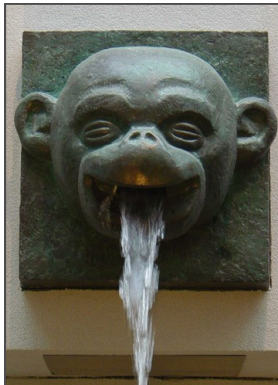
Photographer
Huy Huynh

Water, Light, Reflections, and Sound

Strategically placed are five light towers and two light walls, symbolic of shoji, rice paper screens. All provide light but the walls allow one to look out windows or be in courtyards without seeing other buildings to keep the illusion of being surrounded by the East.

Leading down from the Sculpture Gallery are wide stairs to the lower level. Directly in front is the light base of the Tower to Heaven. To its right is a replica of an ancient Xian sculpture, horses pulling a carriage.

On the left is the Zodiac Fountain with twelve heads spouting into a 90 foot pool, the sound resonating parts of Asia repeat every changing at the and to know a to know their age. ox, tiger, rabbit, horse, ram, rooster, dog, or

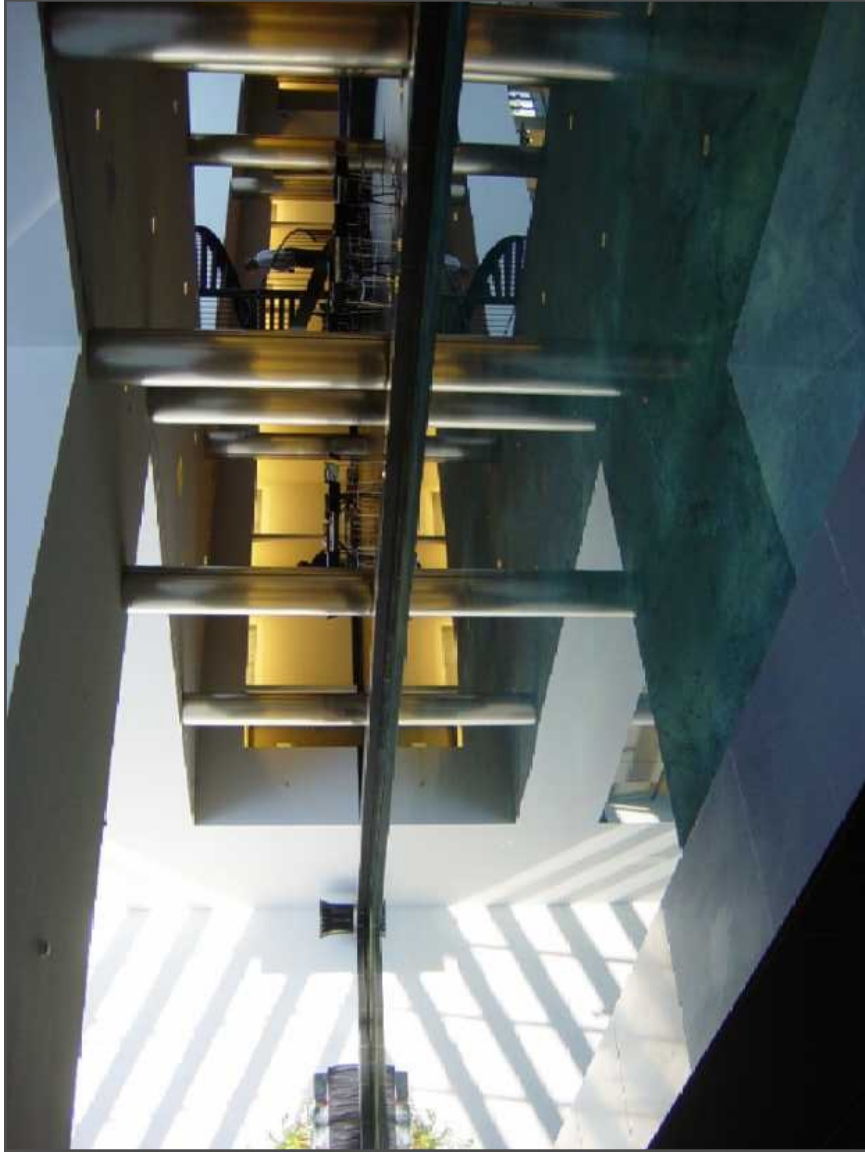


foot pool, the everywhere. In twelve figures twelve years, lunar new year, person's sign is They are the rat, dragon, snake, m o n k e y , pig.

Continuing west is the first large pool. Below a 3-story skylight it is an artistic touch awaiting the future. Conceived with classic NY chutzpah as a sculpture



pool, one side was to be many lights rising at different heights representing the major cities of Asia, then an expanse of emptiness, then one tall sculpture light for the greatest city in the world – our own!



Indoor pool
beneath
four story
skylight

Charles B. Wang
Center
Celebrating
Asian and
Asian American
Cultures

Architect
P.H. Tuan

Photographer
Stephen Yeung

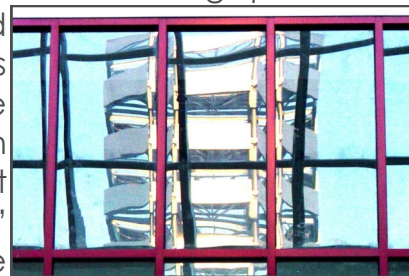
“Spirits Being Uplifted”

Just beyond the 3-story skylight pool is the second large indoor pool, this one beneath a 4-story skylight. It also has bright red windows above and a circular staircase on one side. But this pool was meant to be a water garden and hopefully someday it will be what the outside pool is during the warm months - exotic water plants and colorful koi - but all year long!

Surrounding the two pools are conference rooms and two shoji 'container' gardens are giving natural light to the rooms below. For the lower areas to flow together yet still be architecturally distinct. Thus it is capable of holding multiple small receptions at one time or a grand one with over a thousand guests.

But there are times when Tuan designed this vast skylight space for something special and unexpected. He wanted people “to feel their spirits being uplifted,” he said, “just as they are when entering the great cathedrals of Europe.” Walking in at mid-level, the shining sun casting shadow lines across the walls, red windows glistening, looking up through the glass to see a blue sky stretching into infinity - visitors gasp in joyful delight!

To the left of this pool are four floors of art galleries and conference rooms. In the hallways with the red window frames one not only looks down on the pool but out through the skylight to the Tower to Heaven, shown in reverse in the reflection in the photo above.





Four story skylight facing north
Charles B. Wang Center
Celebrating Asian and Asian American Cultures
Architect: P.H. Tuan Photographer: Angeline Seah



SBU China Alumni

Co-Chairs

Gu Yong, Shanghai

Wang Shanshan, Beijing

www.aa2sbu.org/chinaalumni

[www.stonybrook.edu/
ugadmissions/china/](http://www.stonybrook.edu/ugadmissions/china/)



Renwen Society

Lecture Series in Mandarin
www.chineselectures.org

Co-Chairs

Ben Wang

Dr. Yong Ho

China Institute

125 East 65th St., NY, NY 10021
212 744 8181 www.chinainstitute.org

Multiple reflections
of tower poles
in glass and
bench slats

Charles B. Wang
Center
Celebrating
Asian and
Asian American
Cultures

Architect
P.H. Tuan

Photographer
Kurt Simbron



Everyone's Favorite Space

The Interfaith Chapel is a small room with a high ceiling, a bamboo garden with Lake Taihu rocks beneath a skylight in front, and a choir loft in the rear. The frosted glass hides the skylight from direct view,



diffusing sunshine and giving a soft, subtle light. Immediately upon walking in one feels the sense that this place is meant for peaceful and thoughtful meditation with God.

But wonderfully, deep quiet is only one side of the coin. The acoustics are considered magnificent and the best for vocals on the entire campus. When the voices of the Camerata Singers fill the room one is surrounded by magnificent sound. With a single soprano's notes close your eyes and it is Carnegie Hall.

Visually, the bamboo backdrop provides the perfect setting for small weddings. For larger ones, and for all events in any part of the building, it is ideal for photo ops as there is no need to ever care about the weather.

It is the most sought after space on campus for receptions, luncheons, and dinner parties. It is large enough for most gatherings but small enough to feel intimate. Even with the max audience of one hundred, the gentlest speaker does not need a microphone to be heard.





Camerata Singers
"East Meets West Concert"
Maestro Timothy Mount

Interfaith Chapel

Charles B. Wang Center
Celebrating Asian and Asian American Cultures

Architect: P.H. Tuan

Photographer: J. ten Doesschate

Listen to the magnificent acoustics online at
[www.aa2sbu.org/aaezine/articles/videos/
121203CamerataSingersWangCenterChapelPHTuan.html](http://www.aa2sbu.org/aaezine/articles/videos/121203CamerataSingersWangCenterChapelPHTuan.html)

Zigzags, History, and Feng Shui

Circular stairs lead up from the 3 and 4-story skylight pools - the 4-story by the West Gate, the 3-story by Jasmine, the pan-Asian restaurant named for Wang's youngest daughter. Opposite the 3-story pool are administrative offices and the gift shop will one day be filled with art, handiwork, music, and books.

Jasmine's glass walls zigzag along one side of the garden. In good weather sitting by the pool is the most beautiful place to eat on campus. Although the ambiance evokes the East, at catered events guests dine on anything from pasta to prime rib as well as Chinese, Indian, Japanese, and Thai cuisine.



Returning to the main lobby, the garden is on the left. Its rear wall is a zigzag of brick mirroring Jasmine's zigzag windows. Like the Great Wall, it is a solid expanse across the northern boundary, another example of Tuan's use of East West symbolism. The front curved wall is the same. Standing below it one get's a small sense of massive ancient city walls like those of Nanjing.



With Chinese red trellis' and railings, the garden is brightly hued all year long. Bamboo towers above. Each zigzag of the garden wall will one day represent a part of Asia from Indonesian tulips (no they are not originally Dutch) to a patterned pebble Zen garden. Rare peony trees were planted by the first international students to marry there as a thank-you.

Although Tuan does not practice feng shui, the building is in perfect feng shui harmony. That is because of the architectural practicality on which feng shui itself is based.



Zigzag
bridge over
koi and lily
pool in
the rear
enclosed
garden

Charles Wang
Center
Celebrating
Asian and
Asian
American
Cultures

Architect
P.H. Tuan

Photographer
Huy Huynh



The Smile Train

www.smiletrain.org



**Give A Child With
A Cleft, A Second
Chance at Life.**

Today, millions of children in developing countries are suffering with clefts. The good news is that virtually all of these children can be helped.



 **Donate Now!**

Every \$250 raised, a child receives free cleft surgery.



**Developing youth
hockey in China and the
USA, bringing Chinese
students to America to
study, providing real
cultural exchanges, and**

**starting the 1st USA
based international
youth hockey
tournament:
The Project Hope
Invitational!**



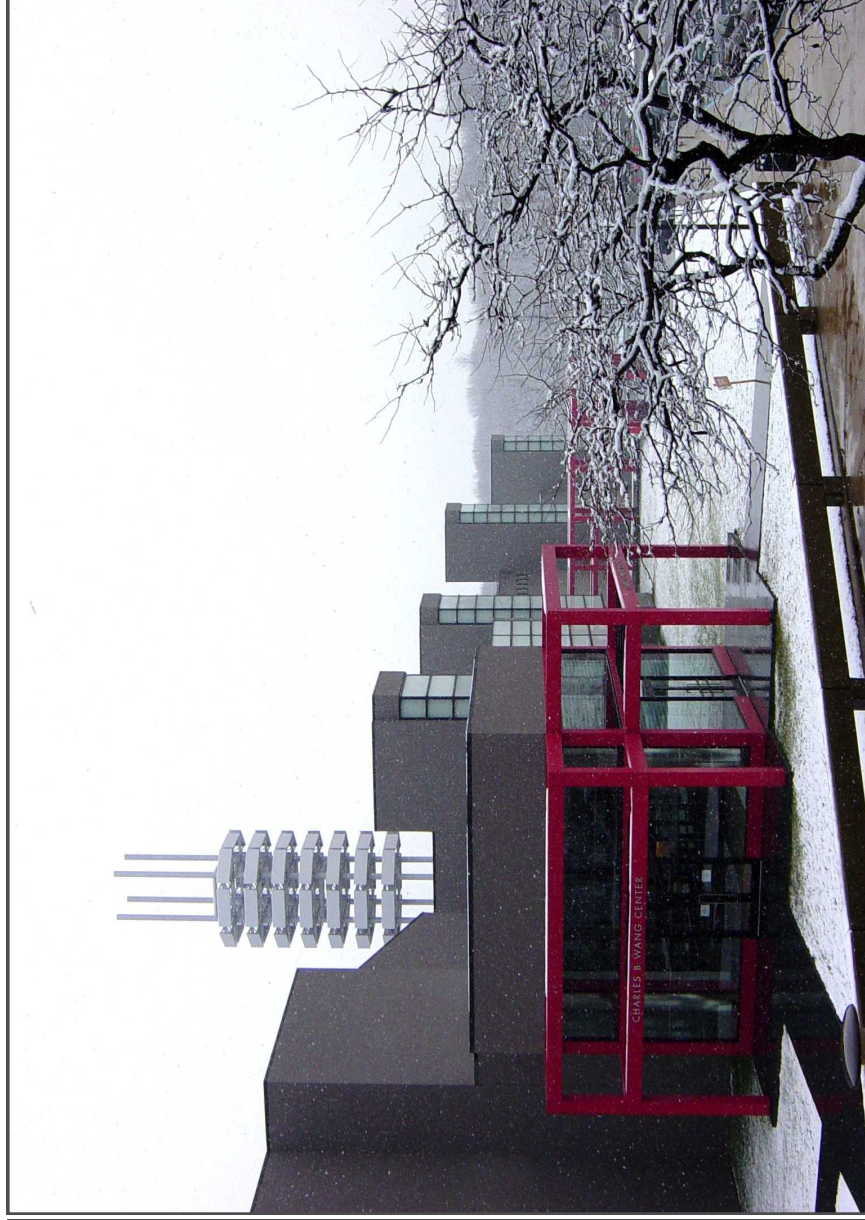
www.nyprojecthope.com

Bright red to
brighten even
the gloomiest
winter storm.
Taken from the
Fine Arts
Center.

Charles Wang
Center
Celebrating
Asian and
Asian American
Cultures

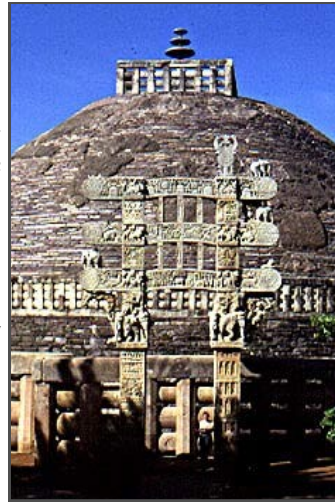
Architect
P.H. Tuan

Photographer
Tuan Le



Pagodas Unite Asia

In the East the one architectural element common to every country is the pagoda, a multi-storied design used for religious purposes and later, because of its height, a watch tower. It began in India as the 'stupa' where relics of Buddha were kept. In the photo on the right the oldest existing one, the Great Stupa of Sanchi, dates from 250 B.C.E. With the spread of Buddhism this concept traveled eastward across the continent. Tuan knew that to include the historical heritage of all of Asia, the Wang Center would need a pagoda.



But the Indian 'stupa', Chinese 'ta', Indonesian 'candi', Laotian 'chao fa', Thai 'chedi', Burmese 'zayda' or 'pyathat', Nepalese 'chaitya', Cambodian 'Khmer-Prang', Balinese 'pura', Singhalese and Tibetan 'dagoba', and similar pagoda structures had each taken on the flavor of those cultures and while similar, after 2000 years they were



no longer exactly the same. Tuan needed to incorporate both their similarities and their differences. So, rising eighty feet over the Wang Center is a modern sculpture that does just that while keeping faith with his own architectural style. And yes, it could only be a sculpture and still be tall and not squat and wide due to modern fire code regulations if there was access.



SBU student 'wedding couples' at the grand opening celebration. Left to right: Korean, Indian, traditional Chinese, two modern Chinese, Japanese, and Filipino

Charles B. Wang Center

Celebrating Asian and Asian American Cultures

Architect: P.H. Tuan

Photographer: Ja Young Edited by: Jeffrey Ng

Historiography & Holography

The Tower to Heaven sculpture above the Wang Center is a concept both ancient and modern. Four slender silver gray poles hold seven layers of silver gray panels, each layer composed of eight sides in an octagon. Traditional pagodas always have an odd number of stories. Each odd number has a different meaning in different Asian cultures, but all the meanings are positive. The poles reach high into the sky just as the rooftop poles of Bali's 'puras' and Japanese Shinto shrines do. They cast shadows on each other, testament to perfect engineering.

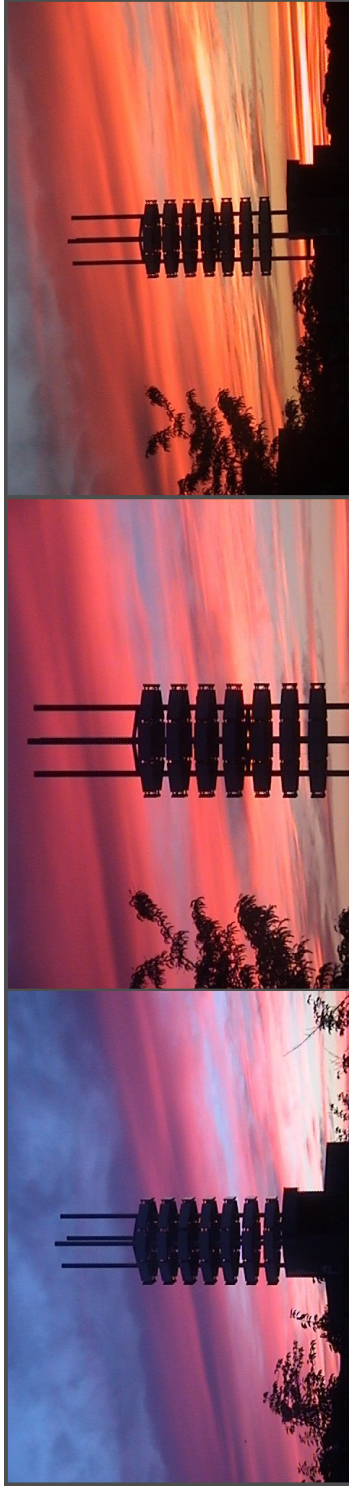


The octagonal tower is in the shape of the Ba-Gua, the representation of the 8 trigrams of the *I Ching*. The circle formed within it is the yin yang. Each trigram has a corresponding element, compass direction, number, season, and time of day. *Li*, the octagon side above the main entrance, not only represents south, but 9, laughter, and beauty, and its element is Fire.

The panels are what the architect used to bring his faith in God to the exterior design by letting natural

light color the tower. Holographic panels change color with the sunlight. Three to four columns can be seen at once. Each column is a different shade and as one circles the structure, each column's colors change. With sunset, in the one row directly facing the sun, each panel changes too.





As the sun rose behind the Wang Center Tower to Heaven the sky grew more glorious, changing from purples and pinks to vibrant reds. Then, when it seemed as though the show was over, God painted a new canvas in oranges and golds. Meanwhile, on the other side, Tuan's use of a holographic finish mirrors God's beauty in its own and is the constant surprise he wanted to achieve. The Tower to Heaven can be any shade of gray, shimmering silver, reflective like a mirror, white, blue, pink, gold, orange, and in lightening, even mint green.



Photos: Ja Young

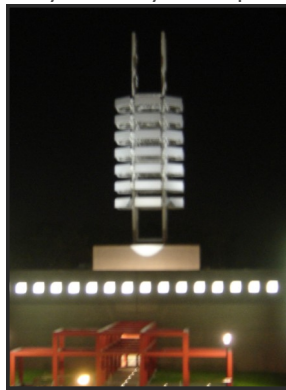
Pagodas Unite the World



There is also a naturalistic side to the design, the showing that strength comes from structure, that also plays on putting nationalistic feelings into perspective. Chinese call Chinese Americans 'jook sing' - bamboo - Chinese on the outside but hollow inside. It is not a compliment.

Yet bamboo is one of the sturdiest plants in nature - its hollowness allows it to bend in the wind but not break. And so Tuan designed his Tower to Heaven sculpture like the segmented bamboo - hollow on the inside but strong enough to sway in any tempest storm.

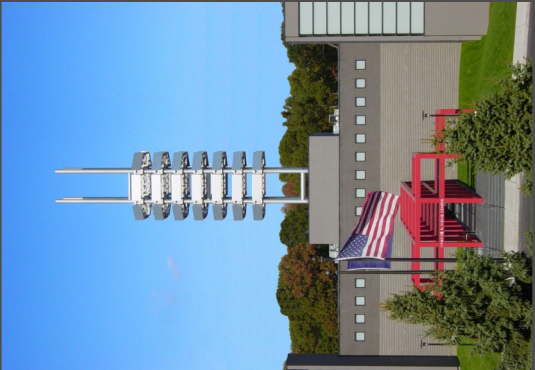
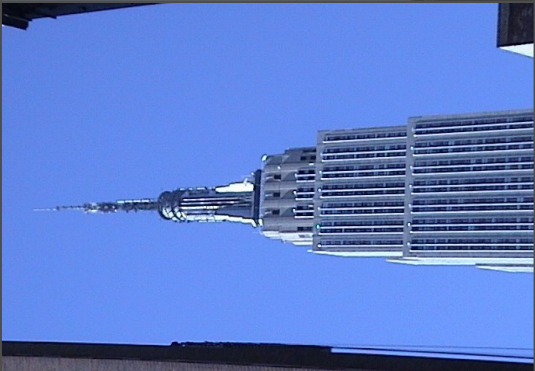
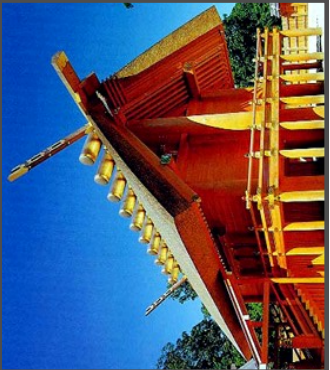
After sunset are turned on is a experience. There the tower; they from below. Again materials to desired effects, reflects back that segmented remains dark. So



when the lights d i f f e r e n t are no lights on shine onto it using the design achieve the each piece light while the e m p t i n e s s not only do the panels shine, so does the framework, but each differently. The reflective silver frame contrasts with the phosphorescent silver green sheen of the panels, and the top poles are a mosaic of dark and light.

Today the horizon of every city is filled with modern pagodas. As the pagoda united the East in antiquity, in modernity it is the pagoda in skyscraper form that unites the world. What is the Empire State Building but a pagoda with an elevator. The pagoda then is the perfect architectural representation of what the Wang Center hopes to foster - a uniting of East and West.



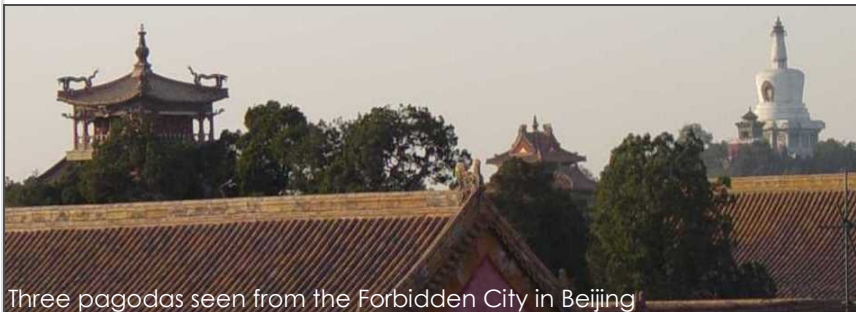
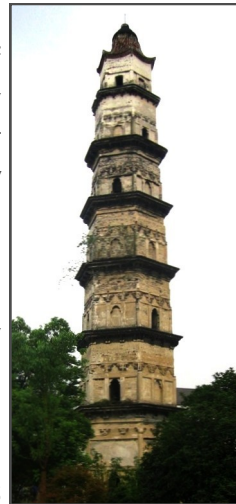


Importance of Cross-Cultural Understanding

Most Americans have never been to Asia and have only seen photos of pagodas. East and Southeast Asian international students, however, expect a pagoda on campus. On the left is Bo Ya, Beijing University's icon, just as the Wang Center's pagoda has become SBU's icon. Bo Ya was built in 1917 as a water tower.



Why are there pagodas throughout Asia but a similar structure here is referred to anatomically? Ignorance not only of their historical importance but of the practical processes necessary in ancient times to design structures of great height. There is no everyday understanding in America of ancient architecture. In Asia pagodas not only had religious significance, they were watchtowers for protection from enemies and to stop fires from spreading in crowded cities. Every village has one and cities have many. They are as common as American church steeples but higher and so more visible. At the right is Shaoxing's pagoda, built in 504. The White Dagoba, Bai Ta Si, below, is Beijing's oldest Tibetan pagoda, built by a Nepali architect under order of Kublai Khan in 1279.



Three pagodas seen from the Forbidden City in Beijing

Looking down from
the Academic Mall
to the
Tower to Heaven
reflected in the 'brook'

Charles B. Wang
Center Celebrating
Asian and
Asian American Cultures

Architect
P.H. Tuan

Photographer
International
Graduate Student
from Germany
Christian Koehn



How You Can Help the Wang Center!

The Wang Center began as a \$25 million, 25,000 square foot donation and morphed into over 100,000 square feet, more than doubling the cost. Unfortunately that meant many artistic details were put on hold. Unlike the corporate money that will build a new Nassau Coliseum, the Wang Center donation was all personal. So the real bamboo gardens in the bathrooms do not yet exist. Fine art exhibits are not possible until museum art cases are in the alcoves. The warm wooden doors in the chapel are not there. Other doors in the building, never meant to intrude, are still not white. Indoor pools have no koi or sculpture. The grand theatre windows are hidden by immovable curtains.

The University has been trying to get a conference center approved for years. Without it, the Wang Center has become the de facto one even though not designed for them. Conference visitors complain about acoustics for speakers in areas that were meant for silent meditation, never told that the space was not designed for what it has been forced to become simply because of its elegance and beauty. But even conference revenue is not enough to get those unfinished special touches done. Worse, without subsidies, performances are few and students cannot afford Staller Center prices for them.

But Wang also made his donation with a stated purpose. He said he wanted to show by example that others should give. Though we cannot donate millions as he did, now it our turn, as alumni, faculty, staff, parents, and community members, to make Wang be all it can. How can you help?

Simply donate. Write a check or make a credit card payment to the University stating it is for the Wang Center only. Tell them where your heart would like it spent. Small donors should make unrestricted gifts but large donors can take on the gardens, pools, or even the first global video teleconferencing event. A 'patron of the arts' could put in exhibit cases or sponsor the first museum quality exhibition.

Sponsor a performance series. Be what is known on Broadway as an 'angel'. Replace conference fees with the weddings and events the Center was designed for!

The possibilities are endless! Please make them happen!



Sculpture Gallery
art installation,
'Halcyon',
in memory of
those lost in the
2004 tsunami,
by Japanese
international
MFA student
Takafumi Ide

Charles B. Wang
Center
Celebrating
Asian and
Asian American
Cultures

Architect
P.H. Tuan

Photographer
J. ten Doesschate

The Golden Rule

With the concept of uniting East and West, the full annual journal of this guidebook has philosophical quotes specifically chosen not from religious sources. Could we ignore the Bible but not the Bhagavad Gita when many Asian Americans are Christian? But on this page, rather than show man's divisions, we chose to show God's unity. Every major religion has a primary concept we all share in common, and that is quoted below from some of them. Imagine how peaceful and just our world would be if we all followed it.

Buddhism: Treat not others in ways that you would yourself find hurtful.

Christianity: Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.

Confucianism: One word sums up the basis of all good conduct... reciprocity. Never do to others what you would not want them to do to you.

Hinduism: This is the sum of duty: Do not do to others what would cause pain if done to you.

Islam: No one is a true believer unless he desireth for his brother that which he desireth for himself.

Judaism: What is hateful to you do not do to your neighbor. This is the whole Torah; all the rest is commentary.

In Mencius it is written: "The sense of compassion is the beginning of humanity; the sense of shame the beginning of righteousness; the sense of courtesy the beginning of decorum; the sense of right and wrong the beginning of wisdom."

May we all be wise!

Interfaith Chapel
bamboo garden lit
by skylight during day
& interior lighting at night

Charles B. Wang
Center
Celebrating
Asian and
Asian American
Cultures

Architect
P.H. Tuan

Photographer
Sherry Ha

Edited by Jeffrey Ng



IACCA: Institute for Advancement of Contemporary Chinese Architecture

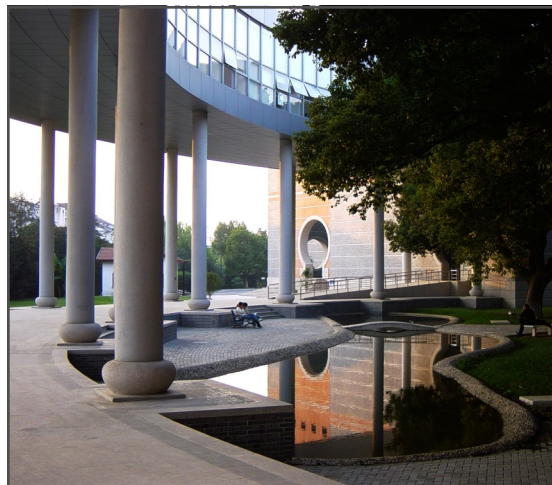
While building the Wang Center and a Chinese scholar's garden, architect P.H. Tuan was in China often and he was dismayed. In three years over a thousand Western style skyscrapers had been built in Shanghai alone. Other cities looked like they were in competition for a Star Wars movie. P.H. returned with a new vision. Tuan founded IACCA and began his



2nd career. He designed what has since become an award winning facility, the most modern and high tech law school in all China at Soochow University, in Jiangsu Province. A bold, contemporary design, it uses the concept he wants to promote - architecture that is not traditional but still looks Chinese.

Supporting young architects, design competitions, and academic offerings are a few means Tuan uses to further attain his goal - helping China's architects develop their own unique Chinese architectural style.

Supporting young architects, design competitions, and academic offerings are a few means Tuan uses to further attain his goal - helping China's architects develop their own unique Chinese architectural style.



Supporting young architects, design competitions, and academic offerings are a few means Tuan uses to further attain his goal - helping China's architects develop their own unique Chinese architectural style.

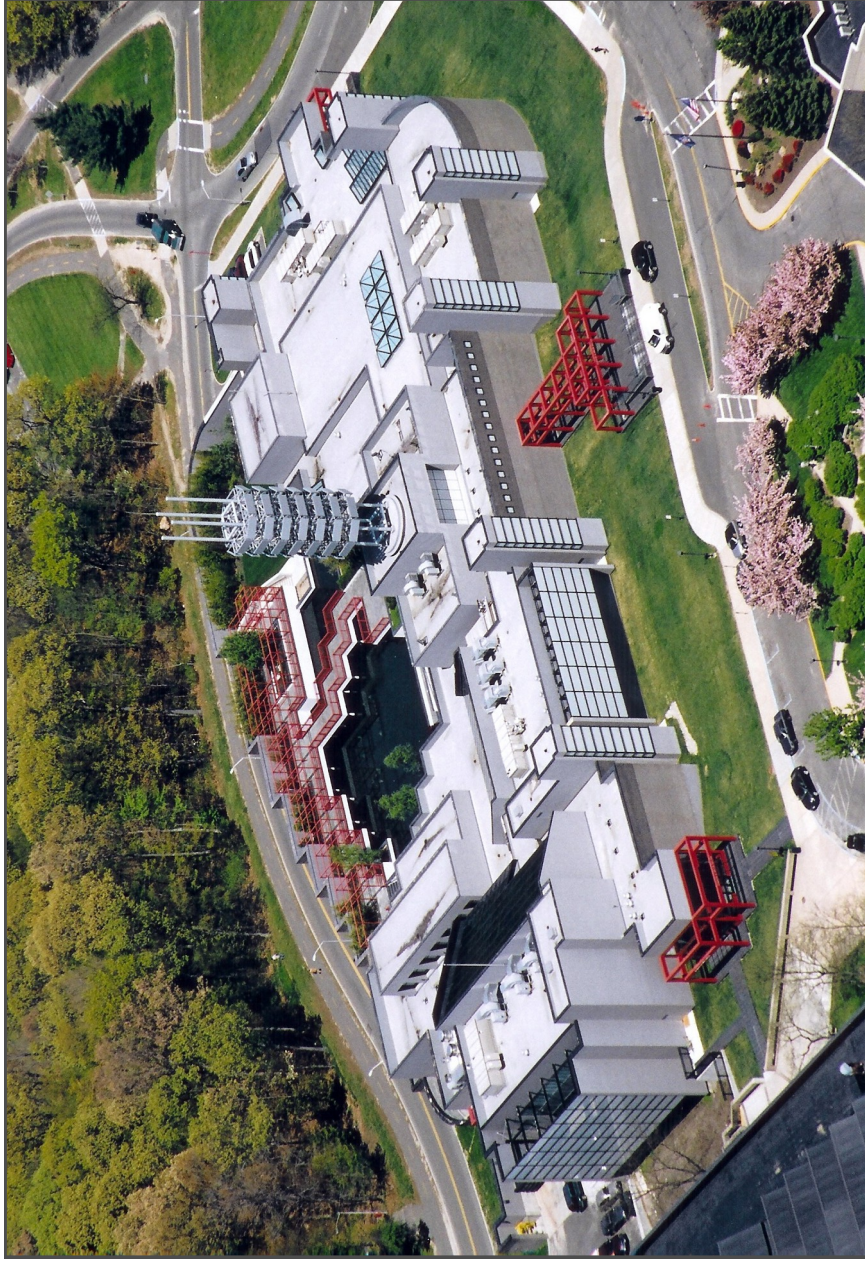
Facing the
rear tower
lobby after
crossing
the zigzag
bridge

Charles
Wang
Center
Celebrating
Asian and
Asian
American
Cultures

Architect
P.H. Tuan

Photographer
Huy Huynh





Aerial view
taken from
southwest

Charles
Wang
Center
Celebrating
Asian and
Asian
American
Cultures

Architect
P.H. Tuan

Photograph
from
Stony Brook
University

Acknowledgements & Credits

The first 2002 calendar was a Christmas gift for those who had made the Wang Center a reality. In 2004 it went public with a photo contest sponsored by [AA]², SBU AA E-Zine, and SB Photo Club with chosen photos signed by the architect, P.H. Tuan. In August 2005 the first academic year calendar journal came out, followed with a 2006 calendar planner, then a 2007 version, this guidebook, and the 2008 calendar planner is being readied for the printer. We hope we are truly on our way to making this an annual event - and we hope you enjoy it too!

If you would like to contribute your masterpiece, send high quality digital photos to aaezine@yahoo.com. More importantly, if you would like to see this available to lots more people, please advertise in it! Or donate! The goal is a planner in the hands of every SBU student because we feel it is not just beautiful, but a valuable learning tool.

[AA]² Board : 2003 - 2007

John Cordero, Michelle Gong, Si Liang,
Sherry Ha, Wendy Liem, Charles Kang,
Sawanee Khongsawatwaja, Howard Hua,
Tara Nyack, Tuan Le, Kevin Quan, Ja Young

SBU AA E-Zine 2007-08 Editorial Board

Yina Chun : Editor-in-Chief
Huy Huynh : Editor-in-Chief Emeritus, Jin Woo Cho
Alexei Citver, Vanessa Gopez, Mai Luong, Maria Ng
Chetan Prabhudesai, Luis Salazar, Michael Tiongson

Special Thanks to SBU

USG, Undergraduate Student Government
Paul St. Denis, Director, CELT Multimedia Lab
Dr. Barry McCoy, SBU AA E-Zine Faculty Advisor
Robert Valente, Building Manager, Wang Center
Sunita Mukhi, Director of Programs, Wang Center
The Stony Brook Press for printing SBU AA E-Zine
www.thestonybrookpress.com

Thank You to Our Printer
www.printdigitalplus.com

Submit your photos of the Wang Center to
aaezine@yahoo.com



AA² Asians, Americans, & Asian Americans

PO Box 4, Stony Brook, NY 11790
 631 831 6062 | aasquared@gmail.com
 AA & SBU AA E-Zine | 632 1395 | Union 071
www.aaezine.org | www.aasquared.org

Discovering our differences to unite future generations.
 Our vision is a world where the differences that divide us as individuals unite us as a people rather than divide us as a nation.

[AA]², or AA Squared, began when former Stony Brook University student leaders decided they wanted to do more for SBU and the region. After years of working informally, in 2003 we won our first grant from LIFWG, the Long Island Fund for Women and Girls, and became an officially IRS and New York State recognized 501(c)3 non-profit.

We made this journal as a tribute to the Wang Center for a very special reason. We would never have met if its promise had not brought us together. The promise of all its possibilities is an ideal that keeps us together still, though now with a different dream. To use Wang's words, "we want to break down the barriers that divide us by giving back" to our communities.

We owe a special thanks to P.H. Tuan, architect of the Wang Center, who supported our dream even when we were not sure we would succeed ourselves. He never lost faith. To LIFWG whose philanthropy, along with the pro bono donation from the law firm of Stroock & Stroock & Lavan LLP, allowed us to come together financially and legally. And now to the SBU China Alumni Network, headed by Gu Yong and Wang Shanshan, who are working with us to start a pre-college summer program between America and China.

Join us for networking, socializing, and volunteering. Write articles and columns, or take photos, podcasts, or videos for the AA E-Zine. Help make things like this possible. Donate directly to the Wang Center for its programming and enhancements. It has not just become SBU's icon. It symbolizes Asian Americans 'coming of age' in America!



www.aas2sbu.org/aaezine

www.aasquared.org

Photographers & Production Teams

A picture is worth a thousand words. - Confucius

Jin Woo Cho
 Zayd Daruwala
 Joy Dutta
 Francesco Gallarotti
 Vanessa Gopez
 Feng Guo
 Sherry Ha
 Huy Huynh
 Lucille Kim
 Christian Koehn
 Steven Leigh
 Winston Liao
 Wendy Liem
 Hugo Loo
 Mai Luong
 Jeffrey Ng
 Maria Ng
 Chetan Prabhudesai
 Kevin Quan
 Alexander Reben
 Susannah Schaefer
 Angeline Seah

Yuyu Shen
 Kurt Simbron
 Bin Tang
 J. ten Doesschate
 Michael Tionson
 Vajiradhammapadip
 Thai Temple
 Gary Wu
 Liu Yang
 Harvey Yau
 Stephen Yeung
 Tee Lek D. Ying
 Ja Young
 Connie Zhang
 JianJun Zhou
 Danny, SB Photo Club

Photographers on this list may not be in this year but have been in a previous year and thus their photo(s) may be used again in the future.

Front Cover Design : Sherry Ha

Concept & Design : Ja Young

Another Way a University Can Be **BIG** and small at the Same Time

Let's save the word "Awesome!" for something that really is. Like our awesome Charles B. Wang Center, a gorgeous gift, an architectural knockout that would make any school envious. You've seen nothing like it, or its soaring spaces. Our students cherish it as a living symbol of Stony Brook's astonishing global reputation. (What other school ever leapt from its founding 50 years ago to the top 2% among all the world's universities? Only us.)



Concept & Text: SBU Office of Communications * Wang Photo Credit: J. ten Doesschate * Emerson Photo Credit: Deutsche Grammophon

There are 13,000 employees on our gorgeous campus. (That's big.) And the four most popular? Our Emerson String Quartet. (That's small.) But this mighty foursome has carved out a name for itself...and for Stony Brook University...that keeps them in high demand around the planet. Yet, between world engagements that would turn four lesser heads, these affable virtuosos prove you can go home again. And they always do. Performing their eclectic repertoire for their favorite royalty: the students, the faculty, and the community of Stony Brook.

VISIT STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY AT WWW.STONYBROOK.EDU





Come Home to Stony Brook



Concept: Alumnus Michael Chang Photo of Wei Zhou by Feng Guo

It's Where You Belong

www.alumniandfriends.stonybrook.edu