

# CHARLES WANG CENTER



*Celebrating Asian & American Culture*





about the

# CHARLES WANG CENTER

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The Charles B. Wang Center is one of the most beautiful and inventive buildings given to any university. Here you'll experience spaces of surprising traditional beauty juxtaposed with the latest in communications technology. Filled with light and air, graced by gardens inside and out, the Center offers spaces suitable for conferences, performances, films, lectures, exhibitions, and cultural celebrations.



## MISSION & HISTORY

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The mission of the Office of Asian and Asian American Programs at the Charles B. Wang Center is to initiate and collaborate with academic departments, student groups, community organizations, cultural institutions, artists and individuals in presenting the public with a multifaceted, intellectually sound, and humane understanding of Asian and Asian American cultures, and their relationship to other cultures.

This mission is accomplished through diverse and multidisciplinary world-class cultural programming that covers the geographic expanse of the Pacific Rim to Turkey, as well as the dispersal of these peoples in the world. Artists, speakers, authors, filmmakers, activists, industry and civic leaders, faculty and students are invited to share their expertise via performances, exhibitions, discussions, presentations, festivals, film screenings and to discuss their creative processes, provide workshops, and dialog with the general public regarding their community history, artistic vision and process.

# ARCHITECTURE

The Charles B. Wang Center building is adorned with a 100-foot octagonal pagoda, a structure traditionally associated with Chinese temples. The Center is an international hub bringing Asians and Americans into a common space, a marketplace of ideas for the 21st Century.

Architect P.H. Tuan has captured Wang's ideals in a building resonant with the traditions of Asian design. Spare gray walls, pierced with three red trellis entrances, invite the visitor to explore the treasures of the interior. Within, Tuan has unified the elements of interior space, the outdoors, and the enclosing sky, using wide expanses of glass to frame traditional Asian gardens, pools, and bridges. The Center has the capability to link scholars and researchers from all over the world in real time, and it welcomes many cultural and artistic activities, especially those that reflect the cultures of Asia. Scholars, students, international business people, and Asian-American communities use the facility to build bridges of understanding, exchange information, and celebrate their cultural identities.

The main ceremonial entrance leads across an ornamental pool into a spacious reception area. The three-story space is filled with natural light and the sound of fountains that flow from 12 Chinese Zodiac sculptures into the south pool. To the north of the lobby is an expansive outdoor garden, while more intimate interior galleries lie west and south. These are designed as a showcase for cultural displays and art exhibitions of varying sizes. A 239-seat theater hosts audiences for the performing arts and other events. Well equipped with conference facilities, the Center holds two mid-sized lecture halls wired for laptops and audiovisual presentations.

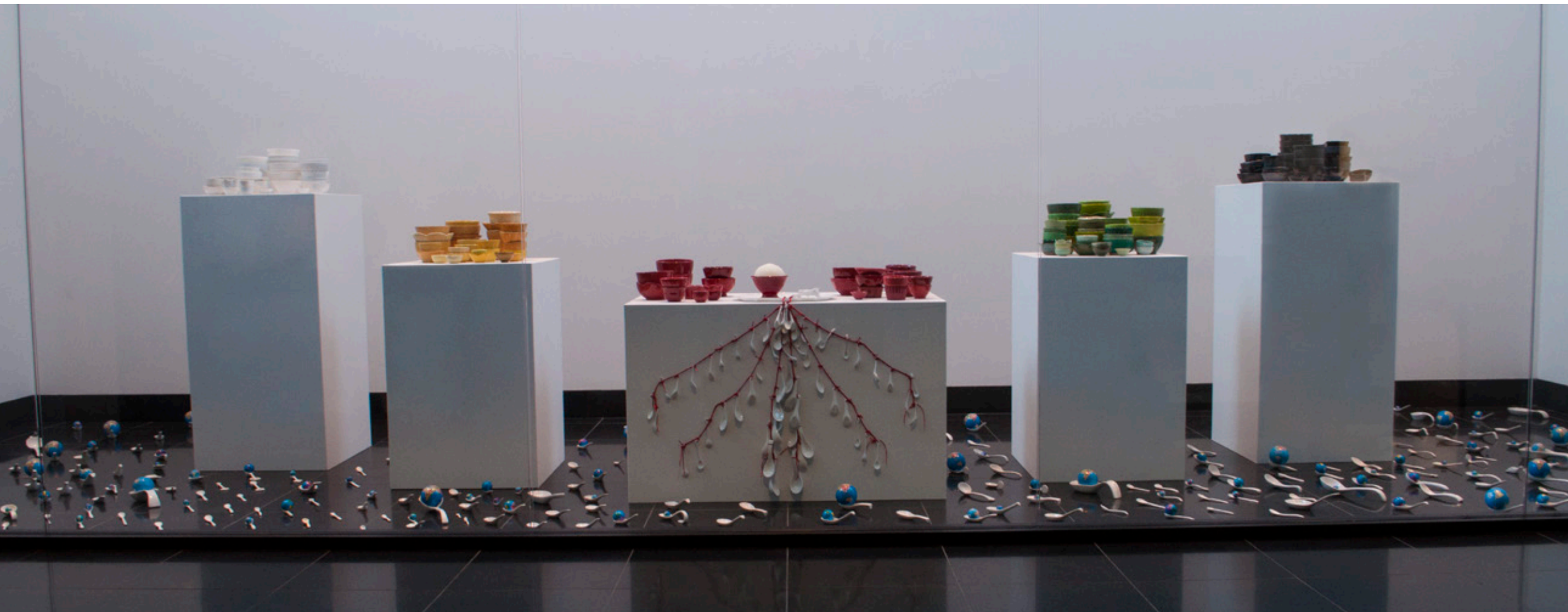


## FIVE ELEMENTS: SIX ROOTS CONTEMPLATE ORIGINS IN THE SPOONFED WORLD

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Complementing the Asia Imprints USA exhibition of photographs by Corky Lee, artist Chee Wang Ng presents Five Elements: Six Roots Contemplate Origins in the Spoon Fed World. In this exhibition, Ng explores multiple images and concepts including the five elements of Chinese cosmology; the beauty and symbolism of porcelain (or “China”); and the notions of care, connection, and abundance represented by the bowl and spoon. This aesthetically striking assemblage of images and objects works together in an insightful and adventurous exploration of Chinese diasporic identity and experience.

Recognized for his explorations of identity in the Chinese diaspora, Ng re-evaluates, challenges, and recontextualizes traditional Chinese culture in contemporary works that engage elements of ancient allegory, metaphor, and mythology. Ng’s signature motif is that of the rice bowl, often with chopsticks or Chinese-style spoons, as featured in his widely exhibited series Eaten Your Fill of Rice? and in his new Five Elements project.



## ASIAN ROOTS / AMERICAN SOIL: THE PHOTOGRAPHS OF CORKY LEE

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Corky Lee, a self-taught photographer, has been documenting the vibrant and fast-emerging Asian and Pacific American community for over 40 years. Lee’s work has been featured in Time Magazine, The New York Times, The Village Voice, Associated Press, The Villager, and Downtown Express. His photographs have been featured in various exhibitions throughout US cities.

Known as the undisputed unofficial Asian American Photographer Laureate,” the ubiquitous Corky has covered the day to day lives of Asian Pacific Americans as well as historical moments in American history.



## JASMINE RESTAURANT

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Located on the second floor, the upscale food court features Chinese, Indian, Japanese Grill, Sushi, and Thai food, with other Asian cuisines included in the daily food specials.

Sophisticated ambiance and authentic cuisine made with the best fresh ingredients are hallmarks of Jasmine owners Sushil Malhotra and Rajesh Bhardwaj. In 1984, Malhotra opened Dawat, for many years rated by Zagat as the best Indian restaurant in New York City. Bhardwaj was a food and beverage manager at the Taj Group of hotels, India's largest luxury hotel chain.

Malhotra and Bhardwaj teamed to open the acclaimed Cafe Spice in New York City's Greenwich Village in 1998. Now, their Cafe vRestaurant Group has expanded to eight locations, including New Jersey and Philadelphia, with more to come.

The 8,300-square-foot facility accommodates more than 350 people and consists of a large open dining room as well as a private dining area for parties and special events. Both dining rooms are positioned near a glass storefront creating a connection to the outdoor pond and garden. The design is based on traditional Asian themes and icons, with a modern flair. Suspended wood ceiling grids, glowing lanterns, river rock pads, bamboo flooring, and bamboo and grass panels are used to give the scale of the existing shell an inviting, modernized Asian-inspired dining experience.



## GIFT SHOP

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The Gift Shop in the Wang Center features Asian and Asian-inspired crafts, tea and tea items, jewelry, fashion accessories, clothing, toys, books, and Stony Brook leather goods, business wear, and outdoor gear. This collection of goods is unique on campus—a reflection of our multicultural university—with interesting and beautiful objects by artisans and craftspeople from far away and right here on Long Island. Many items feature recycled materials and/or come from fair-trade sources, and new ones are added constantly. You'll find unusual items at a wide range of prices, for children of all ages, teenagers, women, and men.



## DIRECTIONS

### By Car

From New York City, take the Long Island Expressway (LIE, I-495) east-bound from the Queens Midtown Tunnel in Manhattan or the Throgs Neck Bridge or Whitestone Bridge in Queens to exit 62, and follow Nicolls Road (Route 97) north for 9 miles. The main entrance to the University is on the left. To find the campus via GPS, enter the address “100 Nicolls Road, Stony Brook, NY 11790.”

### By Train

Take the Long Island Railroad’s Port Jefferson line from Penn Station in Manhattan to Stony Brook. The LIRR station is at the north end of the campus; bus service to the central campus is provided. Trains to and from Penn generally require transfers at Jamaica or Huntington. Hicksville is also a transfer point on some lines. Find schedule and fare information here.

## OPEN HOURS

Monday–Friday .....7AM—12AM

Saturday–Sunday .....9AM—12AM

## CONTACT INFORMATION

### Asian/American Programs

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### General Inquiries for Asian/American Programs

WangCenter@stonybrook.edu  
(631) 632-4400

### Reservations for Wang Facilities

**Conferences and Special Events Office**  
wangreservations@notes.cc.sunysb.edu  
(631) 632-6320

### Jasmine/J Club

**Vineet Kapoor**, General Manager  
**Andy Vish**, Manager, J Club  
(631) 632-1858





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*100 Nicolls Road, Stony Brook, NY 11790*

