

INTRODUCING THE CONFERENCE DIRECTORS!

Sabrina is a junior majoring in Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering at Johns Hopkins University. Her quarantine hobby is playing Animal Crossing: New Horizons. A fun fact about her is that her, her mom, and her sister have their birthdays three days in a row (one can never have too much birthday cake!)

Brian is a senior majoring in Computer Engineering at University of Michigan. His quarantine hobby is swimming and watching Netflix swimming. A fun fact about him is he is OBSESSED with avocados! (Big shoutout to all the avocado lovers out there!)

Serena is a senior majoring in Organizational Studies at University of Michigan. Her quarantine hobby is crocheting and a fun fact about her is she LOVES crème brûlée! (we all do, don't we?)

IMPORTANT DATES:

- Bid Info Session: Friday, January 8 @ 10 PM EST
- 2022 East Coast Conference (ECC) Bid: Friday, February 5 @ 9:30 PM EST
- 2022 West Coast Conference (WCC) Bid: Friday, March 26 @ 10 PM EDT
- 2022 Midwest Conference (MWC) Bid: Friday, April 9 @ 10:30 PM EDT

Conference Liaisons have sent bid invitations to ITASA representatives and TASAs across the country; however, if you did not receive an email and are interested in assembling a bid team, please reach out to Hudson (HUDSON.LIU@ITASA.ORG) for ECC, Michelle (MICHELLE.SHEN@ITASA.ORG) for MWC, and Shaw (SHAWYUAN.HSU@ITASA.ORG) for WCC.

ITASA received the opportunity to interview the award-winning filmmaker and journalist Doris Liu. Her documentary film In The Name of Confucius (<https://itasa.us4.list-manage.com/track/click?u=c1d8139ab08f29368ac362fbf&id=63f0625b55&e=38442de982>) (2017) closely follows the experiences of Sonia Zhao, a former teacher who was involved in the multi-billion dollar Confucius Institute (CI) program that is managed and sponsored by the Chinese government. The growing controversy surrounding CI at academic institutions across the world has raised concerns about the influence and politically-motivated purpose behind the program. Watch the interview with

Doris Liu below:

<https://itasa.us4.list-manage.com/track/click?u=c1d8139ab08f29368ac362fbf&id=dec58c7faf&e=38442de982>

Click the thumbnail above to access the video!

Asians for Miracle Marrow Matches (A3M) is a non profit organization whose mission is to diversify the Be The Match Registry. Started in 1991, A3M works to find bone marrow matches for those in the API community, who make up just 5% of the current registry. They have recently received funding from the National Institute of Health to promote its All of Us Research Program, intended to speed up health research by collecting people's unique health data.

You can learn more about the initiative in the infographic below, or you can visit <https://itasa.us4.list-manage.com/track/click?u=c1d8139ab08f29368ac362fbf&id=8d05d49e12&e=38442de982>.

WANT TO LEARN ABOUT TAIWAN BUT DON'T KNOW WHERE TO START?

TAIWAN BAR

(<https://itasa.us4.list-manage.com/track/click?u=c1d8139ab08f29368ac362fbf&id=443e21c90f&e=38442de982>) is a long-time YouTube channel that has been providing funny but informative and thoughtful animated videos on Taiwanese history and culture. From introductory videos about Taiwan that you can share with your friends to humorous videos on Taiwanese history that you may or may not know about, Taiwan Bar is definitely worth checking out if you're bored in quarantine or want to do some productive procrastination during finals! Here is their playlist of videos with English subtitles (<https://itasa.us4.list-manage.com/track/click?u=c1d8139ab08f29368ac362fbf&id=75a48ab3d8&e=38442de982>).

TAIWAN PLAYLIST

SONG | YELLOW 黃宣 & 9m88 - 怪天氣

(<https://itasa.us4.list-manage.com/track/click?u=c1d8139ab08f29368ac362fbf&id=938e6e7188&e=38442de982>) (Strange Weather)

In this electric collaboration between soulful jazz vocalist 9m88 and the creative talent YELLOW 黃宣, you'll find yourself serenaded by what, on the

surface, seems to be casual observations about the weather. Even then, you won't be able to shake off the feeling that the offhand remarks about "raindrops" and "clouds" are tinged with romantic longing—because they are. The singers each project their complex range of emotions in wind and rain, respectively, and while the two individuals seem to be displaced in space and time for a relationship that is not meant to be, there remains beauty in the distance and a vague sense of connection held together by sweet, sticky nostalgia and the memories of what once was. As 黃宣 sings, "the streets are filled with wet memories" (「滿街都是未乾的記憶」)—a line that alludes to the Cantonese classic film "2046" by Wong Kar-wai (王家衛): All memories are wet (「所有的記憶都是潮濕的。」). Even if the metaphors are lost on you, "Strange Weather" is still a track that sets the mood for cloudy summer afternoons, touched by occasional showers.

MOVIE | Dear Tenant (親愛的房客)

With 6 Golden Horse Nominations and 4 wins, Dear Tenant is a deeply poignant film about the oft-shrouded pains of being a gay man in a [Taiwanese] society that has yet to fully grapple with its patriarchal roots and the flawed, incomplete narratives surrounding the LGBTQ community in education. It's a movie still in theaters—and one not to miss.

QUICK RECAP: FROM TAIWAN TO AMERICA

Taiwan LGBT

Pride (<https://itasa.us4.list-manage.com/track/click?u=c1d8139ab08f29368ac362fbf&id=b7be50067d&e=38442de982>)

ON OCT. 31: Taipei's annual pride parade drew over 130,00 participants, being one of the few, if not the only, full-scale pride parade to take place in the world this year.

ON NOV. 18: Taiwanese American novelist Charles Yu wins US National Book Award for Fiction for Interior Chinatown.

ON NOV. 21: The long-standing and prestigious "Golden Horse Awards" ceremony was held in Taipei to award outstanding filmmakers of Chinese-language cinema.

Tony Hsieh (C.C. by 2.0)

<https://itasa.us4.list-manage.com/track/click?u=c1d8139ab08f29368ac362fbf&id=0bb1f4787a&e=38442de982>)

ON NOV. 28: Tony Hsieh, the iconic Taiwanese-American visionary who was the former CEO of Zappos and the co-founder of the internet advertising network LinkExchange (sold to Microsoft in 1998), passed away at 46
(<https://itasa.us4.list-manage.com/track/click?u=c1d8139ab08f29368ac362fbf&id=da0f34547a&e=38442de982>) .

SEASONAL CORNER: CHRISTMAS IS (ALMOST) HERE!

“Autumn and Winter Epidemic Prevention Measures, Starting 2020/12/1” (<https://itasa.us4.list-manage.com/track/click?u=c1d8139ab08f29368ac362fbf&id=618e417485&e=38442de982>)

* Are you returning to Taiwan for the holiday season? Be sure to check out the new restrictions and preventative measures in place for COVID-19

(<https://itasa.us4.list-manage.com/track/click?u=c1d8139ab08f29368ac362fbf&id=567ef1fd23&e=38442de982>) before you book your ticket!

* Struggling to find the perfect gift for your friends and loved ones? You can stop looking and head over to browse the Taiwanese American Holiday Gift Guide

(<https://itasa.us4.list-manage.com/track/click?u=c1d8139ab08f29368ac362fbf&id=21e51177c9&e=38442de982>) , created by TaiwaneseAmerican.org.

Support our community and shop Taiwanese-American products!

* Are you already back in Taiwan but are unsure about where to find that magical Christmas spirit during this not-so-cold winter? From your most popular annual “Christmasland

(<https://itasa.us4.list-manage.com/track/click?u=c1d8139ab08f29368ac362fbf&id=4f3bab862d&e=38442de982>) ” in New Taipei City to the European

Christmas Market

(<https://itasa.us4.list-manage.com/track/click?u=c1d8139ab08f29368ac362fbf&id=5a6e6b71c9&e=38442de982>) (for that authentic Glühwein—that’s

German for mulled wine, get cultured peeps—or savoury Swiss Raclette), find an array of festivities to be held in Taipei in this guide

(<https://itasa.us4.list-manage.com/track/click?u=c1d8139ab08f29368ac362fbf&id=f1b1eff711&e=38442de982>) .

Looking for a way to support ITASA? If you are ordering from Amazon this

holiday season, you can donate to us by going to smile.amazon.com (<https://itasa.us4.list-manage.com/track/click?u=c1d8139ab08f29368ac362fbf&id=ae539374e7&e=38442de982>) and choosing "ITASA" as your charity of choice! At no extra cost to you, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate a percent of the purchase price to ITASA for eligible items. It's quick, easy, and helps fund our reimbursements, conferences, and socials! Happy shopping!

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(<https://itasa.us4.list-manage.com/track/click?u=c1d8139ab08f29368ac362fbf&id=40d1ba55e8&e=38442de982>)

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(<https://itasa.us4.list-manage.com/track/click?u=c1d8139ab08f29368ac362fbf&id=303560141b&e=38442de982>)

** Website

(<https://itasa.us4.list-manage.com/track/click?u=c1d8139ab08f29368ac362fbf&id=45ebbb8479&e=38442de982>)

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