

Oberlin Shansi Annual Report 2021-2022



OBERLIN SHANSI



Luci Ostheimer snorkeling in Aceh, Indonesia

OUR VISION

Deepening mutual respect and understanding through exchange between Asia and the United States.

OUR MISSION

Shansi facilitates experiential learning and nurtures mutually beneficial exchanges between Oberlin College & Conservatory and partners in Asia. Shansi's programs have a transformative impact, empowering individuals, institutions, and communities to be leaders in cross-cultural engagement.

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Shansi Friends and Supporters,

As I look back at the 2021-2022 Shansi year, I am overwhelmed by admiration for our Fellows, our team, and our partners in Asia. They have persevered through hardship and retained their optimism for an atypical Shansi experience. We are experiencing a return to a more normal Shansi, with more Fellows on site in Asia and more programs on the Oberlin campus, but challenges still lie ahead. I hope you will continue to join us in helping Shansi build bridges between Oberlin and Asia.

The most important development of 2021-2022 was the return to in-person Fellowship experiences in India and Indonesia, albeit right at the end of the year in May and June 2022. You will see some of this reflected in the Fellow profiles to follow, which the Fellows themselves drafted. For Madeleine Gefke, Shansi's first Keystone Foundation Fellow in the town of Kotagiri in India's Tamil Nadu state, her arrival in India came near the end of the second year of her Fellowship. The emotion of her first meeting with mentors and colleagues she only knew from Zoom meetings was captured beautifully in a short video on the Shansi Youtube. Thanks to Keystone's support for Maddie, and the generous donors to Shansi's Fellows Support Fund, we were able to extend her Fellowship for an additional nine months so that she could ultimately spend nearly a full year working in person at Keystone.

Back in Oberlin, Shansi House has always been a warm home for Visiting Scholars and Returned Fellows. Now, it is also becoming a welcoming community for students, faculty, and administrators. Over the course of the year, Shansi House played host to dozens of meetings and events, including Japanese Language Tea Times, Barefoot Dialogues and Quaker Meeting from the Office of Religious and Spiritual Life, Bonner Scholars meetings, and much more. I am thrilled to see Shansi becoming an even more present and involved part of the Oberlin College community.

I am also so happy to report on the impressive second round of Shansi's AAPI Experience Grants, our newest initiative. Thanks to the efforts of Shansi Senior Director Ted Samuel, who imagined this program and mentors the awardees, we have seen four dynamic projects over the last two years. In 2022, Shivani Subramanian received an award for her project on Bhangra dance and socioeconomic class in the US and the UK. And take a look at the interior back cover of this report (p. 11) for a glimpse into the imagination of Joel Tang, whose AAPI Experience Grant supported his project producing poetry that explores his Chinese-American and Mexican-American identities.

I especially want to thank Shansi's alumni and friends for your generous support this year. Your gifts allowed us to make it through these tumultuous years, stay true to our principles, provide support to our Fellows as they managed uncertainty, and remain engaged with and responsive to our amazing partners. We face challenges in the coming year as we resume in-country Fellowships, welcome Visiting Scholars back to Oberlin, and restart other programs, and we will count on you to help Shansi continue to build bridges and join worlds.

I hope you enjoy this report, and I encourage you to engage with us online. On our website, shansi.org, you can learn more about our Fellows and read their annual stories from the field. The Shansi YouTube channel features new videos like our virtual Shansi Breakfasts and a soon to be launched "Moments of Joy" series, and we are active on Facebook and Instagram as well, with the latter focusing on first-person reports directly from our Fellows

Sincerely,



Gavin Tritt
Executive Director

Front cover: Madeleine Gefke looks out over the town of Coonoor, Tamil Nadu, India

SHANSI FELLOWSHIPS

Shansi Fellowships offer recent Oberlin graduates life-changing opportunities to work with our longstanding university and non-governmental organization partners in China, India, Indonesia, and Japan, or craft their own opportunities to work nearly anywhere in Asia as Independent Fellows. They spend two years immersed in their Fellowships, and while working, they study language and regional arts, volunteer with local organizations, travel, and find myriad ways to engage in local communities. During the 2021-2022 fiscal year, we resumed in-person operations in India and Indonesia, while maintaining an in-person presence in Japan. Fellows to China continued to engage remotely. Annual narratives at www.shansi.org and posts on the Shansi Instagram account allow the fellows to tell their stories in their own voices.

CHINA

Shanxi Agricultural University in Taigu, Shanxi, is Oberlin Shansi's historical partner. Fellows teach conversational and written English to undergraduate English majors and graduate students in various disciplines.

Shanxi Agricultural University

JESSICA WILBER '21 found ways to creatively engage with her students in Taigu, despite the distance in time zones and geography. During open online office hours via Tencent, Jess, who taught from Chicago, discovered her students' excitement for local fauna when a squirrel hopped on the ledge of the window behind her desk. This began the weekly "squirrel alert," where she would send students updates on squirrel sightings in her neighborhood. She also found ways to weave squirrels into her lessons through funny gifs, images, and example sentences. In her own way, Jess introduced an Oberlin icon into her curriculum.



Jennifer Lin, fellow teacher Amy, and co-fellow Elaine Wu in New York

In her first year, ELAINE WU '21 carefully crafted powerpoints for her asynchronous online classes and familiarized herself with the catalog of Chinese indie music on various streaming platforms. She focused on constructing intentional, interesting, and student-

centered language material while creating spaces to further connect with students on an individual basis. Additionally, she continued to engage with Chinese culture through tutoring, listening to language podcasts, and swiping through Douyin. Outside of filming lessons, she has found joy in attending to her aloe and jasmine plants, finally getting her driver's license, going to concerts, and virtual co-work calls, regardless of productivity.

JENNIFER LIN '20 and REX SIMMONS '19 spent their second year as Shansi Fellows teaching remotely. Though they never made it to Taigu, they found ways to connect with students at Shanxi Agricultural University in meaningful ways. Rex incorporated sitcoms and other popular culture into his lessons while Jenn co-taught courses with her co-Fellow, Elaine Wu, and other online English language instructors. After the Fellowship, Rex was accepted into a fully-funded Masters in Global Studies Program at UC Santa Barbara. He used the grant provided by Shansi's Fellows Support Fund to conduct research in Taiwan and continue his Mandarin language studies. Jenn dove into the world of art, taking on the role of Assistant to the Senior Director of the Bortolami Gallery in Manhattan. She plans to use her Fellows Support Fund grant to film a documentary on traditional paper-making in Northern Vietnam.

INDIA

Shansi's two partners in Tamil Nadu provide opportunities for Fellows to experience India's incredible linguistic and cultural diversity while developing their professional skills. At Keystone Foundation in Kotagiri, the Fellows work with a dynamic nongovernmental organization (NGO) dedicated to environmental conservation and the advancement of indigenous Adivasi communities living in the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve. At Lady Doak College in Madurai, the Shansi Fellow designs global engagement programs, supports international service-learning projects, and develops extracurricular courses.

Keystone Foundation

REET GORAYA '21 spent the first nine months of her Fellowship working for Keystone Foundation remotely. Having arrived in Kotagiri in May, she has been happy to be on campus and part of the Community Wellbeing team. She engaged in various projects, including helping create new ways to advocate for

better nutrition within local indigenous communities and helping Keystone design a new reusable menstrual pad. She has also continued to learn Tamil by practicing weekly with one of her colleagues, which has helped her learn more situational conversation. Reet has also learned a lot of new recipes by cooking with her friends almost every night. She's really enjoyed learning how to make homemade dosas while spending quality time with her friends. In her free time, she has also enjoyed traveling with her co-fellow Maddie and their colleagues. She has plans to continue exploring many other parts of India, such as Punjab, Rajasthan, and Ladakh. She is excited for what is to come in the next year, and hopes to continue learning and growing.

friends and mentors in India as well as her friends and family back home that give her energy, strength, courage, and love.

INDONESIA

At Gadjah Mada University (UGM) in Yogyakarta, Fellows engage as teaching assistants at the Faculty of Cultural Sciences and the Center for Religious and Cross-Cultural Studies. At Syiah Kuala University in Banda Aceh, Shansi Fellows support English reading, writing, and speaking instruction as well as occasional specialized courses for undergraduates, graduate students, and faculty. At the same time, Syiah Kuala University faculty visit Oberlin College as Visiting Scholars to explore new teaching pedagogies and co-curricular programs.

Gadjah Mada University

SAMANTHA PEREZ '21 started her fellowship virtually from home. She supported an academic writing course with senior fellow Kara Nepomuceno and writing/speaking tutorials as well as a creative writing course on her own. She is currently working on getting her creative writing workshop students' stories published into an anthology. Samantha arrived in Yogyakarta in the middle of spring semester and was able to meet with faculty and students in person. In her free time, she has been taking motorbike trips around Java with friends, enjoying Javanese cuisine and coffee culture, and continuing language study. During the summer break, she took the opportunity to travel around Southeast Asia and visited Malaysia, Cambodia, and Vietnam. Samantha is looking forward to spending more time with her students next semester and creating opportunities for community building offline.



Co-Fellows Madeleine Gefke and Reet Goraya in Nilgiris tea fields

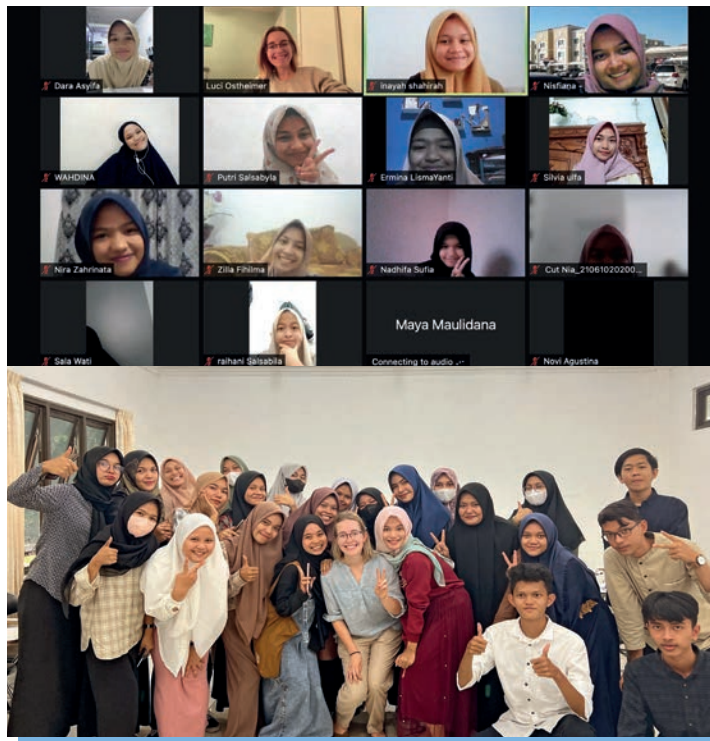
MADELEINE GEFKE '20 finally made it to India, after waiting almost two years, to work with her mentors at Keystone Foundation in-person. She dove straight into the fast-paced flow of the Biodiversity team, supporting wildlife surveys, researching local owls and amphibians, conducting environmental journalist trainings, and supporting climate smart school programs. After officially submitting her work on a book manuscript for Keystone, Madeleine is now taking on a new project with communities in the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve to document the impacts of climate and environmental changes on people's lives. She thoroughly enjoys the chance to meet new people, navigate funny and awkward cultural differences, listen to their stories, and connect over chai and varkey during her interviews and focus groups. Madeleine is thankful for her amazing community of



Sam Perez hiking Gunung Api Purba with friends

KARA NEPOMUCENO '20 continued to work remotely due to the COVID-19 pandemic. As an instructor at UGM, she further developed skills in lesson-planning, student support, and building learning communities online. Inspired by her students' conversations and writings on ethnicity, class, gender, and ability, Kara now works as an English and Social Studies educator with an Ethnic Studies emphasis. She is also a lead editor at

thINKingDANCE (Philadelphia) and a dance company member with Samahan Filipino-American Performing Arts (San Diego). She looks forward to joining Samahan on their research trip to the Philippines in July 2023. Her travel, realized with support from the Shansi Fellows' Support Fund, will help her deepen her understanding of arts and education in Southeast Asia.



Top: the last day of Luci Ostheimer's zoom FKIP class in December 2021
Bottom: Luci's first in-person FKIP class for second semester

Syiah Kuala University

After working online for almost a full academic year, LUCILLA OSTHEIMER '21 traveled to Aceh in May, 2022. Having gotten to know her students and colleagues over Zoom, Luci described meeting them face-to-face as a meaningful reunion. She has also met friends of former Shansi Fellows who have shown her around Banda Aceh and gotten her acquainted with the different customs, coffee shops, and ways of life. During summer break, she traveled to Yogyakarta to take more Bahasa Indonesia language classes. She finished her summer travels with a trip to Mt. Bromo and Bali before returning to Unsyiah for her very first totally in-person semester.

JAPAN

Shansi Fellows at J.F. Oberlin University teach first-year students in the English Language Program, provide one-on-one tutoring through the department's Writing Center, and support a wide range of extracurricular activities. In Hiroshima, the Shansi Fellow works with three different partners. The primary host is the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), which works to support sustainable development

and conflict mitigation. ANT-Hiroshima and Green Legacy are nongovernmental organizations that share Hiroshima's story and message of peace through educational programs.

J.F. Oberlin University

LEINA FIELEKE '21 spent most of her first year on the Shansi Fellowship honing her teaching style. Out of the classroom, she passed the JLPT N2 (Japanese Language Proficiency Test) and studied to take the JLPT N1. She also feels lucky to have been able to travel within Japan (Hakone, Atami, Karuizawa and Okinawa) and to have had the opportunity to work part-time at a Japanese company. Her experiences have led her to reflect a lot on the nuances of communication, work, and life. She's looking forward to making herself feel more at home and to becoming an even stronger educator next year.

JASMINE MITCHELL '21 spent the first year of her fellowship developing her teaching skills and connecting with her local community. In her English-speaking classes, she incorporated lessons on African American Vernacular English (AAVE) to introduce and educate her students on popular AAVE terms and phrases adopted into mainstream American English internet "Gen Z" slang. Over the summer break, she plans to connect with various linguistic and Japanese studies scholars to research the importance and impact of incorporating AAVE and other nontraditional varieties of English dialects into ESL classrooms. Outside of the classroom, Jasmine joined the Black public service organization, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Incorporated, to continue her passion for service and community building in Japan.



Jasmine Mitchell with members of the Black Public Service Greek Letter Organization; Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Tokyo Alumnae Chapter

In her time as a Shansi Fellow, AVA PRINCE '18 built on her teaching experience in the classroom at J.F. Oberlin. Additionally, she took on part-time work both tutoring students online and

teaching at an international preschool and afterschool program in Kanagawa. Ava took any opportunity to travel domestically with her co-fellows and friends, visiting bustling cities such as Nagasaki, Sapporo, and Osaka. She also went off the beaten path to visit art islands in Naoshima, bike along the Shimanami Kaido, and hike a portion of the Kumano Kodo. Since completing her fellowship, Ava has moved to central Tokyo, and continues to teach English at an afterschool program for bilingual and returnee students.



Ava Prince & friends taking a dip in Shikotsu lake and awaiting the oncoming storm

Hiroshima

LÉO ANDERSON '20 spent the last two years expanding their writing, translating, and media skills while supporting a host of now-fully online educational programs at the United Nations Institute for Training and Research in Hiroshima. Léo enjoyed connecting with and learning from seasoned co-workers on the communication team, and developing new skills while working on more creative graphic design and video-editing projects. Moving forward, they are planning to apply this experience to future creative and professional projects in New York City.

INDEPENDENT FELLOWSHIP

Oberlin Shansi's new Independent Fellowship allows graduating seniors and recent alumni to design their own two-year experience with an NGO, social enterprise, or educational institution. This allows highly motivated applicants the chance to propose innovative projects and partnerships in regions and sectors outside of Shansi's typical purview.

SHENG KAO '20 continued to serve as a content producer and editorial intern at New Bloom Magazine in Taipei. Highlights of her time at New Bloom include her interview with Taiwanese-American poet and author of *Bestiary*, K-Ming Chang, and work with New Bloom Radio on podcast episodes that explored Sino Diaspora Identity and Taiwanese Queer Literature. Sheng continued to write extensively during her time in Taipei. In December 2022, she published "Ghost Month Zuihitsu," a flash fiction piece, through the Asian American Writers' Workshop.

SHANSI PRIZE

The Shansi Prize is awarded annually to a graduating senior from the College or Conservatory in recognition of exceptional work on a topic relating to Asia.

The 2022 Shansi Prize was awarded to Yan Lou '22. Psychology professor Nancy Darling nominated Yan for their senior thesis "Word from Home: The Impact of Child-Parent Contact on Chinese International Students' Daily Psychological Distress." Their project explored the psychology of stress within interactions between Chinese international students and their parents. The study involved Lou contacting Chinese Student Associations across the US to request their participation, about which they said, "I found much support and many participants who want to participate because they also believe in the importance of better understanding and empowering East Asian students during their exploration of a foreign land and through adolescence, a critical developmental period." Lou spent three semesters on this project, beginning with a literature review and surveying 50 students from 22 undergraduate universities and colleges in the US using a daily diary designed to monitor stress levels.



OBERLIN SHANSI DONORS

PATRON (\$5,000 and over)

Estate of Ann Craig
Anonymous
Estate of Charlotte Gosselink
Kim Z. Golden
Peggy & Scott Kalb

BENEFACTOR (\$1,000 - \$4,999)

Estate of Mary Lee Barker
Dr. Peter Berman & Ms. Jennifer Ruducha
Elaine Bridges
Gerard & Ettie Butters
Beatrice Camp & David Summers
Lynn Carlson & Prescott Winter
Joycelyn Eby
Eric Estes
Jesse Gerstin & Brittany Jordan
Mr. Dirk Giseburt & Ms. Marilyn Stahl
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Gold
Leslie De Haseth
Lenice Krull Hirschberger
Ralph W. Huenemann & Deirdre Roberts
Robert Jenkins
Ping & Tim Liang
Sarah Newman & Beth Rogers
Mary Sanford
Ann Sherif
Linda Styer
Mr. & Mrs. James Zinser

SUPPORTER (\$250 - \$999)

Ms. Jean Anderson
Amanda Bickel & Peter Mayer
Tania Boster
Edith Boyden
Phillip Braun
John Breckenridge
Hana Brown & Daniel Wilder
Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence Buell
Rose Campbell
Mark Carr
Carrie Carter & Colin Fishwick
Ann Cary
Michele Clark & Ziyad Hopkins
Ms. Janice Cohen & Mr. Byron Fisher
Roger & Fran Cooper
Mary Dewar
Mr. & Mrs. David Dix
Robert Dudley
Mr. & Mrs. John D. Elder
Mark Elder & Kiki Speidel
A. Murray Evans
Betty Beer Franklin
Paul Goldstein
Mrs. James Helm
Donald Heydt
Philip Hodge
Nelson & Rosanne de Jesus
Barbro & Norman Jung
Emmett Keeler
Paul Kimoto

Jeanne Larsen
Gretchen Van Meter Lawton
Dr. Richard Lei
Carol Levine
Ellie & Marshall Linden
Sara Lindholm
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Longworth
Susan MacKnight
Suzanne K. McCoskey, Ph.D.
Megan McDonald
Carol McLaughlin
Julie Min & Gavin Tritt
Anuradha & Larry Needham
Dr. Brandon Ong
Clyde Owan
Ms. Sharon Parker & Dr. Robert Swarm
Ruth Pontius
Nancy Van Sant
Earl & Marjorie Sexton
Zoe Sherinian
David B. Sterling
Toni Strasser
Benjamin Tucker & Ana Hicks
Maya Walton
M. Danielle Young

FRIEND (up to \$250)

Elizabeth Abel
Charles Adams
Marie Anderson-Miller & David Miller
Anonymous
Dr. Judith L. Appleton
D. Jill Arace
Sally Baek
Paul Bech & Polly Dressler
David Benzing & Linda Grashoff
Steven Bloom & Elsie Kappler
Alan Boyd
Marybeth Bridegam
Mary Ann Briggs
Dorothy Bryan M.D.
Margaret Byerly
Margaret Camp
Dr. Ruth Catton
Yiming Chai
Kevin Chen
Arthur W. Christofersen & Audrey L. Christofersen
Eugene Clark
Joan Cleary & Jerome Helfand
Harriet & Henry Conroe
Margery Coombs
Todd Crosset & Anne Richmond
Diana D'Agostino
Mary Dart
Gregory Dasch
Vivian H. Davis
Evan Dawley
James Dobbins & Suzanne Gay
Ruth Downs
Robert Drogen
Jeff & Zart Eby

Eric Efron
Mr. David Elder
Mr. & Mrs. John Elder
Manfred Elfstrom
Martin Eskenazi
Mrs. Winifred A. Falcon
Elizabeth Ferguson
J. Scott Ferguson
Stuart Ferguson & Carolyn Welsh
Florelyn Fine
Gay Fischer
Eli Fisher
Carol & Daniel Fishwick
Mary Fluke
Thomas Fonda
Jennifer Fraser
Sydney Garvis
Randy Gaynes & Christine Haxager
Dr. David Gere
Dr. Marya Giesy
Shari Gleason-Mayrhofer & Rudolph C. Mayrhofer
Katherine Goh
Thomas Grayson & Debra Pollak
Charles Greene
Donald Griffin
Sophie Grimes and Wanyu Cho
Carolyn Halsted
George Harding
Mary Anne Hardy
Richard Harper
J. Barton Harrison
Dr. Scott Hassler
Jenna Lindeke Heavenrich
Dr. Gail E. Henderson
Mrs. Charles Herron
Joan Hilty
Charlotte Hopkinson
Anne & Nicholas Hormann
Maxine Houck
Russell Hurd
Cheryl Ikemiya
Dr. Barbara Johnson
Martha Johnson
Dorothy Joslin
Dr. William Katzin & Ms. Katie Solender
Amon Killeen
Helen Kim
Dr. & Mrs. George Kimata
Dr. & Mrs. Kevin Kimata
Yvette Kirby
Dieter Knecht
Gary Kornblith & Carol Lasser
Mari Kuroda & Michael Reynolds
Kenneth Kwo
Gloria Lee
William Leslie
Keith Leung
Joshua Levy & Jan Miyake
Lissette Lorenz
M. Luetgert
Mr. & Mrs. Divakar Masilamani

Virginia Mayer
 Ryan McKillip
 Jeffrey & Shirley Michaelson
 Nathan Michaelson
 William Moll
 Patricia Mooney & Alan Steinberg
 Joel Montague
 Margaret Montsaroff
 Ms. Thelma J. Morris
 Martha Munger
 Pamela Najdowski
 Rubesh Nayak
 Jane & Michael Newman
 Nancy Nguyen
 Mr. Don Noel, Jr.
 Linda Norton
 Catherine Oertel
 Carol Ordal
 Elizabeth Osborn
 Dr. Belden Paulson
 Julie & Mark Pohlman
 Mary Pound
 Cynthia Finch Powers
 Elizabeth Ann Pratt
 James Radomski
 Mrs. Sydney Reed
 John & Sharyn Reitz
 Sarah Ross & Ranga Venkatesan
 George Rothschild
 Harvey & Milena Rubinstein
 Karen Saad
 Robina Saha
 Joanne Salus
 Joseph Salus II
 Mary Samuel
 Ann Scharff
 Dr. & Mrs. James G. Scoville
 Ann Seeley
 Harry & Sharon Seelig
 Lawrence Segel
 George E. Shambaugh III
 Sarah Sharpe
 Mark Sheldon
 Barbara Smith
 Dr. Jill Snyder
 Dr. Warren Solomon
 Elena & William Speidel
 Douglas & Nancy Spelman
 Dr. Maurice Sterns
 Richard Strom
 James Sunshine
 Daniel Tam-Claiborne
 Dr. John Tanner, Jr.
 Eugenie Taylor
 Shirley Tenney
 Eleanor & William Teter
 Marian Thomas
 Marta Tobey
 Michael Trisolini
 Nathaniel Tuohy
 Elisa Wells

Elizabeth Lee Williams
 Leah Wood
 Liyun Wu
 Lawrence Yee

CARLSON FUND

G & G Educational Foundation
The Jo Wang & Kiau Loi Family Fund

ENDOWMENT GENERAL

Anonymous
 Estate of Mary Lee Barker
 Edith Boyden
 Ann & Norman Craig
 Gregory Dasch
 Mr. & Mrs. David Dix
 Mr. & Mrs. John Elder
 Estate of Charlotte Gosselink
 Kenneth Kwo

FELLOW SUPPORT FUND

Paul Bech & Polly Dressler
 Tania Boster
 Marybeth Bridegam
 Robert Drogin
 Joycelyn Eby
 Mark Elder & Kiki Speidel
 A. Murray Evans
 Elizabeth Ferguson
 Jesse Gerstin & Brittany Jordan
 Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Gold
 Leslie De Haseth
 Philip Hodge
 Nelson & Rosanne de Jesus
 Dr. Barbara Johnson
 Dorothy Joslin
 Ping & Tim Liang
 Julie Min & Gavin Tritt
 Martha Munger
 Catherine Oertel
 Mary Pound
 John & Sharyn Reitz
 Mary Samuel
 Ann Seeley
 Zoe Sherinian
 Elena & William Speidel
 Linda Styer
 Daniel Tam-Claiborne
 Lawrence Yee

FELLOWS FUND

Sarah Ross & Ranga Venkatesan
 Elisa Wells

HIROSHIMA FELLOWSHIP FUND

Amanda Bickel & Peter Mayer
 Lynn Carlson & Prescott Winter
 Ann Cary
 Mr. Dirk Giseburt & Ms. Marilyn Stahl
 Kim Z. Golden
 Ralph W. Huenemann & Deirdre Roberts

Susan MacKnight
 Catherine Oertel
 Clyde Owan
 Ann Sherif

INDEPENDENT FELLOWSHIP FUND

Dr. Peter Berman & Ms. Jennifer Ruducha

LEONARD FUND

Dr. Barbara Johnson

FOUNDATIONS

Ameritrade Clearing
 The Boston Consulting Group, Inc
 Central Trust Company
 CME Foundation
 Community Foundation of New Jersey
 Falcon Fund
 Goldstein-Mossar Charitable Fund
 Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund
 G & G Educational Foundation
The Jo Wang & Kiau Loi Family Fund
 Lavori Sterling Foundation Inc.
 Metavante Corporation

GIFTS IN HONOR

Anonymous, *In Honor of A.R. Venkitaraman*
 Dr. Judith L. Appleton, *In Honor of Carl Jacobson*
 Megan McDonald, *In Honor of Louise Ling Edwards*
 George E. Shambaugh III, *In Honor of Danielle Young*
 Clyde Owan, *In Honor of Gavin Tritt*

GIFTS IN MEMORY

Mary Anne Hardy, *In Memory of Aaron Brown '76*
 Joan Hilty, *In Memory of Nancy Hack Hilty and Ronald Hilty*
 Sara Lindholm, *In Memory of James Milton Lindholm*
 Harry & Sharon Seelig, *In Memory of William E. Ratliff '59*
 Benjamin Tucker & Ana Hicks, *In Memory of Jean Warner Eaton*

PEOPLE OF SHANSI

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

JESSE GERSTIN '07, *Chair*
KIM Z. GOLDEN '77/'79, *Treasurer*
DANIELLE YOUNG, *Secretary*
TANIA BOSTER
VANESSA CHAMPAGNE '13
JOYCELYN EBY '09
ERIKA HOFFMANN-DILLOWAY
CHRISTINA JAMES '10
SCOTT KALB '78
RUBY SAHA '14
ZOE SHERINIAN '84
LINDA STYER
DANIEL TAM-CLAIBORNE '09

HONORARY TRUSTEES

NELSON DE JESUS
ANURADHA NEEDHAM
JAMES ZINSER

TRUSTEE EX OFFICIO

CARMEN AMBAR

STAFF

GAVIN TRITT, *Executive Director*
AARON "TED" SAMUEL, *Senior Director*
JESSICA COTTER, *Administrative Assistant*
XIN "JENNY" LUAN '18, *Returned Fellow 2022*



2022 Fellows outside of Shansi House. Pictured are: Left: Isabel Tadmiri; Top Row: Isaak Heller, Jack Stevens, Harper Ross, Mikael Frey; Bottom Row: Phoebe von Conta, Colby Fortin, Leo Ross; Right: Benjamin Echikson

THE 2022 FELLOWS

PHOEBE VON CONTA '22, *Hispanic studies and Environmental Studies, Lady Doak College, Madurai, India*

BENJAMIN ECHIKSON '22, *Economics and East Asian Studies, UNITAR, ANT-Hiroshima, and Green Legacy Hiroshima, Hiroshima, Japan*

COLBY FORTIN '22, *Comparative American Studies and Politics, Gadjah Mada University, Yogyakarta, Indonesia*

MIKAEL FREY '22, *Biochemistry, Shanxi Agricultural University, Taigu, China*

ISAAK HELLER '21, *Mathematics and Economics, Independent Fellow, Phillipines*

HARPER ROSS '22, *Psychology, Shanxi Agricultural University, Taigu, China*

LEO ROSS '21, *Comparative American Studies, J.F. Oberlin University, Machida, Japan*

JACK STEVENS '22, *Economics, Syiah Kuala University, Banda Aceh, Indonesia*

ISABEL TADMIRI '21, *Neuroscience, Keystone Foundation, Kotagiri, India*

Back Cover: Hill Station in the Mountains of Kotagiri

AAPI EXPERIENCE GRANT

Joel Tang '24 was awarded a 2022 AAPI Experience Grant for "First Generation" - a spoken word poetry project that explored his Chinese-American and Mexican-American identities. Of his project, Joel said "The experiences of multiracial individuals' racial identities in the United States can be different in many ways, but a common trait among many is the sense of isolation and, often, racism. The goal of this project [was] is to write and disseminate poetry that explores the pains, joys, and experiences of my racial identities. I hope those who listen to my readings will find a closer understanding of just one of the experiences that minorities and mixed-heritage people have living in the US. Finally, I hope these poems will enable introspection and further future ideas for equality." He gave a performance of his poetry as spoken word at Oberlin's the Cat in the Cream Coffeeshouse. One of his poems is featured below.

Joel Tang on the evening of his poetry reading



HOME

**I come from the salt in the burning wok-noodles my father cooks
The stains of his sweat washed through his shirt
The whole kitchen wrapped in a tropical blanket of steam
An uneasy yet content love in the unknown plates he dished out for us to try.
He is home.**

**I come from the red smashed tomato my mother made for her signature spicy salsa
The burning tongues of my brother and I told her it was just right
The pollo con salsa was always a dish for us if we were lucky
I always grabbed the milk just in case.
She is home.**

**I come from the warm Challah my aunt Irma used to make for every Saturday
The cold milk me and my cousins gathered around the table for
Grubby little hands snatching at mounds of the flesh to stuff in cups and then into open mouths.
We were home.**

**I come from the mashed potatoes and chicken steaks scouters would cook on a Texas ranch
The cool pink lemonade served out to us running in from outside kickball
Soft chocolate brownies rounding out the warm and muggy nights
Laughing and eating quintessential Texan meals with friends.
I am home.**

- Joel Tang '24



OBERLIN SHANSI
Oberlin College
50 North Professor Street
Oberlin, OH 44074

NONPROFIT.ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
OBERLIN COLLEGE

