

# NCTA NOTES #11, January 2012

NATIONAL CONSORTIUM FOR TEACHING ABOUT ASIA, Pittsburgh National Coordinating Site

[www.ucis.pitt.edu/ncta](http://www.ucis.pitt.edu/ncta)

龙年快乐!

Happy Year Of The Dragon!

This is the year of the black water dragon, which is supposed to be one of luck and fortune. Already, Baskin Robbins has announced a new Black Dragon ice cream for the upcoming year in Korea.

A big baby boom is expected, as parents seek to have a child born during this propitious year. The dragon is a legendary animal and sym-



bolical of the emperor in China. Since the Dragon is coated with a mysterious color, Chinese consider that the dragon is unpredictable, untouchable, and its head and tail cannot be seen at the same time. Therefore, we might see something unexpected happening in 2012. Let's all hope for good fortune! (Thanks to James A. Cook, Asian Studies Center Associate Director for this information)

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES AND STUDY TOURS

This is the time of the year for applying to summer programs on East Asia. Check out these opportunities for 2012!

### Intensive Summer Language Institutes in China or Egypt

The American Councils for International Education is offering six weeks overseas studying intermediate and advanced-level Chinese or Arabic. Current K-12 teachers, community college instructors of Arabic and Mandarin, and students enrolled in education programs who intend to teach the languages can apply. Application deadline is **March 2, 2012**. For more information, please visit: [www.americancouncils.org/isli](http://www.americancouncils.org/isli)

### Keizai Koho Center Fellowships to Japan

The **Keizai Koho Center** (Japan Institute for Social and Economic Affairs) will present, in cooperation with the National Association of Japan-America Societies (NAJAS), a ten day Fellowship to Japan in Summer 2012 for educators. Application Deadline is **February 17, 2012**. For more information:

<http://kkcfellowships.com/fellowships/index.html>

### For full-time high school teachers of English and World Literature

Indiana University is pleased to announce that applications for the **2012 NCTA Teaching East Asian Literature in the High School Workshop** are now available online. The workshop will take place on the campus of Indiana University Bloomington July 8–13, 2012. The application deadline is **March 5, 2012**. For more details and for the application, please visit: <http://www.iu.edu/~easc/outreach/educatjklors/literature/index.shtml>

### Chinese Film and Society NEH Summer Institute for Teachers

Immerse yourself in the study of Chinese society through film in an exciting program featuring scholars in the field for four weeks this summer at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (July 9-August 3, 2012). Open to educators in K-12 schools as well as prospective teachers, who will be designated NEH Summer Scholars, this Institute promises to be an exciting exploration of twentieth century China on film. Application deadline is **March 1, 2012**. For more details and an application:

<http://www.aems.illinois.edu/nehchinesefilm/application.html>

### 2012 Summer Institutes on China and Japan at University of Colorado

NCTA and the Program for Teaching East Asia at the University of Colorado invite applications to two national summer institutes: "China: Environmental Issues and Challenges" (June 25-29, 2012), and "21st-Century Japan: Global Issues, Classroom Applications" (July 8-13, 2012). These institutes are open to secondary teachers nationwide who teach about Asia; the institutes are also designed to provide enrichment for teachers who have previously completed an NCTA seminar. Both courses are offered as residential programs on the University of Colorado-Boulder campus. Teachers selected to participate receive a travel stipend to defray transportation costs, a full housing/meal package, institute texts, and teaching resources. Application deadline is **March 16, 2012**. For more information, please visit: <http://www.colorado.edu/cas/TEA/index.html>

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES (Continued)

### East Asia Online Classes from NCTA, Columbia University

This spring, the Columbia University NCTA is holding a series of online simulcast classes for teachers on Asia-related topics. Some of the topics include "Visual Strategies in Japanese Popular Culture: Manga and More," "The Tale of Genji in Art and Literature," "Rethinking the Image of China and Japan in Global History," and "Comparative Confucianism in East Asia." For more information, including a complete listing of the online classes, go to their website at: <http://bit.ly/xD6Ojj>

### More Opportunities

Check out the national NCTA website for information on professional development opportunities at NCTA sites nationwide. <http://www.nctasia.org/>

## Upcoming Enrichment Programs

**Labor and Migration in China** - On February 4th join us for a one-day seminar for teachers about the large migration trends of Chinese from rural areas to booming economic zones. During the seminar our presenters, Dr.



David Kenley, Karen Gaul (Winchester Thurston, 2009 alumna), and Matthew Sudnik (Central Catholic High School, 2010 alumnus) will present to us what this means in terms of politics, nationalism, and personal identity. There will also be curriculum development discussions and free materials. The workshop will take place from 9a.m.-3p.m in room

4130 Posvar Hall, University of Pittsburgh. Registration is limited, so please contact

Patrick Hughes at [hughespw@pitt.edu](mailto:hughespw@pitt.edu) with name, email address, and school. Registration deadline: **Monday, JANUARY 30, 2012.**

**Japanese Traditional Tea Scoop Workshop & Chanoyu Ceremony** - The Society of Contemporary Craft in Pittsburgh will be holding a workshop on **Saturday March 10, 12:30-6 p.m.** for participants to learn about the ancient Japanese tea ceremony. Participants will shape their own bamboo tea scoops with artist Tadao Arimoto, and the workshop will end with a formal tea ceremony. There is limited space available for participants and guests. Tuition is \$80, guests are an additional \$15, with a materials fee of \$10. Registration deadline is **March 2.** For info on registration, please contact 412-261-7003 x25 or [thestudio@contemporarycraft.org](mailto:thestudio@contemporarycraft.org)

### 2012 NCTA Seminars for Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia

- **UPCOMING: Slippery Rock University** is offering a new 15 hour seminar for teachers in their area, beginning in March. Armand Policicchio and Andrew Colvin will lead two 15-hour seminars (one in the Spring & one in the Fall) at Slippery Rock University in Slippery Rock, PA. The Spring 15-hour seminar will focus primarily on China, while the Fall 15-hour seminar will focus on Japan and Korea. The two 15-hour seminars can be taken independently, but those who complete both seminars will receive additional benefits. For more information, go to our website: <http://www.ucis.pitt.edu/ncta/ncta-slipperyrock.html>
- **Bucknell University** will be offering a 30 hour seminar beginning February 21. For more information, go to: <http://www.ucis.pitt.edu/ncta/ncta-bucknell.html>
- **UNDERWAY** are seminars at **University of Maryland, Baltimore County, University of Pennsylvania** (Philadelphia) and the **Online Seminar for Marshall University** (WV) area teachers.

## Upcoming Enrichment Programs (continued)

- ◆ **World History Seminar in Pittsburgh** - On Saturday March 24 we will host a visit from Dr. Constantine Vaporis, professor of history at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County. The seminar will focus on the “opening” of Japan in the late Tokugawa period and its relevance to understanding Japan’s position in the world today. More information on this seminar will be sent soon.
- ◆ **Screening of *Anpo: Art X War***: - Join us Thursday April 12 for a screening of the documentary film ***Anpo: Art X War*** (2010) by Linda Hoaglund, at Frick Fine Arts Auditorium at the University of Pittsburgh. The film, which is free and open to the public, will be shown at 7pm in the Frick Fine Arts Auditorium at the University of Pittsburgh. **NCTA teachers** are invited to a **special pre-screening dinner and discussion** about the film at 5:30 p.m. in room 4130 Posvar Hall. The documentary is about the U.S.-Japan Security Treaty that allowed the stationing of American troops on Japanese soil, and the decades long protest movements in the arts and society that resulted. The film will give you insights into the social, political, and artistic history of post-war Japan and the Japanese culture of protest. More information about registering for the pre-screening dinner and discussion for NCTA teachers will be sent soon.

## NCTA Alumni News

- ◆ **BJ McElderry** (Baltimore) has been awarded a Don Elliot Humanities Award for travel to Korea this March in order to develop a unit of study on Korean art history for her students.
- ◆ **Chris Trammel** (2011 China Study Tour; Colorado) has been accepted for a two-year teaching position in Cairo, Egypt. He will be teaching 8th and 10th grade world history at the American International School of Egypt.
- ◆ **Lynda Hauman** (Bucknell seminar) reports that the Delta Program at State College will offer Mandarin through the Confucius Institute beginning this month.
- ◆ **Matthew Roberts** (Pittsburgh seminar) has been accepted to the Fulbright Teacher Exchange program for the 2012-13 academic year. He has applied to go either to the UK or the Czech Republic.
- ◆ **Holiday Card Project**: Last December, we received a request from Japan for holiday cards for children who had been victims of the March 2011 earthquake and tsunami there. Our NCTA teachers responded



with enthusiasm and rallied their students for an overwhelming response. Of the 30,000 cards that were received by the Japanese schoolchildren, over 2,000 were sent by NCTA teachers and their schools. Here are some of the NCTA schools that we know participated (if your school is not listed here, let us know you participated): **Avonworth High School** (Pittsburgh), **Chartiers Valley High School** (Pittsburgh), **Gesu School** (Philadelphia), **Masterman School** (Philadelphia), **Old Mill High School** (Baltimore), **The Park School** (Baltimore), **Quaker Valley Middle School** (Pittsburgh), **Sewickley Academy** (Pittsburgh), **Wilson School District** (West Lawn, PA).

Did we miss your news? Please let us know by contacting Dr. Brenda G. Jordan at: [jordanb@pitt.edu](mailto:jordanb@pitt.edu)

Check out our new Alumni News page on our NCTA website: <http://www.ucis.pitt.edu/ncta/>

# NCTA Teacher Portal and Resource Library News

THE UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH NCTA TEACHER PORTAL IS NOW OPEN!

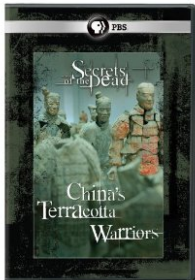
The NCTA Teacher Portal is now OPEN to all teachers without an account. You can now search the Teaching Materials Database, read ratings/reviews of teaching materials by fellow teachers, download lesson plans by NCTA teachers, read the study tour blogs, and view and/or download photos in the Photo Gallery for your classes. If you want to contribute to the site through ratings/reviews or uploaded contributions, you will still need an account. Directions are given on the main page for this. Here is the link to the Portal:



<http://noborders.ucis.pitt.edu/nctalib/catalog/listing>

## Japan's Killer Quake (2011, Pioneer Film and Television Limited. 60-min.)

In its worst crisis since WWII, Japan faces disaster on an epic scale caused by the country's most severe earthquake, followed by a devastating tsunami, and the specter of a nuclear meltdown. This PBS NOVA film combines compelling day-to-day reportage with in-depth scientific perspectives, and explores the risk of a comparable disaster on the U.S. west coast, where earthquake preparedness is nowhere near as advanced as in Japan.



**Secrets of the Dead: China's Terracotta Warriors** (2011, WNET.ORG, 60-min.) The story of China's 8,000 terracotta warriors begins over two millennia ago when the first emperor of China was preparing an extravagant tomb for his journey into the afterlife. Unearthed in the 1970s, no one has seen these ancient warriors in their original splendor, brightly painted and fully armed, ready to protect their Emperor for all eternity. Now this once mighty army will be returned to its former glory for the first time. Row But how was a terracotta army of this size made in less than two years using the technology of 2,200 years ago?

## Last Train Home (2009, Eyesteel Productions, 87-min.)

Every spring, China's cities are plunged into chaos as 130 million migrant workers journey to their home villages for the New Year's holiday. *Last Train Home* tells the story a Chinese couple's experience during their annual return to their native village to visit their children, who are being brought up by grandparents. Working over several years in a classic verité style, this film by Lixin Fan sheds light on the human cost of China's ascendance as an economic superpower.

