Our History

Born of perceived need to educate Americans about Asia, in 1956, John D. Rockefeller III, a major philanthropist and third-generation member of the prominent Rockefeller family, founded the Asia Society.
Our Mission

Asia Society is the leading global and pan-Asian organization working to strengthen relationships and promote understanding among the people, leaders, and institutions of the United States and Asia.

“Over the years, the Asia Society has endeavored to strengthen US-Asia exchanges and cooperation and promote China-US relations, and I wish to express to you my appreciation for all this.”

— President Hu Jintao, The People’s Republic of China
Multidisciplinary Programming

Arts & Culture

Business

Policy

Education
By educating and broadening understanding on critical trends, opportunities, and challenges driving businesses throughout the dynamic Asian region, we engage the business community to foster dialogue and to effect greater connectivity among the diverse players in the U.S. and Asia.

- Asia Society Business Council
- Business conferences
- Business briefings: sector, country, trends
- Panel discussions featuring corporate and political leaders
- Networking opportunities
- Diversity Leadership Forum
- Sustainable Cities Initiative
- China to US Foreign Direct Investment Study
- Working Groups, Studies and White Papers

Asia Society former President Vishakha Desai with then Chinese Vice President Xi Jinping
Leadership

Ronnie C. Chan
Co-Chair

Mr. Chan is the Chairman of Hang Lung Group Limited and its subsidiary, Hang Lung Properties Limited. Both are publicly listed companies in Hong Kong, dealing in real estate investment, development and management. Mr. Chan also co-founded the privately held Morningside group which, in the past two decades, has owned and managed businesses in manufacturing, public transport operations, outdoor advertising, media, healthcare, online game operators, high-tech and biotech investments, developmental capital investments and other venture capital investments around the world. In addition, Mr. Chan is actively involved with many non-profits, philanthropic endeavors, and educational organizations.

Henrietta H. Fore
Co-Chair

Ms. Fore is Chairman and CEO of Holsman International, a manufacturing, consulting and investment company. She has held government positions as Administrator of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), Director of U.S. Foreign Assistance, Undersecretary of State for Management, and Director of the U.S. Mint in the Department of Treasury. She currently serves as Co-Chair of WomenCorporateDirectors and of the North Africa Partnership for Economic Opportunity, and is a Trustee of the Aspen Institute and the Center for Strategic and International Studies. She serves on the Boards of Exxon Mobil Corporation and Theravance, Inc.

Tom Nagorski,
Executive Vice President

Tom Nagorski has just been named Executive Vice President of the Asia Society. He joins the organization following a three-decade career in journalism - having served most recently as Managing Editor for International Coverage at ABC News. Before that, he was Foreign Editor for "World News Tonight", as well as a reporter and producer based in Russia, Germany and Thailand. Tom was the recipient of eight Emmy awards and the DuPont Award for excellence in international coverage and has a fellowship from the Henry Luce Foundation. He has written for several publications and is the author of "Miracles on the Water: The Heroic Survivors of a World War II U-Boat Attack."
Asia Society is a global organization with United States based headquarters and an insightful and focused Asian perspective.
Southern California

• Programs
  – Conferences
  – Corporate Briefings
  – Environmental/Sustainability
  – Entertainment and Media in Asia
  – Research
Southern California
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Chinese Foreign Direct Investment
We know Asia. Get to know us.