OVERVIEW

The Asia Society Young Leaders Program is a new initiative that aims to provide unique and impactful programs for young professionals under 40 who wish to increase their “East-West intelligence,” as well as provide meaningful networking opportunities with similarly-minded young professionals based in New York that will help them in their careers – from the board room to the business dinner to the global summit. There is no organization as well positioned as Asia Society to provide insights that will help program participants understand the issues surrounding Asia’s rise in influence throughout the world, the keys to success for doing business between the East and West, and exposure to influencers and decision makers who impact the East-West relationship.

Program participants will be “taught” by Asia Society leadership, including senior staff, Trustees, and members of our global network. Monthly sessions of 60-90 minutes each may be held at Asia Society or hosted by speakers at their locations in New York, and all will be accessible via webinar for participants who cannot join in person. Participants may also receive invitations through Asia Society from partner organizations such as companies, consulates, or other organizations for further professional development or social opportunities. Participants will conclude each year with a special gathering with Asia Society President Josette Sheeran and other Asia Society leaders, as well as a capstone session to discuss what they have learned about the East-West context.

HOW TO ENGAGE

Corporate Partners giving at least $25,000 in Asia Society membership in New York are invited to nominate two high potential young executives to participate in the program as one of their many corporate membership benefits. Additionally, Individuals under the age of 40 are invited to apply for the Young Leaders Program, for an annual fee of $1000 that can be paid by the individual, a sponsor organization, or some combination of the two. Interested participants should have an interest in East-West issues, have demonstrated leadership or the acumen that illustrates ability to be an active participant in the program, and be able to commit to attending most monthly sessions and events. Additional information about the application process will be forthcoming.
PAST HIGHLIGHTS

February 6, 2017: Ronnie Chan and Josette Sheeran
On February 6, Asia Society launched its Young Leaders program with a private, off-the-record roundtable discussion featuring Ronnie Chan, CEO of Hang Lung Group and Global Co-Chair of Asia Society, in conversation with Asia Society President and CEO Josette Sheeran. Ronnie discussed the lessons he has learned while leading one of the largest real estate developers in Hong Kong and China, as well as his experience as one of China’s earliest global business ambassadors.

February 23, 2017: Asia 21 Young Leaders
On February 23, Asia Society welcomed four prominent alumni from its Asia 21 Young Leaders network: Sachit Balsari, Chief of the Weill Cornell Global Emergency Medicine Division and a Fellow at the Harvard FXB Center for Health and Human Rights; Maiwand Rahyab, Executive Director of the Afghanistan Institute for Civil Society; Yayoi Shionoiri, Senior Counsel at Artsy; and Eric Wong, Managing Director of Blue Ridge Capital. Asia Society Executive Vice President Tom Nagorski moderated the discussion, asking Asia 21 alumni to share the lessons they have learned on their paths to leadership.

Asia 21 is the Asia-Pacific’s foremost young leaders network, comprising more than 800 members under 40 years of age from more than 30 countries. Its members, especially those who joined the network in its early years, are today recognized as leading figures in politics, business, arts, media, and the non-profit sector, and are committed to shaping a brighter future for the Asia-Pacific region.

March 23, 2017: Networking Reception at Remy Cointreau
On March 23, Asia Society hosted its Young Leaders for a special cocktail reception at Remy Cointreau’s gorgeous Artisan’s Bar, located on the 14th floor of their midtown office. The group learned to make specialty cocktails from Remy Cointreau’s local mixologist, sampled the Remy Cointreau portfolio, and networked with one another.

April 18, 2017: J. Frank Brown, Chief Operating Officer of General Atlantic
On April 18, Asia Society Young Leaders met with J. Frank Brown, Chief Operating Officer of General Atlantic and Asia Society Global Trustee, for an off-the-record discussion on navigating East-West business relations. Frank shared his insights on leadership from his over 30 years of business experience, including a five-year tenure as the Dean of INSEAD, a leading international business school with campuses in Europe, Asia, and the Middle East. Under his leadership as Dean, INSEAD opened its campus in Abu Dhabi, increased participation of women students in its M.B.A. program by more than 50%, built stronger connections with alumni and the business community, and raised awareness of the INSEAD brand. Before joining INSEAD, Frank had a distinguished 26-year career at PricewaterhouseCoopers—including leadership of PwC’s $3.5 billion Advisory Services practice—and is the author of The Global Business Leader: Practical Advice for Success in a Transcultural Marketplace.