



# Smithsonian

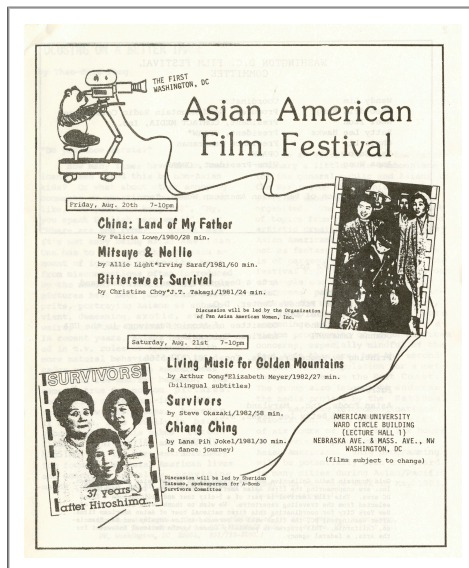
## *Anacostia Community Museum*

### Asian American Arts and Media, Inc., Collection

ACMA.06-089

ACMA staff

This project received support from the Smithsonian American Women's History Initiative.



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## Table of Contents

Collection Overview .....	
Administrative Information .....	1
Historical .....	1
Scope and Contents .....	2
Names and Subjects .....	
Container Listing .....	

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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Anacostia Community Museum Archives
<b>Title:</b>	Asian American Arts and Media, Inc. Collection
<b>Date:</b>	1982-1997
<b>Identifier:</b>	ACMA.06-089
<b>Creator:</b>	Asian American Arts and Media, Inc. (Washington, D.C.)
<b>Extent:</b>	0.01 Linear feet (1 folder)
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Container:</b>	Box 1

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## Administrative Information

### Processing Information

Machine-readable guide completed by Jennifer Morris, 2018. The collection was item-level processed, and a finding aid prepared by Amelia J. Verkerk in 2023.

### Preferred Citation

Asian American Arts and Media, Inc., Collection, Anacostia Community Museum Archives, gift of Wendy Lim.

### Restrictions

Use of the materials requires an appointment. Please contact the archivist at [ACMarchives@si.edu](mailto:ACMarchives@si.edu)

### Conditions Governing Use

Collection items available for reproduction, but the Archives makes no guarantees concerning copyright restrictions. Other intellectual property rights may apply. Archives cost-recovery and use fees may apply when requesting reproductions.

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## Historical

In 1982, Wendy Lim (1956- present) and Theodric Feng organized Washington D.C.'s first Asian-American film festival. Following the success of the film festival, Lim and Feng created the Asian American Arts and Media, Inc. This nonprofit based in Washington, D.C. was designed to help promote and support creative expression in Asian-American communities through design, media, literary, visual, and performing arts. Asian American Arts and Media, Inc. established memberships and donation processes to fund local Asian American artists as well as spread awareness about Asian American experiences through printed materials, such as pamphlets, newsletters, and flyers. The nonprofit was active through the late 1990s.

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## Biographical

Wendy Lim (1956- present) is a Chinese American community organizer, whose work centered on supporting and encouraging Asian American art and media in local communities. Lim was born in 1956 in Hong Kong and moved to the United States in 1959. Her father worked as a laborer in several locations around the United States before making a career as a chef in the Washington D.C. area. Wendy's mother worked at home, raising Wendy, her brother, and her two –half-brothers from her father's first marriage. The family lived in an apartment above Lee's Groceries in northeast Washington D.C., for a time. The Lim children grew up speaking primarily Mandarin, but they understood basic Taishanese and Cantonese.

In the late 1960s, Lim and her family moved to Oxon Hill, Maryland, where Lim and her younger brother attended middle and high school. Wendy graduated from high school in 1975, and entered the East Asian Study program at Oberlin College. While at Oberlin, Lim joined the Asian American Alliance and attended talks and workshops about the experiences of Asian Americans. After graduating from Oberlin in 1979, Lim met Franklin Chao and learned about "Gold Mountain D.C.," a WPFW radio show that discussed Asian-American issues. Lim, Theodric Feng and Mariko Yamada (1950- present) took over the running of the show until 1982.

In 1982, Lim and Feng organized Washington D.C.'s first Asian-American film festival, which became an annual event. The Asian American Arts and Media Inc. nonprofit was created to help Lim and Feng continually fund the annual film festival, and to facilitate donations in support of Asian American art in their communities. During this time, Lim also volunteered with the Organization of Pan-Asian American Women and was the president of the organization for one year. In 1990, Lim joined the committee that helped create the Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Center.

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## Scope and Contents

Asian American Arts and Media, Inc., collection, which dates from 1982 to 1997 and measures .01 linear feet, documents an early era of Asian American art activism in the Washington, DC metropolitan area. The collection includes flyers, photo postcards, clippings and newsletters, which highlight the organizations' activities aimed "to promote more positive and realistic images of Asian Pacific Americans through the arts and humanities, and to develop a greater appreciation and awareness of Asian Pacific American art forms." Among the holdings is a program book from the first Annual Asian American Film Festival cosponsored by Gold Mountain Radio Collective and the Organization of Pan Asian American Women, Inc.

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## Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

### Subjects:

- Asian Americans
- Film festival programs
- Film festivals

### Types of Materials:

- Brochures
- Newspaper clippings
- Picture postcards
- Press releases

Places:

Washington (D.C.)

Preferred Titles:

*Asian art & culture (Unnumbered)*

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## Container Listing

Box 1, Folder 1	Printed materials, 1982-1993
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Anna May Wong postcards, 1988

Asian American Arts and Media, Inc. pamphlet, undated

[Asian American Film Festival flyer, 1982](#)

Gold Mountain, D.C. flyer about Asian American Film Festival, 1982 July 16

Photocopy of newspaper clipping about "Gold Mountain, D.C.", 1983 January 29

12th Annual Asian American Film Festival booklet, 1993

Box 1, Folder 2	Printed materials, 1996 May - 1997 February
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"AAAMplitude" newsletter, 1996 May

"AAAMplitude" newsletter, 1997 February