

CHANG, ERIC, Coordinator, Arts Program, East-West Center, USA

Panel Overview

Panel 1.3 The EWC Arts Program: Recent Initiatives

Recent performances, exhibitions, lectures, festivals, and artists' residencies organized and sponsored by the East-West Center are testament to the institution's mandate to serve as a "Center for Cultural and Technical Interchange between East and West." These cultural programs, rather than presenting "art for art's sake," enlighten the viewers, audience members, and participants to the cultures and values of the Asia Pacific region. The programs and residencies enrich the greater community, including EWC students, primary through university students, and senior citizens. Recently, emphasis has been placed on reaching out to Hawai'i schools, neighbor islands, and other parts of the U.S.; new educational outreach activities include exhibition tours and teacher workshops. Recent EWC Gallery exhibitions include: "Colorful Stories: Indian Folk Paintings," "Mountain Minorities: Tamang and Rai Cultures of Nepal," "A Common Thread: Textiles from the Permanent Collection," and "Parsi Silk & Muslin from Iran, India, and China." In addition, recent performance projects have featured Javanese dance, Chinese traditional and contemporary music, music of Nepal, and the Asia Pacific Dance Festival—an ambitious biennial project highlighting dance across the region, which most recently included Ballet Philippines as guest artists. The session will feature numerous photographs, audio, and video examples.