



Oberlin Shansi

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Who We Are:

We are an independent non-profit that connects Oberlin students, recent alumni, and faculty to organizations and communities in Asia. We sponsor Fellowships, individual projects, on-campus programming, and a Visiting Scholars program with faculty from our partner institutions. Founded in 1908, Oberlin Shansi is one of the oldest international exchange organizations in North America.

Our Programs:

In-Asia Grants

Our In-Asia Grants program offers funds for Oberlin students to conduct an independent Winter Term or Summer project in South Asia, Southeast Asia, or East Asia. We fund research projects, internships, artistic/creative projects, and service learning ventures. In-Asia Grant winners have:

- Interned at a micro-finance institution in Battambang, Cambodia
- Created an online zine on Queer activism in Taiwan
- Conducted research on medical care systems in South India
- Designed artistic projects exploring Pangalay Dance and Kulintang music in the Philippines
- Carried out experiential learning projects at organic farms in Taiwan and Japan

The **application deadline for In-Asia Grant funding** for a 2026 Winter Term or Summer project is **October 27, 2025**. Keep an eye out for an additional 2026 Summer Term project deadline next semester.

www.shansi.org/iag-grants

AAPI Experience Grants

The AAPI Experience Grant provides awards of up to **\$300** for academic or artistic projects highlighting the voices and experiences of Asian, Asian American, and Pacific Islander communities in North America. Students are also encouraged to explore solidarities and collaborations between AAPI communities and Black, Indigenous, Latinx, and queer communities in North America.

Recent AAPI Experience Grant winners have:

- Traveled to different mosques across the US to explore community, politics, and accessibility
- Produced comics that explore experiences of the Chinese diaspora during the COVID-19 pandemic
- Performed spoken-word poetry on Latinx and Asian American multiracial identities

shansi.org/aapi-experience-grants

Fellowships

Shansi Fellowships give graduating seniors and recent Oberlin alumni the opportunity to live and work at one of our partner institutions in China, India, Indonesia, or Japan. Fellowships offer diverse professional experiences, which can include:

- Teaching experience at the university level in China, Indonesia, and Japan
- Managing projects at the United Nations Institute for International Research and Training in Hiroshima, Japan
- Participating in community development programs, environmental conservation work, and indigenous peoples' advocacy at an NGO in India
- Volunteering and internship opportunities at local NGOs, arts organizations, and advocacy groups

Shansi Fellowships last 1-2 years, with substantial vacation time. The total award package includes housing, a generous living stipend, 6-8 weeks intensive training in the local language, medical insurance, round trip airfare, pre-departure medical expenses up to \$2000, and a guaranteed \$1500 grant for professional development and independent exploration. Shansi Fellows will also have access to a highly engaged and well-connected alumni network for professional mentorship.

The application deadline for fellowships is January 5, 2026.

shansi.org/about-the-fellowships

On-Campus Programming

Oberlin Shansi provides grants and support for campus programs related to Asia and Asian-American issues proposed by any chartered student organization or program house. Past programs have included guest lecturers, performances, seminars, film discussions on human rights, and more. We also work with groups and organizations on campus to coordinate academic symposia, lecture series, music performances, and many other types of events.

shansi.org/on-campus

Visiting Scholars

Visiting Scholars are faculty or staff chosen competitively from the Shansi partner institutions in Asia who spend up to a semester at Oberlin College to enhance their professional and scholarly development. They observe undergraduate teaching and pursue their areas of research. Visiting Scholars also engage in the Oberlin community, often participating in language tables, local organizations and events, and musical ensembles.

Have questions? Stop by our office in Peters 103 or reach out to:
Senior Director Ted Samuel at tsamuel@oberlin.edu or Donnie Harris at dharris2@oberlin.edu.

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