

Call for Applications

ImaginAsia 2026@Tokyo — Imagining the Future: Building Community through Collective Storytelling

About ImaginAsia

Launched in 2009, **ImaginAsia** was initiated by Professor Fei-Yi Lu of the Department of Radio and Television at National Chengchi University (NCCU) and Professor Keiji Suga of Meiji University, Japan. In 2010, the project was joined by the Faculty of Fine and Applied Arts at Chulalongkorn University in Thailand and has since expanded its network of participating universities and creative communities across Asia.

ImaginAsia seeks to foster deeper connections across Asian countries and communities through academic exchange, collaborative research, dialogue, and creative practice. Rather than viewing Asia as a fixed or singular entity, the project approaches it as diverse, dynamic, and continually evolving. By bringing people together across borders, cultures, languages, and disciplines, ImaginAsia creates opportunities for participants to exchange perspectives, engage in meaningful dialogue, and collectively explore new ways of imagining Asia.

In 2024, ImaginAsia resumed in-person exchange after the COVID-19 pandemic, with the program hosted by Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok under the theme ***Collaborating with Creative People***. In 2025, NCCU's College of Communication hosted the program in Taipei under the theme ***Crossing Borders: A Journey of Discovery***. Bringing together faculty and students from universities across Taiwan, Japan, and Thailand, the program takes participants from Dadaocheng and Zhonghe's Huaxin Street to National Chengchi University. Through soundscapes, migrant stories, workshops, documentaries, and other creative practices, participants explore migration, family, culture, and personal experiences, transforming these encounters into creative work.

2026 ImaginAsia @ Tokyo

The 2026 ImaginAsia program will be hosted by Meiji University, Japan, and held in Tokyo from October 20 to 23, 2026.

This year's theme is: ***Imagining the Future: Building Community through Collective Storytelling***. The 2026 program will use video as a medium for cross-university and interdisciplinary collaboration. Through workshops, academic presentations, group work sessions, and collaborative video production, students from different universities and cultural backgrounds will work together to explore how collective storytelling can help us imagine possible futures and build communities across borders.

Call for Applications

The College of Communication at NCCU is inviting applications from students interested in video production, creative practice, storytelling, art and culture, and cross-cultural exchange.

Due to the limited number of participants allocated to each university, **four students** will be selected to represent College of Communication at ImaginAsia 2026. Selected participants will join the four-day program in Tokyo and work closely with students from participating universities to develop a collaborative video project.

Eligibility

Applicants must meet all of the following requirements:

- Be a **senior undergraduate or MA graduate student** currently enrolled in the College of Communication at NCCU.
- Be available to participate in the full ImaginAsia 2026 program in Tokyo from **October 20 to 23, 2026**. (Departure: Oct 19, Return: Oct 24)
- Students currently on leave of absence or studying abroad as exchange students during the program period are not eligible to apply.
- Be interested in creative practice, video production, storytelling, or issues related to art, culture, and contemporary Asia.
- Be willing to actively participate in cross-cultural and interdisciplinary collaboration with students and faculty from participating universities.

Selection Criteria

Applicants will be evaluated based on their:

- Able to fully participate throughout the entire program.
- Existing creative work that demonstrates individual creative interests, abilities, and distinctive qualities.

- Motivation for participating in ImaginAsia and engaging in international collaboration.
- Ability to communicate and collaborate with people from different cultural and disciplinary backgrounds.
- Interest in and commitment to exploring issues related to Asian society, culture, identity, mobility/migration, communities, and other relevant topics.

Financial Support

Selected participants will receive financial support from the College of Communication for airfare (economic class, up to NTD 20,000) and accommodation (including breakfast). Participants are responsible for all other expenses incurred during the program, including meals, local transportation, personal expenses, travel insurance, passport/visa-related fees, and any other costs not covered by the subsidy.

Application Materials

Applicants are asked to submit the following materials:

1. Application Form

<https://forms.gle/nJtRcDC8DggqkKUHA>

2. Supporting Materials

1) Personal Statement

Please submit a personal statement of 500–800 words addressing the following:

- Why are you interested in the “**Imagining Asia**” program?
- What do you expect from this Tokyo exchange and cross-university collaboration?
- What do you hope to learn or contribute through the program?
- How does this program relate to your creative, research, or academic interests?

2) Portfolio / Creative Works

Please provide links to **up to three creative works** and make sure that all links remain accessible throughout the selection period.

3) Brief Description of an Arts, Culture, or Media-Related Research Project (Optional)

If you are currently conducting or have completed a research project related to art, culture, media, or other relevant topics, please provide a brief description of the project.

If your research findings can be shared or presented during the “Imagining Asia” program, please indicate this in your application materials and provide the anticipated presentation title in English.

Note: Please prepare your supporting materials as a written document in either DOC/DOCX or PDF format and upload the file to the designated folder specified in the application form. For creative works, please include the links to the works in the document. Do not upload the creative works directly to the folder.

If you encounter any technical problems during the application process, please email shefong@nccu.edu.tw

Application Deadline

September 14, 2026, at 5:00 PM

Late applications will not be considered unless otherwise announced.

Notification of Selection Results

Applicants will be notified of the selection results by email on **September 16, 2026**.