



MONGOLIAN CULTURAL CENTER

XVIII ANNUAL MONGOLIAN STUDIES CONFERENCE

co-hosted by

The Embassy of Mongolia

Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History

**February 6-7, 2026
Washington, D.C.**

with contributions from

Library of Congress

Mongolian American Cultural Association

Pyramid Granite LLC

National Council of Language Policy, Mongolia

Dr. Sanj Altan

[Mongolian Cultural Center](#)
[202-531-3716 202-302-4340](#)
info@mglcenter.org

REGISTRATION

The Mongolian Cultural Center will be hosting the XVIII Annual Mongolian Studies Conference in partnership with the Embassy of Mongolia and the Smithsonian Institution **February 6-7, 2026**.

Registration is required, preferably at least two days prior to the conference. To register, please do the following:

1. Send your **first and last name, employer (optional), and location (only city and state will be sufficient)** to info@mglcenter.org to make your conference ID badge.
2. **Pay the conference fee of \$80.** Fees can be paid using cash day-of or mailed in advance to the address below, or via Zelle to (202) 302-4340.

Mail to:
Mongolian Cultural Center
7638 Wood Mist Lane
Falls Church, VA 22043

The conference fee includes breakfast and lunch on both days, a copy of the published conference proceedings and papers, and admission to the Closing Reception, hosted by the Embassy of Mongolia on February 7 at 6pm ET.

AGENDA

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6

SMITHSONIAN NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM

08:30 REGISTRATION & BREAKFAST
(IN PUBLIC CAFETERIA, 1ST FLOOR, YOU WILL BE ESCORTED)

09:00 OPENING REMARKS
Q?rius Auditorium, West Lobby, National Museum of Natural History

Batbayar, Ulziidelgeriin, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Mongolia in the U.S.

William Fitzhugh, Director of the Arctic Studies Center, Smithsonian Institution,

Saruul-Erdene, Myagmaryn, President, the Mongolian Cultural Center

09:30 ARCHAEOLOGY

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Q?rius Auditorium, NMNH

Moderator: **William Fitzhugh**, Director of the Arctic Studies Center, Smithsonian Institution,

William Honeychurch, Yale University, USA, **Chunag Amartuvshin**, Center for Nomadic Archaeology, National University of Mongolia, Mongolia, **Lance Pursey**, Institute of History and Philology, Academia Sinica, Taiwan, **Andrew Shimunek**, Woosong University, South Korea, **Sukhbaatar Bat-Erdene**, Mongolian University of Science and Technology, Mongolia, **Andres Uueni**, Archaeovision LLC, Estonia
When Silent Stones Speak: The Granite Archives of Eastern Mongolia reveal Mongolian Medieval History

Erdenebaatar, Diimaajavyn, Chinggis Khaan Museum
Mongolian Deer Stone-Khirigsuur Culture: The Question of the Purpose and Meaning of Deer Stones

Richard Kortum, Eastern Tennessee State University
Southern Bayan Ulgii Aimag Rock Art & Archaeology: Latest Discoveries June 2025

Asa Cameron, Yale University/The Pennsylvania State University, **Christina Carolus**, Yale University/The Pennsylvania State University, **Jargalan Burentogtokh**, National University of Mongolia, **Bukhchuluun Dashzeveg**, Yale University, **Isabelle Holland-Lulewicz**, The Pennsylvania State University, **Jacob Holland-Lulewicz**, The Pennsylvania State University, **Matthew Picarelli-Kombert**, The Pennsylvania State University, **Amartuvshin Chunag**, National University of Mongolia
Going Against the Current: New Investigation of Prehistoric Settlement Networks and Subsistence along the Kherlen River in Eastern Mongolia

Darkhijav Batbayar, Yale University
Bioarchaeological Study of Skeletal Remains of Children from Mongolia

Isabelle Holland-Lulewicz, Penn State, **Asa Cameron**, Penn State, **Christina Carolus**, Penn State, **Jacob Holland-Lulewicz**, Penn State, **Bukhchuluun Dashzeveg**, PAX Environmental, **Jargalan Burentogtokh**, National University of Mongolia, **Matthew Picarelli-Kombert**, Penn State, **Chunag Amartuvshin**, National University of Mongolia, **Matthew Picarelli-Kombert**, Penn State, **Chunag Amartuvshin**, National University of Mongolia
The Importance of Wetland Resources in the Nomadic Pastoral Socio-Ecological Systems of Central Asia

13:00 LUNCH (IN PUBLIC CAFETERIA, 1ST FLOOR, YOU WILL BE ESCORTED)

After lunch, the conference moves to the **Library of Congress**.

10 1st Street, SE, Thomas Jefferson Building, LJ 119.

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Metro station: Capitol South; Metro lines: Orange, Blue and Silver

ARRIVAL: The Thomas Jefferson Building is located at 10 First Street, SE between Independence Avenue and East Capitol Street in Washington, DC. Enter on the ground level beneath the grand exterior staircase, using the center doors. This is also the designated ADA accessible entrance.

SECURITY: The Library of Congress, as part of the U.S. Capitol complex, is under the jurisdiction of the United States Capitol Police. Upon arrival, please be prepared to walk through a metal detector and pass personal belongings through an X-ray machine. Certain items are not permitted in Library buildings, including dangerous weapons. These include, but are not limited to, firearms, knives, razors, box-cutters and other sharp objects. In addition, oversized suitcases or bags (exceeding 25"w x 15"h) that will not fit on the X-ray conveyor belts are prohibited. Please allow enough time for entry. Upon exiting, an officer will conduct a bag inspection.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

14:00 INTRODUCTION

Kay Qi Qiu, Chief of Asian Division, Library of Congress

KEYNOTE SPEECH

CHRISTOPHER ATWOOD, University of Pennsylvania

"THE *SECRET HISTORY OF THE MONGOLS'* LITTLE BROTHER: THE *CAMPAIGNS OF CHINGGIS KHAN*, ITS TANGLED FATE AND ITS SIGNIFICANCE"

15:30 ASIAN READING ROOM BOOK DISPLAY

Introduction to the Mongolian Collection in the Library of Congress

Asian Division, LJ150

Susan Meinheit, Tibetan and Mongolian Reference Specialist, Asian Division, LOC

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7

SMITHSONIAN NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM

08:30 BREAKFAST (IN GLASS AREA OF QUIET ROOM)

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09:00 **HISTORY**
Q?rius Auditorium, NMNH

Moderator: Christopher Atwood, University of Pennsylvania

Emily Eklund, Jargalan Burentogtokh, William Gardner, Aspen Greaves
Monumental Landscapes in North-Central Mongolia: Investigating Late Bronze Age Khirgisuurs

Zachary Hershey, College of William and Mary
Titles and Translations: An Examination of the Usage of the Title, Yilijin 夷離謹, in the Liao

Nicholas Tselides, College of William & Mary
The Darughachi and Embroidered Guard: Similarities in Maintaining Dynastic Control

Nuri Lewis-Pichler
The Reintroduction of the Bichig Mongolian Script: Precedents and Opportunities

11:00 **EDUCATION**
Q?rius Auditorium, NMNH

Moderator: Saruul-Erdene Myagmaryn, Library of Congress

***Tuul, N.**, Mongolian National University of Art and Culture
Current Status and Challenges of Talent Management for Mongolian Artists

***Dagvadorj, Choisurengiin**, Mongolian American Cultural Association, Mongolia
Life and works of Jambaldorj doorombo

***Amartuvshin, M.**, Mongolian National University of Art and Culture
Higher Education of Art and Culture in Mongolia

12:30 **LUNCH (IN PUBLIC CAFETERIA, 1ST FLOOR, YOU WILL BE ESCORTED)**

13:00 **WOMEN AND GENDER ISSUES**
Q?rius Auditorium, NMNH

Moderator: Simon Wickhamsmith, Rutgers University

Udaanjargal, Chuluunbaatar, University of North Carolina
Politics of the Mongol Empresses in the Early Qing Court

***Utnasun, Osorin**

Life and Works of Princess Deva Nimbo

Nari Lee, University of Montana

Gendered Barriers to Working in Conservation: A Comparative Case Study in South Korea and Mongolia

Yunna J. Han, Columbia University

Spirits Unwritten: Gendered Eclipse and Survival of Indigenous Power in the Sino-Mongol Borderlands (1900–1945)

15:00 ART AND CULTURE

Q?rius Auditorium, NMNH

Moderator: Sunmin Yoon, University of Delaware

***Bayartur, Baljinnyamyn**, Mongolian National University of Art and Culture

Symbolic Attributes of Representation in Mongolian Painting

Ghilyana Dordzhieva, Mongolian American Cultural Association, **Yanjindulam**

Victor, Western Regional School of the National University of Mongolia

Text, Ritual, and Worship in the Zakhchin Long-Song “Эдийн Алтай бүрэн Тэнгэр”

***Enkh-Amgalan, S.**, Mongolian National University of Art and Culture

Comparison of Traditional and Modern Techniques to Play Shudraga (Chanzy) Instrument

***Saranchimeg, Tumur**, National Academy of Governance, Mongolia

Ceremonial Clothing of the State Queen - Dondovlkham

18:00 – 20:00 RECEPTION IN HONOR OF CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS

Hosted by H.E. Batbayar Ulziidelgeriin, Ambassador of Mongolia to the United States of America, at the Mongolian Embassy: 2833 M St NW, Washington, DC 20007

18:00 – 18:30 AMERICAN CENTER FOR MONGOLIAN STUDIES 2026 PROGRAM REVIEW

Note: Asterisks () denote presentations that will be in Mongolian. All other papers will be presented in English.*