

The Hawai'i Chinese Writers' Association U.S.A.

夏威夷華文作家協會

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<www.rainbows.net/hcwa>

Mission: To promote the compilation and publication of literary works in Chinese by writers living in Hawaii, to promote Chinese culture regardless of political, religious, or ethnic background, and to promote exchange with Chinese writers throughout the world.

History: Preparations to establish this Association began in March, 1997. On the 18th of October of that year, a formal meeting was held, at which Sai-Lin Wong was appointed chairperson and Chin-tang Lo the honorary chairperson. They have held these positions till the present. The Association has been registered as a non-profit organization both with the federal government and the State of Hawaii.



A group picture taken on October 18, 1997, upon the formal establishment of the association

Activities In 1998, the Association recommended and succeeded in having seven member-authors be included in the volume entitled Collected Works of 100 Chinese-American Authors (*Meiguo Huaren Zuojiia Zuopin Bairen Ji* 美國華人作家作品百人集). Another three members were well reviewed in the Literary History of Overseas Chinese Writers (*Hawaii Huaren Wenxueshi* 海外華人文學史). Selections by Hawaii authors were published as special issues focusing on literature by Chinese in Hawaii by various disparate publications, including Los Angeles' New World Poetry (*Xin Dalu* 新大陸), Hong Kong's Hong Kong Literature (*Xianggang Wenxue* 香港文學), China's Digest of Literature from Taiwan and Hong Kong (*Tai-Gang Wenxue Xuankan* 台港文學選刊), and the journal Literature by Overseas Chinese (*Hawaii Huaren Wenxue* 海外華人文學).

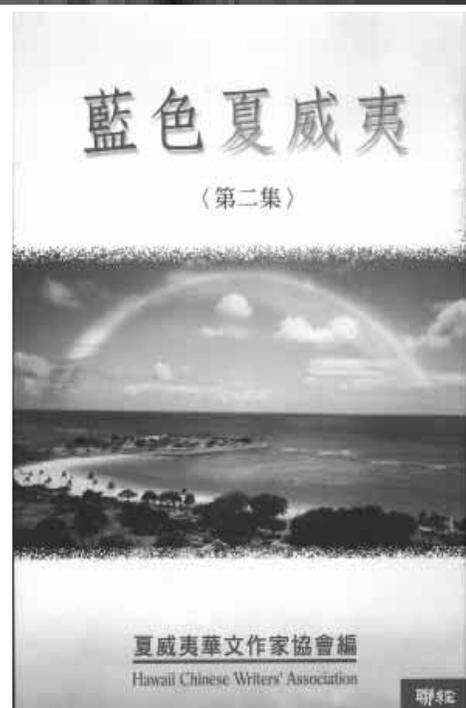
Also in 1998, the Association began publishing a bi-monthly journal called Pearl Harbor (*Zhenzhugang* 珍珠港) of original works in Chinese (essays, stories, poetry) by Hawai'i authors. In 2001, the journal switched to quarterly publication.

In 1998–99, the Association published the first ever collection of works in Chinese by over 20 authors residing in Hawaii. The volume was entitled Blue Hawai'i (*Lanxe Xiaweiyi* 藍色夏威夷) and was very well received: it was acquired by the library collections of Harvard University, Princeton University, and the University of Hawaii, and was reviewed in Volume 4 of the History of Overseas Chinese Literature (*Haiwai Huawen Wenxueshi* 海外華文文學史) published in August, 1999, in Shanghai. A second volume called Blue Hawai'i II was subsequently published in 2001. Beginning in 2004, the Association began arranging to publish monographs of single-author works.

Members also participate in annual conferences on the literature of the overseas Chinese, held on the US mainland and internationally.



Above: Some of those participating in the symposium on “Overseas Chinese Literature and Literary Arts” held on August 30, 2000. Right: Cover of Blue Hawaii II.



Membership: Any original author of poetry, fiction, or essays in Chinese may be nominated by an existing member for membership in the association. Annual fees are \$30, due by January 31.

Association presidents

1997–pres. Sai Lin Wong

Honorary president: Lo Chin-tang

Sources: HCWA publications and correspondence with Sai Lin Wong