Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn will visit NIU Wednesday. Details below.

A royal patina on the week ahead

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1. ‘Tai Cultures’ exhibit to welcome, honor royal Thai guest

All is in readiness for Wednesday, Sept. 18, when NIU welcomes Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn of Thailand, who will be awarded an honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters degree in a morning ceremony in Altgeld Hall. Her visit to NIU coincides with a planned visit to Chicago to attend a Thai classical music and dance performance in conjunction with the Sept. 21 opening of “Siam: The Queen and the White City” exhibition at the Chicago History Museum. The exhibition marks the 120th anniversary of Chicago’s World’s Columbian Exposition and the contributions made by Queen Savang Vadanaphol, the princess’s great-grandmother, to Thailand’s display for the exposition’s Women’s Building.

Noted for her work in science, education and humanitarian efforts in Thailand, HRH Princess Sirindhorn holds a bachelor’s degree in history, a master’s degree in Oriental epigraphy and in Pali and Sanskrit languages, and a PhD in educational development. Among her scholarly accomplishments, she established the Sirindhorn Thai Language Institute in 2007 at Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok to promote the teaching, learning and assessment of the Thai language.

The princess’s visit to NIU is the first by a member of the Thai royal family, and only the second campus visit by a royal personage in NIU’s history. The ceremony will begin at 9:30 a.m. sharp with a processional that will include Her Royal Highness; Thai Minister of Foreign Affairs Suripong Tovichakchaikul; Thai Ambassador to the U.S. Chaiyong Satjipanon; Thai Consul General in Chicago Songphol Sukchan; NIU President Douglas Baker; Provost Raymond W. Alden; political science professor emeritus and distinguished Thai scholar Clark Neher, faculty and other dignitaries. The ceremony will conclude by 11 a.m.

While NIU has been coordinating logistics with the Royal Thai Embassy, art historian and Center associate Catherine Raymond has been curating an exhibition of Tai art and artifacts from three NIU collections in honor of the occasion. “Tai Cultures at Northern Illinois University” will be on display in Room 203 of Altgeld Hall Wednesday for Her Royal Highness to view before proceeding to the Auditorium.

Objects and artifacts from the Anthropology Museum, the Burma Art Collection and Founders Memorial Library’s Donn V. Hart Southeast Asia Collection will transform Room 203 into a unique art space. “The exhibit focuses on hidden Thai treasures at NIU and the interest of the Princess and the royal family in Tai cultures,” Raymond said, noting that “Tai” refers to those peoples in and around Thailand who share a linguistic background in Tai languages.

The exhibition will include antique maps of Asia featuring Thailand, Khon performance masks, Buddha images, manuscripts in various Tai scripts, textiles, gilded lacquer boxes and handicrafts from various Tai cultures, the preservation of which has long been a focus of the
royal family’s charitable endeavors, Raymond said, noting that some of the Thai pieces from the Burma Art Collection have never been displayed before.

After the ceremony, the exhibition will be on display to the public until 5 p.m. that day and from 9 a.m. to noon Sept. 19. A selected version of the “Tai Cultures” exhibit will be on display again for two weeks in October in the Holmes Student Center’s Gallery Lounge. It will open Friday, Oct. 18, as part of the Oct. 18–19 Council on Thai Studies conference and will be on display through Thursday, Oct. 31.

2. This week’s lecture: Tracking non-Khmer contributions to the rise of Angkor

Mitch Hendrickson, assistant professor of anthropology at the University of Illinois-Chicago, will present “Tracking the Rise of Angkor from the Edge of Empire: Recent Investigations by the Industries of Angkor Project at Preah Khan of Kompong Svay (Preah Khan), Cambodia” at noon Friday, Sept. 20, in Room 110 (Honors office), Campus Life Building. For the past four years, the Industries of Angkor Project has investigated the settlement, industrial and environmental histories of the remote Angkorian center of Preah Khan. Hendrickson’s research focuses on documenting the role of the Kuay, a non-Khmer people who produced traditional iron work until the mid-twentieth century, in expanding the Khmer empire. “This represents the first attempt to document evidence of non-Khmer activities in the Angkorian period,” Hendrickson says, “and highlights the diverse relationships that existed between the floodplain and forested regions of Cambodia. To order a Cambodian lunch, submit an online request by 6 p.m.
Thursday at CSEAS Brown Bag Lunch Order. Orders must be cancelled online by 10 a.m. Friday. Cost is $5 for students and $6 for faculty, staff and others. Payments may be made in cash or by check. See the entire fall lecture series schedule on the Center website.

3. Center associates update: From oral history in Elgin to presenting in Hong Kong

For over a year, John Hartmann (Foreign Languages and Literatures) has been assisting with the Lao Oral History Project being conducted by the large and vibrant Lao community in Elgin. Some of the project’s work will be coming to fruition in November. The Gail Borden Public Library’s Big Read program in November will focus on the Vietnam War and its aftermath and is including a number of Lao history programs the weekend of Nov. 9–10. On Nov. 9, The Betrayal (Nerakhoon), a 2008 documentary about a family forced to emigrate from Laos during the war, will be shown at 2 p.m. followed by a discussion with the film’s director Thavisouk Phrasavath. On Nov. 10, poet and author Joanna C. Scott will share her experiences of interviewing refugees from Laos, Cambodia, and Vietnam in resettlement camps in the Philippines in the 1980s at 2 p.m. and the oral history project will debut its first video interviews of Lao community members. A discussion will follow. (Note: Scott will also give the CSEAS Friday lecture Nov. 8.) A new exhibit on the history of Laotian immigration to Elgin, where nearly 4,000 Lao residents live and work, is now on display at the Elgin Area Historical Society and Museum, 360 Park St. Hartmann, whose work with Lao communities over the course of his career has tied into his research on comparative-historical Tai linguistics in mainland SEA, has been instrumental in helping establish Lao Studies in the U.S.

Tharaphi Than (Foreign Languages and Literatures) was in Hong Kong Sept. 6 to present “Black Territory to Land of Paradise: Changing Political and Social Landscape of Mongla,” at the Asian Migration and Global Asian Diasporas conference organized by City University of Hong Kong. Than discussed how government ceasefire policies have affected Mong, a Burma border town along the Myanmar-China border, and how the vice industry has shaped everyday lives of the town’s residents.

Michael Buehler (Political Science), who was in Indonesia over the summer, is in print with a new journal article “Subnational Islamization through Secular Parties: Comparing Shari’a Politics in Two Indonesian Provinces” in the most recent issue of Comparative Politics 46.1. Read it here. Buehler will be speaking about shari’a politics in Indonesia from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sept. 17 in Room 505 Holmes Student Center, the first lecture in the institute’s Notables Brown Bag Lecture Series.

4. SEA study abroad programs in the works; fair this week

NGOs in Cambodia, Thailand and Vietnam. Cultural diversity in Thailand. Balinese music and dance in Indonesia. Two Center associates are among NIU faculty leading three study abroad programs to Southeast Asia next summer. Associate Trude Jacobsen (History) will take a group to Cambodia, Thailand and Vietnam to study the growth of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in those countries. “This course examines the trajectory of humanitarian intervention
and development models throughout the twentieth century and analyzes them in the specific context of mainland Southeast Asia,” Jacobsen writes in the program description. Associate Ju-Ching Wang (School of Music) is developing a Balinese music and dance study abroad program; details to be announced. Anthropology professor Andrea Molnar plans to reprise her 2012 program, “Cultural Diversity in Thailand.” Molnar’s program will focus on the relationship between the dominant majority and minorities of the country, for example between Thai Buddhists and Muslims in the north and south. Learn about these and other study abroad opportunities this week at the 21st annual Study Abroad Fair set for 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Sept. 18 in the Duke Ellington Ballroom, Holmes Student Center.

5. Register by Sept. 30 for October COTS conference
The deadline to register for the Oct. 18–19 Council on Thai Studies (COTS) conference at NIU is coming up Sept. 30. Thai scholars will be meeting and greeting at the Barsema Alumni and Visitors Center during the weekend. The conference will lead off with a lecture Oct. 18 by NIU alumnus Srisompob Jitpiromsri, director of the Center for Conflict Studies and Cultural Diversity at Prince of Songkla University in Pattani, Thailand. His talk will be “The Formation of Peace Discourse and the Politics of Recognition in the Patani Peace Process.” (While at NIU for the conference, Jitpiromsri is also accepting a Distinguished Alumni award from the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences.) The keynote speaker Oct. 19 will be University of Leeds professor of Southeast Asian politics Duncan McCargo. His talk will be “Dispensing Justice? The Work of Thai Police Investigators.” Conference registration is free; register now on the COTS website and help the organizers get a count. Reservations for rooms at the Holmes Student Center must be made by Sept. 27. Conference organizers include CSEAS associates John Hartmann (Foreign Languages and Literatures), Julia Lamb (CSEAS), Chalermsee Olson (Founders Library), Grant Olson (Foreign Languages and Literatures), and Danny Unger (Political Science). COTS, which was founded at NIU in 1972, is an informal organization of scholars interested in all aspects of Thai studies.

6. Organizational meeting set for NIU student Rotary Club
The first organizational meeting of the NIU Rotaract Club, a new student club offering local and international service opportunities, will be held from 5 to 6 p.m. Sept. 19 in the student lounge at the Center for Latino and Latin American Studies on Garden Road. Rotaract clubs are sponsored by local Rotary International clubs; NIU Rotaract is being sponsored by the DeKalb Rotary Club. Rotary International is one of the largest service clubs in the world with more than 1.2 million members in 34,000 clubs worldwide. Free pizza with the meeting!

7. Registration open for upcoming Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs
Michigan State University in East Lansing, Mich., is hosting the 62nd Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs Oct. 25–27. The conference, the Midwestern affiliate of the Association for Asian Studies, is the largest such regional AAS meeting. Associate Trude Jacobsen (History), the conference’s Southeast Asia representative, will lead and present on the panel “The Past in Burma’s (Gendered) Present: Historicizing Intersectionality in Myanmar.” The Center is
organizing group transport. Conference registration, which includes Saturday evening banquet and one-year MCAA membership, is $55 for students registering by **Sept. 15** ($65 after Sept. 15). For details, see the [conference website](#).

8. **Reaching out with books:**
As part of International Literacy Day on Sept. 8, the [Altrusa Club of DeKalb-Sycamore](#), a community-service organization that promotes literacy, donated nearly 900 books last week to Books for Indonesia, a Chicago-based nonprofit organization that collects volumes from schools, libraries and individuals to be redistributed to remote areas of Indonesia. For more information on the project, see Books for Indonesia on Facebook or contact the group directly at BooksForIndonesia@gmail.com.

9. **Save the dates:** Fulbright deadline, explore majors
- **Sept. 20:** Deadline to apply for Fulbright programs through Division of International Programs. Contact program advisor Janet Hathaway (School of Music) at jhathaway@niu.edu or 815-753-7970. More program details available online.
- **Sept. 24:** Exploring Majors Fair, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Duke Ellington Ballroom, Holmes Student Center.
- **Nov. 11–15:** International Education Week sponsored by the Division of International Programs. Plans related to Southeast Asia include a lecture by an Islamic banking expert from Malaysia and an international careers event on **Nov. 12**, and a keynote lecture on colonial Burma by Rutgers University historian Chie Ikeya on **Nov. 15**.

10. **Burnish your resumé:** Sign up for SEA Studies minor or grad concentration
Adding a minor to an undergraduate degree or a graduate concentration to an advanced degree can pull a resumé up to the top of the pile. To learn about NIU’s Southeast Asian Studies programs, visit the [CSEAS website](#) or stop by Pottenger House, 520 College View Court. Undergraduates may make an appointment with Outreach Coordinator Julie Lamb at jlamb@niu.edu; graduate students should contact Assistant Director Eric Jones at eajones@niu.edu.

11. **Boren, Blakemore Freeman programs offer funding for advanced SEA language study**
[![Boren Awards](#)](#)
David L. Boren awards provide unique and substantial funding opportunities for U.S. undergraduate and graduate students to study Southeast Asian languages among other less commonly taught languages (see list). Applications for the 2014–15 Boren scholarships (for undergraduates) and fellowships (for graduate students) are now available on the [Boren website](#). Undergraduate students can receive up to $20,000 for an academic year’s study abroad and graduate students up to $30,000 for language study and international research. In exchange for funding, recipients commit to working in the federal government for a minimum of one year. For application help, see Anne Seitzinger at the Study Abroad office, 417
Williston Hall (email her at aseitz@niu.edu). Graduate fellowship applications are due to the Boren office by Jan. 28; undergraduate scholarship applications are due Feb. 5.

The Blakemore Foundation makes grants for the advanced study of selected Southeast Asian languages—Burmese, Indonesian, Khmer, Thai and Vietnamese—by scholars and mid-career professionals. Applications for the 2014 Blakemore Freeman fellowships and Blakemore refresher grants are now being accepted. The grants cover tuition and stipend, educational expenses, living costs and transportation. Candidates must be U.S. citizens with an undergraduate degree pursuing a professional, business, technical or academic career that involves the regular use of a Southeast Asian language. For more information, see the Blakemore Foundation website. The deadline to apply is Dec. 30.

12. Job/internships opportunities

University of Ohio
- **Assistant Professor of Southeast Asian History**: Tenure-track position. **Deadline to apply**: Dec. 1. For details, see [job posting](#).

University of Utah
- **Assistant Professor of Southeast Asian History**: Tenure-track position. **Deadline to apply**: Nov. 8. For details, see [job posting](#).

Singapore Management University
- **Associate Professor, International and Asian Studies**: For details, see [job posting](#).

Asia Society
- **Career opportunities**: Internships and jobs posted regularly on [website](#).

World Health Organization
- Global public health nonprofit based in Geneva, Switzerland, encourages online applications for potential employment. See [WHO website](#).

Idealist.org
- Privately funded website offers searchable database of nonprofit international jobs and volunteer opportunities. For details, see the [Idealist website](#).

13. Money for study

Council of American Overseas Research Centers
- **Research fellowship**: Multi-Country Research Fellowship Program offers support in humanities, social sciences or allied natural sciences for doctoral candidates and post-doc scholars. Research must be carried out in two more countries outside of U.S. Funding provided by U.S. State Department Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. **Deadline to apply**: Jan. 13. For details, see [CAORC website](#).

National University of Singapore/Stanford University
- **Fellowship**: Applications are open for 2014 Lee Kong Chian NUS-Stanford Distinguished Fellowship on Southeast Asia. Open to all nationalities with backgrounds or positions in the social sciences or humanities. Fellowship provides travel and stipend for one month at NUS and one to three months at Stanford writing or researching contemporary Southeast Asia. For details, see [fellowship website](#).

American Institute for Indonesian Studies
- **Research grants for scholars**: $5,000 Henry Luce Foundation grants available for American and Indonesian scholars in contemporary and traditional Indonesian studies.
Program funded by the U.S. State Department Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. **Deadline to apply: Dec. 15.** Forms available at AIFIS website.

- **Research grants for graduate students, postdocs:** $5,750 Council of American Overseas Research Centers (CAORC) grants available for research in contemporary and traditional Indonesian studies. **Deadline to apply: Dec. 15.** Forms available at AIFIS website.

**Center for Khmer Studies**

- **Fellowships:** Applications open for PhD students and senior scholars to conduct research in Cambodia. PhD fellowships are for a maximum of 11 months; senior scholar fellowships are for 4 to 6 months. Open to U.S. citizens only. For details, see CKS website.

### 14. Conferences, calls for papers and workshops

- **6th International Indonesia Forum,** Sept. 21–22, Yogyakarta, Indonesia. Call for papers for this conference at Sunan Kalijaga University. See conference website.
- **Framing the Global,** Sept. 26–28, Bloomington, Ind. Sponsored by the Indiana University Center for the Study of Global Change and Indiana University Press. For details, see conference website.
- **Inter-Asian Connections IV,** Oct. 2–5, Istanbul. See conference website or email interasia@ssr.org.
- **New Research in Southeast Asian History,** Oct. 18–19, Yale University, New Haven, CT. Inaugural graduate student conference. For details, see conference website.
- **Constructing Southeast Asia,** Oct. 23–24, Gadjah Mada University, Yogyakarta. Organized by the Center for Southeast Asian Social Studies at Gadjah Mada. For details, see conference website or email coconsea@gmail.com.
- **5th International Graduate Student Conference on Indonesia,** Oct. 30–31, Gadjah Mada University, Yogyakarta. For details, see conference website.
- **Framing ‘Asian Studies’: Geopolitics, Institutions and Networks,** Nov. 18–19, Leiden, the Netherlands. For details, see conference website.
- **1st International Conference on Jambi Studies,** Nov. 21–24, Jambi, Sumatra, Indonesia. For information, see conference website.
- **Alay at Laya: International Conference on Bonifacio and Mabini,** April 17–19, Manila. Call for papers. **Deadline for abstracts and panel proposals: Oct. 15.** For details, see conference website.
- **Thailand in the World: 12th International Conference on Thai Studies,** April 22–24, 2014, University of Sydney, Australia. For details, see conference website or email brenda.kranz@sydney.edu.au.
- **Society for Economic Anthropology Conference,** April 24–26, Austin, Texas. Call for papers. Theme: Energy and Economy. **Abstracts due: Nov. 1.** Details to be posted online by Oct. 1.

### 15. Area Southeast Asia cultural opportunities

- The exhibition “Siam: The Queen and the White City” opens **Sept. 21** in the Costume and Textile gallery at the Chicago History Museum. The exhibition features textiles,
photographs and other items from Thailand that were collected by Queen Savang Vadanafor for display in the exposition’s Women’s Building. On Sept. 17, the museum will celebrate traditional Thai music and crafts between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Thai Khon classical musicians and dancers will perform every half hour in between demonstrations of Thai embroidery, floral garland making, and dumpling and sweets preparation. For details, see the museum website.

- Explore the tastes and textures of Indonesia at Taste of Nusantara, an Indonesian bazaar that will take place from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sept. 15 at 614 Pine Lane in Winnetka. Books for Indonesia will be collecting books at the event; in exchange for books, donators will receive a sample of West Sumatran traditional satay. The satay will also be for sale with all proceeds to go toward the nonprofit group.

- Learn about the history of Laotian immigration to Elgin, which began in the 1970s at the Vietnam War, in a long-running exhibit at the Elgin Area Historical Society and Museum, 360 Park St., in Elgin.

- Eight-week Javanese gamelan classes at the Old Town School of Folk Music, 4544 N. Lincoln Ave., begin Wednesday, Sept. 4. More information on the Chicago Friends of the Gamelan website or find the group on Facebook.

- “Remembering the Killing Fields” exhibit is on display at the Cambodian American Heritage Museum and Killing Fields Memorial, 2831 W. Lawrence Ave., Chicago. The Cambodian Association of Illinois also holds free Cambodian music and dance lessons.

- The Indonesian Consulate in Chicago offers free Balinese and Javanese dance and gamelan classes on weekends. Javanese gamelan and dance is offered from 2 to 4 p.m. Saturdays; gamelan music and Indonesian dance is offered 3 to 6 p.m. Sundays. For details, see consulate website.

Persons with a disability who may need assistance at any CSEAS event may contact office manager Nancy Schuneman at 815-753-1771 or nschunem@niu.edu. To no longer receive this bulletin, please reply to this e-mail with a request to remove your name. Thank you.