

**Strait Talk Symposium Application**  
**United States of America**  
**University of California, Berkeley, Spring 2017**  
March 19<sup>th</sup> – March 24<sup>th</sup>

Thank you for your interest in the Strait Talk Symposium. Strait Talk is a non-partisan dialogue program that seeks to transform international conflict by connecting young people from both sides of the Taiwan Strait and the United States and empowering them to strive for peace. We are looking for students and/or professionals from Mainland China and Hong Kong who demonstrate interest in and commitment to peace-building across the Taiwan Strait. During the symposium, delegates will participate in Interactive Conflict Resolution (ICR). ICR is an intensive process that requires constant engagement and sensitivity. During the Symposium, delegates are also expected to craft and, later, to implement a Peace Project that will engage with long-term conflict-resolution. Qualities we find essential in applicants include the ability to listen actively and respectfully, an open mind, and the capacity to navigate social dynamics in constructive dialogue. You must speak fluent English. Other assets include excellent writing and speaking skills and knowledge of the history of the conflict.

**Applications are due January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017 23:59 Eastern Standard Time. Please e-mail completed applications to [StraitTalk.Berkeley@gmail.com](mailto:StraitTalk.Berkeley@gmail.com).** Since applications are reviewed on a rolling basis, you should apply as early as possible. Do not feel discouraged if you get this information late, as we will try to read all the applications that we receive. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to email [StraitTalk.Berkeley@gmail.com](mailto:StraitTalk.Berkeley@gmail.com). Please be aware you may be interviewed online as part of the application process

Please answer all of the following questions in English and respond honestly. Your application will be evaluated based on your previous academic and personal experiences, as well as on the quality of your essays. Please read all of the information provided on our website ([straittalkberkeley.weebly.com](http://straittalkberkeley.weebly.com)) before applying.

*All information provided on this application will be kept confidential.*



**BASIC INFORMATION**

English Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Chinese Name (with Pinyin): \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Address:

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**ACADEMIC INFORMATION**

Are you a college student?

Yes    No \_\_\_\_\_ (If no, specify your level of education.)

Current College/University: \_\_\_\_\_

Year of Study: \_\_\_\_\_ Major:

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GPA (academic performance): \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**(Optional) Please attach resume/curriculum vitae to your application**

Are you planning to study outside of the US for graduate school or higher education?

No    Yes \_\_\_\_\_ (Where and in what field?)

Are you a citizen of the USA? (If not, what country are you a citizen of?)

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### PERSONAL INFORMATION

Please use the following table to describe any extracurricular activities that you have been part of in and out of school. Be sure to include your role in the activity and any other notable information about the activity. Please keep this brief and include only the ones that you feel strongly about (Feel free to add more add more rows to the table).

Activity	Description	Dates

### SHORT ANSWERS (150 words or less)

1. How did you hear about the Strait Talk Berkeley Symposium?
2. Why are you interested in cross-Strait relations? Please elaborate if you have a personal relationship with China and/or Taiwan.
3. What do you think is the most important trait of a leader?

### MID-LENGTH ANSWERS (250 words or less)

1. Describe a time someone broke a well-ingrained, preconceived sociocultural notion you have held.

2. Please give your opinion on a recent event relating to Sino-U.S. relations, the Taiwan Strait issue, and conflict resolution that you believe can represent your understanding of the cross-Strait issue, citing specific people, events, and/or policies.

### **LONG ANSWERS (400 words or less)**

1. What role do you think the U.S. has played in the past that contributes to the current situation in the Taiwan Strait? What role do you feel they should take in the future? What do you think are the American interests in the cross-Strait issue? Please cite specific people, events, and/or policies.

2. The Strait Talk Symposium aims to build a community of young leaders who can contribute to a positive understanding of cross-Strait relations. Therefore, we require all applicants to propose and commit to a Peace Project that can relay the knowledge and insights they gain from attending the Symposium back to the people in their home country. The project does not need to change the world but needs to have an influence at a grassroots level. What might be a Peace Project of your interest? This proposed project will be evaluated on its creativity, specificity, and feasibility.

### **SIGNATURE**

*I affirm that the information I have provided in this application is an accurate and honest reflection of my academic and scholastic accomplishments. I understand that if I am found to have reported false information, I will be disqualified from attending Strait Talk.*

Electronic Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date (MM/DD/YYYY): \_\_\_\_\_

**Please send completed applications to [StraitTalk.Berkeley@gmail.com](mailto:StraitTalk.Berkeley@gmail.com) by January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017 23:59 Eastern Standard Time.**

**Note:** The symposium will take place from March 19<sup>th</sup> to March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2017. If selected, delegates are required to arrive in Berkeley, CA, on March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2017 and depart only after the symposium ends.

Thank you for taking the time to apply - we look forward to getting to know you!