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Become a member of CLS. Your tax-deductible contribution will assist CLS in achieving its goals, objectives, and programs.

Annual Membership Categories:

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* Decade Membership	\$5,000-\$9,999
* Life-time Membership	\$10,000 or above

Benefits of membership include:

Standard Level membership benefits include (based on sub-level membership):

- Access to Peer-reviewed academic *Journal of Lao Studies*
- Your name listed on CLS supporter webpage
- 5% discount on select CLS programs and activities

Upper Level membership benefits include all of the above, plus (based on sub-level membership):

- 15% discount on select CLS events and activities
- 10% discount on all CLS gift shop merchandise
- Copy of CLS's first publication, *Contemporary Lao Studies: Research on Development, Culture, Language, and Traditional Medicine*.
- Printed acknowledgement in the next issue of *Journal of Lao Studies*
- A special gift from CLS

MEMBERSHIP BY CHECK: Fill out the tear-off portion below and submit it with payment to: Center for Lao Studies 65 Ninth Street San Francisco, CA 94103 USA

BY CREDIT CARD: Visit our website, www.laostudies.org. Click on the 'Support' tab to pay on-line.

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We are a non-profit organization with 501(c)(3) status. Donations made to CLS may be tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

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Promoting and advancing the field of Lao Studies.

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updated on 10/31/2013



ABOUT CLS

Founded in 2006 as an outcome of the First International Conference on Lao Studies, the Center for Lao Studies (CLS), with a 501(c)(3) non-profit status, has established itself as a resource center for both the general public as well as those of Lao heritage, and serves as a liaison to cultural and community organizations, universities, and academic institutions.

The mission of the Center for Lao Studies is to advance knowledge and engagement in the field of Lao Studies through research, education and information sharing. CLS vision is to be an institution that leads and excels in the pursuit of knowledge in the field of Lao Studies.

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

- To sponsor conferences, workshops, seminars and forums with guest speakers from Laos, the United States and other countries;
- To support scholarly research by facilitating and sourcing opportunities for professionals, artists, graduate and undergraduate students and academia, and sponsoring cultural exchanges for the general public interested in gaining intensive exposure to the various disciplines of Lao Studies;
- To support scholarly publications;
- To support research that promotes and preserves the languages and cultures of the indigenous peoples of Laos. This includes linguistics, history, music, religion, economics, archeology, sociology, and other related fields;
- To engage in public relations, serving as a clearinghouse for referrals to resources and other direct services.



International Conferences on Lao Studies (ICLS)

The International Conference on Lao Studies is held once every three years, rotating among various academic institutions around the world. ICLS provides an international forum for scholars to present and discuss various aspects of the ethno-linguistic groups from Laos, the Lao in neighboring countries (Burma, Cambodia, China, and Vietnam), cross-border ethnic groups in Laos' neighboring countries, and overseas Lao.



Lao Oral History Archive (LOHA)

The Lao Oral History Archive documents the untold stories of Lao refugees in the US through audio and video media and creates an on-line archive of interviews, and historical documents. CLS aims to raise awareness of the history, culture, and contemporary realities of Lao refugees in the US. This project disseminates the voices of underrepresented population, whose stories reflect unique moments in both Lao and American history.



Summer Study Abroad in Laos (SAIL)

The Summer Study Abroad in Laos (SAIL) program provides both Lao Americans, Americans, and International participants the opportunity to study at the Lao-American College in Vientiane, Laos' capital. The five-week program consists of language lessons, cultural activities and excursions, and volunteering opportunities.



Journal of Lao Studies (JLS)

The Journal of Lao Studies (JLS) is the first journal donated solely to Lao Studies. JLS is devoted to the discussion of the ethno-linguistic groups of Laos and affiliated groups residing in countries neighboring Laos, as well as those in the Lao diaspora. JLS includes articles, interviews, and extended reviews of major publications, trends in the field of political, social, and economic events.



International Lao New Year Festival (ILNYF)

Each year CLS co-hosts the annual International Lao New Year Festival in April in the San Francisco Bay Area. The ILNYF includes cultural performances, benefit concert, Tak Baht/Buddhist Alms offering, Kato Lao championship demonstration, and a night reception. The Lao New Year attracts over 15,000 attendees far and wide.



Lao Traditions, Language & Culture (Lao TLC)

The Lao TLC program's purpose is to increase access to Lao language, arts and culture for both the Lao community and the general public. CLS is working with instructors to provide Lao language lessons to both youth and adults, and collaborating with talented artists in Lao fine arts as well as cuisine, to train and educate younger Lao generations so these art forms will continue long into the future.

