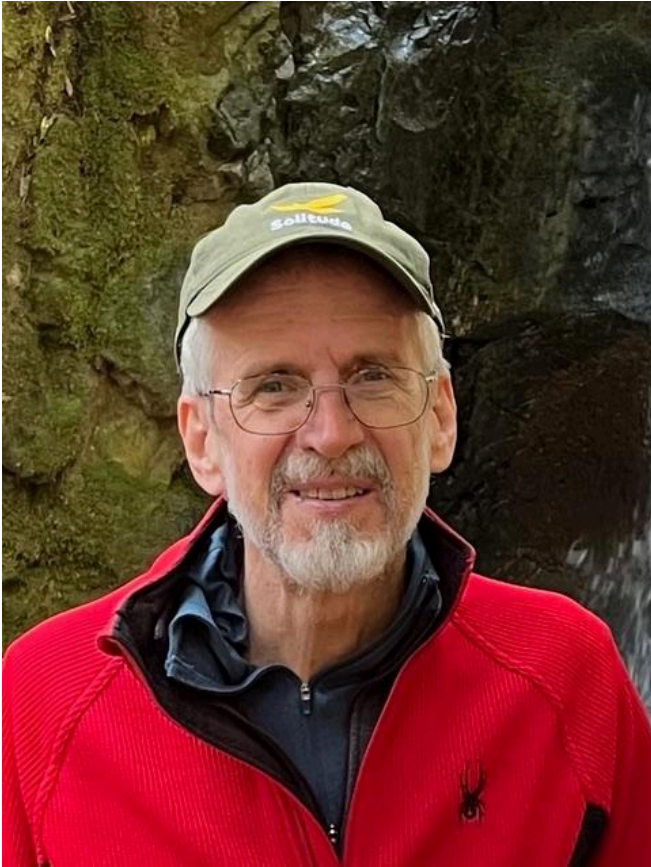




Sachen Foundation
Annual Report 2024

Message from the Vice President

Bruce McCarter



The Sachen Foundation continues to develop towards both its short and long term goals. Reflecting on the past year, with our various grants, programs, and activities, there is a feeling of ongoing positive momentum. In contrast, in the world around us there is such rapid change and turmoil that many people are feeling despair regarding the possibility of effecting positive change. In the face of such challenging times it is easy to forget, or to lose sight, of the importance of long term vision and persistent endeavor. One of the benefits of the Buddha Dharma is that the teachings help us change

our perspective. If one has had the good fortune to be in the mandala of our Sakya lineage gurus' for several decades then one can attest to the remarkable resiliency of our teachers and those who support them. One can also attest to their long range vision. When I attended the *Lam Dre* at Sakya College in 1987 the monks quarters and main building were very much still under construction. I have heard that when Khenpo Appe Rinpoche was overseeing the establishment of Sakya College many local residents referred to him as the “cement seeking lama” because he worked so tirelessly to find cement for the construction. Now it is a beautiful campus on the road to Mussorie. In 2001 I visited Pema T'sal when Khenpo Kunga was still

renting space in Kathmandu. Now Pema T'sal is a fully developed and thriving monastery in Pokhara, Nepal. I believe that 2001 was also the year that the property for Tsechen Kunchab Ling was purchased in Walden, NY. These are just three examples of projects that His Holiness Sakya Gongma Trichen had the vision to encourage, foreseeing that they would bear fruit. Initially we may not be able to see or imagine how our teachers' vision will come together, but over time, we can have confidence that they will manifest. The support of all of our donors really does contribute to that process.

At Sachen Foundation, our three areas of focus continue to progress and evolve. As in previous years, we continue to support the education of monks and nuns through various grants. Our efforts towards the preservation of the Sakya Dharma heritage continues apace, with programs devoted to archiving, publishing, and translating. Many of these projects have results that ripen in stages and it was gratifying to see the translation of Volume 2 of *The Amazing Treasury* come to completion. While the educational programs for children did not see any major changes, we were excited to shepherd the DharmaChakra into its second year, with His Holiness the 42 nd Sakya Trizin giving the first segment of a two part teaching on the *Bodhisattvacharyavatara*.

The scope and depth of the Sakya tradition is incredibly vast. At Sachen Foundation, we are dedicated to preserving that rich heritage of authentic teachings, and the lion's share of our efforts remains dedicated to that endeavor. None the less, we are also interested in exploring and nurturing efforts to identify new methods for transmitting the Buddha Dharma across the world's various cultures in the context of the dynamically changing times. The DharmaChakra program and the Early Elementary Children Dharma program (both available online on Sachen Foundation Teachable Platform), and the Touching The Earth program at the Barre Center for Buddhist Studies are examples of this. We hope that you will continue to support Sachen Foundation's activities so that all beings may benefit now, in the present moment, and in the future.

Monastic Support



Monastics dedicate their entire lives to embodying and preserving the profound teachings of Lord Buddha, engaging in rigorous study, deep contemplation, and meditation. Through their disciplined practice, they strive to attain spiritual insight and wisdom, not only for their own enlightenment but also for the benefit of others. Beyond their individual pursuit of awakening, the monastic community serves as a cornerstone for both the lay Buddhist community and the general public. They offer invaluable services such as providing teachings, transmitting sacred knowledge, conducting rituals, and offering spiritual guidance and counsel in times of need. These roles ensure that Buddhist wisdom and traditions remain accessible to all.



Recognizing the importance of sustaining this vital tradition, the Sachen Foundation is committed to supporting the ongoing education of monks and nuns. By investing in their yearly education, the Foundation ensures the preservation and continuity of monasticism, empowering these dedicated individuals to continue their spiritual practice and service to the world. This support not only safeguards the future of the monastic community but also contributes to the flourishing of Buddhist teachings for future generations.

Monastic Support Highlights

2,654

monks with religious & secular educational support.

352

nuns with modern & traditional educational support to help in their Dharma studies & practice.



\$461,928

to support the education and well-being of the Sangha.

(Not including \$27,000 directly from Donors to the monasteries in 2024.)

**Cumulative per annum (2018-2024)*

Institutional Support

In 2024, Sachen Foundation awarded \$101,317 in education grants (including \$27,000 paid directly to the monasteries by donors) to five monastic institutions—Sakya Centre, Sakya Nunnery, Kalimpong Sakya Monastery, Pema Ts'al Sakya Monastic Institute, and Sachen Trust— 475 monks and 39 nuns benefitted from the grants.

The grants played a crucial role in securing the long-term financial stability of these monastic institutions. By providing essential funding, they enabled the institutions to retain qualified, full-time teachers, ensuring a consistent level of education and spiritual guidance for the students. Additionally, the grants supported the organization's day-to-day operations, from administrative tasks to facility maintenance, helping to create

a stable and nurturing environment. Perhaps most importantly, the funding contributed to the holistic well-being of the students—both physically and mentally—allowing them to focus fully on their studies and spiritual growth without the distractions of financial or logistical concerns. This comprehensive support system fostered an atmosphere conducive to academic excellence and personal development.



Education & Publication



To cultivate and inspire the next generation of Buddhists, it is essential to provide children with a strong foundation in basic Buddhist education. The Sachen Foundation plays a pivotal role in this mission by supporting the development of comprehensive children's curricula and lesson plans. These educational resources are designed to be utilized by Buddhist centers, schools, and parents, ensuring that young learners have access to age-appropriate teachings that nurture their understanding of Buddhism's core principles and values. By fostering early engagement, the Foundation helps lay the groundwork for lifelong spiritual growth and practice.

In addition to supporting youth education, the Sachen Foundation is equally committed to advancing the study and practice of Buddhism among lay adult students and practitioners. To further this goal, the Foundation offers scholarships to translators, retreatants, and students pursuing advanced Buddhist studies. These scholarships provide crucial financial assistance to individuals dedicated to deepening their knowledge and practice, whether through translating sacred texts, undertaking long-term retreats, or engaging in scholarly research. Through these initiatives, the Sachen Foundation ensures that the richness of Buddhist teachings continues to thrive across all generations and levels of study.

Education & Publication Highlights

58

Publications and/or articles sponsored, printed, and/or published.

120

teachings, lectures, & study courses are published online.

\$699,754

to support Dharma publications & education.

**Cumulative per annum (2018-2024)*



Young Adult Buddhist Education

Barre Center for Buddhist Studies aims to offer young adults an opportunity to deepen their practice and understanding and, drawing on Buddhist traditions, discern a trajectory for living virtuously and skillfully in a world with many needs. Every year, the Barre Center for Buddhist Studies has an annual meditation retreat called “Touching the Earth,” which provides a rare opportunity for young adults (aged 18-25) to significantly deepen their meditation practice and cultivate a Buddhist orientation to contemporary challenges.

The greatest strength of “Touching the Earth” retreat is giving young people an embodied, lived experience of deep meditation, deep connection with others in an open and vulnerable context of sangha spiritual friendship. “Touching the Earth” is oriented around a bodhisattva ideal of cultivating self in the service of others and participants develop a sense of how their lives might unfold in a meaningful way that cultivates wisdom and compassion.



The Sachen Foundation 2024 grant allowed Barre Center for Buddhist Studies to accept 14 students regardless of financial need, including international students who are currently living in the United States who do not have family wealth to cover the costs for such a program. The grant made it possible for a diverse group of young adults to gather

for a deeply meaningful retreat, cultivating their meditation practice in a supportive container with caring mentors and, as their feedback shows, strengthening their sense of meaning, agency, and purpose in their lives.

“Before this retreat, my meditation experience was primarily theoretical, and my exposure to Buddhism was circumstantial. This experience has strengthened my contemplative practice and ways of integrating mindfulness into my Life.”

“Touching the Earth is alive and shifting the lives of its participants towards a more sustainable and heart-centered future – a future we can actually live in along with the rest of the wider, non-human world.”

— From participants in the 2024 retreat

Reflection from 2024 assistant, alumna of the 2021 Touching the Earth cohort

“The gifts that the retreat initially gave me have only shapeshifted as I returned to Touching the Earth as an assistant. In this role, I have felt honored by the chance to become part of the web that I initially felt so held inside. I have felt invited to offer up my presence, knowledge, and work as a gift toward creating that experience for others. These past two years, it has become clear that being part of Touching the Earth, as a participant or assistant, is not just supportive of my Buddhist practice but is a (part of my) Buddhist practice. I have noticed, during my time at the retreat, a wide-open sense of peace that comes from knowing I am really tending the earth-become-human people around me. Whether through cooking meals, leading morning announcements, talking one-on-one with a participant who is struggling, co-teaching an interbeing seminar, laughing with peers, or washing dishes, I have the distinct feeling that I am always tending to something sacred.”

Children's Dharma Education Curriculum

The **Children's Dharma Education Curriculum** by Sachen Foundation is temporarily on hold, and our team will explore better ways to engage children beyond the Teachable platform. Collaboration with other educators will help determine the best approach moving forward.

DharmaChakra: Dharma Education for Lay Practitioners

Led by Khenpo Rinchen Gyaltzen, the **DharmaChakra** team is planning a 5-year program running from 2024 to 2028, of classical Buddhist texts taught by His Holiness, i.e. Abhidharma, Bodhisattvacharyavatara, Madhyamaka, and Uttarantra.

The first-year Abhidharma online course consists of 22 lessons, and each lesson is in English, Spanish, and Chinese subtitles. The enrollment opened on May 23, 2024, and the course began on September 21, 2024, with one lesson per week.

The year 2 course on the first six chapters of The Bodhisattva's Way of Life was launched on September 20, 2025. It's a six-month weekly online course teachings in English with English, Chinese, or Spanish subtitles. We also added Monthly Live Q & A session with Khenpo Jordan to encourage engagement.

Archiving & Translation



Archiving & Translation Highlights

200+

unique Mahayana texts published on the website of
Sachen Archives.



800+

Vajrayana sadhanas and commentarial texts cataloged.

\$113,483

to support translating, archiving, and preserving the
precious Buddhadharma.

**Cumulative per annum (2018-2024)*

Sachen Archive Initiative

The Sachen Archive Initiative (SAI) is committed to helping connect practitioners and students with Sakya affiliated resources and the translated prayers, texts, etc. associated with our lineage.

In 2024 our team continued building upon its multi-year initiative which entails the commissioning of previous untranslated liturgical texts, paramitayana rituals, etc. associated with the Sakya tradition. We have been particularly dedicated towards the development of our new website which has put us in a hiatus for publishing new text. We hope in 2026 we can continue our publication efforts with the launch of our new website. We apologize for any inconveniences.

You can explore the archive and resources at the Sachen Archive Initiative and don't forget to sign-up for our newsletter to keep informed of new translations and publications coming soon.



Archiving

The Sachen Foundation is proud to support the Sakya Tradition for a fifth consecutive year. Its mission is to archive and preserve the teachings of the Sakya lineage, concentrating on collecting them in audio, video, and written formats in multiple languages, digitizing cassettes and video tapes, and developing a comprehensive online catalog.

In 2024, efforts were made to extend the collection of the digital teachings and to promote the e-library and its application, sharing them in pictorial and video formats, as well as a Dharma comic series. As of February 2, 2025, the e-library has archived 102 teachings in various formats, including audio, video, and text. Of these, 65 have been transcribed, edited, and published in English.

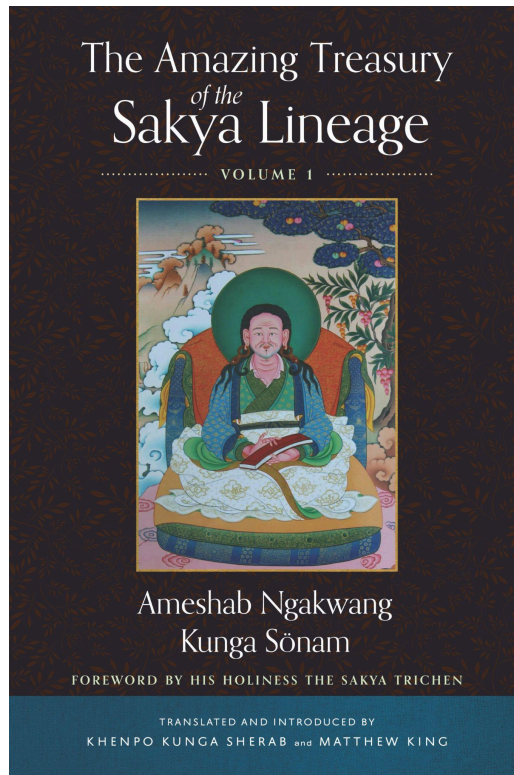
Additionally, translations from English have been made into Chinese, Spanish, Romanian, Italian, Portuguese, German, Thai, and French. Additionally, the database is

now available in Spanish, alongside English and Chinese (both Simplified and Traditional). Find out more at sakyatradition.org.

Translation Grants

In January 2025, The Amazing Treasury Translation Project published Volume 1 of the 17th century Tibetan text, *The Amazing Precious Treasury Fulfilling all Wishes*, by Jamgön Amé Zhab Nakwang Kunga Sönam (1597-1660). In this first of two volumes of *The Amazing Treasury of the Sakya Lineage*, translators Khenpo Kunga Sherab and Matthew W. King capture a truly remarkable period in Buddhist and Asian history. Here, Ameshab Ngakwang Kunga Sönam (1597–1659), a member of the Khön aristocracy and the twenty-seventh throne holder of Sakya Monastery, offers a narrative that recounts the lives of numerous iconic leaders of the Sakya school of Tibetan Buddhism during the transformational period between the tenth and fourteenth centuries. This landmark volume reconstructs that long era of religious and political innovation and upheaval through the rise of the Mongol Empire.

In the first of a two-part series, whose translation was generously supported by the Sachen Foundation, you'll see how Sakya Buddhist leaders emerged in this early period as translators, adopters, arbiters, and innovators of newly circulating Indian Buddhist scholastic and tantric cultures. In the thirteenth century, when the Mongol Empire forever transformed medieval Eurasia, leaders of the Sakya school became confidants and tutors to some of its most powerful leaders. The biographies of numerous Sakya luminaries are retold here, like Sakya Paṇḍita and Phakpa Lodrö Gyaltsen; along with their Mongol contemporaries, Köten Ejen and Qubilai Qayan, who together laid the groundwork for forms of patronage, religious and political sovereignty, scholasticism and tantrism, and Dharmic rule that would endure for the next eight centuries down to today.



[Available for purchase at Wisdom Publications](#)

[Available for purchase at Amazon](#)

In Volume 2 (forthcoming), Ameshab tells the story about the post-Mongol Empire growth of the Sakya tradition into eastern Tibet, the unique Sakya heritage of scholastic excellence and tantric transmission, the development of distinct succession lineages associated with the labrang of Sakya Monastery, and a detailed self-portrait of the author's life during the complex transformations of Tibet and its Buddhist traditions in the 17th century. The translation of volume 2, which covers the remainder of the original history, was also generously supported by the Sachen Foundation. The translation is now complete and is in production with Wisdom Publications, to be published sometime in late 2025.

This important text describes major religious and intellectual movements that helped shape not only the Sakya lineage, but also Tibetan Buddhism in general. The translators are currently working with Wisdom Publications to edit and prepare Volume 1 for presentation to His Holiness the Sakya Trichen Rinpoche during the 2023 Annual North American Sakya Monlam, taking place this summer in Toronto.

The first volume will also include illustrations of Sakya lineage masters, especially commissioned for this project. These were hand-drawn based on murals at Sakya Monastery and instructions from a rare text provided by HH the Sakya Trichen Rinpoche. Volume 1 represented 321 pages translated of the 667 total in the Tibetan text. The remaining 346 pages will be translated as Volume 2.

Sachen Foundation also sponsored the translation of Volume 2, which was completed in December 2024. We hope the English translation of this profound text will benefit all sentient beings and contribute to the flourishing of the Dharma and in particular the spread of the great Sakya lineage.

Investment & Financials



The resilience of the global financial markets, and the generosity of donors from 25 countries have helped Sachen Foundation's financial in seeing \$1,108,857 increase in Net Assets in 2024.

At Sachen Foundation, thanks to the selfless and committed generous donors and team members, we continue our mission in supporting Monastic Dharma Education, developing Lay practitioners Curriculum, and Translating and Archiving to preserve Buddha's teachings and Sakya Tradition under the guidance of His Holiness the 42 nd Sakya Trizin Rinpoche.

Donation & Financial Highlights

\$27

the average 2024 charitable giving amount per donation.

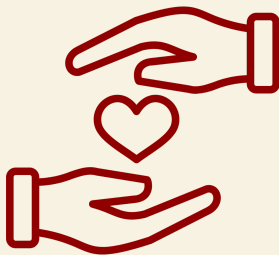
89.1%

program efficiency ~ 89¢ of every dollar goes to our charitable programs in 2024.

\$1,410,227

of donations have been distributed to benefit the flourishing of the Buddhadharma.

**Distributed funds are cumulative (2018-2024)*



Contributions

Sachen Foundation saw a 58% increase in total number of donors from 25 countries, and stable in total dollar unrestricted donations compared to 2023 in addition to the \$786,000 donations received in 2024 restricted by Sachen Foundation board for the long term investment for future granting purpose. In addition, 60% of our donors are classified as annual recurring. The Foundation is deeply grateful for the consistent generosity, encouragement, and diversity of our donors around the world.

Investment Summary

Global financial markets showed resilience in 2024, extending the bull market that began in late 2022. US stocks benefited from solid economic growth, falling inflation, Federal Reserve interest rate cuts and healthy corporate earnings. While there were some downturns during the year due to uncertainty around the US elections and interest rate changes, they were followed by quick recoveries.

US stocks posted strong returns, with the S&P 500 index rising 25%. Global stock markets, as measured by the MSCI All Country World Index rose 17.5% even as geopolitical tensions remained high, with war continuing in Ukraine and unrest spreading in the Middle East.

The bond market was mixed, with US prices rising slightly overall but the 10-year US Treasury declined for the year. Global bonds rallied, with the broad benchmark of sovereign and corporate debt increasing by 3.4% for the year.

Staying fully invested throughout the year has served the Foundation's portfolio well. The Unrestricted portfolio increased from \$2.4 million at the beginning of the year to \$2.7 million at December 31, 2024. The total portfolio's return, net of fees, was 14% in 2024 with an asset allocation of 58% in equities, 38% in fixed income, and 4% in cash. The Foundation's equity portfolio returned 24%, in line with the S&P 500 index which returned 25%. Fixed income portfolio returned 4.7%, in line with the benchmark index of 4%.

The Foundation's investment approach remains the same with focus on long-term value creation while managing risk.

Financial Review & Grantee Audits

In line with the Board's commitment towards transparency, an independent financial audit was conducted by Smith, Schafer Associates, Ltd for the 2024 fiscal year. Per the audit, the accountants concluded that they are not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the accompanying financial statements in order for them to be in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In addition, each grantee was subjected to an internal audit and review by the Grant's Committee to ensure proper expenditure of funds received.

The trust of our donors is the cornerstone governing Sachen Foundation's belief in financial transparency and accountability. The work committed behind the scenes ensures the financial health and integrity of the foundation. To that end, we will continue honoring our fiduciary responsibility and diligent efforts in ensuring the financial success of the foundation.

Sources of Financial Support

Sachen Foundation operating funds originate from two revenue streams: contributions by donors and investment income. Total contributions and investment income for calendar year 2024 were \$1,231,151 including \$237,170 from unrealized gain from the investment as of December 31, 2024. Total expenditure including grants to charities were \$122,294. Net assets as of December 31, 2024 were \$3,638,945.

Calendar Year 2024

Net Assets: \$3,638,945

Support

Contributions \$905,930

Investments \$325,221

Total: \$1,231,151

Contributions

NPO & CF \$2,801 0.3%

Bus. & Ind. \$903,129 99.7%

Total: \$905,930

Functional Expenses

Programmatic \$108,987 89.1%

G&A \$12,597 10.3%

Fundraising \$710 <1%

Total: \$122,294

**For the complete audited financial statements of the Sachen Foundation please contact info@sachenfoundation.org.*

Sachen Foundation Team

Spiritual Teacher Directors

His Holiness the 42nd Sakya Trizin
Chairman

Non-Teacher Directors

Silvia Yueh
President and Acting Treasurer

Bruce McCarter
Vice President

Judy Ma
Secretary

Ani Wangmo
Board Member

Connie Kassor
Board Member

Jamyang Losel
Board Member

Jia-Jing, Lee
Board Member

Khenpo Rinchen Gyaltzen
Board Member

Kunga Deter
Board Member

Sissy Pi
Board Member

Stephanie Tan
Board Member

OPERATIONS

Grants Committee

His Holiness the 42nd Sakya Trizin, *Chair*

Connie Kassor

Judy Ma

Silvia Yueh

Thuong Ryan

Finance Planning and Investment Committee

Silvia Yueh, *Chair*

Stephanie Tan

Sissy Pi

Thuong Ryan

Donors Relation Committee

Sissy Pi, *Chair*

Bruce McCarter

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Communications Committee

Bruce McCarter, *Chair*

Jamyang Losel

Kunga Deter

PROGRAM TEAMS

Sachen Archive Initiative

Jamyang Losel, *Chair*

Alvaro Pereto

Children Dharma Education Curriculum

Connie Kassor, *Chair*

Christa Tinari

Sam Ryan

Emily Yueh

Kate Thomas

“Dharmachakra” Team

Khenpo Rinchen Gyaltsen, *Chair*

Jia-Jing Lee, DCP Transcript editor,
quality control

Jamie Wong, DCP Project Manager

Linda Yeh, DCP Chinese–English video
production, Teachable platform
implementation, and Chinese translation

Anne Moore, DCP Abhidharma subtitle
transcript editor

Venerable Losel, DCP Charts

— Paramita Team

Ven. Damcho Gyaltsen, *DCP Chief Editor*

Alfonso Garcia, DCP Video Audio Production

Matias Fiandrino, DCP Video Post-production

Felix Gilabert, Graphic Design

Marcos Garrido, Teachable – Spanish

Cecilia Pedot, Quality control

“Thus Have I Heard”

Ngawang Jungney, *Chair*

Linda Yeh, Post-production for all
language versions and Chinese
translation collaboration

European Sakya Centers founded
by Khenchen Sherab, English
proofreading and
German/French/Dutch translation

About Sachen Foundation

Our Mission

Preserving the Lord Buddha’s Teachings through Studies, Practice & Education.

Our Vision

Guided by the belief that every human life is precious with unlimited potential, Sachen Foundation works to support the collective aspirations of our spiritual teachers and generous donors, to help transform lives and communities through Dharma education and publication.

Connect with us

To learn more or to find out how you can support Sachen Foundation, please visit SachenFoundation.org, follow us on Facebook at facebook.com/SachenFoundation, Instagram at @Sachen_Foundation, or email us at info@sachenfoundation.org.

This report is produced by the Sachen Foundation Communication Committee with special assistance from Silvia Yueh, Bruce McCarter, Jamyang Losel, and Stephanie Tan.

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