

Veteran Bay Area journalist, nonfiction writer, and short-story author Andrew Lam will be the Connie L. Lurie Distinguished Visiting Author-in-Residence for the 2015 Spring semester.

Critics consider Andrew Lam to be one of the most influential Vietnamese American writers publishing today. His essays and stories have appeared in dozens of newspapers, magazines, and literary journals including *The New York Times*, *Los Angeles Times*, *San Francisco Chronicle*, *Baltimore Sun*, *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, *Mother Jones*, *The Nation*, *San Francisco Focus*, *The Crab Orchard Review*, and *Zyzzyyva*. He is a senior editor and writer with [New America Media](#), and is the author of two works of nonfiction: [Perfume Dreams: Reflections on the Vietnamese Diaspora](#) and [East Eats West: Writing in Two Hemispheres](#). His latest book, [Birds of Paradise Lost](#), a collection of short stories about Vietnamese-American newcomers struggling to remake their lives in the San Francisco Bay Area, was published in 2013. He frequently writes for the *Huffington Post* and has been a regular contributor to National Public Radio's *All Things Considered*. In 2004 he was the subject for a segment of the PBS documentary film [My Journey Home](#). In the documentary he returns to Vietnam and visits his mother's ancestral village.

Andrew Lam attended the University of California, Berkeley, and later received his Masters of Fine Arts degree in Creative Writing from San Francisco State University. While still in school he began writing for the Pacific News Service, and then became a founding editor of New American Media. He has taught journalism at San Francisco State University and lectured widely at many universities and institutions in the United States and abroad including: Harvard, Yale, Brown, UCLA, USF, UC Berkeley, University of Hawaii, William and Mary, Rice University, Indiana University, Hong Kong University, Loyola University, The World Affairs Council, The Commonwealth Club of California, and many others. He is a member of the Academy of Arts and Sciences.