New Asian Futurisms
September 27 - December 6
Opening Reception: First Friday, October 4, 6 - 9 p.m.
Mainstream science fiction evokes fear for the future. In New Asian Futurisms, we asked artists to imagine how a shift in perspective can instead inspire us to look forward to looking forward.

New Asian Futurisms Closing Reception
First Friday, December 6, 6 - 9 p.m.
Featuring performance by Hukeysha with opening act Joe Ahmed
History and homeland are central to Hukeysha, the brainchild of Zain Alam, an American artist and musician of Indian-Pakistani origin. Through Hukeysha, Alam draws on Islamic art and South Asian music to expand the range of sound and experience available to his communities. Field recordings of Pakistani cities; the distinct dialect of an aging grandmother’s reminiscences; quick rhythmic loops from favorite childhood Bollywood songs—all of these sounds find their way into Hukeysha, regardless of their traditional “musicality.”

Pathwill by Annielle Gavino
Friday, October 18, 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, October 20, 7:30 p.m.
“Pathwill” is a ritual of food, dance and music from the Panay Island of the Philippines. Inspired from this, the artist wanted to create a new ritual of “Pathwill” structured as a multi-disciplinary immersive dance theater centered on Filipino-American stories.

Roopbaan Reimagined
A Dragqueen from the Future by Ali Asgar
Sunday, November 3
Transdisciplinary artist and cultural producer Ali Asgar investigates traditional South Asian gender performativity through the popular Bengali folk tale, Roopbaan. An iconic symbol of ambiguous desire, the titular heroine Roopbaan has been reimagined to express marginal queer experiences of the Bangladesh LGBTQ+ community. Through their new performance installation project, Asgar has reimagined Roopbaan as a futuristic drag queen to create a spectacle at the intersection of gender and desire and fantasy. Visit our website for more event details.

2019 Philadelphia Asian American Film Festival
At Asian Arts Initiative
Friday-Sunday, November 15-17
Asian Arts Initiative continues its collaboration with PAAFF! The largest East Coast festival showcasing films created by and about Asian Americans & Pacific Islanders, features a variety of film genres, live musical performances, chef tastings, and other special events—there is something for everyone at the festival! For a full schedule of programs visit: www.paaaff.org.

Parks for Chinatown Second Saturday
Saturday, October 12, 2 p.m.
Friends of the Rail Park, Philadelphia Chinatown Development Corporation, and Asian Arts Initiative partner for the final Parks for Chinatown Second Saturday to engage the Chinatown community with their local park spaces at 10th Street Plaza and Rail Park. Join us as we wrap up with gardening workshops, family yoga, and more, to celebrate the end of our first season of programs!

Asian American Artist Town Hall
Monday, October 28, 6 p.m.
The Asian American Artist Town Hall is a networking event where artists, organizers, and others can directly connect with one another to support artistic projects. Get sneak peeks of new work, pitch upcoming projects, spotlight funding opportunities, and connect afterward over a delicious potluck!

Youth Arts Workshop After School Program
September 9, 2019 – June 13, 2020
Monday – Friday, 3 - 6 p.m.
The Youth Arts Workshop (YAW) returns for the 2019-2020 school year and is open to all middle school students (grades 6-8). Enroll your youth today for the Fall session that includes a variety of art projects, field trips, guest artist workshops and homework help. Free snacks provided. Contact yawn@AsianArtsInitiative.org or call (215) 557-0455 for registration and more information.

Community Craft and Art Fair
Saturday, December 7, 12 p.m.
This popular holiday season shopping event returns! Enjoy family-friendly performances, shop an array of unique arts and crafts by local artists/ artisans of color, and support our YAW students as they showcase their original artwork created throughout the fall session of the after school program.