Letter from the president

As I write this report from a hotel room in Papua, I can recall many outstanding events we took part in during 2022, including capability building in Indonesian museums, recording traditions and education. But let me begin with the story of the Malay loom and weaver depicted on the cover. The weaver is Norsia from a small village called Kampung Wisata Tenun, located in Pontianak, West Kalimantan, Indonesia. I visited this village with Christopher Buckley and Kristal Hale of TPF and Robert Ponsioen of the Smithsonian Institution in mid-December 2022.

There are 24 houses located within the Kampung, 17 of which are rumah tenun (weaving houses). Each rumah tenun has at least one loom. The weavers are all women; they pick up weaving activities between household chores.

These women learned to weave from Ibu Kurniati (Mak Cik), whose family taught weaving on the Malay loom to many village women like Norsia. The loom, also called by the locals alat tenun gantung, was introduced in Pontianak after the migration of Malay people from further north. Ibu Kurniati was originally from Sambas, closer to the Malay border than Pontianak. She comes from a long-line of weavers. Her parents (Malay mother and Maduranese father) were relocated to Pontianak in 1999 due to the ethnic clash between Maduranese immigrants with local Malay and indigenous Dayak communities in Sambas.

We were impressed by their story of persistence and resilience in maintaining a weaving tradition and a way of life, in the face of turbulent events and upheaval.

Sandra Sardjono


2022 team

President
Sandra Sardjono

Board Members and Advisors
Weihua Yan
Grace Wahyuni
Sally-Yu Leung

Research Associates
Bernhard Bart
Eric Boudout
Christopher Buckley
Paul Hepworth
Minjee Kim
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Sharon Lumbantobing
Linda McIntosh
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Rani Prihatmanti
Mei Mei Rado
Barbara Thomas

Conservators
Kristal Hale (Secretary)
Callista Jerman
Saiful Bakhri

Publishing team
Meirina Soe
Acintya Swasti

Our mission

Tracing Patterns Foundation (TPF) promotes the study of traditional textiles and indigenous voices.

We are an international community of textile scholars and makers researching, recording, and disseminating knowledge about traditional, indigenous textile cultures and practices.
Open-Access Online Journal: Fiber, Loom and Technique

FLT Journal

The Journal publishes peer-reviewed scholarly articles on textile production and uses in ethnographic and historical contexts. Articles are added on a rolling basis.

This year, four scholars contributed three articles to the Journal. Stefan Danerek wrote the article “Palu’e basketry: design, usage, culture and linkages.” He discusses the lontar baskets tradition from the Palu’e Island in eastern Indonesia within the comparative framework of the Flores linguistic-cultural chain, identifying the fibers, techniques, decorations, usages, and current distributions and skill transmissions.

Keiko Kusakabe wrote an illuminating and highly technical article, “A techno-ethnography of Toraja-Mamasa tablet weavings from Sulawesi, Indonesia. Part 1: Prior studies, current findings, and geographic distributions.” As the title suggests, the article explores several tablet weaving techniques and their geographic distribution in Sulawesi.

Sandra Sardjono and Christopher Buckley co-authored the article “A 700-years old blue-and-white batik from Indonesia,” discussing the oldest Indonesian batik found to date.

Above: early batik from the Thomas Murray collection. From Sardjono and Buckley, “A 700-years old blue-and-white batik,” fig. 1.

Below left: woven pouch nggibe with a bamboo supa, made before 1909. From Danerek, “Palu’e basketry,” fig. 6.

Story Cloth Series, Children’s Book No. 2

Bayu’s Beautiful Batik

This children’s book is the second publication from the Story Cloth Series, which aims to introduce young children to rich weaving traditions worldwide.

The story centers on the Chinese Peranakan batik tradition in Pekalongan on the north coast of Java, focusing on Bayu, a young boy whose family came from a long line of batik makers. We hope young readers will enjoy following Bayu’s adventure and seeing the charming illustrations while also learning the steps in producing batik.

Our fantastic collaborator, Widianti Widjaja (Oey Kiem Lian), is a third generation of the Oey Soe Tjoen family, famous for their fine batik. We thank her for sharing her family stories and photographs.

The textile images used in the book are based on the original batik creations of the Oey Soe Tjoen workshop, which started in 1925 in Kedungwungi, and continued today.

This book is available on Amazon.
A little boy named Bayu lives in Kedungwuni village in Pekalongan city on Java island, Indonesia. The city is famous for a special cloth called batik. Bayu’s parents, grandparents, and great-grandparents were batik makers. Bayu wants to follow his family’s work. But one day, a big crisis happens, which could cause the family’s batik workshop to close forever...

This book is inspired by the beautiful batik textiles and skillful artisans of Java. The illustrations feature batik textiles from the Oey Soe Tjoen workshop in Kedungwuni, which started in 1925 and continues today.

Story Cloth Series Books introduce world textiles to young generations.
Tracing Patterns Foundation was selected by the U.S. Embassy in Jakarta as one of this year’s recipients of their Public Diplomacy Small Grants Program. The grant funded Museums for the 21st Century (M21), a program aimed to build human capacity in heritage-care matters in local museums.

We partnered with the Smithsonian Institution Asian Cultural History Program, Museum Ceria, and Institut Konservasi to deliver a three-day workshop in three separate museums, addressing contemporary issues in interpreting, presenting, and preserving cultural objects. The program concentrated on three areas: 1. Curatorial and research; 2. Conservation; 3. Engagement with the public, particularly families with young children and disabilities.

M21 workshop schedule in 2022:
* Dec 12-14 at the Museum Tekstil, Jakarta.
* Dec 15-17 at the Museum Kalimantan Barat, Pontianak, West Kalimantan.
* Dec 20-22 at the Museum Balanga, Palangkaraya, Central Kalimantan.

We thank the U.S. Embassy Jakarta for supporting our effort to preserve cultural heritage!
Top left: Ajeng A. Arainkasih of Museum Ceria led a children’s trail activity at the Museum Kalimantan Barat, Pontianak.

Top right: Robert Pontsioen of the Smithsonian Institution Asian Cultural History Program taught a curatorial module at the Museum Balanga, Palangkaraya.

Bottom: workshop participants during a discussion session at the Museum Kalimantan Barat.
2022 Talks and Workshops

Throughout the year, TPF Team delivered lectures and workshops. Here are some events with our research associates: Linda McIntosh, Callie Jerman, Sandra Sardjono, Christopher Buckley, and Bernhard Bart.

March 26. **Textile Research in Southeast Asia, New methods and Paradigms**, a zoom panel at the Association for Asian Studies Conference. The panel was chaired by Linda McIntosh and featured four talks: *Lao Goldwork – A Former Royal Craft* by Linda McIntosh; *Early Batik in Pre-Modern Java* by Sandra Sardjono; *The Origins of the Tai Textile Repertoire* by Christopher Buckley; and *Agabel Tayo! (Let’s Weave): Textile Revitalization in the Philippine Cordillera* by Analyn Salvadore.

April 4. **Getting to Know Ikat**, a show-and-tell at the Asian Art Museum, San Francisco, to introduce ikat techniques from Southeast Asia. The event was part of the public education program of the exhibition *Weaving Stories* at the museum, curated by Natasha Reichle.

April 10-11. **Batik Creative Process**, a workshop with Ismoyo and Nia Fliam, organized by the Textile Arts Council and hosted by the Tracing Patterns Foundation. During the workshop, participants learned to use batik tools and dyeing and how the medium can be a compass for developing other artistic ideas.

May 20. **An Age-Old Art in a New-Age Pandemic**, a webinar organized by the South-east Asian Traditional Textiles. Linda McIntosh spoke about Katu textiles and weavers of Laos.

June 26. **Re-History Series: Loss, Hope and Conservation in Southeast Asian Textiles**, a panel discussion organized by the Asian Art Museum, San Francisco. Ruth Barnes, Cherubim Quizon, Sandra Sardjono, and Julia Brennan discussed efforts to center the maker’s voice and recover from losses through
research, conservation, and collaboration. The recording can be found [here](#).

October 26. **Minangkabau Songket Weaving**, a zoom lecture by Bernhard Bart, organized by the Universitas Ciputra, Surabaya, East Java.

October 29. **Wastra Nusantara dalam Sejarah**, a webinar organized by Universitas Diponegoro, Semarang on the history and development of batik tradition in Java. The discussants were Professor Siti Maziyah and Sandra Sardjono.

November 17. **Koleksi Etnografi Papua**, a webinar organized by Museum IN, Jakarta. The panelists are Enrico Yory Kondologit, Curator of Museum Loka Budaya Universitas Cendrawasih and Sandra Sardjono and Christopher Buckley of the Tracing Patterns Foundation.
Symposium

Silk Road Textiles Under the Microscope

This was an online symposium on textile production and circulation along the land and maritime Silk Routes that took place during October 20-22. It was organized by TPF and four other institutions (listed below). The three-day symposium included 22 talks, 3 virtual tours, and 2 ‘poster’ presentations.

Four TPF researchers presented talks: Linda McIntosh, Kristal Hale, Christopher Buckley, and Sandra Sardjono.

A virtual tour of TPF that we aired during the conference is available on Youtube.

Co-organizers:
- International Association for the Study of Silk Road Textiles (IASSRT)
- Tracing Patterns Foundation, California
- Department of Textile Conservation, Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York
- Queen Sirikit Museum of Textiles, Bangkok
- Instititu for the History of Natural Science, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing
- China National Silk Museum, Hangzhou.

Diagram of the drawloom of Fez, Morocco, by Christopher Buckley.
Research

Hampton Archive

Readers of last year’s 2021 Annual Report may recall that this archive is an important collection of material culture, assembled by the late Dr. O.W. ‘Bud’ Hampton, a Colorado resident, in the Baliem Valley in Papua during the 1980s and 90’s. The collection covers virtually all aspects of life and includes daily and ritual use objects made of stone, looped fiber, bamboo, feathers, bone and other materials. The material and accompanying photographs and notes are a particularly important record of some of the last stone tools used in daily life anywhere in the world. Our aim is to find a permanent home for this collection in Papua where the collection can be viewed and studied by the local people.

In 2021, we completed the conservation and re-housing of the collection. This year we continued our photographic documentation and research. In order to put the hafted stone tools in context, Christopher Buckley assembled a large comparative database of stone tool use as it existed across the Asia-Pacific region. The database is publicly accessible in the form of a Google Map at this link.

We are preparing a catalog illustrated with high-quality photographs. We have just begun a collaboration with the Museum Loka Budaya Universitas Cendrawasih on Papua on this work, and we hope to receive input from Baliem Valley residents before we publish.

A man’s ceremonial headdress, Dani (Hubula) people, Baliem Valley, Papua. Looped bast fiber, feathers, orchid fiber.
We contributed two chapters to a new book on Silk Road textiles published by UNESCO.

The chapters are:

“Drawlooms along the Silk Road”
by Christopher Buckley

“The maritime route and the circulation of trade textiles in insular Southeast Asia”
by Sandra Sardjono

The whole book can be viewed or downloaded free of charge at this link.

We hope you enjoy the book, which has contributions from a team of international experts, brought together by the China National Silk Museum. Two illustrations from these chapters are shown below.

A fragment of lampas weave silk, found in Tibet but woven in eastern China, 17th or 18th century.

New Program!

**Textiles Forward**

*Advancing material cultures for the next generations*

Textiles Forward is a new program launched in 2022. We hope this program will become a significant part of our activities in the coming years.

There are many old collections of Asian cultural material in the USA and Europe but relatively little in its original locations. Therefore, students of these traditions must journey to museums overseas to see good examples of their own culture.

Our objective is to help universities, museums, and other cultural institutions in Asia build representative collections of cultural material, particularly textiles, to give students and local communities more direct contact with their heritage. **In February 2023, we will make our first textile donation to the Universitas Ciputra in East Java.** In addition, we have recently signed an MoU with another Indonesian university to repatriate some cultural materials. More news on this will follow shortly.

We thank these donors for their generous textile donations: Helena Hernmarck, Thomas Murray, Leonard Pitt, Connie Strayer, Tina Ruitter, David and Bonnie Smith, and Andres and Vanessa Moraga.

We are appealing to collectors looking for new homes for their old collections to consider joining our Textile Forward Program by donating textiles to the Tracing Patterns Foundation. Aside from being an effective way of getting back the objects’ value, it is an impactful way of ‘giving back.’ Talk to us if you would like to know more.
Thank you to all our wonderful donors for making our activities possible during 2022. We feel incredibly grateful this year to receive a significant boost to our Endowment Fund (see pg. 16) and a matching pledge for all additional gifts. **With all your help, we can claim over $25,000 in matching donations!**

This year we held a special fundraising to publish *Borneo Ikat Textiles: Style Variations, Ethnicity, and Ancestry* by Traude Gavins. Individual donors who generously gave $500 and more toward this book project: Avrum and Martha Blooming, Cathy Cerny, Tina De Vries, Craig Diamond, Emily Mitchell, Thomas Murray, Glenn Vinson, and Linda Winn. We also received support from the Grinnell Family Foundation and the New Place Fund. Special thanks to Edwina Nel mon for helping us reach our fundraising goal! Bonnie and Dick Corwin, Laura-Appel Warren, Steven Kossak, Henry Liang, and Susanna Michaels also supported this project. All of you made possible the forthcoming publication of this book in 2023. Thank you!

We are honored to have your trust! Thank you for your heartfelt gifts. We would not have been able to carry on our work in 2022 without your support.

**Private Individuals**

Laura Appell-Warren
Lou Antolihao
Lea Dianne Ayres
Martha Banyas
Julia Brennan
Avrum & Martha Bluming
Cathy Cerny
Mary Connors
Bernhard Bart & Erika Dubler
Carol Biers in honor of Nia Fliam and Agus Ismoyo
Christopher Buckley
Bonnie & Dick Corwin
Craig Diamond
Ray Furse
Christine Giuntini
Gregory and Mechas Grinnell
Kristal Hale
Hollis Hampton
Helena Hernmarck in emory of Mary H. Kahlenberg
Vera Indenbaum
Hok Pui Leung & Sally Yu Leung
Henry Liang
Ellin Klor
Usanee Klimo
Steven Kossak
Didier Maclaine Pont
Loren G. Mealey
Susanna Michaels
Allan Miller
E.G. Mitchell
Denyse Montegut
Thomas Murray
Edwina Nel on
Elena Phipps
Leonard Pitt
Virginia Postrel
Tina Ruyter
Beau Ryan
Sandra Sardjono
Valerie Soll
Rita Seale
David & Bonnie Smith
Connie Strayer
Ron & Janet Stride
Barbara Stucki
Rich Taylor
Glenn Vinson
Grace Wahyuni
Haruko Watanabe
Linda Winn
Alexander Yan
Weihua Yan

**Government Grant**

US Embassy Jakarta

**Organizations**

- Arts & Crafts Period Textiles
- Amazon Smiles
- Cintasan Giving
- Grinnell Family Foundation
- META/ Facebook
- New Place Fund
- Pacific Bridge Venture
Charitable contributions

Tewuni Rai Woman’s Cooperative from Savu Island, Indonesia

We helped with the fundraising spearheaded by Geneviève Duggan to build a Community Weaver’s House for the Tewuni Rai Woman’s Cooperative, located in the village of Pedero on Savu island, Indonesia.

The house allows weavers to get together to exchange their knowledge and teach the next generations.

We also gave several hundred dollars from sales of the children’s book, *Mea and the Palm Flowers* that we created in 2021 with the help of Geneviève Duggan and Ice Dara of Tewuni Rai.

Part of the Tracing Patterns Foundation’s donation has been used to give sewing workshops to the Tewuni Rai weavers every Sunday afternoon. They aim to make bags and small items using damaged and unsaleable ikat weaving, using just a bit of ikat to identify the item as Savunese. Our charitable contribution was also used for installing the electricity.

Top right: newly built community house in Pedero village, Savu.
Bottom: first meeting of the Tewuni Rai weavers in the community house. Photo courtesy of Geneviève Duggan.
In 2022, we officially started an Endowment Fund. With the facilitation of one of our Board Members, we received a large donation of $100,000 to boost this Fund. This gift increased our Fund three-fold. As a result, by the end of 2022, our Endowment Fund grew to $135,514. Our goal is to reach $500,000 by 2025 on our 7th anniversary.

This Fund is earmarked to eventually cover the basic running expenses, such as website and software, and office expenses, which the board members now fund on a case-by-case basis. Covering these costs through the Endowment will enable us to focus future donations on specific projects and provide greater organizational financial stability.

We have accomplished many projects on a modest budget, mainly by managing costs and overheads carefully, doing work in-house, and with the kind assistance of research associates and volunteers. We intend to continue this approach in the future.
How you can help

Donations, large and small, are our most important form of support.

You can help Tracing Patterns Foundation directly by donating via our website or sending a check.

We also welcome donations of textiles. Some of these we retain as part of our teaching and research collection. Others we passed on as part of our Textiles Forward Program (see pg. 13). Some we sell to raise funds for projects.

Tracing Patterns Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Therefore, tax credits are available for donors in the United States. The credits apply both to monetary and in-kind donations.

If you could help us with the Endowment Fund, don't hesitate to contact Sandra Sardjono at sandra.sardjono@tracingpatterns.org.

Left: with the U.S. Embassy Grant, we bought ELSEC 775 Light Meter and Hobo MX Temperature and Relative Humidity Logger. These are essential conservation teaching tools for us.

Right: a man’s cloth from Savu, Hi’i Wo Medi. Weaver: Ice Tede Dara; Dyer and spinner: Ina Ga Dule. Iki moiety and Jewu female lineage.