

The ECE DEI Committee presents:  
Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month  
Weekly Highlight  
May 5, 2023

**Chen Ning Yang**

Chinese American physicist, winner of Nobel Prize for

Chen Ning Yang is a Chinese American theoretical physicist whose research with Tsung-Dao Lee showed that parity—the symmetry between physical phenomena occurring in right-handed and left-handed coordinate systems—is violated when certain elementary particles decay. Until this discovery it had been assumed by physicists that parity symmetry was as universal a law as the conservation of energy or electric charge. This and other studies in particle physics earned Yang and Lee the Nobel Prize for Physics for 1957.

From 1965, Yang was Albert Einstein professor at the Institute of Science, State University of New York at Stony Brook, Long Island. During the 1970s, he was a member of the board of Rockefeller University and the American Association for the Advancement of Science and, from 1978, of the Salk Institute for Biological Studies, San Diego. He received the Einstein Award in 1957 and the Rumford Prize in 1981. He received a National Medal of Science in 1985. He has been associated with the Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, New Jersey, U.S.A., since 1949, where he became a Professor

in the weak interactions. The experiments that had been done, it turned out, simply had no bearing on the question. They suggested a set of experiments that would settle the matter, and, when these were carried out by several groups over the next year, large parity-violating effects were discovered. In addition, the experiments also showed that the symmetry between particle and antiparticle, known as charge conjugation symmetry, is also broken by the weak decays.

References:

[C. N. Yang: Stony Brook Masters Series- YouTube](#)

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yang\\_Chen-Ning](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yang_Chen-Ning)

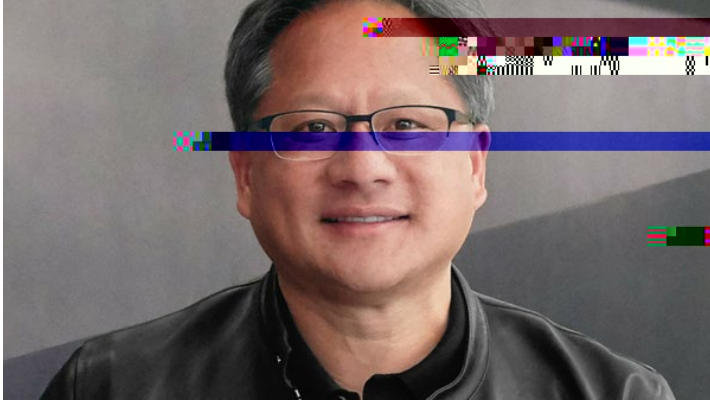
Yu Shi, "Beauty and Physics: 13 Important Contributions of Chen Ning Yang", <https://arxiv.org/abs/1702.01901>.

Chen Ning Yang- Biography, <https://www.tsinghua.edu.cn/en/info/1244/2414.htm>

Daniel Ken Inouye was born on September 7, 1924 in Honolulu, Hawaii. Inouye's parents were the children of Japanese immigrants. His father, Hyotaro Inouye, was the son of laborers, while his mother, Kame Imanaga, was an orphan who had been adopted by the U.S. minister's family. He received his undergraduate degree from the University of Hawaii, and his law degree from George Washington University. During World War II, Inouye served in the U.S. Army's 442nd Regimental Combat Team. Composed of soldiers of Japanese ancestry, the 442nd became one of the most decorated military units in U.S. history. For his combat heroism, which cost him his right arm, Inouye was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor, the Distinguished Service Cross, the Bronze Star, and the Purple Heart with Cluster. Following the war, he practiced law in Hawaii before entering territorial politics in 1954. When Hawaii became the 50th state, Inouye became one of its first representatives in the U.S. Congress. In 1962 he won election to the U.S. Senate. Senator Inouye gained national distinction in the 1970s as a member of the Senate Watergate Committee and, in 1987, as chairman of the Senate Crime Committee. He was a longtime member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, which he chaired from 2009 to 2012, and also served as the Senate's president pro tempore from 2010 until his death in 2012. In 2013 Senator Inouye was posthumously awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, becoming the first—and to date, only—senator to receive both the Medal of Freedom and the Medal of Honor.

**WWII Hero story** On Sunday, December 7, 1941, the Imperial Japanese Navy bombed the US naval and air bases at Pearl Harbor. In an oral history interview with The National WWII Museum, Inouye remembered his experience on that fateful day. He was getting ready for church, when the radio announcer began frantically repeating that Pearl Harbor was under attack by the Japanese. "I looked towards Pearl Harbor and puff! All the smoke. And you could see puffs of the aircraft shells exploding. And then, all of

Yo-Yo Ma's multifaceted career is testament to his belief in culture's power to generate trust and understanding. Whether



Jensen Huang  
NVIDIA Founder, President, & CEO

Jensen Huang founded NVIDIA in 1993 and has served since its inception as president, chief executive officer and a member of the board of directors.

Starting out in PC graphics, NVIDIA helped build the gaming market into the largest entertainment industry in the world today. The company's invention of the GPU in 1999 made possible real-time programmable shading, which defines modern computer graphics, and later revolutionized parallel computing. More recently, GPU deep learning ignited modern AI—the next era of computing—with the GPU acting as the brain of computers, robots and self-driving cars that can perceive and understand the world.

Huang is a recipient of the Semiconductor Industry Association's highest honor, the Robert N. Noyce Award; IEEE Founder's Medal; the Dr. Morris Chang Exemplary Leadership Award; and honorary doctorate degrees from Taiwan's National Chiao Tung University, National Taiwan University, and Oregon State University. He has been named the world's best CEO by Harvard Business Review and Brand Finance, as well as Fortune's Businessperson of the Year and one of TIME magazine's 100 most influential people.

Prior to founding NVIDIA, Huang worked at LSI Logic and Advanced Micro Devices.

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- May 26, 2023

