

Erika Lee, PhD

[Erika Lee](#) joins us from the University of Minnesota, where she is a Regents Professor of History and Asian American Studies and the Director of the [Immigration History Research Center](#). The granddaughter of Chinese immigrants, Lee is the recipient of multiple fellowships and awards, including the Carnegie Fellowship, and was recently elected to the American Academy of Arts & Sciences.

She is an active public intellectual, serves as the Vice President of the Organization of American Historians, and is the author of four award-winning books including: *At America's Gates: Chinese Immigration during the Exclusion Era, 1882-1943*, *Angel Island: Immigrant Gateway to America*, *The Making of Asian America: A History*, and most recently, *America for Americans: A History of Xenophobia in the United States*. Called “essential reading” by Ibram X. Kendi (author of *How to Be an Antiracist*), *America for Americans* won the 2020 American Book Award and the 2020 Asian/Pacific American Award for Literature.