TRISTAN FINAZZO | 戴晟睿

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Portfolio of writing, research & multimedia: **tristanfinazzo.com**

Science communicator and dark sky advocate working across NASA, environmental nonprofits, and East Asia. Fluent in Mandarin and Korean, with a background in journalism, research, and art spanning light, the environment, and aerospace.

EXPERIENCE

NASA Communications Specialist — **May 2025 – Present**
Booz Allen Hamilton — **St. Louis, MO (Remote)**

- Manage communications strategy for NASA's Electrified Powertrain Flight Demonstration (EPFD), Airspace Operations and Safety (AOS) Project, and other space and aeronautics projects.
- Oversee industry and media relations and lead public engagement and outreach, growing EPFD's public reach to 700M+ impressions in the first year.
- Wrote the authoritative report on the history of electrified aircraft propulsion (EAP) at NASA.

Dark Sky Advocate, Writer, and Translator — **2023 – Present**
Taiwan Dark-Sky Association (TDA) — **Taiwan & USA**

- Co-authored, reviewed, and translated the successful 111-page application certifying Lalashan (Lala Mountain) as Taiwan's 2nd and East Asia's 10th International Dark Sky Place.
- Advocating for the Matsu Islands' potential Dark Sky Place certification by documenting transboundary light pollution; edited and translated the Taipei Dark Sky Manifesto (2026).

EPFD Strategic Communications Intern — **May 2024 – May 2025**
National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) — **Hampton, VA**

- Built communications strategy for NASA's hybrid-electric portfolio and represented NASA at AirVenture and SXSW.

Researcher and Translator, China Specialist — **Aug 2019 – Jul 2023**
RAND Corporation — **Arlington, VA**

- Built RAND's Chinese-language open-source research infrastructure and led multilingual research for published reports on energy, the Arctic, and commercial space.

Previously: roles at the North Korea Strategy Center (Seoul), the Paulson Institute (Chicago), and Smart Air Filters (Beijing).

SELECTED WORK

The Arctic Circle, Svalbard (2027) — Incoming Artist-in-Residence; research project comparing the High Arctic's midnight sun with light pollution in Taiwan's Matsu Islands through fieldwork, ethnography, and cyanotype

International Dark Sky Forum, Taipei (2026) — Guest Speaker; talk on transboundary light pollution in the Matsu Islands

***Greenlessness* (2026)** — Co-Host, Artist & Panel Speaker; exhibition on light pollution in the Matsu Islands at Watershed Art & Ecology Gallery, Chicago, and Taipei Fine Arts Museum, Taiwan

"The Sky Is Green, The Tears Are Blue" — Author; Matsu Islands light pollution feature, accepted by *National Geographic*

"The History of EPFD" — Author; NASA Special Publication on hybrid-electric flight research

"New York Astronomers Are Finding Joy in Darkness" — Author; *Dopamine Magazine*

"China's Strategy and Activities in the Arctic" — Co-Author; RAND Corporation report (2022)

EDUCATION

New York University — Dual M.A. in Global Journalism and East Asian Studies, Summa Cum Laude (2024)

The University of Chicago — B.A. in International Studies with Honors (2019)

Beijing University | 北京大学 — Gap Year, School of Chinese as a Second Language (2015)