Zhiyuan Cong earned a BFA in 1980 and an MFA in Chinese painting from Nanjing Arts Institute in 1986, and an MFA in printmaking from Indiana University in 1994. He is currently professor and head of the Printmaking Program as well as director of the Center for Chinese Art at William Paterson University. Cong also serves as chair of the Chinese-American Art Faculty Association. His prior positions include consultant to the Indianapolis Museum of Art and Qinghai Province Museum, and professor of Nanjing Arts Institute.

Cong's exhibitions have ranged from local galleries to national and international museums. He has held more than 30 solo exhibitions and over hundred group exhibitions, including those at the National Museum of China, Beijing, the United Nations, New York and the Olympic Fine Arts Exhibition 2012, London; the Indianapolis Museum of Art, Indianapolis, IN; United Nations, New York, NY; The Butler Institute of America Art, Youngstown, OH; East-West Center, Honolulu, HI; St. John's University, New York, NY; The Art Museum of Indiana University, Bloomington, IN; 1974, 84, 85, 86, and 2005 China National Art Exhibition in National Art Museum of China, Beijing. His art works have been collected by the National Art Museum of China, Nanjing Museum of Art, American International Group, Inc., and many other museums and companies.

Cong's publications include four Art books, nine catalogues, refereed articles in professional arts journals, including Fine Arts, National Art Museum of China, Beijing China; Oriental Art, London; Orientations, Hong Kong; Zhiyuan Cong: an Admirable Art Ambassador, Macau; Imprint of Times: Blue Film Etching, Taipei. He has also received numerous major media reports and reviews for his art works and achievements, including The New York Times, The Star-Ledger, The Record, World Journal, Chinese News Net, People's Daily, NJN, BBC, CNN and CCTV-4.

Since 1988, Cong has given hundreds of lectures and demonstrations at art museums and universities around the country, such as the Chicago Art Institute, Princeton University, U.C. Berkeley, Indianapolis Museum of Art, University of Oregon, Youngstown State University, Ontario College of Art and Design in Canada, and Taipei National Arts University.

As an ardent supporter of promoting Chinese culture and arts in America, Cong has consulted and directed several art exhibitions and projects including: A Gathering: Chinese Contemporary Printmaking Exhibition, Riverside Gallery, NJ, 2015; Collision and Confluence: An Exhibition of Chinese-American Art Faculty, Asian Cultural Center Art Gallery, NYC, 2014; Makers in Print- International Exhibition, hosted by the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee and Milwaukee Institute of Art & Design, Wisconsin, 2013; Exhibition of Chinese Drawing from Central Academy of Fine Arts China, William Paterson University Galleries, 2011; American Youth Printmaking Exhibition, Shanghai Liu Haisu Art Museum, 2011; The Enduring Art of China, Montclair State University Art Gallery, 2009; The National Endowment for the Humanities Project, Mosaic of Asian Culture: Art from Qinghai Province, China, Indianapolis Museum of Art, 1992-94.

Cong has earned several awards such as: 2012 Gold Award for his project in the 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Educational Advertising Awards; Ground Award for the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Award for Publication Excellence Competition by Communications Concepts, VI, 2012; Silver Awards by 49<sup>th</sup> Annual Award Show, ADCNJ; Chinese Cultural Ambassador Award, New Jersey Chinese-American Chamber of Commerce, 2012; Participation Award by The Organization Committee for the Olympic Fine Arts 2012, London; Artist-in-residency, East-West Center, HI, 2002; The New Jersey Printmaking Fellows for 2001, Rutgers University; The First-Place Award, The American States Arts Competition --1993 Exhibition.