



NEWS 'n NOTES

CHINESE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

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Chinatown Heritage & Visitors Center: 323-222-0856

June 2009

June Program

Wednesday, June 3, 2009 @ 7:00 p.m.

Chinatown in Los Angeles

By Jenny Cho



Author Jenny Cho will talk about the book, "Chinatown in Los Angeles," which features over 150 years of historic photographs from Chinatown. When Old Chinatown was demolished to make way for Union Station, community leader Peter SooHoo Sr. and other Chinese Americans spearheaded the effort to build New Chi-

natown with the open-air Central Plaza. Unlike other Chinese enclaves in the United States, New Chinatown was owned and planned from its inception by Chinese Americans. New Chinatown celebrated its grand opening with dignitaries, celebrities, community members, and a dedication by California governor Frank Merriam on June 25, 1938.

Jenny Cho is a current Board member of CHSSC. She and the Board would like to thank everyone who helped make this book possible. The book will be an exciting addition to CHSSC's publication list, and reference library. It is available at CHSSC, Barnes and Noble, Amazon.com, and the K.G. Louie store. Jenny and the book will also be featured in the program for the 71st Anniversary of Chinatown on June 27 in Central Plaza. There will be a book signing following the lecture.

Castelar Elementary School
840 Yale Street, Los Angeles Chinatown
Enter on College Avenue between Yale and Hills
The public is invited. Free admission.

Around CHSSC

Scholarship Awards

This year's undergraduate scholarship award winner is Phi Hong Su. She is majoring in sociology with concentration in Asian American studies at Cal Poly Pomona. She has organized Asian and Pacific Islands Heritage Month programs and is a peer mentor on her campus. Phi hopes to pursue a doctorate in sociology.



Phi Hong Su receiving certificate of congratulation and scholarship check from Robert Louis of The Pearl and David Louie Family Foundation. Photo by Tom Eng.

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Final Nominations to the CHSSC Board of 2009-2010

The following slate of nominations includes those nominated at the general meeting of May 9, 2009:

Officers

President—Gordon Hom
Vice President—Susan Dickson
Vice President for Programs—Mei T. Ong
Secretary—Winifred Lew
Membership Secretary—Albert Chang, M.D.
Treasurer—Dennis Lee, C.P.A.

Members at Large for 2-year term

Kenneth L. Chan
Irvin Lai
Donald Loo
Eugene Moy
William Tong

Members at Large for 1-year term

Richard Liu
Francine Redada

Jean Chan, Jenny Cho, Henry Leong and Diane Poon will be returning to serve their second year of a 2-year term. Nominations were closed upon the conclusion of business meeting on May 9, 2009, at Castelar Elementary School's All Purpose Room.

Gala Dinner of 3 May 2009

Almost 300 people attended CHSSC's 34th anniversary gala dinner. This year we honored Chinese Americans in Sports, including the first Chinese American to win an Olympic medal, the late Richard Tom, and Charles B. Wang, owner and governor of New York Islanders Ice Hockey Club. A few of the honorees mentioned how they can still remember watching Michael Chang playing in the French Open in 1989 and how he inspired them. Tiffany Chin talked about how her parents always told her that she can be anything she wanted to be. During her growing up years her Chinese American role models were engineers,

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Officers

Kenneth L. Chan, President
William Gow, Vice President
Eugene Moy, V.P. for Programs
Albert Chang, M.D., Secretary
Mei Ong, Membership Secretary
Dennis Lee, C.P.A., Treasurer

Members at Large

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Pete Chinn, CPA
Jenny Cho
Susan Dickson
Gordon Hom
Irvin Lai
Henry Leong
Betty Wong Oyama
Diane Poon

News 'n Notes Editor
Yvonne Chang

MISSION STATEMENT

The Chinese Historical Society of Southern California was organized in November, 1975. The purposes of the Society are: 1) to bring together people with a mutual interest in the important history and historical role of Chinese and Chinese Americans in Southern California; 2) to pursue, preserve and communicate knowledge of this history; and; 3) to promote the heritage of the Chinese and Chinese American community in support of a better appreciation of the rich, multi-cultural society of the United States.

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Preservation of Old Immigration Files

After ten years of advocating U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service (USCIS) and National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) to schedule for accessioning the preservation of the Alien Files (older immigration and naturalization case files for those with 100 year old birthdates and 5 year intervals) and those at the Federal Records Center, the national regional archives office in San Bruno would remain in operation. Those two agencies have an agreement to transfer custody from USCIS to NARA and will have a formal signing ceremony in Washington, D.C. June 3, 2009.

Without preservation of the Alien Files, older records that tells the history of Chinese American pioneers would be gone forever. This is a major victory and the result of persistence on the part of many individuals and organizations.

Special Colloquium on The Early Legal History of California

“Civil & Uncivil—The Early Legal History” will be the topic of a special California Supreme Court Historical Society (CSCHS) program to be held on Monday, June 1 from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the Los Angeles Times Auditorium.

The program is being co-sponsored by the Los Angeles Times, Southwestern Law School, the Los Angeles County Bar Association, the Ninth Judicial Circuit Historical Society, and Public Counsel. Chief Justice Ronald George will introduce the program, and Los Angeles Times' editorial page editor, Jim Newton, will moderate.

Speakers include former California Supreme Court Justice Joseph Grodin, who will discuss slavery, religious freedom and other fundamental state constitutional issues, and University of Delaware Professor Jeanne Pfaelzer, author of *Driven Out: The Forgotten War Against Chinese-Americans*, who will talk primarily about Chinese-Americans and the California legal system during the first decades of

statehood. UCLA Chicano Studies Professor Robert Romero will provide concluding remarks.

Their presentations should help illuminate a number of landmarks in the early history of California civil rights litigation including events that occurred in Los Angeles like the 1871 Chinese Massacre

Professor Pfaelzer's research on how the Chinese were driven out of various communities resulted in her book, *Driven Out*. Four months ago she presented her findings at the Pasadena Museum of History, co-sponsored with CHSSC. At the Early Legal History symposium her discussions will be primarily about Chinese-Americans and the California legal system during the first decades of statehood.

Students with school I.D. may attend at no charge. The general program cost is \$15 (includes free parking, program materials and a light reception), and \$10 for employees of governmental or nonprofit agencies.

The California Supreme Court Historical Society was founded in 1989 as a non-profit organization dedicated to recovering, preserving, and promoting California's legal and judicial history.

For more information on the symposium please go to <http://www.swlaw.edu/>, click on the News Events button and then select News Releases.

Gala Dinner

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doctors, and other scientists. Talking directly to her 5-year old son Kyle who was in attendance, she told him that he can be anything he wants to be when he grows up. Tiffany said that today's Asian American role models have greatly expanded to include many other fields, and that Kyle can even be a Laker provided he eats broccoli. There was no shortage of pride at the award dinner for our Chinese American trailblazers in sports. Go to page 4 to see a group picture of the honorees.

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Celebrating Chinese Americans in Sports , Photo by Tom Eng, 05-03-09

Front Row, Left to Right:

Tiffany Chin, Olympian figure skater, 1984
Annie Yee, former Laker Girl and Rams Cheerleader
Cameron Inouye, WNBA Referee
Thomas Wing representing his late brother Bob Chow, an Olympian rapid-fire shooter, 1948
Carol Jue, NCAA Basketball coach, Division III Coach of the year for 2005 and 2009
Kim Ng, Vice President and Assistant General Manager of Los Angeles Dodgers

Back Row, Left to Right

George Cheung, Emcee, an actor with over 100 film and TV credits
Mitchell Ing, Mayor of Monterey Park
Michael Chang, Tennis Champion and International Tennis Hall of Fame Inductee, Class 2008
Lawrence Hom, USC Volleyball player and All-American
Kevin Wong, Olympian beach volleyball player, 2000
Jon SooHoo, Photographer for Los Angeles Dodgers
Sherwood Lee, director, Los Angeles Chinatown Firecracker 5/10K Run Committee
Jing Wang, M.D., President of Chinese American Athletic Association
Cheng-Ou Chang, Ph.D., Vice President of Chinese American Athletic Association
Ken Chan, President of Chinese Historical Society of Southern California

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Support CHSSC's Fundraising Event of 3 May 2009



While CHSSC's 34th anniversary dinner of May 3 was sold out, costs have gone up and donations have been less than in previous years. Please support CHSSC by making a contribution. **The first 40 people who donate at least \$20 will receive a copy of the program which is in color with Honorees' photographs and brief biographies.**

Your donations will benefit our monthly speaker programs, publications such as the Gum Saan Journal, newsletters, tours of historic Chinatown, workshops, Ch'ing Ming observance at the Chinese Shrine and its maintenance. Your donations also support our activities in saving historic Chinatowns from destruction such as the Riverside's archaeological site that contains the remains of its second Chinatown. We are happy to report that your support enabled CHSSC to a satisfactory conclusion to ensure a dignified re-burial of the remains of Chinese pioneers that were uncovered in the excavation for an extension to a Los Angeles Metro Line.

Please use the form below to make your donations. All donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.



Yes, I/we want to support CHSSC's various programs.

Enclosed is my donation of __\$10 __\$20 __\$30 __\$_____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

VISA/MC* Account #: _____ Exp Date: _____

Signature: _____ Total Contribution: \$_____

Make check payable to CHSSC and mail to 415 Bernard Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012.

Credit Card payment can be faxed to 323-221-4162 or mailed to the same address as above.



Chinese Historical Society of Southern California

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Scholarship Awards

(Continued from page 1)



Sharon Luk receiving certificate of congratulation and scholarship check from Robert Louie of The Pearl and David Louie Family Foundation. Photo by Tom Eng.

Sharon Luk is the winner of the graduate scholarship award. Sharon is a doctorate candidate in American Studies and Ethnicity at the University of Southern California. Her dissertation includes a study of personal papers and letters of pioneering Chinese American communities. Sharon has been using CHSSC's Archival Center as part of her resources. Originally from San Francisco, Sharon has two undergraduate degrees from Brown University and masters degrees from USC and UCLA. Sharon's community service includes volunteering at the Asian Women's Shelter in San Francisco.

The scholarship program is made possible by a generous grant from The Pearl and David Louie Family Foundation.

Acknowledgements

- Received from Howard Louis Trust a set of Chinese dining table with 8 chairs and another set of 4 chairs. They are now in the CHSSC's conference room. Gene Moy and William Tong drove to San Luis Obispo to pick up the gift.
- A new aircondition/heating unit was installed in the conference room by Gordon Hom.
- Evelina Giang, Shirley Mak, Hyuh Cheol Oh, Shirley Chau, and Maria Iu of UCLA's Pacific Ties, a student organization, volunteered at the CHSSC's annual fundraising dinner for the second consecutive year. Evelina volunteered for the third year. Other volunteers were Brennan Louie, Liz Wong, Lou Quan and Wendli Jen.
- Sum Sum Chan donated her talents again in designing the program booklet.



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Community Calendar

Ongoing events

Chinatown Farmers Market

727 N. Hill Street
Los Angeles Chinatown
Thursdays, 2:00 p.m.—6:00 p.m.

Masters of Adornment: The Miao People of China

Bowers Museum
2002 N. Main Street, Santa Ana, CA
This important collection of exquisite textiles and silver jewelry on loan to and from the Bowers Museum's permanent collection highlights the beauty and wealth of the Miao peoples of southwest China. More than an examination of masterful techniques and beautiful style these objects reveal hundreds of years of Miao history and tradition and, the patience and dedication to achieve beauty.
www.bowers.org
Open everyday except Mondays and major holidays.

Liu Fang Yuan

Inspired by the centuries-old Chinese tradition of private gardens designed for scholarly pursuits, Liu Fang Yuan, or the Garden of Flowing Fragrance, combines the scenic beauty of nature with the expressiveness of literature to give deeper meaning to the landscape. A walk through its paths enriches the mind and spirit alike.
Huntington Library
1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, CA 91108
www.huntington.org
Open everyday except Tuesdays and major holidays.

Saturdays, 8-9:30am

T'ai Chi Classes

Veteran instructor and CHSSC honoree actor Chao Li Chi will lead you through the steps of the 'yang' style in the peaceful surroundings of Pacific Asia Museum's courtyard garden. New participants are welcome.
Saturdays, 10am-12noon
Pacific Asia Museum
46 N. Los Robles Avenue
Pasadena, CA 91101
\$6 for Museum members and \$7 for non-members.
For more information, call 626-449-2742 ext. 31.

Chinese Brush Painting Classes

Respected instructor Guang Li Zhang offers students demonstrations, lessons and workshops.
46 N. Los Robles Avenue, Pasadena, CA 91101
The ongoing six week session is \$90 for museum members and \$99 for non-members, free parking
For more information, 626-449-2742 ext. 31.

Thursday, June 4, 2009, 6:00 p.m.

The Nat'l Center for the Preservation of Democracy
111 N. Central Avenue, Little Tokyo
Los Angeles, CA

Metamorphosis Theatre Company
in association with Add Word Productions,
The National Center for the Preservation of
Democracy, and Visual Artists Guild present
LETTERS TO A STUDENT REVOLUTIONARY

A Play by Elizabeth Wong

Directed by Peter J. Kuo

A Special One Night Only Benefit Performance to
Commemorate The 20th Anniversary of the Tiananmen
Square Massacre, a historical event.

\$25 for General Admission

\$20 for Students, Seniors, Group (10+), Affiliated APA +
Theatre Groups and Japanese American National
Museum Members

Online: letters.metamorphosistheatrecompany.org/

Email: metamorphosis.theatre@gmail.com

Phone: 1- 877 - MTC (682) - 8777

May 2, 10, 31, and June 14 and 27, 2009

2:00 p.m.—4:00 p.m.

Chinatown Cultural Performance

Stunning martial arts and Chinese acrobatic acts.
Chinatown's Shaolin Warriors (monks from the
famous Shaolin Temple in China) will be showcased,
together with acrobats from China.

Free

Central Plaza

Broadway between College Avenue and Bernard
Street, Los Angeles Chinatown

Parking around the area is plentiful, and is also easily
accessed via Metro Gold Line rail from the Chinatown
Station.

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Community Calendar

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Saturday, June 27, 2009, 5:00 p.m.—11:00 p.m.

New Chinatown 71st Anniversary

Central Plaza, 943-951 North Broadway

Los Angeles Chinatown

Celebrate the 71st anniversary of New Chinatown with entertainment, music, food and more.

Free

Saturday, July 11, 2009, 12:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Cultural Festival

Music, food, performances, etc.

Central Plaza

Los Angeles Chinatown

Saturdays, 6:30 p.m.

July 11, September 12 and December 12

Chinatown Art Galleries Opening

Concurrent opening of 32 Chinatown art galleries.

Free



**Chinese Historical Society
of Southern California**

415 Bernard St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012-1703

