



Chinese Chamber of Commerce  
of Los Angeles  
美國洛杉磯(羅省)中華總商會

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**Monthly Newsletter**

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## CCCLA Appreciation Dinner



On March 20, 2015 the CCCLA hosts an appreciation dinner for all the volunteers and sponsors that dedicated their time and money to help the Chamber throughout the year. Without the dedication and help of each volunteer and sponsor, the CCCLA would not be able to successfully execute their annual events such as the Fashion Show, Miss Los Angeles Chinatown Pageant, and the Lunar New Year Parade in Chinatown.

This year the Appreciation Dinner was hosted at Emperor's Pavilion in Bamboo Plaza, Chinatown. The night started off with a table raffle where movie tickets and champagnes were raffled off. Servers filled the room shortly after the raffle ended with large delicious dishes to feed all of the hungry guests. During dinner, our Board of Directors were

introduced and brought to the stage for pictures. I would love to give another big thank you to our sponsors: Commerce Casino, Delta Airlines, Ernest & Young, Sunrider International, YiHua International Group, Cathay Bank, Singpoli Group LLC, AA Meat, A United Foundation, Henry Kwong, Mary Wong (Exact Tax & Project NEO), Peter Ng, Prime Staffing Services Inc., Sean Cao, and Zee Law Group. The night ended on a high and happy note with karaoke duets.

On behalf of the 2015 Miss Los Angeles Chinatown Court, I want to say thank you again to all of the volunteers that took time out of their busy schedules to train and prepare us for the night of the pageant as well as for the year of our reign. We wouldn't be the ladies we are today without your hard work and dedication.

Written by 1<sup>st</sup> Princess Erika Liu

## Central City Optimist Club Annual Fundraising Banquet

March 28, 2015 the Miss Los Angeles Chinatown Court attend a Chinese New Year banquet at NBC Seafood Restaurant. The event was hosted by Central City Optimist Club, they are an all-volunteer civic organization. Their goal is to lend a helping hand to the community by providing scholarship, being mentors, and participating in the annual event such as Special Olympics, Africa Alive, Rolling in Rock Hill Home Painting Program, and Teacher Appreciation Day.

The court felt honored to have attend the Chinese New Year dinner with individuals who mend so much to the community. They are inspiring, powerful, remarkable people who help create a better



community and hope to provide a promising future of the next generation. The dinner was to show recognition and appreciated for all their hard work they do as a requirement of their job, but it's more than that. Their wonderful people who make a difference in the community even if their pushing paper, or the finances behind the operation. All these people should be awarded and be shown that they are important to our society.

The dinner had delicious Chinese food such as ginger lobster, fried rice, mayonnaise shrimp with candid walnuts, and peaking duck. Also providing ceremonial lion dancing, Chinese opera and folk dancing, they held a raffle with tons of wonderful prizes. Miss Los Angeles Chinatown court was able to have spent time and socialize with people throughout the event. they received kind and encouraging advice on how they can be the best good will ambassadors during their reign from members of congress, council members, state assembly members, judges, and mayors from nearby cites. As good will ambassadors they inspired us in hopes to promote how wonderful this program is and also continued to be active advocates in the community.

Miss Friendship Tracy Jung

## Bunny Fun Day



For our first annual Bunny Fun Day, the 2015 Miss LA Chinatown Court worked tirelessly to put this Easter event on. Just two months into our reign, we wanted to kick our year off with lots of enthusiasm and determination to prove we can accomplish much with little to start. Collectively we wanted to throw a fundraiser to a charity we've had great history with, Families with Children from China – Southern California (FCC-SoCal).

With tremendous support from the Chinese Chamber of Commerce and the Business Improvement District, we kicked off the Bunny Fun Day Easter Benefit on a beautiful sunny Saturday. Held at Central Plaza in Old Chinatown, the day was filled with activities such as Decorate-Your-Own Crown, DIY bunny crafts, raffles, two Easter Egg Hunts, dance-offs and many prizes to be given out.

We had great live performances from Jason Arimoto, Ph.D on Ukulele and DJ Eddie Boo that catered to all ages and families that came out to the event. We had friends, interested pedestrians and families from FCC-SoCal come join in the festivities. We had the lovely Patricia Cottontail set up in a photo station so everyone could take pictures with her. She ventured to all activities, supporting the kids participating and dancing along with the music. It was a super up-beat environment and there were many chances to interact with the 2015 Chinatown Little King and Little Queen Court. It was awesome for the Little Court to interact with kids that were their age and for them to participate in the crafts as well. There were many other opportunities to win prizes of all sizes; actually several prizes went out to everyone!

We are happy to have directed funds to a great organization such as Families with Children from China-Southern California (FCC-SoCal). They are an all-volunteer organization that provides educational, cultural and peer support programs and services for adoptive parents. We are thrilled to have teamed up with FCC-SoCal, who are dedicated to improving the welfare of the children in China's social welfare institutions and supporting the community through charitable initiatives.

To learn more about FCC-SoCal, please visit <http://www.fccsocal.org/>.

Written by Queen Alice Wong

## Hoy Ping Benevolent Association Chinese New Year Banquet

Held at the always-accommodating Golden Dragon Restaurant in Chinatown, the Hoy Ping Benevolent Association threw a wonderful banquet. Like many Chinatown Family Associations, they are organized according to family surnames. With success since their creation from decades ago in Chinatown, the Hoy Ping Benevolent to served the social and personal needs of Chinese workers come all personal and professional parts of life. Many families relied a great deal on the family benevolent Associations, still serving as political and social support systems to current members and newcomers.

The Mayor of Chinatown Mike Fong, OCA and CPSA Board Member Tommy Eng, and Congresswoman Judy Chu were just a few key guests that attended the banquet. And of course at any Chinese banquet, the food courses were so absolutely delicious and numerous that my Chi Pao felt a bit tight by round 3.

The night held endless entertainment. There were hours of karaoke, acknowledgements and speeches from local, public and private organizations. There was a delightful lion dance put on as well as several traditional Chinese dances put on by a dozen youth girls; both dance companies are as extremely talented and entertaining as the other.

It was a great pleasure to meet with vital Chinese American leaders in Southern California who have been active for several decades to better serve the professional and economic community. Speaking with bankers from Taiwan, several representatives from diverse Chamber of Commerce and the local businesswoman, it was an honor to hear them reflect on their successes and what they continually contribute to their community today.

It was a great night for me to connect with members that unite to strive for basic needs of the Asian American community and I hope to hear more on the association's successes.

Written by Queen Alice Wong



## South Pasadena Chinese-American Club Annual Dinner



On Saturday, April 18, 2015, the Miss Los Angeles Chinatown Court was invited to attend the 26th annual South Pasadena Chinese-American Club (SPCC) dinner which was held at the Omni Hotel in Downtown Los Angeles. There we met SPCC President, Miss Jeannie Chiu, who hosted the dinner alongside Board member and Chinese School Chair, Mr. Tappan Zee. Miss Chiu explained that this was a dinner-dance fundraiser and the proceeds from the annual fundraiser go to scholarships for high school seniors, academic grants for schools and the library, Math Field Day, Library Author Nights, the Chinese New Year luncheon for seniors, the popular Moon Festival, and many other worthy projects.

The organization was established in 1989 and provides many valuable services to the local community, schools and libraries. They believe in making the community an even better place to live by contributing to local schools, promoting cultural awareness and reaching out to the community at large. Year after year, the South Pasadena Chinese-American Club is one of the most active organizations in the community. Just within the last few years, the organization received two very prestigious awards-the South Pasadena

“Image Award,” an annual award given to organizations, businesses, or individuals who promote a positive image of the City beyond its borders and the South Pasadena Rotary’s Service “Above Self Award.”

It was such an honor for the Court to be invited to this event and meet the people that make such a large impact on the local community. Each and every single individual at the event contributed in supporting the organization’s mission to enhance educational opportunities and to expand cultural diversity. Organizations like the South Pasadena Chinese-American Club are so impactful within their community in various ways: scholarships and grants help support South Pasadena schools and students; cultural exchanges to help support the learning and teaching of the Chinese language, culture, and arts; and community outreach. Thank you South Pasadena Chinese-American Club for letting the 2015 Miss Los Angeles Chinatown Court take part in such a meaningful event.

Written by 2<sup>nd</sup> Princess Clarissa Liu

## Chinatown Champions Scavenger Hunt

The first ever Chinatown Champions scavenger hunt was held Saturday, April 25th. This was a collaboration event between the Chinese Chamber of Commerce, Los Angeles and Chinatown Business Improvement District to promote local businesses and merchants within Chinatown. Thirty teams competed against each other, solving riddles that led to challenges in order to win round-trip flights sponsored by Delta Airlines. Miss Los Angeles Chinatown (MLAC) alumnae 2009 Queen Lindsay Louie and 2014 Third Princess Diana Ly participated as well as this year’s Miss Friendship Tracy Jung. It was very nice to see familiar faces!

I participated as a contestant, and genuinely had the time of my life. The scavenger hunt was mentally stimulating, and gave me a great workout as we ran around Chinatown in a 28-block radius. It was exhilarating to take on these challenges, and really feel the pressure as my teammate and I ran around while Google-ing, reading a map, and uploading answers all at the same time. I never knew what true multi-tasking was until then! It was a great experience, and taught me much about Chinatown’s history and geography, as well as teamwork.

Some of the stops included in the riddle challengers were the Chinese Chamber of Commerce office, the infamous Bruce Lee statue, Alpine Recreation Center (where we had to record a video of a cartwheel), the beautiful Thien Hau Temple, Chimney Coffee House (where we had to complete a challenge by writing our initials in latte art), Grand Star Jazz Club, the dragon gate, and the i-ching compass at the Chinatown Metro station. The former location had a challenge sponsored by AFC Soy Foods, where my teammate had to feed me tofu while I was blindfolded, and I had to guess the flavor.

The latter location required a challenge of first solving another riddle, then finding a 2003 coin to take a picture with. After emptying out our pockets to no avail, my teammate and I ran quickly through local Chinatown merchant shops to see if any shop would trade us coins so that we could complete the challenge.

In the end, Lindsay Louie and Andrew Yu won first place for completing all of the challenges correctly first, bringing home the title of Chinatown Champions, and winning the round-trip Delta flights. The remainder teams got a surprise prize, another set of round-trip flights that were raffled off to the top 10 teams, in which Diana, Tracy, and myself were included (woohoo!). The winners of the raffle were Anh Nguyen and Vincent Ngai.

I commend everyone involved for having thrown such a successful and entertaining event. I cannot wait until the next Chinatown Champions scavenger hunt, and hope to bring home the title of the next Chinatown Champion!

Written by 3<sup>rd</sup> Princess Vivian Tisi



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