

Year 2003 Annual Report

Board of Directors (2003)

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	Yang, Jun	杨俊
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	Tang, David	邓润京
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	Wang, Lian	王炼
	Xu, Jane Zhong	徐忠
	Yu, Jenny	俞晓春
	Xiong, Weijun	熊伟军
	Xu, Songhuan (Frank)	徐松焕



Board members taking a break while repairing the parking lot

Words from the Board of Directors

2003 is another successful year to the Chinese Civic Center, thanks to the support from the donors, patrons, and volunteers of the Center. While we continue to provide a suite of programs to the ever increasing number of people utilizing the facility, one of our main focuses in 2003 is to offer a safe, pleasant, and well maintained facility. We have also expanded services by adding a new computer training and internet access classroom, while maintaining our traditional cultural programs such as hosting China Folk Song Performance traveling Show and participating in the annual Houston Thanksgiving Parade. New grants, such as that from Houston Endowment, enabled us to meet the increasing utilization of the Center's programs and facility.

Maintain a safe and pleasant environment: The board members together with many community volunteers spend great effort to repair the parking lot, fix the roof leaks, and paint some of the activity rooms to make the facility in a pleasant and safe setting. We also hired security personnel during the peak usage hours to ensure the safe access by the users. We strive hard to ensure everyone coming to the Center have an enjoyable experience.

Expand community services: In the information age, computer and internet become two of the most indispensable tools. To answer the increasing demand for computer literacy and information access, we opened a computer training classroom with networked computers and broadband internet access. We are fortunate to have all these computer equipments donated to us by two of our patrons.

Another major service of the Center is the Chinese language library. We increased the library collections to meet the growth in readership. Almost every existing program, such as the dancing school, drawing class, and sports activities, all has increased number of enrollment.

recognizes the needs to help the new immigrants to reach the main stream society and be part of the larger community. On the other hand, the Center has also promoted our cultural heritage to a broader audience through participating in activities such as the annual Houston Thanksgiving Parade.

Home to other non-profit organizations: Chinese Civic Center has served as a hub to many grass root organizations and families where they can gather and build a stronger community. In 2003, about 30 community organizations used the facility, on a routine basis, for their annual meetings, news conferences, seminars, exhibitions, and other social events.

Promote volunteerism and nurture the future leaders: School age children are the largest group of users of the Center. Most of them come to the Center to take various academic classes and to participate in sports activities. Being the beneficiaries of the Center, they also see the value of volunteerism firsthand. They take part in many of the Center's assignments, including library daily operation, special activity preparation and setups. The youngsters benefited from the Center's rich programs while the Center also benefited from the volunteer works contributed by the youngsters. Leadership skills have also been enriched by some of the youth who organized their peers to serve at the Center.

Reach to new funding sources: 2003 was a challenging year for many non-profit organizations due to the economic slowdown and the declining donations to non-profit organizations in general. To maintain and expand our services and programs, the Center reached out for new funding sources. We are fortunate to add Houston Endowment to our list of institutional contributors. Equally important, the Center continued to be listed on the Combined Federal Employees and the Combined State Employees Campaigns of the United Way of Texas Gulf Coast, which enabled us the reach the resources we otherwise unable to access. We have also strengthened the communication with the donors, keeping them informed of the new developments at the Center.

Join main stream community: The majority of the Center's users are new immigrants from China and other Asian countries. The Center

In the following pages of this Report, you will read about the programs, services and events that the Chinese Civic Center has successfully provided or coordinated in the past year. You will also see a list of institutional contributors who made the all these possible.

We look forward to you continuing support in the coming years.

Institutional Contributors

RE/MAX

American First National Bank

Association for China Peaceful Unification

CACHH (Cultural Arts Council of Houston/Harris County)

ChevronTexaco

Chinese Business Company

ConocoPhillips

Diho Square

Guangdong Association of Texas

HEB

Hainan Fellow Association

Houston Endowment

Hong Kong Food Market

Houston Rockets

Houston-Shenzhen Sister City Association

K. Chen Engineering

Lim's Florist & Gifts

Locke Liddell & Sapp LLP

Metro Bank

National Association of Chinese Americans

OnLeung Association

Shell

Southwestern Bank

Teochew Association

TSC Engineering/Jade Realty, Inc.

Texas First National Bank

Texas Jiang-Zhe-Hu Fellowship Association

Tindall and Foster Law Office

United Way

LIST OF MAJOR ACTIVITIES

Chinese Civic Center (CCC) organized cultural activities and provided a wide range of social and educational programs to serve the Chinese American community and other communities in the Greater Houston area. Below are the highlights of our major accomplishments for 2003.

Chinese Language Library

We continued the growth in our library memberships and collections. The number of active members has reached 2,150. The Center received donations from various sources in 2003 with over 2200 books and 700+ VCDs and DVDs. The library opens to the public 6 days a week for a total of 32 hours per week. The success of the Center's library has also drawn the attention from main stream society.



While campaigning for Houston city council, a candidate stopped at the Center library to greet the voters.



Young readers learning Chinese language and their cultural heritage in the library

Cultural and Educational Classes

CCC provides spaces to the youth programs listed below to promote quality education and to enrich the after-school life. Competitions, exhibitions, auditions, and rehearsals were held throughout the year by various schools or clubs to motivate the youngsters.

- Chinese Civic Center BaoShanJing Library
- Julia School of Music
- J & J Music
- PingPang Club
- Houston Yellow River Arts Group
- Kapok Cantonese Music Club
- Art Wang Xinsheng Studio
- ShaoLin Kungfu Academy
- Harmonic Chorus
- Golden Peacock Dancing School
- Houston Interation Women Chorus
- Adam's Math School
- Mighty Golden Harvest
- Hua Sheng Chinese School
- Edge Intertech, Inc
- ACECARE



An exhibition of the paintings by the students of Art Wang Xinsheng Studio attracted the attention of a large crowd of

- MO's Computech Inc.
- Lexus International Inc.
- Multi-Function Computer Teaching Classroom
- Beijing Opera Club

Cultural Events

Cultural exchanges and programs have always been the pillar of the Center. At the beginning of the year, we celebrated the Chinese lunar New Year by hosting the community leaders for a tea party. About 50 associations, clubs, and other community organizations in the Chinese American community greeted each other for a prosperous New Year.

During the Chinese New Year, we also successfully hosted China Folk Song Performance Traveling Show at the Cullen Hall of Performance at the University of Houston with well over 1500 people celebrating together the cultural heritage.



Community leaders congratulating the performers from China on their successful performance at the grand finale

The Chinese Civic Center joined the Houstonians in the 2003 Thanksgiving Parade. The Chinese Civic Center block consists of the flying jargons, ShaoLin Kongfu demonstration, and the flower-drum dance. Tens of thousands of people lining the streets cheers at our volunteers for their extraordinary cultural performances. The parade was also watched by the millions on the television.



Chinese Civic Center at the annual Houston Thanksgiving Parade in downtown Houston

Exhibitions

Another facet of the cultural exchanges is in the folk art and Chinese language book exhibitions. The exhibition hall in the Center provides ample space for most exhibitions and the well-utilized building easily attracts about a thousand people over a busy weekend day. The Center in association with various organizations held Art Exhibition Charity Sale to benefit the students in the remote villages in China, Photographing Competition to enrich the busy life of the new immigrants, book exhibitions to help our next generation to learn their cultural heritage.



The exhibition hall at the Center has been well utilized throughout the year. Above right is the ribbon cutting of China Book Fair. Above-center shows the Art Exhibition Charity Sale which benefits the disadvantaged children in the remote villages in China. The right-side picture is from the Photographing Competition co-organized by the Center and the Houston Zhiqing Association.

China National Day Celebration

The Center, together with many other organizations, organized the annual Gala to celebrate the Chinese national day and to reconnect the new immigrants to their heritage and culture. Besides showing the richness of Chinese culture, the gala also demonstrates the unity of Chinese communities. Award to Distinguished Friend of China during China National Day Celebration is an effort to promote mutual understanding among the peoples and to further enhance the tie between the United States and China. At gala each year, CCC recognizes the significant contributions made by citizens in the Greater Houston Area to the Sino-U.S. relationship. This year, Houston Rockets was awarded the Distinguished Friend of China for its contribution in promoting cultural exchanges between the two great nations. The event was also attended by officials from the State, Harris County, Fort Bend County, City of Houston, City of Sugarland, and Missouri City.



A Mid-Autumn or Moon Festival feast organized by the Sichuan Association at the Center attracted a large crowd of people loving spicy food.

Holiday and other entertainment activities

Because of the excellent facility with large multi-purpose room, exhibition hall, and meeting rooms, the Center has become the most popular place to hold holiday events. We have seen, among many other events, the annual Huaxia Cup Pingpong competition, Karaoke Evening cosponsored with Yellow River Chorus, Annual Hua-Xia Gong Zhu (a card game) co-sponsored with Sino-Professional Club. The Center also hosted a traditional Chinese wedding, attracting big crowd of well wishers.



A traditional Chinese wedding was in progress at the Center.

Educational seminars

Throughout the year, the Center provided spaces to many organizations and business to hold classes and seminars on topics such as tax preparation, English language skill improvement, health care, immigration issues, etc. During the SARS outbreak in the spring of 2003, the Center co-organized a series of timely seminars to educate people on SARS and SARS prevention.

Senior activities

We provided the facilities for educational seminars on health care and Chinese herbal medicine. CCC also is becoming a gathering ground to share Chinese Folk arts and music, to practice Taiji, and other social programs to the seniors. The Center also employed some seniors to work with the Federal Government on senior employment.

Youth activities and opportunities

School age children are the largest group of users of the Center. Most of them come to the Center to take various academic classes and to participate in sports activities. Being the beneficiaries of the Center, they also see the value of volunteerism firsthand. They take part in many of the Center's assignments, including library daily operation, special activity preparation and setups. The youngsters benefited from the Center's rich programs while the Center also benefited from the volunteer works contributed by the youngsters. Leadership skills have also been enriched by some of the youth who organized their peers to serve at the Center.



Two student volunteers sorting out the customs used in Chinese traditional performances.



Group of student volunteers sorting out the donated items to the Center.

Career Development Education

Another goal of the Center is to help the new immigrants to help themselves. With the increasing need for computer literacy and information access, the Center opened a new computer training and internet access classroom. The computer equipments and the

computer network were donated by two patrons of the Center. Volunteers were recruited to manage the center and to provide training.



Trainees from all over the country convening at the Center to learn traditional Chinese medicine.



The Multi-Function Computer Training Classroom offers the state of art information access and computer literacy

Because of its broad reach to the Chinese American community and the affordable multi-purpose facility, many organizations choose the Center as an effective and convenient place to conduct their trainings. For example, Texas College of Traditional Chinese Medicine held its Acupuncture and Herb Medicine training classes at the Center for people throughout the Country.

Hub to Other Community Organizations

In 2002, more than 20 community organizations utilized the CCC facility for board meetings, news conferences, seminars, exhibitions, and other social events. Below is a sample list of the organizations used the facility.

- Alumni Association of Xiamen University
- Association of Northeast Chinese, Texas
- CAPA (Chinese American Petroleum Association)
- CAPST (Chinese Association of Professionals in Science & Technology)
- China Overseas Petroleum Alumni Association
- Chinese School Association, USA
- Dalian Science and Technology Alumni Association, Houston
- Fudan University Alumni Association, Houston
- Houston Alumni Association of Beijing University
- Houston Yellow River Chorus & Harmonic Chorus
- HuaSheng Academy
- IAOE (International Association of Ocean Engineers)
- New Century Chinese Radio Station
- Overseas Sichuan Development Association
- Overseas Chinese Education Fund
- Shandong Fellowship Association
- Sino-Professional Club
- Texas Wu Yep Association
- United Associations of Chinese Alumni in Houston
- Yao Ming Fan Club
- Zhejiang Overseas
- Zhejiang University Alumni Association
- ZhiQing Association

U.S. - CHINA SERVICE CENTER
(D.B.A. CHINESE CIVIC CENTER INC.)

Balance Sheet
December 31, 2003

<u>Assets</u>	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ <u>352,024</u>
Fixed assets:	
Library (books, videos, and CD)	81,477
Furniture and equipment	14,660
Leasehold improvements	34,379
Accumulated depreciation and amortization	<u>(130,516)</u>
Total fixed assets, net	-
Total assets	\$ <u><u>352,024</u></u>
<u>Liabilities and Net Assets</u>	
Accrued liabilities	37,346
Accounts payable	<u>1,000</u>
Total liabilities	<u>38,346</u>
Net assets:	
Unrestricted	99,379
Temporarily restricted	<u>214,299</u>
Total net assets	<u>313,678</u>
Total liabilities and net assets	\$ <u><u>352,024</u></u>