

# Chinese Civic Center 中国人活动中心

## 2006 Annual Report



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## Board of Directors (2006)



CHAIR	Yang, Jun	杨俊
VICE-CHAIRS	Chen, Ke	陈珂
	Hu, Shaohua	胡少华
	Guo, Yuxiang (Harry)	郭玉祥
	Tang, David	邓润京
	Xie, Zhong	谢忠
SECRETARY	Xie, Zhong	谢忠
TREASURE	Zheng, Xiuyun	郑秀耘
BOARD MEMBERS	Gong, Jiangping	龚建平
	Liang, Yangyan	梁扬燕
	Liu, Ji	刘骥
	Qiao, Fengxiang	乔凤祥
	Sun, Harry	孙铁汉
	Wang, Alex	王福生
	Xu, Hua	徐华
	Xu, Jane Zhong	徐忠
	Yu, Jenny	俞晓春
	Zhou, Fang (Frank)	周方方

## Words from the Board of Directors

2006 has been another successful year to the Chinese Civic Center, thanks to the support from our donors, patrons, and volunteers of the Center. We continued to provide a suite of programs to the ever increasing number of people utilizing the facility. , one of our main focuses in 2006 is to find a new home for our center. With the great help from our generous community supporters and corporate sponsors, we are fortunate to run a successful capital campaign that made it possible for us to close the purchase of the new building at 5905 Sovereign Drive. In the time of transition from the old facility to the new building, we were able to maintain our traditional cultural programs. New grants, such as that from Houston Endowment, enabled us to meet the increasing utilization of the Center's programs and facility.

**Capital campaign for the new building:** We closed the purchase of the new building on Oct 8th, 2005. The New building located at the vibrant Southwest Houston area and is within one mile distance from the old building. The facility is a 22,800 sqft one story building that has approximately same usage square footage with the old building.

**Expand community services:** We have added books and videos to our 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.

**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 2006, about 40 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:** 2006 was another 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 to 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 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.

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  
ConocoPhillips  
Diho Square  
Guangdong Association of Texas  
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  
Ming Bridge International Group, Ltd. Co.  
National Association of Chinese Americans  
National Commodities Company  
On Leung Association  
Shell  
Southwestern National Bank  
Teochew Association  
TSC Engineering/Jade Realty, Inc.  
Texas First National Bank  
Tindall and Foster Law Office

## 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. Chinese Civic Center hosted 110 activities organized by various organizations during 2006. Below are the highlights of our major accomplishments for 2006.

### **Celebration Gala of 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Chinese Civic Center on February 12, 2006**

After 10 years hard work and serial successful fundraising event, we purchased our permanent build on October 8, 2005. We celebrated the 10th Anniversary of Chinese Civic Center on February 12, 2006 at Phoenix Seafood Restaurant. More than 500 guest and VIP attended this event.



### **Election of new board members of Chinese Civic Center**

Ai, Lilian (Li Liying), Liu, Ji, Qiao Fengxiang, Zhou, Fangfang (Frank) were elected as new board directors of Chinese Civic Center, Qingquan Lee, yuanfang Shen, Zhijian Zhou decides not serve in new term. Harry Sun was elected to replace Ai, Lilian because of job relocation.

During the first board meeting, the officials of Board of term 2006-2008 was elected as below:  
Mr. Yang Jun is approved to act as the Chair of Board of Director from April 2006 – March 2008. Vice Chairs of Board of Director: Chen, Ke, Deng, Runjing (David Tang), Guo, Yuxiang (Harry), Hu, Shaohua, Xie, Zhong. Zheng, Xiuyun is nominated and approved as Treasurer; Xie, Zhong is nominated and approved as Secretary;

### **Passage of New Operation Rules and Policies of Chinese Civic Center**

After four months of discussion and revision, the New Operation Rules and Policies of Chinese Civic Center were approved by the board and began effective January 2007.

This is first time in Chinese Civic Center history that a complete set of Operation Rules and Policies with such a detail is established and enforced.

## Chen Yujie's visit to Chinese Civic Center

Ms. Chen Yujie, the Director of the Overseas Chinese Affairs Office of the State Council of P.R.China, visited the Chinese Civic Center on June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2006. Ms. Chen Yujie visited the facilities and programs hosted in Chinese Civic Center, and attended a discussion forum with Chinese community leaders.



## Visa Program and new Website

To facilitate people to get VISA for traveling to China in Houston and all the 8 southern states , Chinese Civic Center started the visa program in November, 2006, and launched the newly designed website to facilitate this program: <http://www.cccvisa.com/>



## Chinese Language Library

We continued the growth in our library memberships and collections. The number of active members has reached 3000. The Center received donations from various sources in 2006 with over 4000 books and 5000 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. "Hua Xing Shu Wu" was established by donation from China.



## 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
- USA-Sino News
- J & J Music
- PingPang Club
- Houston Yellow River Arts Group
- Kapok Cantonese Music Club

- Art Wang Xinsheng Studio
- ShaoLin Kungfu Academy
- Harmonic Chorus
- Adam's Math School
- Xiyanghong Senior Club



### Cultural Events

Cultural exchanges and programs have always been the pillar of the Center. We organized and hosted the Shaolin Martial Arts Performance on July 1, and 2, 2007.





### **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.

We also organized two special culture exhibitions: The Tibet in 24 Hours, and the Photo exhibit in memory of Dr. Sun Yat Sen's 140th anniversary.



**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 Mayor Bill White was awarded as Distinguished Friend of China for his 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 Sugar Land, and Missouri City.

### **Holiday and other entertainment activities**

Because of the excellent facility with large multipurpose 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, Chorus, Annual New Year's Eve party hosted by CAPST and Sino-Professional Club.

### **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.



### 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. We hosted twice Senior Club Birthday Celebration parties during 2006.



### 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.



### 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.

Because of its broad reach to the Chinese American community and the affordable multipurpose 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 2006, 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.

- 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
- IAOE (International Association of Ocean Engineers)
- Overseas Sichuan Development Association
- Overseas Chinese Education Fund
- Shandong Fellowship Association
- Sino-Professional ClubTexas
- Wu Yep Association
- United Associations of Chinese Alumni in Houston
- Yao Ming Fan Club
- Zhejiang Overseas
- Zhejiang University Alumni Association
- ZhiQing Association



# Chinese Civic Center

## Mission Statement

To build a stronger Community through collaborative efforts, volunteerism, leadership, multi-cultural education, and community services.



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