



PCDC was formed in 1966 to preserve, protect and promote Chinatown as a viable ethnic, business and residential community.

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August 2009 News

# Teen Club



The PCDC Teen Club served 58 teens in the 2008-2009 school year. Most of the youth come from Chinatown and South Philly. The youth speak different languages at home including Cantonese, English, Fuzhounese, Hakka, Mandarin, Shanghainese, Toishanese, and Vietnamese. The majority of the youth indicate that they come to Teen Club looking for a place to meet new people and to hang out with friends they already have because there are limited spaces available for the youngsters in the community. By providing a safe space and bringing young people together for positive development, PCDC Teen Club helps to build a community. The Teen Club will resume in September. **To sign up, please contact Xu Lin at: (215) 922-2156.**

Teen Club was a tremendous success last year. Special thanks to Michelle Wong, Carol Wong, Xu Lin, and all of the volunteers for their dedication and efforts. Congratulations to Michelle Wong who will be attending NYU in New York City. We wish Michelle two fun years at NYU. Here are some words from Michelle:

“This past school year, I had the opportunity to work with Philadelphia youth through the PCDC Chinatown Teen Club. Along with Xu Lin, I applied my background as an admissions and career adviser to help the youth learn life skills that they could use beyond their time with us. We worked on public speaking, resume writing, community organizing, and applying for college and financial aid. I also applied my experience with NAAAP Philadelphia to help the youth develop leadership skills. The youth were bright and curious, and I can only hope that they will continue to have resources and support in the future. My experience with the Teen Club contributed to the refocus of my own career. As someone who is always involved with nonprofits and the community, I decided to pursue this work professionally. This fall, I will begin fulltime graduate work at NYU's Wagner School of Public Service. I hope that, when I return to Philadelphia, the youth will be more developed leaders within the community”.

PCDC launched the Teen Club program in spring of 2008 to assist the underserved teenagers in the community. The program is dedicated to working with both immigrant and native born students to empower these future leaders.

# New Faces At PCDC

PCDC welcomes Xin Ge and Wendy Tseng to our staff. We also say thank you to Kejuan Yu and Wei Chen, our summer high school interns. Sponsored by the Philadelphia WorkReady Program, Cambodian Association referred these two students to PCDC for 6 weeks.

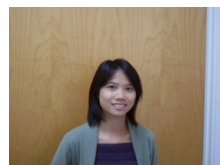
Xin Ge is originally from Beijing, China. He just received a master degree in City Planning from University of Pennsylvania. Interned at PCDC last summer, Xin started his career at PCDC, as the special project manager, dedicated to improving the urban appearance of Philadelphia Chinatown.



Wendy Tseng comes from Taipei, Taiwan. She graduated from Saint Joseph's University in this May with a Master degree in Business Administration. She is currently volunteering at PCDC and learning a good deal of history, culture, and struggles of Chinatown.



Kejuan Yu will be a high school senior this fall. She aims to attend college. On her free time, she plays badminton which she is really good at.



Wei Chen will also enter his senior year in high school. He is a leader of the Chinese American Student Association of South Philadelphia High School which aims to improve the relationship among students.



# 2010 Census



## Community Meeting

The Census Bureau and the community organizations including PCDC, CBA, and On Lok House will co-sponsor a community meeting to help the community learn more about the census and how it will affect everyone.

Please join us on September 16, at 7 PM at Holy Redeemer Church (915 Vine Street). For more information about this meeting, please contact Grace Kong of the Census Bureau at: (215) 767-7715.

### What is the census?

The census is a count of everyone living in the United States every 10 years.

It takes less than 10 minutes to complete.

Federal law protects the personal information you share during the census.

Census data are used to distribute Congressional seats to states, to make decisions about what community services to provide, and to distribute \$300 billion in federal funds to local, state and tribal governments each year.

### How will the census affect me?

The census decides the federal funding to your state for the next 10 years. The increase or decrease of the public benefits depends on the amount of the federal funding your state receives. These are some of the areas will be affected by of the federal funding: schools, social security, financial aid, health centers/clinics, Medicaid, and Medicare. In another words, if you receive any of the benefits or go to any of the institution mentioned above, you will be affected.

### How does it work?

The Census Bureau will mail or deliver questionnaires to your house in March 2010. The Census Bureau will mail a second form to households that do not respond to the initial questionnaire.

Households that still do not respond will be called or visited by a Census worker. (Census workers can be identified by a census badge and bag.)

For more information, please contact the local 2010 Census Office: (215) 767-7715 or visit: <http://2010.census.gov/2010census/>

## Accessing Service

The Independence Blue Cross & Highmark Blue Shield Caring Foundation's bi-lingual specialist Jennifer Lam will be available on **Monday, September 14th, from 10:00am to 1:00pm** to provide application assistance for health insurance to low-income families who do not qualify for Medicaid at PCDC's office (901 Wood Street). You must call Jennifer Lam at (215) 779-8954 in advance to schedule an appointment.

# Housing News



## Training Program


The 14 first-time homebuyers who were assisted by PCDC's Chinatown Homeownership Initiative have moved into their new homes in Ludlow Homes. All of us at PCDC are happy for them. **If you are planning to purchase a home**, PCDC is hosting a Freddie Mac - Credit Smart® workshop. The seminar will be held in both Cantonese and Mandarin.

The **Credit Smart®** workshops cover the importance of establishing credit, savings, loan information and the process of homeownership, tools for how to make the best financial choices for you and your family, and the responsibilities of being a homeowner.

**This is a FREE 2 part series seminar.**


**Part I—The Important of Good Credit & Steps to Homeownership**

**Wednesday, September 23rd from 6 - 8PM**

 **PNC** Guest speaker: PNC Bank will explain their services.

**Part II - Homeowner Benefits & Responsibilities**

**Wednesday, September 30th from 6 - 8 PM**

 **Guest Spraker: State Farm Insurance** Specialist will be explaining their Homeowner's the Insurance Policy . If you have any question about your own policy, please feel free to bring it on that day, with your questions.

Call **Wendy at PCDC at 215/922-6156** to make your reservation.

## Community Safety

On August 19, PCDC organized a community safety meeting to deal with problems neighbors have been experiencing with the night clubs in the community. The speakers from the District Attorney's Office and the Health Department advised the residents to contact the law enforcement agencies each time a nuisance occurs. For complaints regarding loud music from the clubs, residents can call the Health Department to make a complaint: (215) 685-7580. For other club related issues (i.e. trespassing, illegal parking, noise from club goers, urination, litter, etc.), please call "911" or D.A.'s Office hotline: (215) 686-5858. Residents can also complete an affidavit from D.A.'s Office to file complaints. To receive a copy of the affidavit, please call the hotline or contact Xu Lin of PCDC at: (215) 922-2156.