



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

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January 2010 News

Chinese New Year



The Chinese New Year falls on Valentine's Day Sunday February 14th this year. This is the year of the Tiger. Every year Chinatown has its annual Lion Dance Parade. The lion according to Chinese myth is an auspicious

creature, and is believed to bring good luck. Therefore, during the parade, each business will try to lure the lions to its store with hanging vegetables - the lion is a vegetarian - and fire crackers. Come out to celebrate with us this Chinese New Year, and feel the festivities in Chinatown.

Here are the following dates of performances, and the performance starts near 10th and Race Streets.

- Saturday Feb 13th 11pm- Ring in the New Year**
- Sunday Feb 14th 12pm- Sun's Performs Lion Dance and Martial Arts Demonstration**
- Sunday Feb 21st 12pm- Philadelphia Freemason's Lion Dance**

Friendship Gate

Last year, we collaborated with International Visitors Council of Philadelphia (IVC), Department of Public Property, and six of Tianjin's more experienced artisans to renovate the Chinatown Friendship Gate. Through this sister city collaboration, the Friendship Gate has been restored its original splendor and has brought pride and prosperity once again to Philadelphia's Chinatown and the City of Philadelphia. Now with an inspirational appearance during the day, the Friendship Gate is about to shed some light on Chinatown's Main Street during night time. With the help of Department of Public Property, PCDC with its design team - YCH Architect and Advantage Lighting - has developed a lighting proposal and started installation in late January. We hope to unveil the new lights by Chinese New Year.

PCDC Fundraiser Dinner



Each year PCDC has their annual fundraising dinner. This year it will be held on Friday, February 19, 2010. Tickets are \$75. If you would like to support our event, please call Rachel at PCDC at 215-922-2156.

As non-profit organization we rely on the generous support of individuals who support our mission to **Protect, Preserve and Promote** Chinatown!



Year of the Tiger Pin 2010

2010 Census Job

PCDC, a Census Complete Count partner, has been educating the community about the importance of participating in the upcoming Census 2010 survey.

Presently, we would like to inform you that the U.S. Census Bureau is recruiting temporary, part-time census takers for the 2010 Census. These short-term jobs offer good pay, flexible hours, paid training, and reimbursement for authorized work-related expenses, such as mileage incurred while conducting census work. Best of all, census takers work right in their own communities. Census taker jobs are excellent for people who want to work part-time, those who are between jobs, or just about anyone who wants to earn extra money while performing an important service for their community.

How to Apply

Call 1-866-861-2010 and schedule an appointment to take the employment test. The U.S. Census Bureau will consider offering the employment test in Chinatown. www.2010censusjobs.gov

student Action

PCDC is proud to have co-sponsored the “Call to Witness and Action” event organized by the Philadelphia Student Union on Monday, January 18th, 2010. The purpose of the event was to call for an end to all forms of school violence and to celebrate Dr. King’s anti-violence legacy. The Asian American students from South Philadelphia High School who boycotted school due to the school violence that sent more than a dozen Asian students to the hospital for treatment on December 3rd, 2009, also joined the event.

The event included a march followed by a rally at Arch Street Methodist Church. About 600 people walked the street while shouting chants like: “the students united, will never be defeated!” “Stand up for justice, stand up for peace!” Witnessing the 600 marchers was inspiring. Witnessing students of all backgrounds holding signs and chanting together let me see hope.

Students from different public schools spoke at the rally. Together, the youth sent one message throughout the event: we need to stop violence of any form, whether it’s interpersonal violence or institutional violence. The structural violence produced by underfunding the public school system leads to all sorts of negative outcomes including high drop out rates, low levels of college attendance, and a schools to prison pipeline. All of these types of violence are as harmful as interpersonal violence.

I was impressed by the young people’s ability to analyze their situation, their determination to make a change, and their ability to organize. Dr. King’s legacy is being carried on by the youth. As an adult, I feel that there is a lot more we need to do to catch up with them.—Xu Lin

Free Tax Help

The American Association for Ethnic Chinese (AAEC) will offer free tax help through the VITA program (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) to low-to-moderate income (\$38,000 and below) families. Please bring your W-2 or 1099 form, Social Security Card, Income documentation or bank statement, Tax deductible bills and a copy of last year’s tax return.

Dates: February 20rd, 21th, and 22th (Saturday, Sunday, and Monday) 9am to 4pm.

February 27th, 28th & March 1st (Saturday, Sunday, and Monday) 9am to 4pm

Location: On Lok Housing Senior Center, 213 N. 10th Street

PCDC Community Membership Program

PCDC would like to introduce the first membership program available for the Chinatown community. This is the beginning of PCDC’s efforts to streamline its community services, and to structure the delivery of such services, for the benefit of all clients.

By joining PCDC’s Community Membership Program, a member is able to utilize PCDC’s number of social services programs, translation assistance, and participate in new/potential homebuyer and financial literacy workshops. In addition, members will receive complementary admission for PCDC’s year-round cultural events, are automatically registered to vote in our annual Board Election, and receive our newsletter several times a year. Most importantly, members will learn about the importance of neighborhood planning and development for the future of Chinatown, Philadelphia.

PCDC encourages everyone to join the Membership Program!

For more info, please contact PCDC at: 215-922-2156

LIHEAP

Need Help with Heating Bills?

There is still time to apply for Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), which ends March 15, 2010. PCDC will assist people in completing the **LIHEAP** application. This program helps low-income families pay heating bills. Please call Wendy at (215) 922-6156 to schedule an appointment.

You will need to bring the following documents with you to your appointment:

1) Social Security cards for all persons living in your home. **2) Proof of income** for members of your household: **a)** If you receive regular monthly income such as Social Security, pension funds, disability, salary, unemployment compensation or other income, send a copy of one check or a statement showing how much you get each month. **b)** Send pay stubs for 3 months if your income does not change much from month to month. **c)** Send pay stubs for 12 months if your income changes frequently. **3)** Your last bills for your main and second heating sources such as PECO and PGW.