



THE ASSOCIATION OF CHINESE TEACHERS

May 2014

**今天的教師培養
明天的夢想**

The dreams of tomorrow are
shaped by the teachers of today...

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



*President's remarks originally presented at
the TACT Scholarship Dinner*

Good evening! Welcome to the 45th Annual Scholarship Dinner of The Association of Chinese Teachers (TACT). If this is your first time coming to our dinner, I want to extend my welcome to you. Your presence adds to our joy of this occasion. For those who come to the dinner every year, tonight serves as a reunion to see old friends and enjoy good food. If you only come to the TACT dinner once in a while, I hope you will continue to support TACT and its scholarship fund by joining us on this occasion every year.

Tonight we come to celebrate our 45th Anniversary. TACT was established in 1969 by a handful of teachers who saw the needs to advocate for fairness in educational access for the Chinese immigrant students from China and Hong Kong during that time.

Stemming from advocating for educational equity, the teachers realized that there were other goals and activities to be put in place to make that happen.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

◆ **Saturday, June 21**
HIM MARK LAI: A Lifetime
of Chinese American
History

NORTH BEACH LIBRARY GRAND REOPENING



The beautiful new North Beach Branch had its ribbon cutting ceremony on Saturday, May 10, 2014. Teachers should be proud of doing their part to provide another valuable resource for our students and our community.

In 1994, TACT contributed to the rebuilding of the Chinatown Branch of the San Francisco Library system from its Curriculum Fund. Twenty years later, TACT again lends a hand in the fundraising effort for the North Beach Branch. Because of its proximity to Chinatown, Francisco Middle School and Galileo High School, the branch is used by many of our community's students and residents.

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PHOTO GALLERY FROM THE TACT SCHOLARSHIP DINNER



Checking in with Herb and Donna



Lauren Tran, Grade 6
Alice Fong Yu Alternative School
Guzheng Performance



President's Message: Selina Mok and MC Lauren Marshman



Lonnie K Chin, Keynote Speaker



Left to Right: Matt Haney, Emily Murase-Board of Education, retirees Eleanor Mar-Beshears and Rebecca Ja-EES Site Manager, David Chiu-President, Board of Supervisors, retiree Helen Ying-Executive Director of Professional Learning

PHOTO GALLERY FROM THE TACT SCHOLARSHIP DINNER



- **Front Row** - Left to Right: Yingshi Liang-Mission, Shining Yu-Galileo, Vanessa Li-Marshall, Michelle Kong-Galileo, Lisa Au-Galileo, Chloe Yang-Balboa
- **Back Row** – Left to Right: Xiaofan Wu-Lowell, Xiu Ying Li Yo-Mission, Susie Leung-Lincoln, Chiu Wa Wu-Mission, Zihua Huang-SF International, Nathaniel Ng-Academy of Arts and Sciences
- **Missing:** Evan Luu- Washington



Josephine Ho and Christina Jung TACT Board Members with student volunteers



Entertainment at the TACT Dinner



Left to Right: Victor Tam-Principal of CEC, Selina Mok-President of TACT & Teacher at Garfield ES, Sophia Voong-Teacher, David Wong-Assistant Superintendent of Cohort 2, Sam Louie-Retired Principal of John Yehall Chin ES, Paula Niland-District Librarian, Danny Wong-Program Administrator of AAO

A SAN FRANCISCO TREAT: Asian Pacific Islander Americans on the Streets

On Saturday, April 26, the TACT Curriculum Committee co-sponsored an advance celebration of Asian Pacific Heritage Month (May) with Asian American Studies at San Francisco State University. Children's activities included paper airplanes, kites, mini books, and folding streetcars featuring the accomplishments of notable Asian Americans. In recognition of our presence in California's gold mines depicted in *Chang's Paper Pony*, students cut paper horses and practiced their Chinese calligraphy. A teacher read to children throughout the day in a book corner. Parents, students and librarians were able to peruse exemplary books with themes and images relating to Asian Pacific Islander Americans (APIA).



With input from committee members, college students created a "Map of APIA Stars" which is included in this newsletter. Visitors enjoyed playing a board game developed by student assistant Cynthia Ashton. A Jeopardy style projection on a large screen quizzed the audience about the accomplishments of APIA notables. Four students presented their Power Points projects from their research for the year. Additional biographies and research papers were assembled in binders for the public to read.

Committee members who worked on this event were Irene Dea Collier, Maisie Dea, Lorraine Dong, Helen Joe-Lew, Gale Ow, Jeannie Woo, and Anita Wu. Many thanks are in order for Jerry Dear of the San Francisco Public Library for facilitating this event at the Main Library. The library co-sponsors were the Magazines & Newspapers Center, the Fisher Children's Center and the Filipino American Center.



See Page 8
for Map of
APIA Stars

Event planning committee members from the Asian American Studies Department at S. F. State University

CALIFORNIA'S DISTINGUISHED SCHOOLS – 2014

Accolades to San Francisco's Top Ten Schools

TACT recognizes and honors its members for their strong commitment and innovative approaches to improving student academic achievement at the following schools:

Claire Lilienthal, Clarendon, Creative Arts Charter, Gordon J. Lau, Grattan, Lawton, McKinley, Sunnyside & West Portal.



Double congratulations to Principal Rosina Tong, San Francisco's Principal of the Year and the faculty and staff at the Chinese Immersion School at DeAvila for their place on California's Distinguished School's list.

Rosina Tong, principal at SF's Chinese Immersion School at De Avila and winner of the Mayor's 2014 Principal of the Year Award, with her children, Elliot Tam, 18, Corinne Tam, 16, Nathan Tam, 13. Best parenting advice: "Support your children by allowing them to try, succeed and even fail. The lessons they learn will be long lasting."

TEA TALK with Helena Tran, 1st Year Teacher 180 Days Later...

We first met Helena Tran, Visitacion Valley Elementary, in our October 2013 newsletter. Helena was a first year teacher assigned to a 4th/5th grade combination bi-literacy class.



TACT: What are some things you accomplished this year that you are proud of?

I am most proud of fulfilling my dream of being a school teacher! I was able to complete my first year with the BTSA program and will be able to enroll with BTSA for a second year to clear my preliminary credential. I will continue my teaching profession next fall at my current school.

TACT: What is one way that you grew professionally this year?

I was able to adapt to many changes and mandates from the school district. I learned to write curriculum maps and apply common core standards for my lesson plans. I participated in many professional development opportunities to enhance my learning and teaching. I know that all of these experiences will help me to become a better teacher.

TACT: When was a time this year when you felt joyful and/or inspired about the work that you do?

A time that I felt joyful about the work that I do was when I completed my last trimester report cards. I felt that many of my students had grown in their learning and there were also many positive changes in their attitudes and behavior.

TACT: What do you hope your students remember most about you as a teacher?

What I hope my students will remember most about me as a teacher is that I cared deeply about their learning, I wanted them to try their best, and I wanted to see them become successful people in the future.

SAN FRANCISCO UNIFIED
SCHOOL DISTRICT
Office of Family Voice
Dedicated phone line for
Chinese speakers
若要通話, 請致電:
[\(415\) 355-7388](tel:(415)355-7388)

NORTH BEACH LIBRARY GRAND REOPENING

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This small library has been transformed into a multi-story building with San Francisco bond funds; however, the interior shelves, computers, and furniture must be privately financed.


TACT's Curriculum Fund and individual teachers donated to this campaign. TACT added its sales from Leland Wong's *Exploring Chinatown* and TACT's *Crossing Boundaries* at various events. Our organization collected \$ 650 in just two months. In addition to these funds, many educators have donated directly through the Library website and February fundraiser at the Chinese Historical Society. If you missed these events, you may continue to donate through <https://act.friendssfpl.org/northbeach>

ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE CELEBRATION


Him Mark Lai

A Lifetime of Chinese American History

Presented by Judy Yung, Ruthanne Lum McCunn, and Laura Lai




Saturday, June 21, 2014
2:00 p.m.
Oak Room
San Mateo Main Library




The late Him Mark Lai, renowned Dean of Chinese American History, devoted his life to rescuing, collecting, creating, and sharing historical sources with scholars and researchers on both sides of the Pacific. He is the author of 10 books and over 100 groundbreaking articles on Chinese American history. His recently published autobiography, co-edited by Judy Yung, Ruthanne Lum McCunn, and Russell Leong, provides a moving portrait of his life, beginning with his childhood in San Francisco Chinatown to his career as a mechanical engineer and his evolution as a community activist and historian.


Books available for purchase. Chinese version will be distributed for free.




Self-Help for the Elderly
安老自助處




CHINESE CULTURE CENTER OF SAN FRANCISCO
舊金山中華文化中心




CHINESE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA
MUSEUM




Chinese for All
CHINESE FOR ALL




TACT
THE ASSOCIATION OF CHINESE TEACHERS




OCA SAN MATEO - Asian Pacific American Advocates
EMBRACING THE HOPES AND ASPIRATIONS OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICANS



ASIANWEEK FOUNDATION
Celebrating diversity through unity



領 亞裔教育行政人員協會
Association of Asian American Administrators




San Mateo Public Library

FREE PROGRAM
Organized by the Asian Library Advisory Committee.

FREE PARKING

San Mateo Public Library . 55 West Third Avenue . San Mateo, CA 94402
650.522.7818 . www.smplibrary.org



San Mateo Public Library Foundation

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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Over the last 45 years, TACT has collaborated with community organizations, participated in educational policy making, and developed teacher efficacies to achieve educational excellence in our students. In a short while, you will hear from our keynote speaker, Ms. Lonnie Chin, who was one of the charter members of TACT to talk about the challenges and triumphs of the organization and her memories of being an active member of TACT. Also, at your tables, you will find TACT's 45th Anniversary Brochure. You can read about the actions and accomplishments that contribute to our legacy.

I have the pleasure of serving as the president of TACT and I would like to highlight what TACT has accomplished this year.

In January, our Teachers Teaching Teachers professional development was held successfully, despite it being a rainy Saturday. It provided a place for the presenters and participants to network and learn from each other. We thank all the presenters for their time and their work they put in for this event.

In March, TACT hosted a one-of-kind fundraising event, the Chinatown Ghost Walk Tour. It was organized by Josephine Ho, a counselor from Galileo High. The founder of the tour, Cynthia Yee donated all the proceeds from the ticket sales to the scholarship fund. We thank Ms. Yee and all the participants of the tour.

TACT has several committees. But I will only highlight one of the committees tonight. The committee that has always been on solid ground is the Curriculum Committee. It is headed by a highly respected teacher from Presidio Middle School, Irene Collier. In recent years, the Curriculum Committee has been collaborating with the Asian American Studies department at San Francisco State University to compile an Asian American history curriculum for social studies and history teachers to use in their classes. Irene also writes many articles for our newsletters.

Speaking of newsletters, if you have not visited the TACT website, please do so when you get home. It contains a link to the curriculum material archive. It announces upcoming TACT events and other events in the Asian American community. It also features teacher interviews. This fabulous website is the work of our new newsletter editor, Stacy Joe. Stacy teaches at Tenderloin Elementary. The website address is tactsf.org.

Last but not least, a big triumph for TACT this year is that the district has dedicated a phone line for the Chinese-speaking families to call when they have any unresolved student issues. They now have direct access to the school district without worrying about not knowing English. This accomplishment was made with the total support of the Association of Asian American Administrators. Many of its members are here tonight with us and many of them were once very committed to TACT when they were teachers. We owe our gratitude to the AAAA.

The above were our major accomplishments this year.

In closing, I want you to know that there were less than 15% Chinese students in San Francisco Unified in 1969; today almost 1/3 of the total student population in the district is Chinese. The mission of TACT is to continue to support these students in striving for educational excellence and equity through advocacy and outreach, through professional development, through parent involvement, through community collaboration, and through participation in the educational policy making process.

Finally, I would like to thank our donors, our members, our supporters, and many of you who gave TACT your time, energy and money. TACT can sustain and thrive for 45 years because of the generosity of people like you who believe in our mission in education. I hope you will continue to give us your support for years to come.

Thank you for being here tonight.

GHOSTWALK TOUR: Behind the Bright Lights of Chinatown

On a sunny Saturday morning in March, a group of fifteen curious adventurers experienced Chinatown in a way that would shed new light on the Chinatown they only *thought* they knew. With expert narration by owner, Cynthia Yee, the tour was conducted through the many tight alleyways, as well as to other prominent landmarks of Chinatown. All proceeds from the tour were generously donated to the TACT Scholarship Fund. Many thanks to Cynthia Yee and to Josephine Ho, TACT board member, for coordinating this tour.



Map of APIA Stars



2013-2014 TACT Executive Board

President

Selina Mok

Garfield ES

Moderator

Christina Jung

Malcolm X ES

Vice-Moderators

Josephine Ho

Galileo HS

Mary Li

Visitacion Valley ES

Secretary

Christie Kitsuda

Miraloma ES

Treasurer

Anita Wu

Lakeshore ES

Newsletter Editor

Stacy Joe

Tenderloin ES

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tactsf@yahoo.com

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1. Ruth Asawa San Francisco School of the Arts (555 Portola Drive)
2. Alice Fong Yu Alternative School (1541 – 12th Avenue)
3. Hagiwara Tea Garden Drive (Golden Gate Park)
4. JACL National Headquarters, Masao W. Satow Building (1765 Sutter Street)
5. Betty Ann Ong Chinese Recreation Center (1199 Mason Street)
6. Chinatown/Him Mark Lai Branch Library (1135 Powell Street)
7. Yick Wo Elementary School (2245 Jones Street)
8. Enid Ng Lim Alley (San Francisco)
9. John Yehall Chin Elementary School (350 Broadway Street)
10. Gordon J. Lau Elementary School (950 Clay Street)
11. Helen S. Chin Community Center, Gordon J. Lau Elementary School (950 Clay Street)
12. Lew Hing Building (858-870 Clay Street)
13. US Post Office, Chinatown Branch, Lim Poon Lee Building (867 Stockton Street)
14. Philip P. Choy Gallery, Chinese Historical Society of America Museum (965 Clay Street)
15. Walter U. Lum Place (San Francisco)
16. Willie "Woo Woo" Wong Playground (Sacramento and Hang Ah Streets)
17. Don Chee Way (San Francisco)
18. Margaret "Mom" Chung, Central Subway's Tunnel Boring Machine (San Francisco)
19. Chong-Moon Lee Center for Asian Art and Culture (200 Larkin Street)
20. Victoria Manalo Draves Park (Folsom & Sherman Streets)
21. LGBT Community Center, Arthur Dong Meeting Room (1800 Market Street)
22. Palega Recreation Center (500 Felton Street)

Note: This San Francisco Map of APIA Stars is a work-in-progress. We welcome any input that will make this map as accurate and as comprehensive as possible. Please email your comments and additions to aasdept@sfsu.edu.