



The *CHSA Bulletin* is published multiple times throughout the year. To contribute articles about Chinese American community and historical news and events, please submit articles to [info@chsa.org](mailto:info@chsa.org).  
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**CHINESE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA**

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簡報

**Bulletin**  
 CHINESE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA MUSEUM



**Happy Lunar New Year!  
 CHSA wishes you all the  
 best in the snake year!**

**蛇年快樂! CHSA在此祝你身體  
 健康, 大吉大利, 恭喜發財!**

**PLEASE RENEW OR PURCHASE A CHSA MEMBERSHIP TODAY!**

We also invite you to make a year-end donation of \$1,000 / \$2,500 / \$5,000 or more. Employer-matches are especially welcome! All contributions are tax deductible (federal tax ID #94-67122446). Contact us at (415) 391-1188.



**Bulletin 簡報**

CHINESE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA MUSEUM Winter 2013 | Vol. 49, No. 1

**Chinese Historical Society of  
 America Celebrates 50th Year**



Founders Chingwah Lee, H. K. Wong, Chairman Thomas W. Chinn, C. H. Kwock at a 1962 luncheon meeting to organize the Society. (Inset: Dr. Thomas Wu.)

**T**homas W. Chinn, C.H. Kwock, Chingwah Lee, H.K. Wong and Thomas W.S. Wu founded the Chinese Historical Society of America in 1963 with a mission: "to promote the contribution that the Chinese living in this country have made to their adopted land, the United States of America." Then in 2001, CHSA finally found a home in the historic Chinatown YWCA building, built by pioneer architect Julia Morgan. We've been busy these 50 years, challenging history, celebrating the legacy of Chinese America, and serving people all over the world. Without the hard work of staff and interns; the support of our



members; and the generous contributions of our donors, none of this would be possible. Here's to 50 more years!

Photos: CHSA Collection  
**Top: The founding of CHSA in 1963. Bottom: Grand opening of the CHSA Museum in 2001.**



**CHINESE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA**

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**MARCH**  
 CHSA Members receive special rates at the Asian Art Museum. Visit "China's Terracotta Warriors: The First Emperor's Legacy" Exhibition. See Page 3

**MARCH 2-3, 11AM-4PM**  
 SF Museum and Historical Society, The Old Mint

**MARCH 9, 1PM @ CHSA**  
 Gallery Talk: Sally Leung will reveal the hidden meanings of imagery of hats displayed in HATS OFF RECEPTION to celebrate the donation of Qing Dynasty hats by collector Leslie Selcow in memory of Jade Snow Wong

**APRIL 13, 1PM @ CHSA**  
 Earthquake: The Chinatown Story. The beginning of Chinatown as we know it.

**MAY 4**  
 Partnership with Cameron Carnival on Joice Alley. Details TBA

Full event calendar online at [chsa.org/events](http://chsa.org/events)

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# New CHSA Exhibitions Feature Children's Hats and Local Artists



This year we are featuring a new exhibition of Qing Dynasty children's hats thanks to a generous donation from Leslie Selcow in memory of Jade Snow Wong. "Hat's Off! A Playful Collection of Chinese Children's Hats" displays an ar-



ray of cool Qing Dynasty hats that boast the use of color, symbols and motifs. A tradition of dressing children in these hats to foster wealth, prosperity and well being at festival time, like the Lunar New Year was practiced in China for generations. As immigrants settled in

America, Chinese families continued to carry on the cultural practice evidenced by historic photos of children wearing hats in the 1890s. Opened in February 7th for public viewing, these hats have garnered positive reactions from the community!



Above: "Driftwood and Stones" by Leon Sun. Right: Yick Gallery mural work-in-progress by Leland Wong.

We are proud to announce this year's new artist exhibition program Creative Spaces. Our mission: incorpo-

rate and encourage artistic expression with the narrative of Chinese America. Late last year we put out a call to entries and

we were fortunate enough to receive many proposals. We selected Leland Wong and Leon Sun to launch the program.

## Donor Wall Planned for CHSA's 50th Anniversary Donor Campaign



Proposed design for CHSA's 50th Anniversary Donor Wall, on the Garden Courtyard windows.

Founded in 1963, CHSA has grown to be our nation's leading organization dedicated to the documentation, study, and presentation of Chinese American history. In 2001, CHSA opened the CHSA Museum and Learning Center in the renovated former Chinatown YWCA designed by the famed architect Julia Morgan. The Museum serves as a permanent home for the story of Chinese in America with its galleries and collections. Your gift to the campaign will advance the sustainability of the Museum for years to come and secure the Museum's ability to preserve and promote the history of Chinese in America.

**WHAT THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY CAMPAIGN FUND SUPPORTS**

This special fund will be a part of the CHSA Museum's Endowment which is used toward maintenance of the CHSA Museum—such as the replacement of the roof and repair to the Clay St. masonry in 2010—and special initiatives

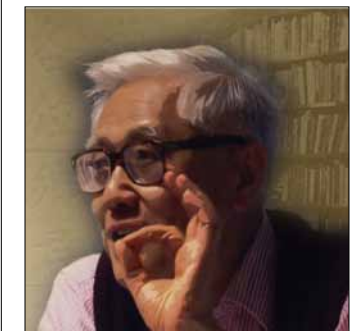
such as the acquisition and exhibition of the Jake Lee Collection. The Endowment has been critical to the Museum's continued growth since opening in 2001.

**HOW DO I PARTICIPATE?**

Please consider making a special gift to the 50th Anniversary Campaign Fund with a check or your credit card! For your gift there are a variety of forms of recognition available depending on the level of contribution. All gifts \$5,000 and above will be acknowledged in a special donor wall to be displayed on the Main Museum Gallery Floor. Gifts of \$1,000 will be recognized in a special digital display in the Gallery. Donors will be able to dedicate their gift in honor or in memory of a family member or friend.

For more information or to join CHSA's 50th Anniversary Donor Campaign, call 415-391-1188, email info@chsa.org, or write to CHSA at 965 Clay Street, San Francisco CA 94108.

## Donation by Laura Lai Ensures Him Mark Lai's Legacy Lives On



Screenshot from CHSA's Him Mark Lai Digital Archive Project, at himmarklai.org.

We are very pleased to acknowledge a very generous gift by Laura Lai of \$100,000 towards our efforts to continue the work of Him Mark Lai. This past fall we re-launched himmarklai.org, our Digital Archive Project. We have uploaded 300 works—articles and speeches—by Him Mark to the website. They are now available for researchers, and anyone who is interested in Chinese American history.

Moreover, we were very pleased to involve our Museum interns in this process of preserving and extending Him Mark Lai's tremendous body of work as historian, researcher, and master archivist.

In the coming year we are also opening to the public our Him Mark Lai Reading Room located downstairs in the Museum Learning Center where visits can access his works as well as our collection of books on various topics in Chinese history and culture.

We are fully committed to keep Him Mark Lai's legacy—our heartfelt thanks to Laura Lai for this really significant gift!

## SUPPORT CHSA'S FREE ADMISSION PROGRAM



Due to the tremendous response to our November and December free admissions, and to kick off CHSA's 50th Anniversary year, the CHSA Museum has extended free admissions through the end of February! Special thanks to the Robert Joseph Louie Memorial Fund, PG&E, and Wells Fargo for helping us to extend this offer.

We are currently seeking sponsors and community support for us to continue to offer free admissions for all museum visitors through the entire year. Check back soon for further announcements!

## ASIAN ART MUSEUM DISCOUNT FOR CHSA MEMBERS

In the month of March, CHSA members will be able to visit the Asian Art Museum as well as view the special exhibition of *China's Terracotta Warriors: The First Emperor's Legacy* at a special rate of \$8 on weekdays and \$10 on weekends. Members will need to show their membership card and can receive entry for 2 adults at this special rate. Children 12 and under are free. Members may purchase tickets only at the admissions desk. *Advanced tickets at this special rate are unavailable to purchase online.*