

NEWSLETTER September 2024

Swinging into Fall Season in San Diego!

The lazy days of summer are now behind us and schools are back in full swing.

During the past quarter, the House of China (HOC) welcomed and served our community every weekend with our cultural open house, as shown in some pictures on page 2.

The HOC accepted Lily Zhou's resignation as a Board Member after 25 years of service. Good news is she will continue as the Royal Court advisor, Essay Contest committee member, and liaison with the San Diego Wildlife Alliance on all things pandas. We will honor Lily for her dedicated service on Saturday, September 14th at our Moon Festival party. We are grateful for all of Lily's efforts to promote and strengthen the HOC's mission and outreach. Thank you, Lily! We welcome all to also have some fun and to enjoy top notch entertainment and buffet. Please join us!

The November 5th election is coming up. We hope you will inform yourself of the issues on the ballot and exercise your right to vote. Please register to vote!

There is a measure on the ballot for the City of San Diego that is of great importance for the arts and culture in our city, and it is especially important for us at the House of China. It is called the the "Penny for Arts Progress" measure, a one cent sales tax increase. The many reasons to approve it are inside the article titled "Why Vote Yes," and may be found on page 3. Please read this article prepared by the San Diego Balboa Park Cultural Partnership. The funds generated will provide a large and consistent pool of capital to maintain arts and cultural institutions. It will allow the art community to expand capacity, be more inclusive, and equitable.

Warm regards, Natasha Wong President House of China

Serving and Connecting

New HOC Flag



Forever Balboa Park, 5/9



City of SD API Award 5/14



Cups to Connection @Mingei



Asian Heritage 5/18



Unified Port District 5/31



Chinese Women's 6/1



Essay Contest 6/8



Panda Welcome 8/6



Due to rising postal costs and the amount of labor to prepare mailings, we are emailing you newsletters. Those preferring hard copies of our newsletter let us know. Those without computer access will continue to receive newsletters directly. Thank you. David Seid,

SAVE THESE DATES:

- December Nights Balboa Park wide food and entertainment, Dec. 6 & 7.
- Year of Snake CNY Gala, Saturday, January 25, 2025. Diamond Palace.
- Chinese New Year Fair, February 15 & 16, 12025

ARTS+CULTURE: SAN DIEGO

San Diego's Arts and Culture sector encourages support for the Penny for Progress Ballot Initiative.

The Arts and Culture sector is a powerful economic generator, a major employer and an invaluable community resource. Unfortunately, each year the Arts and Culture community must fight for adequate funding.

In 2012, a plan was put in place and supported unanimously by all Councilmembers, including then Councilmember Gloria, for a percentage point of the Transient Occupancy Tax to be allocated for Arts and Culture. If this was in place today, that level of funding would almost double the City's investment in Arts and Culture, benefiting creative people and communities throughout the

"Arts and culture are an essential part of the fabric of our city, contributing to the quality of life throughout the region. Let's help ensure that San Diego thrives through funding the services and infrastructure that serve us all."

Jessica Hanson York

Executive Director and CEO, Mingei International Museur President, Balboa Park Cultural Partnership

city at a time where it is needed the most. It would drive increases in employment and generate revenue through tourism. No downside - and critically important.

Arts and Culture programs, activities and creative events are a core city service, delivered by non-profit organizations and countless artists throughout every community. This is our personality - the core of San Diego.

The Penny for Progress ballot initiative this November will ask voters to increase the sales tax by 1 penny to generate an estimated \$400M per year for the general fund. While success with the initiative is not directly tied to the funding for any one program, ensuring secure and stable Arts and Culture funding must be a high priority, including both funding for non-profit organizations and infrastructure investments for desperately needed buildings like those in Balboa Park.

The Penny for Progress initiative has the potential to deliver so many critically important infrastructure improvements and funding for key city services in San Diego. We ask that you vote YES.

Coalition for Opportunity and Representation in Elections SoCal PAC (CORE SoCal PAC) // FPPC ID: 1462036

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