

Winter Solstice Festival

Celebrate the return of the light after the longest night of the year at the Secret Lantern Society's 16th Annual Winter Solstice Lantern Festival. Join a lantern procession from Strathcona Community Centre to the Garden, and then enjoy the magical hand-made lanterns by some of Vancouver's best lantern artists. Children's Lantern Courtyard, entertainment, music and more. Fun for the whole family!



FALL EXHIBITIONS

September 1 to October 5: *Autumn*

Chinese Canadian Artists Federation. This group painting exhibition *Autumn* highlights the sharp light and brilliant colours of nature as it celebrates before the repose of winter.

October 5 to October 31: *Our Favourites*

Favourite works from the Garden's collection. An eclectic array of artwork lovingly culled over our twenty-three years.



October 10 & 11: *The Art and Joy of Ikebana*

Under the direction of the Vancouver Ikebana Association, this is a collaborative exhibition of several schools of ikebana, including Ikenobo, Kado Sumi, Sangetsu and Sogetsu. Ikebana was originally practiced by Buddhist monks as early as the sixth century before being taken up by the nobility. Although each school of ikebana practices a unique style of traditional Japanese flower arranging, all schools strive to inspire and calm our souls. The arrangement of flowers in our space perfectly complements the Garden.

November: *Garden Works*

Local artists have been encouraged to drop by the Garden and use their visit as inspiration for a piece of art. The exhibition will be a selection of the works submitted, showcasing a variety of artistically-minded perspectives of the Garden. All Garden members are invited to submit a piece in any medium.

GIFTSHOP



The Garden's *Eight Treasures* Giftshop is proud to introduce its newest Signature Tea Blend: "The Scholar's Tea." Come and join us for a tea-tasting on September 19th, October 17th, November 14th, and December 21st. You can try the Scholar's Tea as well as our popular Empress Treasures, Blooming Mountain, and Beijing Sunset teas. Enjoy this opportunity to browse for unique gifts and talk to a local artist while enjoying a delicious cup of tea.

www.vancouverchinesegarden.com

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DR. SUN YAT-SEN
CLASSICAL
CHINESE
GARDEN

LIVING TREASURE

FALL 2009

MISSION

Connecting cultures and communities through a classical Chinese Garden

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HOURS

Fall (Sept 1 - Sept 30) 10am to 6pm

Winter (Oct 1 - Apr 30) 10am to 4:30pm

Closed on Mondays November-April

Closed Dec 25 and Jan 1.

We invite you to celebrate:

Mid-Autumn Moon Festival

The Mid-Autumn Moon Festival is one of the most important holidays in the Chinese calendar on which families celebrate the end of the summer harvesting season. Traditionally, on this day, everyone gathers to admire the bright Mid-Autumn harvest moon and eat moon cakes together.

Public Day: Sunday, October 4, 2009, 10:00am to 4:30pm



The Garden will celebrate this festival with an array of family-friendly activities, and music. Moon cakes will most definitely be served.
Open by donation.

Members & Friends Night: Friday, October 2, 2009, 7-9pm

Enjoy:

- Mooncakes and refreshments in the *Mooncake Cafe*
- Premiere Canadian performance of composer Philip Roth's "The Tarrying Garden," dedicated to our Garden, sung by tenor William George with guitar accompaniment
- Enjoy moon viewing from the ting

Please RSVP

Contact Margaret

Email: margaret@vancouverchinesegarden.com

Phone: 604-662-3207 x 202

For more information, visit www.vancouverchinesegarden.com



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Near perfect weather accompanied another excellent summer of evening programs: the second season of the China Tea Deal and the 16th season of Enchanted Evening Concerts. In August we held our second successful Evening in the Garden. These summer events would not be possible without huge support from volunteers, board members and our staff. Our staff juggles this dizzying two months of evening special events with our biggest two months of daytime visitors.

Earlier this year I wrote about Garden conservation and pond maintenance. Through the summer we continued to work with Park Board staff on both these topics. We have completed a conservation plan and moved onto a maintenance plan. We have also recently received a Pond Feasibility Study we had commissioned in partnership with Park Board. Maintenance of buildings and ponds is costly, especially in a time of economic trouble, but the quality of all the work accomplished this year by Garden trustees, Park and Garden staff, consultants and expert friends gives us our best basis ever from which to do this work.

In June I wrote about the Garden's opposition to a proposal to build marker towers of up to 300 feet in height at several sites in historic Chinatown, one being the Chinese Cultural Centre site immediately adjacent to our Garden walls. During the summer we have joined with other leading Chinatown organizations in an alliance to make sure that these towers are not allowed. Our Alliance partners include the Chinese Cultural Centre, Chinese Benevolent Association, Chinese Freemasons, and Shon Yee and Yue Shan societies. We continue to have strong support from the CCHA and Heritage Vancouver. The City has postponed its report to Council until November and we know that staff and council are well aware of public opposition to the proposal. We are optimistic the Alliance has been heard, but we will take nothing for granted. The Alliance is not opposed to increased densities being used as part of Chinatown's revitalization strategy; the Alliance does want a serious return to comprehensive planning for the district and surrounding areas.

With autumn, new programming begins in the Garden. Our extensive school program for 2009-10 is ready to go. This important aspect of the Garden's work is not visible to the casual visitor or even those of us who attend frequent evening events. Every year thousands of children in the region are introduced to Chinese cultural heritage through the Garden, significantly helping to build the respectful multicultural society that is becoming a significant part of our unique regional identity.

This autumn will also see the Board of Trustees complete their Fund Development Strategy. The Garden maintains a balanced budget through careful attention to costs. We could do more with greater incomes and we know that future maintenance and development will cost money. In anticipation of this we are preparing now to maintain and advance our sound financial position.

Do not forget the Mid-Autumn Moon Festival for members and friends on October 2. This is one of those times in the year when the Garden family gets together. See the details elsewhere in this newsletter - and don't forget to leave room for moon cake.

On behalf of the trustees,

Doug Halverson
President

The Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Garden Society would like to acknowledge and thank the following for their support: Single Donations

Stanley Dong, Anna Kirkbride, Ivan Chang, Colleen McGuinness, Catherine Whelan, Tyleen Katz, Anita Woo & James Topinka, Dietrich & Jeanette Elias, Henry Yu, Vancity

Silent Auction Items & In-kind

Caroline Lewko, Thomas Robson, Michael Brophy, Keefer Bakery, A&B Partytime Rentals, Les Ames Fromage, Wild Rice, John Atkins, Bastiaan Vernier, Sheldon, Peking Lounge, The Listel Hotel, Hyatt Regency Vancouver, The Westin Bayshore, Bob Sung, The Keefer, Sheraton Vancouver Wall Centre Hotel, Trafalgars Intergrative Naturopathic Spa, Fairmont Empress, Fanny Keefer, Bill Richardson, Robert Dar-woon, Lauch McKenzie

We kindly acknowledge the support of Vancouver Board of Parks & Recreation

THE MONKS OF GADEN

Sept 22 to 25

Daytime Activities and Evening Performances

Five Tibetan monks from Gaden Jangtse Monastery, all trained in the sacred Tibetan Buddhist art forms, will be touring in Canada as part of their 2009 Tibetan Sacred Art Tour.

From Sept 22 to 25 they will hold several daytime activities and evening performances in an effort to raise funds to support the Gaden Jangtse Monastery. Activities include building sacred sand mandalas, traditional Tibetan monk dances, chanting and debate, Tibetan butter sculpture and Buddhist prayer writing. With the purchase of a single DAYTIME ticket (\$10.00) come see the monks repeatedly, 11 to 4 daily. Take part in their morning chants and prayers and watch as their mandalas and butter sculptures take shape.

Tickets can be purchased at the door.



On Wednesday and Thursday, September 23 and 24, join us for An Evening of Sacred Music with the monks of Gaden Jangtse Monastery. From 8pm-9:30pm, the monks will chant, play and dance songs of peace followed by a demonstration of traditional Debate.

Tickets are \$18 non member/\$15 members

**To purchase evening performance tickets call
604-662-3207 x 200**

EVENING IN THE GARDEN

Over two hundred guests gathered on Wednesday August 12th for the second annual 'Evening in the Garden' event. The Garden looked spectacular with decorations from Peking Lounge and guests enjoyed the entertainment, music, food and activities that enlivened the evening. Many thanks to our event chair, Jane Wong.

Sponsors: The evening would not have been possible without the help of many people. We thank them all.

Poetry Contest

One of the activities guests participated in was a poetry contest. The first two lines of our winning poem are by the famous poet Li Bai; the last two lines are by Michael Bennett of Peking Lounge.

*Amid the flowers, from a pot of wine
I drink alone beneath the bright moonshine
I ponder life, love and days gone by
And realize that my glass is dry.*



Lan Tung of Orchid Ensemble

Caroline Lewko Thomas Robson Michael Brophy



VOLUNTEER CHRISTMAS PARTY

Annual holiday shindig will be held on Saturday, December 5th, Noon to 3pm.

Enjoy a tasty luncheon and share wonderful stories and memories of your days and evenings at the Garden. RSVP to Donna 604-662-3207 x 208 or email volunteers@vancouverchinesegarden.com