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Portland C.A.C.A. Times

A Publication of the Chinese American Citizens Alliance Portland Lodge

Website: www.cacaportland.org

Winter 2007

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**Tax-Deductible
Contribution:**

Please make your check to
"C.A.C.A. CIF"

And mail to:
C.A.C.A.
11453 SE Hazel Hill Road
Clackamas, OR 97086

Membership:

Use the form at:
[www.cacaportland.org/docs/
CACA_Membership_Application.pdf](http://www.cacaportland.org/docs/CACA_Membership_Application.pdf)

Dues are \$15 annually.

**2006 Portland
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*We wish you and your family
Merry Christmas
and
Happy New Year!*

Announcing Our 3rd Annual Chinese New Year Fundraiser Dinner

Mark your calendar to ring in the **Chinese New Year of the Pig**, on Sunday, February 25, 2007. The event will be held at Wong's King Restaurant, 8733 SE Division Street, Portland, Oregon at 5:30 PM. Please bring your family, friends and business associates to help us raise funds for our scholarships and basketball programs. Cost will be \$35 per person, with \$10 tax deductible. Our tax ID # is 94-3175213. Checks should be made out to C.A.C.A.CIF, a 501 (c)(3) organization, and mail to:

C.A.C.A. Portland Lodge
11453 SE Hazel Hill Road
Clackamas, OR 97086

If you have any items for our auction, please give Betty Jean Lee a call at (503) 221-8773. RSVP to the same by February 15, 2007. You can also RSVP to info@cacaportland.org.

2007 Scholarships & Essay Contest

The 2007 Scholarship Applications are available on our website (www.cacaportland.org). The deadline for both the Fred G. Lee Scholarships and the Tiffany Wang Art and Music Scholarship will be April 1, 2007.

The 2007 C.A.C.A. Essay Contest will be held at the Asian Health and Service Center on Saturday, March 3, 2007, 10 AM to 12 Noon. The application form for the 2007 Essay Contest will be available in early 2007 from our website (www.cacaportland.org).

Please send finished applications via regular mail (no fax accepted this year) to:

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11453 SE Hazel Hill Road
Clackamas, OR 97086

Phone (503)925-5226



Passing of Chester Locke

One of C.A.C.A.'s past presidents, Chester Locke, recently passed away. We send our sincere condolences to the family. Donations in his memory were made by Franklin Quan and Betty Jean Lee.

Basketball Season Gets Underway

Teams for the C.A.C.A. Basketball Program will soon begin practicing as they prepare for the upcoming 2006-2007 season. League play in the City of Portland's Parks and Recreation Program will begin in January.

The basketball program, which has served local Asian American and other minority youth for over 30 years, is being coordinated for a second consecutive season by volunteers Randy Choy, Cyrus Lee, and Melanie Ying.

There are a total of 10 boys and girls teams scheduled to play this season:

<u>Team Name</u>	<u>Grade Level</u>	<u>Head Coach</u>
CACA	High School Girls	Laura Le
CACA Wildboyz	5th Grade Boys	Rex Wong
CACA Dragons	8th/9th Grade Boys	Cyrus Lee
CACA Jagz	10th Grade Boys	Boun Bounma
CACA Triple Threat	11th/12th Grade Boys	Keith Lee
CACA	11th/12th Grade Boys	Phuong Thai
CACA Stallions	11th/12th Grade Boys	James Watson
CACA Tsunami	11th/12th Grade Boys	Phong Nguyen
CACA Tigers	11th/12th Grade Boys	Rithy Chean
CACA Rebels	11th/12th Grade Boys	Thanh Phuong

A highlight of the season for all coaches and players will once again be the annual Portland Jamboree Tournament, scheduled for February 10-11, 2007 at The Hoop in Beaverton. The annual Al Mar Basketball Tournament in Seattle is scheduled for March 24-25, 2007.

For the most updated information, or if you are interested in supporting the C.A.C.A. Basketball Program, please visit our website at www.cacaportland.org. Let the games begin!

Essay by 1st Place Winner, Tiffany Wang, in 2006 Local Essay Contest

Essay Question:

Strong family bonds formed the most important relationship in traditional Asian societies. In modern America, however, some observers have maintained that these family ties are coming under increasing stress. How has this tension between tradition and modernity played out in your own family and community? How would you expect Asian-American family structure and values to change in the coming years?

Tiffany's essay:

"Respect your elders" as the old Chinese saying goes. Once wielded by parents and grandparents alike, it used to call forth proper behavior-respect, dignity, politeness, mindful obedience. But as the years have passed into the next century, these ideas have been pushed into the back of youthful minds, merely a recollection of values worn and dusty. As this life barrels head first through the new millennium, the ancient worth of the Chinese family and its heavy weight of traditions have been shoved aside to make way for the modern individual, purely independent and self-affirming.

This shift in mentality has been perhaps most visible in the dynamics of the family. There were once days of overwhelming unity, of gatherings chock-full of aunts, uncles, cousins, grandparents, and sibling, days of traditional ceremony, respect, and nonstop communication. Those days have largely disappeared in the era of MTV and the internet, leaving only faint echoes of memories long neglected in faded photographs and occasional long-distance phone calls. The extinction of the extended family has instigated the disappearance of dependant family traditions, those days of respecting elders and strong family ties. In their stead trembles the bare body of the independent self.

By no means, however, is this intended to decry the existence of the individual. Today's modern world calls forth this independent being, a fresh individual who places great value on the self-self realization, self-confidence, self affirmation. These ideas are a cry of independence, a song of freedom, of that underlying right of being human. And yet with this aim, the struggle against the family commences, a fight against the confining ties of old traditions and value, so akin to the restrictions of foot binds.

And therein lies the great paradox of being Asian-American. Like Pu Bois, we suffer the burden and wonderment of possessing two souls, the dichotomy and unity of two parts that are essential to the Asian-American identity. One cannot exist without the other, and yet these two souls are constantly converging, warring, battling with each other in an ongoing struggle between the modern American independence and the traditional Asian values.

I do not proclaim to have enough knowledge or foresight to predict what changes the Asian-American family structure might have to endure in the future. But what I do know, implicitly and wholly, is that I fear what might happen, should the modern American soul finally overtake the Asian identity. The Asian identity reaches its heart back to the days of the past, a testament to the family entity, a practice, a belief so ingrained in the long, prolific history of the Asian people, that to abolish it would be almost equivalent to destroying a complete half of your moral existence.

To be a modern, independent individual does not necessitate the destruction of clinging Asian values and traditions. Rather, the only way to truly affirm your identity and reach self-realization and potential, is to fully embrace both souls, American and Asian...because that is what it means to be Asian-American.

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(Our email address is: info@cacaportland.org)

*** Please make sure the address label is on the other side. Thank you very much! ***

Aspiring Artist Donates Master Piece for Fundraiser at the Under the Autumn Moon Festival

A huge “THANK YOU” goes to Angela Rose Garretson for her generosity in giving a piece of her art work – “Dawn in Sight”, a 24X24 Sand and Acrylic for the fundraiser that was held as a part of our Lodge promotion at the Under the Autumn Moon Festival in September. We raised \$259.00 through the raffle of her art work along with the calligraphy and cookbook sales. Staci Wong of Portland is the proud raffle winner of the beautiful painting.

Angela was born in Eugene, Oregon and resides in Battle Ground, Washington. Art has been her passion since she was a child. Her favorite type of media is sand and acrylic. Her technique of shaping sand into recognizable yet abstract images is unique and breathtaking. She could be reached at angelagarretson@comcast.net.

We also want to extend our deep appreciation to Yan Bu Liang, a master Chinese calligraphy teacher at the Asian Health & Service Center for donating his time to demonstrate Chinese calligraphy at the promotion. Mr. Liang has practiced Chinese calligraphy for many years. His work is outstanding.

Happy Holidays



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