

NEWS'N NOTES



Chinese Historical Society
of Southern California

411 Bernard Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012
Phone: 323-352-8824 Email: info@chssc.org
Website: <https://chssc.org>

March 2026

To Dance Again



March 11, 2026

7PM - 8PM



Chinese Historical Society
of Southern California

南加州華人歷史學會

On January 21 2023, a mass shooting occurred in Monterey Park. After viewing the short documentary, To Dance Again, which details the aftermath of the shooting. Our program speakers will provide their insights about the resilience of the community.

Panel Speakers: Thomas Wong, Monterey Park City Councilman;
Rick Eng, LA vs. Hate; MG Evangelista, Filmmaker

**Free to attend. RSVP via Eventbrite on
CHSSC website: <https://chssc.org>**



Chinese Historical Society of Southern California

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INTEGRITY

One of the reasons for CHSSC’s founding in 1975 was the strong desire of many to learn more about our Chinese American history. Many of our families and their communities have been in America for a long time, but why don’t we know much about them? Why did our parents and grandparents not talk much about history?

Thus began our journey. We determined that we would discover and collect our stories, document the facts, correct the history books, and augment history with much greater depth. We would always conduct ourselves with integrity, to support our rightful place in American history. We had strong early leadership, our work would meet the highest academic, ethical, and community standards. We have organized conferences, hosted many speakers, published quality books and journals, engage in continuing outreach efforts.

Today, our board of directors, present and past, and our many members and friends, help continue the legacy. Many of you have generously supported the CHSSC at the end of year, during Giving Tuesday, and for our 50th Anniversary celebration in November. All of that support has enabled us to make continuing progress. We have a full time archivist, we have interns. We have improved our headquarters, with reinforced foundations, some plumbing repairs, repaired our historic double hung windows, hired an architect and engineer for improvement plans, protected our archives from termites, cleaned up attics, added new AC and heating, installed security cameras, upgraded our office-archives technology with hardware and software. Your donations have been put to good use!

We have retained accounting services to help document the proper spending of funds and the filing of financial reports. We will continue to be responsible custodians of our heritage. We are YOUR historical society.

Eugene Moy

Board of Directors

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Eugene Moy, President
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Linda Bentz
David Castro
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Angela Lancaster
Susie Ling

Mission Statement

The purpose of the Chinese Historical Society of Southern California, Inc. shall be:

- to advocate for a wider understanding of the significance of the role of Chinese and Chinese Americans in the history of Southern California;
- to bring together people with a mutual interest in the Southern California history of Chinese and Chinese Americans;
- to perform all the functions required to acquire, preserve, and communicate knowledge of this important history; and
- to promote a better appreciation of our rich multi-cultural society.



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TO DANCE AGAIN On March 11, 2026

On January 21, 2023, a mass shooting occurred in Monterey Park. The gunman killed eleven people and injured nine others. The shooting happened at about 10:22 p.m. PST at Star Ballroom Dance Studio, in Monterey Park. Shortly afterwards, the gunman drove north to Lai Lai Ballroom in nearby Alhambra to continue his shooting spree but was confronted by staff and disarmed before fleeing by car. The perpetrator was identified as 72-year-old Huu Can Tran.

The short film “TO DANCE AGAIN” pays tribute to the community’s resilience in the face of this unspeakable tragedy. In the aftermath, the Chinatown Service Center’s MPK Hope Resiliency Center supported the mostly AAPI Elders affected by this tragedy with programs and initiatives designed specifically to help heal and rebuild ballroom dancing.

Join CHSSC for its presentation of “To Dance Again” - with comments from the film Director and Speakers from the Community on March 11,2026.



Director **MG Evangelista** is a Filipino American writer-director. Evangelista’s work spans narrative, commercial and documentary filmmaking, exploring themes of identity, sexuality, power dynamics and love. Their debut feature, *Burning Well*, is in development and has been supported by Tribeca, Array, TorinoFilmLab and the SFFilm Rainin Grant. The feature is based on their award-winning short film *Fran This Summer*, which played in over 30 festivals, including Sundance. Evangelista was a recipient of the United States Artist Fellowship and Film Independent’s Project Involve and is currently a directing participant in the AFI DWW+ program.

Rick Eng works for Special Service for Groups, Inc. (SSG), a Los Angeles-based health and human services organization established in 1952. Between 2020-2025, Rick managed SSG's participation with L.A. County's LA vs. Hate program. SSG was the administrative agency for the Rapid Response Network, a partnership of 16 service agencies and community nonprofits that offered programs and support to victims of all forms of hate aggression. He works with other community organizations: the Chinese American Citizens Alliance (C.A.C.A.), OCA-Greater Los Angeles (OCA-GLA), and Asian Pacific Community Fund (APCF).



Thomas Wong was elected to the Monterey Park City Council in November 2022, serving as Mayor in 2024. Prior to his election to the city council, he served as an elected board member of the San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District for a decade. Thomas has worked as a public affairs and public policy professional for more than fifteen years, including as a staff member to former Assemblymember Mike Eng and former California State Controller Betty Yee. He is an active leader in the Asian American community in Southern California, as a former board member at C.A.C.A. LA Lodge and Chinese American Elected Officials (CEO).



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Donations

Grace Anderson
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In Memory of Mary Chan

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In Honor of Margie Lew's 104th birthday

Cindy Fong

In memory of Hoover Louie

James Louie

In Memory of Gin C. & Kwan Ying Young

Cynthia Young

Grant

David and Pearl Louie Family Foundation



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March Fong Eu

In January CHSSC hosted a program about former Secretary of State March Fong Eu. Patty Fong, her niece, Linda Lew Sun, her special assistant and goddaughter, and Carl Gabber, her long-time personal chauffeur shared their remembrances of March Fong Eu while the audience munched on delicious treats.

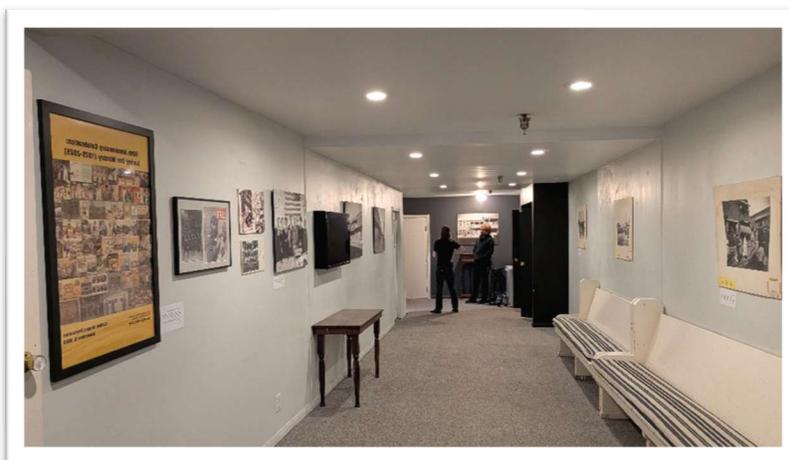


CHSSC in Collaboration with the Sierra Madre Playhouse

For the month of February, CHSSC has lent several items from its archives to be displayed at the Sierra Madre Playhouse (SMP), as part of SMP's Chinese New Year celebration. SMP is a 99-seat award-winning theater located in the heart of Sierra Madre, CA.

SMP has a planned celebration for February 21, 2026, where SMP has scheduled the following: Theatre ("Tam Tran Goes to Washington"), Film ("Earl") and Comedy ("Cold Tofu").

CHSSC's images will be on display at SMP through the month of February.





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Film Synopses for Movie Night On March 25, 2026

Revisiting East Adams (10:00 mins (edited)) By Jenny Cho, 2004

Revisiting East Adams captures the history of a Chinese American community in downtown Los Angeles from the 1930s to 1950s. During this period, the intersection of East Adams and San Pedro Street was home to a vibrant Chinese American community that preserved Chinese culture through social and religious organizations such as Chinese Presbyterian Church, Chinese schools and various youth groups. East Adams was also a self-sustaining community whose residents earned a living by working at local businesses such as the City Market on 9th Street, the CFO gas station, and the Kwong Hing Lung grocery store. The stories of these former Chinese American residents expand our understanding of the history of Los Angeles.

Chinatown Two-Step (17 mins) By Eddie Wong, 1975

Chinatown Two-Step spotlights the importance of the Los Angeles Chinese Drum and Bugle Corps as an important fixture of the Chinese American community — not only serving as its representative in parades and events, but also as an activity bringing the young Chinese American middle class together.

Celebrating Tyrus (9:13) By Pamela Tom, 2022

Celebrating Tyrus is Pamela's 2022 short film about the Chinese American artist Tyrus Wong, whose paintings were the inspiration for the classic Disney animated feature *Bambi*. The film offers an intimate look into Tyrus Wong's work on *Bambi* and his passion/hobby: kite making and kite flying. Tyrus's kites and inspiration send viewers soaring towards the sky.

50 Years and still going strong!

Your membership supports: monthly programs, community outreach (walking tours, Chinese New Year parade participation), collaboration with ICW and UCLA, a community archivist, interns, a monthly newsletter, the *Gum Saan Journal*, our Heritage Center...plus more.

We celebrate the \$100,000 grant from the Andrew Mellon Foundation and the grant from the Institute on California and the West.

Renew Now for 2026

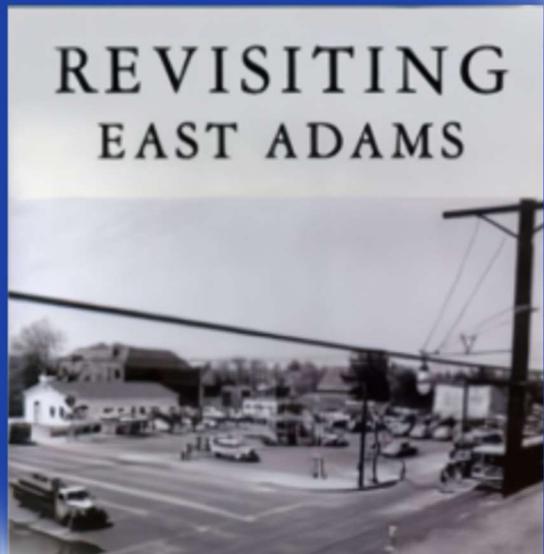


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MOVIE NIGHT WITH CHSSC

Revisiting East Adams
Chinatown Two-Step
Celebrating Tyrus



MARCH 25, 2026

7PM - 8:30PM

Join us to watch these three short documentaries about Chinese American experiences in Southern California

Each viewing will be followed by a brief discussion of the documentary

Free to attend. RSVP via Eventbrite on CHSSC website: <https://chssc.org>



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Community Events

March 1 Firecracker Run in Chinatown

March 25 CHSSC virtual film program, held over from January

April 4 or 5 Qing Ming at Evergreen Cemetery