

E-Newsletter of the Organization of Chinese American Women

April 2026



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501(c)(3) Nonprofit Organization

(from Linda Devine, Editor)

Happy Spring to all! I would like to thank everyone who contributed material for this issue, as always. I also appreciate my husband Ed's work on preparing all of the photos.

I continue to encourage OCAW members to write articles or submit information if there is something you think would be of interest to the membership.

Please also feel free to send me any suggestions that you might have for the e-newsletter at:
devinefive@comcast.net

Table of Contents

	Page
Opera International's Charitable Giving.....	1
News from the Maryland Chapter.....	2
News from the Virginia Chapter.....	5
News from the New Orleans Chapter.....	11
News from the Silicon Valley Chapter.....	18
News from the Hawaii Chapter.....	26
From and About Our Members.....	29
Rebuilding America's China Expertise: USCET Report Launch.....	31
Lunar New Year Set by An Ancient Chinese Astronomer 2000 Years Ago.....	33
Olympia – one of the most important archaeological sites in Greece.....	36

Opera International's Charitable Giving

(from Linda Devine)

In 2025, Opera International began disbursing its remaining funds to charities and worthy nonprofit organizations, to assist in their projects and goals. Recipient organizations were the preferences of some of Opera International's most generous donors over the years. Other donations benefited the communities of OCAW's five chapters.

Later this spring, more donations will be made to groups and organizations for the 2026 year. News of these contributions will be published in the OCAW e-newsletter, as were all of the donations made last year.

In the meantime, Opera International continues to encourage applications for Muriel Hom Music Grants.

* * * * *

Muriel Hom Music Grants

Grants of \$500 continue to be available, and it is hoped that talented instrumentalists and vocalists who could benefit from some additional funds to further their studies and activities, will apply.

The grant application form has been sent to each chapter president. *If any OCAW member knows of an individual who is serious about pursuing their music studies and might be able to use some financial assistance, please either contact your chapter president, or send an email to me: devinefive@comcast.net, and we will be more than happy to email you an application which you can then forward to your musician.*

In this current cycle, a music grant was made to the **Autism Society of Greater New Orleans**. The mission of this organization is to create connections, empowering everyone in the autism community with the resources needed to live fully. In collaboration with another organization, the Society supports the **Prism Project of Greater New Orleans**, which provides special music-performance-arts recreation services to youth with disabilities and neurotypical youth.

News from the Maryland Chapter

(Patricia Fenn, President)

Gratitude to OCAW Virginia's Year of the Horse Celebration

(from Kitty Hsu Dana, Maryland Chapter Vice President)

OCAW Virginia hosted a glorious Year of the Horse celebration on Saturday, February 21, 2026. Chapter President Barbara York graciously invited Maryland Chapter members to join the occasion. I walked in knowing only a few Virginia Chapter members and walked out with many lovely new friends.

We were treated to a splendid feast at OCAW-VA member Amy Lee's high-rise party room overlooking the riverfront in Alexandria, Virginia. Members and guests brought luscious dishes – from home-smoked ham to seafood delight, soya sauce chicken to red-cooked pork, yummy noodles and vegetable salads. And we had a big, beautiful sea bass steamed on site, as well as 100 longevity buns gracefully arranged on a platter.

The highlight was a tribute and cake to honor the 100th birthday of C.L. Kwok, husband of longtime member Florence Kwok. After that, somehow we still found room for cookies and more cookies, fruit-nut candies and mandarin oranges. And then we were sent home with longevity buns, as well as blessed longevity artwork created by National Membership Vice President Cathy Roberts.

The joyous vibe in that lovely setting made for a delightful afternoon for all! It was a privilege to be with a group so warm and caring with each other and equally welcoming to new people.



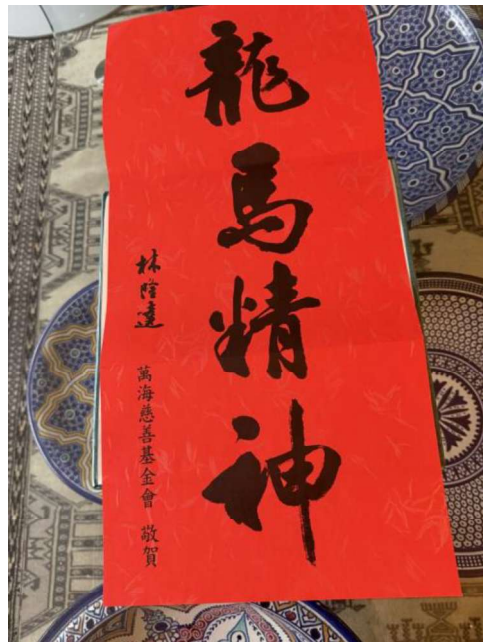
(Photo taken by Kitty Hsu Dana)



(Photo taken by Maria Yang)



(Photo taken by Maria Yang)



(Photo taken by Kitty Hsu Dana)

Editor's Note: President Patricia Fenn wanted to add her thanks to President Barbara York and the Virginia Chapter for their kind invitation, courtesies, and planning.

See full coverage of OCAW Virginia's Lunar New Year Potluck Lunch in [News from the Virginia Chapter](#).

Maryland Advisory Organizations for AAPI issues

(from Patricia Fenn)

In Maryland, the public and the OCAW Maryland Chapter are fortunate to have three advisory organizations providing advocacy on behalf of AAPI issues. The 16-member Maryland Legislative AAPI Caucus in the Maryland State General Assembly is one of eight affinity caucuses. Also there are the 15-member Governor's Commission on Asian-Pacific American Affairs (GCAPAA) and the 21-member Governor's Commission on South Asian Affairs. Both commissions are composed of members appointed by the Governor to four-year terms. These commissions advise the Governor and state agencies on issues relating to health, education, business development, and community needs, while promoting cultural diversity and civic engagement. Additionally, the GCAPAA hosts a Youth Fellowship Program for high school students to build leadership skills and engage in community affairs.

In Maryland, the total Asian population is approximately 7.17% to 7.93% of the total state population, of which Chinese-Americans are 1.57% in 2024. The U.S. Census Bureau is already conducting preparatory field tests for the 2030 census, focusing on improving the count of hard-to-reach populations, testing new digital tools, and refining the use of U.S. Postal Service data to reduce the need for in-person census takers.

News from the Virginia Chapter

(from Barbara York, President)

Lunar New Year Potluck Lunch

Our Lunar New Year potluck lunch was very successful. It was held on Saturday, February 21, 2026, from 12 noon to 3 p.m. in the penthouse party room of lifetime member Amy Lee's condo building in Alexandria, Virginia. We continue to be very grateful to Amy for securing the use of their party room for our event. It has become a well-enjoyed annual occasion for all participants.

Twenty-three members, family, and friends attended. A huge array of delicious dishes was served to include a variety of salads, vegetables, and stir-fries; centerpiece entrees like home-smoked ham, steamed fish, and soya sauce chicken; and several noodle dishes. The big focus was a huge birthday cake and 100 longevity buns for C.F. Kwok's 100th birthday. But sadly, he and his wife Florence (longtime Virginia Chapter member) couldn't attend because their daughter Daphne came down with COVID. However, we brought him in by FaceTime, and everyone sang a rousing "Happy Birthday" to him!

The room was beautifully decorated with wonderful hangings provided by Maria Yang, and longevity calligraphy written by Cathy Roberts.

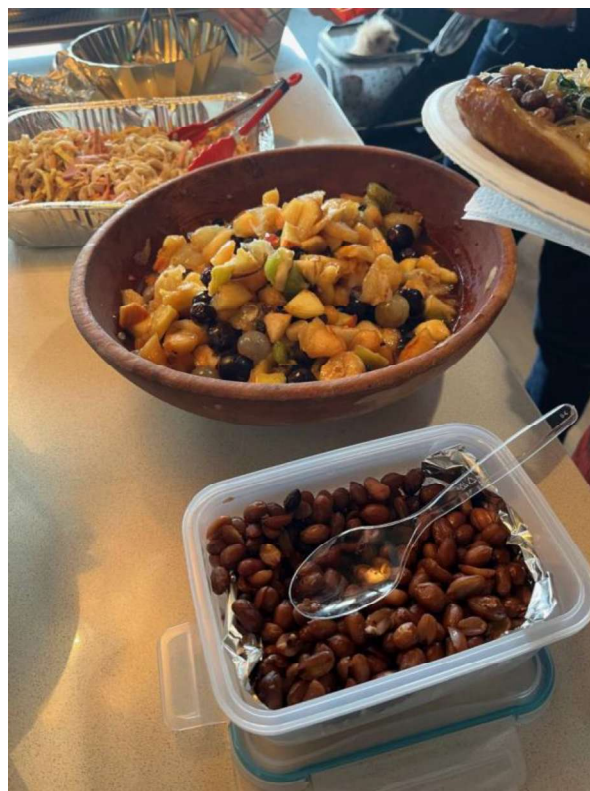
(Editor's note: Barbara informed me that she was going to write in her article that I took the award for the most arduous trip to join them at the party, but then she thought that I might not want that drive memorialized. I had driven most of the 30-mile route to the event until unfortunately I ran over something on the high-speed George Washington Memorial Parkway that instantly gave me a flat tire. My husband Ed drove from our home to change the tire while he sent me on my way in his car. Fortunately for me, I was able to make it very late to the lunch where several attendees still remained, and I was very appreciative of a nice time visiting with Virginia Chapter friends whom I hadn't seen in a while.)



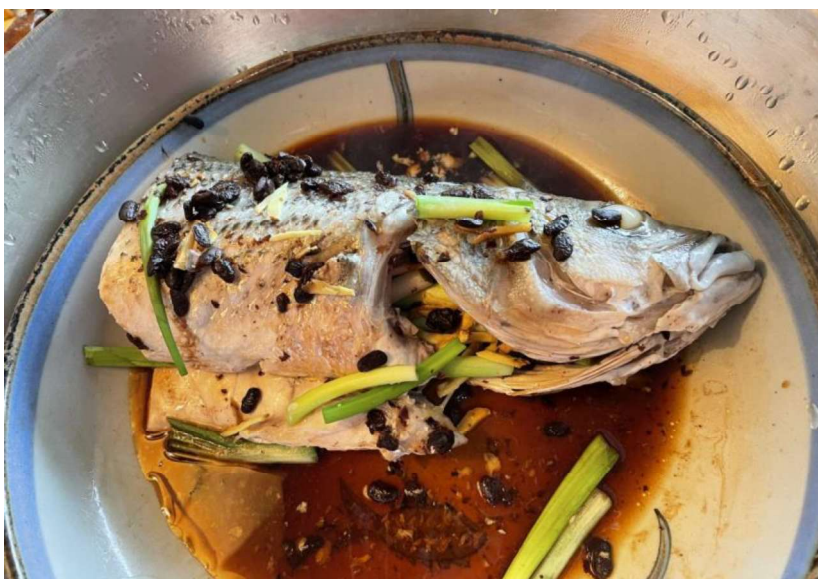
(Photos taken by Maria Yang)



(Photos taken by Maria Yang)



(Photos taken by Maria Yang)



Frank's signature sea bass

Kudos to longtime members Frank Eng and Wanda Eshleman who drove from their home in Philadelphia for the event!

(Photo taken by Amy Lee)



(Photo taken by Amy Lee)



(Photo taken by Maria Yang)



C.F.'s birthday cake and 100 longevity buns



Pu-Chin doing the honors

(Photos taken by Amy Lee)



Upcoming events

There has been keen interest among the chapter members to learn about **Retirement Home options**: the different financial structures, the programs that are offered, and how to assess what works best for each person. Several chapter members are researching what kind of program can be done.

Another upcoming program will be presentations by several of our chapter members who have **recently published books**, to include: Echo Krisko's *The Slow Road to Siena: Walking the Via Francigena Through the Heart of Tuscany*; a new novel by Veronica Li set in 1882 during the Chinese Exclusion Act; and the republication of her father's life story by Pu-Chin Hsueh Waide.

News from the New Orleans Chapter

(Yong Yi, President)

A Celebration of Chinese Culture Lights Up the Audubon Charter School

(from Lily Yang, Community Relations Representative)

On Thursday, February 26, 2026, a four-member delegation from the New Orleans Skylark Arts Troupe visited the Audubon Charter School to present an engaging program of traditional Chinese folk music and dance. The visit aimed to introduce students and faculty to the richness and diversity of Chinese cultural heritage through live performance, creating an immersive and educational artistic experience.

From the moment the performance began, the audience was captivated. For the vast majority of those in attendance, it was their first opportunity to witness Chinese music and dance at such close range. The performers showcased a variety of pieces, each reflecting unique regional styles and cultural traditions, offering a vivid glimpse into the depth and beauty of Chinese artistic expression.

The venue quickly filled with energy as waves of applause, cheers, and laughter echoed throughout the program. Students responded with curiosity and excitement, while teachers expressed appreciation for the rare opportunity to bring global cultural exposure directly into the school environment. The interactive atmosphere helped bridge cultural gaps and sparked genuine interest among the young audience.



Jasmine Flower soprano solo, performed by Nicole Landry



The Moon Over My Hometown Jiaodong Yangge,
performed by Lily Yang and Wenyi Shan

(Jiaodong Yangge is a type of Chinese folk dance prevalent in the Shandong province.)



The Charm of Jiangnan Water Chinese classical dance,
performed by Ruiyi Jiang and Lily Yang

(Jiangnan is the area of southern Jiangsu Province.)



Ink and Mist Qipao Show performed by Ruiyi Jiang, Wenyi Shan, Nicole Landry, and Lily Yang

Following the performance, the ensemble received heartfelt praise and warm feedback from both students and staff. Many expressed how inspiring and eye-opening the experience had been. This enthusiastic response greatly encouraged the performers, who all agreed that the visit was not only artistically fulfilling but also deeply meaningful.

Beyond entertainment, the event served as an important cultural exchange, highlighting the beauty and excellence of Chinese traditions while emphasizing the role of Chinese Americans in contributing to a vibrant, multicultural society. By sharing their art, the Skylark Arts Troupe helped foster greater understanding, appreciation, and connection across cultures, leaving a lasting impression on everyone involved. 😊

OCAW Celebrates Lunar New Year with Tea Party and Plant Exchange

(from Sophie Lin, Lifetime member)

Members of the OCAW New Orleans Chapter gathered on Saturday, March 14, 2026, for a festive Chinese New Year Tea Party and Plant Exchange at the Chinese Presbyterian Church in Kenner, Louisiana.

The event began at 12:30 p.m., welcoming community members for an afternoon of tea, conversation, and cultural celebration. Guests enjoyed a selection of Asian-style pastries, cakes, and fresh fruit while catching up with friends and discussing the organization's upcoming activities. Attendees also brought plants from their own gardens to exchange, creating a lively and friendly atmosphere.

During a brief meeting, members reviewed recent accomplishments and shared plans for the months ahead. Among the highlights discussed was the upcoming Traditional Clothing Fashion Show scheduled for May at Lafreniere Park, which will showcase the beauty and heritage of traditional Chinese attire.



Brief meeting



Showcase of an antique teapot set from Nellie's mother

Secretary Nellie Underwood (*right*) donated a set of teacups as a door prize; our friend Liyu Ye was the winner.



Lovely handmade cup mats by Sophie Lin as a spring gift for everyone

The plant exchange, held from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m., became the highlight of the afternoon. Participants traded plants and shared gardening tips and growing experiences. Thirteen members and one friend attended the gathering, which, though modest in size, offered a warm and welcoming environment for fellowship.



The event provided an opportunity for members to reconnect during the Lunar New Year season while strengthening community bonds through conversation, culture, and a shared love of gardening.

(Photos taken by Lily Yang and Lily Wu)

News from the Silicon Valley Chapter

(from Yufan Lu, President)

Drama Viewing Event

On Sunday, February 8, 2026, members of the OCAW Silicon Valley Chapter attended the public premiere of the original stage play, “The Silent Spikes,” presented by the Huayi Performing Arts Center at Ohlone College in Silicon Valley, California. The event brought together community members, artists, and supporters to reflect on an important chapter of history.

In 2025, Chapter President Yufan Lu had been invited by Ms. Jianping Chen, Chair of the Huayi Theater Troupe's Board, to serve as Vice President. In this role, Yufan contributed behind the scenes throughout the production process. Through her leadership and involvement, OCAW-SVC became a sponsor of the play.



SVC members viewing the event

The performance left a profound emotional impact on attendees, prompting thoughtful reflection on history, identity, and resilience.



OCAW Silicon Valley Chapter members gathered after the performance.



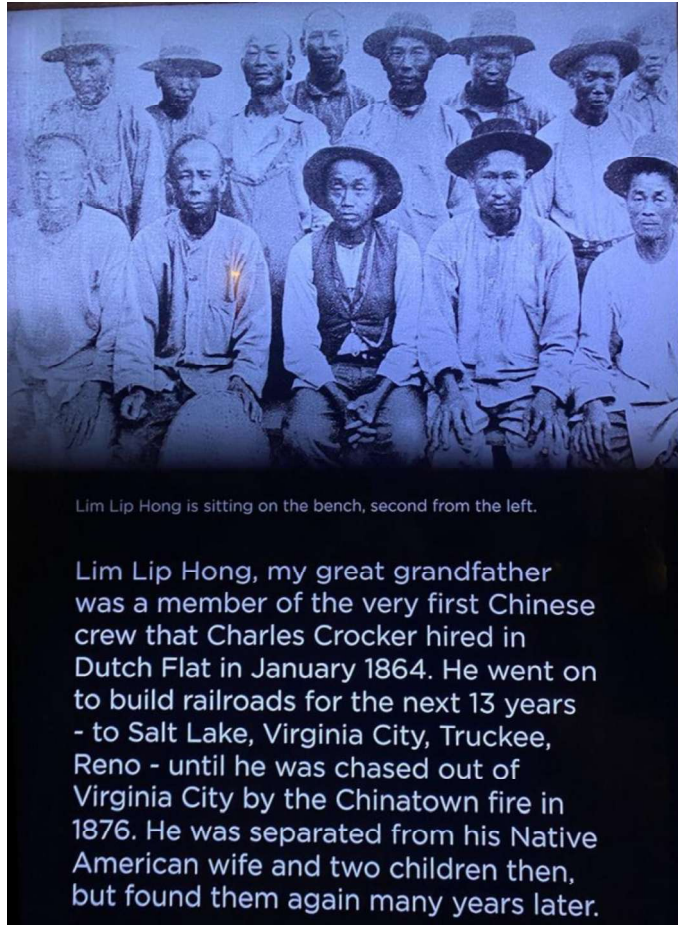
About the play:

The Silent Spikes – A Reflection at the California State Railroad Museum

An explanation from a small board says: “In 1865, the Central Pacific Railroad recruited workers directly from China. These workers built the Western portion of the nation’s Transcontinental Railroad. Chinese laborers comprised 90% of the workplace.”

California State Railroad Museum scenes:





(Railroad Museum photos taken by Yufan Lu)

The six-act drama vividly portrays the experiences of Chinese laborers who worked on the construction of the transcontinental railroad more than 150 years ago. Through powerful staging, sound design, and storytelling, the play immerses the audience in the harsh realities faced by these workers.

The narrative highlights the immense sacrifices made by laborers from the Siyi region of Guangdong, who endured extreme weather conditions, dangerous terrain, and life-threatening working environments. Despite their critical role in completing the most difficult sections of the railway ahead of schedule, their contributions were historically overlooked.

Several scenes depict the loss and hardship of the workers to avalanches, explosions, and other deadly accidents, which deeply moved the audience, reinforcing the human cost behind this monumental engineering achievement which provided an important link for trade, commerce, and travel.

Hakone Gardens Lunar New Year Festival

On Sunday, March 8, 2026, the OCAW Silicon Valley Chapter participated in the 18th Annual Lunar New Year Festival held at Hakone Gardens in Saratoga, California. This annual event celebrates cultural heritage and brings together the broader community through performances, exhibitions, and interactive activities.

The chapter was honored to receive a Certificate of Appreciation from the Hakone Foundation Board of Trustees, recognizing its continued contributions to cultural engagement and community service.



Chinese Calligraphy Exhibition

As part of the festival, the chapter hosted a Chinese Calligraphy Art Exhibition booth led by President Yufan Lu. Live demonstrations showcased traditional brush techniques and artistic expression, attracting strong interest from visitors.

Supporting members Cynthia Chang, Isabelle Guh, Annie Ying, and Sophia Yang contributed to the success of the booth. A special calligraphy piece for the Year of the Horse was presented to Saratoga Mayor Chuck Page.



Yufan also introduced visitors to the historical development of Chinese characters, explaining their origins in pictographs and their evolution across five major script styles, including Seal Script, Clerical Script, and Regular Script.





Festival Highlights

The festival featured a wide range of cultural performances and activities, including traditional lion dance, kung fu demonstrations, tai chi, folk singing, and Chinese classic dances. These performances highlighted the richness and diversity of Chinese cultural traditions.

One of the most popular attractions was the Lunar New Year Costume Parade, where children dressed in festive attire and participated with enthusiasm. Visitors also enjoyed hands-on arts and crafts activities and a variety of traditional foods, creating a lively and welcoming atmosphere.

Overall, the event provided a meaningful opportunity to celebrate heritage, foster community connections, and share cultural knowledge with a broader audience.



News from the Hawaii Chapter

(from Sharlene Chun, President)

On Sunday, February 8, 2026, the OCAW Hawaii Chapter held its Installation of 2026 Officers at 3660 on The Rise restaurant. The successful event was attended by 58 people. Blessings began with a Chinese Lion Dance from the Asian Lion Dance Team. We enjoyed a delicious buffet lunch, and many lucky number prizes were donated from the Ala Moana Shopping Center, Mechanics Bank (from Mona Choy), Baskin and Robbins, and Market City. A Safeway gift card was donated by Ivy Yeung, backpacks and tea towels from Marsha Au-Maxwell, and a lot more.

Everyone was kept laughing from Douglas Chong's jokes as the MC. And he wowed everyone with his singing! Hawaii State Representative Cory M. Chun installed President Sharlene Y. Chun, Vice President Jane Au (absent), Secretary Kimberly C. Hoi, and Treasurer Leonora Loo.



2026 Treasurer Leonora Loo, President Sharlene Y. Chun, and Secretary Kimberly C. Hoi
(Vice President Jane Au is still recovering from a fall.)



(Photo taken by Queenie Chee)



Master of Ceremonies Douglas Chong, a well-respected Historian on Chinese Hawaiian history



Each attendee was given a cute “favor” cupcake with lucky candy and a Year of the Horse keychain, from President Sharlene.

(Photos taken by Queenie Chee)

In her speech, President Sharlene Chun asked OCAW members for their support and participation in the Year of the Fire Horse events, and bringing in new members to share in our support and cultivation of Asian American women. Although it was Super Bowl Sunday, everyone enjoyed themselves so much that they all stayed till the end.

From and About Our Members

Mardi Gras 2026

(from Pat Ellzey, New Orleans Chapter Immediate Past President)

In 2026, both Chinese/Lunar New Year and Mardi Gras fell on the same date, Tuesday, February 17. Thus, we had a Chinese New Year float in a Mardi Gras parade to celebrate this holiday!

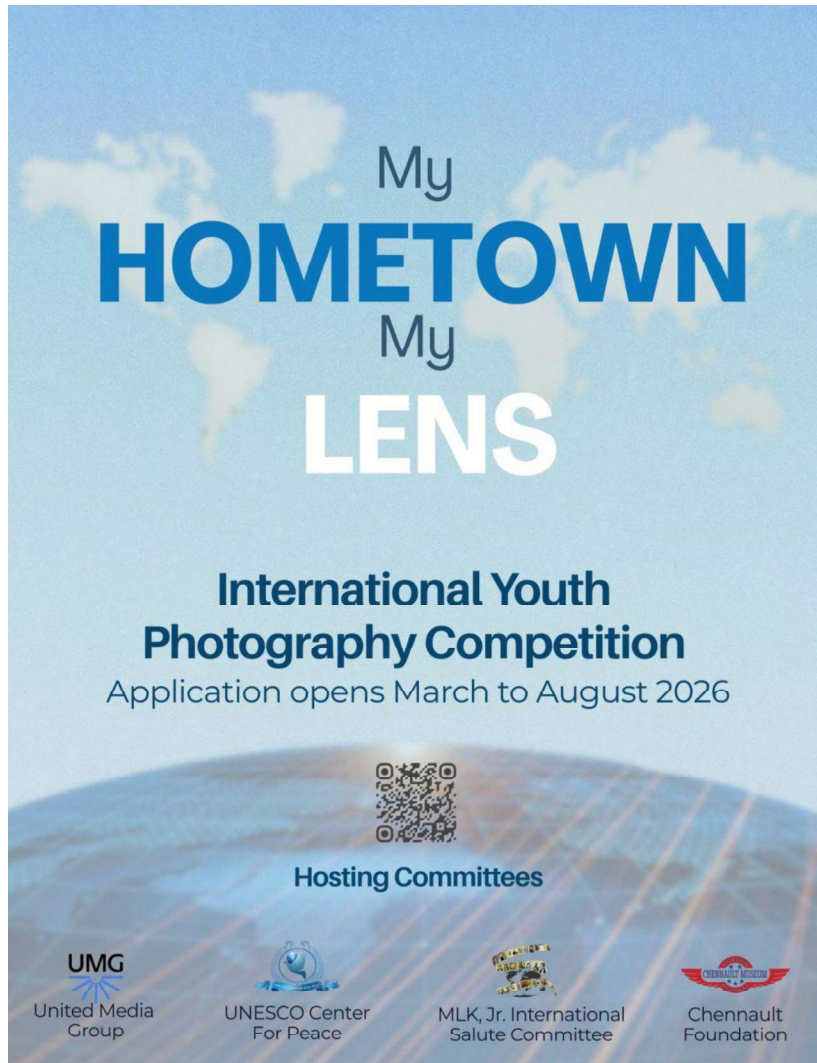
OCAW New Orleans Chapter member Nicole Landry in costume who rode on the float in the Mardi Gras parade along with several other Asian Americans



International Youth Photography Competition

(from Karina Hou, former Maryland Chapter President, and Allison Winston)

Karina Hou and Allison Winston would like to inform OCAW members about the launch of the **My Hometown, My Lens: International Youth Photography Competition**, a global platform dedicated to championing youth expression on the world stage. They would like to spread the word about this event to young people who might be interested in participating.



This competition brings together young voices from around the world to explore identity, belonging, and the meaning of “home” through photography. My Hometown, My Lens is a promise to empower the next generation, a bridge between cultures, and a tribute to the power of authentic storytelling.

The competition is open to students in two divisions:

- Youth Division (Ages 10–18)
- Young Adults Division (Ages 18–30)

Awards and Recognition include:

- First Prize: \$8,000 (1 per division)
- Second Prize: \$4,000 (2 per division)
- Third Prize: \$2,000 (3 per division)
- Honorable Mention: \$500 (20 per division)

Pop-up Exhibitions:

Even applicants who do not win can have their art featured in a series of pop-up exhibitions around Washington, D.C. at the following locations:

- Library of Congress
- Smithsonian Museum
- National Press Club
- Georgetown University
- Johns Hopkins University

Timeline for the Competition:

Submissions Open: March 16, 2026
Submission Deadline: August 31, 2026
Jury Review: September 1 – October 15, 2026
Winners Announced: October 16, 2026
Exhibition Showcases: December 2026 – March 2027

Full details can be found at this website:

<https://www.unitedmediadc.com/how-to-enter/>

Rebuilding America’s China Expertise: USCET Report Launch

by Maria Yang

(Editor’s Note: Maria is OCAW National President.)

On Monday, March 23, 2026, I had the opportunity to attend the launch of the US-China Education Trust (USCET)’s latest expert working group report at the Elliott School of International Affairs at The George Washington University in Washington, D.C. The report, “America’s China Talent Challenge: Investing in Deeper American Understanding of China,” addresses a growing and urgent gap in U.S. capacity to understand China at a critical moment in bilateral relations.

The discussion highlighted a stark reality: The United States is steadily losing its bench of China expertise. Today, fewer than 2,000 Americans are studying in China – a dramatic drop from pre-pandemic levels. This decline is placing increasing strain on the talent pipeline that supports government, academia, and the private sector, particularly in areas requiring Chinese-language proficiency, in-country experience, and policy insight.

In response to these challenges, USCET convened an expert working group in fall 2025. Drawing on input from more than 50 organizations and individuals in both the United States and China, the group developed a set of concrete, actionable recommendations to rebuild and strengthen America’s China knowledge base.

AMERICA'S CHINA TALENT CHALLENGE:

INVESTING IN DEEPER AMERICAN UNDERSTANDING OF CHINA

Working Group Report Launch

MARCH 23
10:00 - 11:30 AM ET
Elliott School of International Affairs
1957 E Street NW
& online on Zoom



Featuring remarks by
Nicholas Burns
Former U.S. Ambassador
to China



David Lampton
Johns Hopkins SAIS &
Working Group Chair

Madelyn Ross
Senior Advisor
& Rapporteur

Mark Lambert
Formerly State Department
China House

Neysun Mahboubi
University of Pennsylvania

Jean Oi
Stanford University

Rosie Levine
USCET
Moderator

The launch event brought together leading voices in the field, including Mark Lambert, David M. Lampton, Neysun Mahboubi, Jean Oi, and Madelyn Ross. The conversation was moderated by USCET Executive Director Rosie Levine and featured virtual opening remarks from Nicholas Burns, former U.S. Ambassador to China. Speakers explored the report's key findings and discussed practical strategies for revitalizing educational exchange, expanding language training, and restoring robust academic and professional pathways focused on China.



(center) Ambassador Julia Chang Bloch, USCET Executive Chair, and (right) Maria Yang, OCAW National President



Ambassador Nicholas Burns,
former U.S. Ambassador to China



Maria Yang with Rosie Levine,
USCET Executive Director

The event underscored both the urgency of the issue and the importance of sustained investment in people-to-people exchange and education. As U.S.-China relations continue to evolve, rebuilding a strong foundation of expertise will be essential to informed policymaking and effective engagement.

USCET encourages broader participation in this conversation through its public programming, inviting stakeholders to engage with the report's findings and help shape the next generation of American expertise on China.

Lunar New Year Set by An Ancient Chinese Astronomer 2000 Years Ago

by Susan Young

(Editor's Note: Susan is a Maryland Chapter lifetime member and former Secretary.)

The Lunar New Year is also called "Spring Festival" which is the literal meaning of the festival commonly known in Chinese as *Chun-Jie*. The Festival has a history of thousands of years in China, but the name of "Spring Festival" has been used only for more than 100 years.

In 1914, the name "Spring Festival" was officially established. Before that, the first day of the first month in the Lunar calendar was called "New Year's Day" or "beginning of the year." After the Xinhai Revolution (1911 Revolution), China began to adopt the Gregorian calendar. January 1st is called "New Year's Day." In order to avoid confusion, the "New Year's Day" of the Lunar calendar was changed to "Spring Festival." Therefore, up until 2026, the name "Spring Festival" has been used only for 112 years.

Spring Festival originated in China, then spread to Korea, Vietnam, and Japan, countries in the East Asian cultural sphere. In 2024, Spring Festival was listed by The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) as an Intangible Cultural Heritage. The Lunar New Year, or Spring Festival, has also been officially listed as a UN floating holiday in its calendar of conferences and meetings since 2024.

There were different names referring to “Spring Festival” in each dynasty, and it was also not celebrated in the same time in each dynasty. For example, in the Xia Dynasty (2070 BC-1600 BC), the Spring Festival began in the first month of Mengchun; in the Shang Dynasty (1600 BC-1046 BC), it began in December in winter; in the Zhou Dynasty (1046 BC-256 BC), the Spring Festival was established in November; and in the Qin Dynasty (221 BC-206 BC), it was welcomed in October. This caused uncertainty in the production and life of people in a farming society which is heavily dependent on timing and seasons.

Therefore, there was a need to determine the first day of the Lunar calendar and to set up the date of the Spring Festival, all of these based on the traditional Chinese calendar.

LuoXia Hong [1] (156 BC-87 BC; LuoXia is a two-character surname, Hong is the first name) was an ancient Chinese astronomer and mathematician of the Western Han Dynasty and a native of Langzhong, Ba County, Sichuan Province. Langzhong in Ba County is also known as the “birthplace of the Spring Festival” [1].

LuoXia Hong [1] and his associates created China’s first relatively complete calendar called the “Taichu Calendar,” which was formulated in 104 BC during the reign of Emperor Wu of the Han Dynasty (206 BC-220 AD). In the “Taichu Calendar,” LuoXia Hong established for the first time that the first day of the first month of Mengchun was the beginning of the new year. This set up the first day of spring to be the first day of the new year. This became the origin of the modern Spring Festival. In Western tradition, Santa Claus is referred to as “Father Christmas” [3]. So LuoXia Hong is called the “Spring Festival Old Man” in China [1].

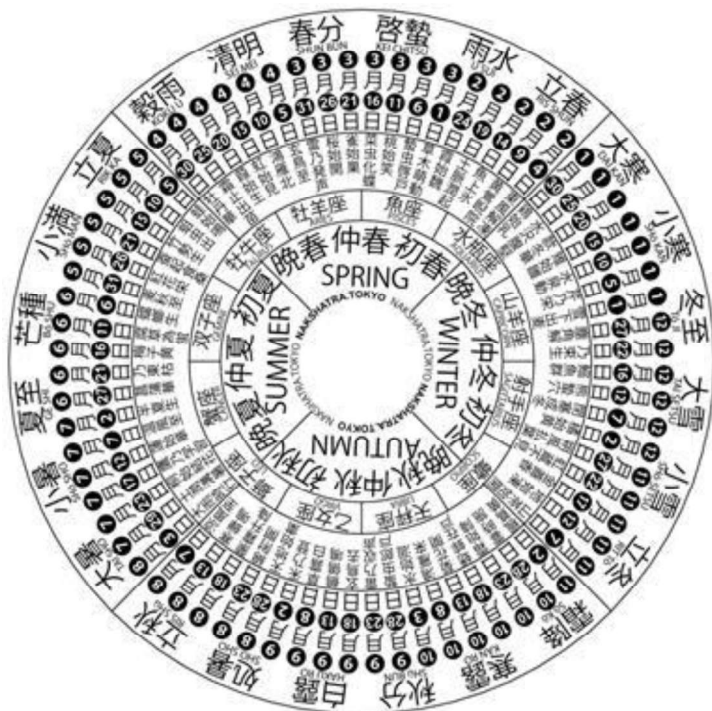
The Taichu Calendar included 12 months of 29 or 30 days, and the calendar was based on a cycle of 19 years. In seven of the 19 years, an extra month was inserted, making it a calendar based both on the sun and on the moon. The Calendar was used for 188 years after it was issued in 104 BC. However, its core structure was the foundation for successive calendars/systems in Chinese history for over 2000 years [2].

LuoXia Hong also created the observational instrument of the armillary sphere, and further developed the ancient astronomy theory of Huntian Theory (Spherical-Heaven Theory) which aided in the calculation of the Chinese calendar. In September 2004, with the approval of the International Astronomical Union’s Executive Committee WG Small Bodies Nomenclature, an asteroid with the international permanent number 16757 was named “LuoXia Hong Asteroid” [4].

An armillary sphere in the Beijing Ancient Observatory



LuoXia Hong’s contribution also includes the “Twenty-Four Solar Terms” in the Taichu Calendar. The Twenty-Four Solar Terms demonstrated the knowledge in China of time and practices developed through observation of changes of seasons, astronomy, and the sun’s annual motion. In December 2016, the “Twenty-Four Solar Terms” were listed by The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) as an Intangible Cultural Heritage and was hailed as “China’s Fifth Greatest Invention” by the international meteorological community [5]. (Note: The Four Great Inventions from ancient China are the compass, gunpowder, papermaking, and printing.)



The Twenty-Four Solar Terms with labels in Traditional Chinese Characters

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- [1] LuoXia Hong, <https://baike.baidu.com/item/%E8%90%BD%E4%B8%8B%E9%97%B3/734900>
- [2] Taichu Calendar, <https://zh.wikipedia.org/zh-cn/%E5%A4%AA%E5%88%9D%E6%9B%86>
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- [4] (16757) Luoxiahong, https://minorplanetcenter.net/db_search/show_object?object_id=16757
- [5] Twenty-Four Solar Terms, <https://ich.unesco.org/en/RL/the-twenty-four-solar-terms-knowledge-in-china-of-time-and-practices-developed-through-observation-of-the-suns-annual-motion-00647>

Olympia – one of the most important archaeological sites in Greece

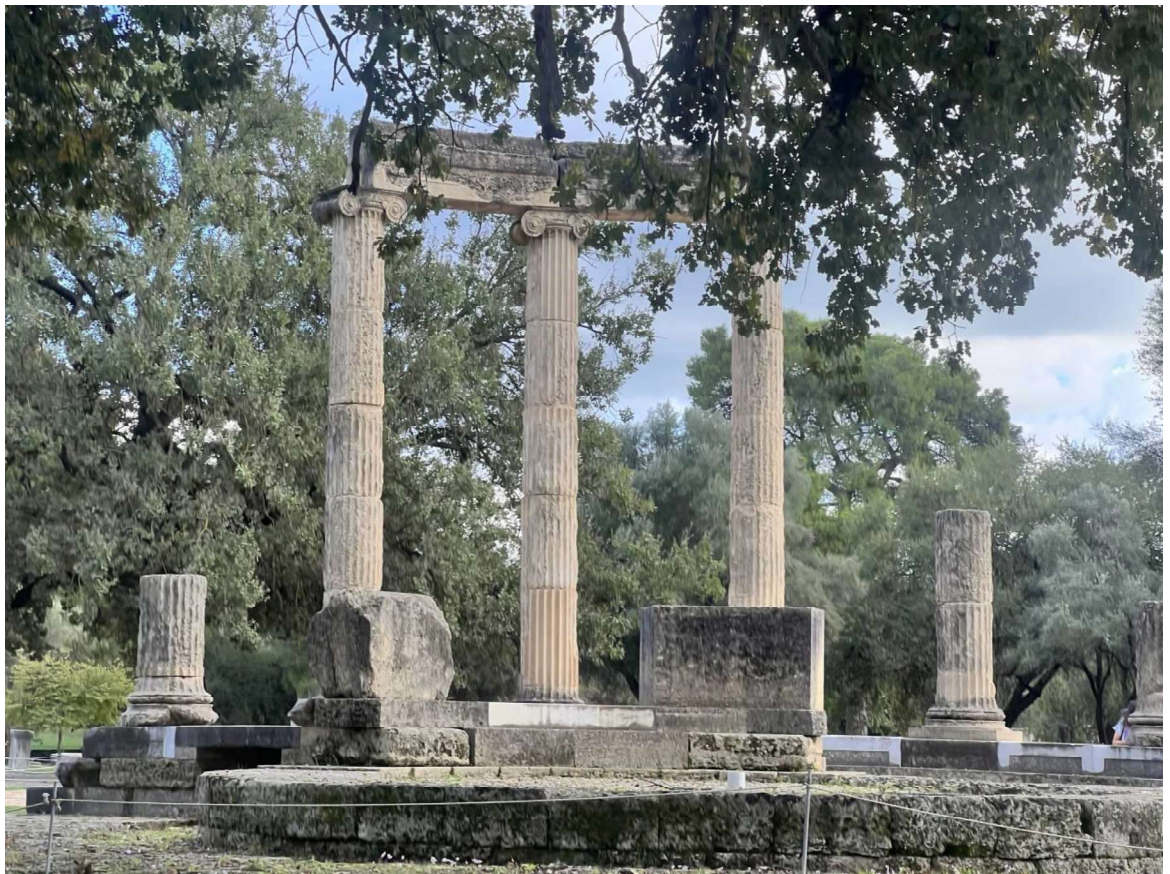
by Cathy Roberts

(Editor's Note: Cathy is National Vice President for Membership.)

In November 2025, my husband Dick and I took a cruise from Istanbul, Turkey to Rome, Italy. During the 24 days cruising the Mediterranean Ocean, we visited many points of interest. Olympia – known as one of the most important archaeological sites in Greece – was one of our port tours. We took many pictures to share with you.

Olympia is one of the most glorious sanctuaries of the ancient world. The birthplace of the Olympic Games is a cultural rite of passage in the Peloponnese. It is also the place where the **Olympic flame** is lit in commemoration of the Games that originated here and were held here every four years for a staggering 1,000 years.









Ancient Olympia strikes that magical balance of appealing to both children and adults in equal measure. You can still feel the spirit of the athletes and the adulation of crowds chanting their names. And, next to that, the veneration of worshippers in the remains of temples dedicated to Zeus and Hera.



(Photos taken by Dick and Cathy Roberts)