

ASIAN HERITAGE MONTH MAY 2009



PRESENTED BY
OTTAWA ASIAN HERITAGE MONTH SOCIETY
WWW.ASIANHERITAGEMONTH.NET



May is Asian Heritage Month

Asian Heritage Month (AHM) is a time for all Canadians to experience many unique aspects of Asian culture and to learn about the history and contributions of Asian Canadians. Throughout May, there will be dozens of events including dance, music, films, exhibitions, literary readings, seminars, cooking demonstrations and much, much, more! Don't miss the ever popular, highly entertaining, Gala Concert on May 31. In December 2001, Senator Vivienne Poy's motion to proclaim May as Asian Heritage Month was passed. In July 2004, the Ottawa Asian Heritage Month Society (OAHMS) was established to organize and coordinate local AHM activities.

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Chinese Association of Outaouais	Islamic History Month Canada
City of Gatineau	J'Nikira Dinqinesh Education Centre
City of Ottawa	Mayfair Theatre
Library & Archives Canada	Mushfiq Ensemble
National Arts Centre	OCISO
Ottawa Public Library	Ottawa Chinese You-In Chorus
Office of Senator Vivienne Poy	Ottawa Police Service
	Ottawa Writers Festival
	Oversea Chinese Youth Symphony Orchestra
	Persian Art & Cultural Society of Ottawa
	Real Canadian Superstore
	Somerset Street Chinatown BIA
	Vietnamese Canadian Centre
	Zenteriors
Participating Organizations	
Canada Pakistan Association	
Canadian Photographers of Focus on China	
Canadian Turkish Heritage Foundation	
Catholic Immigration Centre	

For more information on Asian Heritage Month events, visit: www.asianheritagemonth.net

CBC Ottawa is a sponsor of Asian Heritage Month.

Watch, listen and log on to CBC Television, CBC Radio One (91.5 FM) and cbc.ca/ottawa for the latest feature stories and information, all month long.

The OAHMS will not be liable for any injuries to persons, damages to property or other mishaps which may occur at any AHM event.



ORGANIZED BY OR WITH OTTAWA ASIAN HERITAGE MONTH SOCIETY

Asian Heritage Month Official Launch

April 29 (Wednesday) 5:00 – 7:00 pm

Free: Pre-registration Required at 819-994-6034

Room 200, West Block, Parliament Hill

Parliamentarians, government officials, community leaders and the general public are invited to celebrate the start of AHM. The evening includes welcoming remarks, several musical and dance performances and a reception. Learn about AHM and network with other guests. Hosted by Citizenship and Immigration Canada and the OAHMS.

Era 21 Networking Breakfast for Young Canadians - Sponsored by RBC

May 7 (Thursday) 7:00 am • Parliamentary Restaurant

Admission: INVITATION ONLY

Honorary Patron **Senator Vivienne Poy** hosts a breakfast panel for a diverse group of high school students to network with Parliamentarians and community leaders, and to learn about leadership and cultural fluency in Canada's multicultural reality. A joint initiative of the OAHMS and J'Nikira Dinqinesh Education Centre.

Photographic Expressions of Asia

May 12 (Tuesday) 7:30 pm

Library & Archives Canada, Auditorium • Free Admission

Dr. Neville Poy, O.C. and Senator Vivienne Poy present an eclectic photographic show depicting urban and rural life in Bhutan, China, Hong Kong, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam through captivating images and compelling stories.

Nature's Way: The Use of Herbs & Plants as Medicine

May 13 (Wednesday) 7:30 pm • Free Admission

Canadian Museum of Nature, 3rd Floor • 240 McLeod St.

For centuries, herbs and plants have been used for medicinal purposes in Asian and Western cultures. Naturopathic doctor **Christine Nguyen** will address how traditional herbal medicinal practices are being combined with modern science to treat and prevent illness. Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada research scientist **Dr. Ernie Small** will also present some of the newest commercially successful medicinal herbs. Info: 613-566-4791

Asian Scientists: "CSI: Ottawa"

May 14 (Thursday) 7:30 pm

Library & Archives Canada, Auditorium • Free Admission

Fans of TV shows like "CSI", "Bones", and "Crossing Jordan" are fascinated by forensic science. Because of this subject's popularity, several universities are now offering degrees in this specialty. Join **Dr. Brian Yamashita** and **Benny Wong**, two forensic scientists from the RCMP, who will describe and demonstrate some of the science used to fight crime in the real world.

Health is Wealth Fair (Asian Health Symposium)

May 24 (Sunday) 10:00 am - 4:00 pm • Free Admission

Ben Franklin Centre, 101 Centrepointe Dr., Nepean

Learn to lead a healthy lifestyle from community based organizations and the Ottawa Public Health program. Workshops on traditional medicine and preventing heart disease, strokes and hepatitis. Interactive health displays, health screenings (blood pressure, blood glucose, weight check, waist size, dental screening for children). Sponsored by The Heart & Stroke Foundation of Ontario and Ottawa Public Health. Information Sally Zhang (Public Health Nurse) at 613-580-2424 ext. 26144 or Mai Nguyen at mai_nguyen1993@yahoo.ca

Asian Heritage Day in Gatineau

May 24 (Sunday) 10:30 am - 4:00 pm • Free Admission

Agora & Salle de fête, Maison du Citoyen (City Hall), 25 Laurier St., Gatineau

The City of Gatineau celebrates AHM with a full day of activities featuring traditional dance and musical performances. See unique art displays and sample authentic food provided by different Asian embassies and communities. Presented by the City of Gatineau, Ministère de l'immigration et des communautés culturelles Québec, Chinese Association of Outaouais, and the OAHMS. Information: Ming Zhang at 819-827-3346, ming.cco@sympatico.ca

7th Gala Concert

May 31 (Sunday) 7:00 pm • Tickets: \$20

Canadian Museum of Civilization, Theatre, 100 Laurier St., Gatineau

Tickets available at the Museum, East Wind (802 Bank St., 361 Richmond Rd.)

and the OAHMS at www.AsianHeritageMonth.net (go to "contact")

East meets west in a cultural fusion of the traditional and the contemporary - featuring many exceptional Canadian performers. The Gala Concert showcases the artistic talents of ten acts from across the pan-Asian spectrum. Performers include Jularid school graduate award-winning pianist **Shoshana Telner**, Ottawa's own mezzo-soprano singing sensation **Julie Nesrallah**, modern fusion dancer **Jeffrey Chan** of Toronto, jazz pianist **Peter Hum** with saxophonist **Nathan Cepelinski**, the fiery female dancers of the **Turquoise Folk Dance Group of Ottawa**, multi-instrumentalist and oud (lute) virtuoso **Mel M'rabet** performing world fusion music with a pianist and percussionist, the ever popular 18-member **Himig Pilipino Choral Ensemble**, the **Indonesian music ensemble and dance** and the high-energy show stopping **Oto-Wa Taiko Drummers**.

EVENTS LISTING

Ottawa Police Service: Banner Unveiling & Reception

May 1 (Friday) 4:00 – 5:00 pm • Free Admission

Ottawa Police Headquarters, 474 Elgin St.

Join the Ottawa Police as they unveil a banner in celebration of AHM.

Enjoy traditional Asian entertainment and sample light refreshments.

Information: 613-236-1222, ext. 5011, CoburnZ@ottawapolice.ca, and

www.ottawapolice.ca/en/about_ops/diversity/flag_main.cfm

Vietnamese Music Workshops

May 2 (Saturday) 9:00 am - to noon

Free Admission • Registration required

Glebe Collegiate Institute, 212 Glebe Ave.

Three interactive workshops on spoon playing, zither playing and traditional Vietnamese singing. Led by **Professor Tran Quang Hai** and **Bach Yên**, two internationally renowned musicians from France. Information: vcy.workshop@gmail.com

Filipino Film: You Changed my Life (2009)

Mayfair Theatre, May 7, 7:00 pm May 9, 2:00 pm

A romantic comedy starring Sarah Geronimo and John Lloyd Cruz.

In Filipino with English sub-titles. Information: pinoymovie@pinoyphone.net

Vietnam: Celebrating Youth and Culture

May 9 (Saturday) 7:00 - 9:00 pm • Tickets: \$15 Adults, \$7 Children

Canadian Museum of Civilization, Grand Hall, 100 Laurier St., Gatineau

(Tickets available at Museum and the community.)

Discover Vietnamese music with a group of young zitherists, artist **Sáu Chuyên**,

ethno-musicologist **Professor Tran Quang Hai**, the renowned singer **Bach Yên**

from France, and other acts. Vietnamese lotus tea ceremony, book signing and meeting

with performers. Information: vcy.gala@gmail.com

Vietnamese Community Parade

May 10 (Sunday) at 1:30 pm Open to the general public

Parade winds along Gladstone, Bronson, Rochester and Somerset streets to a dedication

ceremony at the Vietnamese Boat People Monument at Somerset and Preston.

Information: 613-230-8282 or ntdanh@acanac.net

Overseas Chinese Youth Symphony Orchestra 10th Anniversary Concert

May 16 (Saturday) 7:30 pm • Tickets \$8

Dominion-Chalmers United Church, 355 Cooper St.

An evening of classical music featuring the works of Rossini, Mozart, Sibelius and

others performed by the OCYSO and the Ottawa Chinese You-in Chorus. Tickets:

Mr. Man-Fong Lee (613-592-6719) or Panda Vacations, 326 Bronson Ave. (613-567-1888).

International Encounters with Ha Jin, Zoë Heller & Kamila Shamsie

May 11 (Monday) 7:00 pm • Tickets: \$15 General \$10 Senior/Students

Free for festival members and Carleton U. students

Saint Brigid's Centre, 314 St. Patrick St.

Ha Jin has won the National Book Award, two PEN/Faulkner Awards and three Pushcart Prizes. His most recent novel, *A Free Life*, follows the Wu family as they leave China after the 1989 armed crackdown and begin a new life in the US. **Zoë Heller** is the author of *Notes on a Scandal*, *Everything You Know* and *The Believers*. Her most recent novel, *The Believers*, is a comic, tragic tale about one family's struggles with the consolations of faith and the trials of doubt. **Kamila Shamsie**, the Karachi-born, London-based author of five novels has written for *The Guardian* and the *New York Times*. Short readings followed by an on-stage conversation and book signing. *Presented by the Ottawa Writers Festival. Information: www.writersfestival.org or call 613-562-1234*

Musical Concert, Shafqat Ali Khan

May 17 (Sunday) 6:00 - 11:00 pm • Tickets: \$20

U. of Ottawa Alumni Theatre, Jock Turcott Hall, 85 University Pvc.

A semi classical vocal concert featuring **Shafqat Ali Khan**, from a family of well known musicalians from Pakistan. As an acclaimed singer of Pukka Raag, Thumri, Dadra and Sufiyana Kalam, he has performed widely in many countries. *Information: 613-282-7860 or asaeed786@rogers.com. Presented by Canada Pakistan Association*

Asian Canadian Hockey Tournament 2009

May 29 (from 5:00 pm), **May 30** (from 10:00 am), **May 31** (7:00 am - 3:00 pm)

Carleton University Ice house • Free for spectators

Ottawa's first Asian Canadian Hockey Tournament is open to players of Asian descent and will involve 10-12 teams (4 women and 6-8 men) vying to win the tournament.

Registration deadline April 15, 2009. Information: Naomi Katsumi, Tournament Convener at info@asianhockey.ca or www.asianhockey.ca

THE NATIONAL ARTS CENTRE PRESENTS

BC Scene offers a rare chance to see the exciting work of Asian-Canadian artists from the far west! Learn more at **bcscene.ca**

Tickets available at bcscene.ca, Ticketmaster at 613-755-1111, or the NAC Box Office.

Triaspora

April 28 (Tuesday) 8:00 pm • NAC, Studio • Tickets: \$20 • Students \$14.75

The acclaimed musicians of the **Orchid Ensemble** join forces with choreographer/dancers **Chengxin Wei** and **Jessica Jone** of **Moving Dragon** to perform an exquisite blend of dance, music and multimedia. Triaspora uses gorgeous choreography, eclectic virtuoso instrumentalism and stunning multimedia to explore the Chinese-Canadian immigrant experience. Tickets also available at East Wind (802 Bank St., 361 Richmond Rd.)

Mei Han and Red Chamber

April 29 (Wednesday) 8:00 pm • Tickets: \$15

Library and Archives Canada, Auditorium

Mei Han and Red Chamber's fiery passion straddles the traditional and the contemporary, from ancient Chinese string band music to bluegrass, folk, and jazz fusion. Led by **Mei Han**, a groundbreaking virtuoso on the Chinese zheng, with special guest mandolin player **John Reischman**. *Tickets also available at door.*

Wen Wei Dance Cock-Pit World Premiere

April 30 - May 2 (Thursday - Saturday) 8:00 pm

National Arts Centre, Studio • Tickets: \$27 • Students \$14.75

Award-winning, internationally-acclaimed Chinese-Canadian dancer-choreographer

Wen Wei Wang creates inventive, exciting dance that seamlessly meshes classical Chinese dance, traditional ballet, and contemporary choreography.

Delhi 2 Dublin / DJ Tspoon

May 2 (Saturday) 8:00 pm • Tickets: \$12 • NAC, Fourth Stage

West Coast desi DJ Tspoon and hugely popular fusion band Delhi 2 Dublin give us a taste of the spicy cocktail that is B.C.'s red-hot South Asian dance scene. Tspoon seamlessly blends funk, hip hop, electro, Bollywood and bhangra beats. Delhi 2 Dublin is one of today's hottest global music acts with their signature blend of Celtic-Punjab electronica, which mixes live fiddle, dhol, tabla, punjabi vocals and sitar.

A Little Distillery in Nowgong

April 10 - May 24 9:00 am - 6:00 pm • Free admission

Ottawa City Hall Art Gallery, 110 Laurier St. West

Centre A presents an interactive multimedia exhibit based on Ashok Mathur's novel about the politics and migratory history of a fictionalized Parsi family emigrating from India to North America. The installation features ceramic vessels and large prints creating a virtual reality space.

OTTAWA PUBLIC LIBRARY, MAIN BRANCH

120 Metcalfe St. Tel: 613-580-2424 ex. 32115 www.BiblioOttawaLibrary.ca

Chinese Brush Painting and Watercolour Exhibition (May 1-31)

May 1 (Friday) Noon to 2:00 pm • Free Admission

Local artist **Rowena Tolson** demonstrates the art of Chinese brush painting. Her landscapes and wildlife paintings, which capture the beauty of nature in the Ottawa area and classical oriental settings of mountain villages, will also be on display for the entire month of May on the second floor.

Film & Video: Eating Irregular

May 2 (Saturday) 2:00 pm • Auditorium • Free with food donation

Experimental film and video works that explore the cultures of identity through food and eating. *Presented by Available Light Screening Collective and sponsored by IFCO, SAW Video and the Ottawa Mission. Curator: Minh Nguyen.*

Asian Heritage Family Celebration

May 3 (Sunday) 2:00 - 3:30 pm • Auditorium • Free Admission

Entertainment, music, dancing, fashion show and more from the Asian heritage mix for the whole family to enjoy. *Contact Karen (613-818-7082 kmolina@ociso.org) or Flora (613-762-1728) for information or to perform. Organized by the Ottawa Public Library, OCISO and the Ottawa Chinese Community Service Centre.*

Film Screening: Islamic Art: India and the Middle East

May 7 (Thursday) 7:30 pm • Auditorium • Free Admission

Art scholar Waldermar Januszczak presents examples of Islamic architecture from the Middle East and beyond, and provides historical background on Islam. See scenes of India's Taj Mahal, the Great Mosque in Damascus and many beautiful mosaics.(60 mins) Light refreshments.

Presented by Islamic History Month Canada. Information: imanibrahim@rogers.com

Film Screening: Hersey Cok Guzel Olacak (1998)

May 13 (Wednesday) 7:30 pm • Auditorium • Free Admission

A dramatic comedy about the adventures and mis-adventures of two brothers living in Istanbul, with very different characters, world views, and ambitions. *Presented by the Canadian Turkish Heritage Foundation. Information: chtf@chtf.ca*

Introduction to Ikebana - Japanese Art of Flower Arrangement

May 14 (Thursday) 6:00 - 8:00 pm • Auditorium • Free Admission

Ikebana artist and teacher, **Yumiko Tsunakawa**, demonstrates the basic as well as advanced techniques to create arrangements that suit different types of occasions. *Presented by Zenteriors. Information/registration: tsunaca@yahoo.ca or 613-241-0699*

Slide Show/Photo Exhibition – "China as We See It"

May 21 (Thursday) 6:30 pm • Auditorium • Free Admission

Canadian Photographers of Focus on China presents fascinating images recently shot in China, including six world heritage locations such as Zhangjiajie of Hunan, Leshan Buddha and Panda Breeding Place. See beautiful scenery, wonderful treasures of art and evocative pictures of daily life in Shanghai, Chengdu and Hong Kong.

Film Screening: Densha Otoko (Train Man) (2005)

May 28 (Thursday) 7:30 pm • Auditorium • Free Admission

The true life story of a geeky young man's romance with a beautiful young lady.

Based on actual messages posted on a huge internet discussion board in Japan.

A million internet users followed the Train Man's romance, giving him advice on how to impress the girl and take her out on dates. Japanese with English subtitles. (104 mins) *Presented by Embassy of Japan.*

Film Screening: Iran: Seven Faces of a Civilization

May 30 (Saturday) 2:00 pm • Auditorium • Free Admission

An award winning film by Farzin Rezaeian portraying Iran's 7000-year-old history of art, culture and architecture. Spectacular graphic reconstructions superimposed on images of actual architectural remains brilliantly recaptures the ancient treasures in ways never possible before. *Presented by Catholic Immigration Centre, Persian Art & Cultural Society of Ottawa and Ottawa Persian Radio. Information: Afarin.Beglari@bibliottawalibrary.ca*

LIBRARY & ARCHIVES CANADA

395 Wellington St. www.collectionscanada.gc.ca

Prospects for Political Change in China

May 7 (Thursday) 7:30 pm • Room A

Free for C-CFS members, \$5 for non-members

Professor Bernie Frolic will examine the effects of China's present economic crisis on political and social stability, and cover Western versus Chinese concepts of human rights, democracy, civil society and the internet. He is Professor Emeritus at York U. and has been 1st Secretary in Canada's Embassy in Beijing, a visiting professor at Harvard and author of several books on China. *Presented by the Canada-China Friendship Society of Ottawa. Information: 819-777-8434 or www.fcfc.ca/Ottawa*

Photographic Expressions of Asia (Details under OAHMS Events)

May 12 (Tuesday) 7:30 pm • Auditorium • Free Admission

Asian Scientists: "CSI: Ottawa" (Details under OAHMS Events)

May 14 (Thursday) 7:30 pm • Auditorium • Free Admission

Japanese Garden Design and Construction and Zen in Interior Design By Sam Toma, M. Arch./Zenteriors

May 16th (Saturday) • Auditorium • Free Admission

Japanese Garden Design • 1:00 – 2:45 pm

Introduction to Japanese garden design addressing types, concepts, elements and components. Applying and adapting traditional design to suit the Canadian lifestyle and climate in a visual presentation followed by open discussion.

Zen in Interior Design • 3:00 – 4:45 pm

Presentation on Japanese style based on its philosophical and cultural heritage.

With an introduction to main Japanese design elements and a review of the difference between genuine and assumed design solutions, participants will gain a better understanding of how to adapt this style to fit their lifestyle.

Information: samtca@hotmail.com or 613-241-0699

Mushfiq Ensemble Concert

May 18 (Monday) 7:30 pm • Auditorium

Tickets: \$20 door; \$15 in advance

Enjoy captivating and participative music from Afghanistan and India.

Powerful vocals, colours and rhythms of the Mushfiq Ensemble. (www.mushfiq.ca).

Information and tickets: mushfiq@mushfiq.ca or 613-521-2736.

Asian Scientists: Healthy Living and Caring for Your Heart

May 20 (Wednesday) 7:30 pm • Free Admission

This presentation by the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Ontario will look at the latest research on causes of heart disease and stroke as well as ways to reduce the risks of heart attacks and stroke through a combination of healthy life style and diet. The speakers will include **Dr. David Park**, a researcher at the Ottawa Civic Hospital and **Dr. Xiaohui Zha**, at the Ottawa Health Research Institute. *Presented by the Heart & Stroke Foundation of Ontario.*

MONTH LONG ACTIVITIES

Transcontinental Divide / BC Scene Exhibition

April 17 – May 29, 2009 • Free Admission

Gallery 101, 301½ Bank St. – Unit 1

Grand opening on April 21 at 7:00 pm.

Featuring works of Asian-Canadian artists, (**Ron Tran, Roy Lu, Minh Nguyen**) and others with Vancouver's Helen Pitt Gallery. Ten artists will recreate the ideas of other artists and their works will be displayed in Vancouver and Ottawa.

Information: news@gallery101.org or 613-230-2799

Chinatown Remixed-An Art Celebration on Somerset Street.

Grand opening on May 2 from 2:00 - 5:00 pm, closing ceremony on **June 1**.

During the month of May, modern and traditional artists and crafts people will display their work at various businesses in the Somerset street area. Whether enjoying dim sum or sipping bubble tea in "Chinatown", you are sure to be surrounded by tasty treats and beautiful works of art. *For details please visit www.ottawachinatown.ca*

Mayfair Theatre - Asian Films

During the month of May, Asian films will be featured at Ottawa's historic neighbourhood theatre, the Mayfair at 1074 Bank St. See *listing at http://mayfairtheatre.ca/schedule/*

Chapters Rideau

Asian Canadian Literature - May 1-31, Daily

Come to Chapters (47 Rideau St.) to see a display of Asian-Canadian literature, and learn about some of the established and emerging authors who have made CanLit richer and more exciting. *For more information see http://www.chapters.indigo.ca/Store-Events/events_main-art.html*

Real Canadian Superstore Cooking Demonstrations

190 Richmond Rd. (Westboro) Upstairs Cooking School

Exotic Escape What's for Dinner May 6, 13, 20 & 27, Noon to 1 pm

Free with donation to Ottawa Food Bank

Join Asian **Chef Thuy Nguyen** at her classes dedicated to the diverse culinary delights of Asia. May 6 (China), May 13 (Laos), May 20 (Japan), May 27 (Thailand)

Vietnamese Cuisine (Hands-on, 2 hours) \$40 charge for this session.

May 28 (Thursday) 6:30-8:30pm

Chef Thuy Nguyen helps you stir up some Vietnamese-style heat in the kitchen with some of her hand picked dishes. *Information/Registration: Patricia Wilson, at pwilson@ngco.com or 613-722-5890 Ext. 121.*

Ikebana Class - Japanese Art of Flower Arrangement (April to June)

Saturdays, Sundays 10:00 am - 12:00 pm, **Tuesdays** 1:30 - 3:30 pm, 6:30 - 8:30 pm

Explore the beauty and fun of Ikebana with experienced Ikebana artist and teacher, **Yumiko Tsunakawa**. \$240 for 8 classes (1/wk) Orleans, exact address to be given to registrants. *Information/registration: tsunaca@yahoo.ca or 613-241-0699*

Zen in Interior Design

May 21 - July 16 (Thursdays) 6:30 - 8:30 pm

Sam Toma, M. Arch., presents a workshop on understanding Japanese style

and choosing solutions and components to meet individual needs.

\$320 for 8 classes (1/wk) Orleans, exact address to be given to registrants.

Information/registration: samtca@hotmail.com or 613-241-0699