

MBCA Member Newsletter

July 1st, 2023, Semi-Annual Issue #1, Web site: <https://montereychineseassociation.org/>

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1. About Us

Monterey Bay Chinese Association

Monterey Bay Chinese Association (MBCA) was founded on October 1, 2012. It is a non-profit organization registered and established in accordance with the relevant laws of California, USA.

MBCA's mission is to unite Chinese people in the Monterey Bay area, strength friendship and provide mutual assistance among Chinese; act as a bridge between Chinese residents and local governments and social groups in the Monterey Bay area; proactively participate in activities to safeguard the rights and interests of the Chinese people; organize local Chinese to participate in various public welfare and cultural activities in the Monterey Bay area; establish a positive image of the Chinese people; commit to promoting Chinese culture, and make positive contributions to the social, economic and cultural development of the Monterey area and the promotion of Sino-US relationship.

MBCA's Contact Information

Monterey Bay Chinese Association (MBCA)
P.O. Box 5792, Monterey, CA 92944
Email: mbcamonterey@gmail.com
Website: <https://montereychineseassociation.org>

Donors to the Monterey Chinese Association

On March 27, 2023, Dr. Grace Wang donated US\$10,000 to MBCA as a special fund for the MBCA to deal with legal affairs.

MBCA's Board Members (No Ranking of the Names)

Zhang Weijiang, Qiao Zhenlin, Sun Yongling, Meng Yue, Liu Yaping, Xiao Qian, Cheng Yonghong, Jin Shanshan, Lu Danny, Xu Heping, Xu Zhou, Cha Weiyuan, Fu Wanzi, Xie Yao, Huang Shanshan

MBCA's By-Laws (See the attachment)

2. MBCA's News

MBCA Board Member Election

Time and place:

- Saturday, April 8, 12:00-2:00PM
- First Baptist Church of Monterey; 600 Hawthorne Street, Monterey, CA 93940

On April 8, 2023, the Monterey Bay Chinese Association successfully held the meeting for election of board members. The election meeting was presided over by Qiao Zhenlin, Director of the Vote Counting and Monitoring Committee. The committee includes Qiao Zhenlin, the Director, and members: Lu Danny, Xiao Qian, Cheng Yonghong.

After verification and calculation by the Vote Counting and Monitoring Committee, the candidates with the most votes were: Zhang Weijiang, Jin Shanshan, Xu Zhou, Zha Weiyuan, Fu Wanzi, Xie Yao, Huang Shanshan, and Sun Yongling. Each of these newly elected board members received more than 50 votes. Vice President Qiao Zhenlin announced the election results at the meeting and expressed his heartfelt congratulations to the newly elected board members. He hoped that they would bring vitality to MBCA's future development.

Dr. Grace Wang made a special trip to attend the election meeting with her daughter and grandson and delivered a touching speech. She emphasized the importance of unity among the Chinese people, as well as MBCA's purpose, which is to promote the development of Chinese culture, improve the status of Chinese, highlight Chinese traditions, as well as unite and love each other. She also highlighted her strong support for MBCA, and the commitment of her daughter and grandson to continuing support for MBCA.

MBCA's President, Zhang Weijiang sincerely thanked: the selection committee members Qiao Zhenlin, Xiao Qian, Cheng Yonghong, Zhao Bo, and Liu Yaping for their hard work over the past few months; the Vote Counting and Monitoring Committee for their serious and responsible attitude; and the Chinese Association Advisory Committee for their support. He also thanked the following MBCA board members: Meng Yue, Xu Heping, Jin Shanshan, Xu Zhou, Zha Weiyuan, Lu Danny, Xiao Qian, Cheng Yonghong, Qiao Zhenlin, Zhang Weijiang for their contributions to the Election. He also thanked all members who actively participated in this Election and he congratulated the eight newly elected board members. The 2023 Chinese Association Director Election Conference ended happily.

MBCA's President & Vice President Election (May 13, 2023)

Time and place:

- Saturday, May 13, 11:00AM-1:00PM
- First Baptist Church of Monterey; 600 Hawthorne Street, Monterey, CA 93940

On May 13, 2023, the Monterey Bay Chinese Association board voted to elect:

- President: Zhang Weijiang (re-elected)
- Vice President: Qiao Zhenlin (re-elected)
- Vice President: Sun Yongling (newly elected)

Marina Multicultural Festival (June 24, 2023)

Time and place:

Marina Multi-Cultural Festival: 10:00AM-3:00PM on Saturday, June 24, 2023 at Vince DiMaggio Park, Marina, CA 93933

On June 24, 2023, MBCA participated in the Multicultural Festival in Marina. The purpose of the festival was to showcase the cultural diversity of the local community. Many cultural organizations, musicians, artists, historians and performers came together to present different traditions, histories and cultures.

The program featured performances by groups representing Scotland, the Philippines, Spain, China, Vietnam, Japan and Korea. MBCA's Dance Troupe gave multiple performances. Chinese performances included waist drumming, Tibetan dance, cheongsam umbrella dance and Tai Chi fan dance, all of which demonstrated the unique charm of the Chinese culture.

MBCA set up three booths to demonstrate and promote Chinese culture. MBCA greatly appreciated all the members and friends who were involved in the performances and the cultural booths.

3. Incoming Events

4th of July BBQ (July 4, 2023)

- Members of the Monterey Chinese Association and their relatives and friends are welcome to attend, all free of charge!
- The Chinese Association Waist Drum Team will participate in the Independence Day Parade in the Monterey Bay Area.

Summer Lights Celebration in Pacific Grove

This event will be held on Saturday July 29, 2023 in Pacific Grove. There will be multicultural performances on the pier. On the grass area, there will be food vendors and different ethnic groups sharing more about their culture and/or providing lessons in music and dance. MBCA's dance group will perform and we will set up two or three cultural booths to promote and demonstrate the Chinese culture.

Mid-Autumn Moon Festival Celebration (September 30, 2023)

Time and Place:

The event will take place from 6:00-9:00 pm on Saturday, September 24 at Monterey Del Monte Beach.

Chinese Cultural Festival (October 14, 2023)

Time and Place:

The event will take place from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm on Saturday, October 14 at Monterey Custom House Plaza

4. Cultural Corner

Origin of American Independence Day

Independence Day (also known as Fourth of July or July Fourth) is one of the main legal holidays in the United States. The war between Great Britain and its North American colonies began in April 1775. As the war continued, achieving freedom and independence from Great Britain became the goal pursued by the British colonies. On July 4, 1776, representatives of the thirteen colonies in North America held the Continental Congress in Philadelphia and passed the Declaration of Independence by Thomas Jefferson. The beginning of the Declaration of Independence clearly stated that all men are created equal and have the natural right to pursue happiness and liberty. It listed the crimes committed by Britain on the American continent, and declared the independence of the British North American colonies.

The Declaration of Independence is a great document with world-historical significance. The day when the Declaration of Independence was passed is also designated as the Independence Day of the United States, which has become the eternal symbol of the American people.

Tai Chi Practice

Tai Chi is an ancient Chinese martial art and a form of movement meditation. It has beneficial effects on physical and mental health. Tai Chi mobilizes the inner Qi and balances Yin and Yang through a series of slow and continuous movements to: strengthen the human muscles and brain function; improve immunity and cardiovascular endurance; maintain focus and delay brain aging; as well as reduce anxiety caused by work and life pressure. Tai Chi supports physical and mental happiness.

We provide one hour of free Tai Chi instruction every week for Tai Chi enthusiasts in front of the Monterey City Hall at 10:00-11:00 on Sunday mornings. We will begin with Tai Chi 8. Experienced Tai Chi practitioners are also welcome to join us practicing Tai Chi 24, 32, 42 and 48. Let's enjoy Tai Chi together and have fun!

Those who are interested in learning Tai Chi are welcome to join us. Please sign up with Ms. Deng Hai, the leader of the group. Her mobile number is: 831-869-0457.

Chinese School

In January 2023, MBCA's Chinese School was re-opened after being closed for three years due to the pandemic. The teachers of the Chinese school overcame various difficulties to ensure the success of each step from preparing the venue, arranging the courses, decorating the classrooms, to every teaching activity. The teachers showed patience, care, and dedication. Therefore, every student who comes to the class enjoys learning Chinese and falls in love with the language in a warm and professional environment.

The Chinese school achievements have not been created by the school itself, but by every child, parent, teacher and all the staff of the school. MBCA's Chinese School is a big warm family, in which everyone contributes.

The summer vacation of 2023 has arrived. A short parting now means a better reunion in the near future. In the second half of the year, we will continue to provide tailor-made Chinese courses for children of all ages and language levels. We will also provide courses on Go, calligraphy and Chinese painting for parents to select. We look forward to seeing all of you on our campus during the second half of the year!