FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

2nd Annual “Twin Cities Harvest Moon · China Garden Abiding Love” - 2022
Chinese Moon Festival Celebration, Saturday, September 10, 2022

An All Day Event Free to the Public
St. Paul—Twin Cities Harvest Moon · China Garden Abiding Love - 2022 Chinese Moon Festival Celebration and China Friendship Garden Benefit Event will take place again at Phalen Park/China Garden in St. Paul on Saturday, September 10th, 2022 from 11:00am to 7:00pm. This fun packed, family oriented all day event is organized by Association of Sino-American Neocultural Exchange (ASANE) and Minnesota China Friendship Garden Society (MCFGS).

Chinese Moon Festival, also called Mid-Autumn Festival, is the second most important festival in China. This year the holiday falls on Saturday, September 10th. On this day, the Chinese people believe that the moon is at its brightest and fullest, coinciding with harvest time in the middle of autumn and celebrate it by gathering for family dinners, eating mooncakes and lighting paper lanterns.

In recent years, the St. Paul-Changsha China Friendship Garden of Whispering Willows and Flowing Waters, located at Phalen Park, has embodied the friendship between China and the United States and symbolized the long-lasting friendship between the sister cities of Changsha, Hunan, and St. Paul, Minnesota. Friends of local Chinese and Hmong communities, as well as the Twin Cities community at large have contributed a great deal to its development.

Last year, the Association of Sino-American Neocultural Exchange (ASANE) and Minnesota China Friendship Garden Society (MCFGS) successfully hosted a smaller scale event at Phalen Park. This year, with a much larger scale event, both groups are enthusiastically hoping more China Garden friends will generously donate funds to contribute to the smooth completion of the second and third phases of the Garden.

The theme of this year’s event will be again celebrating the Chinese Moon Festival and supporting the China Friendship Garden. It will contain several interesting segments such as "Complimentary photography”, “Artistic Performances”, “Poetry and Drawing Contest Awards”, “Gourmet Foods and Mooncake Tasting”, “Informational and Cultural Booths” and a “Children’s Playground”.

We warmly invite people of all ethnicities in the Twin Cities to come to spend a jubilant and unforgettable Chinese Moon Festival with us at Phalen Regional Park in St. Paul (1640 Phalen Dr, St Paul, MN 55106). We strongly encourage all participants, whether adults or children, to wear international garments.

**Event highlights**

**Artistic Performances**
Professional artists, artistic and cultural groups from diverse backgrounds from the Twin Cities will present exciting and festive performances. The artistic program is expected to last approximately 5 hours.

**Gourmet Foods and Mooncake Tasting**
Local Asian restaurants, food vendors and the Asian supermarkets will provide a variety of multi-cultural foods, snacks and mooncakes for sale on site.
Poetry and Chinese Drawing/Calligraphy Contest Awards
Winners of Four Language Poetry and Chinese Drawing/Calligraphy Contests will gather at the Xiangjiang Pavilion presenting their winning pieces and receiving awards. Sketch artists will provide caricatures for sale.

Cultural and Informational Booths
Participating cultural groups, organizations and individuals will display and promote their services or products. Some fun handicraft items will be also for sale.

Complimentary Photograph
The members from Minnesota Photography Salon will take complimentary individual and family portraits at the event. Photos can be ordered at a later date. All proceeds from the photo sales will benefit the Garden.

Children’s Playground
Families with young children can enjoy a play area featuring an inflatable for all day fun activities at the event site or play at the playground at Phalen Park.

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Organizers
Association of Sino-American Neocultural Exchange (ASANE)
Minnesota China Friendship Garden Society (MCFGS)

Participating Organizations & Individuals (Inapoetical order)
(Current list. More organizations will be added at later date)

Chinese American Chamber of Commerce
Chinese Music Gallery
Dakota Drumming Group
Ha Family Lion Dance Group
Iny Asian Dance Theater (IADT)
Legacy Adult Daycare Center
Legendary Spice Chinese Restaurant
Lin Qiu & Ye Yu Music Studio
MaMei Music Studio
Meilin Art Studio
Ming’s Garden
Mingzhou Hua Yue
Minhua Chorus
Minnesota Chinese Opera
Minnesota Chinese World
Minnesota International Chinese School
Minnesota Photography Salon
NorthWest Rhythmic Gymnastics School
Qiqao Association of Minnesota
Phenix Chinese Dance Academy
Shanghai Market
Shen Pei Art Studio
Tai Ji and Marshal Arts by Caiyun Zhou
Tenor, Mr. Lei Li
Tenor, Mr. Shaohua Zhou
Twin Cities Chinese Dance Center
Xu Qian Music Studio
Zhengang Xie and Mei Hu

**Longing for Full Moon**

A Poetry Contest
on the themes of Friendship and Resilience at the
Garden of Whispering Willows & Flowing Waters
by the Minnesota China Friendship Garden Society

Oh Garden Wanderer —
Let us gather between these pines
to rise and yet permit A sitting phrase
where clouds soften our gaze beyond

This time in change we seek one will
to shade our spirit sorrows
to shadow lift green trails swathe the orange
granting words A standing song

A dream becomes
Moon living light
Within reverie

poem by Ali Van

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Eight poets will receive a $100 award & tour of MIA’s Asian Art by poet/Chair, Liu Yang; one under 18, & one 18 & over, in 4 languages:
Dakota, Hmong Chinese, English.

Send entry & questions to:
romislowiak@gmail.com

Limit: 1 page, 1 entry, Author’s name on email, not on poem.

Entries Due By: Sept 6, 2023

Awards Announced & Poems
Read: NOON (12pm)
Sat., Sept. 10, 2023
at the Moon Festival

**Location:** The Xiang Jiang Pavilion, Phalen Regional Park
1624 Phalen Drive, Saint Paul

photo by Romi Sliowak