Greetings from the Museum of Chinese in America!

I wanted to send a potentially rewarding opportunity for students your way. Attached, please find the description and application for this fall’s Community Youth Action Committee: ARTiculations on Community, held at the Museum of Chinese in America. CYAC could prove an excellent way for students to get involved in their communities, as well as being something worthy of mention on college applications! Below, please find a shortened description of the program:

Throughout the first half of the 2012-2013 school year, MOCA will be bringing together a group of 14-16 youth to embark on place based exploration of arts organizations and sites of art making in Chinatown, primarily through the channel of oral history.

Youth will be working in pairs to conduct research and oral history interviews on the arts scene—performing, literary, visual—in NYC’s Chinatown. They will explore the notions of art as identity, art as memorial, art as activism, and art as informing social change, amongst others. During their explorations, youth will both delve into the historical and embed themselves in the present, as they research arts organizations which have left an indelible mark on Chinatown, many since the era of the Civil Rights Movement.

Youth will participate in weekly workshops on the history of the community, the how-to’s of oral history, research techniques, technology tutorials, and interviewing strategies, in addition to being connected to useful community outposts. They will document their experiences through writing and other forms of media. A team of facilitators, consisting of MOCA’s educational staff, will design and implement the curriculum and facilitate bi-weekly workshops and activities.

Aside from providing youth with invaluable opportunities to hone their 21st century skills, the project will yield tangible results, as the stories and artifacts collected will be exhibited in the Museum of Chinese in America’s Mapping Our Heritage Project, a fully-interactive, 3-D map of Chinatown that allows users to digitally visit a location in Chinatown; learn the history of that site; see photographs of the people who lived, worked, and created there; and read or listen to the personal stories connected to them. Their work will be a crucial stepping stone in documenting the rich community history of Chinatown.

If you know of any potential candidates for the program, do not hesitate to pass this information on to them! Applications are due Monday, October 15 2012.

Feel free to forward the attached application/description to other staff members, schools, or community organizations. And of course, please let me know if you have any questions!

All best,

Lauren

Lauren Nechamkin 劳伦·尼卡姆金
Education Assistant 教育部助理
Museum of Chinese in America (MOCA) | 美国华人博物馆

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T | 电话 212.619.4785
F | 传真 212.619.4720
www.mocanyc.org

SEE THE PROGRAM DESCRIPTION AND APPLICATION BELOW...PLEASE READ AND FOLLOW ALL INSTRUCTIONS...
IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS....FEEL FREE TO SEE ME IN ROOM 1W9

Important Note: If you are selected for the internship, please inform Mr. Honor IMMEDIATELY via email at: bths.internship@gmail.com
CALLING ALL NYC HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS!
Join the Museum of Chinese in America’s Community Youth Action

The Museum of Chinese in America (MOCA) is looking for dedicated NYC high school students to join our Community Youth Action Committee: ARTiculations on Community for the fall semester of the 2012 school year.

WHAT WILL I BE DOING?

Beyond taiko drumming, lion dancing, and calligraphy, is there a distinct place for Asian Americans in the arts? Do Asian American artists in New York face particular challenges? How has the immigrant experience informed and shaped their creative processes? And how loud of a voice do Asian Americans in the arts really have—historically and in this day and age?"

With a group of other high school students, you’ll be taking it to the streets to embark on a place based exploration of arts organizations and sites of art making in Chinatown. It will be your task to uncover the compelling stories of Chinatown’s artistically inclined movers and shakers, and chronicle their perspectives along with your own.

Working in pairs to conduct research and oral history interviews on the arts scene—performing, literary, visual—in NYC’s Chinatown, you’ll explore the notions of art as identity, art as memorial, art as activism, and art as informing social change, amongst others. You’ll pose questions like: What does the arts scene look like? How is space, a known commodity in Chinatown, transformed to suit the arts? And most importantly, why? Out of what need did these organizations spring up? What niche do they fulfill? What are their goals? Whose voices do they yearn to make heard? During your explorations, you will both delve into the historical and embed yourselves in the present, as you research arts organizations which have left an indelible mark on Chinatown, many since the era of the Civil Rights Movement.

Sounds like a huge undertaking, huh? But don’t worry, MOCA’s education team will be there to guide you through the process. Before we set you off into the hustle and bustle of Chinatown, we’ll conduct weekly workshops on the history of the community and its arts organizations, the how-to’s of oral history, research techniques, technology tutorials, and interviewing strategies, in addition to connecting you to useful cultural community outposts.

And you’ll have a lot to show for it, because the stories you collect will be exhibited in the Museum of Chinese in America’s Mapping Our Heritage Project, a fully-interactive, digital 3-D map of Chinatown that allows users to visit an address in Chinatown and learn the history of that site; see photographs of the people who lived, worked, and created there; and read or listen to the personal stories connected to it. A map which neglects the aforementioned arts and arts organizations, many of them not exclusively arts organizations, but organizations which impact the fabric of the social, political, and economic lives of Chinatown residents, is an incomplete map. Become a CYAC committee member to have a part in documenting the rich community history of NYC’s Chinatown!

WHO CAN APPLY?

Youth ages 15 – 19 who are enrolled in a NYC high school; strong academic record; mature and responsible; self-motivated, willing to work and be part of a team; desire to build public speaking skills; interest in Chinese American/Asian American history and/or health care issues facing our community a plus.
WHEN?

After-school Tuesdays for 1hr/week and Saturday mornings for 2 hrs/week, from early November through early March (for approximately 14 weeks). Modest stipend provided upon successful completion of the program.

HOW DO I APPLY?

Please submit the following:
◊ Completed application form
◊ Two references we can contact

Mail, e-mail, or fax all application materials to:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>ACTION</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday, October 1, 2012</td>
<td>Application Handed Out to Students</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, October 15, 2012</td>
<td>Application Due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, October 29, 2012</td>
<td>Applicants Selected &amp; Notified</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week of November 12, 2012</td>
<td>Program Begins</td>
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<td>(likely a Tuesday and Saturday)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week of March 3, 2013</td>
<td>Program Ends</td>
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Education Department, Museum of Chinese in America, 215 Centre Street, NY, New York, 10013
E-mail: education@mocanyc.org
Fax: 212.619.4720

TIMELINE:
COMMUNITY YOUTH ACTION COMMITTEE APPLICATION FORM

STUDENT CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: ____________________________ Age: ____________________________

School: ____________________________ Grade: ____________________________

Home Address: ____________________________ Apt. #: ____________________________

City: ____________________________ State: ____________________________ Zip Code: ____________________________

E-mail: ____________________________ Contact #: ____________________________

PARENT OR GUARDIAN CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: ____________________________ Cell Phone: ____________________________

Daytime Phone: ____________________________ Evening Phone: ____________________________

E-mail ____________________________

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

Please answer the following questions (in 1 – 2 paragraphs each):

1) Identify a problem you see in your school or community and propose an arts project or undertaking to address this problem. (The problem need not be monumental; it can be as simple as proposing a plan to liven up empty wall space in the hallways.)

2) Being as personal as possible, describe the role of art and arts organizations in the community. What past experiences or interests have prompted your interest in the program.

3) If you could pick 3 people to go to dinner with, dead or alive, real or imagined, who would they be, and why?
The Museum of Chinese in America (MOCA) is dedicated to reclaiming, preserving, and interpreting the history and culture of Chinese and their descendants in the United States. Through its thought provoking exhibits and programs, MOCA encourages dialogue among people of all cultural backgrounds.

REFERENCE

List at least two references (i.e. teacher, advisor, mentor, past employer, etc.) who we can contact. We recommend that you tell your reference(s) that he/she will be contacted by someone at MOCA. Family members and friends do not count as references.

REFERENCE # 1 (required)

Name:

Title:

Contact phone number:

Contact e-mail:

Your relationship to this person:

REFERENCE # 2

Name:

Title:

Contact phone number:

Contact e-mail:

Your relationship to this person: