

Subject: Museum of Chinese in the Americas



The Museum of Chinese in America (MOCA) is building a new facility in NYC and wants to include FCC families. MOCA recognizes our children have immigrated from China to America by adoption and welcomes our families.

FCCNY wishes to support MOCA in their efforts by purchasing a bronze tile on the new Journey Wall. The Journey Wall by artist/designer Maya Lin, will be a very visible art installation in MOCA's main lobby in their newly renovated facility at 211-215 Centre Street in Chinatown . We believe this is a wonderful way to recognize our families as an essential part of the Chinese diaspora and forge a closer relationship with the expanded national Museum of Chinese in America .

Our goal is to raise \$25,000 for a Journey Wall tile for "Families with Children from China", not just FCCNY . We already have leadership pledges of \$8800. If you are interested in contributing to this effort, please contact Kathy Urbina at 718.852.8979 or FCCNYBrooklyn@aol.com by November 15th. Details about MOCA's expansion are below and at www.mocanyc.org. Printed material is also available upon request.

On Sunday, November 9th at 11am MOCA is planning a tour of the construction progress for FCC families. They expect the new facility to open in time for Lunar New Year in 2009. Please RSVP to Carolyn Antonio at (212) 619-4785 ext. 102 or cantonio@mocanyc.org if you'd like to attend this tour.

Thanks for your consideration,
Kathy Urbina
Coordinator FCCNY
718.852.8979

BACKGROUND ON MOCA AND ITS EXPANSION

Since its founding in 1980, the Museum of Chinese in America (MOCA) has been dedicated to reclaiming, preserving, and presenting the history and culture of Chinese people in the United States. Its unique collections, innovative exhibitions, educational and public programs, and community initiatives have earned it a strong reputation among museums and audiences alike. MOCA's rise also has been fueled by its ability to grow in tandem with the country's dynamic Chinese American community. The diaspora is rich and extensive, bridging multiple generations, geographies, and experiences; and MOCA provides invaluable insight into all of these stories, bringing them to vivid life.

Today, the public's understanding of the Chinese American experience is more relevant and important than ever. Despite China's increasing importance in the global economy, as well as the rise in numbers and prominence of Chinese Americans, many Americans - including those of Chinese descent - remain unaware of the diversity of the culture and complex history of more than 160 years of the Chinese in the United States. With a demonstrated record of sharing and interpreting the story of the Chinese in America, MOCA can be an articulate and passionate voice in filling that void. MOCA seeks to promote a broad dialogue among Chinese Americans and the general public, and to serve as a crossroads for

people from all cultures and generations.

NEW FACILITY

To bring the MOCA experience to a larger audience and to expand its cultural contributions to the national stage, MOCA is undergoing a major, two-fold institutional expansion. First, in fall 2008, the Museum will move into a greatly expanded, architecturally significant space with capacity for increased visitors and a fuller exhibition and program schedule. The stunning, newly renovated facility at 211-215 Centre Street - designed by long-time supporter Maya Lin - will increase the Museum's total size six-fold. This world-class facility will allow MOCA to build its programmatic and operational capacity and to develop as a true national center for Chinese Americans and all Americans.

Second, the Museum will grow beyond its physical walls and forge a major new website presence (at its new URL, www.mocanyc.org) for its programs and content, including a comprehensive online history of the Chinese in America and a digitized collection of objects, photographs, oral histories, and more. Whether on-site or online, the new MOCA will engage people locally, regionally, and globally to learn about history, share their own stories, and explore or contribute to the evolving story of the Chinese in America.

A new core exhibit, entitled The Chinese American Experience, will lie at the literal and figurative heart of the new space. The core exhibit will surround a sky-lit central courtyard in the facility and draw visitors into a journey through a series of rooms that will reveal the diverse layers of the Chinese American experience over the past 160+ years (chronicling events from the arrival of the first Chinese immigrants seeking opportunity in America, coming full circle to the contemporary world where Chinese Americans are creating new opportunities in the global economy, both in America and throughout the world, particularly in Asia).

In addition to the core exhibit, the new MOCA will house several exhibition galleries; a museum store; visitor lounge; classrooms; offices; library; research archives; meeting/event facilities for community use; exhibition workshop; and a multi-purpose studio space to support a range of programs including film screenings, readings, performances, presentations and workshops and oral history projects. The new facility will provide a world-class setting to give full voice and lasting visibility to the national experience of Chinese Americans and their families in one of the most frequently visited sections of the City.

JOURNEY WALL

Journey Wall is a custom art installation created for the MOCA by artist/designer Maya Lin, to commemorate both the new museum space and the expansiveness of the Chinese American diaspora. To be located in the Museum's main lobby at the Centre Street entrance, the Journey Wall will be composed of bronze tiles through which Chinese Americans can honor and remember their roots. Tiles will be inscribed with individual/family names, or, in the case of FCC, group name, along with place of origin in China and home in America. Each individual tile will represent a series of stories and experiences; collectively, the entire installation will further convey the depth, breadth, and richness of the Chinese American community. The wall provides a means for Chinese Americans and their families to support the mission of the Museum (particularly during its expansion), while including their personal and family histories in MOCA's ongoing narrative. Placement of tiles will be determined by size (reservation opportunities range from \$10,000-\$25,000 per tile) and date of gift.

For more information about the MOCA Creating a National Museum campaign, please contact Carolyn Antonio at cantonio@mocanyc.org or (212) 619-4785 ext. 102. All donations are tax-deductible to the full extent of the law.

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Families with Children from China of Greater New York (FCCNY) connects, sustains and celebrates families with children adopted from China.

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Families with Children from China of Greater NY - www.fccny.org

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