

PRESS AND COMMUNITY ALERT
September 2, 2008

CHINATOWN'S ARTS RENAISSANCE
A Press Conference and Informational Panel

Monday, September 8 from 1 to 3 pm

Chen Dance Center
70 Mulberry Street, 2nd Floor
(at Bayard, one block south of Canal)

Subways: J/M/Z, N/Q/R/W, 4/6 to Canal Street
(Light food and beverages will be served)

Asian American Arts Alliance, CREATE in Chinatown (Committee to Revitalize and Enrich the Arts and Tomorrow's Economy), Chinatown Partnership Local Development Corporation (CPLDC) and Chen Dance Center invite you to **a discussion about three exciting programs to promote and enrich cultural life in Chinatown**, despite the district's sustained economic losses since 9/11.

To RSVP, contact Hao-wen Wang at hwang@aaartsalliance.org or 212-941-9208 ext. 6

DISCOVER CHINATOWN ARTS—Asian American Arts Alliance has launched Chinatown Arts, a twice-monthly program of events designed to introduce visitors and New Yorkers to Chinatown's vibrant cultural offerings. These include historic weekend walking tours with dim sum conducted and co-hosted by Museum of Chinese in America; dance performances with artist meet-and-greet receptions at Chen Dance Center; and gallery talks on Asian/Asian American contemporary art with Asian American Arts Center and neighborhood galleries. The calendar will also include networking and singles events. *For a detailed schedule or more information, see the media kit or contact Connie Wang at 212-941-9208 ext. 2 or cwang@aaartsalliance.org.*

A CULTURAL CENTER IN CHINATOWN—Despite an abundance of dance, opera and music groups in Chinatown, there is a severe shortage of performance and rehearsal space. Organized in the wake of 9/11 by community leaders, CREATE in Chinatown, Inc. is launching its Phase II planning process and raising funding to help develop a cultural and performing arts center in Chinatown for music, theater, dance, visual art, screenings, community gatherings, conferences and educational activities for residents and visitors alike. *For more information on CREATE, contact Amy Chin at chinatownCREATE@aol.com.*

GRANTS FOR CHINATOWN ARTISTS—Asian American Arts Alliance and CREATE in Chinatown are pleased to announce that applications are available for the second year of Chinatown Arts Initiative (CAI) grants. This program supports Asian American arts groups of all disciplines who may not have access to mainstream funding, but play an integral role in Manhattan's Chinatown's cultural life. Selected organizations will receive awards of up to \$2,500 as well as professional consulting in arts marketing and free promotional material services. The deadline to apply is October 1st 2008. *For more information on Chinatown Arts Initiative grants, see the media kit or contact Haowen Wang at 212-941-9208 ext. 6 or email hwang@aaartsalliance.org.*

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ASIAN AMERICAN ARTS ALLIANCE was established in 1983 to nurture, support and promote Asian American artists and arts organizations. **CREATE IN CHINATOWN** was formed by Chinatown community leaders in the wake of 9/11 to ensure the vibrancy of the arts in Chinatown. **CHINATOWN PARTNERSHIP LOCAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (CPLDC)** works to preserve Chinatown's unique culture while making it a great place to live, work and visit. **CHEN DANCE CENTER** is an award winning presenter of Asian American contemporary dance, dedicated to showcasing emerging choreographers and training young people in the art dance. All four organizations believe that the arts are vital to the social and economic well-being of a thriving Chinatown and should be nurtured.

Support for these initiatives is generously provided by The September 11th Fund created by The United Way of New York City and The New York Community Trust; the Deutsche Bank of Americas Foundation; in part by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs; the Cultural Tourism Initiative, a project of the Arts & Business Council of New York; the New York State Council on the Arts, a state agency; Lower Manhattan Cultural Council; Lower Manhattan Development Corporation Cultural Enhancement Fund and New York City Council/Office of Councilmembers Alan J. Gerson and John C. Liu.

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