



VCSA TIMES 2009

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



With Christmas holiday around the corner, I would like to send our best wishes to you and your family for a wonderful Holiday season. It is hard to believe that 2009 has come to an end and it is time for us to review all the highlights in this past year and to celebrate VCSA achievements in 2009.

Year 2009 marked the first time the North American Youth Leadership Development camp Len Duong is organized by a team combining our most talented volunteer staff from both Canada and United States. The camp was delivered in July this year in Toronto, Canada and was evaluated as one of the best implemented camp Len Duong in the history of 12 years of this camp program. My hat off for the outstanding work of the camp Len Duong staff this year. This year also was the first year VCSA has two full-time case managers working on the Ike Hurricane Relief program in the partnership with BPSOS: Mr. John Nguyen and Ms. Kristina Tran. VCSA is a proud partnering organization with BPSOS in this much needed program to assist the Ike hurricane victims in Houston and vicinity.

Year 2009 is also marked with an incredible growth of VCSA across the northern America with the establishment of two new chapters in United States: one in Dayton, Ohio, one in the twin cities, Minnesota, and another chapter in Ontario, Canada, the VCSA-London (Ontario) chapter. Please join me to welcome all the enthusiastic Len Duong camper alumni who helped establish these VCSA chapters at these cities. Our best wishes to all these great teams for year 2010.

In Houston, we are grateful to establish and maintain our relationship with great corporations such as NATCO, Shell Oil company, Chevron, ExxonMobil, Texas Instruments, CenterPoint Energy, WAMU-Chase Bank and great institutions such as University of Houston, Houston Community College System, and Houston Independent School District (HISD). It is the support from local business community that provides us with the support needed for our programs and services.

I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank all of our sponsors, partnering organizations, supporters, volunteers, members and above all, our Advisory Board members and Board of Directors, who provide us with guidance and necessary support to take VCSA to the next level. Your committed support has been a source of encouragement for all of us at the Executive Board. We are very excited and look forward to working with you again in the year 2010.

Yours sincerely,

Hung M. Le
 (President)



Message from the Board Chair

Greetings,

On behalf of the Board of Directors of VCSA, I would like to send our best wishes to you and your family for a great holiday season and a new year 2010 full of prosperity, success and happiness (the year of Tiger).

Next year VCSA will reach a very special milestone in our journey to serve the communities. We will celebrate VCSA's 20th anniversary with a special gala in the fall of 2010 to highlight our accomplishments in the past twenty years. The organization has grown from the original 14 founding members to more than 600 members with 8 chapters and one head quarter across the North American regions (Dallas, Austin, Houston, Texas; Washington DC, San Diego, California; Dayton, Ohio; Twin Cities, Minnesota; Toronto and London, Ontario, Canada).

In 2002, VCSA was recognized as the runner up for the prestigious IS Leadership Award offered by Independent Sectors based in Washington DC for its investment in leadership development among the Vietnamese American youths. In 2007, VCSA was recognized as the Most Outstanding Community Organization in Texas and California with the very first Golden Wave Award offered by Little Saigon Radio and Viet Tide Magazine. VCSA has continued to strive for excellence in these past two years. With a budget of less than \$200,000, VCSA delivers a wide range of community service programs focusing on the five core values that it promotes: leadership, education, culture, excellence, and volunteerism. VCSA in Houston delivers approximately 50 programs and services during the year with some highlights such as Youth Excellence Recognition Program, Youth Leadership Development Camp Len Duong, Tobacco & Obesity Prevention Youth summit, Financial Literacy program, After-School Tutorial program, Asian American Career Day, Parental Assistance program, Tax filing services, Vietnamese Cultural Show, to name just a few...

Despite the difficult financial climate in 2009, VCSA is still so fortunate to be blessed with the support of many local corporations and institutions that believe in our missions. We are grateful for the partnership organizations' support as well as the financial contribution of the local corporations and businesses to assist us with our community service programs. Our sincere appreciation to St. Luke's Episcopal Health Charities which have provided us with so much needed grants to support our After-School tutorial program, Bank of America, WAMU and Chase's support for our Financial Literacy program, and so many other corporations which gave us the continual support in many past years.

Once again, thank you so much for your support and we look forward to working with all of you, sponsors, volunteers, members and partners for a great year of the Tiger.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Anhlan', written over a horizontal line.

Anhlan Nguyen
(Board Chair)

Tha Tho Poetry Game

Toronto, Canada

VCSA-Toronto chapter in partnership with the Poetry Game of Fortune team from Houston delivered successfully the Tha Tho Game booth at the Tet Festival (Year of the Ox) at CNE Center – Toronto, Ontario, Canada on Saturday January 17, 2009. The team was led by Quynh Huynh and the booth was visited by thousands of guests during the whole day of the Festival. Congratulations to the Toronto team for an outstanding work on this cultural game and sincere thanks to Mr. Bao Nguyen, Mr. Truong Nong, and Ms. Anhlan Nguyen for traveling all the way from Houston to help run the Game. Special thanks to Ms. Le Ba Ton Nu for her great poem recitals to add values to the game culturally.

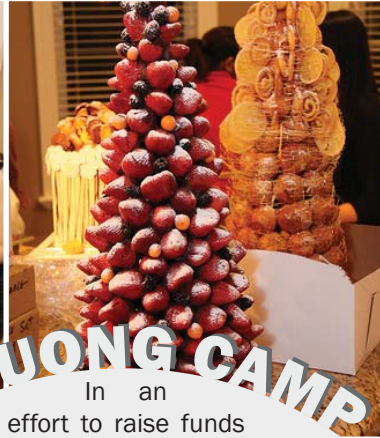


Tha Tho Poetry Contest

United States

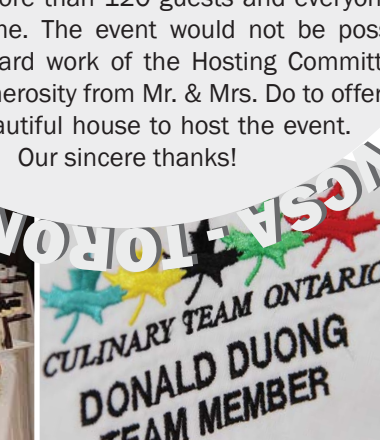
While the “senior tha tho team” was en route to Toronto Tet Festival, the “junior tha tho team” in Houston also conducted a successful booth of Poetry Game of Fortune (Tha Tho) at the Tet Festival organized on January 17 and January 18, 2009 at Tinh Luat Temple. The team was led by the Tre Houston group with Trang Luu, Vu Linh Vo, Duy Anh Truong, Bao Ngan Nguyen and Kieu My Nguyen. The game was also very well received by hundreds of guests during these two days at the Tet Festival. A round of applause for the Tre Houston team who coordinated the Tha tho Game in Houston.





LEN DUONG CAMP FUNDRAISING 2009

In an effort to raise funds for Len Duong camp 2009 which was held in Toronto, Canada, the VCSA-Toronto chapter has worked on a very successful fund raising event at Mr. & Mrs. Do, Ky Anh's residence on April 4, 2009. The event raised more than \$18,000 CAD for camp Len Duong 2009 project in Toronto, Canada. Congratulations for an outstanding work led by Ms. Thanh Nha Nguyen Noriega! The VCSA-Toronto Team has exceeded the goal of fund-raising from the local chapter for this Len Duong camp project. Our sincere thanks to guitarist and musician Dat Nguyen from California for donating half of his performance fee for the event and wonderful sponsorship from Chef Dzung Duong and his awesome cooking talents. The event had more than 120 guests and everyone had a wonderful time. The event would not be possible without the hard work of the Hosting Committee and the generosity from Mr. & Mrs. Do to offer their beautiful house to host the event. Our sincere thanks!





**Performing Arts - Spring 2009
Xuan Bon Mua Concert
VCSA - Houston**

Xuan Bon Mua concert featured guitarist Dat Nguyen and his newest released CD. The event was held on January 30th, 2009 at the Heinen Theater, Houston Community College with a full house of 300 guests. The purpose of the concert is to introduce Dat Nguyen's music talent to the local community



and also to raise additional funds for Len Duong youth leadership camp. The concert was a great success and helped to raise \$5,000 for the camp. Congratulations to Bao Ngan Nguyen, the project coordinator for a job very well done!

**Mother's Day
Concert:
ME Vietnam
VCSA - Houston**

Musical Concert featuring the topic "Me Vietnam" (Mothers in Vietnam) was held on the Mother's Day (May 10th, 2009) from 2:00pm - 5:00pm at the Saigon Houston Radio Cultural Center - Houston, Texas. The event attracted more than 200 guests and was a great success. The concert featured VCSA singers such as Tieu Muoi, Hoang Huong Trang, Phuong Nga, Duy Truong & Anhlan, Kim Loan, and more. Congrats to the coordinator: Ms. Sophia Huynh Tieu Muoi.



Asian American Career Day

VCSA - Houston

VCSA also continued our partnership with Houston Independent School District (HISD) to organize the annual Asian American Career Day successfully on May 2nd, 2009 at Sharpstown High School, Houston, Texas. The event attracted more than 400 students and parents and were very well received by the local community.



Financial Literacy Program

VCSA - Houston

In the past few years, VCSA has partnered with WAMU bank (now Chase Bank) to deliver a series of financial literacy workshops for the Vietnamese American communities in Houston and vicinity. This year VCSA partnered with the Asian American Real Estate Broker Association to deliver a very successful workshop on Home Buyer and how to prevent foreclosure.



WAMU/CHASE SPONSORED WORKSHOP



WAMU/CHASE SPONSORED WORKSHOP

After School Tutorial Program

VCSA - Houston

This was the 9th year that VCSA offered this much needed program for low-income families in the southwest and southeast areas of Houston (in particular the Alief Neighborhood and the Park Place neighborhood). VCSA received the grant from St. Luke's Episcopal Health Charities and also work with the Work Study program at University of Houston to continue this program in both areas. The program served approximately 150 students for both sides in the fall and spring semester and 20 students in the southwest area during the summer. Beside St. Luke's Health Charities, VCSA is also blessed to receive support from Hoang Nguyen Foundation in the amount of \$4,000 to support this program in the fall of 2009 and the spring semester of 2010. Our sincere thanks to all the sponsors, supporters and volunteers who helped to sustain this program despite the reduced funding.



SPEAKERS: BRIAN NGO, WILLIAM GIANG, REAGAN NGUYEN, DIEU-HONG HO, AND MONICA NGUYEN

Educational Workshops

VCSA - Houston

VCSA received a grant of \$1,000 from the Houston Young Lawyers Foundation to deliver our educational and parental assistance workshops in the year of 2009. The first educational workshop was delivered on July 25th, 2009 at Houston Saigon Radio Cultural Center with more than 60 guests including students and parents. The workshop covered main topics on how to prepare for college admission process, financial aid process and on how to be successful at school. The panelist include those honorees from the VCSA Youth Excellence Recognition Luncheon from previous years. Congratulations to Brian Ngo, the project coordinator of the workshop.



Parental Assistance Workshop

VCSA - Houston

The second workshop on Parental Assistance is planned especially for parents with the topic of "How to prepare your children for school and college". The event will be held on Saturday December 12, 2009 from 1:30pm - 4:00pm at VCSA Center with 2 speakers: Mr. Truong Duy Nong and Ms. Kim Yen Vu.

Walk for Ovarian Cancer Research

VCSA - Houston

Walk for Ovarian Cancer Research – A VCSA team consists of 12 members participated in the 5K Walk/Run for Ovarian Cancer Research on May 9th, 2009 at MD Anderson Cancer Center. The team won the “Most Spirit Team Award” and helped raised approximately \$1,200 for the Walk. Great thanks to the Team Captain: Ms. Anhlan Nguyen, who also works at University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center.



ExxonMobil Team

VCSA - Houston

VCSA is so grateful to have a great team of volunteers from ExxonMobil who contributed both their talents to help out with our After-School Tutorial program, Asian American Career Day, Tobacco & Obesity Prevention Youth Summit and the Mid-Autumn Children Festival projects. ExxonMobil also matched their volunteer hours with some financial grant that really help us with the cost to operate for these programs and services. Our sincere thanks to Xuan Mai Nguyen and So-Yeon Cayton for leading the volunteer teams throughout the year and great thanks to Brian Ngo for joining this team in the summer.



Chevron Team

VCSA - Houston

In addition, VCSA is also fortunate to have 2 active members who worked at Chevron and with their volunteer services as executive board member and staff member of Len Duong Youth Leadership camp, they were able to bring in the volunteer matching grant from Chevron corporation. Our sincere thanks to Mr. Duy Anh Truong, VCSA General Secretary and Ms. Thuy Khanh Nguyen, Len Duong camp counselor for your outstanding services and contribution.



Vietnamese Tobacco & Obesity Youth Prevention Summit

VCSA - Houston

This year is the 6th time that VCSA organized a youth summit for Health Promotion purposes. This year topic is both Tobacco and Obesity Prevention and we are so grateful to receive support from the Fort Bend Council for a Drug Free coalition and also the Stafford Primary School and the Asian Cancer Council. The event was hosted at the Stafford Primary school thanks to Ms. Kim Yen Vu, the principal and also VCSA Vice-President. There were 200 youths, ranging from ages 6 to 16, that attended the event along with over 100 volunteers from VCSA and local VSA's groups in the Houston area. It was a whole day program full of educational activities, workshops and games that taught the kids about the harmful effects of tobacco use and how to pay attention to their diet to stay away from obesity. Our sincere thanks to Dr. Beverly Gor and Ms. Karen Tso who helped to coordinate the nutritional workshop, Ms. Christina Sander from Houston Communities for Safe Indoor Air who served as the speaker for tobacco prevention topic. Special thanks to Mr. Hai Nguyen and his Martial Arts School who helped with the exercises and MD Anderson team for a great puppet show on the tobacco prevention topic. The event was delivered very successfully under the leadership of The Hoa Nguyen and Bao Tran Huynh. Our appreciation also goes to Stafford Primary School for hosting our event this year.



12th Annual Youth Leadership Development Len Duong Camp 2009

Crief Hills, Ontario, Canada
July 3rd - 6th, 2009

During the Independence July weekend of 2009 from July 3rd to July 6th, a team of 50 volunteering staff from more than 6 cities across North America joined hand to deliver an outstanding leadership camp at the Crieffs Hill camp site, Ontario, Canada. The scenic camp site was located about 40 minutes of driving from Toronto. The theme of the camp this year was "Leadership Beyond Borders". This was the first time that a Canadian team was working hand-in-hand with the US team to plan and execute a four-day program full of activities, meaningful programs and memorable interactive games, skits and team projects. Due to the limitation of the camp site, we can only accommodate 200 campers (including staff) at the camp this year, and the camp was run without any glitches. VCSA-Toronto chapter has demonstrated its leadership in hosting the camp and leading the staff team to deliver the camp with great success. Only a couple of days after the camp was finished, motivated campers established a facebook web page. The group, camp Len Duong alumni, worked on ideas for "post-Len duong camp projects," which turned out to be a great success. There was one inspired camper from British Columbia came back to her home town and was running for office in her local area. She's running for the MPP position in Vancouver, British Columbia. A big congrats to the 50 staff team led by Quynh Huynh (Kingston, Ontario, Canada) for an excellent job and hope to see you at the camp Len Duong 2010 in Houston, Texas!



Post Len Duong Camp and Establishment of VCSA-London Chapter

VCSA - Toronto

After camp Len Duong 2009, more than 60 campers got together with the Len Duong staff to have several reunions for Len Duong camp alumni. VCSA-Toronto has recruited more than 20 more new members and established a full executive committee consist of the following:

- Kevin Le, President
- Quynh Huynh, Vice-President
- Thanh Tam Truong, Secretary
- Nha Hoa Nguyen, Treasurer
- Paul Nguyen, Program Director
- Hai Doan, Cultural Director
- Quyên Pham, Artistic Director

The team also met in October when Ms. Anhlan Nguyen and Mr. Truong Nong visited Toronto and the team celebrated Ms. Tanya Nguyen's birthday as well. At this meeting, another VCSA-London chapter was established by Monique Huynh and her team of Len Duong camp alumni. The VCSA-London chapter will have several programs working in collaboration with VCSA-Toronto chapter. Congratulations to Monique Huynh and the VCSA-London brand new team.



LEN DUONG REUNION - CANADA



LUNCH MEETING WITH WINMAGIC SPONSORS



VCSA - LONDON CHAPTER



VCSA - TORONTO



Youth Excellence Recognition Program (VVDV)

VCSA - Houston

President Obama sent congratulatory letter to all honorees this year when VCSA honored 21 Vietnamese American Valedictorians or Salutatorians from local high schools in Houston and Vicinity. The VCSA 13th Annual Youth Excellence Recognition Luncheon was held on Sunday August 2nd, 2009 at Kim Son restaurant with a packed audience of 600 guests including honored guests such as Congressman Al Green, State representatives, Mayor Bill White representative, city council members and parents, students, educators... Congressman Al Green personally recognized each of these honorees with a congressional certificate. VCSA annually recognizes the academic achievements of Vietnamese-American high school students who graduated valedictorian and salutatorians of their respective high schools. The program also functions to encourage the younger Vietnamese-American generations to strive for academic excellence and instill a strong sense of civic responsibility among all Vietnamese-Americans in the Greater Houston area. This year's event honored Phung Pham, Van Tra, Tina Nguyen, Lily Luc, Jennifer Nguyen, Son Nguyen, Khoi Trinh, Jennifer My-Hang Nguyen, Brenda Tran, Sydney Nguyen, Cindy Le, Huy Nguyen, Tran Au, Christopher Cacciatore, Nicholas Tolat, Sandy Nguyen, Linda Mai, Joseph Tang, and Sylvanus Ly as they make their way into their respective universities. The keynote speaker was Prof. Willie Tuan Nguyen, Sharpstown High School Graduate, currently professor at Hasting Law School, University of California. The entertainment program was very well received with the special Martial Arts performance by the Vovinam group and the dance performed by Vietnamese Student Association at University of Houston.

Charming MCs were Vu Linh Vo and Monica Nguyen, both of which were former recipients in previous years. The event was underwritten by NATCO and Houston Community College System. VCSA also presented two scholarships: Greatland Investment Scholarship presented to Ms. Kelly Vu and Nicholas C. Lepham Citizenship Award going to Ms. Cathy Phan. Each scholarship was in the amount of \$1,000.



CONGRESSMAN AL GREEN



KEYNOTE SPEAKER WILLIE NGUYEN

A big round of applause for the two co-chairs of the event: Mr. Reagan Nguyen and Mr. Jimmy Tran, both were former honorees of this program in 2006.

Mid-Autumn Children's Festival

VCSA - Houston

This is the sixth year VCSA collaborated with the Children's Museum of Houston to deliver the Annual Mid-Autumn Children's Festival in Houston. The festival was held from 9:00am - 4:00pm on Saturday October 10th, 2009 at The Children's Museum of Houston - 1500 Binz, Houston, Texas. The event attracted nearly 4000 visitors for the whole day and there were approximately 150 volunteers who served on several booths of activities throughout the day. VCSA would like to sincerely thank our sponsors, the CMH, Texas Instruments, ExxonMobil, New York Life, and several local businesses who sponsored 400 Vietnamese children to attend the festival free of charge. Our sincere thanks to all volunteers from partnering organizations such as all the Vietnamese Student Association from University of Houston, St. Thomas University, Rice University, Houston Community College, and Vovinam Vietnamese Martial Arts group, Linh Son musical group with Ms. Thuy Nguyen, Artist Duong, Phuoc Luyen, and several VCSA members who volunteered for the whole day. Congratulations to the Project coordinators Ann Tran and Kimmy Cao for such a job well done!



Vietnamese Literature Class

VCSA - Houston

In the summer this year, Mr. Nguyen, Ngoc Bao taught an eight-week class on Vietnamese Literature to study one of the most famous story in Vietnamese literature: Kim Van Kieu. The class had approximately 15 students. After graduated from the class, a group of young students have put together a video production featuring a similar story learned from this class but was put in the modern life. Tre-Houston group inspired by the class, put together a video clip of this story, which was featured in the month of October. Great thanks to Mr. Nguyen, Ngoc Bao for such an inspirational class on Vietnamese Literature.



SEARAC 30th Anniversary Banquet

September 26th, 2009 in San Francisco, CA



Hurricane IKE Program

VCSA - Houston

Hurricane Ike was one of the biggest storms that hit the Texas coast line and the fourth largest city in the country, Houston. The storm came and went within hours, but left weeks and months of devastation. A full year has passed and unfortunately, there are still many families out there who are in need of assistance in getting their lives back together. Funded by FEMA and partnered with Boat People SOS, case managers at the Vietnamese Culture & Science Association (VCSA) are working hard to



assist these families recover under what is called Project IKE.

Our main goal is to help the Vietnamese community get back on their feet and to obtain what they lost during the storm. However, generosity does not have its limits, thus, case managers at VCSA, John Nguyen and Kristina Tran, have extended their help to the non-Vietnamese community as well. The Project has been in place for five months now, and, along with Boat People SOS, they have helped over 500 families meet their most basic needs. Case managers at VCSA alone have helped families in achieving unity, assessing education, and providing relief with expenditures.

If anyone is in need of help, or knows anyone who needs help, please feel free to contact the Vietnamese Culture & Science Association Monday through Friday between the hours of 9 am to 6 pm at (281) 933-8118. John Nguyen and Kristina Tran are ready and willing to help those in need, no matter the issues or the difficulty of the task.



Toc May Dance Group (Museum of Fine Arts)

VCSA - Houston

VCSA has partnered with the Museum of Fine Arts to feature the beauty of Vietnamese culture with the dance performances by Toc May Dance Group, a new group of members who love performing arts led by Bao Ngan Nguyen and Kristina Tran. The Dance Group performed a fashion show and two cultural dances at the Family Day event at the Museum of Fine Arts while they feature the Ancient Vietnamese culture there. A round of applause to the beautiful young dancers for such spectacular performances!



New Year Cruise Picture

VCSA - Houston

On New Year Day of 2009, a group of more than 20 VCSA members joined another group to be on a cruise to Carribean for 4 days. The group had a lot of fun and the team came back energized to work hard for the new year.



Congratulations

VCSA - Houston

Congratulations to the following couples who got married in the year of 2009:

Hieu Cao and Linh Tu

who tied the knot on June 6th, 2009

Trang Luu and Thang Le

who got married on October 25th, 2009

And proud parents **Tran, Huu Duc and Vivian Ly** with baby **Tran Huu Duy** arriving in the month of August 2009. Proud parents **Huong Pham & Thuan Truong** also welcome baby girl **Ashley Bich Van Truong** who arrived in the month of November 2009.

Congratulations to **Tuong Vu Nguyen** and **Ngoc Dieu Nguyen** as they celebrated the 1st birthday of their baby boy: **Nguyen Duy Kien (Tibo)**. Congratulations to baby **Duy Kien!**

December 20th will also marked the Silver Wedding Anniversary (25th) of our Vice-President **Ms. Kim Yen Vu and Mr. Tony Toan Nguyen**. Congratulations on your special milestone and may you be blessed with a lifetime happiness.

VCSA - MINNESOTA CHAPTER

Minnesota Kickoff Event

VCSA - Minnesota

There have been a team of Len Duong campers who went to Len Duong camp 2008 in Texas and Len Duong camp 2009 in Toronto, Canada. These Len Duong camp alumni became so inspired from what they learned at the camp that they decided to form a VCSA-Minnesota chapter to put all the lessons learned from the camp into community projects to serve the local Vietnamese American communities in the Twin Cities (St. Paul and Minneapolis) in Minnesota.



On October 3rd, 2009 Ms. Anhlan Nguyen and Mr. Michael Dao, members of the Board of Directors of VCSA flew to Minnesota to meet up with the group and to officially kick off the VCSA-Minnesota chapter. Congratulations for the Executive Board: Mr. Hung Phung, President, Mr. Liem Vu, Vice-President and Ms. Dai Vu, Secretary, and Mr. Thang Le, Treasurer.

Both Mr. Hung Phung and Mr. Liem Vu are educators and paid great attention to the educational areas. Within weeks after establishment, VCSA-Minnesota chapter has organized two educational events: a Career Day for students at University of Minnesota on October 31, 2009 from 9:00am - 3:00pm. Liem Vu and Hung Phung also organized the field trip to help the Kennedy Asian students to know more about the application process, financial aids, majors, multicultural services etc. This was very educational day for the students to learn and prepare themselves for the college process.

Career Awareness Day

VCSA - Minnesota



Halloween Party

VCSA - Minnesota



VCSA - MINNESOTA CHAPTER



Mid-Autumn Moon Festival

St. Paul and Minneapolis, MN

VCSA-Minnesota in collaboration with Bloomington Public Schools, Hung Vuong Association in MN, Hepnepen County Library and Mall of America has organized successfully the Mid-Autumn Children's Festival at Mall of America on October 9th, 2009. The event was very well received and there were more than 350 people participating in the festival. Activities include storytelling, cultural dances, crafts, lantern contest, moon cakes for children, and Lion dances. Congratulations to the VCSA-Minnesota for such an outstanding work!



DC Chapter

VCSA - DC

2009 has been a quiet year for VCSA-DC chapter due to the fact that most core members are busy with the arrival of their babies. Congratulations to several young parents in DC chapter with their new babies.



Austin Chapter

Austin, Texas

VCSA-Austin collaborated with VAHF (Vietnamese American Heritage Foundation) and Austin History Center to present the Exhibit "From Vietnam to Austin: Rebuild our communities" - March 7, 2009 - Austin, Texas.



MS. THUY ANH VU (VCSA-AUSTIN) AND MS. TUYET TRAN (VAHF)



VOLUNTEERS FROM VCSA-AUSTIN AND VAHF



YOUNG VCSA-AUSTIN MEMBERS & FRIENDS AT THE GATHERING OF THE KY SUU TET FESTIVAL- 2009

Dayton Chapter

VCSA - Dayton

The VCSA-Dayton chapter was officially established in May 2009. Ms. Anhlan Nguyen, VCSA Board Chair, flew to Dayton Ohio on May 2nd, 2009 and met with the VCSA team over there to officially establish the VCSA-Dayton chapter in Ohio. The initiative was started by Ms. Dieu Hang Tran, who was a former VCSA member from the California chapter. She is now relocated to Dayton, Ohio and would like to help to form this new chapter. Dr. Lam Ho is the president of the chapter, Mr. Xung Lam is the Vice-President and Mr. Quang Tran is the General Secretary and Ms. My-Le Ho is the Treasurer. The first project of the VCSA-Dayton chapter is to have a small celebration for the two local students who graduated as Valedictorians at the local high schools. Congratulations to the VCSA-Dayton team.



VCSA - SAN DIEGO CHAPTER

Tha Tho at Tet Festival

VCSA - San Diego

VCSA San Diego Chapter delivered a successful Tha Tho (Poetry Game of Fortune) again at the Tet Festival this year at Balboa Park on January 24, 2009. The Tha Tho team was run by Ms. Minh Hang Nguyen and Mr. Tri Lac and coordinated by the tha tho team in San Diego. The game attracted several guests who love poetry.



Health Promotion Projects

VCSA - San Diego

VCSA-San Diego chapter co-president: Ms. BinhNhung Tran, as a pharmacist, has been very active with the Asian American community in the area of health promotion. She has created several partnership opportunities between VCSA-SD and the Asian Pacific Health Center with the UCSD medical and pharmacy schools and other local organizations.



MS. BINH NHUNG TRAN AND VOLUNTEERS

VCSA - SAN DIEGO CHAPTER



Humanitarian Projects in Vietnam

VCSA San Diego

VCSA-San Diego team continues to deliver a series of humanitarian projects in Vietnam in the year 2009. The projects are led by Ms. Viet Ly Bui, our beloved and dedicated volunteer who stayed in Vietnam for nearly six months during the year to ensure all of these projects were completed. The chapter has helped to build 13 bridges mostly in the rural areas of southern Vietnam. In addition, Ms. Viet Ly Bui just coordinated the Flood victims Relief Effort in the central areas of Vietnam where the typhoons hit the hardest in September and October this year. Our hat off to the dedication of Ms. Viet Ly Bui and the humanitarian team of VCSA-San Diego chapter.

Thu Hat Cho Nguoi Concert

VCSA - San Diego

On November 14th, Mr. Dong Duong and Mrs. Tram Oanh Hoang opened their beautiful house to organize a concert titled "Thu Hat Cho Nguoi" (Autumn singing for you!) to raise funds for the Flood Relief program in Vietnam. Musician Dat Nguyen was also present among the 50 members and friends. The concert raised more than \$3,500 for the Flood relief Program. Congratulations to Ms. Tram Oanh, the project coordinator.



VCSA STAFF and VOLUNTEERS



Mr. John Nguyen
Project IKE Case
Manager



Ms. Kristina Tran
Project IKE Case
Manager



Ms. Chinh Duong
Project Coordinator
Intern



Mr. John Ly
Student Intern
After School Tutorial



Mr. Dan Tran
After School Program
Coordinator



Su Le
After School Program
Coordinator



Ms. Bao Ngan Nguyen
Xuan Bon Mua
Concert



Mr. Hoa Nguyen
Dan Than
Fellow



Ms. Kimmy Cao
Dan Than
Fellow



Tre Houston Group
Tha Tho in Houston



Ms. Bao Tran Huynh
VCSA Summer
Intern 2009

PROJECT LEADERS:

VCSA-HOUSTON

Xuan Bon Mua concert

Tha Tho in Houston

Mother's Day Concert

Walk for Ovarian Cancer Research

Len Duong Camp 2009

(US Coordinator)

Tobacco and Obesity

Prevention Youth Summit

Youth Excellence Recognition

Luncheon

Mid-Autumn Children's Festival

Tax Filing

Newsletter Design

Ms. Bao Ngan Nguyen

Tre Houston group

Ms. Sophia Huynh

Ms. Anhlan Nguyen

Mr. Duy Anh Truong

Mr. Hoa Nguyen &

Ms. Bao Tran Huynh

Mr. Reagan Nguyen &

Mr. Jimmy Tran

Ms. Ann Tran &

Ms. Kimmy Cao

Mr. Hop Pham

Ms. Christine Luong

Congratulations to our project leaders in 2009! Our sincere appreciations for all volunteers with countless hours in the year 2009 for our community service projects throughout the year!

VCSA Christmas Party

VCSA - Houston

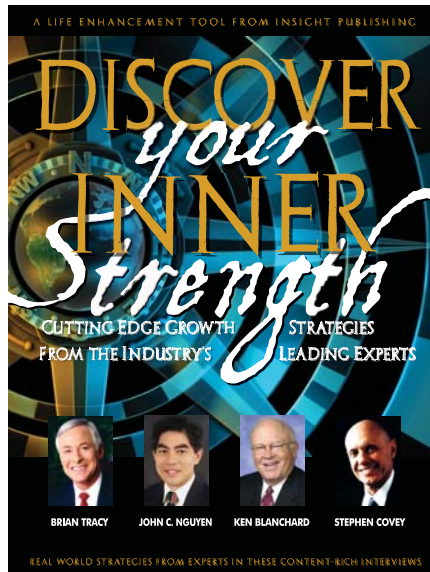


UPCOMING EVENTS

Book Signing Event

Houston, Texas

VCSA is very proud to present the leadership book "Discover your inner strength" by our very own member, Dr. John C. Nguyen, who is a co-author of this book along with Stephen Covey, Ken Blanchard, and Brian Tracy. The book signing event will be held on Saturday January 9, 2010 from 2:00pm – 4:00pm at VCSA Center – 4615 Belle Park Dr. Houston, TX 77072 – Light refreshment will be served. Dr. John Nguyen, Founder and Principal Partner of Lighthouse Leadership. He has over 17 years of experience in the Energy Sector. He's also an executive coach, author and speaker on the topics of leadership development, emotional intelligence, and life skills.



VA-NGO Network Capacity Building Workshop

Houston, Texas

Date: Saturday, January 16, 2010

What: 2010 VA NGO Network Regional Meeting & Capacity Building Workshop

Where: Stafford Primary School - 1625 Staffordshire Road, Stafford, Tx 77477



The first 2010 VA NGO Network Regional Meeting & Capacity Building Workshop is free and open to all VA NGO Network Members and Friends. We would like to encourage new organizations working in Vietnam to take the opportunity to come learn about the VA NGO Network and its planned activities in 2010 to serve members and NGOs. Attend the Open Discussion and join the Initiative on Health Education - to be launched as a new collaboration between VA NGOs.

Dr. John Nguyen, Founder and President of the Lighthouse Leadership will also hold a workshop on leadership development for NGOs, "Social Intelligence and the Principles of Leadership."

For more information please visit www.va-ngo.org

VCSA is also a member of the VA-NGO network and we will host a reception to introduce VA-NGO network with Houston communities on Saturday January 16, 2010 at VCSA Center at 7:00pm.

VCSA 20th Anniversary

Houston, Texas

2010 will marked a very special milestone of VCSA when we celebrate our 20th Anniversary. We are forming an Honorary Chairing Committee and there will be a 20th Anniversary Gala event organized in the fall of 2010 for all VCSA chapters from across north America. More information will be available on our web site www.vcsa.org.

13th Annual Youth Leadership Development Camp 2010

Houston, Texas

Camp Len Duong 2010 will be held at Forest Glen Camp – Huntsville, Texas from May 28 – May 31, 2010. A leadership team was formed and ready to kick off the marketing effort, the camp expects to have approximately 300 campers (including 50 staff) from across North America (United States and Canada). For more information please visit www.lenduongcamp.org.



VCSA Sponsors

In 2009, VCSA continues to be blessed with our continual sponsors from many local corporations and organizations:

Mr. Nguyen Huu, Chau Thi (CEO of WinMagic) has become the Underwriter for camp Len Duong 2009 and will continue to underwrite camp Len Duong 2010 in the United States.

Mr. Dat Nguyen, CEO of Thoi Bao magazine was also the Underwriter for camp Len Duong 2009.

Prof. Charles Cuong Nguyen, Dean of School of Engineering at Catholic University of America, Washington DC. He serves on the Advisory Board of VCSA and continues to be the sponsor for several projects delivered by VCSA such as camp Len Duong, Youth Excellence Recognition Luncheon

Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Le, Greatland Investment, sponsors for several community service projects delivered by VCSA in 2009 and they also sponsored scholarships for Len Duong camper and other scholarship for high school graduate who has financial needs. Our sincere appreciation to Greatland Investment for your continual support.

Dr. Mary Sprangler, Chancellor of Houston Community College System, honorary member of VCSA, was honored by VCSA for her tireless dedication for higher education to the Asian American students in Houston and vicinities. HCC has become a partnering institution with VCSA in many educational projects in 2008 and continued into 2009. HCC was the Underwriter of the VCSA 13th annual Youth Excellence Recognition Luncheon

Shell Oil Company continued to be an instrumental partnering corporation in Leadership Development Program delivered by VCSA. VCSA is so grateful of Shell's continual support through Underwriter category for camp Len Duong 2009 and also in 2010. We are fortunate to have wonderful organization like SAPENG (Shell Asian Pacific Engineer Network Group) in Shell to work closely with us in so many community service projects.

Mr. Knut Eriksen and **NATCO** have also been a wonderful sponsor for VCSA Youth Excellence Recognition Luncheon program in 2008 and 2009. We look forward to develop this special relationship and continue the partnership with the corporation.

VCSA is so fortunate to continue to receive support from **CenterPoint Energy**. We sincerely appreciate CenterPoint Energy and Ms. Marylynn Kalina-Mathews commitment to leadership development and excellence in education for Vietnamese American youths in Houston, Texas.

Hoang Nguyen Foundation is some new sponsor for VCSA after Mr. Hai Nguyen joined VCSA and became active with the project to raise the matching funds for VCSA After School Tutorial Program. Mr. Hai Nguyen is the founder of Hoang Nguyen Foundation and he has chosen VCSA to do a fund raising project for the After School Tutorial program. Together with Mr. Tom Tran, Mr. Hai Nguyen organized a successful Poker Tournament on July 18th at Frankenstein club and helped raise \$4,000 for the program despite the bad weather on that evening. VCSA truly appreciates Hoang Nguyen Foundation support."



Mr. Nguyen Huu
CEO of Win Magic



Mr. Dat Nguyen
Thoi Bao Magazine



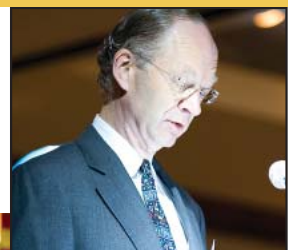
Prof. Charles Cuong
Nguyen
Dean of School of
Engineering at Catholic
University of America



Dr. Mary Sprangler
Chancellor of Houston
Community College



Shell Oil Company




Mr. Knut Eriksen
NATCO



Ms. Marylynn Kalina-
Mathews
CenterPoint Energy



Hoang Nguyen
Foundation



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4615 Belle Park
Houston, Texas 77072

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Fax: 281 - 933 - 8187
Email: vcsa@vcsa.org

The Vietnamese Culture and Science Association is a non-profit organization founded in 1990. It has over 600 members; a majority of which is young Vietnamese American/Canadian professionals.

Mission Statement

The Vietnamese Culture & Science Association's (VCSA) promotes excellence in education, leadership and skills development through culture and science. Our organization encourages multigenerational and cross-cultural collaborations. We foster civic participation in the mainstream and Vietnamese America.

Visit us at: www.vcsa.org

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