

VCSATIMES2010



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Len Duong 2010	4
Tobacco and Obesity Prevention Summit	6
Excellence Recognition Luncheon	7
Golf Tournament	8
20th Anniversary Gala	9
Austin Chapter	10
Dallas/Fort Worth Chapter	10
Minnesota Chapter	11
San Diego Chapter	12
Toronto Chapter	13

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VCSA Staff

Van, Hoang Gia – Student intern
Nguyen, Julian – Student intern
Vo, Huynh Thao Michelle – Student intern

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 2010 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 2010.

Year 2010 marked the 20th anniversary that our organization has been in existence to support the communities where we have local chapters. In 1990, VCSA started in Houston with 14 members. Today, we have grown to over 600 members, with 7 chapters in the U.S (Houston, Dallas-Forth Worth, Washington D.C., Austin, Minnesota, Dayton, and San Diego) and 2 in Canada (Toronto and London). In October, a gala was organized very successfully to celebrate our 20th anniversary. My hat off to our event co-chairs, Ms. Kim-Yen Vu and Mr. Tom Tran!

Year 2010 also marked an incredible growth of VCSA across the northern America with several new members joining our local chapters. One of the most dynamic chapters is VCSA-Toronto chapter. Please join me to wish all these enthusiastic Len Duong camper alumni a lot of success in years to come. Our best wishes to Toronto chapter for the year 2011!

In Houston, we are grateful to establish and maintain our relationship with great corporations such as Shell Oil Company, Chevron, ExxonMobil, Texas Instruments, CenterPoint Energy, Pride International 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 continued 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 20 years. 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 2011.

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 2011 full of prosperity, success and happiness (the year of Rabbit).

VCSA had a great year in 2010 with the highlight of the celebration of its 20th anniversary with a Gala attracting 500 guests including more than 50 members coming from all 8 chapters across the country. The event helped us to raise enough fund to cover for operations for year 2011.

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 20 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 condition in Houston in 2010, VCSA is still so fortunate to be blessed with the support of many local corporations and institutions who 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 Shell Oil Corporation, the recipient of VCSA Lifetime Corporate Partnership Award, who has supported VCSA for more than a decade. We also appreciate Houston Foundation for its support of our After-School tutorial program, and so many other corporations who 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 2011.

Yours sincerely,



Anhlan Nguyen
(Board Chair)

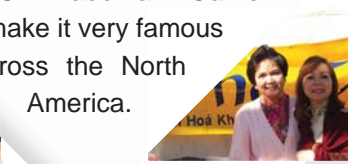




VCSA
POETRY GAME OF FORTUNE
THA THO
TORONTO, CANADA
AND HOUSTON, TEXAS

A team from Houston flew over Toronto to join VCSA-Toronto to deliver a great Tha Tho game at Tet festival held on January 23 to celebrate Tet for Viet communities in Greater Toronto Area, Canada. The VCSA-Toronto chapter and VCSA-London chapter organized a Tha Tho booth and also helped out with the Tet Festival organizing committee and helped out with the Haiti Relief program.

Two weeks later in early February, the VCSA-Houston team delivered another great Tha Tho Game at Tinh Luat Temple as part of the Tet Celebration in Houston. Tha Tho is a VCSA Trademark Game that make it very famous across the North America.



Thành viên của Hội Văn Hóa Khoa Học Việt Nam Houston sang trợ giúp phần hội Toronto trong gian hàng Thủ thơ, Hội Chợ Tết Canh Dần tại Toronto, Canada 23/1/10. Ảnh Thời báo





CAMP LEN DUONG 2010

HOUSTON, TEXAS

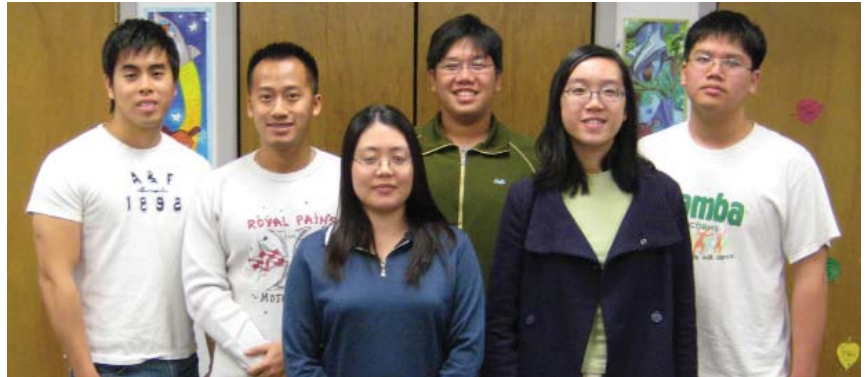
The 13th Annual North American Youth Leadership Camp Len Duong 2010 was delivered at Forest Glen Camp, Huntsville, Texas during the Memorial Holiday weekend of May 28 – May 31, 2010 with the participation of more than 300 campers including 40 campers from Canada. The keynote speaker was Donna Cole, CEO of Cole Chemical Corporation and special honorary guest is Congressman Joseph Anh Cao. The camp was underwritten by Texas Instruments, Shell Oil Company and WinMagic, it is also supported by Thoi Bao Inc. CenterPoint Energy, and several other corporations.



AFTER SCHOOL TUTORIAL PROGRAM HOUSTON, TEXAS

This year VCSA continues to deliver After School Tutorial Program in the southwest area of Houston at VCSA Center for the Spring semester, Summer semester and the Fall semester serving approximately 100 students throughout the year. Due to the funding cut, VCSA can only sustain the program in the southwest area and we hope to re-open the southeast area program once we raise enough funding to cover for another location.

SAT classes were delivered 4 times per year by Dr. Phillip Dang and was very well received by the parents of the students. The program offered significant discount for low-income families in our community.



EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOP HOUSTON, TEXAS

Educational Workshop was held on July 24 at Saigon Houston Radio Conference Room and attracted approximately 50 students and their parents. The panel discussion include former honorees of our Youth Excellence Recognition Luncheon and this year the workshop was organized by Hong Ho, a second year student at Stanford University and also a past honoree of VCSA VVDV program.



ASIAN AMERICAN CAREER DAY HOUSTON, TEXAS

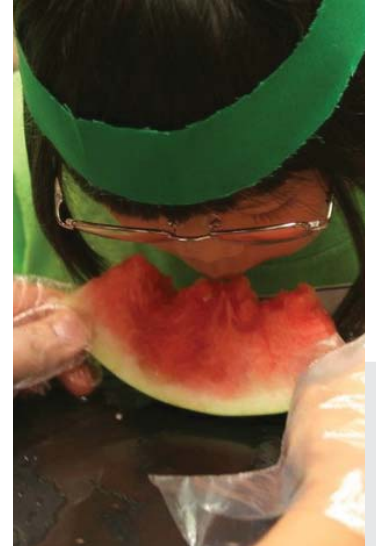
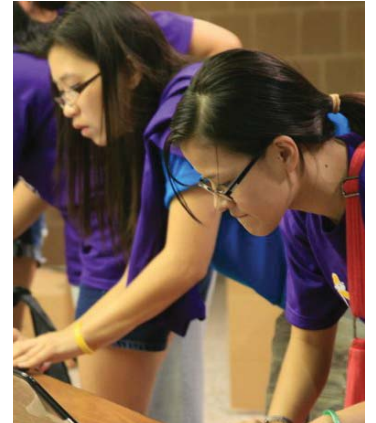
Once again, VCSA has collaborated with HISD to deliver the Asian American Career Day on November 13, 2010 at Bellaire High School. VCSA provided guest speakers for the Medical track and the Business Track and also provide speaker for the Vietnamese speaking parental assistance work shop. The workshop was delivered by Mr. Truong Nong and Mr. Hung Le with the participation of more than 60 parents.



VIETNAMESE TOBACCO & OBESITY PREVENTION PROGRAM (TOPS)

HOUSTON, TEXAS

This year VCSA is proud to have hosted its 7th Annual Youth Tobacco and Obesity Prevention Summit. With the support of Fort Bend Regional Council, Stafford Primary School and our greatest sponsor the Asian Cancer Council and Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas, we were able to provide 150 youths ages 7-16 a day of fun and education. Thanks to our presenters and 100+ volunteers, we were able to educate our youth on the negative effects of tobacco and importance of nutrition through interactive workshops, fun booth activities, and educational games. Special thanks goes to: our nutrition workshop speaker, Ms. Maria Chang, Mr. Ethan Shinogle and Ms. Audra Moore from Fort Bend Council who coordinated the tobacco prevention workshop and activity booth and the Exxon Mobile ACE team for conducting the fitness and nutrition booth. Our sincere thanks to Mr. Hai Nguyen and his Elite Mixed Martial Arts School for leading the exercises and MD Anderson for a great puppet show on tobacco prevention. This event was delivered very successfully under the leadership of the VCSA interns: Michelle Tran, Nhat Truong, and Chinh Duong. Our appreciation goes to ACC, CPRIT, Stafford Primary School, Fort Bend Council, all our speakers, the participants, and our volunteers for making TOPS an annual success.





YOUTH EXCELLENCE RECOGNITION PROGRAM (VVDV) HOUSTON, TEXAS

The 14th Annual Youth Excellence Recognition Luncheon was held on August 1st, 2010 at Kim Son Restaurant with a packed audience of 600. The event honored 21 Vietnamese American who graduated as Valedictorian or Salutatorian of their respective high school for the class of 2010. The keynote speaker was Dr. Mylene Tran Huynh, Colonel, US Air Force from Virginia. The event was chaired by the two past honorees: Minh Chau Nguyen and Monica Nguyen along with a very strong team of approximately 25 past honorees. Great kudos to Minh Chau and Monica.





GOLF TOURNAMENT HOUSTON, TEXAS

This is the very first year that VCSA organize its first Golf Tournament to kick off VCSA's 20th Anniversary celebration. The event was chaired by Toan Nguyen and Chinh Le and helped VCSA to raise \$6,000 for its educational and tutorial program. A great round of applause for Mr. Chinh Le and Mr. Tony Toan Nguyen





20TH ANNIVERSARY GALA

HOUSTON, TEXAS

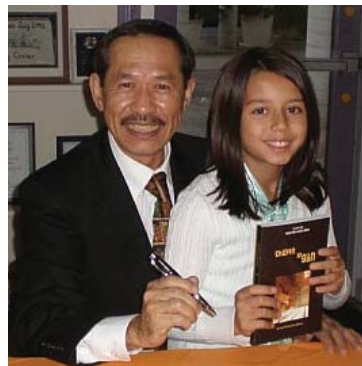
This is a great year when VCSA celebrated its 20th anniversary. The Gala was held on October 9th with a packed audience including more than 50 VCSA members from 8 different chapters coming in town: San Diego, California; Toronto and London, Ontario, Canada; Minnesota; Ohio; Austin and Dallas. The event was co-chaired by Ms. Kim Yen Vu and Mr. Tom Tran. A great round of applause for such a great job. The event also helped to raise nearly \$100,000 for VCSA operational budget and next year program funding.



AUSTIN CHAPTER BOOK PRESENTATION EVENT AUSTIN, TEXAS

On November 7, 2010, VCSA-Austin organized successfully the Book Signing Event to introduce "Chuyen Xa Gan" published by VCSA on its 20th anniversary celebration and to feature the work of Mr. Nguyen, Ngoc Bao in the past 20 years. The book is a collection of articles Mr. Nguyen wrote for Ngay Nay newspaper in the past 20 years. The event was very well attended and also featured musician and guitarist Dat Nguyen from California.

In Houston, there was also another Book Signing event held on October 3, 2010 at Saigon Houston Culture Center with the participation of 200 guests. The event was held by VCSA-Houston and was very successful. We raised more than \$5000 in book sales for these two book signing events.



DALLAS/FORT WORTH CHAPTER DALLAS/FORT WORTH, TEXAS

SUPPORT FOR CULTURAL EVENTS



TRUNG THU MID-AUTUMN FESTIVAL



GALA PARTICIPATION



Please join the VCSA-DFW chapter to congratulate the new elected Executive Board of DFW chapter. Mr. Dao, Ky Lan (President), Mr. Trung Tran (Vice-President), Ms. Thuy An Nguyen (Treasurer).



MINNESOTA CHAPTER MINNESOTA

PRIDE OF VIETNAM

SEPTEMBER 25TH, 2010

LOCATION: MALL OF AMERICAN ROTUNDA



The Pride of Vietnam was an event to commemorate the 35th anniversary of the start of the refugee boat people from Vietnam. This event was done as a collaboration between many organizations from the Twin Cities metro area. The event was coordinated by two members of VCSA-Minnesota chapter – Mr. Hung Phung and Ms. Phuoc Tran. The coordinators, along with other members of VCSA-Minnesota chapter, designed and produced the set, passed out lanterns and moon cakes to families, managed most of the logistic for the 7 hours event, and photographed many wonderful pictures of Vietnamese mock wedding, dances, and singing. Over 2000 people stopped by the event within 7 hours.

ACT PREPARATION PROGRAM

OCTOBER 3RD - NOVEMBER 21ST

LOCATION: AUGSBURG LIBRARY, RICHFIELD , MINNESOTA

VCSA-MN Chapter members collaborated with the Augsburg Park Library to offer an 8-week Free ACT Test Prep for juniors and seniors from low-income families. Given that it was the first time the library was offering this particular course, space was limited to the first 15 students that signed up. By week two of the ACT prep, there were 16 students signed up – demonstrating a need for such services in the community. An analysis of their data showed an average score of 19, up two points from the pre-test average. Over half of the students improved their scores overall. Feedback from the students' evaluations were positive and that they would recommend the course to their peers.



CAMPING TRIP

JULY 23RD-25TH

LOCATION: WISCONSIN

During the third weekend of July, 2010, 10 members of VCSA Minnesota chapter canoed to a campsite in Winter, Wisconsin

SAN DIEGO CHAPTER SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

The San Diego chapter has been very active with Tho Tho game at several cultural festivals including the Tet festival, and other festivals throughout the year. The chapter also delivered a Book Signing Event for Mr. Bao Nguyen in Orange County on Sunday October 24, 2010 with the participation of more than 150 guests. The chapter also delivered several humanitarian projects throughout the year.



TORONTO CHAPTER

TORONTO, CANADA

VCSA-Toronto chapter and VCSA-London chapter have experienced growth in the year of 2010 with much increase in membership and they have delivered many several meaningful projects to serve the local Vietnamese Canadian communities in the Greater Toronto area, and in the London, Ontario area. Some highlights include Tha Tho Game booth at Tet Festival, participation in organizing Camp Len Duong 2010 in Texas, Science Fair for middle school students, Trung Thu – mid-autumn Festival in Toronto, and participation in the Youth Action Committee Meeting in Ottawa with the Federation of Vietnamese Canadian organizations.

POKER TOUR



SCIENCE FAIR



MEMBER GATHERINGS



CHILDREN GAMES





**COFFEE NIGHT
TO KICK OFF THE
VCSA GALA
HOUSTON, TEXAS**

**TOC MAY DANCE GROUP
HOUSTON, TEXAS**



**MEMBERS GATHERING
HOUSTON, TEXAS**



SPONSORS APPRECIATION

In 2010, VCSA continues to be blessed with our continual sponsors from many local corporations, organizations and individuals:

WinMagic (Mr. & Mrs. Nguyen-Huu, Chau Thi) continued to be the Underwriter for camp Len Duong 2010 and they already pledged to underwrite camp Len Duong 2011.

Thoi Bao Inc. (Mr. Dat Nguyen) continued to sponsor camp Len Duong 2010, and also pledged to underwrite camp Len Duong 2011. Bravo!

Houston Community College Chancellor, Dr. Mary Spangler, serviced as one of the Honorary Co-Chairs of VCSA 20th Anniversary Gala and helped us to achieve our fund raising goal.

Texas Instruments with Ms. Duy-Loan Le, Senior Fellow, also served as one of the Honorary Co-Chairs of VCSA 20th Anniversary Gala. VNTI group also continued its sponsorship of camp Len Duong 2010 and Texas Instruments was also the Underwriter for VCSA 20th Anniversary Gala in October 2010.

Dr. Charles Cuong Nguyen, Dean of School of Engineering, Catholic University of America, continued his support for the organization and this year he served as one of the Honorary Co-Chairs of the VCSA 20th Anniversary Gala.

Shell Oil Company was honored as the recipient of VCSA Lifetime Corporate Partnership Achievement Award at our VCSA 20th Anniversary Gala. They have been the sponsor of various educational and leadership development programs delivered by VCSA in the past decade. Congratulations to Shell Oil Company for this outstanding recognition

Hoang Nguyen Foundation led by Mr. Hai Nguyen continued to raise funds for VCSA After School Tutorial program and help to sustain this program while the other funding source was cut. Our sincere appreciation for the foundation's support.

Mr. & Mrs. Knut Eriksen continued their support with our Youth Excellence Recognition Luncheon program for year 2010.

CenterPoint Energy with Ms. Marylyn Kalina-Mathew continued its commitment to our leadership program and the youth excellence recognition program.

ExxonMobil volunteer team continued their wonderful team grant and VIP grants with several volunteers: Ms. Phuc Nguyen, Mr. Tim Dao, Ms. Xuan Mai Nguyen, Ms. Kelly Li, Mr. Albert Fung and several other volunteers.

Chevron volunteer matching grants are also received thanks to VCSA volunteers Thuy Khanh Nguyen and Duy Anh Truong.

Perry Homes becomes our new sponsor for the Youth Excellence Recognition Luncheon this year.

Pride International is also a new sponsor this year for our Youth Excellence Recognition Program and we hope to continue our relationship in years to come.

Greatland Investment with Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Le continued their wonderful contribution with Greatland Investment scholarship program

Vera Tran Scholarship Fund also continued its commitment to provide scholarships for Len Duong outstanding campers and the high school graduates with Vera Tran Scholarship program.

We would like to acknowledge several other individuals and businesses who have continually supported VCSA in many past years and in years to come. VCSA had 20 years of excellent services because we received these wonderful support. A deep appreciation from all members of our organization.

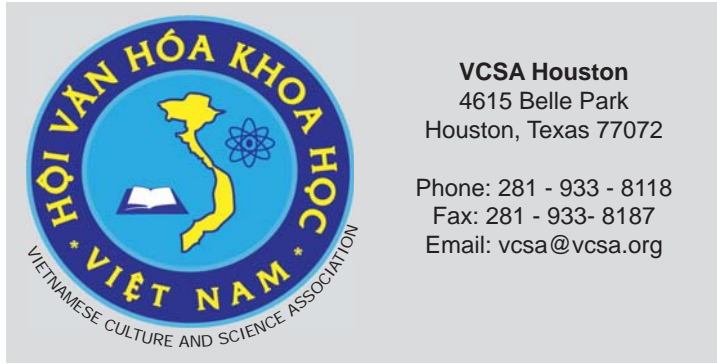
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

PROJECT LEADERS

HOUSTON, TEXAS

Congratulations to our project leaders in 2010! Our sincere appreciations for all volunteers with countless hours in the year 2010 for our community service projects throughout the year!

Michelle Tran	Summer Intern – TOPS co-chair
Nhat Truong	Summer Intern – TOPS co-chair
Chinh Duong	Humanic Program Intern – VCSA Gala program coordinator
Minh Chau Nguyen	VVDV2010 co-chair
Monica Nguyen	VVDV2010 co-chair
Kim Yen Vu	VCSA Gala co-chair
Tom Tran	VCSA Gala co-chair
Michelle Thao Huynh Vo	Fall Intern
Hoang Gia Van	Accounting intern
Julian Nguyen	Part-time staff
Dan Tran	After School Tutorial Program Coordinator



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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 multi-generational and cross cultural collaborations. We foster civic participation in the mainstream and Vietnamese America.

Visit us at: www.vcsa.org
LEADERSHIP • EDUCATION • CULTURE
EXCELLENCE • VOLUNTEERISM

GREAT THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS