



VCSA Advisory Board

Cao, Anh Quan (Florida)
Le, Quang Phieu (Toronto, Canada)
Nguyen, Bich Lien, MD (California)
Nguyen, Charles, Ph.D. (Washington DC)
Nguyen, Ngoc Bao (Houston, TX)
Nong, Duy Truong (Houston, TX)
Pham, Christopher (Houston, TX)
Tran, Quoc Anh (Dallas, TX)

VCSA Board of Directors

Cao, Anh Quan, PhD (Houston, TX)
Doan, Dac Khoa (Washington, DC)
Huynh, Sophia (Houston, TX)
Huynh, Tran Mylene (Washington, DC)
Le, Mong Hung (Houston, TX)
Ngo, Quang Dieu Rick (Houston, TX)
Nguyen, Phuc Anhlan (Houston, TX)
Nguyen, Tuong Vu (Austin, TX)
Phung, Duc Hung (Minneapolis, MN)
Truong, Huynh Duy Anh (Houston, TX)
Vu, Kim Yen (Houston, TX)
Watkins, Jeff (Houston, TX)

VCSA Executive Board

Vu, Kim Yen – President
Tran, Linh Trang – Vice-President External 1
Hoang, Bao Huong – Vice-President External 2
Truong, Duy Anh – Vice-President Internal
Pham, Vincent – General Secretary
Pham, Huy Hop – Treasurer
Pham, Minh Ha – Deputy Treasurer
Nguyen, H. Nam – Assistant Treasurer

VCSA Chapter Presidents

Nguyen, Quynh Anh – President, VCSA-DFW
Vu, Van Mieu – President, VCSA-Austin
Tran, Trang Khanh – President, VCSA-DC
Pham, Mai Quyen – President, VCSA-Toronto (Canada)
Tran, Binh Nhung – VCSA-San Diego
Vu, Duc Liem – President, VCSA-Minnesota

VCSA Staff

Nguyen, Jaclyn - Summer Intern
Van, Hoang Gia - Financial Intern
Nguyen, Hanh - Fall Intern
Le, Mai Quyen - VCSA Program Coordinator



VCSA Executive Board

VCSA TIMES 2012

The Vietnamese Culture and Science Association Annual Newsletter

Message from the President

Greetings to you and your family during this festive SEASON of LOVE and GIVING! With the Christmas holiday approaching, I would like to send our best wishes to you and your family for a wonderful Holiday season. It is hard to believe that the year 2012 has come to an end, and it is time for us to review all the highlights in this past year and to celebrate VCSA's achievements.



First, let me say that it is with great pleasure and pride that I serve as the new president for VCSA. I can confidently say that our new and young executive board is dedicated and is working tirelessly to serve our community as we continue to deliver VCSA's signature programs such as the Len Duong Youth Leadership Camp, the Tobacco and Obesity Prevention Youth Summit, the Youth Excellence Recognition Program and the Mid-Autumn Children's Festival along with many other programs in the community. As we embrace and incorporate G.R.A.C.E. with our core values, we celebrate this year's successes in giving back to the community. Thank you for your confidence and continuous support as we reach out to serve others. Below are some highlights of the activities at VCSA in 2012:

- VCSA Houston continues to serve as the VCSA headquarter and works collaboratively with the 6 remote chapters in Dallas, Austin, Washington DC, San Diego, Minnesota, and Toronto. During this year, I have had the opportunity to travel and meet with the Executive Teams of the VCSA Chapters in San Diego, Washington DC, and Minnesota.
- Len Duong Youth Leadership Camp was successfully delivered in Minnesota with 250 participants from across the US and Canada.
- Tobacco & Obesity Prevention Youth Summit was held at the Houston Museum of Natural Science in Sugar Land with 200 students participating. The Summit Day Camp taught students about the adverse effects of tobacco and promoted healthy nutrition and diet.
- 16th Annual Youth Excellence Recognition Program – VCSA honored 23 outstanding valedictorians and salutatorians in the Houston area and vicinity.
- The Mid-Autumn Children's Festival was held at the Houston Children's Museum. We were able to introduce our culture through various activities with almost 4000 participants/visitors to the museum.
- Len Duong Passion Bonfire Team – our passionate youth sub-chapter created in 2011 after camp Len Duong 2011 in Denton, Texas, continues to thrive with momentum and positive energy as they deliver activities to promote the core values of VCSA with our community's youth. VCSA has served as the fiscal agent for Len Duong Bonfire Passion team, and we are so proud of these energetic and talented young members (mostly in their teens or early twenties) who continue to amaze us with their dedication to contribute to community and charity projects in Houston, Texas.

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 on the Executive Board. We are very excited and look forward to working with you again in the year 2013. To kick off 2013 we will have the following planned events

- VCSA Series of workshops in culture, education, literature, and health and science will begin in December and throughout the first few months of 2013.
- VCSA Community walk-a-thon – VCSA is planning a community walk-a-thon to promote healthy living and wellness in the spring of 2013.

We look forward to working with you in the coming year.

Kim Yen Vu

Message from the Board

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 2013 full of prosperity, success and happiness.

Year 2012 has been a truly challenging year for VCSA with the reduction of several funding sources. We have tried very hard to sustain all of our programs and services despite the fact that most funding sources are reduced or cut. VCSA had demonstrated its strength one more time through its volunteers' commitment and dedication. We are also blessed with a new leadership team that is very passionate, energetic and ready to bring the organization to the next level.

Despite the difficult economy climate in Houston, VCSA is still fortunate to be blessed with the support of many local corporations and institutions who believe in our mission. We are grateful for the wonderful new partnership with Southwest Airlines through our youth leadership program and youth excellence program. We are also thankful for the continual support of other partnering corporations such as Shell Oil Corporation, Texas Instruments, CenterPoint Energy, WinMagic, Thoi Bao Inc., Kim Son restaurant and other businesses. We also appreciate the continual partnership with the Natural Science Museum of Houston and the Children's Museum of Houston to organize the two most popular annual programs: the Tobacco and Obesity Prevention Youth Summit and the Mid-Autumn Children's Festival.

This year also marked the 2nd anniversary of VCSA's partnership with New Moon Foundation to provide GRACE training for camp Len Duong staff and offer Be the Change scholarships for Len Duong camp alumni to make the difference in their local communities. The impacts of the camp and the program has been tremendous.

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 2012.

Yours sincerely,



Anhlan Nguyen
(Board Chair)



Anhlan Nguyen
Board Chair



VCSA Board of Directors
and Executive Board

Women Networking Event

This year, VCSA has continued our relationship with Prudential Inc. and worked with them to have our Spring Mixer and the Women Networking Event in March 2012.



White House Project: Go Run Dallas Conference February 2012



Cultural Festival: Alief Middle School October 2012



VCSA Board Chair Anhlan Nguyen was appointed by President Obama on May 17, 2012 to serve on the National Vietnam Education Foundation, along with Ms. Quyen Vuong, Executive Director of ICAN organization



Camp Len Duong 2012

The 15th Annual North American Youth Leadership Camp Len Duong 2012 was delivered at Camp Courage – Maple Lake, MN during the Memorial Holiday weekend of May 25 – May 25, 2012 with the participation of more than 250 campers including approximately 25 campers from Canada. The keynote speaker was Mr. Dat Nguyen, a former NFL Dallas Cowboy Football Player. The camp was underwritten by Texas Instruments, Shell Oil Company, Southwest Airlines, Thoi Bao Inc. and WinMagic, it is also supported by several other corporations. The theme this year was “Live your Dream! Conceive – Believe - Achieve” – it has created significant impacts in campers after the camp. A great round of applause for Camp Master Vu, Duc Liem and 2 Assistants to camp master: Luu, Bao Viet and Pham, Mai Quyen.



Asia Holidays Family Event @ Asia Society House



Fundraising

Bun Rieu for a Cause



Pictured above: 4 VCSA presidents – Bao Nguyen, Anhlan Nguyen, Hung Le, Kim Yen Vu

LDBP Fundraising Event



Spring Mixer



Tobacco & Obesity Youth Prevention Summit

This year, the 8th annual successful Tobacco and Obesity Prevention Youth Summit was delivered by a team of more than 100 volunteers and with the participation of 150 Asian kids from age of 6 – 16 on July 15. The event was held at Houston Museum of Natural Science in Sugarland. A big congratulation to the co-chairs: Gia Van and Vinh Ngo. The event was also supported by the summer intern: Jaclyn Nguyen and Chinh Duong.



Len Duong Bonfire Passion Team

www.lenduongbonfire.org | info@lenduongbonfire.org



EXECUTIVE BOARD 2012-2013

- Baotran Huynh President
- Tengah Nguyen Vice President
- BaoTran Ma Secretary
- Nghia Nguyen Vice President of Membership
- Quynh-Vy Nguyen Treasurer
- Tina Au Vice President of Media Marketing
- Jessica Ma Vice President of Public Relations
- Hy Phan Vice President of Operations

Leadership and Communication Workshops



Fundraiser for Len Duong Camp Scholarship



Safe Driving Campaign: "Don't Text and Drive"



Cultural Awareness Activities



Community Service Activities

Harvest & Health Fair



Purplestride Pancreatic Cancer Walk



Family Day @ BBQ Cookoff



Asia Society Family Day



Volunteer for Other Charities





Teen Safety Driving Project

Christmas for Seniors Project

Party II - Youth Outreach

After completing a successful Fall 2011 campaign, the Vietnamese Culture and Science Association received additional funding courtesy of State Farm to continue to advocate to young adults and the local community about safe driving habits. Len Duong Bonfire Passion in collaboration with VCSA conducted several events to help promote this campaign. Presentations and promotional events included events at the Vietnamese Festival in Discovery Green, Vietnamese College Day at Rice University, Spring Woods and Stafford High Schools and the Len Duong Leadership Development Camp.

Over 530 signatures were obtained on a campaign banner with the message "I PLEDGE not to text and drive." Also 400 lanyards, 600 wristbands and 1000 pens were distributed with the message "Don't Text & Drive". Three live talk shows sessions were also conducted on 900AM Radio Saigon – Houston.

Mr. Ken Quach, Agent of State Farm was very helpful in being able to present at the public events. A special thanks goes out to Ms. Leslie Moe-Kaiser who administers the Asian American & Pacific Islander Communities National Programs for State Farm. A great round of applause for the three co-coordinators: Nam Nguyen, Bao Ma and Baotran Ma from the Len Duong Bonfire Passion Team.

During the month of December, LDBP team has initiated a new project to organize a Christmas celebration event with cultural entertainment, great Vietnamese foods and Christmas carols singing performances to cheer up the seniors living at the Nursing home in VCSA's neighborhood "Westwood Nursing Home". The event served the patients and families and staff at the Nursing home and was very well received. Congratulations to Quynh Vy Nguyen who was the project lead of this meaningful project.



Youth Excellence Recognition Luncheon Program August 5th, 2012

The 16th Annual Youth Excellence Recognition Luncheon was held on August 5th, 2012 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 2012. The event was chaired by the two last year honorees: Jaclyn Nguyen and Kristina Vu along with a very strong team of approximately 24 past honorees. The keynote speaker this year was Dr. Hai T. Ho, Vice President of Research and Development of Newell Rubbermaid Inc. from Atlanta, Georgia. Great kudos to Jaclyn and Kristina.



Mid-Autumn Children's Festival September 29th, 2012

The mid-autumn Festival was delivered successfully in partnership with the Children's Museum of Houston on September 29, 2012 for a full day packed of games, craft, activities, lion dances, performances and contests. The event attracted over 3800 guests and visitors to the event and there were approximately 90 volunteers from VCSA and local VSA organizations. A big congratulation to the two co-coordinators: Monica Nguyen and Mai Quyen Le.



VCSA - Dallas/Fort Worth Chapter

Board of Executives

President: Nguyễn Quỳnh Anh
 VP External: Phan Bảo Nghi
 VP Internal: Vương Hồng Diễm
 VP Membership: Trần Thanh Nghị
 Treasurer: Phạm Sydney
 Secretary: Lương Yvonne
 Advisor: Trần Quốc Anh

Dragons Summit

A fusion of obstacle challenges and cultural activities to promote team leadership, giving the DFW youth a taste of Lên Đường Camp.



Easter Picnic



June Canoeing Social



General Meeting with New Members



October Career Day



Monthly Radio Talk Show - Con Cháu Tiên Rồng

VCSA - Minnesota Chapter

Lunar New Year St. Paul, MN

January, 2012 The first Tiến Lên Fundraiser was held at the Vietnam Center and raised enough funds to sponsor one camper at Len Duong Camp 2012. The event was attended by members and non-members from a variety of backgrounds. Despite the snowy weather conditions, everyone had a good time with great moments during the game. Jake won the tournament and took home a trophy and a monetary prize.



Volunteers at Feed My Starving Children Chanhassen, MN

February, 2012 FMSC is a non-profit that needs volunteers to pack scientifically formulated food into “Manna Packs” and afterwards they ship these packages to third world countries where food is scarce. There are opportunities for all ages to help, from young children to the elderly. Each station had containers of: rice, soybean, vegetable, and chicken powder. These were measured out in containers and then poured into a funnel into the “Manna Pack.”



Len Duong Camp 2012 Maple Lake, MN

April, 2012 Len Duong Staff, joined by the Houston Chapter’s staff, visited Camp Courage ahead of schedule for activity ideas and camp preparations. Heidi, campsite’s manager led the team around.

May, 2012 Campers were in white shirts and staffs had purple shirts. The camp’s theme was: “Live Your Dream. Conceive, Believe, Achieve!” Saturday afternoon, the camp hosted a team canoeing challenge. Each team made five roundtrips at designated points. The requirement to have each member blindfolded was quickly dismissed. Chicken congee, made by the Food Team, was devoured by campers in the dining hall. The jousting tournament was held Sunday afternoon with campers equipped with foam shields and swords.



Summer Picnic, Moon Festival, and Volunteering



VCSA - San Diego Chapter

Executive Board

President Ms. Tran, Binh Nhung, Pharm.D.

Secretary Mr. Nguyen, Duong

Treasurer Ms. Vu, Lien Hoa, CPA

Community Events

The chapter has delivered quite a few humanitarian and charitable projects in Vietnam during the year of 2012, building several infrastructure bridges, 30 clean water wells, two child care centers, and relief efforts in several flooded areas in the Central area of Vietnam. Our sincere thanks to Rock Revival for the company's continual support for these charitable projects. Congratulations to Ms. Viet Ly Bui, Ms. Lien Hoa Vu and Mr. & Mrs. Tan Nguyen & Ngoc Anh Nguyen for their wonderful work in Vietnam to help the unfortunate children and disabled people.

Vietnam Projects



VCSA - DC Chapter

Executive Board

President Trang Khanh Tran
 Treasurer Khanh Loan Nguyen



VCSA - Toronto Chapter

Executive Team 2012-2013

President Quyen Pham
 Vice President Paul Nguyen
 General Secretary Bao Vu
 Treasurer Katherine Mai Phuong Le

Coordinators

Webmaster & Technical Thi Pham
 Volunteer Khang Nguyen
 Culture Nhat Nguyen
 Events Susan Nguyen

Advisers

Anhlan Nguyen
 Phieu Le
 Hoa Nguyen
 Kevin Le
 Quynh Huynh
 Jaime Diep
 Tho Pham

Wheel of Knowledge (Do Vui De Hoc) at Hoi Cho Tet

The Wheel of Knowledge (Do Vui De Hoc) game is an electronic trivia game consisting of various categories such as Vietnamese Language, Vietnamese History & People, Vietnamese Geography, and Vietnamese Culture. Children ages 6-10 years old had the opportunity to play and answer randomly selected trivia questions for a chance to win tokens that could later be traded for prizes. At Hoi Cho Tet 2012, a new component involving a school competition between various Viet Ngu schools was added to the game. The Wheel of Knowledge game drew a large crowd with many children participating in both the public play and school competition.

Mentorship Mixer & Bowling Event

April 2012 In collaboration with the Vietnamese Canadian Federation (VCF) and the Vietnamese Youth Action Committee (VYAC), VCSA Toronto was the host organization for the Reach for the Stars Mentorship Program. The mentorship project connected young Vietnamese Canadians (12- 25 year olds) to volunteer mentors based on participants' needs and interests. The Mentorship Mixer & Bowling event was an opportunity for mentors and mentees to meet and mingle in person.



VCSA - Toronto Chapter

VIVA (Vietnamese Innovators & Visionaries Awards) Gala

June, 2012 Hosted by the Vietnamese Association, Toronto (VAT) and in partnership with VCSA Toronto and the United Vietnamese Students' Association (UVSA), the VIVA Gala was an evening of grandeur to celebrate VAT's 40th anniversary and to recognize the achievements and amazing work done by various Vietnamese community leaders.



Tet Trung Thu Festival

VCSA Toronto once again assisted the Vietnamese Women's Association of Toronto with the Tet Trung Thu Festival held at Harbourfront Centre. VCSA Toronto ran two children's games, Knock 'Em Down and Pictionary, during the two-day festival that was enjoyed by thousands of attendees.



Fundraisers, Reunions, Meetings and Other Events



Be the Change New Moon Foundation Scholarship

VCSA partners with New Moon Foundation to grant scholarships, \$1000 each, to those Len Duong camper alumni who want to implement what they learn from the camp to serve the local communities. Please join VCSA to congratulate the following 3 winners of the 2012 Be The change – New Moon Foundation Scholarship. We look forward to hearing from them to report the great impacts they made at their local communities.



Bao Tran Huynh
(Houston, Texas), currently serve as president of Len Duong Bonfire Passion. She will implement a series of workshops promoting GRACE values education

and promotion in the Vietnamese American teens and young adults in the Vietnamese community in Houston and Vicinity.



Kim Nguyen
(Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada), currently a senior student at University of British Columbia, majored in business. She will implement a Vietnamese Youth Mentorship program and help promoting GRACE

values through this program. The mentoring program will serve the Vietnamese youth in the greater area of Vancouver, British Columbia.



Frank Huynh
(Washington, DC), currently an active member of the Vietnamese Student Association at George Washington University. He will implement a college preparation

conference for all high school students and help to promote GRACE values throughout the conference.

We also acknowledge the great impacts from the previous 5 Be The Change winners with the 5 community projects: First-Step camp delivered in August 2012 in Toronto, Canada by Tho Pham; the Educational workshop delivered in the spring of 2012 by Jenny Le in Boston, Massachuset; the Voter Registration Drive delivered in early 2012 by Cindy Dinh in Houston, Texas; the Teen Safety Driving campaign delivered in the fall of 2011; the spring of 2012 by Phong Le with Len Duong Bonfire Passion team and Quynh Anh Nguyen, who delivered the Len Duong Pendulum project: Career Day, Dragon Summit and Educational event in Dallas / Fort Worth areas.

We greatly appreciate the relationship with New Moon Foundation to make all of this wonderful program possible.

Len Duong 2013 Announcement

In 2013, VCSA will deliver its 16h Annual Youth Leadership Camp Len Duong at Crieff Hill Retreat and Conference Center at Puslinch, Ontario, Canada from June 28 – July 1, 2013. Online Registration will be available in January 2013. VCSA-Toronto chapter will be the host for this camp in 2013. Please check our web site at www.lenduongcamp.org for available scholarships and more information.



VCSA Board of Directors and Executive Board

VCSA Headquarter

VCSA Open House



Pancreatic Cancer Walk



Christmas Party 2011



Tet Party



College Day@Rice



Congratulations

Congratulations to the following couples who tied the knot in year 2012: Chinh Ngo & Halley Le (Houston, TX), Dinh Ngo & Quynh Pham (Houston, TX), Loc Vinh Tran & Kieu Le (Houston, TX), Loc Nguyen & Vivian Huynh (Minnesota), and the upcoming wedding of our volunteers Chinh Duong and Steven Tran in Houston, Texas on Jan 6, 2013. Also congratulations to three couples who are engaged in 2012: Bao Ngan Nguyen & Duy Giang, Huy Pham & Quan Luu, and Jack Tran & Kieu My Nguyen - VCSA is blessed with so many wonderful news of our volunteers! May all these couples be blessed with a lifetime happiness.

VCSA Headquarter

Staff and Volunteers Recognition

Please join us to congratulate the following members who have served as Project Coordinators for VCSA projects in the year of 2012 and delivered them all successfully.

Len Duong camp 2012: Liem Vu (Camp Master)

Mai Quyen Pham & Viet Bao Luu (Assistants to camp Master)

Tobacco & Obesity Prevention Youth Summit: Hoang Gia Van & Vinh Ngo

VCSA 16th Annual Youth Excellence

Recognition Luncheon: Jaclyn Nguyen & Kristina Vu

Mid-Autumn Festival: Monica Nguyen & Mai Quyen Le

Safe Driving Campaign - Part II: Nam Nguyen, Bao Ma & Baotran Ma

Christmas Celebration event for Seniors: Quynh Vy Nguyen

Team Nguyen Thanh Toan at PANCAN: Van Nga Diane Vu

VCSA is blessed with our summer intern: Jaclyn Nguyen, who was instrumental to help implementing the summer projects. Besides, we also have the following student interns: Hanh Nguyen, Hoang Gia Van and Mai Quyen Le.



Mai Quyen Le



Viet Bao Luu



Bao Ma



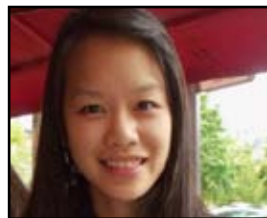
Bao-Tran Ma



Vinh Ngo



Jaclyn Nguyen



Monica Nguyen



Nam Nguyen



Mai Quyen Pham



Quynh Vy Nguyen



Van Nga Diane Vu



Kristina Vu



Liem Vu



Len Duong Bonfire Passion Leadership Team

Sponsors Appreciation

VCSA is blessed to continue to receive the support of several corporations and sponsorships to help us deliver a year full of programs and services. We greatly appreciate the support of the following foundation, organization and corporations:



Mr. Dat Nguyen and Thoi Bao Inc. VCSA did not only receive support from Thoi Bao Inc. but also had the honor to welcome Mr. Dat Nguyen, CEO of Thoi Bao Inc. to spend 3 days at camp Len Duong 2012 in Minnesota. We truly appreciate his wonderful support.

Southwest Airline is our newest corporation sponsor who was one of the Underwriters of Camp Len Duong 2012. Our sincere thanks to SWA sponsorship and hope to continue our relationship in years to come.

WinMagic continues the Underwriter sponsorship this year and although Mr. & Mrs. Chau Thy Nguyen Huu couldn't make it to the camp, their continual support is truly appreciated by all the campers.

As the recipient of VCSA Lifetime Corporate Partnership award, Shell Oil Company continues to partner with VCSA in several educational and leadership programs throughout 2012: Youth Leadership Development Camp Len Duong 2012, Youth Excellence Recognition Luncheon and several other educational initiatives. We greatly appreciate all the wonderful support from Dr. John Nguyen and his wife Kirsten Hoang, Mr. Michael Tran and his colleagues at Shell SAPENG, and Tammy Hoang. We look forward to working with Shell in 2013 and future years.



Great appreciation to CenterPoint Energy

VCSA Christmas Sponsors Appreciation Dinner



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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 multigenerational and cross cultural collaborations. We foster civic participation in the mainstream and Vietnamese America.

Visit us at: www.vcsa.org

**Leadership • Education
• Cultural Excellence •
Volunteerism**

