

## ***Save Our Chinatown Committee***

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**For Immediate Release:**

1-23-09

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### **GALA CHINESE NEW YEAR BANQUET SOLD OUT Save Our Chinatown Committee Experiencing Strong Community Support**

Riverside, CA -- The traditional New Year celebration is being made even sweeter for the Save Our Chinatown Committee (SOCC) as rapid ticket sales are supplemented with many contributions from people unable to attend the event. "It is obvious that there is tremendous support for our efforts to protect the archaeological site and move forward with plans for a Chinese Cultural Park," said Jean Wong, spokeswoman for the committee. "We have already started planning several future educational and fund-raising events because the level of interest is so high."

Chinese New Year begins on January 26<sup>th</sup>, and it will be observed with a gourmet dinner the previous evening (the 25<sup>th</sup>) at the Riverside Dragon House restaurant. With a full house, ticket sales have stopped.

Renowned artist Sam Huang, one of the two featured speakers, has generously increased the number of prints he will be auctioning [samples of his work are attached] to support the rescue of the site. Eugene Moy, Vice President of the Chinese Historical Society of Southern California, will be the other featured speaker. A brief report will also be delivered by attorney Ray Johnson of Johnson & Sedlack of Temecula, who has filed suit on behalf of the committee to stop destruction of the archaeological site. The site of the 1886 Chinatown is on the northwest corner of Brockton and Tequesquite in Riverside.

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For more information about the banquet, the efforts to rescue the archaeological site, or future events please contact Jean Huffman Wong at (951) 328-1239.

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