Language resources help children benefit as bilingual speakers

BY YALING HOU

Thirty years ago, there were few Chinese schools in Boston, let alone digital resources about Mandarin or Cantonese education. A Chinese immigrant said she was unsure what her children would face in a cross-cultural environment.

“My husband and I didn’t realize the background and the linguistic development of second-generation immigrant children would be totally different from us,” she said in Mandarin, declining to give her name. “Luckily, my husband’s roommate was a doctoral student in linguistics, and he told us that for children, English and the heritage language can be developed at the same time.”

Nowadays, more than a dozen Chinese schools operate in the Boston area. Bilingual books, websites, software and mobile applications have flourished to assist bilingual children in learning their heritage language from a young age.

Canadian company Nelvana distributes Mandarin shows for children on a heritage language from a young age. Mobile applications have flourished for language learning. (Image courtesy of Yaling Hou.)

Tigerway不止幫助青少年
準備SAT考試，還增加競爭力

Tigerway提供的達人教員為華人學生

Cheung說：「我在Sun Life的工作其實很好。我負責令人激動的項目。但是我想為我們的社區提供
更廣泛的幫助和影響。」

Cheung在研究投資和預期開發
專有名以創建實踐問題方面發揮
了作用，他會用不同的學習方法和
評分方法來設計課程。他召喚基礎
學習案例分析，基於社會情勢的
景，比如討論如何改善生活。

在Tigerway, Cheung支付的主
頁上，表現了華裔的「傳統於
亞洲家庭教育」理想。

Greater than twenty Chinese schools. Bilingual books, websites, software and mobile applications have flourished for language learning. (Image courtesy of Yaling Hou.)

Boston superintendent plans to visit all schools in 100 days

BY LING-MEI WONG

Boston Public Schools Superintendent Brenda Cassellius spoke about community engagement plans August 28 at the district’s central office. (Image courtesy of Ling-Mei Wong.)

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

Boston Public Schools (BPS) Superintendent Brenda Cassellius discussed plans for school and community engagement August 28 at BPS headquarters. She plans to visit all 152 schools district-wide in the first 100 days after school starts.

“I’ve done a lot of meet-and-greet since May 8,” Cassellius said. “I’m ready for marching orders from the parents. I’m anxious to get to work.”

Community meetings will have simultaneous translation from interpreters, Cassellius said. Sign language interpreters can be requested.

Cassellius has restructured the district, so the English language learner and special education committees report directly to her. She wants to welcome immigrant children and family members.

“The political discourse of today has heightened unease among families,” she said. “We have to get out and listen to families, listen to their concerns. We want them to know when their children go to school, they will be safe.”

More than 42 percent of BPS students are English language learners speaking a home language other than English. Cassellius said. She wants to look at best practices nationwide to implement in Boston.

A Know Your Rights campaign by the Boston Student Advisory Council high schoolers will be amended for immigration, said Monica Roberts, BPS chief engagement officer.

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Sampan publishes every other Friday. For more news, please visit Sampan.org or add us on WeChat.
Asian law enforcement gather in Boston for national conference

BY KAREN MAI

The National Asian Peace Officers’ Association held its annual Training Symposium and Exposition from August 19 to August 22 at the Westin Boston Waterfront. (Image courtesy of NAPOA.)

The National Asian Peace Officers’ Association held its annual Training Symposium and Exposition from August 19 to August 22 at the Westin Boston Waterfront. Members and affiliates exchanged ideas and strategies to implement effective community policing practices and protect the general public. There were more than 200 attendees at workshops for the Naval Criminal Investigative Service and the Federal Air at workshops for the Naval Criminal Investigative Service and the Federal Air

Quincy August Moon Festival celebrates culture and community

BY FELIX POON

The 32nd Quincy August Moon Festival was held August 18 at Quincy High School. (Image courtesy of Felix Poon.)

Wah Lum Kung Fu and Tai Chi Academy kicked off the 32nd Quincy August Moon Festival August 18 with dragon and lion dance performances. According to the group’s Sifu Mai Du, some elders in the audience got emotional. “It brings them a lot of memories from their childhood,” Du said.

Thousands from Quincy and beyond endured the hot summer sun to enjoy festivities as diverse as classic Chinese dance and song performances to a petting zoo and pony rides. More than 100 booths represented local businesses and community groups.

The [Quincy] August Moon festival really has become the premier event for the month of August,” Quincy Mayor Thomas Koch said.

Philip Chong, CEO of event organizer Quincy Asian Resources, Inc. (QARI), said, “As a kid, I was allowed to go out late at night, burning candles and hanging out with friends.”

The growing popularity of the festival is a nod to the increasing size of the Asian population in Quincy.

Chinatown meetings: CNC, CSC, CRA

BY YANXUAN LI AND LING-MEI WONG

The Chinatown/South Cove Neighborhood Council met Sept. 4 at the Josiah Quincy School. Melissa Teng presented on the Beta Block pilot. (Image courtesy of Ling-Mei Wong.)

The Chinatown/South Cove Neighborhood Council met Sept. 4 at the Josiah Quincy School. Melissa Teng presented on the Beta Block pilot. (Image courtesy of Ling-Mei Wong.)

The Boston Chinatown Resident Association met Sept. 4 at the Josiah Quincy School. Melissa Teng presented on the Beta Block pilot. (Image courtesy of Ling-Mei Wong.)

The Chinatown/South Cove Neighborhood Council met Sept. 4 at the Josiah Quincy School. Melissa Teng presented on the Beta Block pilot. (Image courtesy of Ling-Mei Wong.)

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The Chinatown/South Cove Neighborhood Council met Sept. 4 at the Josia...
Event Calendar

**Chinese community history tour**
Friday, Sep 6
6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
2 Bayfield Street
Boston, MA 02116
Join the Chinese Historical Society of New England (CHSNE) on Chinatown History Tour, a 90-minute walking tour starting at the China Trade Building.

**Lantern Festival**
Saturday, Sep 7
10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Chinatown Gate
Boston, MA 02111
The Chinatown Main Street Lantern Festival, lab, will take place at the Chinatown Gate.

**Breakfast workshop**
Saturday, Sep 7
10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
11 Darmouth Street
Malden, MA 02148
A free breakfast workshop on community engagement and home buying will take place at ACDC Malden. Register with Terry Yin at (203) 893-7963 or email outreach.malden@asian-cdc.org.

**Boston Night Market**
Saturday, Sep 7
4 p.m. to 10 p.m.
1 City Hall Square
Boston, MA 02114
Boston Night Market will take place at Boston City Hall Plaza. Tickets online at http://bnm2019full.eventbrite.com.

**English for college or job training**
Monday, Sep 9
9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
2 Boylston Street
Boston, MA 02116
A free breakfast workshop on college planning and applying for financial aid towards higher education. To make an appointment, call (617) 426-9492 x 0.

**Nutrition education**
Every Friday
9 a.m. to 10 a.m.
1458 Hancock St, Unit 306
Quincy, MA 02169
A nutrition education class will take place Fridays at BCNC Quincy. Free with gift for all attendees. Register by Sep 10 by calling 617-635-5120 x 1020, emailing mundy@bcnc.net or online at https://forms.gle/UnmDznfP5XZ5iB7.

**Lantern Festival**
Saturday, Sep 7
6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
2 Bayfield Street
Boston, MA 02116
Attend testing for the Asian American Civic Association’s English classes for college or job training.

**Financial aid assistance**
Wednesday
9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Wayland Housing Authority
Wayland, MA 01778
Join the Chinese Historical Society of New England (CHSNE) on Chinatown History Tour, a 90-minute walking tour starting at the China Trade Building.

**Black Birch II Condominiums**
Two 2BR units $212,500
Two 2BR units $212,500

**Event Calendar**

**Chinatown tour**
Friday, Sep 6
6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
2 Bayfield Street
Boston, MA 02116
Join the Chinese Historical Society of New England (CHSNE) on Chinatown History Tour, a 90-minute walking tour starting at the China Trade Building.

**Maintenance Custodian Laborer**
PT 18 Hours. Perform maintenance, repairs, work orders, custodial and groundskeeping in HUD Public Housing developments. FAX resumes to (508) 655-8566. EOE

**Wayland Housing Authority**

**Affordable Homeownership**
Black Birch Condominiums, Forest Ridge, Concord, MA 01742

**New Construction**
Two Age-Restricted Affordable Units offered via lottery
Two 2BR units $212,500
Applications accepted through October 17, 2019, 1 pm
Information Session: September 16, 2019, 7 pm
Open House: Saturday, September 21, 2019, 10-12 pm
Black Birch, Sweet Birch Lane, Unit 10, Concord, MA
Lottery: October 26, 2019 at 5:00 pm
1st Floor Conference Room, 141 Reyes Road Concord, MA

**Application and Lottery Information**
Housing First Options, US
https://sudbury.ma.us/housingtrust
Sudbury Housing Trust, Lottery Agent
278 Old Sudbury Road, Sudbury, MA 01776
978-287-1092 & 978-639-3387
Income Limit 80% of Boston AMI and Asset Limits Use and Resale Restrictions Apply

**Affordable Rental Housing Lottery**
1 AND 2 BEDROOM APARTMENTS
MARBELLA LOFTS
57 HAMPSTEAD STREET, METHUEN

**Eligibility Guidelines, Rents, Application Process**
Applicants must be income eligible and submit a complete, signed application by application deadline. Pata do not include utilities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income Limits</th>
<th>Maximum Income</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Household Size</td>
<td>$425 $500</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>$675 $840</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>$750 $900</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Units**

- 1 BR $587 - $1,055
- 2 BR $719 - $1,305
- 2 BR $946 - $1,655
- In-Unit Accessibility

- 1 BR $688 - $1,091
- 2 BR $946 - $1,681

Units have 1 parking space each Smoke Free Building. No Pets

**Information Session**
September 11, 2019 – 6:00 PM
Lottery Drawing:
October 10, 2019 – 6:00 PM
Both events in the hall at Nevins Memorial Library, 305 Broadway, Methuen, MA
Applications available at Methuen City Hall and Nevins Memorial Library and may be requested from Paula Stetel - 617-388-1331, p.stetel@methuen.gov

**Application Deadline**
October 8, 2019 at 12:00 Noon

**Developed by Renové Homes, LLC**
Transit assistance available at no cost upon request - Call 617-388-1331
Asistencia de traducción disponible sin costo a pedido - Llame al 617-388-1331
Other reasonable accommodations are available upon request

**Other accommodations reasonably available upon request**
Asian Americans seek greater representation in local government

BY MONIQUE CHING

When clients enter Danyal Najmi’s office for career advice and training, they often are shy until they realize he speaks their language.

“They feel safe here,” Najmi said. Many refer their relatives and friends to him because of his communication skills.

Many refer their relatives and friends to him because of his communication skills.

“There’s a sense of legacy in this philosophical, spiritual and well-rounded piece of human experience.”

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“One was asked by a student to sum up what you want to do, to claim your place in the show,” Najmi said. “I’m happy to be that person taking that first plunge. Hopefully, it will inspire other people.”

“One was asked by a student to sum up what you want to do, to claim your place in the show,” Najmi said. “I’m happy to be that person taking that first plunge. Hopefully, it will inspire other people.”

Najmi speaks five languages, is learning Mandarin and is the only Asian American running for the Ward 5 City Council seat this year in Malden. If successful, Najmi noted he would not have ran without people encouraging him.

“Initially displayed throughout the Greenway and the streets of Chinatown in 2016, the “Hometown” figures have since graced the Watertown Arts Center, the Lexington library, Tufts University and now Bunker Hill Community College (BHCC) in Charleston. The BHCC exhibit includes 252 portraits of contemporary residents, workers and visitors standing against a backdrop of 1910 Harrison Avenue, who Tsen photographed in 2016.

“I chose to photograph not established people but working people,” Tsen said.

There’s a sense of legacy in this philosophical, spiritual and well-rounded piece of human experience.”

“If you or anyone assisting you cannot use these methods to obtain an application, please contact the mgmt. office at one of the numbers listed above and ask that an application be mailed to you. Your place on the waiting list will be decided by lottery so there is no need to come in person, come early, or wait on a long line.

Scoop the Poop!

Scoop the Poop!

Come meet with Boston Water and Sewer Commission staff in your neighborhood and learn why it’s important to scoop the poop when taking your dog for a walk.

You can also pay your water bill with a check or money order, talk about billing or service problems, and more.

‘Hometown’ gathers Chinatown residents new and old

BY LING-MEI WONG

Artist Wen-tien Tsien has taken his “Hometown” figures all across the Commonwealth. The 17 people — standing alone, in pairs or in a group of three — came from portraits in the Chinese Historical Society of New England’s archives, which Tsien enlarged and colored.

“They show the continuing presence of people in Chinatown over the past 125 years,” Tsien said. “There weren’t many portraits of people looking directly into the camera.

“‘She’s not even from here, how dare she drive by her home to stare her down. (Image courtesy of James Robert Oral.)

“Hometown” encourages them to engage.

“Hometown” emphasizes the importance of maintaining a home for Asian Americans in the northeast, with English and Chinese captions by Wing-kai To, associate professor of history and director of Asian studies at Bridgewater State University. The art project was set up in a public space to draw attention to gentrification and developments over the past 40 years that threaten the historical nature of Chinatown.

“You see how Chinatown has joyfully, proudly in the show,” said Kevin Wery, BHCC director of college events.

“You see how Chinatown has joyfully, proudly in the show,” said Kevin Wery, BHCC director of college events.

A reception will take place Sept. 17 at BHCC along with an artist talk Sept. 24, before the exhibit ends Sept. 27.
Continued from Page 1

September 6, 2019

Sampan

The Vue at Maynard Crossing
12 Digital Way, Maynard MA

Thirteen 1BRs $1,691, Nine 2BRs $1,749
*Rents subject to change in 2020. Tenants will be responsible for paying utilities: gas (heating, hot water), electricity (cooking is electric) water and sewer. This community is smoke free. Pets are allowed. Each affordable unit will have access to a free parking spot on site.

The Vue at Maynard Crossing is a 180-unit rental apartment community located on 12 Digital Way in Maynard. There will be 22 affordable apartments ready for occupancy starting in the Fall of 2019. All affordable apartments will be rented to households with incomes at or below 80% of the area median income through this application process. The property will feature a 5,000 sq. ft. clubhouse with a state-of-the-art fitness center complete with a yoga/pilates studio, a cyber café, and a juice vending bar and coffee area. Residents will also enjoy having a resort-style pool accompanied by a fire pit and lounge area as well as a summer kitchen.

MAXIMUM Household Income Limits: $62,460 (1 person), $71,400 (2 people), $80,360 (3 people), $89,260 (4 people)

A Public Info Session will be held on September 24th, 2019 at 6:00pm in the Trustees Room in the Maynard Public Library (77 Nason Street, Maynard, MA 01754).

Completed Applications and Required Income Documentation must be delivered, or postmarked, by 2 pm on October 25th, 2019. Applications postmarked by the deadline must be received no later than 5 business days from the deadline.

The Lottery for eligible households will be held on November 19th, 2019, at 6:00pm in the Trustees Room in the Maynard Public Library (77 Nason Street, Maynard, MA 01754).

For Lottery Information and Applications, or for reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities, go to www.s-e-b.com/lottery or call (617) 782-6900 (x2) and leave a message or postal mail SEB Housing, 257 Hillside Ave, Needham MA 02494. For TVTY Services dial 711. Free translation available. Traducción gratis disponible.

Applications and Information Packets are also available at the Maynard Public Library on 77 Nason Street. M-Th (10am-8pm) Tues-Th (2pm-8pm) Wed (10am-8pm) Sat/Sun: (closed)

A Lynn native, Cheung began teaching SAT prep part-time at a student as NorthEastern University and continued doing so after graduating in 2015. Three years into a lucrative job at Sun Life Financial and at the cusp of a promotion, he made the pivotal choice to quit and work full time on building out the Tigerway business. Roughly one year later, Tigerway has an office in downtown Boston and more than 100 students.

“I thought that my work at Sun Life was very good. I worked on very exciting projects,” said Cheung. “But I wanted to have a bigger impact on the community.”

“I’ve never met another teacher like Larry,” said Canton High School student Sinead Qu, who added Cheung helped her with interviewing skills and career advice. After learning about Tigerway from a friend, she has attended multiple sessions and said she’s improved her score by more than 50 points.

Today, Cheung can point to Tigerway’s website boasting testimonials by high school students from Quincy to Newton, complete with before-and-after scores and video interviews.

“But I think the biggest compliment that I get…is when people say, “Larry knows what he’s doing,’” he said. “It tells you that our program’s adding value. It’s helping people.”

Uxbridge Affordable Housing Lottery
Forest Glen Estates
www.s-e-b.com

$195,700 for a 2BR Duplex (condo fees are $95/mo)

The first affordable home will be ready for occupancy in the Fall of 2018. The other four homes are expected to be ready in the Summer and Fall of 2020.

This is a lottery for the 5 affordable duplex units being built at Forest Glen Estates located at Spring Hill Drive and Walter Edwards Street in Uxbridge, MA. All 5 homes will be sold at an affordable price to households with incomes at or below 80% of the Area Median Income. In order to be eligible to purchase one of these homes, at least one member of the Household must be 55 years of age or older.

One of the five affordable homes is 1400 square feet and the other four homes are 1566 square feet. All units feature 2 full baths, two car garages, forced hot air heating, carpeted bedrooms, hardwood finished living, dining and kitchen areas, and full unfinished basements. Forest Glen is located a short distance from park and recreation areas which include the town center and area shopping and restaurants. Also nearby are Tantasqua Memorial Park, Blackstone River and Canal Heritage State Park, and the Blackstone River Greenway, which offer excellent hiking, walking and sightseeing.

Residents will also be near to Southwick’s zoo, public golf, and will have easy access to both Providence and Worcester via Rte 146.

Maximum Household Income Limits: $65,820 (1 person), $70,400 (2 person), $76,090 (3 person), $81,690 (4 person)

Maximum Household Asset Limit is $275,000.

Applications and Required Income Documentation must be delivered, or post-marked, by 2 pm on October 25th, 2019. Applications postmarked by the deadline must be received within 5 business days.

A Public Info Session will be on October 1, 2019 at 6 pm in the Lower Town Hall Meeting Room, 21 South Main Street, Uxbridge, MA. The lottery will be on Nov. 18th, 2019, at 6pm in the Lower Town Hall Meeting Room, 21 South Main Street, Uxbridge, MA. Applications and Information Packets available at Uxbridge Free Public Library (open M & Th 10-8, Tues & Wed 10-5:30; Fri 9-2; Sat & Sun: closed)

For Lottery Information and Applications, or for reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities, go to www.s-e-b.com/lottery or call (877) 762-9999 (toll free) and leave a message. Free translation available. Traducción gratis disponible.
BY LING-MEI WONG

Book review: ‘Ruby Foo and the Traveling Kitchen’ combines history and food

Restaurateur Ruby Foo blazed a trail for female entrepreneurs, operating Ruby Foo’s Den in 1930s Boston at 6 Hudson Street. Foo opened restaurants in New York City, Washington D.C., Providence and Miami.

Foo’s granddaughter Tiffany Foo wrote “Ruby Foo and the Traveling Kitchen: Finding the Foo Identity” about a middle school girl who loves to cook. The fictional book incorporates historical elements, along with mouthwatering recipes straight from the Den.

“My father Ronald was adopted and he regretted not having a moment to thank his mother for giving him the American dream,” Tiffany said. “She passed from a heart attack when he was about 14 years old.”

Ruby Foo saw a photo of a crying baby in 1938, a victim of the Sino-Japanese War sitting in the wreckage of a Shanghai train station. That baby was Tiffany’s father Ronald, who was raised with Ruby Foo’s children Earl and Doris. Ronald Foo, 83, went on to serve in the Air Force and had three children in New York, before retiring to Florida.

“When you’re in the kitchen cooking together, that’s when your family comes together,” Tiffany said.

For more on Ruby Foo, visit www.rubyfookitchen.com.
Lung cancer screening helps detect cancer early, improving survival rates

BY DR. EFREN FLORES AND ANGEL ROMAN

Lung cancer is the second most common cancer in the United States. According to recent statistics, an estimated 224,150 new cases of lung cancer will be diagnosed in America in 2019. Lung cancer remains as the cancer with the highest cancer-related mortality (death rate) among all types of cancer for women and men, with an estimated 142,670 deaths from lung cancer in the United States in 2019.

When it comes to individual demographics, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the North American Association of Central Cancer Registries list lung cancer as the cancer with the highest incidence and mortality among people of Asian and Pacific Islander ethnicity. Cigarette smoking continues to be the most important risk factor for lung cancer as more than 80 percent of lung cancers are related to current or former history of smoking. People should be cautious and seek medical attention when they show signs or symptoms of lung cancer, or are exposed to radon gas.

Lung cancer screening should be discontinued if certain events take place: when an individual has not smoked for 15 years or develops a health problem that substantially limits life expectancy or the ability or willingness to have curative lung surgery. To learn more about lung cancer and screening, visit the American College of Radiology and the American Cancer Society online Lung Cancer Screening resource center at www.acr.org/Clinical-Resources/Lung-Cancer-Screening-Resources.

Job Posting

The Belmont Housing Authority is seeking 1-2 Maintenance Groundskeeper/Custodian/Laborer(s) for full time (40 hour week) benefited position(s).

Hours are Monday thru Friday 8am – 4:30pm. Some overtime, including snow removal, may be required. Pay is $26.33/hr - $32.31.

Job posting can be found at www.belmont.org. Resumes should be submitted to Jaclyn Martin, Executive Director by email at office@belmont.org with subject line: groundskeeper/custodian/laborer position, by September 20, 2019.

Position may remain open until filled.
A moment of awakening

BY VENERABLE MASTER HSIN YUN, FOUNDER OF FO GUANG SHAN TEMPLE

On New Year’s Eve 1999, people all over the world anxiously awaited the dawn of the new millennium. As the sun appeared on the horizon, their excitement could no longer be contained. Their emotions reached a new climax, and their spirits were lifted by the promise of first light.

Desire and worry trouble many of us in this world. Our minds are polluted by our surroundings. We have become anxious and fearful, without a moment of peace and clarity. All around us, there are people who choose to stay in their own private hell by clinging to their worries. There are those who have imprisoned their minds with egotistical attachments. And there are others who choose to become slaves of material possessions.

It really does not matter what we have decided to do with our lives and minds because, in the middle of the night, when all is quiet, each and every one of us will long for a moment of awakening.

We will long for a moment when we can exile all of our hatred, desires and jealousy — a moment devoid of ignorance and defilement. In the middle of the night, we reflect on what we have done and wish for a chance for true freedom. A moment of awakening is of immense value. It is the root of goodness.

It is the moment of awakening that allows wrongdoers to repent their transgressions and murderers to have a change of heart. Without that moment of awakening, good conditions will not come about, and we will live in eternal darkness.

When bad desires arise in our minds, we should not worry too much. Instead, we should fear being ignorant of our existence. Only in a moment of awakening will we be able to see through the dark clouds and find the light of hope. Only in a moment of awakening will our minds have clarity and be freed of all defilements. Only in a moment of awakening will darkness be dispelled and our minds enlightened.

In this world of impermanence, let us ignite the inner light of awakening. Let us rediscover our innate wisdom in this time of turbulence. Let us sow the seeds of compassion in times of hatred and learn to forgive our enemy. Let us foster the power of confidence when faced with doubts and illuminate the light of wisdom in times of darkness. Let us have hope in despair and find solace amidst our sorrow.

We must eradicate all of our doubts, confusion and selfishness. For compassion comes from kindness, truth from clarity, and the beauty of human nature from a moment of awakening.

There are those who have imprisoned their spirits by clinging to their worries. There are others who choose to become slaves of material possessions. And there are those who choose to become slaves of egotistical attachments.

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We must eradicate all of our doubts, confusion and selfishness. For compassion comes from kindness, truth from clarity, and the beauty of human nature from a moment of awakening.
‘Six’ retells Tudor history from female perspective

BY LINDA CHIN

With the magical Harry Potter series, author JK Rowling raised a generation of readers and future storytellers. By blending hip-hop and history and bringing genuine diversity to the stage, “Hamilton” creator Lin-Manuel Miranda created a revolution in American musical theatre. In the musical “Six,” 10 talented and tenacious performers (all female) — six portraying the titular roles of Henry the VIII’s wives and a four-member band on stage — raise the roof of the American Repertory Theater.

A pair worth watching are “Six” writers and directors Toby Marlow and Lucy Moss. Both 24, they became friends while working on theater productions at the University of Cambridge. They wrote “Six” for the Edinburgh Festival together: Moss is a director-choreographer who studied dance and history, while Marlow is a singer-songwriter-actor who studied English.

Musically, “Six” shines amid clear influences of pop artists Beyoncé, Alicia Keys, Ariana Grande, Jennifer Lopez and Miley Cyrus. The clever internal rhyme schemes and the “Megasix” finale’s theme of “Who Lives, Who Dies, Who Tells Your Story” have been spawned by King Henry for her disappointing looks doesn’t quite match up. “Six” has an entertainment value of 10, but scores a 3 for historical accuracy.

Six
American Repertory Theater
August 21 to Sept. 29
https://americanrepertorytheater.org

For more information, visit www.brushmagic.com.

Artist Peter Ng creates Chinese calligraphy for charity

BY LING-MEI WONG

Peter Ng loves kung fu and Chinese culture. After retiring at 59 from government service, he dedicated his time to painting, volunteering and giving generously to community organizations.

“I launched my website Brush Magic with 50 percent of all proceeds going toward the community,” Ng said.

Ng’s calligraphy skills were honed during his childhood in Hong Kong. His artwork graces South Cove Community Health Center in Chinatown and Malden, with a prominent painting of Wah Lum Kung Fu and Tai Chi Academy at the Chinatown lobby on South Street. Ng paints in watercolor, oil and acrylic, along with doing Chinese calligraphy and Chinese ink painting.

On Brush Magic, Ng writes Chinese names in calligraphy on rice paper, then scans the name onto mugs, customized with the person’s Zodiac animal. Customers can frame the rice paper with their name. The mugs also feature drawings of children “writing” the calligraphy of the names.

“My mugs were given for Mother’s Day,” Ng said. “One woman said it was the best gift she had ever received.”

Other Brush Magic offerings include painted trivets, puzzles and cards.

“I’m changing the culture,” Ng said. “I want the next generation of Chinese American to at least know their name and family name in Chinese.”

The BrushMagic kids attended the August Moon Festival in Chinatown on August 11. Ng had raffle prize drawings for painted trivets, BrushMagic Kid mugs and inspirational cards.

Ng and his wife enjoy retirement. They have a daughter and a son. Jennifer is a military analyst, Chris is an Air Force surgeon and Jonathan is a professional tennis player.

For more information, visit www.brushmagic.com.

CELEBRATE THE END OF SUMMER WITH FREE EVENTS ON THE ESPLANADE

TUES SEPT 3 River Fit: Zumba led by Healthworks
WED SEPT 4 River Fit: Lynx on the Esplanade
THUR SEPT 5 River Fit: Sunset Yoga led by Sara DiVello
WED SEPT 11 Guided Photography Tour on the Esplanade
MON SEPT 16 Groundbeat: BAMS Fest & ‘Froca Dance Class
WED SEPT 18 AfroBeat Fit Sweat Session
WED SEPT 25 Women’s Self-Defense Class

Getting to the Esplanade
The Charles River Esplanade is a short walk from several MBTA stations including Charles/MGH on the red line and Arlington, Copley, Hynes and Kenmore on the green line. There are nearly 10 Blue Bike stations within walking distance to the park.

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