SAN FRANCISCO PRIDE.

SF PRIDE ANNOUNCES 'CHINATOWN PRIDE,' AN HISTORIC COLLABORATION WITH THE CHINESE CULTURE CENTER OF SAN FRANCISCO

This joint fundraiser for SF Pride and CCCSF on Thursday, March 25 from 6-7 p.m. represents the first LGBTQ-oriented event of its kind in Chinatown.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SAN FRANCISCO — San Francisco Pride and the Chinese Culture Center of San Francisco (CCC) are pleased to announce **Chinatown Pride**, an hour-long online fundraiser for both organizations and a gesture of solidarity between historically marginalized communities that have never collaborated on an event of this scale before.

On Thursday, March 25, 6-7 p.m., viewers will experience Chinatown's remarkable history through a fresh lens. A combination drag show, video compilation, and tour of neighborhood landmarks, Chinatown Pride builds upon an existing project called *Women: From Her to Here* that CCC has installed in their gallery space inside the Hilton Hotel in Chinatown. A multimedia exhibition centered on Asian diasporic perspectives, with work by female and LGBTQ+ artists from the Bay Area, China, Taiwan, Hong Kong, and elsewhere, *Women: From Her to Here* is the ideal launching-off point for an event that showcases the LGBTQ+ culture of Chinatown.

Chinatown Pride will take viewers to such landmarks as the Golden Gate Fortune Cookie Company and Forbidden City, with segments highlighting the work of artists and writers such as Chelsea Wong, Arthur Dong, Tina Takemoto, and Heesoo Kwon, and culminating in a drag performance by Pearl Teese shot by queer Latinx filmmaker Stephen Quinones on the pedestrian bridge connecting Portsmouth Square to the Hilton Hotel.

More than 50 years into the Pride movement, this is a long-overdue opportunity not merely for artistic collaboration but also to draw parallels between the respective histories of Chinese Americans and LGBTQ+ individuals in San Francisco, while highlighting the incredible

contributions of LGBTQ+ Asian Americans such as the groundbreaking artist **Bernice Bing** to our city.

Tickets (\$25-\$100) are available via Eventbrite.

"We are so excited to collaborate in Chinatown for what we think is the first time for a queer event like this," says SF Pride Executive Director **Fred Lopez**. "Chinatown Pride fulfills plans made in early 2020 that COVID derailed for more than a year. While the pandemic has been hard for everyone, our two communities have been particularly impacted. And now,_many AAPI communities_have been further upset by racist attacks and violence. Now is the time for joy and art in the face of adversity and pain."

"I'm very excited that we're partnering with a women-led nonprofit during Women's History Month," says SF Pride Board President Carolyn Wysinger. "CCC's Executive Director Jenny Leung and curator Hoi Leung have had incredible vision throughout this process. And I'm especially thankful to former SF Pride Board member and Dean of the College of Ethnic Studies at San Francisco State University Amy Sueyoshi for opening the initial conversation with them last year."

"Chinatown Pride is about bringing visibility to and uplifting Chinatown," says CCC Executive Director **Jenny Leung**. "CCC is so thrilled to collaborate with SF Pride to celebrate LGBTQ+, BIPOC, and immigrant communities. We want to welcome and invite everyone to come to Chinatown — to show Pride, love and take a stand against hate and racism. Especially now, it's so important to build safe and inclusive spaces for a just future."

Safe Spaces & Queer Stories in Chinatown include

Bernice Bing, presented by Lenore Chinn Forbidden City Li Po Lounge Golden Gate Fortune Cookie Factory

Performance & Artwork By

Pearl Teese Tina Takemoto Heesoo Kwon Brandon Jew Chelsea Wong

Sponsored By

Wesley Tongson Charitable Trust
Mister Jiu's
Ugly Pickle Co.
Crystal Head Vodka
Golden Gate Fortune Cookie Factory
CCC Design Store
Bargain Bazaar
Vivi + Livy

Promotional artwork

Cyan Chang

Chinatown Pride

Thursday, March 25, 6-7 p.m. <u>Tickets</u> available via Eventbrite

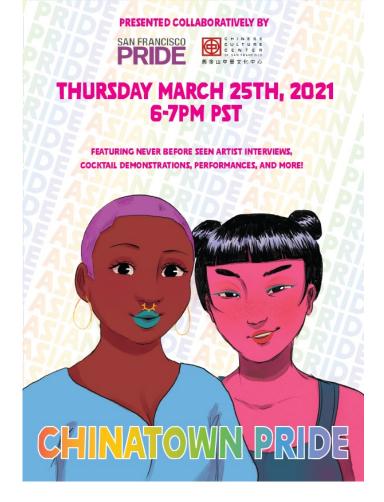
Interviews available upon request with

Jenny Leung, CCC Executive Director Fred Lopez, SF Pride Executive Director Carolyn Wysinger, SF Pride Board President Pearl Teese, drag performer Stephen Quinones, filmmaker

Press images from CCC's exhibition <u>Women: From Her to Here</u> are available <u>here</u>.

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ABOUT SAN FRANCISCO PRIDE

The San Francisco Pride Celebration Committee is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization founded to produce the San Francisco Pride Celebration and Parade. The mission of the organization is to educate the world on LGBTQ issues, as well as commemorate the heritage, celebrate the culture, and liberate the people of all LGBTQ communities. A world leader in the Pride movement, San Francisco Pride is also a grant-giving organization through its Community Partners Program. Since 1997, San Francisco Pride has granted over \$3 million dollars in proceeds to local nonprofit LGBTQIA organizations and organizations working on issues related to HIV/AIDS, cancer, homelessness, housing rights, and animal welfare.

ABOUT THE CHINESE CULTURE CENTER OF SAN FRANCISCO

Under the aegis of the Chinese Culture Foundation of San Francisco, Chinese Culture Center (CCC) is one of the leading and most prominent cultural and arts institutions in the city of San Francisco. The mission of the CCC is dedicated to elevating underserved communities and giving voice to equality through education and contemporary art. Founded in 1965, Chinese Culture Foundation opened its primary program site, Chinese Culture Center, in 1973. Our work is based in Chinatown and San Francisco's open and public spaces, and other art institutions. In 2014, CCC opened 41 Ross, an experimental community art space located in one of the most historic alleyways in Chinatown.

San Francisco Pride | Website
Chinese Culture Center of SF | Website





