



Student Docent Cultural Ambassador Program (SDCAP)

CHCP Youth Leadership Project

Mission:

Promote, Educate, and Preserve Chinese and Chinese American history and culture in Santa Clara County for Students through the REACH (Remembering and Enriching Asian Cultural History) initiative while serving as Student Docent Cultural Ambassadors at the Chinese American Historical Museum (CAHM), located in the replica Ng Shing Gung Building at History Park in San Jose, and at other CHCP activity locations.

Purpose:

1. Develop an interest in the history of Santa Clara Valley among the area's high school/college students, and to allow them to see how various ethnic minority groups have played a vital role in the development of the Valley.
2. Focus the interest in the history of the early Chinese immigrants to Santa Clara Valley, and how their contributions affected the early immigrants, but also the society in general.
3. Give the high school/college students of Santa Clara Valley a greater understanding and familiarity with Chinese American cultural practices, traditions, and history.
4. After training (either from formal classes or equivalent informal instruction), allow the high school/college students to assist at the Chinese American Historical Museum, in the replica Ng Shing Gung building at History Park/History San Jose (HSJ), and at other CHCP activity locations. The students would be under the leadership of CHCP Directors or Advisors.

Volunteers Include:

Student Volunteers or Parent Team Volunteers (at least one parent participates with his/her son or daughter).

Student Qualifications:

1. High school/college student in good standing. Eighth grade students may participate with approval of SDCAP Chair (upon conclusion of personal interview).
2. Must have shown personal initiative in learning about Chinese culture and preserving its history.
3. Must be recommended by a principal, teacher, counselor or CHCP Board member as being responsible and trustworthy.
4. Must have a desire to be creative in bringing innovative ideas to enhance the Museum's exhibit and collections and/or the SDCAP program activities.

5. Must be mature and able to work with visitors and volunteers of all ages.
6. Bilingual skills desired but not necessary.

Opportunities:

1. Fulfill community service requirements and/or President's Volunteer Service Award (PVSA).
2. For Parent Team Volunteers: a chance for parents to work alongside their children. This also helps provide the student's transportation needs. Parent volunteer time is flexible, to be arranged with SDCAP Chair.
3. Meet other young people who have similar interests.
4. Help at weekend Museum events for families.
5. Assist in leading tours through the Museum and being a Museum gallery guide.
6. Learn and try new things.
7. Assist with art and craft activities during special programs.
8. Design and implement special activities that would enhance the Museum experience especially for peer groups and younger students.
9. Provide a significant role model to children and young adults.
10. Hands-on experiences to create or assist with Chinese and Chinese American historical and/or cultural activities.
11. Leadership opportunities within cultural or historical activities/projects and SDCAP communications role.

Requirements:

1. Willingness to work a flexible schedule, especially on weekends. Willing to commit to a **minimum of 20 hours during the school year (June to May)**. At least **10 hours (2 weekend days of choice) are required as student docents at the CAHM** during any regularly scheduled Saturday from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The remaining 10 or more hours can be for CAHM or helping out at **CHCP weekend (Saturday or Sunday) special events or activities**. Special events or activities may be at History Park or other site location.
2. **Attend** October SDCAP Orientation / Training Class at History Park, **or make prior arrangements for make up** with SDCAP Chair.
3. Enthusiasm for the Museum and its mission of inspiring wonder, discovery, and responsibility about Chinese/Chinese American culture and history and the Museum's displays. This includes learning enough about the Museum to be able to assist in giving tours, explaining exhibits and/or answering commonly asked questions by visitors.
4. Desire to develop new skills and gain new knowledge.
5. Desire and commitment to work as part of a team.
6. Be willing to be interviewed and approved by CHCP's representative(s) of the Board of Directors.
7. **Complete the volunteer application and submit with Letter of Recommendation** from principal, teacher, counselor, or adult leader of a program (church, club, recognized organization, etc.).
8. Demonstrate good grooming and professional behavior serving as Student Docent Cultural Ambassador.

For Further Information: Contact SDCAP Chair/CHCP Director Brenda Wong (brenda.wong@chcp.org), (H) 408-946-4015, (C) 408-228-2424.

The entrance to History Park at Kelley Park is located at 635 Phelan Ave./Senter Road in San Jose. VTA Bus line 73 stops at Senter Rd. and Phelan Ave., half a block from the History Park entrance.