



Kung Hay Fat Choy ! Year of the Tiger !!



February Field Trip - Chinese Lunar New Year Celebration

Chinese New Year is the most celebrated festivity in the Chinese calendar. The New Year falls on Sunday 2/14/2010, Valentine's Day. The year 4078 will be the year of the Tiger, a ferocious year with plenty of big ups and downs especially for people born under the Zodiac of the Tiger - 1926, 1938, 1950, 1962, 1974, 1986, 1998. They are forces hard to keep up. The year may look good on the outside, but the economy and life quality still leave plenty to be desired. We will make it through the year of the Tiger working together.

Chinese New Year celebration is very colorful both visually in decorations, and activities in parades and performing arts, all signifying new time and fresh energy. The annual China Town Parade (2/21/10 this year) is great to watch but usually extremely crowded making photography not only difficult but also dangerous. The best day to capture the colors and activities is on Chinese New Year day - Sunday, 2/14/10, when pedestrians can stroll down the major streets in China Town with no worry of traffic and get up-close and " personal " with the Lion Dance performers. Chinese children in their traditional colorful new year costumes are great subjects for photography.

I will be leading a field trip to China Town on Chinese New Year's day. We will meet at StarBucks Coffee (near corner of Center and Canal street) at 10:00am. Members wish to come are requested to e-mail me with their cell phone numbers on/before Wed, 2/10/2010. This helps me to make lunch arrangement, and get connected in the event that we are separated in the crowd.

The itinerary is as follows :

10:00am Meet up at StarBucks Coffee
10:15am Start out
10:30am Buddhist or Toaist Temple or both
11:00am Street shooting
12:00pm Lunch - Chinese Dim-Sum
1:00pm Street shooting
3:00pm Field trip ends. Members can stay on to do more shooting on their own.

See photo gallery of Chinese New Year 2008 - 2009 :

Caution : When you are going to crowded places, it is best to leave you money and valuables at home. Travel light and bring only the essentials, and dress appropriately for the weather. The objective is to enjoy the festivity. Hope to see many of you there.

Sincerely,
Albert Tang
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