

"We Celebrate Our Heritage" commemorates the diverse and rich culture of El Paso, honoring a different culture each year. In May 1990, President Bush extended and designated the month of May as Asian Pacific American Heritage Month to coincide with the anniversary of the completion of the transcontinental railroad, which was completed primarily by Chinese immigrants. Of all Asian cultures, the Chinese have been in El Paso the longest, with roots dating back to the 1800's. Join us in May as "We Celebrate Our Heritage-China".

<u>Saturday, May 2nd – 1:30 p.m.</u>

"Kick Off Celebration"

The 'El Paso' Ai-Hwa Chinese School presents special performances by their students including the 金牛迎 春 (Lion Dance), 苗族舞 (Miao Dance), 迎新年 (Cheering the New Year), 八角巾 (Chinese Handkerchief Dance), 飄扇一彩花迎春 (Spring Blossoms Dance). Performances will be on the back stage between the El Paso Public Library and the El Paso Museum of History.

And after the performance enjoy special Chinese desserts served inside the Museum lobby. Look for calligraphers who will be on hand to write your child's name in Chinese on a special bookmark. Free and open to the public.

Saturday, May 9th - 2:00 p.m.

"History of the Chinese in El Paso"

Enjoy a historical perspective on Chinese contributions to El Paso since 1881, by Professor Anna Fahy from El Paso Community College. Professor Fahy's interactive and interesting session will cover important topics such as immigration, cultural relations and Aslan influences in El Paso today. Seminar room at the El Paso Museum of History. Free and open to the public.

<u>Saturday, May 16th - 2:00 p.m.</u>

"A Family's Story: The Chew Legacy"

Join us for a look back through the history of one of El Paso's most prominent Chinese families. Chief Justice David Wellington Chew, sister Judge Linda Chew and sister Patricia Chew will talk about their family's story and arrival in El Paso. Reminisce over family photos and artifacts from China, including their great grandmother's binding shoes and a wedding headdress! Seminar room at the El Paso Museum of History. Free and open to the public.

Throughout May

The El Paso Museum of History will display Chinese artifacts found d**uring** an archaeological dig at the Cortez Building. The exhibit will include domestic bowls and teapots as well as photographs and personal items from families in the area.

Stay tuned to City 15 (the city's own cable Channel 15) for a special segment on "We Celebrate Our Heritage". Hear from Martin Yee, story teller and more from the Chew family and Professor Fahy on Chinese contributions. Love Your Culture, El Pasol