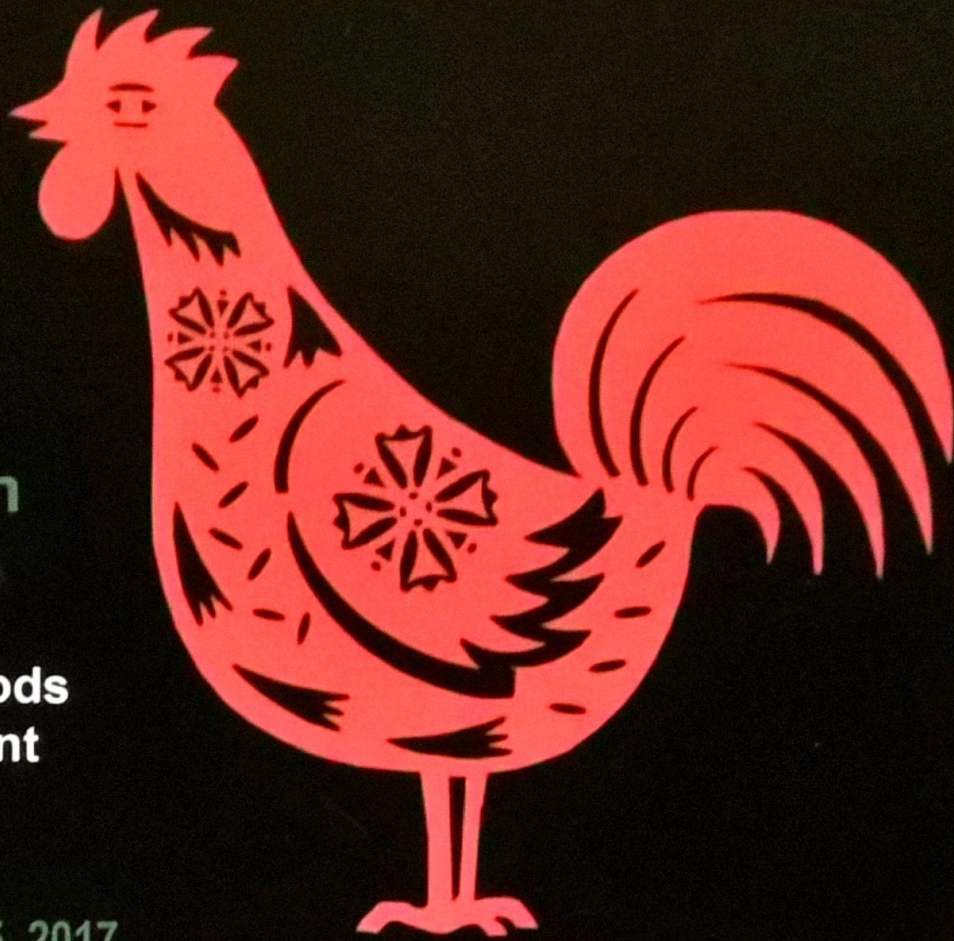


CNYC of Stockton Presents the 39th Annual  
**Chinese New Year  
Celebration**



**Family Fun**

- Lion Dances
- Food
- Chinese Goods
- Entertainment
- Kid's Zone

Sunday, March 5, 2017

Parade - Weber Point Events Center

Festival - Stockton Civic Auditorium

[www.stocktoncnyc.org](http://www.stocktoncnyc.org)

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**4715**

**Year of the Rooster**



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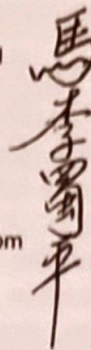
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# SYLVIA SIN SHING WONG - 2017 GRAND MARSHAL AND CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

二零一七年  
最傑出公民及遊行總指揮  
黃何善勝女士



Sylvia Sin Shing Wong was born in Hong Kong and raised by her marginally educated mother, as her father passed away when she was four years old. She graduated from the government elementary and high school in Hong Kong while helping her mother run a small business after school. After passing the Hong Kong High School public examination with flying colors, she attended the Grantham

Teacher Training College. Upon her graduation, she was assigned to teach at a government elementary school. Sylvia aspired to further her education, so she studied on her own and passed all the lower six and upper six (equivalent to grades 12 and 13 in the USA) curricula which qualified her to apply to the universities. Her outstanding grades qualified her to receive letters of acceptance from many universities in China, Canada and the United States. She chose to attend McMaster in Canada, where she completed her BA in Psychology and Sociology in three years. During these years of intensive study, she met and dated Henry Wong. After receiving her BA, they were married. After their honeymoon, her thirst for knowledge saw her attending summer courses to elevate her teaching certificate to a high school teaching certificate.

She pursued her Master's Degree of Library Science from the State University of New York regrettably having to leave her husband in Canada as Henry was preparing for his entrance into medical school. Fortunately, it only took Sylvia one year to complete her Master's degree with high honors. She was employed as a school librarian in Lancaster, New York. It wasn't easy for her or Henry having to live separately in two different countries!

So Sylvia kept busy in her career and educational pursuits. She took the position as chief of the periodicals department at the McMaster University Health Science Library. While challenging, she was not satisfied and began studies in medical librarianship. Her resolve merited her receiving a certification as a medical librarian, even before the head librarian.

After completing his MD, Henry moved to Los Angeles to do his internship and residency. Before she could join him, Sylvia remained in Canada to help her mother and sister's family settle down after sponsoring their immigration. She then stayed home to raise their three sons. When Henry completed his specialty board certification, they moved to Stock-

ton. Besides being a busy housewife and mother, Sylvia managed their rental properties which included maintenance and repair work. At this time, she also studied for her CPA exam, agent's license and a broker's license in real estate.

When their oldest son became 13, the restless Sylvia persuaded her husband to allow her to take on a "part-time job" at Coldwell Banker Realty. There she persuaded her company manager to allow her to not attend the company's required two week full-time out of town training because of her young sons. What she originally intended to be a part-time job turned out to be more than a 40 hour per week career.

After only working for three months, Sylvia became the Agent of the Month. She continued taking the title every month, except when enjoying the company awarded vacations in Mexico. She was the top listing and top selling agent in northern California for Coldwell Banker. In February 1990, she was honored at the Moscone Convention Center emceed by Billy Crystal, receiving the Worldwide Number One Sales Associate for obtaining the most closed buyer controlled sales, the most closed listings and the most closed escrows among all her Coldwell Banker peers of 45,000 agents and 4000 offices worldwide, including Canada and Puerto Rico. She really put Stockton on the map! In 2008, she quit Coldwell Banker to open her own Sylvia Wong Realty and refused to retire against family requests.

As part of their long-time and continuing contributions to society, Sylvia and her husband have donated to the Confucius Church, Jene Wah, the Chinese Cemetery, St. Mary's Dining Room, the Cancer Society, the United Nations Children's Fund and McMaster University. They have established separate Wong Endowment Funds supporting many annual scholarships: the Chinese Benevolent Association Chinese School, Chinese Cultural Society of Stockton, an annual bursary at McMaster's Medical School and four nursing scholarships at San Joaquin Delta College. In 2016, the Wongs also donated a house to San Joaquin Delta College. In addition, they sponsor an annual Wongs Forum in Medicine at McMaster University in Canada.

To express their respect for nurses, they sponsor an annual Henry and Sylvia Wong continuing education forum for nurses in Stockton. St. Joseph's Medical Center designated a Sylvia Wong Linear Accelerator Room and the Henry and Sylvia Wong Cancer Center Lobby in honor of their support.

Their reach is not limited to Stockton. They also fund multiple scholarships at Tsinghua University in Beijing, China. In recognition, Tsinghua University named a College of Humanity Building, the Henry Wong Building.

The Chinese Cultural Society of Stockton is grateful for Sylvia's local and global contributions and proudly award her the title of 2017 Grand Marshal and Citizen of the Year.