
HMONG CULTURAL CENTER 2006 ANNUAL REPORT



HMONG CULTURAL CENTER
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Organizational Website: www.hmongcenter.org
Multicultural Education Website: www.learnaboutthmong.com

HMONG CULTURAL CENTER MISSION AND PROGRAMS

Established in 1992, Hmong Cultural Center's Mission is to promote the personal development of children, youth, and adults through Hmong cultural education while providing resources that enhance cross-cultural awareness and understanding between Hmong and Non-Hmong persons.

Multicultural Education and Race Relations Outreach Programs to Promote Cross-Cultural Understanding Between Hmong and non-Hmong

Hmong Resource Center: The Hmong Resource Center is a heavily utilized program that provides community outreach activities related to multicultural education for the purposes of promoting positive race relations in the Minneapolis-St. Paul community. Hundreds of individual college and secondary school students and community members such as educators and health and medical professionals use the Resource Center each year to find information about the Hmong. The Resource Center also publishes a Hmong Studies scholarly journal and compiles and disseminates its own Hmong-related social science research in relation to important socioeconomic and social justice issues. All of these activities are intended to improve understanding and group relations between Hmong and non-Hmong while also improving the ability of core institutions in the mainstream society to serve Hmong-Americans in a culturally competent manner.

Building Bridges

Teaching about the Hmong in Our Communities Program: To respond to the need for community education about the Hmong refugee experience, Hmong refugees from Wat Thamkrabok and Hmong contributions to Minnesota and the United States, the Hmong Cultural Center's Building Bridges race relations outreach program provides comprehensive and interactive multicultural education presentations about the Hmong to groups in the Twin Cities community, Greater Minnesota and Wisconsin. The Building Bridges program is intended to promote dialogue and understanding and reduce stereotypes that divide our communities.

Adult Education and Literacy Programs to promote the personal development and self-sufficiency of Hmong adults in American Society

Citizenship Program: This program prepares adults for their citizenship exams by teaching them about American laws, history and government while tutoring them for their citizenship interviews.

ESL Program: This program teaches adults Basic English vocabulary and grammar as well as work-force skills such as computer keyboarding.

Educational Programs to promote the personal development, self-esteem, and social skills of Children, Youth and Adults

Qeej Musical Instrument and Dance Programs: The Qeej after-school program teaches children and youth, aged 6 to 18, how to play the Qeej instrument, traditional Qeej songs, and how to perform Qeej dances. The Qeej instrument is an important cultural identifier for the Hmong people and plays an intrinsic role in Hmong funerals. This program helps reconnect children and youth to the culture of their parents. The Qeej program also includes guest speakers on important youth issues and academic enrichment activities for children and youth. The dance program provides instruction to children and youth in traditional Hmong and Asian dances.

Hmong Men's Circle:

The Hmong Men's Circle provides culturally-specific guest speakers, cultural education, and field trips to promote positive social development for Hmong male youth.

Hmoob Kab Lis Kev Cai (Cultural Customs): This 12 year old program teaches adults and youth traditional songs and rituals associated with Mej Koob (the traditional Hmong Marriage Ceremony) and Kev Pam Tuag (Funeral Customs) in order to help ensure the survival of Hmong culture and tradition.

Adult Basic Education in 2006 Stats

Adult Basic Education Classes:

Total number of students: 181

Men: 43%

Women: 59%

Forty-Six percent of Hmong Cultural Center's Adult Basic Education Students moved up a level in testing from May 1, 2005 to April 30, 2006.

Traditional Education in 2006 Stats

Marriage (Meej Koob) Ceremony Class:

Total number of students: 48

Male: 100%

Female: 0%

Funeral (Kav Xwm thiab Txiv Xaiv) Ceremony Class:

Total number of students: 35

Male: 100%

Female: 0%

Qeej Class:

Total number of students: 35

Male: 94%

Female: 6%

Dance Class:

Total number of students: 30

Male: 13%

Female: 87%

Hmong Men's Circle in 2006 Stats:

Total number of participant: 10

Male: 100%

Female: 0%

Volunteers with Adult Basic Education and the Hmong Resource Center Stats

Total number of volunteers in 2006: 21

Male: 57%

Female: 43%

Multicultural Education at the Hmong Resource Center in 2006

The Hmong Resource Center is a primary provider of multicultural education resources and race relations outreach activities related to the Hmong people and to groups in the Twin Cities area and the Upper Midwest. The Hmong Cultural Center serves as the Hmong representative organization on the Council of Advisors of Tolerance Minnesota.

2006 Hmong Resource Center User Stats from January 1, 2006 to December 31, 2006

Total number of visitors: 762

% of Hmong: 39%

% of Non-Hmong: 61%

Over the age of 18: 83%

Under the age of 18: 17%

Local resident: 81%

Non-local resident: 19%

Academic or User (Affiliate with College or University): 27%

Number of Hmong Resource Center Visitors Affiliated with Universities or Colleges 1/01/06-12/31/06

Minnesota-Based

Augsburg College - 4

Carlton College - 1

College of Scholastica - 22

Concordia University Saint Paul- 1

Hamline University - 12

Macalester College - 2

Saint Cloud State University - 3

Saint Paul College - 1

University of Minnesota - 68

Bethel University - 5

Century College - 5

College of Saint Catherine - 3

Gustavus Adolphus College - 3

Hennepin Community College - 1

Metropolitan State University - 27

Saint Olaf College - 3

Saint Mary University of Minnesota - 1

University of Saint Thomas - 12

Other States

Oregon State University - 1

Stanford University - 2

University of Phoenix - 2

University of Wisconsin Milwaukee - 4

University of Wisconsin Stout - 11

San Diego State University - 1

University of New York - 1

University of the Pacific - 2

University of Wisconsin Madison - 1

Foreign-Based

Amsterdam University, Holland - 2

Hitotsubashi University, Japan - 2

Guizhou University, China - 2

University of Passau, Germany - 1

In addition, more than 700 persons attended the Building Bridges Multicultural Education Presentations about the Hmong Culture and History from the Hmong Cultural Center in 2006. The presentation was also given through the state of Minnesota and in Wisconsin. The majority of these participants in the presentation were Educators, Health Care Workers, or in the Social Services field. The entire Building Bridges program curriculum may be viewed online at www.learnabouthmong.com in the "Hmong 101presentation" section.

SCENES FROM HMONG CULTURAL CENTER



A tutor worked with an ESL student in the late afternoon class.



An Adult refugee student who arrived from Wat Thamkrabok, Thailand studies English in an Evening English as a Second Language Class at the Hmong Cultural Center.

SCENES FROM HMONG CULTURAL CENTER



Jonny Lee instructs a Beginner Qeej Student to play the traditional Hmong instrument.



Mexai Xiong instructs the more advance students in the Advance Qeej Class.

SCENES FROM HMONG CULTURAL CENTER



Qeej students received recognition.



Graduates of Mej Koob Marriage Ceremony Training Program are recognized along with their teacher Tougeu Leepalao.

SCENES FROM HMONG CULTURAL CENTER



Hmong Cultural Center Dancers at the 2006 Hmong Resource Fair. The Hmong Resource Fair was held on Saturday, October. 21, 2006 from 10am till 2pm at Arlington Sr. High School in St. Paul, MN. It was a tremendous success.



Hmong Cultural Center Dancers Performed at the Hmong Cultural Center Annual Picnic on June 23, 2006 at Battle Creek Regional Park, Maplewood, MN.

HMONG CULTURAL CENTER BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Sean Lee, (Applications Consultant, U.S. Bank), Board Chair

Dao Xiong, (Southeast Asian Parent Advisor, PACER,) Vice Chair

Khue Yang, (Assistant Vice President, University Bank), Treasurer

**Gale Mason-Chagil, PhD, (Cultural Inquiry Consulting
and Adjunct Professor, Metropolitan State University), Secretary**

**Gerald Fry, PhD, (Professor and Graduate Chair, Department of
Educational Administration, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities)**

Shoua Sue Lee (Cultural Advisor to the Board)

Nao Thao, (Staff, Saint Paul Schools)

Kin Vang (Capital Tax Consulting)

HMONG CULTURAL CENTER STAFF

Txong Pao Lee, Executive Director

Mark E. Pfeifer, PhD, Advisor to Hmong Cultural Center Staff and Board

Tougeu Leepalao, Teacher and Cultural Consultant

Nou Vang, Receptionist

Kao Neng Lee, Adult Basic Education Programs Coordinator

Thai Vang, Adult Basic Education Instructor

Xiong Pao Lee, Hmong Men's Circle/Building Bridges and Library

Xai Lor, Adult ESL Instructor and Librarian

Ray Murray, Volunteer Librarian

Nara Chea, Adult ESL and Citizenship Instructor

Jonny Lee, Qeej Program Mentor

Jonny Vang, Qeej Program Mentor

Kong Meng Lee, Qeej Program Mentor

Mexai Xiong, Qeej Program Mentor

Blia Lee, Dance Instructor

**HMONG CULTURAL CENTER, INC. FINANCIAL STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2006**

INCOME (\$)	<u>Total (\$)</u>
Grants-government	\$163,451
Donations and Foundation Grants	\$140,683
Interest Income	\$111
Misc. Revenue	\$3,247
TOTAL INCOME (\$)	\$307,492
EXPENSES (\$)	
Program Expenses	\$235,300
Management and General	\$27,853
Fundraising	\$20,988
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$284,141
NET INCOME	\$23,351

The 2006 Hmong Cultural Center fundraising banquet was held at FoodSmart Restaurant in Saint Paul on Sunday, October 28. It was a great success. Almost \$4,000 was raised from the community to support the cultural education programs (Qeej, Dance, and Marriage and Funeral Ceremony Instruction) at Hmong Cultural Center in 2007.



Individual Financial Contributors to the 2006 Hmong Cultural Center Fundraising Banquet Included:

American Best Care Services Corp	Asian Supermarket (Cha Fong Lee)
Axis Home Health Care, INC	Bic Ngo
Bruce Downing and Friend	Capital Tax Consulting (Kin Vang)
Chao R. Lee	Chong Tong Leepalao
Dao Xiong (Board Member)	Dedicated Home Health Care, LLC
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Fong Lor and Nao Thao	Halee Vang
Her Vang	Josie Tang Moua
Kalue Her	Kao Lee
Kari Noble	Kay Anderson Assoc. INC
Kazoua S. Kong-Thao	Khue K. Yang and Cyndy Hang
Kim Vang	Li Pei Xiong and See Vang
Louise T. Covert	Lylao Lypalao
Mai Vang and Tou Long Lor	Mark Pfeifer
May Ka Leepalao	Maydeu Ly
Primary Care Chiropractic Clinic P.A	Raymond L. Murray
Ron and Anne Mazurowski	Sean Lee
Self Retire INC	Shoua C. Moua
Size Matters Fashion Shop LLC	Tou Lee
Tougeu Leepalao	Txong Pao Lee and Hlee X. Lee
Vatsua Shoua Vang	Wa Leng Vue and Kao Neng Lee
Wangsue B. and Yangmeelo B. Lee	Xai S. Lor
Xiong Pao Lee and See Lee	Yia Leepalao
Mai Vang	

Hmong Cultural Center would also like to acknowledge other individuals who contributed to the banquet but are not named on this list.

**2006 Corporate, Governmental, and Foundation Supporters of
Hmong Cultural Center's Adult Education, and Multicultural Education Programs**



Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota Foundation
www.bluecrossmn.com/

Patrick and Aimee Butler Family Foundation
www.butlerfamilyfoundation.org/

Saint Paul Foundation
www.saintpaulfoundation.org/

F.R. Bigelow Foundation
www.frbigelow.org/

Saint Paul Travelers Foundation
www.travelers.com/

Otto Bremer Foundation
www.ottobremer.org/

Freeman Foundation

McKnight Foundation
www.mcknight.org/

Marbrook Foundation
www.marbrookfoundation.org/

Metropolitan Regional Art Council through an appropriation of the Minnesota State Legislature
www.mrac.org

National Endowment for the Arts
www.nea.gov

COMPAS/Mcknight Community Art Program
www.compas.org

Saint Paul Community Literacy Consortium
www.spclc.org

Please support our Corporate Funders - Saint Paul Travelers, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of MN and Bremer Bank with your patronage of their products and services.

Learn about Hmong culture, history and folk arts by visiting the center's educational website at www.learnabouthmong.com
