

HMONG CULTURAL CENTER 2025 ANNUAL REPORT

2025 Hmong Cultural Center Program Accomplishments

Adult Basic Education Program (Citizenship, ESL and Occupational English Classes for Adults)
193 ESL and Citizenship students were served with 19,419 hours of instruction in 2025

Qeej Musical Instrument Program

50 students served with instruction in the Hmong Qeej instrument and Qeej songs played in the traditional Hmong funeral ceremony

Wedding and Funeral Songs Program

30 students served with instruction in traditional Hmong Wedding and Funeral Songs

Museum and Library Visitors

From January 1 to December 31, 2025:

Physical Visitors

1,411 Total Physical Visitors toured the Museum or used the Library

Hmong 101 Program

Sample of Groups Served with educational information about Hmong culture and history:

UMN School of Public Health
Minneapolis Public Schools Equity Team
Washington Magnet Tech High School Hmong Club
District 287 Staff In-service (Plymouth, MN)



Hmong Cultural Center
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Saint Paul, MN 55103
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651-917-9937

***Cultural Arts Education, Multicultural Education,
Adult Basic Education***

It is the mission of the Hmong Cultural Center to promote the personal development of children, youth, and adults through education while providing resources that enhance cross-cultural awareness and understanding.

HMONG CULTURAL CENTER

Hmong Cultural Center Programs

Adult Basic Education Program - The Adult Basic Education Programs at Hmong Cultural Center include English as a Second Language (ESL) Classes, Occupational English Classes, Job Counseling Services and Citizenship Classes. Hmong Cultural Center is a member of the Saint Paul Community Literacy Consortium. Citizenship and some ESL classes are available online.

Hmong Wedding and Funeral Songs Program - This 33 year old program at Hmong Cultural Center teaches adults and youth traditional orally recited songs and procedures associated with MeejKoob (the traditional Hmong Marriage Ceremony) and Kev PamTuag (Funeral Ceremony) in order to help ensure the survival of Hmong culture and traditions.

Qeej Musical Instrument Program - The popular afterschool Qeej classes at Hmong Cultural Center teach students in the art of the Qeej - a traditional instrument widely known as a cultural symbol of Hmong identity. Lessons include playing and dancing with the Qeej instrument.

Hmong Resource Center Library - The collections of the Hmong Resource Center library include more than 800 Hmong-related books, 760 Hmong-related theses and dissertations, more than 1000 Hmong-related academic journal articles and over 3,500 Hmong-related newspaper articles. The library likely has the largest collection of Hmong-related theses and dissertations and journal articles of any institution in the United States. The library also hosts a growing virtual library collection on the internet (www.hmonglibrary.org)

Museum - The Hmong Cultural Center Storefront Museum provides a growing selection of interactive exhibits and interpretive materials that teach visitors about Hmong culture and history with an emphasis on the experiences of Hmong Minnesotans and the rich Hmong folk arts tradition. Exhibits include 35 museum-quality display panels, 6 interactive stations and numerous display cases of Hmong cultural objects along with an online exhibit (www.hmonghistorycenter.org)

Hmong 101 Program - To respond to the need for community education about the Hmong experience, Hmong history and culture and Hmong American contributions to the U.S., the Hmong Cultural Center provides comprehensive and interactive and online presentations about the Hmong to groups in Minnesota, the Upper Midwest and the entire U.S. (www.hmong101.com)

MESSAGE FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TXONGPAO LEE

Dear Community:

2025 was a good year for Hmong Cultural Center!

Our Adult Basic Education programs (ESL and Citizenship) continued to serve many Hmong newcomers from Vietnam, Laos and Thailand as well as immigrants and refugees from many other communities. The current need for Citizenship education and resources is particularly strong due to recent changes made by the federal government.

Our storefront museum served almost 1,500 visitors. This included more than 60 schools, churches and other youth groups visiting for tours. These visitors came not only from Minnesota but also several communities in Wisconsin and even further afield.

Our annual Qeej and Hmong Arts Festival, unique in the United States, also continued to grow to its biggest event yet held in 2025 at Union Depot in downtown St. Paul. More than 2000 persons attended the 2025 festival.

In 2025, we continued to improve our space on University Avenue to better serve the community, installing new carpeting in our offices and upstairs exhibit space.

We would like to thank you all of you for your ongoing support of Hmong Cultural Center!

Txongpao Lee, Executive Director

**HMONG CULTURAL CENTER, INC. FINANCIAL STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2025**

INCOME	Total (\$)
Grants-government	\$305,822
Donations, Private Grants	\$155,069
Interest	3
Museum Income	\$12,169
TOTAL INCOME AND SUPPORT	\$ 473,063
EXPENSES	
Payroll	270,666
Supplies	6,013
Rent Maintenance	74,899
Insurance	7,682
Contract Services	9,325
Museum Supplies	4,162
Equipment	5,603
Qeej Festival	56,624
Travel/Transportation	6,408
Community Outreach	1,557
Other Expenses	1,376
Staff and Board Development	7,500
Depreciation	25,831
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$499,495
NET INCOME	\$26,432

HMONG CULTURAL CENTER MAJOR PROGRAM EXPENSES 2025

Adult Basic Education	\$220,203
Museum and Library	\$136,816
Hmong Cultural Arts Education Program	\$67,982

BALANCE SHEET

Total Liabilities	\$15,333
Total Current Liabilities	\$15,333
Total Assets	\$338,421
Net Assets or Fund Balances	\$338,421

Copies of the organization's most recent audit and Hmong Cultural Center's Form 990 are available on the organizational website at www.hmongcc.org

**2025 Corporate, Governmental, and Foundation Supporters of
Hmong Cultural Center's Programs**

American Online Giving Foundation

City of St. Paul Cultural Star Program

F.R. Bigelow Foundation

Freeman Foundation

The McKnight Foundation

Minnesota Department of Education

Minnesota Department of Administration. This activity is funded, in part, by the arts and cultural heritage fund as appropriated by the Minnesota State Legislature with money from the Legacy Amendment vote of the people of Minnesota on November 4, 2008.

National Endowment for the Arts

Premier Bank, Maplewood, MN

Saint Paul Community Literacy Consortium

Saint Paul Foundation



ESL Student July 4, 2025 Celebration Party

HMONG CULTURAL CENTER, INC. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Shuly Her, Chair

Kamai Xiong, Vice- Chair

Chad Lee, Treasurer

Dr. Maiyia Kasouaher, Secretary

Andrew Kobayashi Deckrow

HMONG CULTURAL CENTER STAFF

Txongpao Lee, Executive Director

Dr. Mark Pfeifer, Director of Programs

Thomas Delano, Adult Basic Education Instructor

Sonja Ihlenfeldt, Adult Basic Education Instructor

Gao Yang, Adult Basic Education Instructor

Coconut Bay, Driver

Tong Her, Cultural Programs Instructor

Soua Sou Lee, Cultural Programs Instructor



The 2025 Qeej and Hmong Arts Festival brought a big crowd to Union Depot in Saint Paul.



HCC's Citizenship and ESL Classes visited with Senator Susan Pha at the State Capitol in June 2025



The 2025 Qeej and Hmong Arts Festival was held at Union Depot in downtown St. Paul.. Teacher Neng Thao shows young people how to make a Hmong crossbow.