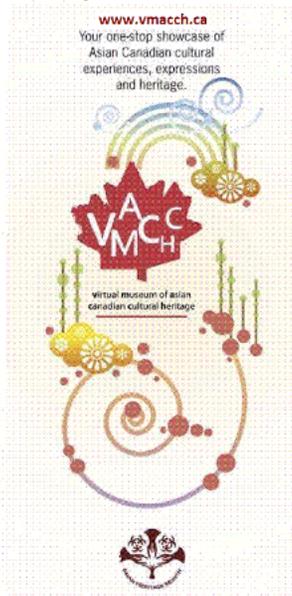


# ASIAN HERITAGE MONTH FESTIVAL 2021

... showcasing cultural expressions and  
experiences of Asian Canadians



Please visit

<http://www.asian-heritage-month.org>

And <http://www.vmacch.ca> for details



Canadian Foundation for  
Asian Culture (Central  
Ontario) Inc.



WE ARTISTS' GROUP



Fete Chinese

ASIAN HERITAGE MONTH FESTIVAL 2021  
PRESENTED BY TORONTO PUBLIC LIBRARY AND  
CANADIAN FOUNDATION FOR ASIAN CULTURE (CENTRAL ONTARIO) INC.

## LEO CHAN: "ONCE UPON A TIME IN CHINATOWN" VIRTUAL TALK AT TORONTO PUBLIC LIBRARY



Welcome and Opening Remarks:

Mr. Justin Poy, Honourary Patron, Asian Heritage Month-CFACI

Mr. Gregory McCormick, Toronto Public Library

*In this lively one hour event, a panel of celebrated cultural leaders and award winning artists come together to discuss how they've navigated and succeeded in the world of performing arts. Moderator Jasmine Chen will be asking Writer/Director/Musician Romeo Candido, Choreographer/OAYSIS Studios Founder Ming-Bo Lam, and Artistic Leader/Theatre Artist Miriam Fernandes about their journeys in building their own platforms and amplifying the voices of their communities. They will share their insights and experiences in how resilience has enabled them to adapt, particularly during the pandemic, which has threatened the survival of the performing arts industry.*

WEDNESDAY MAY 26 | 7 PM EDT BY ZOOM

FREE ADMISSION: Please register at

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/once-upon-a-time-in-chinatown-by-professor-chef-leo-chan-at-tpl-platform-tickets-154239577729>

Zoom link:

<https://www.crowdcast.io/e/tplleoChan/register>

For more information, please visit <http://www.vmacch.ca>  
or <http://www.asian-heritage-month.org>

# About the Talk

---

Toronto not only has some of the most diverse cultures and food in the world, its Chinese community itself is one of the most diverse outside of China, representing many dialects and regions of Mainland China, each with their own distinct approach to cuisine. In this special Asian Heritage Month presentation, celebrated Chef and Professor, Leo Chan, will tell the story of how Chinese food in Toronto became so complex and varied. Starting with Sing Tom's Cafe (founded: 1901), Toronto's first Chinese eatery at the intersection of Bay and Queen to the change in tastes and fashion in favour of smaller diners and Chop Suey houses with limited seating. Finally to the "First Golden Era" when the opening of Nanking in 1947 and Lichee Garden in 1948 changed the profile of Chinese restaurants and was the turning point in the history of Chinese dining. They were the first two of the 'Big Four' upscale restaurants. The other two were Sai Woo opened in 1953 and Kwong Chow in 1959. This period revolutionized Chinese cuisine in Canada.

Dedicated to the thousands of ordinary men and women working in the food industry in Toronto, Professor Chan walks us through the history of Chinese influence on key parts of Canada's largest city when regional cuisines of China became more readily accessible, available and mainstream.

## **About Professor Chef Leo Chan:**

Born in Macau and raised in Hong Kong, Professor Chef Leo Chan was educated at York, Ryerson and Cornell (Ithaca, New York). He taught at George Brown and Humber Colleges.

Leo is the Co-Founder of the Cambridge Food and Wine Society of Canada, and a member of the 8 Precious Pearls Research Group for Chinese food history in Toronto. He also held senior management positions in hotel and restaurant chains in Canada and the U.S..