

The Minnesota China Friendship Garden Society Advisory Committees

MCFGS CHINESE ADVISORY COMMITTEE



Chair

Chen Zhou is Chair of the MCFGS Chinese Advisory Committee and current Vice President of MCFGS. See complete bio above.



Advisor Fiona (Fangyu) Kan moved to Minnesota from China in 2001. She got a Bachelor degree in English from Beijing Foreign Studies University when she was in China. She received master degrees in both sociology and biostatistics from the University of Minnesota. The unique background of liberal arts, social science and STEM shaped her passion for cultural exchange, and developed her critical thinking and problem solving skills using science and technology. Currently, she is a Sr. Statistics Manager at edtronic. In her spare time, she is active in the Chinese community and local community. She has served as a board member in non-profit organizations such as Meadow Ridge Elementary School and Elm Creek Crossing Homeowners Association. She also served as a PTO board member at Minnesota Yucai Chinese School. Most recently, she, together with some Chinese friends, organized a grassroots fundraising campaign in the Chinese community for St. Paul-Changsha China Friendship Garden project.



Advisor Jing Li has been active in promoting Chinese culture and cultivate US-China people's friendship in schools and communities for many years. She has led and organized International Night events in an elementary school for three years, serviced a Chinese summer camp five years, and served as board members in local Chinese school and dance studio several years in the past. In the year of 2020 and 2021, she has supported numerous events in fighting the pandemic and bridging understanding between US and Chinese people. She is also an environment protection activist and has raised awareness in her community by sharing, teaching, and leading for many years. In 2018, touched by Linda's story, she and several Chinese volunteers started spreading words about the Chinese Friendship Garden to the local Chinese community, and helped this project in all aspects: promotion, donation, event planning, garden design, volunteering etc. In her leisure time, she enjoys traditional Chinese dance, gardening, and outdoor.



Advisor Christina Deng Morrison has been a MCFGS Chinese Advisory Committee member since 2017 and joined the MCFGS Board in 2021. See complete bio above.



Advisor Yudong Shen was born in Northeast China. He artistic abilities at a young age and that started his pursuit of art as a hobby and later career. He went to art school and his works have shown in Japan, Hong Kong and the United States. His Chinese Ink painting have won national awards in both China and the U.S. He was a judge for the national Sumi-e Society of America Annual show and runs workshops for Chinese Art lovers all over the state. He was honored to be a judge for the Minnesota State Fair Fine Art Exhibition and has won numerous awards over the years. His works were collected by various art collectors and by the Beijing National Museum. Believing art is for everyone, he founded his MeiLin Art studio in Minnesota, teaching painting and drawing. Besides art, Yudong has been very much involved in the Chinese community, and has supported many charities, culture, and networking events. His good rapport with many community organizations also brings valuable asset in his commitment of serving the community.



Advisor Ping Wang holds a Ph.D. of Microbiology. He was a full professor of Huazhong Agricultural University, editorial board member of Acta Pedologica Sinica, Standing Director of Soil Science Society of China, and Vice president of Micro-Ecology Society of Hubei Province. Currently, he serves as an editorial board member of Acta Microbiologica Sinica, President of Chinese American Association of Minnesota, President of Hunan Folks Association of Minnesota, Committee chair of the Troop 9416 of Boy Scout of America; and is involved in the visa and passport services for Minnesota Chinese community.



Advisor Tony (Gaoxiang) Yang 杨高亭 and his family are originally from Kunming, China. He studied Marketing and professional leadership at University of Minnesota. He has lived in the United States for over 9 years and has over 8 years of global market and business management experience from global leading brands such as Compass Group & Alibaba Group. His adventurous personality allowed him to find his true passion and became a serial entrepreneur after leaving the corporate world. He is the founder of multiple companies including Legendary Spice, Lao Sze Chuan Minneapolis, SynoPay, and Shenzhen Information Technology Co. Outside of work, he enjoys participation in community activities, and has a strong connection with the student organization.



Advisor Melody (Shu) Zhou holds a Master of Business, University of Western Sydney, Australia, Master of Business Administration and IT, Schiller International University. Currently, she is the Principal of Minnesota International Chinese School, President of CIAC Travel, Executive Director of Chinese Community Center, Director of Shandong Folks Association and board member of USCPFA MN chapter. She has coordinated many large-scale travel groups and community cultural activities, including the annual Minnesota Spring Festival and numerous Passage to China event at the Mall of America.

	<p>Advisor Jijun He</p>
	<p>Advisor Susan Lei Liu has a Master of Divinity, Emory University and Bachelor's Degree in Accounting, University of Alabama at Birmingham. She's been a loyal and active volunteer in Association of Minnesota Chinese Physicians (AMCP) since 2008 and has been the accountant for the AMCP since 2020. Currently, she is the Treasurer of AMCP. She has been deeply involved in many events and activities in Chinese communities. In 2019, she led and organized the International Night event in Wayzata elementary school. During the AMCP campaign against COVID-19 in 2020, she was in charge of the financial bookkeeping, was the voice and writer for the campaign, and was responsible for PPE product and resource risk analysis.</p>

MCFGS HMONG ADVISORY COMMITTEE

 <p align="center">Chair</p>	<p>Chair Advisor Ying Chuyangheu was born in a small village in Northern of Laos, and is the son of a City Council man, and the grandson of a Royal Councilman under the title "Phia Xai" from the King Sisavagvong of Laos. Ying earned his Master's degree in the Major of Law and Administration from the Institute Royale de Droit et Administration (IRDA) in Vientiane. Due to the Vietnam War, Ying was not able to pursue a legal degree. Subsequently, he left Laos with tears for Thailand in 1975, and then France in 1976. He and his family emigrated to the U.S in 1991. During his entire life, he has worked for non-profit organizations, and has been deeply involved in Hmong and Lao Cultural celebration events in the U.S and internationally. He is currently serving as the President of Hmong Heritage Preservation, Inc. He is also a serial entrepreneur with businesses domestic and international, including the Kacham WaterFall Resort in Luang Prabang Province, Laos, Hmong MN Senior Center in Little Canada, Minnesota, and 2Y Rental, Inc in St. Paul, MN.</p>
	<p>Advisor Francis T. Thao currently serves as Secretary for the MCFGS Hmong Advisory Committee and Hmong Heritage Preservation, Inc. He currently works as an Early Childhood Professional and Personal Care Assistant. He resides on the East Side of St. Paul, Minnesota. He has been an advocate volunteer to assist Hmong Community Non-Profit Organizations from 1987 to the present time and has served as Treasurer, Secretary, Economic development, Event Organizer, and President. His hobbies: Photo and Videography, Photos and Videos Editing, Hiking, Hunting, Fishing, and Traveling.</p>



Advisor Jay Her has been an East Side Saint Paul resident for more than a decade. He is an active participant in East Side community activities and its electoral processes. Besides volunteering as a member of the MCFGS Hmong Advisory Committee, he is also currently a volunteer member of Hmong Heritage Preservation, Inc. It is a non-profit organization with a mission to research, collect and preserve Hmong traditions, culture and identity. He is the Chair of the International Relation Committee of the Hmong Heritage Preservation. Jay has a medical degree from the University of Latin America -School of Medicine, and is a certified medical language facilitator at Regions Hospital. His most compassionate life-long interest is the pursuit of self-rediscovery.



Advisor Kong Sue Xiong is the Founder and CEO of Asian American Broadcasting, LLC (KFXN AM690) and Manager for KS Fortune Investment, LLC (real estate business) in the Twins Cities. He speaks Hmong, Lao, Thai, and English. He received his BA with double majors in Education and Psychology from Concordia University, St. Paul, MN. Additional professional and community activities include: 1. Main host for KFXN AM690 (a serious talk show of “Hmong in the modern time”); 2. Member of Multicultural Media , Telecom and Internet Council (MMTC) and Entrepreneur of the year 2015; 3. Hmong cultural and language expert and researcher since 2000; 4. Co-Founder of Hmong Mojthem, a special overseas Radio program 2006-2009; 5. Drug and Alcohol Counselor for Hennepin County 2002-2009; 6. Parent Education and Empowerment for Minneapolis School District 2002-2003; 7. Bible translator for Luther Church sponsored by Concordia University 2000.



Advisor Dona Vu Yang is proud to be a Christian Hmong Woman and the oldest child of 10. She is currently a board member for Hmong Cultural Heritage Preservation Inc. and a member of the Hmong Advisory Committee for the Minnesota China Friendship Garden Society. Her ancestors were from China. She was born in Laos. She lived in Thailand for 2 years, then in France for 11 years. She speaks Hmong, Lao, Thai, French, and English. She got her Bachelor’s degree in computer science degree in Spokane, Washington, in 1992. She currently works as an Office Manager at the Wellness Adult Day Care in Saint Paul, MN. Her past experiences include 13 years as School Counselor at Saint Paul Student Placement Center, 2 years as Teacher Aid, 15 years as Hmong New Year Board Member in Minnesota, 8 years as Real Estate Agent, 20 years as Event Planner and Decorator, and 4 years as Multicultural Advisory Committee with Mental Health Department in Spokane Washington. Her hobbies are Hmong song writing, sewing, flowers arranging and traveling.

Advisor Ciecileann Nkauj Zoo Lis

Advisor Vallen K. Her



Advisor Pa V Thao has been a MCFGS Hmong Advisory Committee member and joined the MCFGS Board in 2021 and moved to the Honorary Advisory Council in 2022. See complete bio above.