

MEDIA RELEASE

Wednesday, 4th January 2012

Welcome the Year of the Dragon at your local library

City of Sydney libraries will mark the Year of the Dragon in style this January and February, with a free event program that will give Sydneysiders a taste of China's rich culture and ancient traditions.

The City's liveliest Chinese New Year library program on record will provide something for all the family, for example:

- See stunning photographic exhibitions;
- Listen to fascinating stories;
- Make a Chinese lantern;
- Watch some of Australia's most skilled calligraphy artists at work;
- Find out how feng shui could work for you, and;
- Trace the footsteps of Australia's Chinese community in a fascinating talk.

Chinese New Year calligraphy demonstration

20 January at Haymarket Library

The skilled artists from the Australian Chinese Artists' Society are community elders who have been studying and practising the traditional art of calligraphy for many years. You will be mesmerised as the artists put ink to paper with fluid hands.

Lantern Festival calligraphy demonstration

21 January at Green Square Library and 4 February at Surry Hills Library

Take home your very own hand-decorated Lantern Festival souvenir when the Australian Chinese Artists' Society returns to give a demonstration of calligraphy on delicate paper lanterns.

Red Tape Gold Scissors talk

2 February at Surry Hills Library

Join former City historian Dr Shirley Fitzgerald in this free public talk as she tells stories from her book *Red Tape Gold Scissors*, which traces the footsteps, feats and fortunes of Australia's largest Chinese community.

Chinese New Year traditions

25 January at Customs House Library

Community leader and Chinese Community Ambassador at the Art Gallery of NSW Angeline Oyang will explain the significance of the centuries-old traditions surrounding Chinese New Year.

Firecrackers! craft workshop

31 January at Customs House Library – for ages 15 and up

Firecrackers were traditionally set off at the beginning of Chinese New Year to scare away evil spirits. Celebrate these sparkling symbols of Chinese New Year by making your own firecracker decorations with Spring Glory Women's Association.

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Celebrating the Lunar New Year | SydneyChineseNewYear.com
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Feng Shui

1 February at Customs House Library

Fen Ingersole is Vice President of the Association of Feng Shui Consultants and Director of consulting service Feng Shui Fen's Way. In this interesting talk, she reveals how feng shui can work in your home and work life.

Living China: Photos from Yunnan, Gansu and Hainan Provinces exhibition

6 January to 29 February at Customs House Library

Don't miss out on this exquisite collection of vivid portraits and stunning landscapes from rural China by talented photographers Yaling Hu and Ruixiang Jiang.

Dragon stories: bilingual storytime

Fortnightly from 24 January at Ultimo Library – for preschoolers aged 3 and up

Preschoolers can take part in a wonderful experience in sharing cultures in this fun, fortnightly session of bilingual storytelling and craft activities for preschoolers. To celebrate the Year of the Dragon, the first session of the year will explore dragons through stories in Mandarin and English, and craft activities.

For more on the City of Sydney library, visit: cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/library

For the full program, visit sydneychinesenewyear.com

Media Contacts

Keeley Irvin (02) 9265 9106 or kirvin@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au

Natasha Bowron (02) 9246 7267 or nbowron@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au

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