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**VENUES IN CHINATOWN OFFER EXCITING ALTERNATIVES
FOR NEW YORK CITY MEETINGS AND EVENTS**

NEW YORK, NY – September 22, 2004 – Dumplings and dim sum beat hors d'oeuvres any day.

Whether glad-handing the board of directors or surprising the birthday girl, those looking to hold an inventive event in New York need look no further than Chinatown. Authentic Asian fare combined with surprisingly reasonable rates for fabulous feasts and talented entertainment make Chinatown restaurants and lounges perfect for meetings and celebrations of all sorts, whether you are planning 30 to 1000 attendees.

Cultural, casual and comparatively inexpensive, venues in Chinatown offer an attractive alternative to the sterile environment and high cost of typical corporate meetings. What better way to keep the working group alert than having bubble tea instead of coffee? And for non-business events, parties in one of Chinatown's several suitable restaurants show-off the host's New York knowledge and always end with compliments to the caterer.

Following is a sampling of venues located in Chinatown New York City:

- *Asia Roma Restaurant, 40 Mulberry Street* – Featuring two levels of dining rooms – one with a bar, the other a lounge – *Asia Roma* serves a unique blend of Asian and Italian cuisine. The chic, sophisticated dining rooms offer seating for 35 and 45 people respectively, and can play host to a variety of events including corporate meetings and celebrations of all sorts. The venue can also be rented out for standing cocktail receptions, for which each level can accommodate approximately 120. For more information, visit www.asiaroma.com or call 212-385-1133.
- *Golden Unicorn Restaurant, 18 East Broadway* – One of Chinatown most popular restaurants for both dim sum and dinner, *Golden Unicorn* features two floors of dining halls, each of which can cater to approximately 250 people, ideal for large meetings or events. The rooms can also be divided to accommodate smaller gatherings. Event goers can experience this restaurant's highly regarded authentic Asian cuisine either by menu selection, preset multi-course Chinese feast or a la carte in a dim sum setting. For more information, call 212-941-0911.

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- *Grand Harmony Restaurant, 98 Mott Street* – One of Chinatown’s largest venues is also one of its most highly regarded restaurants. One of the bigger venues in Chinatown, *Grand Harmony* has a seating capacity of approximately 500 people, and a long, tempting list of dim sum, noodle dishes and full entrees. The restaurant’s understated, comfortable décor and elbow room to spare make it perfect for large meetings – as does its delicious and comparatively inexpensive cuisine, something that can be said for almost all Chinatown eateries. For more information, call 212-226-2603.
- *HSF Restaurant, 46 Bowery* – With a seating capacity of 300, the rectangular *HSF* Restaurant can be reserved either as one large room or two medium-sized ones. Specializing in dim sum but also featuring a full menu of Cantonese entrees, the restaurant’s bright, modern décor is tastefully offset by its ornately decorated, elevated platform at the far end of the restaurant. This raised platform along with the restaurant’s rectangular shape combine to make *HSF* perfect for presentations and conferences of all sorts. For more information, call 212-374-1319.
- *Oriental Garden, 14 Elizabeth Street* -- This Chinatown favorite can seat up to 120 on its main level and 80 more in a perfect party room downstairs. Both rooms have an easy, comfortable ambiance. *Oriental Garden* is well-known for its excellent dim sum, and also specializes in seafood entrees, the highlight of which is the restaurant’s enormous lobsters, some of which weigh upwards of 10 lbs! For more information, call 212-619-0085.
- *Jing Fong Restaurant, 20 Elizabeth Street* – One of Chinatown’s largest venues, *Jing Fong* has just completed a major renovation. The restaurant offers a large, tastefully decorated room with a seating capacity of up to 1,300. The restaurant, renowned for dim sum during the day, is one of the most popular choices for large banquets and weddings, with elaborate, multi-course Chinese feasts. For more information, call 212-964-5256.
- *Silk Road Mocha, 30 Mott Street* – Old world meets new world in this café-style Chinatown spot, which features beautifully maintained antique chairs and tables combined with more modern accessories, and specializes in a varieties of bubble teas. Silk Road’s upper level is suitable for intimate meetings. The lower level features table seating as well as computers with Internet access. This room can seat 20-30 with a reception and fit up to 80 for a cocktail event. For more information, call 212-566-3738.

And of course, Chinatown New York has one non-Asian venue that simply could not be left out of an events space round-up. Erected in 1893 and holding status as a national landmark building, the classy *Capitale* today stands as one New York's premier settings for elegant functions. The venue's tall Corinthian columns, decorated coved ceiling, and art glass skylight make its ballroom one of New York's great function spaces. The ballroom, which is more than 10,000 square feet, can sit 700 for banquets and accommodate up to 1,500 for standing cocktail receptions. Capitale also features four private meeting rooms, two in the upper level that each have a seating capacity of 60, and two executive rooms on the lower level that can sit 20-30. All rooms feature Internet connection. For more information, call 212-334-5500 or visit <http://www.capitaleny.com>.

About Chinatown New York City

Chinatown New York City, combines authentic Asian-American culture with the energy and influence of the most exciting city in the world. With over 200 restaurants, numerous Asian bakeries and tea houses, jewelry shops, arts and antique stores, an active nightlife and dozens of cultural attractions and landmarks, Chinatown stands as a world within a city. Whether dining, shopping, or strolling down the charming, narrow streets, visitors to Chinatown New York City, will find virtually limitless opportunities for new experiences and added insight.

Located on the east side of Lower Manhattan, Chinatown New York City, is the largest in the United States. The neighborhood has been growing steadily since the mid-1800s, and today stands as a vibrant community offering the opportunity to enjoy and explore Asian-American culture. Chinatown New York City is easily accessible via many New York City MTA subways and buses, as well as several convenient area parking garages. For more information, visit www.ExploreChinatown.com.

Note to editors: NYC & Company, the city's official tourism marketing organization, is a private, membership-based non-profit dedicated to building New York City's economy and positive image through tourism and convention development, major events and the marketing of the city on a worldwide basis.

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