



MEDIA ANNOUNCEMENT:  
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## Chinese Garden Garden Courtyard Opens on February 6

Chinese Lunar New Year, celebrated this week, welcomes the coming of spring, so it is fitting that the gates of Knowing the Spring Courtyard swing wide to welcome visitors on Sunday, February 6 at noon. They will discover a traditional courtyard featuring all the essential elements of a Chinese garden, including rockery, a small water feature, plantings native to China, an elaborate wooden gate, intricate lattice windows, and tile-roofed walkways.

Opening day is free to all visitors. A docent tour starting at 1 pm will offer insights on courtyard design and construction and includes a walking tour of key parts of the site, including the open-air Pine and Plum Pavilion and its surrounding garden. A celebratory dedication will occur in mid May, when plants are in bloom.

“The Garden honors Chinese culture and enriches our own,” said Jon Geiger, president of the Seattle Chinese Garden Society. “Knowing the Spring Courtyard will be a magnet for area residents and visitors, and a gathering place for cultural activities and community events. We have reached this milestone thanks to the support of thousands of citizens and many local institutions. Our Garden’s lead funders are the Municipality of Chongqing, The Boeing Company, the City of Seattle, King County, the State of Washington, the Pendleton and Elisabeth Carey Miller Foundation, and the Norcliffe Foundation.”

Knowing the Spring Courtyard is the first major structure in the future five-acre garden, designed in the Sichuan style of Washington State’s sister province in Southwest China by Garden designers in Chongqing, Seattle’s sister city. Artisans from the Changshu Ancient Style Garden Construction Company completed Knowing the Spring Courtyard last fall.

Visitors can learn more about Chinese gardens and plans for Seattle Chinese Garden in the Discovery Center located in the Chan Education Center. On exhibit are photos and videos of garden construction, examples of Chinese art and stone carving, and other materials.

**Location:** South Seattle Community College campus, north entrance, 6000 16th Ave. SW, just a five-minute drive from the West Seattle Bridge.

**Hours:** Winter hours through March 31: Wednesdays through Sundays, noon to 4:30 pm. Between April 1 and June 15 the garden remains open until 5:30 pm.

**Admission:** Free to Seattle residents with ID, SCG Members, and children under 5. For all others: Adults \$6, Seniors 62+ \$5, Students \$5

**For more information:** [www.seattlechinesegarden.org](http://www.seattlechinesegarden.org)