



NEWSLETTER

March 2024

Dear MAX Members and Friends,

We have many interesting and fun events on the calendar, including our Member Appreciation Day. We hope to see you some time soon.

Jim Tom, Chairman

Upcoming Events

[February 24 - Chinese New Year Banquet at Koi Palace](#) - *Sold out*

[March 1 - First Friday at Beaux](#)

[March 9 - Guided tour of the Paramount Theater](#)

[March 16 - Member Appreciation Day](#)

[March 21 - Third Thursday at Beaux](#)

[March 27 - Dinner at Mystique Cafe in the Castro](#)

[April 12 - Drum Tao at Zellerbach Hall](#)

[May 1 - Epoca 20th Century-Antique Shopping & European Wine Tasting](#)

[May 9 to 13 - MAX Cruise: Round - Trip Cruise SF to Mexico](#)

Other Planned Events

Other events already scheduled or in the planning stages include the following plus our usual bi-monthly gatherings at Beaux.

April 7 - Guided walking tour - Castro: Tales of the Village

April 26 - Chabot Space and Science Center (Observatory, Planetarium)

June 28 - Broadway SF: Company Musical

Note: All upcoming events also can be seen on the MAX website/calendar at www.maxsf.org. Clicking on a newsletter link herein and then seeing "Page not found (error 404)" or not getting redirected accordingly indicates link was corrupted. **Please go directly to the website at www.maxsf.org to register if the hyperlinks herein do not work.**

[Recap of Recent Events](#)

Chinese New Year Banquet at Koi Palace

Saturday, February 24, 6:30pm - 8:30pm. Celebrate Chinese New Year with MAX at one of the Bay Area's best Chinese restaurants, Koi Palace. Join event champions, Jim Tom and Dennis Lam, to welcome the Year of the Dragon. Chinese mythology considers the Dragon to be a symbol of strength, courage, creativity and innovation. People born in the Year of the Dragon are said to be charismatic, ambitious, adventurous, and fearless, as well as confident, independent, and visionary. Famous figures born in the Year of the Dragon include Bruce Lee, Salvador Dali, John Lennon and Vladimir Putin.

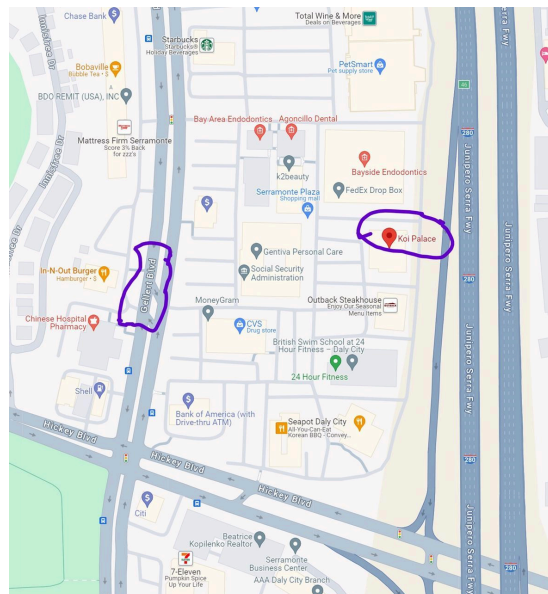


Our 10-course meal is a prix fixe menu that features: Suckling Pig BBQ Combo Platter, Deep Fried Shrimp Paste Stuff Crab Claws, Pan Seared Sirloin Beef Cubes with Cognac Flambe, Bamboo Pith Sterculia Resin & Dried Scallop Soup, Abalone over Mustard Green & Fish Maw, Stir Fried Assorted Vegetables with Walnuts, Peking Duck, Steam Sea Bass Kama & Fermented Soybean Sauce, Dried Scallop Stir-fried Rice and Egg Custard Bun.

Cost is \$82 for members and \$90 for non-members, including tip and taxes. This price includes wine provided by MAX. No refunds for cancellations after February 17th. Space is limited to 20 people, so dues-paying members and their guests will have first priority for early registration. A waitlist will be available for cancellations and for a possible additional table. To register, go to: <https://maxsf.org/event-5536821>

For more information, contact Jim Tom at jim.tom@maxsf.org or Dennis Lam at dennis.lam@maxsf.org

Koi Palace is located at 365 Gellert Blvd in Daly City (situated off I-280 between the Serramonte and Hickey Boulevard freeway exits). Please look at map for precise site location since the restaurant does not front along and is not visible along Gellert. Koi Palace fronts along the second internal street that runs parallel with Gellert. Restaurant has a parking lot but street parking also is available.

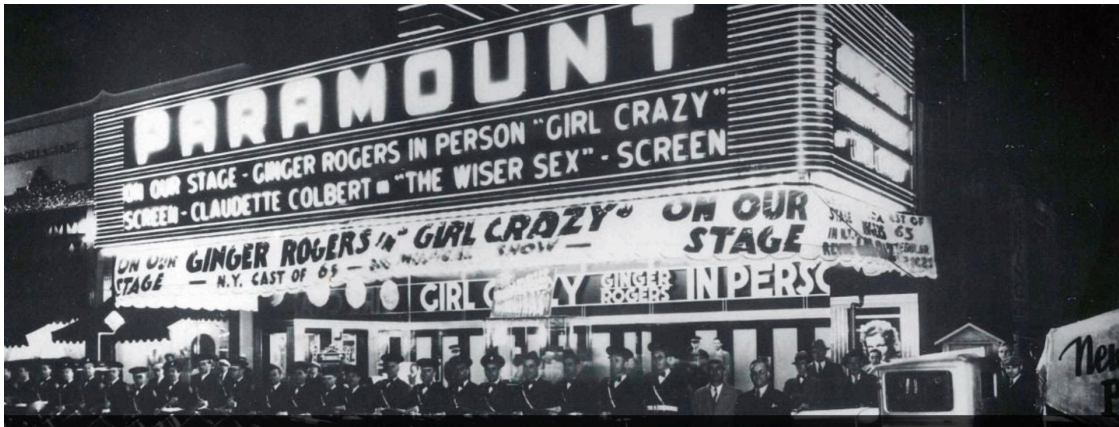


First Friday at Beaux

Come socialize with old friends and make some new friends at First Friday on **March 1st** at Beaux Bar, 2344 Market Street. The event goes from 5:30pm to 7:30 pm. There is no entry or cover charge for this event. Happy hour prices apply as mixed drinks are buy one, get one free until 7pm. We hope to see you there!

Tour of the Paramount Theater

Saturday, March 9, 10am-12pm. Join event champion Bruce Cecil for a tour of the iconic Art Deco Paramount Theatre in downtown Oakland. Cost is only \$10. The Paramount is one of the most glamorous "movie palaces" from the Golden Age of cinema, going back to the 1930s. It was the largest multi-purpose theater on the West Coast, seating 3,476. Our guided tour starts promptly at 10 a.m. and lasts about 90 to 120 minutes. The theater is located at 2025 Broadway in downtown Oakland, just a few minutes walk from the 19th Street Oakland Downtown BART station.



The tour starts **promptly** at the box office entrance on the side of the building on 21st St. Afterward, we will walk to a nearby restaurant for lunch.

Please RSVP and pay for this event at: <https://maxsf.org/event-5576163>

For questions, contact Bruce at bruce.cecil@hotmail.com.

For more information about Paramount Theatre: <https://www.paramountoakland.org/>

Member Appreciation Day

Saturday, March 16, 3pm-6pm. MAX will host a wine and hors d'oeuvres social to show appreciation to our MEMBERS for being part of the MAX community and helping it thrive. We hope your participation in MAX has enhanced your sense of community with new friendships formed or existing friendships strengthened while enjoying various interesting activities. This FREE event is ONLY for dues paying members and a guest. So sign up and become a dues-paying member today if you already are not.



Host site is located in Pacific Heights near Lafayette Park. Address will be emailed to registered members prior to the event. You must register so we know how much food and wine to purchase. Space is limited to the first 60 members. Deadline is March 8. Please register at: <https://maxsf.org/event-5562936>

If you register and cannot make it, please cancel to help us plan accordingly. For additional information, contact Jim Tom at jim.tom@maxsf.org or Jerry Tusan at Jerry.tusan@maxsf.org.

Third Thursday at Beaux

Come socialize with old friends and make some new friends at Third Thursday on **March 21st** at Beaux Bar, 2344 Market Street. The event goes from 5:30pm to 7:30 pm. There is no entry or cover charge for this event. Happy hour prices apply as mixed drinks are buy one, get one free until 7pm. We hope to see you there!

Dinner at Mystique Cafe in the Castro

Wednesday, March 27, 5:15pm-7:30pm - Please join us at the popular Cafe Mystique located at 464 Castro St in San Francisco. The cafe features American, Italian and Mediterranean dishes using fair-trade products from local markets. We will start at 5:15pm with a complimentary happy hour of wine. Then you will be able to choose one of their signature dishes, consisting of pasta, risotto, chicken or salmon. A vegetarian option also is available on request. Each table will receive 2 appetizers prior to dinner to share.



The price is \$55 for members and \$60 for non-members, inclusive of tax and tip. Wine is provided by MAX.

Space is limited! No refunds for cancellations after March 24th. If the event is full, add your name to the waitlist for cancellations or possible additional spaces. To register, go to: <https://maxsf.org/event-5607331>

For more information, contact Jerry Tusan at jerry.tusan@maxsf.org or Elie Abi-jaoude at Elie.aj@gmail.com

Drum Tao at Zellerbach Hall

Friday, April 12, 8pm-10pm. Join event champion Jim Tom to see Drum Tao on its 30th Anniversary Tour at Zellerbach Hall in Berkeley. A feast for the eyes and ears, Drum Tao's mesmerizing productions combine thunderous traditional taiko drumming with dazzling staging, theatrical costumes, and dramatic lighting effects. The international troupe of 40 performers has seemingly done it all, having collaborated with the Bolshoi Ballet, staged sold-out productions off-Broadway, appeared on The Late Show with Stephen Colbert and at the Olympics, and even recorded for Universal Music. Flute, marimba, and harp are added to the drum ensemble for dramatic effects, and high-octane choreography contributes fresh new energy to this centuries-old Japanese art form. "Extraordinarily talented percussion artists, and they're seductive, alluring performers" (Chicago Tribune).



See two video links to sample performances by Drum Tao, including one with Stephen Colbert, at:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SdJ8_deA6i4

https://youtu.be/IE6N_QD99C8

For more information on the show, go

to: <https://calperformances.org/events/2023-24/family/drum-tao/>

MAX pre-purchased 14 tickets in various blocks in several rows from Rows A to L in Left Orchestra. Ticket price is \$79 including the service fee. Due to expected strong demand, dues-paying members will have early priority versus non-members for registration. A waitlist will be available for cancellations. No refund for cancellations after April 1. Register for this event at: <https://maxsf.org/event-5572892>

You also can purchase your own ticket at various price points ranging from \$33 to \$96, excluding the \$15 service fee. Selection now is limited. If you purchase your own ticket, let us know you'll be joining us for this performance if you wish by emailing Jim.

We will meet at a designated spot (TBD) at Zellerbach Hall by 7:45pm for the ticket distribution and for everyone to convene (unless you are joining us for dinner). Please be punctual to receive your ticket, otherwise you will miss out.

For any questions, contact Jim at jim.tom@maxsf.org.

Optional Pre-show Dinner - Those interested can join us at a nearby restaurant (TBD) for a pre-show dinner beforehand.

Directions: Zellerbach Hall is located at 101 Zellerbach Hall in Berkeley. For info for directions, BART/transit and a map for Zellerbach Hall/campus, go to: <https://calperformances.org/visit/venues/zellerbach-hall/>



Epoca 20th Century-Antique Shopping & European Wine Tasting

Wednesday, May 1, 5:30pm-7:30pm. Looking for that special item that will make your place more interesting? Come join MAX at Epoca Antique Furnishings, Art and Design Center located in the heart of the San Francisco design center at 1700 16th Street. Come socialize, window-shop or shop in a fun gallery setting while sipping on European wines and appetizers. Event will be from 5:30pm to 7:30pm. Easy street parking.

Epoca has an endless array of beautiful 20th Century art and furnishings blended with American and European antiques. Epoca strives to create a layered inventory with a 'something for everyone' approach. For more information, go to: <https://www.epocasf.com>

Cost is \$20 for Max Members and \$25 for non Members. We must limit this to 35 people. A waitlist will be established once the limit is reached. No refunds after April 28. To register, go to: <https://maxsf.org/event-5620043>

For questions, contact jerry.tusan@maxsf.org

MAX Cruise: Round-Trip Cruise SF to Mexico

Thursday to Monday, May 9 -13, 2024.

Come join MAX for a four-night sailing out of SAN FRANCISCO (that's right, **no air fare needed!**) on board the beautiful Carnival Miracle. Sail away to Sunny Ensenada Mexico where you have the choice of nine Carnival Cruise excursions, or join MAX for a spectacular day of wine tasting while adventuring through the Guadalupe Valley – [Mexico's answer to Napa Valley](#).



Unspoiled and untouched, the Guadalupe Valley boasts some of the best wine you will taste and food you will eat. Enjoy the rustic countryside as we visit 2 or 3 wineries. Experience the alluring wine culture in the Guadalupe Valley before it reaches Napa Valley prices.

For those joining MAX on our private wine tasting tour, we will enjoy lunch at a restaurant such as [Restaurant Elena](#) (amazing meal, very nice, and reasonably priced), or a similar establishment.

On board the Carnival Miracle - you can experience one of a kind dining, entertainment, pools, waterslides, and spa. Take part in the Hasbro Game Show, grab a pint at the RedFrog Pub, a burger at Guy Fieri's Burger Joint, or enjoy a show with Playlist Productions. There is a reason Carnival is the FUN SHIP. With MAX on board, you know it will be!

On board, for those who want to join us, MAX will be meeting at about 5pm for drinks before heading to the main dining room as a group for the early 6pm dining. If you would prefer flexible or late dining, let our travel agent know when booking your cruise.

Cruise price currently starts at about \$900 per person inclusive of taxes, fees, and gratuities, based on two occupants per room (\$644 base price before the add-on charges). Currently, single rooms are available for almost twice the cost. All bookings are to be made through our travel agent David Petlin (contact information below). Sorry, neither MAX nor David will be providing a singles roommate matching service.

The cost of our private shore excursion will be approximately \$90 per person, excluding wine tasting fees and the cost of lunch. Tastings range from \$5-\$30 at each winery depending on how many wines, and which wines, are tasted. The \$90 includes transportation and organizing the wine tastings and lunch (discretionary gratuity to the guide is not included - \$10-\$15 per person recommended).

For those that remember, this is the same itinerary and ship as the cruise we had planned for March 2020 that was canceled due to the pandemic.

Dates May 9 - 13, 2024

- Thursday May 9 - Depart San Francisco 11:00pm
- Friday May 10 - Fun day at sea
- Saturday May 11 - Ensenada 8am - 5pm
- Sunday May 12 - Fun day at sea
- Monday May 13 - Arrive San Francisco 8:00am

Book early for best prices and to guarantee your spot!

This is the first sailing out of San Francisco of the 2024 summer season and it's a popular cruise that will sell out! Stateroom prices will increase as the ship fills up. Low deposit to book with final payment due February 24, 2024, after which time penalties will apply.

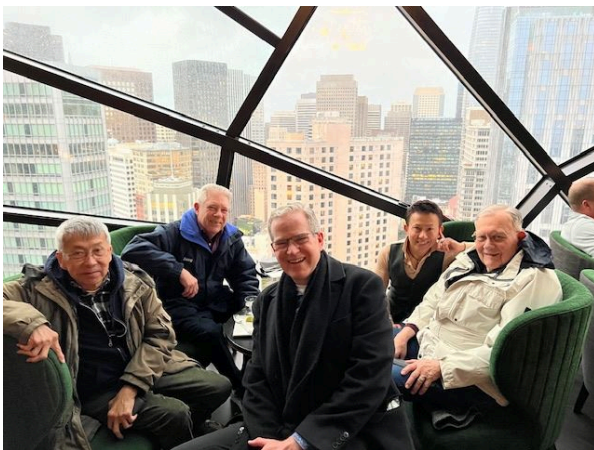
Call or email Our Travel Host - David Petlin at 415-890-6331 or David@flairtravel.com to reserve your spot.

For any questions, contact event co-champions Bruce Cecil at bruce.cecil@maxsf.org or Paul Munro at paul.munro@maxsf.org.

Once you've booked your cruise, register to show you'll be joining us at: <https://maxsf.org/event-5532456>

[Recap of Recent Events](#)

Movie: My Fair Lady - On Sunday February 4th, MAXers enjoyed a wet and rainy afternoon watching the 60th anniversary showing of My Fair Lady at the AMC Metreon. With the conditions outside, it was a perfect day to be immersed in the 1964 Academy Award Winning Best Picture. A handful of folks met beforehand to grab a quick lunch at the nearby Tropisueño Mexican restaurant. Afterward, some went to The View Lounge at top of the Marriott Marguis for drinks and snacks to wrap up the afternoon by visiting and enjoying the fantastic views of the rainy city.



Lunch at the University Club - Formally-dressed MAXers socialized and enjoyed a delightful meal with the First Wednesday Luncheon group at the historical University Club on Nob Hill.



Tipsy Putt Miniature Golf - Eight MAX members spent two hours on February 10 enjoying miniature golf at Tipsy Putt in Emeryville. To our surprise, Tipsy Putt also was offering unlimited Mimosas, so some of us got a little "tipsy" as we played. Afterward, we enjoyed a wonderful lunch at Black Bear Diner across the street.

