

## For Immediate Release

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# 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Mid-Autumn Moon Festival

## *Featuring an Afternoon of Cultural and Family Activities*

TowneBank Fountain Park, Downtown Norfolk Waterfront, Virginia  
Sunday, September 7, 2014  
**FREE & EVERYONE IS WELCOME!**



**NORFOLK, VA (August 14, 2014) - Norfolk Festevents**, in conjunction with Tidewater Chinese School and local Chinese community organizations, announced today the return of the **Mid-Autumn Moon Festival** featuring Cheryl Tan, Journalist, Speaker and Media Consultant of [cherylтанmedia.com](http://cherylтанmedia.com) as the Emcee; Nel Hart, a junior at Ocean Lakes Academy as the 2014 Moon Goddess.

The festival will take place on **Sunday, September 7, 2014, Noon – 4PM**, in **TowneBank Fountain Park** on the Downtown Norfolk Waterfront, Virginia. The afternoon will highlight family activities and foods that will allow festival guests to explore and experience the Chinese culture to its fullest.

### **2014 Festival features include:**

- Lion and Dragon Dances by Jow-Ga Kung Fu.
- Chinese cuisine will be offered by Pagoda Restaurant.
- Moon Cakes for tasting and for purchase will be provided by Friends of the Pagoda & Oriental Garden Foundation.
- Children's activities include Traditional Chinese children's games and crafts, Chinese calligraphy and lantern making.
- Origami Display and Make 'N Take with Rich Gray.
- Nel Hart, 11<sup>th</sup> grader at Ocean Lakes Academy and the 2014 Moon Goddess will greet visitors to the festival and lead the children's lantern parade at the closing ceremony.
- Performances include: Dances, Chinese Zither and Erhu, Tai Chi, and more.
- Exhibits: Penjing (Bonsai) exhibit by Ken Nowitzky; cultural exhibits by various Chinese organizations.
- The Blue Heron Chapter of the Sumi-e Society will be doing brush-painting demonstrations, which also include some audience participation.

Norfolk's **Mid-Autumn Moon Festival** commemorates one of the most celebrated Chinese holidays and is rich in Asian culture and tradition. Normally celebrated on the fifteenth day of the eighth lunar month (which falls on September 8<sup>th</sup> this year) in observance of the bountiful autumn harvest, the event can also be held at various times during the autumn season. The Chinese often compare the **Mid-Autumn Moon Festival** to the American Thanksgiving where families and friends come together to celebrate the bountiful harvest with a plentiful feast.



**What:** 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Mid-Autumn Moon Festival

**When:** Sunday, September 7, 2014

**Time:** Noon – 4pm

**Where:** TowneBank Fountain Park at Town Point Park on the Downtown Norfolk Waterfront, Virginia

**Admission:** Free & Open to the Public

**Special Note:** Lawn Chairs and blankets are welcome. Coolers, food and soft drinks are permitted. No Alcohol or glass is permitted; food and alcohol will be available for purchase during the festival.

For more information and all the latest **Mid-Autumn Moon Festival** updates, visit [www.festevents.org](http://www.festevents.org) or call 757.441.2345.

Sponsored by the City of Norfolk, the **Mid-Autumn Moon Festival** is produced by Norfolk Festevents in association with Tidewater Chinese School (TCS), and supported by Confucius Institute at ODU, Eastern Virginia Chinese-American Association (EVCAA), Friends of the Pagoda & Oriental Garden Foundation, Organization of Chinese Americans - Eastern Virginia Chapter (OCA-EVC), Peninsula Chinese American Association (PCAA).

Norfolk Festevents, Ltd. is a private not-for-profit organization dedicated to producing premier concerts, festivals, ship visits, special events and city celebrations for the residents and guests of Hampton Roads. Celebrating its' 32<sup>th</sup> season, Norfolk Festevents has garnered international acclaim for its outstanding quality of programming. Norfolk Festevents is the official event marketing and production agency for the City of Norfolk.

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