



Iris Cheng, The president's speech at the COGS public meeting on Monday 6th April 2009,

The Music Association of Auckland Inc.

Our organisation was founded in 2003 from 25 members and now have extended to over a hundred members, we provide community service and activities through music, we are very fortunate to have the kind support from COGS

for our ongoing costs for our Association from 2005 until now, the grant is vital and important to us and you are one of our major sponsor, with your help MAA therefore have successfully achieved the following tasks for the past 3 years:

- *Hosting and developing the significant diversity of NZ/Chinese culture through various musical performances.*
- *Exchange Eastern and Western views on music.*
- *Sponsoring young musicians with scholarships and prizes, and providing opportunities for them to perform on the stage.*
- *We provide directory service of those who teach and learn music, education and training focus on Composition Competition and workshops.*
- *A bilingual website www.maa.net.nz have been established to update on our events and other activities to our members and the community.*
- *We have been able to arise interest from Chinese community in classical and traditional Chinese music.*
- *Commissioned work on Chinese composer from New Zealand.*
- *Assisting new migrant to settle down and integrate into the main stream community.*
- *In June 2008 we have successfully registered as a charitable entity with The Charities Commission.*
- *In Dec 2009 we will cooperate with the Manukau Symphony Orchestra - the "Yellow River Cantata" – A Chinese folk melodies and poetry with western musical methodology, to encourage communities' participation through music and cultural traditions.*

To acknowledge the support of COGS as our major sponsor, besides our programme, flyer and posters, we have also made recycle bags, calendar cards and name cards with their logo.

The Committee of MAA is the backbone of our organisation, we are passionate and volunteering the work to keep the association going for 6 years now. We are very grateful for COGS and their Local Distribution Committee standing by us and supporting us as a grass root Chinese community group to move on and continue to do so for years to come.