Teahouse on Lotus Pond 莲池茶馆



- Indoor seating for 40 people year-round
- Outdoor terrace seating overlooking Lotus Pond
- Design inspired by traditional Sichuan teahouses
- Accommodates special events such as tea and music, poetry readings, talks and discussions, mahjong sessions
- *Estimated Cost:* Campaign for \$6 million for U.S. permitting and construction costs.
- Additionally, the Chongqing municipal government will contribute \$5 million in skilled labor and traditional materials

The Garden's Next Pavilion

Our visitors frequently ask the question "What will you build next?" The answer is: the teahouse! Tea is an elixir at the heart of Chinese culture, and teahouses are convivial gathering places, nowhere more so than in Sichuan Province and Chongqing. Three places central to daily life there are home, work, and the neighborhood teahouse. People stop by for a relaxing break, to meet with friends or colleagues, or to while away an afternoon or evening playing mahjong, catching up on news or gossip, and enjoying music, Chinese opera, and poetry. Our Sichuan-style teahouse, at the heart of the Garden, will be a lovely spot to pause for tea during a garden tour, to linger with friends, or perhaps to write a poem or sketch the scene. It will connect by a covered corridor to Knowing the Spring Courtyard. The Teahouse and Lotus Pond area will provide an enchanting and complex garden experience for visitors to enjoy an array of Chinese performing arts in a



pavilion that replicates traditional Sichuan architecture. A small section of the pond was excavated, shaped, and lined with rocks in summer 2012. Open space to the east of the Teahouse will accommodate special events and private parties.

We are now raising the funds to build the Teahouse and adjoining areas. They will offer a place to experience the rich cultural activities of a Chinese garden, to share tea and a light meal, or to host a small private gathering for a special occasion.

Tea is drunk to forget the din of the world. Tien Yinheng, Ming Dynasty scholar



Central Garden • 中央花園

Mountain House and Covered Walkway (lower L) • Lotus Pond, Mountain (Scholar's) Studio (lower R) Teahouse on Small Lotus Pond (center) • Courtyard of Mountain Studio (center R) Gathering Together Hall on South Courtyard and Administrative Complex (top) • Knowing the Spring Courtyard (top R)

西華園 Seattle Chinese Garden ~ For additional information on giving, contact:

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