The San Francisco Symphony’s annual Chinese New Year Concert and Celebration draws a targeted, passionate audience from throughout the San Francisco Bay Area for a festive event celebrating Chinese music and culture in Davies Symphony Hall.

The Symphony marks the year of the Tiger on Saturday, February 27, 2010, with the 10th Anniversary Chinese New Year Concert and Celebration. The event features an afternoon concert that draws on both ancient and contemporary Chinese music traditions. Virtuoso artists will perform on traditional instruments alongside rising stars from the contemporary Chinese classical music world, as well as musicians from the San Francisco Symphony. Among the guest artists for this special anniversary celebration: Yuan Yuan Tan, principal dancer of the San Francisco Ballet, and pianist Haochen Zhang, the youngest participant and the first Chinese recipient to be awarded the prestigious Nancy Lee and Perry R. Bass Gold Medal at the Thirteenth Van Cliburn International Piano Competition.

Preceding the performance, all 2,700 guests enjoy a family-friendly Festival Reception in the lobby of the Hall, complete with lion dancers, fortune tellers, traditional Chinese New Year desserts, tea bars, and music.

For 400 patrons, the evening continues at the exclusive Imperial Ball. This multi-course dinner and dance gala will take place at City Hall, which will be beautifully themed for the occasion.

Growing into a sell-out event over the past decade, the Symphony’s Chinese New Year Concert and Celebration was nationally recognized in 2004 with the MetLife Award for Excellence in Community Engagement and in 2005 with the American Symphony Orchestra League’s Gold Ribbon Award for excellence in national fundraising events.

Imperial Ball Tables: $3,500, 6,000, and $10,000