



# Nevada Tea Festival 2024

Oct 26th, 2024  
12-6pm

Casino Fandango  
Carson City, Nevada



NEVADA  
TEA FESTIVAL

## Dr. Sally Wei

### DIRECTOR

*Hello and welcome to the Nevada Tea Festival!*

*The Nevada Tea Festival is a celebration of all thing's tea! You will have the opportunity to sample teas from around the world, learn from tea experts and educators, and connect with fellow tea lovers.*

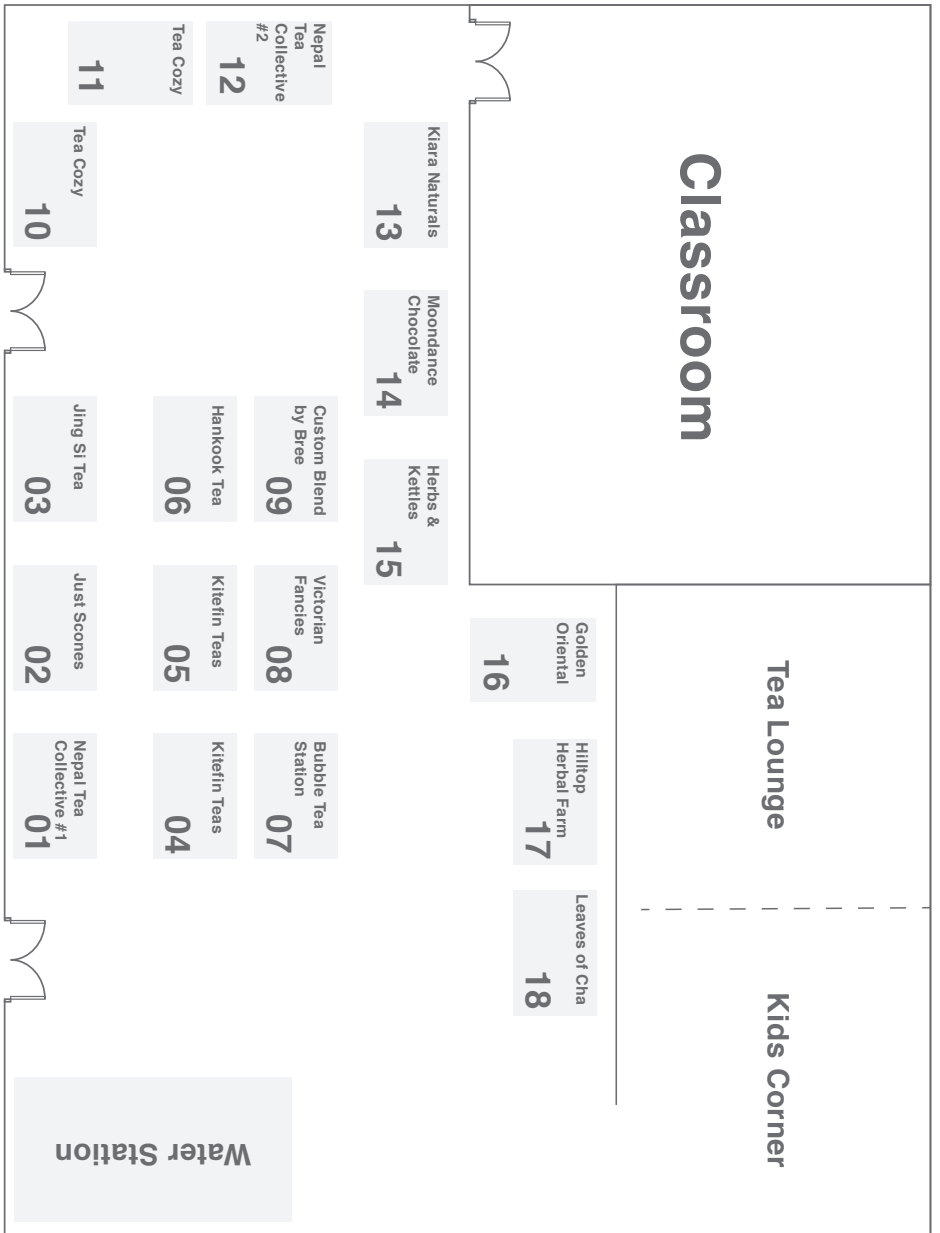
*Whether you are a beginner or a connoisseur, you will find something to enjoy and discover that will create warm memories!*

*Cheers!*

*Sally*

|    |                               |
|----|-------------------------------|
| 02 | <b>Festival Agenda</b>        |
| 04 | <b>Vendors &amp; Sponsors</b> |
| 05 | <b>Event Floor Plan</b>       |
| 06 | <b>Speakers</b>               |
| 12 | <b>Tea Classes</b>            |

|    | Classroom                                                                                     | Tea Lounge                                                                                | Kids Corner                                                              | Exhibit Hall                                |
|----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| 8  |                                                                                               |                                                                                           |                                                                          |                                             |
| 9  |                                                                                               |                                                                                           |                                                                          |                                             |
| 10 | Business Seminar<br><b>Tea Room Secrets</b><br>Tina Jesson                                    | Tea Workshop 10:30-11:30am<br><b>Setting the table for Chinese Tea</b><br>MeiShiang Hsieh |                                                                          |                                             |
| 11 | Tea Tasting<br><b>Darjeeling Tea</b><br>Deborah Raab                                          |                                                                                           |                                                                          |                                             |
| 12 | Business Seminar<br><b>Growing and Foraging for Your own Herbal Teas</b><br>Babette Donaldson | Tea Tasting<br><b>Japanese Tea (Tea Cozy)</b>                                             | Tea Workshop<br><b>Afternoon Tea for Little Princes &amp; Princesses</b> |                                             |
| 1  | Tea Lecture<br><b>American Liber-tea</b><br>Sherman Tylawsky                                  | Tea Tasting<br><b>Herbal Loose teas/Premium tea</b><br>Dipika Jain (Kiara Naturals)       |                                                                          | Chinese Music<br><b>Gu-Zung performance</b> |
| 2  | Tea Lecture<br><b>The Future of Tea</b><br>Pratik Rijal                                       | Tea Tasting<br><b>White Tea</b><br>Hexi Huang (Golden Oriental)                           |                                                                          |                                             |
| 3  | Tea Whorkshop<br><b>Cooking with tea</b><br>Shunda Huang                                      | Tea Tasting<br><b>Nepali Tea</b><br>Nishchal Banskota (Nepal Tea)                         | Tea Poster Drawing<br><b>Contest</b>                                     | Tea Exhibition                              |
| 4  | Tea Worshop<br><b>Gaiwan</b><br>Dr. Sally Wei                                                 | Tea Tasting<br><b>Taiwanese Oolong</b><br>Foon Huang (Jing Si Tea)                        |                                                                          |                                             |
| 5  |                                                                                               |                                                                                           | Award Ceremony                                                           | Chinese Music<br><b>Gu-Zung performance</b> |
| 6  |                                                                                               |                                                                                           |                                                                          |                                             |





### Nishchal Banskota

*Tea Tasting*  
Nepali Tea  
(Nepal Tea Collective)

Nishchal Banskota is a 2nd generation tea producer and the founder of Nepal Tea Collective which directly brings certified organic teas from Nepal to the American market. His vision is to create a tech-enabled transparent tea trade that bridges the gap between the primary producers and consumers. He serves on the Board of Directors of the European Specialty Tea Association (ESTA). His innovative work has been featured in major publications the New York Times and Forbes. He is a young leader for the European Union Development Days, a Global Good Fund fellow and an active advocate for the UN Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda.



### Babette Donaldson

*Business Seminar*  
Growing and Foraging for  
Your own Herbal Teas

Babette Donaldson, founder of the International Tea Sippers Society and author of The Everything Healthy Tea Book and The Emma Lea Books began her adventure with “real” tea as a graduate art student in San Francisco during the 70’s with a focus on ceramic art. Studying the history and elegance of ancient tea were inspired curiosity for the beverage and worldwide cultures that celebrate it ceremonially. This inspired her most recent project, “Sip for Peace” for which she earned Best Consumer-Oriented Marketing Campaign at this year’s World Tea Expo.



### Meishiang Hiseh

*Tea Workshop*  
Table Setting for Chinese Tea:  
A conversation between leaf  
and flower

Instructor of Jing Si Tea  
Ceremony



### Foon Huang

*Tea Tasting*  
Taiwanese Oolong  
(Jing Si Tea)

Tea Tasting instructor



### Hexi Huang

*Tea Tasting*  
White Teas  
(Golden Oriental)

Hexi Huang graduated as a computer engineer from the University of California, Davis. Currently, he works as a product designer at Golden Oriental Tea, responsible for designing the company’s packaging, logos, and website. Hexi is passionate about travel, food, and cooking. He believes that tea is the perfect accompaniment to many foods and dishes. Hexi is highly interested in sharing his experiences with ancient tea trees and their unique properties with everyone.



## Shunda Huang

*Tea Workshop*  
Cooking with Tea—  
What to add to your tea menu

Shunda was raised in a family with a deep love for traditional Chinese cuisine. After moving to the United States as a teenager, he cultivated his passion for cooking by observing, assisting, and learning from his mother. He later served as the second chef at Great Han Chinese Restaurant. Since 2006, Shunda has volunteered at the Tzu Chi Buddhist Foundation, where he delights in preparing Chinese meals for volunteer gatherings and sharing his culinary skills. The gratitude and appreciation from fellow volunteers bring him the greatest satisfaction.



## Dipika Jain

*Tea Tasting*  
Herbal Loose teas/ Premium  
(Kiara Naturals)

Owner of Kiara Naturals



## Tina Jesson

*Business Seminar*  
Tea Room Secrets—How to  
start a tea room in 15 steps

British born Business Consultant and coach, Tina Jesson, ran 4 tea rooms in Indiana before moving back to the UK in 2022. She provides coaching and consultancy to restaurants, afternoon tea caterers and tea room business owners on how to start and grow their businesses around tea.

Tina is the author of Tina's Traditional Book of Scones and is a speaker & trainer on etiquette and Business Development. You can find free resources at [www.TeaRoomSecrets.com](http://www.TeaRoomSecrets.com)



## Lady Margaret

*Tea Workshop*  
Afternoon Tea for Little  
Princes and Princesses

Lady Margaret's business of bringing glamour, grace, and elegance of the Victorian Era to life began with simple tea parties for friends. Soon, her dream was to cater Afternoon Tea Parties to share the lovely experience with others. She caters Tea Parties for 12 to 200, teaches Etiquette classes for boys and girls, and has a Victorian Girls Day Camp in the summer months.



### **Deborah Raab**

*Tea Tasting*  
**Darjeeling Tea—  
A Comparative Tea Tasting**

Deborah Raab founded Tea-For-All™ in 2011 because of her personal passion for the rituals of tea. She has traveled to various areas both in the USA and throughout Asia studying the process of growing and making tea. She has taught for the USA Tea Association and offers a variety of tea experiences for her local clientele. Always learning, always sharing—anything tea!



### **Pratik Rijal**

*Tea Lecture*  
**The Future of Tea**

Passionate tea producer from Nepal with a mission to bring the rich flavors and cultural heritage of Nepali teas to the global tea market. Committed to providing high-quality, ethically sourced teas that delight tea enthusiasts and support local tea farming communities in Nepal.



### **Sherman Tylawsky**

*Tea Lecture*  
**American Liber-tea—History of  
Tea and the Birth of our Nation**

Sherman Tylawsky is the founder of The George Washington Institute (GWI), host of the Friends & Fellow Citizens podcast, PhD student at the University of Alabama, and an aspiring statesman. He graduated from King's College London in 2018 with a major in Politics and a BA in Liberal Arts. He returned to the United States after college and received a Master of International Affairs degree in 2020 from the Bush School of Government and Public Service at Texas A&M University. He is also blessed to be a Nevadan and currently resides in the Reno/Carson City area.



### **Dr. Sally Wei**

*Tea Workshop*  
**Gaiwan—A Brewing Tool  
You'll Want to Use Everyday**

Dr. Sally Wei is an accomplished classical pianist who has merged her love of music with another passion: tea. A Certified Tea Sommelier by the United Kingdom Tea Academy and Tea Educator for Tzu Chi Foundation (USA), Dr. Sally is a popular lecturer in Tea Festivals around the United States. She combines her love and knowledge of tea with Eastern philosophy and Western etiquette to show us how tea can enrich our lives, relationships and mindsets. Dr. Sally was the founder of Sally's Parlor, which is dedicated to tea and music education. She was the director of Midwest Tea Festival from 2022–2024, and currently serves as the founder & director of Nevada Tea Festival.

### Business Seminar

## Tea Room Secrets— How to start a tea room in 15 steps

- Speaker: Tina Jesson
- Time: 10:00am



Tina shares the 15 steps she followed to establish her tea-room locations. You will gain insights on how to initiate the business, transform ideas into practical strategies, and determine whether running a tea room is the right path for you.

### Tea Workshop

## Table Setting for Chinese Tea: A conversation between leaf and flower

- Speaker: MeiShiang Hsieh
- Time: 10:30am



A proper flower arrangement is necessary for the Chinese Tea Table setting. In this class, our Senior Tea Instructor Mei-Shiang, will guide your sensations to a new level of appreciation and enjoyment in the sublime floral aesthetics of this tradition.

### Tea Lounge

## Darjeeling Tea— A Comparative Tea Tasting

- Speaker: Deborah Raab
- Time: 11:00pm



Everyone has heard that Darjeeling Tea is referred to as the “Champagne of Tea”, but what does that mean? Can you differentiate a Darjeeling tea from another tea? Are there taste differences among the teas from the 90 certified gardens of Darjeeling? What about the various flushes? Come taste and compare to have some of these mysteries revealed.

### Tea Workshop

## Afternoon Tea for Little Princes and Princesses

- Speaker: Lady Margaret
- Time: 12:00pm



Etiquette of dining and taking Tea. Modern Manners for boys and girls.

#### Business Seminar

### Growing and Foraging for Your own Herbal Teas

- Speaker: Babette Donaldson
- Time: 12:00am



*Tips on how and when to harvest and preserve homegrown and wildcrafted herbs.*

There is a growing demand for flavorful and healthful herbal teas. In this workshop we will focus on developing the vibrant natural flavors while preserving the healthful benefits of freshly harvested herbs for your teacup.

Our tasting will include selections from 10 easy-to-grow garden herbs and 10 delicious herbs that grow abundantly in the wild (and are easy-to-identify). And you will walk away with simple and effective ways to incorporate new topics into your event calendar and excite your community with new tea-making skills.

#### Tea Lecture

### American Liber-tea—History of Tea and the Birth of our Nation

- Speaker: Sherman Tylawsky
- Time: 1:00pm



In this engaging presentation, Sherman presents how tea is interwoven with the ideals and events that fueled the birth of the United States of America.

#### Tea Lecture

### The Future of Tea

- Speaker: Pratik Rijal
- Time: 2:00pm



Tea has a rich history, from its ancient origins to its modern renaissance. We'll delve into how tea is on the verge of a transformative evolution that could redefine its identity. What does the future hold for this timeless beverage? Discover the exciting opportunities and daunting challenges that lie ahead, and how innovation and tradition might blend to create a new era for tea enthusiasts and farmers alike. Let's uncover together what the next chapter of tea's story might look like.

#### Tea Workshop

### Cooking with tea—What to add to your tea menu

- Speaker: Shunda Huang
- Time: 3:00pm

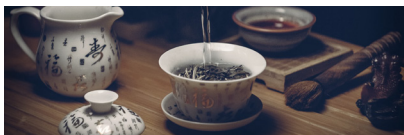


Live demonstration and tasting:  
Tea Eggs, Tea Jelly,  
Macha Mochi Cookie

#### Tea Workshop

### Gaiwan— A Brewing Tool You'll Want to Use Everyday

- Speaker: Dr. Sally Wei
- Time: 4:00pm



Many people wonder why this traditional brewing cup from ancient China is still very popular among professional tea experts. Come learn how to use this cup properly as your daily tea brewing vessel.

\*The instructor will prepare sets for your practice in the class.

#### Chinese Music

### Gu-Zung performance

- Performer: Karen Hsiang
- Time: 1:00-2:00pm, 5:00-5:30pm



Gu-Zung performance



# Nevada Tea Festival 2025

Friday, Oct 31st, 2025  
&  
Saturday, Nov 1st, 2025

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[nevadateafest.com](http://nevadateafest.com)

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