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Lunar New Year 2020 Wraps Up With Festive Crowds At Chinatown Parade

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The throngs of crowds cheering on the 21st annual Chinatown Lunar New Year Parade and Festival Sunday seemed intent on celebrating the upcoming year's good fortune.

The iconic parade — with lion dancers, costumed performers, and confetti — wound through the heart of Chinatown from Mott and Canal streets to Chatham Square to East Broadway and culminating next to Sara D. Roosevelt Park Sunday afternoon as thousands of spectators packed the sidewalks.

Befitting the Year of the Rat, tall smiling puppets of the namesake rodent bobbed and weaved through the streets. The parade followed a day of exuberant lion dance crews bringing good luck to the neighborhood on Saturday — [check out those photos here \(https://gothamist.com/arts-entertainment/photos-super-saturday-lion-dances-draw-big-crowds-and-tons-confetti-chinatown\)](https://gothamist.com/arts-entertainment/photos-super-saturday-lion-dances-draw-big-crowds-and-tons-confetti-chinatown).

It's been a tough few weeks for the Chinese community in New York — even though the city has not had any confirmed cases [the coronavirus \(https://gothamist.com/tags/coronavirus\)](https://gothamist.com/tags/coronavirus), Chinatown businesses have reported a [drop in visitors \(https://www.grubstreet.com/2020/02/chinatown-restaurants-suffering-amid-coronavirus-fears.html\)](https://www.grubstreet.com/2020/02/chinatown-restaurants-suffering-amid-coronavirus-fears.html) in recent weeks, and there have been [incidents \(https://gothamist.com/news/videos-showing-anti-asian-incidents-nyc-raise-fears-racist-backlash-coronavirus\)](https://gothamist.com/news/videos-showing-anti-asian-incidents-nyc-raise-fears-racist-backlash-coronavirus) of anti-Asian racism. In January, the community hub at 70 Mulberry suffered a [devastating fire \(https://gothamist.com/news/fdny-still-fighting-deep-seated-fire-chinatown-building-housing-museum-chinese-america-archives\)](https://gothamist.com/news/fdny-still-fighting-deep-seated-fire-chinatown-building-housing-museum-chinese-america-archives) that displaced several nonprofits and seriously damaged some of the [archives of the Museum of Chinese in America \(https://gothamist.com/news/archive-recovery-begin-museum-chinese-america-days-after-devastating-fire\)](https://gothamist.com/news/archive-recovery-begin-museum-chinese-america-days-after-devastating-fire).

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