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The Westside Breeze

西風

2019年 6月

西區中文學校



Kyle Tien Handley

UC Santa Cruz
Business Management
Economics

I have spent a total of 13 years at Westside Chinese School, dating back to the Palms location and I am currently TA'ing for Peiyi Lao Shi this year. During those 13 years, I became more and more conscious of how important learning Chinese would become for my future, as it remains one of the fastest growing languages globally and can only provide me with more opportunities for my future. I will never forget the many New Year's performances and nerve racking poetry contests, the carnivals and rushing to the lunch line as soon as I heard the sweet sound of that intercom. I am truly thankful for all the staff and parents of Westside Chinese School for all the wonderful Saturday mornings, and for helping to make my future that much brighter.



Lucia Liu

UCLA
Psychobiology

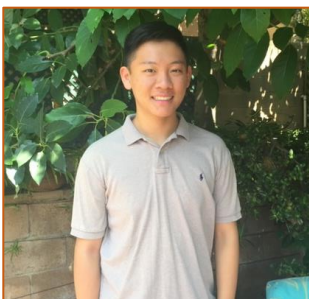
I began attending Chinese school in kindergarten, and still remember conducting a show-and-tell with my backpack on the very first day of school. My experience at Chinese school has helped me connect with my cultural roots and communicate better with extended family members in China. Attending Chinese school was much more valuable than sleeping in on Saturday mornings; I looked forward to speaking with other Chinese American students my age, and always eagerly anticipated the track and field meets and cultural festivals. I hope to continue helping out with the Westside Breeze newsletter in college, and keep developing my language skills through elective classes. If I have the opportunity to, it would also be a great experience to study abroad in China during college.

Ever since I can remember, I looked forwards to every Saturday because of Chinese School. It's always been such a huge part of my life that has shaped who I am today and will continue to in the future. To me, Chinese School was more than learning a second language. It was a community, a place to be with friends who shared the same culture, a second family. As a child I definitely took learning Chinese for granted, and was always more excited about the food at break than class time. However, Chinese has served so many purposes in my life that I look back and cherish everything I learned. I've used Chinese as a way to become closer with my relatives, break barriers with strangers, and even help customers at work. I plan to continue my Chinese endeavors whether it be through language or culture.



Annie Huang

USC
Communications



Derek Wen

UC San Diego
Computer Science

I have been attending Chinese Language School of Southern California since I was in the fifth grade. During my time here, I've learned more than just a language. I've learned about Chinese culture, traditions, and my personal favorite: Chinese idioms. I loved learning how to cook with Yan Lao Shi. Regardless of what field I go into, I know that understanding Mandarin will be very helpful. Learning a second language opens worlds of opportunities, so it's important to continue learning Chinese. As I move onto college, I hope that I can continue learning Chinese and improve on what I've learned from Chinese school. I've had an amazing time at Chinese school.



Jonathan Luo
UC Berkeley
Biology



I started attending Westside Chinese School when I was only 4 years old, making this my 14th year here. Back then, I don't think I ever looked forward to the Saturdays when I would have to wake up early and attend another day of school, but as I look back on my time here, I've come to realize that I don't really have any regrets about attending Chinese school. I've grown to appreciate the value in learning a second language and, if anything, my only regret is that I didn't put more effort into learning Chinese. The more I study Chinese, the more I realize that there's so much more to learn, and every time I realize I instinctively respond in English to my parents when they ask a question in Chinese, I regret that I didn't work harder during Chinese school when I was younger. Regardless, I'm sure that as I move on with my life and as I go off to college, my knowledge of Chinese will be useful, and I will be forever grateful for all of the lessons I've learned at Chinese school.

I've been at Westside Chinese School for 13 years. I am excited to be independent and to have freedom. While I lacked in learning how to read and write Mandarin, it was the Chinese culture that was the most important to learn. For many years, I learned how to make Chinese recipes from Teacher Yan, excited to end class at 11:45 so I could go cook. Learning about Chinese culture out of the textbook was interesting but eating Chinese food that I made was always the best way to experience Chinese culture. In college, I plan to cook myself Chinese food and share with friends. I've learned that speaking Mandarin is important because it helps you connect with other people and your own culture so that you do not get lost in the American culture. My most memorable school event was the carnivals that had fun games to win cheap prizes. I remember the go-carts, the Dragon's Beard Candy, and the boba. It is something I will not easily forget.



Ana Wong
UC Berkeley
Environmental Science

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7th Annual Spring Concert

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Reporter: Alula Savene 史維珊 (3B)



Samantha Chyn (right) and Zoe Tsui (left)

Piece: Suddenly by Tongxiang Wu

Instrument(s): Piano

Arranged by: Co-Music Director Ching-yi Wang

Samantha and Zoe have been in the same Chinese class for the past 5 years. However, it was not until they were arranged to duet together and practiced together that their friendship really began to blossom. Samantha, who has played the piano since she was 6, was inspired to start piano lessons by her brother Jachin Chyn. Zoe said that she started playing piano because she "loved the sound of it." Outside of playing piano, Zoe and Samantha play flute in band at different schools. Samantha will be attending middle school next year, where she intends to join band and continue playing flute. The friends agree that they get nervous before concerts. Fortunately, because they have spent so much time together, they believe they are able to work together to quickly come back when a mistake is made.



Jachin Chyn (center) with band mates

Piece: Africa by Toto.

Instrument(s): Piano

Encouraged by his parents, Jachin started playing the piano since he was 6. He was inspired by his favorite music piece, Africa by Toto, to perform for the first time at the Spring Concert this year. When Co-Music Director ChiaHui Lin first heard Jachin perform Africa on piano, she expressed that he performed "beautifully" and "it was obvious that he loved this song." However, she felt that it could be made better with more instruments and vocals. And so, the search for talent began. Soon, ChiaHui found Kenji Takano-Chong (far left) on electric bass, David W. Stephens (second from the right) who sang and played guitar, and Gordon Huang (far right) who played the drums. Jachin also invited his high school friend Eric Lee (second from the left) to provide vocal harmony. "Africa" turned out to be a hit at the concert, as it elicited many smiles from the audience members, some of whom sang along. Aside from piano, Jachin also plays the ukulele. He says he enjoys playing all types of music, particularly pop music.



Marimba

Annie Huang (left) and Yuri Inoo

Piece: Catching Shadow for Two Marimbas by Ivan Trevino
Instrument(s): Marimba

Daughter of this year's Spring Concert Chair Shinyi Wu, Annie Huang captivated the audience with her marimba performance, which she performed alongside her marimba teacher Yuri Inoo. The marimba is a wooden keyboard instrument similar to the piano, but instead uses mallets to hit bars to produce sound. Annie began playing the marimba in 7th grade and has held the position of center marimba/section leader throughout her 4 years in Santa Monica High School's marching band. Aside from the marimba, she has played the piano and flute for 9 years and percussion for 5 years. She currently also plays percussion in both the top orchestra (Symphony) and top band (Wind Ensemble) at school and has played percussion in the theater pit orchestra for 3 years. Annie says that a lot of the auxiliary percussion instruments were self-taught and figured out along the way. The most amazing venue she has performed in is with her school's band this past Spring Break at the Sant' Ignazio Basilica in Rome, where she opened the concert with a chime solo. "By far the best experience I've had playing percussion," she says. When asked about her favorite piece, Annie replied, "William Tell Overture since it has my favorite Timpani part." Annie has performed at the Spring Concert every year ever since its inception 7 years ago. This fall she will head off to USC to study Communications.

A Trip to Washington DC

段媛瑗 *Felicia Duan (5A)* and 段晶菁 *Chrystal Duan (7A)*



Our family went to Washington DC over winter break. We visited many cool places and learned many things. The day we arrived in Washington, we went to the Bureau of Engraving and Printing which is where all the money in the US is made. The money is made with special materials that only they have and contain many secrets (that you can learn about if you decide to go) so that it will be impossible to make fake money like it. There were many steps in making money and anything that got messed up would be shredded and thrown away. Then we went to visit the Capitol. We saw many paintings that depicted events from the past. We ate lunch in the Senate dining room that day and there were many kinds of good tasting food. We then went to the Supreme Court and got to sit in the area where people can sit to watch cases; unfortunately, there weren't any that day. Afterwards, we went back to the Capitol to visit the Senate and House of Representatives. We went to Diane Feinstein's office to get our passes, but she wasn't there so someone else had to give them to us. I thought the House of Representatives and Senate were very big when we sat in some of the higher seats. The next day we went to the the Library of Congress which is connected to the Capitol by a long hallway. The Library of Congress was the largest library

I had ever seen, probably because it was the largest library in the world. Many of the original books in this library belonged to Thomas Jefferson. Thomas Jefferson sold his books to the Library of Congress in 1815 for a small amount of money, after the Capitol and Library of Congress were both burned down by the British during war. He had the biggest book collection in the US at that time, covering a lot of subjects. But in 1851, there was another fire that burned down the Library of Congress along with 2/3 of Thomas Jefferson's books. When we went to the Library of Congress, we got to see the remaining books that once belonged to our third president and author of the Declaration of Independence (which we bought a copy of). Later on, The Librarian of Congress, Carla Hayden, came to UCLA to give a speech about the Library of Congress and we went to see that. She talked about her time in the library and also how it worked. We also visited the Air and Space museum, where we learned about space and airplanes. Our trip to Washington DC was a very fun learning experience.



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華盛頓特區遊記

漆曉曦 Amelia Chief

今年春假我和爸爸媽媽去華盛頓特區玩了一個禮拜。我們去參觀了很多博物館和其他景點，其中兩個景點是動物園還有潮汐湖(Tidal Basin)。我們也去了維吉尼亞州北部的 Mt. Vernon 參觀美國第一任總統喬治華盛頓的故居。



華盛頓特區的動物園裡有許多很可愛的動物！我看到一些我以前沒有看過的動物，例如沙漠貓(sand cats) 和大耳狐(fennec foxes)。我也看到一些我看過很多次的動物，像是狐獾(meerkats) 和熊貓。華盛頓特區動物園裡有三隻熊貓，他們那天都在睡覺；很可愛。最棒的是這裡的動物園是免費的，不需要門票！



我們去華盛頓特區的那個禮拜也是櫻花盛開的季節，所以潮汐湖(Tidal Basin)旁的景色很美。Tidal Basin 是在傑佛遜紀念碑旁邊的湖。我跟爸爸媽媽還在櫻花全開的那天在湖上划船。真的很美，很漂亮。



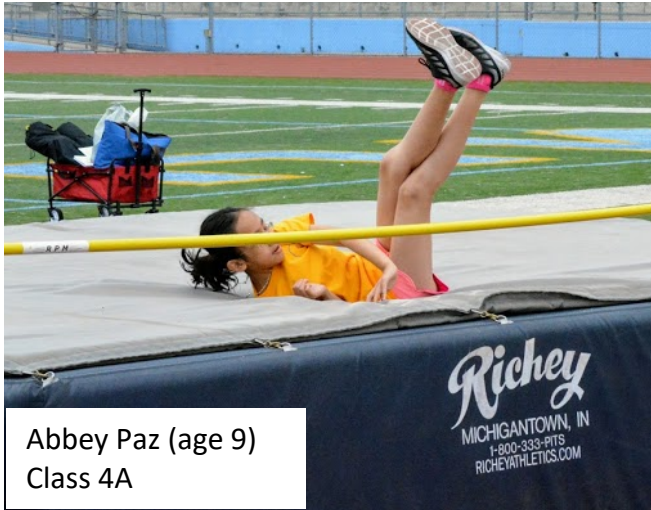
在 Mt. Vernon 我學到了很多新的事情。我跟爸爸媽媽先去參觀喬治華盛頓的家裡，然後我們也去外面參觀。那邊有好多可愛的小羊！我也學到古時候的人是用房間裡的尿壺上廁所；或者是到外面的 necessities 上廁所。necessaries 很像一間室外的公共廁所。裡面有個下面有抽屜的椅子。最奇怪的就是在一個小房間裡，就有三個椅子連在一起，但是完全沒有隔間。另外一個關於 Mt. Vernon 的事情是喬治華盛頓和他的太太瑪莎華盛頓都埋葬在那裡的花園裡。

整個來說，華盛頓特區是個很好玩的地方。那裡所有的博物館是免費的；而且華盛頓特區的越南河粉也很好吃。我很喜歡華盛頓特區，希望有機會可以再去玩！



CLSSSC Sports Meet

This year, students and parents from 15 families participated in our annual Sports Meet. Our athletes had lots of fun competing and cheering each other on while enjoying delicious snacks and bento boxes provided by our wonderful event coordinators. A big thank you to Victor Yen and An Chi Liu for coordinating the event and Teh-Lei Liu for serving as event photographer!



Abbey Paz (age 9)
Class 4A



I won the silver medal at the Westside Chinese School Sports meet. It was the high jump. In my practice jumps I was beginning to think that I wasn't good at it. I never made it over once while I was practicing. I felt insecure until I saw some older students doing the high jump. I saw how they ran to the bar and made it over. If they could do it, so could I. The officials called my number. I ran as fast as I could and jumped as high as I could. I hit the bar and didn't make it over. I waited my turn as they called other students. I wanted to do well for the Westside Chinese School. They called my number again. I ran harder hoping that this time I would make it over. No such luck. I hit the bar again. I was feeling like maybe this wasn't the right event for me. I was a little discouraged when they called my name the third time. I approached the mark. I took a breath and ran as fast as I could. Third times a charm because this time I made it over. I don't remember how high I jumped but whatever it was, it was enough to earn the silver medal. This is Abbey Paz and I am proud to have earned a silver medal for the Westside Chinese School.



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Night of the Living Pizza!

活披薩之夜

By Alula Savene 史維珊 (3B)

One day I woke up and went to the kitchen to get some breakfast. As I nibbled on some KIX, I watched my favorite show on the T.V. Eventually my mom heard it and woke up. She came in and said, "Good morning!" Then she sat down on the couch. We sat there for a while. Eventually the boys woke up and my dad made pancakes. The whole family did their chores. It was a typical Sunday...Or so we thought! Anyway, it was dinner time... we wanted pizza... but our dad didn't want to cook it, so we went to Papa Johns. I ordered a small bacon pizza, my mom got a gluten free pizza, and the boys got a green eggs and ham pizza. We got the pizza and went home. We got parmesan cheese. I put some on my pizza first and it disappeared. So I tried again. It disappeared again! So I poked the pizza and it said, "Ow!"

有一天我睡醒了要去廚房吃早餐。我吃著麥片看著喜歡的電視節目。後來媽媽聽到聲音醒來了。她走過來跟我說早安，然後坐在沙發上。我們在沙發上坐了一會兒。最後弟弟醒了，爸爸做鬆餅。全家總動員做家事。這是一般普通的星期天...或者像我們想的那樣，好啦，到吃晚飯的時候啦...我們想晚餐吃披薩。但是爸爸不想做，所以我們就去了約翰老爸。我點了一個小的培根披薩。我媽點了不含鈣質的披薩。弟弟點了蛋和火腿披薩。我們拿了披薩回家了。我把芝士粉灑在披薩上可是消失了。我又灑一次粉又消失了。我戳了披薩一下，披薩說“喔”！

I picked it up and it had eyes and a nose, a mouth and a voice, two arms and two legs. Then I screamed and dropped it. It landed on its face and pushed itself up and it said, "Ow!" again. I screamed and picked it up again then I said, "Mom, Dad, my pizza—I—it's alive!" Then all the pizza came to life! We put all the pizza into the boxes and went back to Papa John's and told them the whole story.

我拿起來一看，它有眼睛，鼻子，嘴巴有聲音，兩個胳膊兩條腿，我大叫著把它丟下，它臉摔到地上又彈起來說“喔”！我尖叫著又把它撿起來，我就說“爸爸媽媽我的披薩它...它是活的，”後來全部的披薩都活起來了。我們把全部的披薩都放回盒裡，回到約翰老爸那裡告訴它整個故事。

The guy at the cash register said, "I'm sorry, no refunds." So we went home, and on the way the pizza escaped. When we got home, we were still hungry, so we cooked some pasta instead. We heard a glass crash, and a cat meow and hiss. So we went outside. There was a lot of pizza (that was living). It was a Pizzapocalypse!

收銀的那位老兄說：抱歉，不退款。我們就回家了，回家的路上披薩逃跑了，回到家後，我們還是餓著，我們就煮了義大利麵吃，我們聽到玻璃瓶打碎的聲音，一隻貓喵喵叫還發嘶嘶的聲音，我們就出去看，外面一大堆披薩（還都是活的），真是披薩之亂！

I grabbed my mom's phone and dialed 9-1-1. We told them about the pizzapocalypse, so they came and fought the pizza. They won, but the pizza was still alive. I gave it a try. I picked up a piece of pizza, and I bit it. All the other pizza's gasped. They started to chant, "You eat our Chief! We eat you!" And another girl pizza said, "NOOOOOOOOO!" because she was married to the pizza I ate. So, I gave her the crust. She hugged the crust, and danced with it, with her eyes closed.

我抓了媽媽的手機呼叫 911 告訴他們這兒有披薩之亂。他們趕來和披薩大戰。他們贏了。可是披薩還是活的，我就試試看，我拿了一塊，咬了一口，全部的披薩氣急敗壞起來，他們呼叫著說，你吃了我們的首領，我們就吃你！另一個女披薩說“不不不不”因為它嫁給了剛才我吃的那塊披薩。我就把披薩的硬皮給她，她抱著硬皮閉著眼睛跳起舞來。

Aaaany-way, the pizza army jumped on me, and I grabbed them one by one and started eating. "Help me eat the pizza!" I yelled to the police, and my family. They ran to me and grabbed some pizza and ate all the pizza. In the end, we won the war! Man, were we stuffed, but we had a little bit more room for dessert. We went upstairs and shared a French crepe with strawberries and cream. We finished, got ready for bed, and went to bed. Just as I was falling asleep I swear I heard something scratching at the window. I guessed it was some pizza. The End

不管怎麼說，這些披薩大軍跳到我身上來了，我便一個一個把他們抓起來開始吃，我對警察和我家人大喊“幫我吃披薩”他們跑過來幫我抓披薩，把它們都吃光了。最後我們打贏了這場仗。嚇死我了，我們夠受了吧。但是我們肚子有些空間可以放甜點了。我們就到樓上吃配了奶油和草莓的法國薄餅。吃完了就準備上床。就當我要入眠的時候，我聽到窗戶那傳來一些抓撓的聲音，我猜想那是披薩。

-完-

