

The Year of Rat Comes to Wyandot Elementary, Dublin, OH

Reported by Yi Zhang



20 percent of whom are of Asian descent, you were surrounded by a wide array of Chinese cultural decorations. In the center of the Commons ten Chinese red lanterns and two rainbow color Chinese dragons were hanging from the ceiling. On both sides of the stage were Chinese calligraphy symbols for all of the animals in the Zodiac. On the bulletin board

Chinese Culture Celebration week kicked off on March 3rd to March 5th, which included decorations of the Commons, morning announcements, class presentations and an assembly. The driving force behind Chinese Culture Celebration week were Mr. Pfeifer, and multicultural coordinators Yi Zhang, Beth Wilch, Cindy Hackthorne and Debbie Borchiding

Mrs. Yi Zhang, also an ESL Teacher at Wyandot, said that the Chinese parents are grateful that Wyandot is committed to cultural diversity by celebrating Chinese culture for a week. Mrs. Zhang said, "It provides an opportunity for teachers to understand Chinese culture from authentic people who are also their students' parents. This celebration has built a channel for parents and teachers to communicate with greater ease and deeper understanding."

When you walked into the Commons of Wyandot, which has more than 500 students, and

across the stage, there were five Fuwas or Friendlies, the mascots of the Chinese Olympic Games 2008, a Chinese flag and a large distinctive and traditional Chinese handicraft called the Chinese knot. There was also a huge wall of Chinese paintings depicting all the beautiful and historical sites across China.

Every morning there was a two-minute question and answer session by a boy and a girl introducing Chinese culture, history, and literature.

There was a weeklong Chinese cultural presentation across grade levels by twelve Chinese parents who spent many hours preparing for the 30 minutes presentations, which involved multimedia and hands-on activities. The topics varied from Chinese geography, national animals, ten important Chinese festivals, Chinese inventions, Chinese Zodiac, and Chinese food.

An hour long jam packed assembly culminated the celebration week. The performers were Wyandot children, their parents, and guest presenters

from Karrer middle school, Jerome high school and Indian Run elementary school. Clark Ren, a Chinese-American graduate of Wyandot, performed Tai Chi and Jingjing Chen, a former student of Wyandot and National Merit Finalist played violin.

To have a celebration of Chinese culture of

this magnitude at an American public school was exciting and historical. The following parents deserve praise for all their efforts: Arjene Chen, Su Yang, Sophia Su, Liu lichun, Helen He, Cui Yanni, Ling Dahao, Zhang Yanrong, Zhao Shuang, Ai Ling, Julie Larson and Gu Qing.

衛小玲女士榮獲 富蘭克林縣 縣政府頒贈“創造歷史的婦女”獎狀

每年三月是婦女歷史月。富蘭克林縣政府委員會的三位委員，每人推薦一位社區中的婦女領袖人物。加以褒獎。2008年3月25日，衛小玲女士 (Theresa W. Lee) 被推選為社區中創造歷史的三位婦女之一。她是唯一的亞裔獲獎者。其他兩位，一位是俄亥俄州保險部主任 Mary Jo Hudson，一位是俄亥俄州州立大學有五十年資歷的兒科醫生 Stella Kontras。

富蘭克林縣政府委員會主席 Marilyn Brown 是推薦人，但因事外出，由委員 Mary Jo Kilroy 宣讀衛小玲簡歷。衛小玲在 Abbott Laboratories 屬下 Ross 營養食品公司服務 22 年。退休前職位為分析化學部資深研究員，擁有 12 項國際專利，26 篇研究論文。其中她發明的多項油脂分析方法，為美國分析化學家協會、美國食品藥物管理處採用為國際標準鑒定方法。

委員 Kilroy 特別強調衛小玲女士

的貢獻是她由 2003 至 2007 年任美華協會哥倫布分會會長。于 2007 年舉辦防止仇恨罪案大會，讓中學生認識各種仇恨罪案的根由，促進不同種族、國籍、宗教、膚色、性向等群體的互相瞭解，達成和諧社會。2008 年，她又獲得一筆基金，專門鼓勵年青婦女參與選舉，行使公民權利。

衛女士在答謝詞中首先向縣政府委員們致謝，並表示她今天的榮譽，是許多人努力的成果，在座的聽眾也有許多功勞。她特別指出夫婿李兆良讓她能發揮自己，有自己的成就。



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