

BREAK INVISIBLE BARRIERS JUMP START YOUR CAREER AT PURDUE

By Michelle Chen and Chris Morgan

On Friday, September 18, MLN.com, an online services portal and community for international students, with the support from Purdue Center for Career Opportunities (CCO), Purdue International Programs, ManpowerGroup, PUCSSA, Purdue Confucius Institute, Purdue China Center, Krannert Professional Development Center, America China Society of Indiana (ACSI), UCA, CESC, GCC and Voice, successfully hosted a Chinese Student Career & Culture Seminar at the Purdue West Lafayette campus.

The seminar aims to help international students break the invisible barriers and ceilings that hinder their career and personal development. The afternoon event featured keynote speeches, career stories, experience sharing, and panel discussions about various career and culture topics that are important and relevant to international students. Panelists and guest speakers included Purdue CCO Director Tim Luzader, Purdue alumnus/financial industry executive Xiao Chen, Purdue Senior/Fortune 500 Intern Sunny Sun, Deputy Mayor of Columbus Ryan Hou, Purdue China Center Director Professor Liping Cai, and

former IBM executive Harrison Ding.

Manpower Group/WOWtalk, Indy Racing Experience, and Latea Lounge proudly sponsored the event, offering substantial prizes to the winners of a student competition. Through ManpowerGroup, the Top 15 winners will also have opportunity to interview for internship positions at Fortune 500 Companies. At the conclusion of the event, a few lucky students got the opportunity to experience an exciting IndyCar ride around Purdue's campus.

The event was very well received by the 100 or so students who attended the seminar. Harrison Ding, CEO of MLN.com, expressed his gratitude for all the support the company received for the event. He promised that MLN.com will continue to provide high quality listing services, as well as professional services and career coaching, to international students in the U.S., especially those from China. He also revealed that the Career & Culture Seminar Series will be carried on to different campuses across America, perhaps stopping at Indiana University Bloomington next...

MOON FESTIVAL

"The moon is a loyal companion. It never leaves. It's always there, watching, steadfast, knowing us in our light and dark moments, changing forever just as we do. Every day it's a different version of itself. Sometimes weak and wan, sometimes strong and full of light. The moon understands what it means to be human. Uncertain. Alone. Cratered by imperfections." ~Tahereh Mafi



Dr. Patrick Lau was born in Hong Kong and immigrated to the U.S. after high school. He retired from the VA Northern Indiana Health Care System where he served as Chief Radiologist and moved to Florida with his wife in 2011. He was an active member & contributor of IACA and ICMA while in Indiana. Dr. Lau is also a scholar of art and literature and a prolific writer, he has been a dedicated columnist for *Indy Asian American Times* since 2010.

The moon is, in fact, very significant in Chinese tradition, culture, literature and mythology. They cogitate that the moon is correlated with gentleness, peace and brightness, articulating the spirit of Chinese people with modest and congenial attitudes. For the past thousands of years, Chinese have been associating the vicissitudes of life to the transformation of the moon as it waxes and wanes, happiness and sadness, parting and reunion. 人有悲歡離合，月有陰晴圓缺。 Analogously, Henry Longfellow wrote, "Nothing that is can pause or stay; the moon will wax, the moon will wane, the mist and cloud will turn to rain, the rain to mist and cloud again, tomorrow be today."

Mid-Autumn Festival, also known as Moon Festival, is observed on the fifteenth day of the eighth lunar month. It falls on September 27th this year. In autumn, the sky is usually clear without a silk of cloud, and at this particular night, the orbit of the moon is at its lowest angle to the horizon, making the moon ostensibly appear to be most luminous, largest and roundest of the year; an auspicious token of completeness, abundance, unity and reunion.

The most well-known legend of the festival is Chang Er's Moon Escapade 嫦娥奔月. According to Chinese mythology, there were ten suns orbiting over the earth; only one sun illuminated the earth each day. One day, all 10 suns inadvertently emerged together, emanating intense heat, scorching the earth, evaporating the water in the oceans, lakes and rivers. Consequently, humans, animals and plants were dying. The emperor commanded Hou Yi 後羿, a dexterous archer to shoot down all but one of the suns. He efficaciously annihilated nine sweltering suns. The sizzling temperature returned to normal. Hou rescued the earth and mankind.

Heavenly Queen Mother rewarded Hou with a pouch of elixir of immortality. He handed it to his beautiful wife, Chang Er, and she locked it up in her dresser. One day, when Hou went hunting, Peng Meng 蓬蒙. Hou's apprentice, forced Chang to give him the elixir. Knowing that Peng would subdue her,

she hastily swallowed the elixir. She instantaneously floated towards the moon. Realizing that Chang had turned into a celestial being, people made offerings to her with incense, food and fruits. They prayed to her for good fortune, harmony and peace. Eventually, the custom of worshipping the moon goddess has evolved. There are two other legends. A rabbit 玉兔 sacrificed himself for the three fairy sages, who were impressed by his altruistic act, permitted him to reside in the Moon Palace, keeping Chang company. He, moved by what had happened to Chang and Hou, has been assiduously working to make an elixir of immortality; so that they could reunite one day. Wu Gang 吳剛 had achieved immortality and was admitted to Heaven. As a consequence of his misdeed, the Jade Emperor banished him to the moon. And he was commanded to chop down a lofty cherry bay with an axe; however, the tree was deliberately created to possess self-healing power. Every time Wu cut it down; it immediately restored itself. Wu has still been chopping day and night.

People attempt to return home for a family reunion and celebrate the Mid-Autumn Festival. After enjoying a nice supper, they put moon cakes, cooked taro and fruits on a table in the courtyard or balcony for the offerings to the moon goddess, Chang, and praying for her blessing. They then admire the poetic and captivating full moon 賞月, while consuming scrumptious moon cakes. Children carry colorful lanterns made in the shapes of rabbits, goldfish, butterflies and so forth on the streets and in the parks. The moon can offer spiritual connection and happiness for lovers separated by long distance 路遙千里隔，難斷相思苦。 They would simultaneously look up at the moon 千里共嬋娟, knowing the others are gazing, receiving reflected, romantic and sentimental affection. 明月千里寄相思，遙寄祝福千萬縷。 Someone has said, "We are never too far from each other, because we are all under the same moon" 蘇軾：暮雲收盡溢清寒，銀漢無聲轉玉盤。此生此夜不長好，明月明年何處看。

FOURTH ANNUAL SISTER CITIES FESTIVAL THE BEST FESTIVAL YET!

Report by Mayor's International Affairs and Cultural Office

The 4th annual Sister Cities Fest held on September 19th, 2015, attracted more than 4500 festival goers. The event, a cultural street fair to promote a global Indy, was filled with a variety of performances, including Indian, Chinese, Latino and more. Each of Indy's 8 Sister Cities (Taipei, Taiwan, Cologne, Germany, Monza, Italy, Piran, Slovenia, Hangzhou, China, Campinas, Brazil, Northamptonshire County, UK, and Hyderabad, India) created a pavilion to showcase their culture and artifacts of their country. They also had many interactive experiences to engage the festival goer. The Kids Zone, popular with the

younger crowd, included many crafts as well as critters from Animalia. "As the world globalizes, so does Indy. The Sister Cities Fest is a great opportunity to showcase the cultural diversity and talent in the city", said Mayor Ballard.



Youth from the Burmese Community participate in the International Fashion Show



The Indianapolis Chinese Orchestra performs a special cultural program

8th ANNUAL INDIANAPOLIS CHINESE FESTIVAL HEATS UP DOWNTOWN

By IAAT reporter Apelles Johnson

Military Park sang out Saturday, September 12th as the Chinese Hoosiers celebrated their eighth annual Indianapolis Chinese Festival. Eight remained a lucky number as the rain was staved off by singing, dancing, and sharing of Chinese and American culture.

"This has really been a labor of love more than anything else," Mayor Greg Ballard said while holding his gift of appreciation from the Hoosier Chinese community, a statue of pure jade. "I believe in international relationships and being a global city. The fact that we have such good relations now throughout our own community... We now have people talking to each other on a level we had not before."

The festival was sponsored by Eli Lilly, Dow Agro, the state, and many other organizations that either currently do business with China or are looking to expand into the market. Eli Lilly held the most tables at the event, each showcasing a different aspect of Chinese history, culture and future. While known as one of the greatest pharmaceutical powerhouses of the world, Eli Lilly also hosts one of the largest groups of employees of Chinese descent in Indianapolis. At

the festival, many employees were chatting away in English and Mandarin, explaining their culture and history to anyone passing by.

The festival also served as a place for Hoosiers to understand the Chinese community as it exists in Indianapolis. The scents of noodles and dumplings wafted through the air as children of all ages tried different games and activities. Smaller companies like the accounting firm BGBC, hosted a table at the festival, less to promote and more to learn about how the Chinese Hoosiers live and communicate. Everyone was welcome, and everyone learned a bit more about themselves and their increasingly international community.

The Indy Asian-American Times was present of course, as well as many other organizations that assist with bridging the gaps between all Hoosiers, and help strengthen the communities that already exist. The Indianapolis Chinese Festival remained an event that engaged young and old, Chinese and Non-Chinese, making the big bad world a little smaller.



Festival activities for all ages



Greetings from Panda

CARMEL AND SISTER CITY XIANGYANG CELEBRATE MOON FESTIVAL

By IAAT reporter Apelles Johnson

Dancing down Main Street the dragon goes, twirling round cars and shops. It whirls with the drums, flies over paintings, and on stage it finally stops. You might think such an image to be fanciful but Carmel residents got to witness this dragon parade down the street at the Moon Festival this September 12th. The cops assisted in helping these nine dragon dancers march a dynamic yellow dragon down Main St. towards 106th pausing in the field that would house the festival.

The Moon Festival or Mid-Autumn festival is a traditional Chinese festival held every year and is often compared to Thanksgiving. The focus of the holiday is on family and food. Both were present at this year's Moon Festival. Children darted two and fro in the field on the side of the festivities, while parents and grandparents enjoyed the show, watching the dance troupes and the Indianapolis Chinese Orchestra.

Peter Kirkwood's eyes darted back and forth over the crowd as the evening waned on. Kirkwood is member of the sister city committee, and played a large part in the development of this year's Mid-Autumn

Festival. He paced back and forth while checking on every part of the exhibit. The dancers were in place, ready to begin the next act. The red bean mooncakes were being distributed amongst the crowd and they had broken out the green ones. The plan was going smoothly.

The M/C for the performances called up of the next act, and another organizer of the event stands on stage with a large lion mask and requests volunteers. No sooner had the call gone out, had Peter Kirkwood found himself onstage joining in a riotous lion dance. The crowd burst into applause as Kirkwood, at last, exited the stage.

The Moon Festival is an event based on inclusion and fun. Each person welcomed the other, including people experiencing the Art Walk nearby, to joggers and families passing on the Monon trail. The event was lively, and everyone was happy to have people join in the festivities. The more the merrier, and this year's event was plenty of fun for all.



Dragon dance under Carmel Main Street



Moon cakes are served

UNIVERSITY of INDIANAPOLIS presents



West Meets East

A concert of Chinese & Western Music promoting cross-cultural exchange and understanding

Sunday, October 4, 3 p.m.

Christel DeHaan Fine Arts Center, University of Indianapolis

Free & open to all

Featuring University of Indianapolis faculty: Soprano Kathleen Hacker, violinist Austin Hartman, and pianist Gregory Martin.

In collaboration with Shanghai Normal University faculty: Chinese original folk song singer Zhao Xian and electroacoustic music composer Shen Lin.

Also featuring erhu player Penwin Wang, student, University of Indianapolis-Ningbo Institute of Technology/Zhejiang University Joint Program.

Folk songs, classical music, and the traditional Chinese erhu bring West and East together for a special concert to celebrate multicultural awareness.

For more information, contact Dr. Phyllis Lan Lin at lin@uindy.edu or 317-788-3288.

Sponsored by the University of Indianapolis Asian Programs. Co-sponsored by the University of Indianapolis Music Department; Shanghai Normal University, Music Technology Department, Music College; Indianapolis Habka Association; Indiana Association of Chinese Americans; Asian American Today; Indy Asian American Times; University of Indianapolis-Ningbo Institute of Technology, Zhejiang University Joint Program.

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