

Indy Asian American Times Awards Gala

IAAT Constellation Awards Gala salutes six 'Stars of the Indiana's Chinese American Community and pay special tribute to former Indianapolis Mayor Greg Ballard at the Hilton Indianapolis Hotel & Suites last Saturday. The gala also celebrated the 200th birthday of the State of Indiana as the gala was endorsed as a legacy project by the State's Bicentennial Committee. The gala was well attended and represented by major groups of the Asian community as well as the business community. Guests include leadership from American China Society of Indiana, Confucius Institute, Columbus Chinese Association, Indiana Association of Chinese Americans (IACA), Indianapolis Chinese Cultural Center (ICCC), Indiana Chinese Medical Association (ICMA), Indianapolis India

Association, the Indianapolis Burmese Community. Businesses represented are LHP Engineering Solutions of Columbus Indiana, Heritage Group-China, MLN.com, Suez North America, and Telamon Corporation.

The six honorees are stellar individuals being recognized for their field of expertise, profession and community services. They are Ryan Hou (Entrepreneur/Community), Peter Peng (Industrial Science), Joe Xu (Education), Rudy Yung (Medicine), Xishun Zhang (Business/Philanthropy), and Tony Zhang (Scientific Research). The awards were presented to these honorees by their family members, colleague and dear friend. (More information and events photographs can be found in this edition's special insert)

Special tribute was paid to former Indianapolis Mayor Greg Ballard for his public

service to the city, his vision, leadership in establishing the Sister City relationship with Hangzhou, Zhejiang China, and his initiative and support to the Indianapolis Chinese Festival. His administration's contributions to the International cultural affairs and International Sister City relationship. Indy Asian American Times presented the Mayor with an album which consists of a photo collage of fond memories on events and festival while he was in office.

The gala receives rave reviews from guests and sponsors. It was an evening of great gathering of friends, colleagues, families celebrating achievements, contributions, community comradery and thanks-giving to IAAT's supporters, sponsors and volunteers.



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.

BY DR. PATRICK LAU

*Awaken to Spring
And Spring arose on the garden fair,
Like the Spirit of Love felt everywhere;
And each flower and herb on Earth's dark breast
rose from the dreams of its wintry rest.*
~Percy Bysshe Shelley

Under the warm spring sun with floating billowy white clouds in the sky, we feel the subtle warmth of the gentle spring breeze in the balmy dew-wet morning (春風送暖, 朝露待日晞). A few delightful ducks and concealed geese have apparently emerged from nowhere (春江水暖鴨先知); and they are happily swimming and romantically courting in the calm and serene lake with the sound of silence (此時無聲勝有聲, 在天願作比翼鳥). Spring comes to the lake with its deep blue water flowing east, looking like an enchanting painting (春來江水綠如藍, 一江春水向東流, 湖上春來似畫圖). Every now and then, an aggressive male goose vociferously chases off another contender, momentarily disturbing the tranquility in the milieu.

After the tender spring breeze and nourishing, misty early spring rain befall throughout the night (早春小雨潤如酥, 隨風潛入夜, 潤物細無聲), the countless, gorgeous, multicolored flowers, such as rows of plum blossom white, are elegantly blooming here and there, and everywhere in the drenched loamy garden (春風桃李花開日, 萬紫千紅春滿園). The majestic butterflies with their delicate, colorful wings are gracefully dancing over the flower beds, while some seem resting on the beautiful flowers. The straw-colored parched grass is abruptly revitalized overnight, forming a colossal mantle of green carpet (江南二月多芳草, 春風吹又生). The spring breeze subsequently bears the lovely fragrance of the picturesque flowers and the jade-green grass (春風花草香).

The once barren and desolate trees are bountifully

adorned with youthful green leaves (忽如一夜春風來, 千樹萬樹梨花開), rightfully reclaiming all of their vanished vigor and vitality during the biting cold winter. The weeping willow trees by the water seem emotively waving in the spring breeze (綠柳吐絮迎新春, 春風楊柳萬千條). All these compose a charming, vibrant scenery of spring. By and by, the returning birds are ecstatically serenading to celebrate their homecoming among the lofty, leafy trees and charming, fragrant flowers (忽聞燕語柳叢深, 誰家新燕啄春泥, 處處聞啼鳥, 鳥語花香). Once again, spring blissfully returns to the mother earth (春回大地).

Amid the tender spring breeze, nourishing early spring rain and the warm spring sunshine, the spark of life is instantly lit; the seeds of life begin to germinate. Springtime is the land awakening. Christina Rossetti once said, "Spring is when life's alive in everything." Spring signifies new birth; myriad living things are awakening and rejuvenating to prosperity like the splendor in the grass and the glory of the flowers, (萬象皆春氣). Indeed, spring is the beginning of the renewal of life.

Springtime is the season of limitless hope, carrying many high expectations for the future. We feel that the world is full of novelty, and the future is full of beautiful vision. We curiously search for knowledge, and do everything with unbent energy and enthusiasm. Spring furnishes us with opportunities; we ought to seize them. It is the season to cultivate and sow seeds. We have to practice fortitude, assiduousness, and perseverance to overcome adversities like weeds, insects, droughts, storms, floods or other obstacles. The delicate young plants have to develop a strong root system in order to survive all these adverse conditions and grow into maturity. The ordeal of spring sowing is rewarded with the harvest of autumn. Plant in the spring or beg in the fall.

Spring is the season of blooming blossoms, greenery, reborn optimism and belief in recovery. In the words of Susan J. Bissonette, "An optimist is the human personification of spring."

崔護: 去年今日此門中, 人面桃花相映紅. 人面不知何處去, 桃花依舊笑春風.



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April 16, 2016

Dear Mayor Gregory & First Lady Winnie Ballard:

On behalf of the entire Chinese Community, please accept our deepest appreciation for your service and support during your term in office. From the first day of your administration, it was evident of your vision and leadership to advance international affairs and international cooperation.

Your commitment to the Chinese American community was very clear in creating the inaugural Indianapolis Chinese Festival, as well as establishing a Sister City partnership with Hangzhou, Zhejiang, China. You both were ever present at numerous Chinese events from Chinese New Year celebrations, to many programs and events held throughout the year. We are grateful for your commitment and participation to advance our Chinese American community in Indianapolis, as well as Indianapolis's relationship with China.

Thank you. "Xie Xie!"

Sincerely,

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Indy Asian American Times

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Letter to Mayor from IAAT Board of Directors on 1st page of album to Mayor Ballard



Inside page of album to Mayor Ballard

History Talks: China and its Modern Economy



On April 18 at IUPUI University Library's Lilly auditorium, Dr. Kenneth Pomeranz, history professor of University of Chicago brought new insight to one of the classic questions of history: Why did sustained industrial growth begin in Northwest Europe, despite surprising similarities between advanced areas of Europe and East Asia?

Professor Pomeranz states that as recently as 1750, parallels between these two parts of the world were very high in life expectancy, consumption, product and factor markets, and the strategies of households. Perhaps most surprisingly, Pomeranz demonstrates that the Chinese and Japanese core cities and towns were no worse off ecologically than Western Europe. Core areas throughout the eighteenth-century Old World faced comparable local shortages of land-intensive products, shortages that were only partly resolved by trade.

Pomeranz points out that Europe's nineteenth-century divergence from the Old World owes much to the location of coal, which substituted for timber for fuel. This made Europe's failure to use its land intensively much less of a problem, while allowing

growth in energy-intensive industries. Another crucial difference that he notes has to do with trade. Fortuitous global happenings made the Americas a greater source of needed primary products for Europe than any Asian periphery. This allowed Northwest Europe to grow dramatically in population, specialize further in manufacturing, and remove labor from the land, using increased imports rather than maximizing yields. Together, coal and the New World allowed Europe to grow along resource-intensive, labor-saving paths.

Although the East Asian hinterlands boomed after 1750, both in population and in manufacturing, this growth prevented these peripheral regions from exporting vital resources to the Yangzi Delta. As a result, growth in the core areas of East Asia's economy essentially stopped, and what growth did exist was forced along labor-intensive, resource-saving paths - paths Europe could have been forced down, too,



had it not been for favorable resource stocks from underground and overseas like the Americas.

Professor Pomeranz ended with a thought provoking thought: "Today, 75% of wages from rural China is non-farm income."

Formosa Circus Arts

Formosa Circus Arts
Monday May 2nd 2016
7pm-9pm
FREE ADMISSION

indytaiwanamericansociety.com

Join Taiwanese American Association of Indianapolis for an outstanding performance from the Formosa Circus Arts at Marian University.

Date
Monday, May 2nd 7:00PM-9:00PM

Location
Marian University Theater

Cost
Free

The Formosa Circus Arts is composed of a group of young men and women from Taiwan devoted towards performing the circus arts. This year, they will arrive to Indianapolis with a phenomenally exciting circus show that will knock your socks off. With a combination of circus arts with Asian cultural influences, you have the chance to be a part of this cultural storm about showcase a fresh new take to circus arts.

FREE ADMISSION!
RSVP by going to indyformosacircusarts.eventbrite.com

Ballard Heading Back to School

Greg Ballard has been named a visiting fellow of the Institute for Civic Leadership & Mayoral Archives at the University of Indianapolis. The school says in the role, Ballard will help promote the archives as a resource for officeholders, community leaders, researchers and students. His work will also focus on strategies and issues including quality of life in urban areas, clean energy solutions, transportation and global collaboration.

Ulndy President Robert Manuel says "former Mayor Ballard's role continues a University of Indianapolis tradition of working closely with city leaders. He's been a vital partner in Ulndy's efforts to enhance the quality of life in our own neighborhood and throughout Indianapolis. I'm looking forward to seeing firsthand his contributions to Ulndy's intellectual life and student

learning opportunities, and I believe our partnership can make a national impact."

Ballard is also donating materials from his time in office to the archive, as has been customary for all previous Indianapolis mayors since Richard Lugar. Lugar, William Hudnut, Stephen Goldsmith and Bart Peterson have all also served on the school's board of trustees.

Ballard says "I've enjoyed working with the University of Indianapolis on the many issues of concern we share. This new relationship, drawing on the resources of the university, will provide a platform for national conversations on the future of urban life in our country."

The archives are available to the public in digital form through a grant from the Lilly Endowment Inc.