



# Renascentia Hall International

Volume 6, Issue 4~ April 2016

## RH's College Seminar and Career Workshop

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### Summer Travel

Please begin discussing travel plans for the end of the school year with your student. Remember to submit a **Travel Permission Form** and a copy of your student's itinerary. RH will again help with airport transportation arrangements. Make sure the departure flights are convenient for the host family's schedule and don't forget to consider carpooling or joining together for shuttle services. To meet visa requirements, RH must know our students' whereabouts at all times.

Leaving personal items behind is at the discretion of the host family. Renascentia Hall can help students rent a storage facility upon request. Encourage your student to clear out or donate garments and other items that are no longer needed. Newark Senior Center on White Chapel Drive in Newark holds a rummage sale at the end of April and is currently accepting all kinds of donations.

Students may not skip any half-days or full days of class, and seniors must attend their graduation ceremony. Overnight stays must be accompanied by a chaperone who is at least 21 years old. Students who travel without permission will be subject to disciplinary action.

Dr. Song Hoffman began this year's College and Career Seminar by explaining the college application process to fifteen RH students on Saturday, March 19 at Brandywine Library, Wilmington, Delaware. Dr. Hoffman, who was born and raised in Beijing, started her career in international education simultaneously with her academic career when she was the Program Manager for the joint Masters program from Nankai University in China and Flinders University in Adelaide, Australia in 1999. Dr. Hoffman then continued with her career in global education at Flinders University. She moved to the United States in 2011 and currently works at the University of Delaware where she is in charge of International Undergraduate Recruitment and Admissions. Next, Wesley Abram, currently a Junior at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania, shared his experiences about life on an American college campus. Wesley's concentration is in Operations and Information Management, Entrepreneurial Management, and Marketing.



Addressing the topic of choosing an Engineering major was Hong Zhang, Ph.D., an associate professor of Mechanical Engineering at Rowan University in New Jersey. He obtained his B.S. from Tsinghua University, China and his M.S. and Doctoral degrees from the University of Pennsylvania. His specialty includes mechanical design, mechatronics, and control. He has developed an autonomous kite that flies by itself and a robotic boat that can detect water quality without human intervention. Dr. Zhang has also created many smartphone apps and is a co-author of a series of financial books.

After a lunch break featuring sandwiches from Panera, RH's Executive Director, Clarice Kwasniewski, discussed the importance of internships and work experience. Clarice joined the Renascentia Hall staff following a three-year stint as Director of Admissions at Saint Mark's High School, her alma mater. Clarice has extensive work experience including managing a car rental business as well as sales and customer service roles in the healthcare and insurance industries. At Saint Mark's, Clarice expanded the diversity of the student population by working with Renascentia Hall's president, Dr. Jerry Xiao to add more than thirty international students to the student enrollment.

Dr. Jerry Xiao concluded the workshop. His twenty years of international study, research, and teaching experience in Singapore, Europe, and the United States have given him a comprehensive understanding of different education systems. Jerry is an advocate for international education exchange and has worked with educational institutions in the United States and China, and has assisted Chinese students in locating study abroad programs for more than ten years. He founded Renascentia Hall in 2008 to meet the demand for a more open and efficient system to match schools and students. This also promotes the fusion of eastern and western education philosophies.

Following the last talk, students completed a survey that will help them pinpoint areas to consider when choosing a college major.



## Important School Dates

*\*Please check your school website regularly for updates\**

April: Have DIAA Physicals done before the end of school

April 11: Report Cards—Wilmington Christian

April 11-15: Blue & Gold Week—Tower Hill

April 11-27: Spring Flower Sale—York Catholic

April 11-16: National Library Week

April 12: College Fair—Annapolis Area Christian

April 13: Distinguished Scientist Lecture—Friends' Central

April 14: STEM Fest—Independence

April 14: Key Club Variety Show—St. Mark's

April 15: Jr. & Sr. Prom—Red Lion

April 15: District Jazz Festival—York Catholic

April 15: No School—Salesianum, Sanford, St. Mark's

April 15: Drama Improv—Friends' Central

April 16: Prom—Tatnall

April 16-17: Spring Performance—Tower Hill

April 19: Blood Drive—Wilmington Christian

April 21: Prospective Parent Open House—Red Lion

April 21: High School Career Day—Wilmington Christian

April 22: Science Fair—Aquinas

April 22: Earth Day

April 22: Founders' Day—Independence

April 22: Passover begins at Sundown

April 22: No school—Friends' Central, Tatnall

April 22-24, 29-30: Spring Musical—Salesianum

April 22-23: Spring Musical—St. Mark's

April 26: Alumni Sports Banquet—Salesianum

April 28: Grandparents Day—Holy Angels

April 28: Sushi Theater—Annapolis Area Christian

April 29: No School—Ursuline

April 29: Last day of 12th grade classes—Friends' Central

April 29: May 6: AP Study and Exam week—Salesianum

April 30: Jr. & Sr. Prom—Friends' Central, Annapolis Area Christian

## Community Service— Giving Back

Students who need community service hours can participate in the Battery Park Cleanup on Saturday, April 23 from 9 am until noon. Please bring work gloves, wear long sleeves and pants and school paperwork if needed for community service hours. The registration table will be located at the Sailing Club at the end of West 3rd Street in Old New Castle. Attendees should confirm their attendance by sending an email to [dlu@renashall.com](mailto:dlu@renashall.com). For other service opportunities, check at school, places of worship, 4-H Office, or local websites like: [www.VolunteerDelaware.org](http://www.VolunteerDelaware.org) to meet school requirements.

## Student Honors

Renascencia Hall is very proud of the hard work that all of our students do throughout the school year. We are especially pleased to congratulate:

**Nan Nancy Wang** (Red Lion Christian Academy) for earning a Red Ribbon at the ASCI Fine Arts Festival in Mechanicsville, PA.

**Binyu Wystan Wang** (Wilmington Christian) who won a Scholastic Arts Award. He also had a pen and ink drawing selected by the Delaware Foundation of Visual Art for their 2017 calendar.

**Yang Jenny Jin** (The Tatnall School) who also made Honor Roll last semester.

**Xiangyi Olivia Fei** (Saint Mark's High School) who achieved Honor Roll status for the 3rd marking period.

**Yifan Jake Zhu** (Salesianum) who played on the school's varsity basketball team that made it to the 2016 State Tournament.



## Upcoming Events

**April 23: Battery Park—New Castle Clean Up  
Community Service Opportunity**

**May 6: Wilmington Blue Rocks Baseball Game,  
Fireworks, and Monkey Cowboy Rodeo**

**May 29: Senior Graduation Picnic at Lums Pond**

## 生日快樂 Happy Birthday!



Mengqi Bella Tuo  
April 6



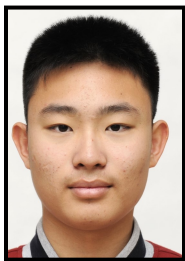
Zerui Jerry Pei  
April 12



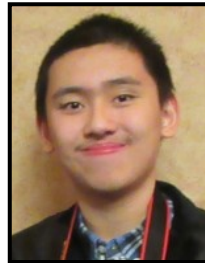
Yi Jerry Su  
April 13



Yuanhao Frank Lyu  
April 17



Guanhao Eason Jing  
April 23



Yukang James Li  
April 18

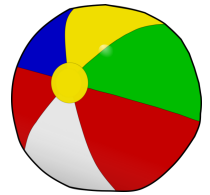


Yifan Sunny Zhuang  
April 29

**We Wish You A Happy Birthday!**

## You Can Learn A Lot in Just 9 Weeks...

Students are encouraged to enroll in a camp or online course to strengthen a subject that may have been difficult to grasp during the rigorous school year. There are many programs available to help students gain confidence in speaking and writing in English. Summer is also a good time to try something new and challenging. There are many non-credit programs for high school students held at colleges around the U.S. Camps also offer opportunities to expand interests and meet new people. School counselors and RH Student Advisors can offer suggestions.



## Host Family Re-Enrollment Time

It's that time of year again...Would you like to continue hosting an RH student next school year? Re-enrollment forms have been emailed and we ask that you complete it and return it as soon as possible. We will match current students first and then our new arriving students. As always, thanks for all that you do for your international student to make them feel at home in your home. We also welcome referrals for new host families, too, particularly in the North Wilmington area.

## All eyes on Dr. Hong Zhang at the College and Career Workshop



# GRADUATION PARTY

## Sunday, May 29

**Where:** Lums Pond State Park (Pavilion 4)  
(Parking available near our pavilion)

**When:** 1 pm — 5 pm

**What:** Celebration Picnic for our Seniors  
Main course & Beverages provided  
Please bring a side dish to share

**Who:** All RH students & Host Families

**Extras:** See Below

***RH Special Gift to Seniors = FREE Zip Line session!***



**Note:** Park entry fee is \$4 for DE registered vehicles and \$8 for out-of-state vehicles.

Please bring extra chairs for seating 😊

Enjoy the biking and walking trails, bring your fishing gear, or hit up the tennis and basketball courts.  
Also available : volleyball, Frisbee, golf and horseshoes. For more information visit  
[www.destateparks.com](http://www.destateparks.com)

**Other activities available for an additional fee include:**  
 Kayaks \$9 single or \$11 double per hour  
 Paddle Boats \$6 for half hour or \$10 per hour  
 Go Ape Zip Line Course \$38 (under 17 years old) or \$58 (18 years old and up) **Reservation required**  
 Canoes \$8 per hour  
 Row boats \$7 per hour

**Return this reservation to [dlu@renashall.com](mailto:dlu@renashall.com) by Monday, May 23.**

**RH Senior Student Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **YES, I WANT TO ZIP LINE!** \_\_\_\_\_

**RH Student Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Host Parent Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Host Sibling Name:** \_\_\_\_\_