



# Renascentia Hall International

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## 2017– The Lunar Year of the Rooster

Each year Renascentia Hall invites host families and partner school staff to a special Appreciation Dinner in thanks for welcoming our international students. The event is held to coincide with the Lunar New Year, the most significant Chinese festival. Skyline United Methodist Church in Wilmington was the site for the Year of the Rooster festivities this year. All students received red “hong bao” lucky money envelopes upon arrival. Before the Chinese buffet-style dinner, attendees viewed a Chinese dumpling demonstration by host mom Wanying Zhao and her two host daughters, Pan Xiong and Jenny Tu. Guests got to sample the delicious results. An



impressive student art display featured works by Olivia Fei, Youni Liu, Bella Tuo, Nancy Wang and Amy Xu. Following the meal, Masters of Ceremonies Bella Tuo and Jake Zhu guided the New Year Celebration. The audience was treated to entertainment by Joey Bai, Mou Chen, Olivia Fei, Jerry Li, and Bill Li. RH staffers Yue He and John Ren wowed the assembly with their vocal talents and host parents LoriAnn Ford and Doug Poole provided additional musical performances. The youngest performer of the evening was toddler Amber Wang. Tower Hill School’s Eduardo Silva was on hand to assist RH Director, Dr. Jerry Xiao, who distributed academic and achievement awards. Honor roll students received certificates and a monetary award (see **Honor Roll** on this page.)

The following awards were also presented:

**Outstanding Achievement in Extra-Curricular Activities:** Johnson Guo, Terry Li, Bella Tuo, Allen Wu, Tommy Zu

**Outstanding Participation in Extra-Curricular Activities:** Jacob Dong, Miranda Kong, Youni Liu, Nancy Wang

**Leadership:** Jake Zhu

**Significant Improvement in Academics:** Charles Wang, Adam Zhang, Sunny Zhuang

**Most Considerate:** Miranda Kong, Songheng Li, Olivia Lin, Cindy Teng, Nancy Wang, Allen Wu, Pan Xiong, Jake Zhu, Rex Zhu

Karen Krauss acknowledged host families for their respective years of service (see article on page 2.) The highlight of the evening was the presentation of the Host Family of the Year Award. This year the honor went to Suzanne and Richard Lubin.



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### Honor Roll

Congratulations to the following students who earned Honor Roll status for the first semester!

#### High Honors

**Saint Mark’s:** Xiangyi Olivia Fei

**Salesianum:** Yifan Jake Zhu

**Sanford:** Haozhe Jacob Dong

**Tower Hill:** Yanran Olivia Lin, Siyuan Sky Wu, You Allen Wu, Hang Peter Zhong

**Ursuline:** Mengyi Bella Tuo

**Wilmington Christian:** Yi Jerry Su, Lihong Una Lin

#### Honors

**Friends Central:** Yuyan Tiffany Wang, Qianhui Angela Zhang

**Red Lion:** Yuanhao Frank Lyu, Nan Nancy Wang

**Saint Mark’s:** Rongkun Amy Gao, Chongfang James Xu

**Sanford:** Shiyun Susan Tang

**Tatnall:** Yichen Johnson Guo, Yang Jenny Jin, Yihan Miranda Kong, Tianqi Terry Li

**Tower Hill:** Yukang James Li, Xinyu Cindy Teng, Zhichao Frank Yu, Baotang Tommy Zu

**Wilmington Friends:** Runlai Eric Jiang

## RH's Newest Partner School - Archmere Academy

RH Director, Dr. Jerry Xiao, is pleased to announce that Archmere Academy has recently signed a partnership agreement to accept international students through the company. Located in Claymont, Delaware, Archmere Academy is a private, co-educational, Catholic college preparatory school and enrolls approximately 500 students.

Founded in the Norbertine tradition, an Archmere education focuses on the whole person, developing students into empathetic leaders. Valuing a consistent work ethic, cultivating an appreciation for excellence, striving for student mastery in all subject areas, and supporting students' self-discovery, Archmere teachers encourage students to become lifelong learners who are fully engaged in the world around them. The RH staff is looking forward to assisting top Chinese students who desire to attend this highly-esteemed institution.

## Host Family Years of Service Awards

We wish to recognize the following host families for their years of service. Their dedication makes our students' American homestay experience complete.

**2 Years:** Tom & JiuHong Bonnes, Rebeca & Brian Fahey, Rebecca & Fabrice Gorse, Wenqian Jin & Yue Shen, Teal Rickerman, Sonya & Gary Safian, Juncai Yang & Cairong Wang

**3 Years:** Ruth Blume, JoAnn Bruch, John Ciotti, Vivian & Mike Gallagher, Chris Huey, Karen & Dan Kegelman, Clarice & Denis Kwasnieski, Pam & Bill Kwiatkowski, Suzanne & Richard Lubin, Marie & Wayne Luzzo, Candise & Dale Schmidling

**4 Years:** Yeda & David Arscott, Kathy & Dwayne Cluff, Karen & Doug Poole

**5 Years:** LoriAnn & Mark Ford, Barbara Morrell, Joyce & Carl Witte

## RH Students Celebrating Chinese New Year



## Important School Dates

*\*Please check school websites regularly for updates.*

Feb.11: Salstthon Fundraiser - Salesianum

Feb.14: Valentine's Day

Feb.17: No school - Independence, Red Lion, Sanford, Tatnall, Ursuline, Wilmington Friends

Feb.20: Presidents' Day No School - Annapolis, Friends' Central, Friends' Select, Independence, Red Lion, Salesianum, Sanford, St. Mark's, Tatnall, Ursuline, Wilmington Christian, Wilmington Friends, York Catholic

Feb. 24: "Miss Nelson is Missing"- Independence

Feb. 24-25: Tatnall Showcase

Feb. 25: Hoops for Habitat – Tower Hill

Mar. 1: Spring Sports begin

Mar. 2-4: "Pippin" - Friends' Central

## UD ELI Launches New Program with RH for High School Students

The University of Delaware's English Language Institute (ELI) is excited to introduce a new program for the 2017-18 school year. The Summer Language and Leadership Academy (SLLA) is specifically designed for international students who have been accepted at a private high school in the U.S. International students from any country who are between the ages of 15-17 are eligible to participate.

The SLLA will be held on the UD campus during the summer for five weeks prior to the start of the school year. Students will receive instruction to improve their listening, speaking, and writing skills before they face the challenge of an actual high school classroom. In addition, a variety of cultural activities will introduce them in life in America. Students will live with host families during the program to enhance the experience and allow them to begin overcoming culture shock before the added stress of starting school. The SLLA will provide tools for new international students to be academically successful while reducing the amount of time teachers spend helping them adapt to American scholastic methodology.

To launch of the SLLA, the ELI staff asked Renascentia Hall to invite representatives from our partner schools to a presentation on Tuesday, February 7 at the UD Trabant Student Center. After a delicious brunch, participants learned about the program from ELI Director, Dr. Scott Stevens. Carrie Neely, English instructor for the program, shared her experiences working with international students and how she plans to use her knowledge with the SLLA students. She encouraged school officials to communicate their concerns and problems regarding international students to her so she can incorporate responses into the summer curriculum. Admission to the program will be coordinated through the UD admissions office but the RH office will help students enroll.

## Student Spotlight

Tatnall senior Tianqi Terry Li will continue his swimming career at St. Lawrence University in New York. Terry was recognized at a ceremony along with other student athletes on February 1 at the school. Joining Terry at the event were his Host Dad, Tom Bonnes and Student Advisor, John Ren.



## It's Tax Season

By now host families should have received their 1099 from RH. The IRS and your tax preparer have resources on how best to file your 1099 information. As a general rule, save food and fuel receipts and maintain a vehicle mileage log when transporting your student to and from school. Note that the standard mileage rate for 2016 was 54 cents per mile for business miles driven. Beginning Jan. 1, 2017, the standard mileage rate is 53.5 cents per mile per business miles driven.

## 生日快樂 Happy Birthday!



Yiner Erwin Chen  
February 15



Mingyi Joey Bai  
February 16



Hang Peter Zhong  
February 21

## Upcoming Event

**5/20/17 Senior Graduation Party at Hershey Park**  
Details coming soon!