



Renascentia Hall International

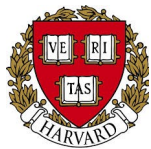
Volume 4, Issue 2 ~ November, 2014

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Boston Trip

Come away Thanksgiving weekend to historic Boston for an autumn trip with Renascentia Hall. We have a full itinerary of college visits, great food, fun tours, shopping, and a visit to the *Mayflower* ship and Pilgrim's Plantation in Plymouth, Massachusetts. See where the history of Thanksgiving dinner with the Native Americans all began. This motor coach bus tour begins Friday through Sunday, **November 28-30**.



College tours are scheduled for Yale, Boston College, Harvard, Boston University, and University of Connecticut.

Fun stops include the Pez Candy Factory, Chinatown Hot Pot Buffet, Faneuil Hall on Market Street, and BU's ice hockey game. Cost is only \$240/person for RH students and their host family, or \$350 per guest. Sign up by November 21 with email, fax or call 302-273-2009.



Halloween Fun

The October outing for international students was a Halloween party at the Filasky Farm Pumpkin Patch in Middletown, Delaware. More than 20 students and siblings enjoyed pleasant fall weather while painting and decorating pumpkins for the season. These decorations were donated to the Mary Campbell Center, a Wilmington home for children and adults with disabilities. After eating pizza and wings, everyone voted on these entries:



Pumpkin Decorating Contest:

1st place - Rachel Su

2nd place - Steve Lin

3rd place - Kadey Li

Costume Contest:

1st place - Olivia Xiangyi

2nd place - Alyssa Arcscott

3rd place - Jack Do

(*Winners received an Amazon gift card.)

Candy Corn Guess:

1st place = Yeda Arcscott (host mom) who guessed 203 exactly!

2nd place = Olivia Fei, who guessed 204 and won the jar of candy!

Later, Farmer Filasky gave us a hay ride with laughter and singing songs under the stars. Yifan Lu photographed the Milky Way, while everyone else warmed themselves and roasted marshmallows around the campfire. Most students went home to bed, but a few brave souls traveled to Frightland for even more Halloween fun.

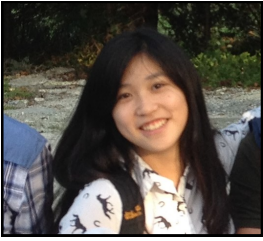


4-H Meeting

What is 4-H, you ask? 4-H is the nation's largest youth development organization, empowering 6 million youth across the world. The mission of the organization is to empower youth to reach their full potential, working and learning in partnership with caring adults. The four Hs stand for Head, Heart, Hands, and Health—and using these four aspects to the best of one's ability makes a well-rounded person. 4-H knows that youth learn best by doing, so there are numerous opportunities for students to learn. At our next meeting, **Sunday December 14**, (6:30 to 8 p.m. at 461 Wyoming Drive in Newark), students will elect the officers of president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer. Participation in 4-H illustrates your achievements outside the classroom and this looks great on university applications. Also on the agenda will be planning fun activities for RH students to during Christmas break. Come and have your voice heard.



Student Spotlight: I Was in Cambodia — Where Were You?



By Zikang "Millo" Ling, Renascentia Hall Student (11th Grade)

In the summer of 2014, I went to the country called Cambodia, a place where I've never visited before. Also in the summer of 2014, I built something I've never planned before, made some friends that I've never laughed with before, but most significantly, I learned something that makes me a better person than ever before. Initially, I went to Cambodia in order to make my college applications look better. However, after I arrived in one of the most poverty-suffered countries in the world, I witnessed how miracles can happen: we can change the world a little bit just by our own hands.

First, I met the most interesting and intriguing group of fellow volunteers...

And, I grew up a little by simply smiling at the Cambodian kids....

And, I had the inspirational sharing among many co-workers and counselors...

And, I worked with top businessmen from throughout the globe....

Then, I totally fell in love with this place and I no longer even cared whether it helped me apply for college or not!

Not only did I learn some construction skills, but I also gained a lot of different brilliant ideas that have helped me become a better person. And now I promise I'll go back, as a GLAer, again!

Before:



After:



First grade classrooms were refurbished

What did I exactly do in Cambodia?

I joined an international volunteering program—**GLA**, which stands for the **Green Leader Adventure**. It is a program for community service which was established in Beijing in 2011, and it is widely acclaimed for its excellent accomplishments. My group went together—30 teenagers from different parts of China within an age range from 13-year-olds to 20-year-olds—and donated a certain amount of money to purchase construction materials, and volunteered our work time to build necessary improvements for a school: one new pavement, a covered sitting area with 42 concrete seats, a stove, and new refurbishments for three first-grade classrooms. Our volunteering recipient was an elementary school in Siem Reap, Cambodia.

All these amazing changes took place in Cambodia in just 9 days this past summer. All these changes were created by Chinese teenagers. From 2011 till now, GLA has sent 36 teams of teenagers to Cambodia. We all had the most unforgettable memories, found a better side of ourselves there, and I'm glad to now be one of them.



Before...

and After...



In front of the school, we built flower beds and seating benches—and repainted the windows and doors.



We constructed an outdoor classroom with shade covering, stove, and 42 seats in Siem Reap, Cambodia.

Before...

and After...



Host Family Corner

Dan and Catherine Kleier are thrilled to welcome Meili (Amber) Lu for their first school-year as a host family with Renascentia Hall. It all began when they hosted two girls last year during the Winter Camp (see page 4), based upon a referral by another RH host family. But the Kleiers are not



Dan and Catherine Kleier with Amber

new to welcoming international students into their lives. Their own son was adopted from Thailand at age 2, and Catherine worked with many foreign exchanges in her years teaching math at Sanford, St. Mark's, and Wilmington Friends schools. She is a part-time tutor now, and Dan teaches Chemistry at Drexel University.

"Amber is incredibly friendly," Catherine explained. "She likes to talk and hang out in the kitchen with me. That's the time we get most of our talking done, and I love that."

This is Amber's third year attending St. Mark's, and she is proud to continue to make good grades there. Catherine says she is taking a tough schedule of AP and senior year classes to prepare for college next year. Amber's schedule is rounded out with Chorus and AP Art class — she enjoys creating portraits, charcoals, and paintings.

"She also created a special T-shirt for the tennis coach at the end of last season," Catherine said.

In their free time, the family likes to take trips to nearby attractions, eat out, or go shopping at the mall. "We visited Longwood Gardens last Mother's Day with Amber," Catherine said. "I think her new favorite activity is just regular dinner around the table with us!"

Amber has made good friends among her classmates at school, and devotes much of her time studying.

"She also seems to like playing video games with our grandson whenever he comes over to visit," Catherine, the host mom, said.

She said she is trying to assist Amber with college selections and applications at this time of year because it is such an important goal for all the students and their parents to make the most of this opportunity.

Besides school work, the Kleier's have introduced more than a few fun activities into Amber's life in America.

"Once we invited Ariel Wang (former RH student) to join the three of us and go for a bike ride," Catherine related. "But we didn't realize Amber had never ridden a bicycle before. She was a quick study and learned well enough to make it around the neighborhood a couple of times. Then we were off on a family bike ride altogether."

Catherine and Dan said their lives are enriched by having Amber live in their home this school year.

Newest Partner School

Saints Peter and Paul High School is a private co-educational Catholic high school in Easton, Maryland. The school recently joined our family of partner schools. Saints Peter and Paul High School is a Roman Catholic, college preparatory school on the Eastern



Shore of Maryland which serves both male and female students from grades 9 through 12. The school was founded by Saints Peter and Paul Parish and the Dominican Sisters of New York in 1958, and it has a strong tradition of excellence in academics, athletics, and community service. As one of the Catholic diocesan institutions of learning, Saints Peter and Paul strives to empower its students with the strength of character, ethics, conviction, and knowledge necessary to succeed beyond the classroom. Students who enroll at Saints Peter and Paul are encouraged to be independent thinkers, active in their school, and responsible citizens of a global community.

Important School Dates

Please check your school website for updates

November 6-8—"Legally Blonde" play - Tatnall; 7:00 p.m.

November 6-9—"The Happy Journey" - Wilm. Friends

November 7-8—"Rumors" play - Salesianum; 7:30 p.m.

November 7—"The Odd Couple" play - Sanford; 7:30 p.m.

November 7—Art Opening @ Tower Hill; 6:00 p.m.

November 10—No School @ Red Lion

November 11—Veteran's Day, No School @ Red Lion

November 14-15—"Rumors" play - Salesianum; 7:30 p.m.

November 15—SSAT @ Tower Hill

November 16—Alumni Jazz Concert - St. Mark's

November 22-23—"Diary of Anne Frank" - St. Mark's; 7:30

November 25—Early Dismissal @ Salesianum,

November 26—No School @ Tower Hill, Sanford, St Marks

and Red Lion Christian

November 26—Early Dismissal @ Tatnall & Wilm. Friends

November 27—Thanksgiving Day

Student Driving Policy

Renascentia Hall students may be allowed to take an official driver education course at their American school with the signed permission of their own parents, providing this is in compliance with local and state laws. Any applicable fees for the course will be deducted from the Student Account. However, successful completion of the driver education course **does not** authorize a student to obtain a driver's license.

Students must be at least 18 years old as of December 31, have participated in the RH program for at least one year, and be enrolled in Grade 12 before they **may** be allowed to take a Driver Training Course to obtain a driver's license. Students must have at least B grade in all classes to qualify. Students must contact Sherry Chen, RH Student Coordinator, by December 15 to make arrangements for the course. Students are responsible for all fees. The students' parents must sign the Driver Liability Waiver before a license can be obtained. Under no conditions can a student drive the host family's vehicle or another personal vehicle, either during the permit stage to practice driving or after a license is obtained. The host family's vehicle cannot be used to take the Driver License Test. Students who have their driver license are prohibited from transporting anyone but themselves. Students who violate any of these rules will be automatically dismissed from the Renascentia Hall program.

Upcoming RH Events

November 13

- ◆ 4-H Public Speaking Contest; 6:00 p.m.

November 28-30

- ◆ Thanksgiving Weekend Trip to Boston
7:00 a.m. Depart Newark Shopping Center
7:30 a.m. Depart Price's Corner Park & Ride (by Walmart)

December 5

- ◆ Travel permission forms due 2 weeks before Christmas

December 14

- ◆ 4-H Meeting (Elections and Christmas Event Planning); 6:30-8:00 p.m., Extension Office (461 Wyoming Dr., Newark)

December 15

- ◆ Driver Permission Deadline to RH Student Coordinator

December 26—January 2

- ◆ Holiday Break Activities for RH Students (Outings TBD)

Inspiration & Insight

"Our greatest weakness lies in giving up. The most certain way to succeed is always to try just one more time."

—Thomas Edison (inventor, 1847-1931)

Happy Birthday 生日快樂



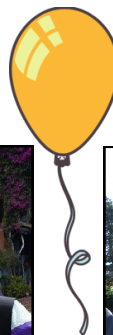
Tian Qiu
(Taylor)
Nov. 3



Manling Li
(Alvord)
Nov. 4



Xueying Wang
(Vivian)
Nov. 5



Feiya Wang
(Cassie)
Nov. 20



Yitao Liu
(Terry)
Nov. 26

We wish a Happy Birthday to You!!

Winter Camp Needs You

The Second Annual Winter Camp for prospective international students will be held **February 6–24, 2015**. The Camp runs during the Chinese New Year celebration when students in that country are on a school break. The two-week program will allow select 9th and 10th grade students to learn about the academics, co-curricular, and social opportunities afforded at U.S. schools. The program is designed to help the students decide if attending school in the U.S. would be appropriate for them.

During the first week, all students will audit classes and activities at one of our partner high schools, matched to their academic ability and interests. In addition to attending classes, the visitors will enjoy day trips to Washington, Baltimore, Philadelphia, and New York City, and tour nearby universities. Students also will take part in a Career Planning Seminar with other Renascentia Hall students. Students will also tour our other partner schools.

Host families are needed for the visiting students and they will be compensated for lodging, food, and daily transportation. Contact Candise Schmidling at 302-273-2009 or CSchmidling@renashall.com if you are interested in assisting with short-term housing. Please tell your friends about this chance to learn about the culture, lifestyle, and customs of a different country while teaching your guest about American traditions but without the time commitment of a full-time student placement.