



OCCCA NEWSLETTER February 28, 2025

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Watch the OCCCA 2025 Lunar New Year Gala [here!](#)



For photos from the event, please visit <https://gallery.rossmedia.com/2025lunar>



The Eventful Lunar New Year Celebration by Claire He

On Saturday, February 1, 2025, the vibrant and festive spirit of Lunar New Year took over Chester Academy, bringing together performers, students, and community members for a day of cultural celebration. Many individuals, including performers, the Orange County Chinese School Student Government Association (OCCS SGA), and other key management personnel, arrived as early as 9:30 AM to prepare for the busy day ahead. Their dedication ensured a successful and memorable event filled with traditional performances, delicious food, and joyous festivities.

The moment guests entered Chester Academy, they were greeted by an enchanting display of red and gold decorations, symbolizing luck, prosperity, and happiness. Red lanterns (红灯笼) were strung across hallways, glowing warmly and creating an atmosphere of joy and unity. Large golden “福” (fortune) characters were displayed on walls and doors, welcoming good luck for the new year. The vibrant colors and intricate decorations brought Chester Academy to life, truly capturing the essence of Lunar New Year celebrations.

The event would not have been possible without the hard work and leadership of several key figures. Special thanks go to the OCCS Principal, Juan Li (李娟), for her commitment to promoting cultural education and announcing performances. The Dean of Students, Kun Tan (谭坤), played a crucial role in organizing and supporting the event, ensuring everything ran smoothly. Additionally, the Advisor of OCCS SGA, Qian He (何谦), provided guidance to student leaders, allowing them to take an active role in planning and executing the celebration.

(cont. next page)

A special highlight of the celebration was the recognition of the Orange County Chinese Association (OCCA) and OCCS for their outstanding contributions to the community. Senior Constituent Services Specialist Ryan Hatch, on behalf of Senator James Skoufis, generously presented a New York State Lunar New Year Day Proclamation, honoring OCCA and OCCS for their exemplary community service and dedication to promoting Chinese culture and education. Adding to the prestige of the event, representatives from the Chinese Consulate General attended the gala, showing their support and celebrating the vibrant cultural exchange fostered by the community. Their presence underscored the importance of cultural unity and heritage, making this Lunar New Year celebration even more meaningful.

The OCCS SGA played a significant role in coordinating the event and ensuring everything ran smoothly. Special recognition goes to:

President: Anthony Chen

Co-President: Andrew Wu

Vice President: Jovia Zhang

Treasurer: Kevin Jin

Secretary: Claire He

Public Relations Officers: Alyssa Chen & Michael Cui

Historians: Andrew Yang & Fiona Chen

Exciting Performances & Community Engagement

Throughout the day, guests were treated to a variety of performances, including traditional Chinese dances, martial arts demonstrations, and musical acts featuring classical instruments such as the guzheng and hulusi. Performers dazzled the audience with their talent, while attendees enjoyed festive decorations and authentic Chinese cuisine. The event successfully brought the community together, fostering cultural appreciation and strengthening connections among students and families.

The Thrilling Raffle Lottery

A major event was the highly anticipated raffle lottery, held under the theme 《抢购公益彩券，共建社区繁荣》 (“Purchase Charity Tickets, Build a Thriving Community”). Attendees eagerly participated in the drawing, hoping to win one or more of the exciting prizes:

(cont. next page)



🏆 Grand Prize: \$500 in cash

🏆 Five Top Prizes:

① First Prize – Latest Release Apple Watch Series 10 (\$399, donated by OCCA)

② Second Prize – HP Stream 14” HD BrightView Laptop (\$299, donated by OCCA)

③ Third Prize – Loro Piana Italian Cashmere Scarf (Original price \$595, donated by member Zhang Guiying)

④ Fourth Prize – \$200 in cash (donated by student Andrew Yang)

⑤ Fifth Prize – \$100 in cash (donated by members Shuxiang Li and Tracy Chen)

Acknowledging Key Leadership & Organizers

This grand event was made possible through member contributions of the OCCA Board:

Joseph Shih: President (会长)

Hai Luo: Vice President & External Relations (副会长兼外联)

LeAnn Chen: Vice President & Website Management (副会长兼网站管理)

Juan Li: Principal (校长)

June Tang: Treasurer (财务)

Peter Shi: Secretary & Chinese Editor (秘书兼中文编辑)

Xiaoming Shen: Sponsorship (赞助)

Cindy Rider: Recreational Activities (康乐)

Susan Qu: General Affairs (总务)

Nancy Song: Newsletter Editor-in-Chief (Newsletter 总编)

Christy Shih: Youth Programs & Design (青少年 / Design)

A Resounding Success

The OCCA Lunar New Year celebration at Chester Academy was a remarkable success. With the dedication of organizers, performers, and volunteers, the event provided an unforgettable experience for all who attended. It was a day filled with joy, tradition, and a shared appreciation for Chinese culture.





Top to bottom, left to right:

1. 新疆舞：《丰收时节》Xinjiang Dance – Harvest Season by 新泽西希望歌舞团 Hope Sing Dance and Art Troupe
2. 男声独唱：《中国人》Solo – Chinese by 高飞 Fei Gao
3. 表演唱：《严厉的爱》Performance – Tough Love by 橙郡中文学校剧目表演班
4. 葫芦丝独奏：《梨花雨》Hulusi Solo – Pear Blossom Rain by Claire He 何伊逸
5. 京剧：《打龙袍》“一见皇儿跪埃尘” Peking Opera – *Beating the Dragon Robe* “Kneeling in the Dust Upon Seeing the Emperor” by 江岚 Lan Jiang
6. 表演：《中国溜溜球》Performance – Chinese Yo-Yo by Jesse Shih 施家玠



Top to bottom, left to right:

7. 古筝独奏:《子夜秋歌》Guzheng Solo – Midnight Autumn Song by Avril Zhuang 庄佳影
8. 男声独唱:《滚滚长江东逝水》Solo – The Waters of the Yangtze River Flow East by 易改 Gai Yi
9. 许平博士现场作画 Dr. Ping Xu Moroney Paints Live by 许平博士 Dr. Ping Xu Moroney (解说 Narrator: 崔娜 Na Cui)
10. 维吾尔族舞蹈:《来吧! 舞蹈吧!》Uyghur Dance – Come On! Dance! by OCCA 橙华舞蹈团 OCCA Dance Troupe
11. 无伴奏混声合唱《新年快乐》《恭喜恭喜》《牧歌》《友谊地久天长》Acapella Mixed Chorus – Happy New Year, Congratulations, Pastoral Song, Auld Lang Syne by 岁月留声合唱团
12. 音乐剧绿野仙踪之:《奇妙之旅》The Wizard of Oz Musical – “Wonderful Journey” by 橙郡中文学校剧目表演班



Top to bottom, left to right:

13. 女声独唱: 《下个, 路口, 见》 Solo – See You at the Next Intersection by 袁瑞雪 Ruixue Yuan
14. 小提琴独奏: 《查尔达斯》 Violin Solo – Czárdás by Kevin Jin 金凯文 (钢琴 Piano: Jennifer Song 宋圆圆)
15. 女声独唱: 《今夜无眠》 Solo – No Sleep Tonight by Dorothy Plummer
16. 舞蹈: 《APT.》 Dance – APT. by 橙郡中文学校学生 OCCS Students
17. 合唱: 《圣洁到永远》 Choir – Holy Forever by 橙郡华人基督教会青少年唱诗班 OCCCC Youth Choir
18. 合唱: 《爱因为在心中》 Choir – Because Love Is In The Heart by 橙郡中文学校师生和家长 Teachers, Parents, and Students of the Orange County Chinese School

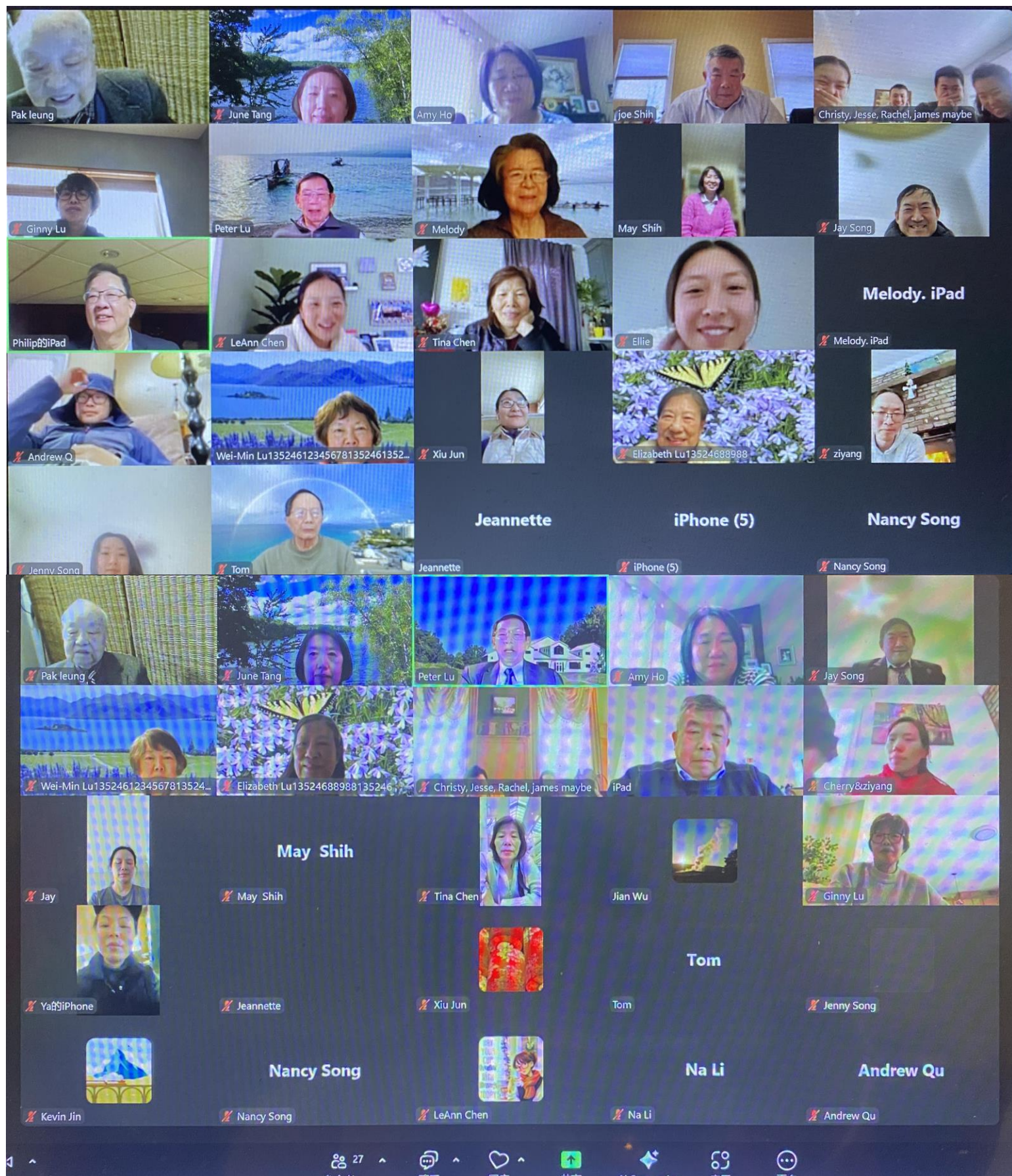


***A big thank you to our
volunteers, performers, and
sponsors for all their support!***



OCCA 2025 年迎春活动赞助者和公益志愿者答谢晚宴
OCCA 2025 Lunar New Year Sponsors/Volunteers Appreciation Dinner
Flaming Grill & Buffet, Newburgh, NY | Saturday, February 22, 2025

纽约橙郡华人协会新闻简报 二零二五年二月



Due to inclement weather, OCCCC canceled in-person service on Sunday, February 9 and Sunday, February 16, 2025. Service was held virtually over Zoom.



Watch musical performances by Dorothy Plummer and Nancy Song from the [Pfizer Pearl River GAA Lunar New Year Celebration 2025!](#)



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Livia Kohn, Ph.D. began practicing Tai Chi in 1976 & is a certified instructor of Tai Chi. To sign up contact her at liviakohn@proton.me

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Proclamation

Whereas, New York State is home to many Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) communities and we join in commemorating their most significant holiday rooted in ancient history and tradition, as we welcome the arrival of Lunar New Year 4723 and share in festivities and celebrations to mark this joyous occasion; and

Whereas, our AAPI communities contribute significantly to American society and we recognize it is important that their ancestral heritage is passed down to younger generations; in 2023, I proudly signed legislation that designates Lunar New Year as an official school holiday across New York State, providing a meaningful opportunity for children in the AAPI community to participate in an event that is such an inherent part of their culture, and to share with others one of the most beautiful holidays celebrated worldwide; and

Whereas, each year of the lunar calendar is represented by one of 12 zodiac animal signs along the sun's path through the universe; 2025 is the "Year of the Snake" – the sixth sign of the zodiac that symbolizes renewal and change, and represents the qualities of wisdom, calmness, determination, adaptability, mystery, and transformation; and

Whereas, dating back thousands of years, the Lunar New Year is founded in the rite of spring and the agricultural cycle of ploughing and planting new crops, as it marks the period of time when farmers could take a rest from their work in the fields to be with their families; and

Whereas, the Lunar New Year begins with the new moon on the first day of the first lunar month, this year on January 29th, and celebratory events are held for the next fifteen days, ending with the full moon on February 12th; and

Whereas, today, individuals, families, and communities around the world celebrate the Lunar New Year with joyful feasts of food and dance, brightly colored decorations, exchanges of gifts, tributes to celestial deities, and special expressions of remembrance and respect for ancestors who have bestowed these cherished traditions for generations to follow; and

Whereas, New Yorkers look forward to experiencing one of the most beautiful aspects of AAPI culture by sharing in the celebration of Lunar New Year 4723 and find great hope in its promise of good health and prosperity for all;

Now, Therefore, I, Kathy Hochul, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim January 29, 2025 as

LUNAR NEW YEAR DAY

in the Empire State.



Given under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State at the Capitol in the City of Albany this twenty-second day of January in the year two thousand twenty-five.

Kathy Hochul
Governor

Karen Persichilli Keogh
Secretary to the Governor
Karen Persichilli Keogh

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Yanming Zu 祖延鳴
PhD, RPh, LAc 中醫針灸醫師



祖延鳴，药剂学博士，纽约州注册药剂师，新泽西及纽约州执照针灸师
现在新泽西州行中医（针灸推拿拔罐等），擅长治疗各种疑难杂症，各种痛症（关节炎，肩周炎，足腱炎等），皮肤病（湿疹，风疹，带状疱疹等），过敏症（花粉过敏，冷空气过敏，季节性过敏等），胃肠道疾病（胃酸，胀气，腹泻，便秘等），风症（眩晕，手抖，儿童抽动症等），耳鸣，干眼症，妇科男科疾病（不孕症，子宫肌瘤，前列腺肥大等），以及各种情志疾病（失眠，多梦，抑郁等）。

Dr. Yanming Zu, PhD, RPh, LAc, PhD in Pharmaceutics, New York State Registered Pharmacist, New Jersey and New York State Licensed Acupuncturist. Currently practicing Chinese Medicine in New Jersey (acupuncture, massage, and cupping, etc.). She is good at treating various difficult and complicated diseases, various pain conditions (arthritis, frozen shoulder, tendonitis, etc.), skin diseases (eczema, rubella, herpes zoster, etc.), allergies (hay fever, cold air allergies, seasonal allergies, etc.), gastrointestinal diseases (stomach acid reflex, flatulence, diarrhea, constipation, etc.), wind diseases (vertigo, tremors, child Tourette Syndrome, etc.), tinnitus, dry eyes, gynecological and andrological disorders (infertility, uterine fibroids, prostatic hypertrophy, etc.), and various emotional diseases (insomnia, dreaminess, depression, etc.).





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Thu 10 AM- Monroe Small Group

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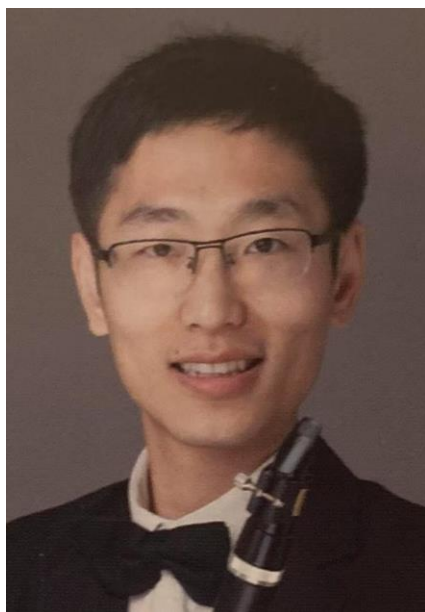
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Arthur Pan, clarinet and saxophone private tutor in Middletown, NY. Graduated from The Music Middle School Affiliated to Shanghai Conservatory of Music, Shanghai Conservatory of Music, and Boston University College of Fine Arts with a Master's Degree. Ten years of work experience. Tel: (845) 648-5426



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Orange County Chinese Association

纽约橙郡华人协会

THE ORANGE COUNTY CHINESE ASSOCIATION (OCCA) IS A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION WITH 39 YEARS OF HISTORY. OCCA'S MISSION IS TO PROVIDE CULTURAL, EDUCATIONAL, AND OTHER INSTITUTIONAL PROGRAMS TO PROMOTE CHINESE CULTURE AND HERITAGE WHILE ENHANCING THE QUALITY OF LIFE WITHIN OUR COMMUNITY. THIS IS CARRIED OUT THROUGH OCCA'S COMMUNITY ACTIVITY PROGRAMS AND ITS SUBSIDIARY, ORANGE COUNTY CHINESE SCHOOL (OCCS). OCCA BELONGS TO EVERYONE, INCLUDING ITS MEMBERS, FRIENDS, AND THOSE WHO LOVE CHINESE CULTURE AND ARE INTERESTED IN LEARNING THE CHINESE LANGUAGE. FOR MORE DETAILS, PLEASE VISIT US AT WWW.OCCANY.ORG OR WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/OCCANY/. THANK YOU!

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