

中美學子共度元宵佳節

Chinese and American Students Celebrate the Lantern Festival Together



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二月十八週五，本校提前慶祝元宵節，邀請了城外 Waldorf School, New Morning Montessori School, Nokomis Elementary School, River Oaks School, 四校一百多位師生來城共度佳節。節目內容有國樂、中國小調演唱——「清平調」及「果園中」、小學生演唱「恭喜、恭喜」，又有迎賓舞、舞龍、舞獅；外校學生也表演了舞龍。與會三百餘人，盡歡而散。

週六女生宿舍又慶祝元宵節，副校長比丘尼恆貞師為大家做 muffin 比薩餅，別具風味。學生也自己炸年糕、搓豆腐球；舍監比丘尼恆仲則清炒蘆筍，煮芝麻湯圓；本人也做了清涼解渴的杏仁豆腐，獲得大家的好評。晚間，全宿舍女生提著燈籠遊後山一周。隨後大家玩了「燈籠排字」、「燈籠開關」——大家圍成圓圈，照順序分別開啓燈籠和關上燈籠，很像商店招牌的霓虹燈。還有大家最懷念的仙女棒——每人依序將仙女棒點燃，好不有趣！充滿過節的氣氛。



On Friday, February 18, Instilling Goodness and Developing Virtue Schools hosted an early celebration of the Lantern Festival (Fifteenth Day of Chinese New Year), joined by over a hundred students and teachers from four local schools: New Morning Montessori School, Nokomis Elementary School, River Oaks Charter School, and the Waldorf School. The program included Chinese orchestra, Chinese traditional songs—"Clear and Even Tune" and "In the Orchard", "Gong Xi, Gong Xi (Happy New Year)" sung by the elementary school, Chinese traditional dance "Welcoming Our Guests," and the lion dance and dragon dance. The preschoolers from New Morning Montessori also performed a dragon dance. The three hundred some people in the audience were delighted with the performances.

On Saturday, students in the Girls Dorm celebrated the Lantern Festival. Assistant Principal Bhikshuni Heng Jen Shi made a special treat—pizza muffins. The students made Chinese New Year cake and tofu balls. Dorm Supervisor Bhikshuni Heng Jung Shi offered stir-fried asparagus and the traditional sesame-filled rice balls in soup. I made a refreshing dish of almond-tofu that everyone praised. That night, all the girls walked through the back of the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas, each holding a lantern in her hand. Then everyone lined up to play "Spelling Characters" and "Turning Lanterns On and Off"—people stood in a circle and turned their lanterns on and off in order, creating a neon-sign effect. Everyone's favorite was "Fairy Wand," where each person takes a turn lighting up the fairy wand. What fun it was! The air was filled with holiday spirit!

