

傳中華傳統,承孝悌文化 ──記2016年萬佛聖城懷少節

KEEP CHINESE TRADITIONS ALIVE AND MAINTAIN CONFUCIUS'S TEACHING ON FILIAL PIETY --A REPORT ON THE 2016 CHERISHING YOUTH DAY AT THE CITY OF TEN THOUSAND BUDDHAS

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「一切教離不開孝,離了孝,也就是沒有教。天地間無量無邊的課,總起來,就是這一門課。這一門課,也就包含了無量無邊的課。把這一門課修學圓滿了,其他的課都會圓滿了。」——宣公上人

2016年4月15日,星期五,晴空萬里。 太陽散發著溫暖的光,春風徐徐吹來,草坪上開滿了白色的小花。對於培德育良學校的孩子們來說,今天可是個大日子!畢竟,平時哪裡還會有機會作為東道主,接待超過八百人的機會呢?同學們很早就起床開始準備了,互相傳遞著快樂與激動的心情。當來自全學校的快樂相加在一起時,產生的便是數以百千萬倍的喜悅與期待。空氣都因為他們這份純真的熱情而劇烈震動著,加速傳播著這如清泉般的美好心情到每一個人的心底。

今天,是萬佛城一年一度的懷少節, 縣上的很多學校都會前來參加。我們的同 學們,不僅為客人們準備了各種有趣的活動,更有多項精采的節目。今年懷少節的 "Without the teaching of filial piety, there would be no education whatever to speak of. Of the countless lessons offered, this lesson, the teaching of filial piety, alone, embodies the spirit of all others. If you can fully absorb this Confucian concept, you pave the way for learning all other knowledge." —the Venerable Master Hsuan Hua.

April 15th, 2016, Friday, was a sunny and beautiful day. The sky was cloudlessly blue and the sun shone warmly on the school grounds. A cozy April breeze blew gently, caressing the white blossoms growing ubiquitously in CTTB. For us, students of IGDVS, this was an important day, for we rarely have a gathering of over 800 people on campus. That morning, everyone got up very early to make the final touches for the event. We were ready to share our happiness and excitement with our guests. We believe that shared joy is the most wonderful. The air seemed to vibrate with our high spirits and passion, eager to join us in the 800-person strong chorus to sing "Ode to Joy".

It was the annual Cherishing Youth Day and students from many schools in Mendocino County came. In order to create a wonderful and memorable show, IGDVS students not only arranged for them to participate in many interesting activities, but also prepared wonderful performances in accordance with this year's theme: Filial Respect. The students also wrote plays about filial piety based on ancient Chinese legends about the four divine animals: the Azure Dragon, the White Tiger, the Vermilion Bird, and the Black Turtle. The three main characters bear the names "Xiao (Filial Piety)", "Qian (Humility)", and "Li (Courtesy)", respectively.

主題是「孝」,主辦方以中國古代四大神獸—— 青龍、白虎、朱雀、玄武——為背景設定,編寫 了一個關於孝順的話劇穿插在節目之間。而三位 主人公,更是以「孝」、「謙」、「禮」來命 名。

早上九點,來自鎮上的各個學校便陸續到達。 迎接他們的首先是我們的學生導遊,以及富有 特色的攤位。今年,我們共準備了三類攤位,包 括:中國傳統民樂、二十四孝故事講堂、以及書 法學堂。絕大多數的美國小孩子們都是第一次見 到琵琶、二胡這些東方樂器,也是第一次握起毛 筆、沾墨水寫下一個「孝」字。

十點後,所有人馬集中在五 觀堂。一進入齋堂,孩子們的眼 球就被吸引了一一精心裝飾的 布幕、舞台上演員美輪美奐的 戲服、牆上高高掛起的彩色氣 球……他們都興奮極了,與小夥 伴們熱烈地討論著。「快看!舞 台上的那兩棵竹子好高啊!」「 是耶是耶!等一下——它們是真 的竹子來的!是真的竹子!」「 快看那個人,他是從哪裡來的 呀?衣服好奇怪啊!」隨著周圍 的佈景,他們好像已身處來自遙 遠東方的高山流水之中。

今年的節目精采紛呈。舞龍、 舞獅、四季鼓、傳統舞蹈、合

唱、民樂、日本舞,以及最後收尾的集體太極扇舞,都令所有人眼前一亮。四季鼓的演員們畫上了濃妝,以深海怪物的身份出場;中國舞以兩中漫步為主題,演員們配合著優美的音樂令人陶醉其中、身臨其境;獅子們更是調皮可愛,眨眼睛、搖尾巴,博得了小朋友們的喜愛;三十餘人的太極扇舞更是氣勢澎湃,巾幗不讓鬚眉。在活動結束之際,主辦方還為每位小朋友送上了禮物。其中一樣禮物是培德育良師生們一起手工縫製的愛心胸章。

雖然這次活動的主要負責人是女校十二年級的學生們,但整場活動的圓滿落幕卻要歸功於每一個為此付出勞動的人們——所有培德育良男女校的老師、同學們和在萬佛城工作的法師、義工們。他們幫忙製作道具、指正我們的表演和劇

At around nine o' clock in the morning, guests from neighboring schools and communities of the county arrived at CTTB. They were ushered by student tour guides into booths. This year, we prepared three kinds of booths: Chinese orchestra, 24-stories about dutiful and filial sons, and calligraphy. For most of American children who came, it was their first time seeing traditional musical instruments such as the Pi Pa (Chinese Lute) and the Er Hu (two-string Chinese violin); and it was also their first time to hold a Chinese calligraphy brush to write down the Chinese character of "filial piety (Xiao)".

At ten o' clock, people gathered in the big dining hall. As soon as the children entered the hall, they were immediately attracted by the elaborate decorations—the well-drawn stage-backdrop, the attractive



costumes of the performers, and the colorful balloons hanging high on the walls. All the children talked excitedly to their friends about what they saw. "Look! The two bamboos on the stage are so tall!" "Yeah. Oh wait... they are real! They are real bamboos, not plastic ones!" "Look at that person! Where did he come from? His clothes are so weird. " Completely mesmerized by the decorations, the children felt as if they were in ancient China, standing on mountain tops and watching trickling water flowing by.

This year's performances were truly brilliant and splendid. There were the dragon dance, the lion dance, the four-season drumming, the Chinese folk dance, the choir, the Chinese orchestra, the Japanese dance, and, last but not the least, the Taichi fan dance. Each performance was eye-opening for the audience. The performers of the Four-Season drumming wore make-up to act as sea monsters. The Chinese folk dance gave people peace of mind with melodious music. The lions are cute and lovely; they blinked their eyes and wagged their tails. The



children instantly fell in love with them. And the thirty-plus Taichi fan dancers moved energetically, gaining a large round of applause. At the end of the show, the organizers gave each kid beautifully wrapped gifts, including a heart pin sewed by IGDVS's teachers and students.

Although seniors of the girl school chiefly organized the 2016 Cherishing Youth Day, all the teachers and students from the boy and girl schools, as well as the Dharma Masters and laypeople pitched in. Some people helped make props, some gave suggestions on the scripts and acting, and others carried stuff from place to place or cooked delicious food. The school also received help from people

本、運送物品、烹飪可口的飯菜等等。除此之外,我們也得到了來自校外的好心人士的幫助。這次演出所有的動物頭飾都是Vicky女士親手製作的;節目中用到的乾冰也來自瑜伽市一家乾冰商店的捐贈。

對於這次來參加活動的小朋 友們來說,通過這次經歷,他 們對從未接觸過的中國文化有 了一些認識。對於萬佛城的孩 子們來說,最欣慰的無異於散 播「孝」的種子。對於整個小 鎮來說,這次活動不僅促進了 文化交流,更是拉近了人們之 間的距離。而對於我們十二年

級的畢業生來說,這次經歷不僅僅是我們 畢業前最棒的回憶,更是我們人生路上的 一個大考驗。策劃活動的艱辛與不易, 都因孩子們臉上的笑容化為烏有。我很肯 定,對於我們每一個人而言,這次經歷帶 給我們的成長,將會令我們受益終生。會



outside the temple. For example, Ms. Vicky hand made amazing animal heads, and a factory in Ukiah donated a quantity of dry ice.

As for the children, this event put them in touch with Chinese culture. As IGDVS students, we felt honored to spread the seeds of "filial piety". To Mendocino County, this program has not only brought different communities together, but also promoted the understanding and facilitated communication between different ethnic groups. And for us, the seniors of the girl school, it was and will remain an unforgettable experience before graduation; it greatly challenged our organizing skills and led us on the path to be well-rounded people. All the frustrations we felt and all the hardships and difficulties we encountered during the course of organizing this event have been forgotten when we saw the wide smiles on the children's faces. I am certain that every one of us benefited from what we learned in that unique single day all our lives.