

# 萬佛聖城賀新春

## Lunar New Year Celebrations at the City of Ten Thousand Budd-



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(續封面內頁)

大年初一，萬佛聖城舉行護國息災法會，許多信眾遠道而來參加，並上香、點光明燈。法界佛教總會各分支道場則分別舉辦除夕抄經、撞鐘、新春點燈等慶祝活動，乃至舉辦一週的梁皇寶懺法會。

「敬老」已成傳統的萬佛聖城內，拜年最頻繁的地點就是福居樓。除夕午齋前，女校學生已到福居樓拜年，並載歌載舞，表演新春賀歲節目。大年初一清晨六時，喜捨院比丘尼帶領數十位女法師和女居士來拜年，由恒信法師主持，藉機讓大家認識萬佛聖城新來的住眾。喜捨院代表的拜年結束後，方丈恒律法師與數位資深比丘代表如來寺，也到福居樓拜年。

方丈不僅問候福居樓年長法師的健康，並關懷他們的居住狀況。方丈指出，今後要更加強對老年出家眾的照顧。當天法會圓滿後，隨即派人將福居樓的照明燈全換成明亮又節能的LED燈泡。

(Continued from the front inner cover)

Lunar New Year Mantra Recitation Ceremony was held on the lunar New Year day at the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas. Many people came from afar for the ceremony, offered incense and lit the bright lamps. Various branch monasteries of the Dharma Realm Buddhist Association held activities such as Sutra copying, bell-striking, lamp lighting, and other Buddhist events including the Emperor Liang Jeweled Repentance to celebrate the Lunar New Year.

As Honoring Elders has been a tradition at the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas, hence, greetings of “Happy Lunar New Year!” were most frequently heard at the Tower of Blessings where senior bhikshunis reside. Before the lunch on New Year’s Eve, Girls School students went to the Tower of Blessings to wish the senior bhikshunis a “Happy Lunar New Year!” and to perform Lunar New Year songs and dances for them. Also, at 6:00 am on Lunar New Year, bhikshunis from the Joyous Giving House took dozens of laywomen to say “Happy Lunar New Year!” to senior bhikshunis. Dharma Master Heng Syin hosted this event and introduced the new comers of CTTB to everyone present. Later, Abbot Heng Lyu and a few senior bhikshus also came to Tower of Blessings to say “Happy Lunar New Year!”

The Abbot not only asked about senior bhikshunis’ health condition, he was also concerned about their living conditions. The Abbot said that the care of senior monastics would be improved. After the Lunar New Year Mantra Recitation Ceremony was completed, the Abbot sent a handyman the same day to replace all light bulbs at the Tower of Blessings with LED bulbs, which are much brighter and energy-saving.

## 男校慶新春

文：葛親孝（培德中學男校十一年級）

中譯：張敏

育良小學與培德中學男校於2017年1月28日（正月初一）上午10:30左右，在道源堂舉行了一年一度的祭祖儀式。儀式是提醒我們要對父母、祖先、和教師表達感激和尊重。校長葛親翰先生簡短發言，表示同學們需要反思是否遵循父母和祖先為我們留下的原則和價值觀。午餐時，大家喜出望外地觀看了舞獅表演，老師和同學們都得到了新年禮物。

2017年2月4日，在瑜伽市中心的亞歷克斯·托馬斯廣場，培德中學男校主辦了年度燈會。兩百餘位曼多仙諾郡的當地居民參加，大家都願意在這個寒冷又細雨濛濛的週六下午，站著觀看男校表演。

這說明了表演的質量。雖然天公不作美，還是這麼多人來捧場。人們不顧天氣，披著雨衣，打著雨傘觀看舞龍；擠在亭子裡；排著長隊買春捲和炒飯；花錢讓孩子紮燈籠；擁在鼓手身邊；站在椅子上拍照；把孩子們扛在肩上；在喧鬧聲中豎著耳朵聽國樂隊演奏；最後又在露天的泥濘草地上觀看舞獅。

觀眾史蒂夫來自萊頓維爾，他剛買的大公雞襯衫跟他頭上戴的林肯帽很相配。這天的活動是他第一次真正體會農曆新年的味道。對於那些以前已經看過男校表演的人而言，這次表演仍然是新鮮和愉快的。曾在培德中學男校任教的羅德里格斯老師表示：「他們每年都在發展和進步。」即使對於曾在唐人街看過專業演出的人來說，男校的表演也是「一場用心編排的精采演出」。

舞獅是慶祝活動的壓軸戲，確實值得那十五分鐘的等待。人群歡笑起來，歡呼獅子的俏皮滑稽（一隻毛絨絨的小公雞從一枚金蛋中孵出），驚嘆那些嚇人的跳躍（潮濕的舞台使得特技特別棘手），跟著鑼鼓的節奏搖晃著身子。孩

## The Boys School Celebrated Lunar New Year

*By Miguel Gracia (11<sup>th</sup> Grader, Developing Virtue Secondary School, Boys Division)*

*Chinese Translation by Min Zhang*

The Boys School performed their annual ritual of ancestral worship, at around 10:30 am, January 28, in the Confucius Hall. The ceremony served as a reminder of the gratitude and respect we owe our parents, ancestors, and teachers. In a short statement, Mr. Juan Gracia, the school principal, expressed the need to reflect upon whether or not we have been following the principles and values that our parents and forebears left for us. During lunch after the ceremony, the entire school was treated to a surprise Lion Dance performance and gifts for teachers and students.

On February 4, 2017, at the Alex Thomas Plaza in downtown Ukiah, the boy's division of the Developing Virtue Secondary School hosted the annual Lantern Festival. Over two hundred local residents of Mendocino County attended—all more than willing to stand in the cold and drizzling Saturday afternoon to watch the Boys School perform.

It was a testament to the quality of the performances that so many people showed up despite the rather gloomy weather. Undismayed by the weather, people stood in their rain jackets and under their umbrellas to watch the Dragon Dance; traipsed back to the pavilion; stood in long lines to buy spring rolls and fried rice; paid for their children to make lanterns; crowded around the drummers; mounted chairs to take picture and videos; hoisted kids onto their shoulders; strained their ears to hear the orchestra over the general hubbub; then tramped back to the open air and slushy grass to watch the Lion Dance.

For some of the audience members such as Steve, a Laytonville resident who's massive rooster shirt clashed perfectly with a Lincoln hat, the show was their first real taste of Chinese New Year. For those who'd seen the Boys School perform before, the performances were still fresh and enjoyable. "I think they develop and improve each year," said Mrs. Rodriguez, who once taught at DVBS. Even for others who had seen professional performances in Chinatown, the Boys' School put up a "finely choreographed and fantastic performance."

The celebration concluded with the Lion Dance, which was well worth a fifteen minute wait. The crowd laughed and cheered at the lions' playful antics (and during the time a baby rooster hatched from a golden egg), gasped at difficult jumps (stunts made especially tricky by the wet stage), and rocked and swayed to the sound of the drums and the gong. Kids, etched with wonder and delight, were given treats by the Lion itself. The Lion Dancers captivated their audience from beginning to end.

DVBS' Lion Dancing and Dragon Dancing Troupes were again invited to Oakland Museum in San Francisco bay area on February 9, 2017 to perform the auspicious lion dance and dragon dance as the prelude to the celebration of Lunar New Year at Oakland Museum. The Buddhist Text Translation Society also set up a booth there to give away beautiful bilingual children's storybooks in Chinese and English as well as Vietnamese books to tie good affinities with people.

子們臉上充滿了驚奇和喜悅，搶著獅子的小禮物。舞獅真的是從頭到尾吸引了觀眾。

男校的舞龍舞獅團於2月9日再次被邀請到舊金山東灣的屋崙博物館演出，以吉祥的龍騰獅躍，揭開屋崙博物館慶祝農曆新年的序幕。法界佛教總會佛經翻譯委員會也在現場贈送精美的中英雙語童書，及越語書籍，與大眾廣結善緣。

## 女校慶新春

文/譯：何書凡（培德女中九年級）

除夕這一天，萬佛聖城沒有喧囂的鞭炮，只是一片沁人心脾的靜，一眼山水如畫的綠。當天上午，女校學生全體總動員，齊聚齋堂，中學生包水餃，小學生做麻糬(糯米糍)。思鄉之情，從指尖滲入麵糰與糯米間。

脫下圍裙，我們列隊前往祖師殿，向萬佛聖城開山祖師宣公上人致敬，深深感恩他老人家生前以汗水和智慧創辦育良小學、培德中學。下一站是福居樓，我們向高齡女法師拜年。中學生齊唱「賀新年」，小學生蹦跳比劃著新年的熱鬧。表演完畢，每個學生都抓一把新年糖果，甜在嘴裡，感謝在心頭。

慶祝除夕的節目，還有「下午茶」時間。當夕陽將影子拉長，老師、學生、和家長們一起輕啜烏龍茶，吃著蘿蔔糕，品嚐校長近智師為大家熬煮的臘八粥，欣賞臺上同學們將臘八的情誼演繹得淋漓盡致，這時每個人的嘴角都向上挑着輕快的弧度。住校生晚間在宿舍圍爐吃除夕火鍋，熱氣氤氳中，想家的情緒被笑語聲與味蕾的滿足感給送到九霄雲外。

大年初一，人們聚在大殿誦消災吉祥神咒。雙手合十，祈禱世界和平、眾生安好。日中，培德中學的學生們來到萬佛聖城附近的瑜伽市公立圖書館，參加慶祝農曆新年活動。男女校分別獻上了舞獅、太極、書法的表演，和當地民眾分享中國人過年的風俗與文化。過年了，這是聖城的年，是眾生的年，是家裏的年。這個家，是港灣，是溫暖；這個年，是燈火，是幸福。❀

## The Girls School Celebrated Lunar New Year

*Written and translated by Jocelyn He (9th grader, Developing Virtue Girls School)*

On Lunar New Year's Eve, there were no loud fireworks at the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas, but only peacefulness in the air and green on the hillside. Girls School students all gathered at the Dining Hall in the morning. The middle school and high school students made dumplings and elementary school students made sticky rice cakes. Our fingers were busy working on the dough and sticky rice with nostalgia.

Taking off aprons, we lined up heading for the Patriarch Hall where we paid respect to the founding master, Venerable Master Hua, to show our deep ingrained gratitude for his founding of the Instilling Goodness Elementary and Developing Virtue Secondary Schools. The next stop was Tower of Blessings where we shouted up "Happy Lunar New Year!" to elder Buddhist nuns. High school girls sang the song "Celebration of Lunar New Year" and elementary school students danced to the festive mood of Lunar New Year. After the performance, each student got a handful of candies. The sweet taste in our mouths and thankfulness in our heart sums up everyone's experience of the day.

Another Lunar New Year's Eve event was the afternoon tea. Tree shadows stretched across the lawn in the early dusk as teachers, students and parents congregated. Sipping a cup of Wulong Tea and eating a piece of radish cake and a bowl of sweet rice porridge, (prepared by the principal Dharma Master Jin Zhi), we watched the play of Laba (the eighth day of the twelfth lunar month when the Buddha was born). The rest of the afternoon was filled with festive activities. Everyone was grinning ear-to-ear. Boarding students had hot pot dinner for Lunar New Year's Eve in the dorm that evening. Their nostalgia was carried away beyond "the highest heavens" by laughter, talks, and the satisfaction of their taste buds from the warm hot pot meal.

On Lunar New Year Day, people gathered in the Buddha Hall to recite the *Eradicating Disaster Auspicious Spirit Mantra*. Palms together, we wished for world peace and a joyful and peaceful year for all living beings. In the afternoon, the students from the Developing Virtue School attended the New Year's celebration in the Ukiah Library. The Boys School performed Lion Dance while the Girls School performed Taichi Fan Dance and Chinese Calligraphy to share with local people, the Chinese customs and culture of the Lunar New Year. It's New Year's time. It's CTTB's New Year. It's a New Year for all beings. It's a family's New Year. Like a family, CTTB is a harbor and a place of warmth. It's a year of light and joy. ❀