

應用英語系學生黃翔 美國交換學生心得

文／應用英語系 黃翔

新年，一個如此重要、與親人們團圓的節日。遠在他鄉的我，還有一樣來自異國的大家，今年的春節沒辦法與最愛的家人一起度過。說真的，還真是有點不甘心呢。

今年的我，一過跨完年之後，馬上就搭著飛機歷經了30個小時(含轉機及延誤)的路程來到了位於美國堪薩斯州的匹茲堡州立大學擔任交換生。這次一來，是一學期的時間。說真的適不適應我覺得都是小事，只要敢開口，敢融入人群，朋友什麼的一定都交得到的。那什麼是大事呢？要我來說，那肯定是無法與家人在新年時好好團員，吃頓年夜飯了。猶記當時新年將至時，越是想著台灣親友齊聚的快樂，就越是不捨、不甘。本還以為2018年的新年就要與麥當勞和肯德基度過了呢！

「欸欸，各位，要來討論今年新年活動的準備事宜了唷！」這句話，有如曙光般乍現在TSA(Taiwanese Student Association, 台灣學生會)的群聊中。原來，每年在小堡這的TSA與CSA(Chinese Student Association, 中國學生會)，都會一起舉辦農曆春節新年晚會！經過與CSA幹部們的具體協商，我們TSA這邊需要提供表演；而我，自告奮勇地願意上台彈奏吉他自彈自唱台韓混血歌手Bii的Come Back To Me。也因此，我也得以有了機會挑戰自我；我在200個來自國家的觀眾們面前自信的表演。

這樣一個活動其實意義是十分重大的，至少對我而言。透過參與這麼一項大事件，著實地也使我獲得了更進一步組織團隊及安排事項的能力以及對於安排事情時輕重緩急的認知及概念。從籌備到這次的新年晚會完整落幕，中國學生們跟台灣學生們完全相互扶持、合作無間，一點也看不到兩岸政治框架上的醜陋。坦白說，我真的很感動。也因為這次的新年活動，我結交到了幾個中國好朋友，拉近了彼此的距離。在表演圓滿結束後，在大夥們的掌聲及喝采中我看見了一個完全前所未有的農曆新年；它是那樣的充實、特別及難忘。



Experience as an Exchange Student to the US - Xiang Huang

What is Chineses New Year (or Lunar New Year)? According to the definition found in Wikipedia, Chinese New Year is: “Chinese New Year, also known as the Spring Festival in modern China, is an important Chinese festival celebrated at the turn of the traditional lunisolar Chinese calendar. It is one of the several Lunar New Years in Asia.”

Well, this festival certainly means much more than what the definition says in Wiki. For me, Chinese New Year is the most significant festival in that I can savor the warmth as well as the unity of both my

family and relatives. This year, however, due to the fact that I came to the United States as an exchange student of Pittsburg State University in Kansas, I was unable to take part in any of the reunions I would, otherwise, have normally attended to celebrate the Spring Festival.

Right before I got driven to the brink of feeling abandoned, CSA (Chinese Student Association) and TSA (Taiwanese Student Association) said that we would be holding a huge event, The Celebration of Chinese New Year. As soon as I was informed that we would need some people to go on stage doing some performances, I volunteered just in the blink of an eye. Therefore, on the night the event officially began, we, the performers, brought out the best in ourselves as the participants enjoyed the various types of cuisine in the audience.

At last, I want to tell you that after finishing the performance, I got a thought flashing into my mind, and that was “not only did I help the event to be complete, but I also did surpass the me in yesterday.” It was overall a massive sense of accomplishment as far as I performed in front of two hundred people or so. Most important of all, I was so glad to see the cooperation made in just perfect harmony between CSA and TSA; I was moved when witnessing the solidarity and synergy we had regardless of nationality. Participating and getting deeply involved in the big event, I, to a great extent, did improve and strengthen my abilities to organize things better and to be a good team player.