

OCCA NEWSLETTER Feb 27, 2019

≣录	Content

Articles for OCCA 2019 Lunar New Year Gala	P1, 2, 3, 4
OCCA Outreach Activities	P1, 6, 7
OCCA 2019 Board & Advisors	P1
Snapshots of the Gala	P5, 7
OCCA Community & Recognitions	P1, 6, 7
Ad 广而告之	P8, 9

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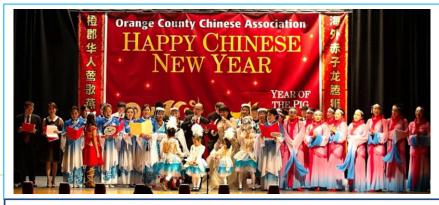
OCCA/S 2019 BOARD OF ADVISORS

Pak Leung, Jinlin Du, Ping Lu, Jim Jiang, and Qian He



OCCA youth /families outreached Multicultural Night in CCMS@26Feb





《OCCA Lunar New Year Greeting on 02Feb2019》

Kangjian Wu

尊敬的纽约州参议员 James Skouf is 先生, 众议员 Colin Schmitt 先生, 尊敬的胡知宇律师,尊敬的新泽西华人联席会主席洛光伟先生及夫人、徐明主 席,橙郡华人协会的各位朋友、中文学校的全体师生,以及所有关心和爱护橙 郡华人社区的友好人士/各位来宾们:大家下午好!在这辞旧迎新的美好时刻, 我谨代表我们纽约橙郡华人协会纽约橙郡中文学校和橙郡华人基督教会给大家 拜年了!祝大家新年快乐,吉祥如意,阖家安康! (See page-2)

«OCCA Successfully Celebrated Lunar New Year» By Jessica Wu

OCCA's 2019 Lunar New Year Celebration was nothing short of a success in several senses of the word.

The proof was in the pudding— teamwork makes a dream work. Several members of the Orange County Chinese community arrived at Chester Academy bright and early to transform it into a spectacular setting fit to ring in the new year. Adults and children alike meticulously hung lanterns from the ceiling, set up the stage, and ran through their skits one last time before the real performance. By lunchtime, it was clearly no longer simply Chester Academy, a school we were occupying for the day. (See page-2)

«OCCA' s 2019 Year of the Pig Celebration» By Richard Deng

On February 2 of 2019, the OCCA held its highly anticipated annual New Year celebration at Chester Academy, acknowledging the advent of the Year of the Pig just as many Chinese around the world recognized the holiday. The annual OCCA event featured a series of performances and festivities followed by a raffle drawing and dinner, amounting to yet another night to remember. (See page-2)

《Raffle Tickets》By Derek Li (P3) 《Celebration of Lunar New Year》By Vicky Wong (P3) 《青年修练手册》By Andy Wang (P3) 《令人难忘的新年》By Iris Chen (P3) 《我最喜欢的一个节目 My Favorite Show》By Angela Zhang (P4) 《Lion Dance》By Jeffery Shi (P4) 《Host of OCCA 2019 Lunar New Year Gala》By Sunny Shi (P4) 《OCCCC lunar New Year Party》By June Tang (P6)

PROCLAMAITIONS FOR OCCA FROM NYS GOVNOR CUOMO, NYS SENATOR SKOUFIS, AND NYS ASEMEBYLMAN SCHMITT (PAGE-7)

OCCS SPRING SEMESTER SATRTED ON 23FEB2019

A FININCIAL SEIMAR IN OCCS ON 02MAR, @ 10AM

(Continued from Page-1 《DCCA Lunar New Year Greeting on 02Feb2019》 By Kangjian Wu) 在过去的一年里,我们橙郡华人协会的 全体会员们团结一致,风雨同舟,共同发展和繁荣了我们橙郡华人社区。在这里,我们向大家表示最衷心的感谢和最诚挚的新 年祝福! 雄关漫道真如铁,而今迈步从头越。 2019 年的到来,给我们开启了新的希望,承载了新的梦想。让我们继续发扬龙 的传人精神,大家同心同德,与时俱进,共同创造我们华人社区更加辉煌美好的明天!再一次衷心地祝愿大家新年快乐,万事 如意!谢谢大家。下面敬请您享受我们为大家精心准备的新春联欢文艺盛宴。 Dear New York State Senator Mr. James Skoufis, Assemblyman Colin Schmitt, Attorney Mr. Hu Zhiyu Hu, NJ Chinese American Association President Mr. Gary Zhang, Co-president Mr. Ming Xu, and all the guests and friends of Orange County Chinese Community: Happy Chinese Lunar New Year, the Year of Pig.

On this beautiful moment, I would like to represent you in Orange County Chinese Association, Orange County Chinese School and Orange County Chinese Christian Church to celebrate the Chinese Lunar New Year! Thank you for your supporting our community over the year and wish you having good luck and fortune! Once again, thank you very much for coming and please stay tuned for the New Year's Gala that we have prepared for you. Thank you all !

(*Continued from Page-1 OCCA Successfully Celebrated Lunar New Year*) By <u>Jessica Wu</u>) It was OCCA's space to celebrate Lunar New Year, permeated with the color red and excited anticipation.

The OCCA Youth got a special treat after lunch: a chance to hear from Mr. Zhiyu Hu, a highly-acclaimed lawyer based in Edison, NJ. Mr. Hu shared with us several insightful stories from his journey growing up in rural China to becoming an incredibly successful immigration lawyer in America. We were also able to ask questions about his work. Understanding how impactful experience is for young teens and adults, Mr. Hu generously offered the opportunity to apply for a summer internship at his law office to all those interested from the OCCA. Mr. Hu ultimately had two major takeaways for us. Firstly, he stressed that it is important to think of others, and it is important to help others, because that is the work that will be truly rewarding in the end. Certainly, it can be easy to lose sight of that when we get caught up in achieving our own personal successes. On the other hand, it takes personal success to be in a position to help others. Above all, his advice for us coming-of-age teens was simple: work hard. It is not about necessarily being the best, but about always striving to be the best version of yourself.

Personally, I think this sentiment already embodies the people of the OCCA, exemplified by the grand celebration that took place a few Saturday evenings ago. Everybody was working together to create something great for our community, and to share it with others too. Through the hard work of many, OCCA put on a performance showcasing the varied talent in our community, from singing and playing various instruments to dancing and acrobatting, for an audience of easily over 300 people. Several of the skits were done by the students and teachers themselves, who got to see the fruits of their hard work after many weeks of preparation. These included dances to popular Chinese songs, a shadow puppet show, and, of course, the obligatory "新年快乐!" On the adult level, we had a number of members from the OCCA invest their time in performances both funny or beautiful— such as the cleverly-written cross-talk and the operatic singing. After the show, the community ended the night together with a delicious dinner full of laughter, catching up, and karaoke. To top it all off, we even received acknowledgement from our newly elected officials, Assemblyman Colin Schmitt and State Senator James Skoufis. The Lunar New Year had gained official recognition on the local and state level. Lots of people from outside of the Chinese community felt compelled to share in the joy that is the Lunar New Year; to my happy surprise, I sat in the back of the audience with several faces I had never seen before. Our community was clearly growing in impact, something I could only sit back and realize with pride. Surely, success can be defined in many different ways, but I think February 2nd's greatest measures of it were the sense of community and the joy that came from it.

(Continued from Page-1 《OCCA's 2019 Year of the Pig Celebration》 By **<u>Richard Deng</u>**) At 2 PM on that day, as was done in prior years, the event was kicked off with a lion dance, leading into speeches from OCCA president Kangjian Wu, New York State Senator James Skoufis, and New York State Assemblyman Colin Schmitt, all of whom expressed support toward the community and anticipation for the event. With that, the performances were set in motion.

The auditorium proceeded to experience three hours of captivation, amusement, and excitement as the show commenced. Such feelings were most strikingly evoked by several particularly memorable events. Among these events were several traditional Chinese dances performed by OCCA and local dance groups; the movement of their intricately colored dress gained much fascination from the audience. One such dance was "Blue and White Porcelain", which featured lovely blue monochromatic dresses and fans. There were also singing and instrumental performances of traditional and modern Chinese music, each of which garnered enthusiastic applause. Near the end, following a cross-talk, there was an acrobatic show which put the audience at the edge of their seats as they observed the stunts taking place on stage.

Meanwhile, thousands of raffle tickets were quickly being purchased by enthusiastic audience members in the hopes of winning one of the gifts being offered, including Airpods, an Xbox, Chinese goods, etc. As winners were announced, many moments of excitement and delight arose as a final mark of the festivities. I was among those whose tickets were drawn and felt the excitement firsthand. As the raffle concluded, crowds of people flooded into the cafeteria for dinner. It was a lively scene filled with people laughing and conversing, sharing thoughts and stories. Thereafter, there was a smooth transition to a sight of everyone eagerly watching their phone screens, awaiting red envelopes in the OCCA group on WeChat. Tremendous energy was shown as fingers zipped toward envelopes as they appeared. This quickly drew toward the conclusion of a very animated afternoon and dinner. Once the dinner was over, everyone walked out of the building with a clear impression of a night worth remembering, committed to returning the following year for even more unforgettable memories.

《Raffle Tickets》By Derek Li

The Chinese New Year Celebration has always been a huge part of our community, and something to look forward to every year. It offers a wide variety of fascinating stunts done by professional dancers and entertainers, and also the heartwarming performances from our own Chinese school students. It might sound very straightforward, but it wasn't easy to execute such an amazing and compelling show. A lot of planning and organizing was done behind the scenes. Volunteers arrived early in the morning to set up the stage and the entrance; performers have been practicing all year for this day. For the past few years, I have had the honor of vending raffle tickets. Selling raffle tickets at the celebration is an old tradition in our community; we utilize this opportunity to fundraise for our association. Every year, after the outstanding performances, Dr. Liang and Dr. Du would draw out the winning tickets on stage, in front of all our friends of the OCCA. People are all so anxious to find out who the winners are, and hoping that they would be blessed with the golden ticket. As the winners are announced, everyone is looking down, checking their tickets, praying that it was theirs. For those that weren't so lucky, at least they got to witness the winner sprinting to the stage to pick up their prizes with an enormous simile on their face. Even though I have never personally won anything, but I would always feel joy and excitement. The prizes were very alluring this year. The grand prize was an Xbox, with other great gifts such as Apple Airpods and Jewelry gift baskets. Even I spent \$20 on the raffle tickets, because I really wanted the Airpods. This year's celebration was undoubtedly successful, from beginning to end. Especially with the addition of the WeChat Red Envelopes, it really brought people into the festive feeling. Here, I would like to thank Dr. Wu and the OCCA for this incredible opportunity, to be able to help our association and be part of something greater. Congratulation to all the winners of the raffle tickets this year, I'm thrilled for next year's celebration, the prizes will be even better and I hope to see you guys again.

«Celebration of Lunar New Year» By Vicky Wong

OCCA hosted Chinese New Year Celebration on Feb. 2nd, 2019. We had an unforgettable Chinese New Year with OCCA. Volunteers of all ages arrived at Chester Academy, early in the morning, to help put up decorations. They were accompanied by multiple groups of professional dancers, practicing their choreographies, for the big show. Kids were on stage singing and dancing, having a blast, even before the talent show began. I and my classmates helped photography, table setups, and making a guide for anyone attending, on what would be happening during the day's event. Some of my classmates and I attended a meet and greet with Attorney Hu. We finished this in a timely fashion then, proceeded to practice with the props we had for our show. The weeks before this event, for our class, were spent on sketching, drawing, and cutting each individual figurine. Although, we did not have much time to practice along with our song and lights, we managed to pull it all together right before our act. My classmates and I had a great time presenting to the audience what we worked long and hard on for the past few weeks. Even our teacher's spouse and daughters came on stage to help run everything smoothly. At the last minute, our class decided to close the shadow puppet show with a couple of stunts. These include cartwheels, splits, back and front flips, and some cheer routines. Unfortunately, we ran out of time after our cut. We also had a delicious meal after hours of decorating, planning, and arranging. Then sat down, in the auditorium, to watch the hosts give out pig plushiest to kids born in 2007 (Year of the pig). There were some other amazing shows such as singing, dancing, and having a traditional Chinese dragon prance around the auditorium. OCCA and all it's guests finished the day off with a delicious dinner. The Year of the Pig will always be in our memories, thanks to OCCA.

《青年修练手册》By Andy Wang

二零一八的中文学校春节联欢晚会即将到来,为了能给大家带来快乐与笑声,我们在李老师的指导下开始排练舞蹈(青春修炼 手册),刚开始时,我们对自己没有什么信心,学得很慢,但是何老师一直鼓励我,而且班上其他同学都非常认真地学习每一 个动作,经过几次练习大家跳得越来越好。春晚终于来了,我早早起来准备好来到学校,在何老师的带领下,我和学生会的其 他同学开始帮忙挂灯笼,贴海报,时间过得很快,观看晚会的人越来越多,我的心里有点小小的紧张。下午两点晚会正式开始 ,有唱歌,跳舞,还有魔术表演,非常好看,我们的节目要开始了,大家在台上站好位置,音乐响起来了,我们跟着音乐一起 摇摆起来,场下观众们响起了热烈的掌声,下场后,妈妈说我们的表演特别成功,而且节目效果不错,我们都特别开心,谢谢 大家能够喜欢我们的节目。祝大家新年快乐!

《令人难忘的新年》By Iris Chen

春节是中华民族最隆重的传统佳节,它不仅集中体现了中华民族的思想信仰、理想愿望、生活娱乐和文化心理,而且还是 祈福、饮食和娱乐活动的狂欢式展示。中国过年历史悠久,在传承发展中已形成了一些较为固定的习俗,有许多还相传至今, 如办年货、扫尘、贴年画、团年饭、守岁、压岁钱、拜岁、拜年、舞龙舞狮、拜神祭祖、烧炮竹、烧烟花、掼春盛、年例、祈 福、逛庙会、上灯酒、赏花灯等习俗。传统节日仪式与相关习俗活动,是节日元素的重要内容,承载着丰富多彩的节日文化内 涵。

今年是我在美国的第一个春节与 OCCA 社区一起度过,新年的气氛十分浓烈热闹。主要庆祝程序就是观看春晚表演和大家 在一块其乐融融地聚餐,看到演出场地的四处充满着年味的布置现场真是十分红红火火仿佛拥有了回国的感觉。大家都为这次 精彩的春晚表演下了不少功夫,每个人都为此刻苦不断努力练习呈现良好的舞台效果,最令人难忘的依旧是开场的舞狮表演, 演员们卖力演出配合默契给大家带来无限敬请和欢乐,在此感谢演员们精彩的表现和辛苦地排练;大家都在为过个充满浓浓年 味的春节而认真忙碌着,这天各位海外侨胞相聚一起温暖愉快地度过了一个拥有浓浓年味且令人难忘的春节!浓浓的情意,深 深的祝福,绵绵怀念,切切问候。最后愿各位都能在新的一年里身体健康,诸事顺利!

《我最喜欢的一个节目 My Favorite Show》By Angela Zhang

公立二月二号,也是农立月二十八号,我在 Chester Union High School 参加春 节联欢晚会的节目。我不仅是主持人,我还参加两个舞蹈节目呢!一个叫《鹅》,一个叫《青春修炼手册》(Manual of Youth)。我觉得主持人是一个很好的角色,我也很喜欢那些表演。我欢喜杂技表演,我也喜欢青春修炼手册,可是我最喜欢的表演是摸摸,指指,拍拍。我觉得摸摸,指指,拍拍是一个很好的节目。那些小演员们特别可爱。他们神气 十足跳了起来像一群可爱的小天鹅在水上跳舞。我也喜欢摸摸,指指,拍拍的音乐。那首音乐很配摸摸,指指,拍拍的舞蹈,也很配那些小演员们。我最喜欢的部分是最后,小演员们现成了一条令人惊异的龙。那时候, " 年 " 就 出来了。 他们不仅可爱,动作做的也很认真,我最喜欢呢.

《Lion Dance》

By Jeffery Shi

During the Chinese New Year, there are many different festivities and events. One of them is the Lion Dance. which is a traditional dance in the Chinese culture. It is also known as 舞狮 (Wǔ shī) in chinese. In this dance, there are 2 performers, a head and a tail. They mimic a lion's movements in a lion costume to bring fortune and good luck. Every Chinese New Year, the Orange County Chinese School organizes a Lunar celebration, and in this celebration, the Lion Dance is part of it. The Lion Dance always starts off the celebration, and this year, one of the dancers was me. This year was going to be my second year doing this, and I was the tail of the lion. Excitement filled me up, but with a little nervousness too. I was afraid that I was going to mess up or make a wrong move. We had some time to rehearse before the show, so we could get the feel of it. After a few times going through the act, I got my rhythm and the feel again. It's really tiring though since you have to bend over and crouch for 5 minutes while following the person's steps in front of you. My back hurt a lot and I was pretty dizzy from the turning we had to do. When the performance time did come, I was ready and it turned out to be very good. It was also fun to listen to the Oohs and Aahs from the audience because it made me feel like a professional. I'd like to thank Mr. Wu for giving me the opportunity to be a part of this and I'm looking forward to doing it next year. Hopefully, I won't be the tail because it really hurts my back.

The photo of Lion dance from left to right: Mr. Andy Kuo, Mr. Jeffery Shi, Mr. Kevin Huang and Mr. Gary Zhang



《Host of OCCA 2019 Lunar New Year Gala》

By Sunny Shi

This year, I had the honor of being one of the two student hosts for the annual Spring Festival Gala, which is hosted by the OCCA. The Spring Festival Gala brings together all the classes of our Chinese school and presents an array of amazing performances. I had the pleasure of announcing all of these performances. It was my first time being a student host and all in all, I had a great experience. Although it was a significant experience with lasting memories, I was anxious beforehand and nervous about whether or not I would make a mistake. However, when I walked on stage, the apprehension faded away, and I was still a little skittish, but not as skittish as I was before. It definitely helped that Angela, the other student host was always on stage with me. I really could not have asked for a better co-host. The night passed as a blur as we announced program after program. It was an extraordinary chance that I was lucky to have. Nevertheless, the preparation for the big night was less than fun, as there were many lines that had to be memorized while I balanced school work and extracurriculars. Despite the extra stress this opportunity brought, it taught me the importance of time management.

I'm so grateful for Ms. Qian He, my teacher for helping with lines and for her undying support towards me and my mom for helping me run lines, even when it was especially late. I'm also grateful towards Angela, my cohost, and Ms. Li Juan, and Mr. Mei Xiaohui, the two adult hosts, for making this experience more comfortable and diverting. Overall, I had a

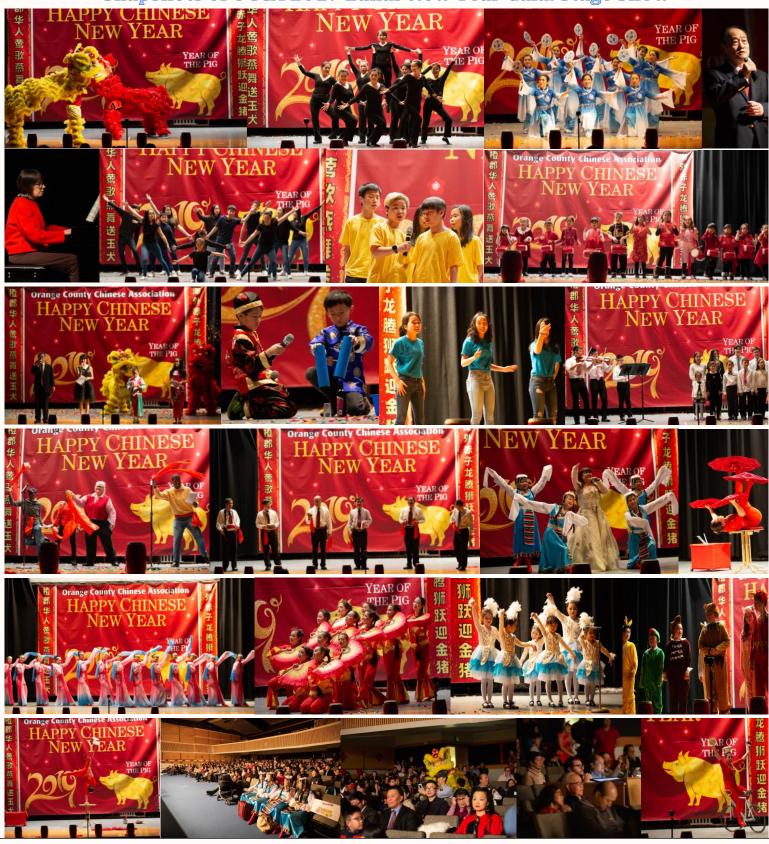
terrific time with great people and great shows.

The photo of the gala M/C from left to right:

Ms. Juan Li, Miss Sunny Shi, Miss Angela Zhang, Dr. Xiaohui Mei



Snapshots of OCCA 2019 Lunar New Year Gala: Stage Show



Please visit <u>https://www.rossmedia.com/chinesenewyear2019</u> for more photos. Due to the space limitation, OCCA will publish more photos about our volunteers and decoration process in OCCA Newsletter in March 2019

[OCCCC Celebrated Lunar New Year]

By Ms. June Tang

礼拜天,2月10日下午,纽约橙郡华人基督教会 (OCCCC) 在 St. Paul Lutheran Church 举行了中国新年 聚餐活动。下午五点,陆长老带领的主日学结束之后,朋 友们陆续到来,教会的弟兄姊妹和儿童唱诗班用各种形式 敬拜赞美创造了宇宙万物、掌管万有、昔在今在永在的那 唯一真神! 在电子琴和小提琴的伴奏下, 教会的孩子们演 唱了诗歌《起来吧!》,琴声悠扬,歌声响亮。接着是孙 女吹奏葫芦丝、祖母伴舞的乐曲《荷塘月色》, 曲美舞美 ! 令人赏心悦目。最后一个节目是自编自演的三句半,借 此我们欢迎来教会的朋友,向他们传福音并感谢赞美赐恩 典的主。St. Paul Lutheran Church 的牧师 Robert Wilson 为大家做了谢饭祷告之后,新朋老友约120人一起享用了 丰盛的晚餐,其中一些是弟兄姊妹精心制作的,另外教会 也从附近的中餐馆定了一些美食。许多华人协会的朋友来 了,一些外国友人来了,几位很久未来教会的老朋友也来 了,大家围坐成一桌桌有说有笑,热烈地交谈,有的讲普 通话,有的说着广东话,有的用英文交流着,喜乐写在每 个人的脸上,教会里的气氛和谐、温馨、热闹,大家一起 度过了一段儿美好的时光。感谢神的丰富预备,社区处处 有真情,是神的爱使我们相聚在一起,一切荣耀归与神!





[OCCA Participated in Lunar New Year Celebration in NJ]

By Dr. Lan Jiang

由新泽西华人社团联席会发起的 2019 年新春·元宵联欢活动于 2 月 17 日在新泽西北 部的 Parsippany 举行。来自新泽西、宾夕法尼亚、纽约三州各地的三十多个华裔社 团、同乡会、校友会、商会的华人华侨同胞近 300 人参加了当天的活动。中国驻纽 约总领事馆邱剑副总领事、孙潜领事、张雄鹏领事受邀参加,并在联欢会正式开始 之前,与各社团代表 40 十余人进行了座谈。邱副总领事首先致辞,感谢华人社团多 年来对领馆工作一贯支持,并通过各社团代表向三州侨胞致以节日的问候。同时也 表示欢迎各社团加强与领馆的联系与合作,共同开展多渠道、多层面的活动,支持 侨胞在当地的谋求更大发展,推广中华文化,也为侨胞们回馈祖国、故乡提供信息 和渠道。吴康健会长和江岚副会长代表橙郡华人协会和中文学校参加座谈,并简略 介绍了协会和中文学校近年来的发展情况。座谈会后的文艺演出有歌唱、舞蹈和曲 艺穿插,丰富多彩。橙郡华人协会舞蹈队在李娟老师的带领下,首次受邀参加协会 外的活动,为联欢活动助兴,精彩的"青花瓷"舞蹈赢得观众的热烈掌声。希望籍着这 次集体亮相,协会有更多机会和其他社团交流互动。



OCCA 2019 Lunar New Year Gala & Community News







OCCA IS A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION. ITS MISSION IS TO PROVIDE CULTURAL, EDUCATIONAL, AND OTHER INSTRUMENTAL PROGRAMS TO PROMOTE THE CULTURAL HERITAGE AND ENHANCE THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN OUR COMMUNITY. THIS IS BEING CARRIED OUT THROUGH OCCA'S COMMUNITY ACTIVITY PROGRAMS AND BY ITS SUBSIDIARY ORANGE COUNTY CHINESE SCHOOL (OCCS). OCCA BELONGS TO EVERYONE, TO ITS MEMBERS AND FRIENDS, AND TO THOSE WHO LOVE CHINESE CULTURE AND ARE INTERESTED IN LEARNING CHINESE. FOR THE DETAIL, PLEASE VISIT <u>WWW.OCCANY.ORG</u>; <u>WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/OCCANY/</u>.

<u>OCCA 2019 Board of Directors:</u> Kenneth Chan, Lan Jiang, Chenghua Deng, Guiying Zhang, Josh Shih, Juan Li, Zheng Hui Li and Kangjian Wu.

OCCA/OCCS 2019 Advisors: Pak Leung, Jinlin Du, Ping Lu, Jim Jiang, and Qian He.

<u>OCCS 2019 Student Government Officers:</u> Angela Qiu, Sunny Shi, Jolina Dong, Kai-li Kuo, Vicky Wong, andy Wang, and Kevin Huang,