A

fter months of empty rooms and the occasional gathering of overstressed college students, the Student Organization Center at Hilles was given a new lease on life on the afternoon of April 1, 2012. Sunlight streamed in through the floor-to-ceiling windows, illuminating the transformation that had taken place. Brightly colored posters and photographs of the children Harvard China Care had sponsored over the years covered the once barren walls, while the usual expanses of empty space were filled with tables full of fun activities. However, all of this became secondary after the elevator doors opened to reveal the main part of the event: the dozens of laughing, screaming, running children who would bring forth a torrent of energy for the next three hours. Let the fun begin!

THE GAMES BEGIN

With all of the children running around, something had to be done to control the chaos. Fortunately, HCC was prepared, with volunteers manning ten activity booths to keep the kids occupied. Activities this year ranged from old favorites such as calligraphy, fingernail painting (for the girls…and maybe a few boys), and origami. A new addition to the activities this year was the ball toss, which quickly turned into something that resembled a game of dodge ball, demonstrating just how creative these kids could be! Balloon animals also made a special appearance at this event, leading to many interesting looking hats and the occasional loud “pop!” To fuel the fun, HCC provided an assortment of shaved ice, popcorn, and bubble tea. Sure enough, these items were in hot demand.

This year, HCC also introduced its biggest Carnival raffle to date. Items ranged from paintings to cosmetic products to Xbox games. However, the prize that garnered the most attention and desire was a brand new Kindle Fire. As the afternoon wore on, parents milled about the auction table purchasing last minute raffle tickets and staring hungrily at the prizes. In addition to taking care of the children, it took all of our energy to contain the excitement over the auction!

BUT WAIT, THERE’S MORE!

Surprisingly enough, children do get tired after running around nonstop for a couple of hours. So what better way to relax than to sit back, grab another shaved ice, and watch some of the best entertainment groups on campus perform? This year’s show kicked off with Chi Zeng ’13, a Harvard sophomore whose amazing voice was put to good use singing “Road to Heaven” and “Ode to a Teacher.” He was followed by fellow Harvard sophomore Kris Liu ’14, who once again displayed the fact that he is the best beat boxer to ever come to Harvard. Soon after, the Harvard Magic Society arrived and dispersed among the audience, demonstrating to the families there that magic really does exist!

The next group to take the stage was the Harvard Wushu Club, who not only dazzled the audience with their gravity-defying movements, but also invited the kids up for some personal lessons (apparently the children still had enough energy for that). The kids then sat down again for yet another...
beautiful performance by the MIT Asian Dance Team. Finally, the Harvard Din & Tonics made their traditional appearance, charming the audience with the classic, family-friendly performance that they are so widely known for.

What a display of such diverse talent! All of the performers proved that Harvard is much, much more than just schoolwork and books!

**A BIG THANKS**
Harvard China Care would like to thank all of the children, parents, performers, and volunteers who helped make this year's Carnival one of the most successful in HCC’s history! The event drew a record 200 attendees and raised over $1000. This money will help fund a surgery for TianLe, a Chinese orphan suffering from spina bifida, a birth defect that can cause paralysis. Thanks again for all the love and support, and we look forward to seeing you again next year!

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**HCC SPONSORS THREE SURGERIES**

*By Eden Liu*

Harvard China Care is pleased to sponsor two cleft palate surgeries and partially sponsor one spina bifida surgery this spring. Thanks to the proceeds from the Chinese New Year calendar, an online survey fundraiser, and the 5th Annual Children's Day Carnival, HCC donated a total of $1800, which will provide three children with an opportunity to lead happy, healthy lives.

BoRong was born with a unilateral cleft lip and palate, a birth defect that occurs when the tissues of the upper jaw and nose do not join properly during fetal development. Fortunately, his cleft lip was already repaired, but his cleft palate remains to be fixed. HCC donated $500 to cover the much needed surgery so that he can eat properly and maintain a healthy weight.

YiXuan is a girl who was born in the central part of China with spina bifida. Spina bifida is a congenital disorder caused by the incomplete closing of the embryonic neural tube. Neurosurgeons needed $2200 to operate on the spinal cord and close the opening in YiXuan’s back in order to prevent further damage to her nervous tissue and prevent infection. HCC was able to donate $800 to partially cover the costs of the operation. We hope to be especially successful in our fundraisers this upcoming fall to cover the remaining amount.

Finally, HCC covered the costs of Ming’s surgery. Ming was born in central China with a unilateral cleft lip and palate. The $500 HCC donated will cover the costs of Ming’s care before, during, and after the surgery to correct his cleft lip.

Thank you to everyone who attended the Children’s Day Carnival, purchased a Chinese New Year calendar, and filled out our online survey fundraiser. Without your generosity, we would not have been able to sponsor these life-changing surgeries. We hope you continue to support our fundraising efforts in the fall so that we can save more lives!
HCC HOSTS LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

By Eden Liu

On Saturday, April 14th, Harvard China Care hosted its first leadership conference for China Care clubs in the greater Boston region. Sponsored by the Jenzabar Foundation, the conference drew representatives from Brown, Boston University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and Tufts China Care clubs. The goal of the afternoon was to foster intercollegiate communications, exchange fundraising and outreach ideas, and develop leadership skills.

The conference opened with speeches by two important members of the nonprofit community. First, John Beahm, Executive Director of The Jenzabar Foundation, talked about the foundation’s origins and mission. He explained that Jenzabar’s commitment to developing student leaders in service was what led the foundation to support China Care’s cause. After a brief Q&A session, during which he gave advice on how to approach corporate sponsors, Xing Hu, Domain Manager of the Nonprofits in China domain for the Hauser Center at Harvard University, discussed the social theories of nonprofit organizations. Namely, she touched upon Dutch Leonard’s 3 circles model of value, support, and capacity, and “collective impact.” Attendees left the opening session with a better understanding of how we can improve our service through collaboration.

The conference also featured three workshops. The first was led by the Leadership Institute at Harvard College (LIHC). Called “Case studies in failures of leadership”, participants watched a series of short vignettes on leadership and made suggestions on what could be improved in each scenario. The second workshop was called “Branding Yourself Online.” Presented by Shirley Zhou, president of Harvard Yearbook Publications, Inc., the workshop discussed how to build a professional and social presence through the web. The last workshop was an open China Care forum, where we discussed the different leadership, publicity, and service models of each club. Attendees found all three workshops very helpful.

Finally, we ended the afternoon with a poster display of the clubs’ best projects. It was a great way to see what each club was doing and how we could improve our own events by learning about what others have already done. All in all, the conference was a success. We extend our sincerest gratitude to The Jenzabar Foundation for sponsoring the event. We would also like to thank LIHC, Shirley Zhou, and the China Care club members that attended the conference. HCC looks forward to more collaborative events in the future!

HCC SENDS TEN INTERNS ABROAD TO CHINA

By Xinlan Li

After the successful launch of our winter internship, HCC once again got busy organizing and planning our exciting summer internship. This year, we are proud to be sending ten interns to continue to work towards our mission in China. Three students, Edna Wang, Isabella Dortonne, and Shelun Tsai, will be volunteering at Bethel, an orphanage in Beijing for blind children. Having volunteered with Bethel in the past, HCC is excited to continue working with them this year.

This year, HCC is very excited and proud to announce that eight of our interns will be going to an orphanage in Dalian: Dan Li, Julie Chang, Calvin Chin, Julia Glenn, Chisom Okpala, Hurjane Vongsachang, Greer Gardner, and Hursuong Vongsachang. This orphanage, in the hometown of mentoring coordinator Dan Li ’15, houses 21 children just outside of the city. Along with Dan, these seven interns will be the first to volunteer in Dalian. HCC hopes to continue to volunteer with both Bethel and Dalian in years to come!

In taking steps to further expand both our winter and summer internships, HCC is constantly seeking new volunteering opportunities in China. For future years, we hope to expand the internship to different cities and orphanages in China, and continue to develop the connections that we have already established with orphanages, such as Bethel, Jiaozuo, and Luoyang. We are always proud of the work that we do in China, and hope to be able to continue the mission of HCC abroad.
MEDICAL COMMITTEE SPRING EVENTS

By Nina Gu, Rena Mei, and Christine Shrock

For HCC’s Spring 2012 speaker event, the Medical Committee invited Dr. John Meara, MD, DMD, MBA, the plastic surgeon-in-chief at Children's Hospital Boston, Assistant Professor at Harvard Medical School, and one of the leading specialists in pediatric cleft lip and palate surgeries. The event was open to the Harvard community and was very well attended. Dr. Meara discussed in detail the formation, development, and negative consequences associated with cleft lips and palates. He discussed current strategies and diagnostic options, ongoing research in Boston and worldwide, and optimal therapies and treatment now available to pediatric patients. His work demonstrates the notable change this surgery can have on people’s lives. Dr. Meara’s talk also highlights the importance of performing these surgeries at a young age for optimal effectiveness. The event was directly relevant to HCC’s goal of supporting orphan surgeries.

At the end of February, the Medical Committee also co-hosted an event with the Chinese Students Association and Harvard Right to Life featuring All Girls Allowed (AGA), a non-profit organization committed to ending gendercide in China. This event was open to the Harvard community and drew a large audience. A representative from AGA talked about the One-Child Policy and its effects on Chinese society, as well as the work that AGA has been doing to counteract these harmful consequences to restore life and dignity to girls and mothers. After the main presentation, a young woman gave a testimony about the suffering she had experienced in China from conceiving out of wedlock and the support she needed to continue with her pregnancy and her life. Her personal anecdote was a powerful example of the importance of AGA’s work in China. The medical committee hopes to continue raising awareness about orphans in China through these educational outreach events.

Finally, the medical committee also organized a study break toward the end of the semester for the undergraduate population with food from stores in Harvard Square. The student body was able interact with the members of HCC in a casual setting and learn about HCC’s mission.

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL SEMESTER OF MENTORING

By Doris Chiang and Dan-Dan Li

Harvard China Care’s XiongDi.JieMei Mentoring Program builds lasting relationships between children adopted from China and Harvard undergraduate students. Through monthly events and outings, mentees are given some wonderful opportunities to understand the Chinese culture in-depth. Looking back, we’ve had many wonderful culturally themed events this semester. The mentees were given the opportunity to learn more about Chinese New Year festivals and the Chinese Lantern Festival. They also participated in Harvard China Care’s 5th Annual Children’s Day Carnival, which raised money for a spina bifida surgery for a young orphan in China. Our mentoring program ended with a trip to Chinatown where many mentees enjoyed dim sum and an afternoon with their mentors. We sincerely hope that all mentors and mentees enjoyed all these events and decide to continue with the program. As always, we welcome suggestions from fellow mentors, mentees, and parents. We want to give a big thank you to all the wonderful mentors and mentees that participated! It has been a wonderful year. We will start the mentee application process early next August, and we hope to see you all again soon!
DUMPLINGS UPDATE
By Michelle Chang and Emily Chen

Harvard China Care had a great time with Dumplings this spring semester, and we only hope the parents and children enjoyed it as much as we did! Emily Chen ’15 and Michelle Chang ’15 were the new co-coordinators, and they kicked off the semester by celebrating Chinese New Year. The children learned how to make a string of paper lanterns and also decorated zodiac animals for the Harvard China Care fundraiser calendar. The calendars turned out great with so many wonderful pictures from our little helpers! Following Chinese New Year, there were five more Dumplings events filled with fun, interactive crafts, activities, and cultural lessons. These included learning about the Monkey King legend, taking a “tour” of China, shopping in a Chinese “market,” flying kites, baking coin cookies, doing a scavenger hunt with Chinese jellies, and last but not least, wrapping and snacking on none other than dumplings! The volunteers had quite a bit of fun every other Saturday morning too, a special chance to be kids all over again, getting their game on in ‘tour guide says’ or Four “directions,” being the target of tickle-fests, and running around being the big, bad monster. Look out for another fun filled semester of Dumplings in the fall!
It's always a bittersweet time of year when the springtime comes around. As the Boston weather gets (ever so slightly) warmer, we know that our time with the seniors is becoming shorter and shorter. The Class of 2012 was filled with some of Harvard China Care's most dedicated leaders, greatest role models, and best friends and we were sad to send them off.

This year, we had six graduating seniors in the organization who have contributed immensely during their time with us. Alexa Stern has served as Freshman Representative and Internship Coordinator. Caleb Yeung served as Mentorship Coordinator. Helen Yang served as Secretary and Orphanage Liaison. Max Meyer served as Freshman Representative, Treasurer and President. Nan Du served as Treasurer and Vice President. Yuying Luo served as Freshman Representative and Mentorship Coordinator.

Under their leadership and hard work, Harvard China Care expanded our Internship Program, set up an Alumni Board, and restructured our annual Benefit Dinner and Silent Auction to be more accessible to students and families. So we gathered for one last time on April 26 in the Penthouse of the SOCH to celebrate our seniors. Pictures were taken, hugs exchanged, and maybe even a few tears were shed. We wish them the best and hope that they will stay involved with Harvard China Care through our Alumni Board.