1st ANNUAL HCC BENEFIT A HUGE SUCCESS

Months of hard work and preparation culminated in two hours of classy cocktails and mingling at the Harvard Faculty Club. The First Annual Harvard China Care Benefit, held on November 13, 2006, was an overwhelming success! Thanks to the support of our platinum sponsors, Jenzabar and Bridgewater Associates, other generous corporations, law firms, and individuals, HCC was able to raise over $34,000 for its projects in Boston and abroad. For example, the children at the SaiQi Orphanage are now so much closer to realizing their dream of a healthier, happier life.

The benefit event began with a beautifully catered reception. During the reception, guests had the opportunity to listen to music performed by a Harvard quartet, watch the Harvard China Care DVD, and bid on silent auction items donated to Harvard China Care by generous sponsors. Items featured in the silent auction included items such as artwork from the children at SaiQi Orphanage, gift certificates to local restaurants, and a day’s sail on a ‘43 yacht.

Following the reception, guests were treated to an enlightening talk on “China’s Social Challenges” by Professor Anthony Saich. Professor Saich is the Daewoo Professor of International Affairs and Director of Harvard’s East Asia Center. His lecture stems from his current research focusing on the interplay between state and society in China and the respective roles they play in the provision of public goods and services at the local level. Moreover, he has just finished editing a book on the reform of China’s financial sector and on HIV/AIDS in China.

Jenzabar additionally presented a $2,500 award to the China Care club at Keuka College, New York, to help them expand their programs and reach out to more children. In addition, Harvard China Care presented a booklet to the founder and the current president of Keuka China Care containing suggestions and ideas on how to expand their China Care club based on the work of Harvard China Care.

The event was covered by the World Journal, the Sing Tao Daily, and the Crimson. We hope that the successes of our first benefit will enable us to establish a tradition and attract even more donors and attendees in subsequent years. Thank you for all your support!

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**1st Annual Benefit: Sponsors and Donors**

(Continued from page 1)

THANK YOU...

**Benefit Platinum Sponsors:**
- Jenzabar
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**Silent Auction Donors:**
**COMPANIES:**
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Hasty Pudding Theatricals
Robert Wong
Sue Miller

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**WUSHU, MOONCAKES, CHINESE ZODIAC & MORE**

Our 2006 fall semester Dumplings Program has been filled with laughter, friendships, and Wushu! During our past playgroups, we have celebrated the Mid-Autumn Moon Festival, listened to Chinese music, created our own Chinese art, learned about the Chinese Zodiac, and even practiced Chinese martial arts.

For our very first playgroup of the year, Dumplings participants learned about the origins of the Mid-Autumn Moon Festival. In addition to learning about Chang’e, everyone at Dumplings also had the opportunity to try delicious mooncakes of all flavors!

Dumplings fun did not stop after the Mid-Autumn Moon Festival. We created our very own Dumplings musical troupe at our “Chinese Musical Instrument” themed Dumplings. After learning about the different traditional Chinese instruments and hearing one being played, the Dumplings participants made and then played their very own Chinese Drums!

Nothing can be more fun than watching a puppet show telling the story of the animals’ race to heaven in hopes of being included on the Chinese Zodiac! After watching the puppet show, Dumplings attendees figured out what their own zodiac signs were and created their own Chinese Zodiac mobile. Dumplings participants had the chance to practice their Chinese calligraphy and made lotus flowers to wear on their hands at our “Chinese Art” Dumplings!

In addition to our regular Harvard volunteers, we were pleased to welcome volunteers from the University of Connecticut who are planning to start a Dumplings program on their own campus. The increased participation from student volunteers enabled the girls to engage in a lot of one-on-one interaction with a great group of energetic and enthusiastic role models.

We would like to thank the Harvard Wushu Club for performing for our playgroup and teaching the girls some beginning steps of Wushu. We look forward to our future playgroups when we will have the opportunity to welcome C-Sharp (Harvard’s Asian music a cappella group) and the Harvard Chinese Yo-Yo Club to our program.
NEWS FROM THE SAIQI ORPHANAGE

When Aidan Madigan-Curtis ’07, former president of Harvard China Care (HCC), first visited SaiQi Orphanage, a small private orphanage in Fujian Province, she was astounded by the children’s poor living conditions. They wore old, tattered clothing and rarely went outside the cramped building with few windows. When she returned a year after HCC took over sponsorship of the orphanage, she could not believe that the smiling, energetic children wearing sundresses who greeted her were the same ones who previously lived in the rundown building. She immediately called HCC to tell us that we were truly making a tangible difference in the lives of these 34 children.

With HCC’s support, SaiQi Orphanage continues to make changes for the better. Despite limited finances, an overwhelming number of children being abandoned, and countless other difficulties, the orphanage has succeeded in helping over 600 abandonees since its founding. Determined to give the children a permanent home, Ms. Xu Yiezhen, the orphanage director, is currently constructing a five-story building in NingDe, a city located an hour away from SaiQi. The completion of the new house in December will mark an important milestone in the orphanage’s history; for the first time, the children will not have to worry about finding another place to call home. The orphanage, soon to be equipped with facilities conducive to the children’s healthy development and to caring for those with special needs, will have a large courtyard and garden in which the children can play. Their location in a city will also provide opportunities for a better education.

The children are doing wonderfully, and Ms. Xu always reports on their outstanding achievements at school. For example, Xu Dan Dan’s (girl, 12) artwork was recently chosen for a school-wide display. Xu Mei Hai (girl, 1), who has been suffering from recurring lung infections due to her congenital heart defect, is recovering well and should soon be strong enough to receive heart surgery. Emory University recently organized a fundraiser that garnered enough money to fund surgery costs.

As SaiQi Orphanage strives to better meet the needs of the children, it will need even greater support from Harvard China Care. To furnish their new home, we hope to find local companies and businesses in China willing to make donations. We will also be starting a sponsorship program in mid December to help the orphanage raise more funds. Groups and individuals will be able to sponsor one or more of the 34 children for a dollar a day. In return, they will receive bi-annual updates on their child’s medical, academic, and personal development. Sponsors will additionally be able to send their child a gift once a year during Chinese New Year. We hope that this sponsorship program will enable donors to form a close and lasting relationship with the children they support; more information regarding the program will be sent out soon!

All of us at HCC are so excited about the progress SaiQi Orphanage has made since we began supporting them two summers ago. We look forward to your continued support and please don’t hesitate to contact us if you have any questions about the orphanage, specific children, or the sponsorship program.

SPOTLIGHT ON XU YANG YANG

Xu Yang Yang was born on November 3, 1996. She was found on the streets in NingDe, a city located an hour away from SaiQi, and came to the orphanage on December 3, 1996. Shy and quiet at first, she easily warms up to others. She loves playing games, dancing, drawing, and making crafts. Her favorite foods include watermelon and all types of vegetables. She is currently in 4th grade and actively participates during class. She hopes to someday be an artist and a language teacher!
Mooncakes and “Fan Tuans”

The last few months have definitely passed by us quicker than we could imagine. We kicked off this year with our first event in October which was a celebration of the Autumn Moon Festival. At this event the mei-meis met up with their new and returning jie-jies. The event had a relaxed atmosphere as the mentoring pairs ate and chatted while playing board games. Tasty treats included moon cakes and parents’ contributions to a potluck dinner. We also began a new tradition of scrapbooking our events. We are encouraging each pair to write about each event and memorable times they have together. This time, the mei-meis traced the hands of their jie-jies and vice versa, then filled in the tracings with descriptions of each other.

In November, we held our second event, a cooking workshop. Here, the girls worked together in learning how to make "fan tuan," a popular Asian breakfast item consisting of a fried pastry wrapped in rice and shredded pork. The girls also made shaved ice desserts, another popular dish in Asia. With three iceshavers and lots of fruit and some elbow grease the girls made fun desserts. After making roll after roll of fan tuan, everyone played charades and telephone. We ended our last event with a big game of gigglebelly! We hope to see everyone at our next event!

A Halloween Adventure: Trick or Treating with a New Spin by Sarah Cramer ’08

We looked at each other. “I’ll do this house, you do the next one” I said. Adam handed me a flyer and we approached the house. The jack-o-lanterns on the front steps greeted us in their own eerie, Halloween way. We walked up to the front steps and nervously rang the door bell. Someone approached the door with a bowl full of candy. Upon opening the door she expressed surprise. “You’re the oldest trick-or-treaters I’VE ever seen” she said good-naturedly but obviously curious. “Well, we’re not trick-or-treating for candy. We’re with an organization called Harvard China Care…”. With this we launched into the speech we’d practiced while walking from the Newton Center T-stop to the streets we’d been assigned for the night. The woman accepted the letter we handed her, detailing HCC’s mission at the Saiqi Children’s Home, and after talking with us gave us a ten dollar bill. We thanked her and went on our way, elated with our first success of the evening, and continued to the next house.

Almost twenty Harvard undergraduates took time out of their Tuesday nights this year to participate in Harvard China Care’s third annual Trick-or-Treat fundraiser. This year, Harvard China Care decided to trick-or-treat for the Saiqi Orphanage instead of a single child like it has in the past. This year Harvard China Care also decided to move to another area (the past two years trick-or-treaters have canvassed streets in Cambridge). They traveled to the residential neighborhood of Newton and in pairs or small groups went door to door soliciting monetary donations and raising awareness for Harvard China Care’s programs both in the Boston area and abroad. After two hours of such soliciting, the group returned to Cambridge with $846.90 and some candy as well. In addition to the funds raised on Halloween night, some donations have arrived via mail since that night. Also, another service organization, the Organization of Asian American Sisters in Service (OAASIS) went through the Harvard dorms soliciting donations of spare change. The spare change collected totaled $893.00. All of the money will be used to fund the building of a new building to house the children of the Saiqi Orphanage.

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