HCC’s Fourth Annual Benefit Dinner
By Jessica Wen

Celebrating HCC’s continued support of orphans in China, the Harvard China Care’s Fourth Annual Fall Benefit Dinner and Silent Auction successfully marked the beginning of our sponsorship of a nursery room in The China Care Program at Half the Sky in Beijing. Taking place on November 12th at the Beautiful Lenox Hotel, the event gave guests the chance to browse a large selection of silent auction items, listen to a musical performance by singer-songwriter Dawn Xiana Moon, and enjoy a keynote speech from China Domain Manager of the Hauser Center for Nonprofit Organizations, Xing Hu.

Thanks to all of the support from The Jenzabar Foundation, featured guests, HCC’s family supporters, and members of the Harvard and Boston community, Harvard China Care was able to raise over $29,000. All proceeds from the evening will go toward the sponsorship of a nursery room facility at TCCP at Half the Sky.

The Evening’s Program

Upon arrival, guests filed into the Lenox’s Heritage Room to enjoy a reception among the various collection of silent auction items open to be bid upon. This year’s selection of packages included a weekend stay in the City View King Guestroom at The Liberty Hotel, Celtics Tickets and restaurant gift certificates, a 5-course wine pairing at the renowned Boston Harbor Hotel’s Meritage Restaurant, and several sets of signed books from famous Harvard figures including President Drew Faust, Michael Sandel, and Steven Pinker.

As the evening proceeded, guests enjoyed a dinner catered by City Table, and learned more about China Care’s mission from HCC members. The featured part of dinner began with a performance by Dawn Xiana Moon. Moon’s music exhibits a blend of Eastern and Western influences, with songs such as “Après un Rêve,” (After a Dream) and “Beautiful Flowers under a Full Moon,” which is her own unique rendition of the traditional Chinese song.

An Impact in China

The keynote address was delivered by Xing Hu, The China Domain Manager at the Hauser Center for Nonprofit Organizations at Harvard University. She spoke of the impact that nonprofit and philanthropic efforts have in China, where the need is wide and slowly becoming recognized.

By opening her speech with a call to members of the audience to identify themselves if they had an interest in China through work, volunteering, or family and friends, she drew attention to the importance of the wide spread experience that so many people already have in impacting China.

“I would like to point out that by being a part of the Harvard China

continued on page 2...

TCCP Update
By Annie Yao

We’re happy to announce that three little girls with heart conditions have been adopted in the past month. Because doctors in China are reluctant to perform further surgery due to the extreme complexity and fragility of their heart anatomies, these girls will have a much better chance of survival in their new homes. These little girls can have hope again in their new families. These three little girls are LiuFang, CaiPing, and ZiJun. LiuFang loves to read and already

continued on page 4...
Care, you are at the fore-front of cross cultural exchanges: Your philanthropic efforts may help with a new rising sector in China, and even help change a country," Hu said.

She highlighted the proliferation in the nonprofit and philanthropic sector of China, which has seen the establishment of many private foundations already, one of which has registered assets of over 1.2 billion dollars. This growing field demonstrates the need for youth involvement, and providing tools for young students and professionals, much like the efforts of HCC have accomplished. Hu closed her address by saying, "Let's again reflect on the reach of your support through the Harvard China Care: the deprived children in a remote corner of the world, the youth seeking opportunities to grow and to experience their value in the world, and the rising Chinese philanthropic sector who is looking to you."

**Harvard ChinaCare Impact**

HCC's work was featured throughout the evening's presentation in many different forms, to best provide guests with a sense of the organization's mission and achievements. Featured in the silent auction was a slide show presentation from a variety of HCC programs and events, as well as a photo display of club member Dianne Xiao’s visits to the new TCCP in Beijing in August of 2009. In addition, the silent auction room featured a power display from the Medical Committee, which provided background on the common medical conditions in China's orphan population, including spina bifida, blindness, and cerebral palsy.

The evening’s program closed with a speech of Harvard China Care’s impact, both domestically in the United States, and as well as in China, through the reach of our various programs.

After seeing last year’s benefit dinner mark the one-year anniversary of Baoji Children’s Home, HCC celebrates the beginning of a new sponsorship initiative with this year’s benefit. Proceeds from the event will go toward the start-up and one year operation of a nursery room facility at TCCP, which will care for 25 babies over the course of a year. We hope to continue making significant impacts to China’s orphans in need.

**HCC's Fall Benefit has raised $165,000 in the past four years. We appreciate all of your continued support—together we are making a difference!**

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**Place settings commemorated the orphans HCC supports.**

**The 2009 Executive Board celebrates a successful evening!**

**Guests enjoyed the speeches and musical performance during a delicious three-course meal.**
In November, the mentoring program explored the exciting world of Chinese games at our penultimate event for the 2009 year. We took advantage of the beautiful autumn weather to first play some group games outside, including a Chinese version of "Duck Duck Goose." Then we learned all about the lengthy and rich history behind some of the famous games to come out of China including Xiangqi (also referred to as Chinese Chess), which involves a battle between two armies with the objective of capturing the enemy’s "general" piece, and the popular strategic game of Go in which a player tries to control a larger portion of the board than his or her opponent. After the educational portion, we enjoyed playing some actual Chinese games. Everyone split up into the stations that they were most interested in. These fun, interactive games included traditional Chinese card games, Chinese checkers, “connect five,” and ping-pong. Many were so enthralled with the games that they stayed at one station for the entire time. Finally, we feasted on some delicious fried dumplings and Chinese noodles. All in all, plenty of fun was had!

Like always, both mentors and mentees enjoyed the afternoon’s festivities. “Not only did my mentee Alyssa learn a lot of things she didn’t know before about Chinese culture and games, I also learned a lot,” said mentor Eden Liu ’12. “We had a lot of fun playing especially the “Connect 5” game. The mentees became so involved and skilled at the game that in the future, if we were to have a match of mentors vs. mentees, the mentees might actually win.”

At the most recent mentoring event, the HCC summer interns gave mentees’ parents a glimpse of their summer experience. Five interns representing three orphanages talked about their roles as interns, the conditions of the orphanages, and the children there.

“Interning at Bethel [Foster home] was an absolutely amazing experience. Despite each child’s blindness, the joy I saw there was genuine and really heart-touching,” said Helen Yang, who had interned in Beijing at the only foster home and training center for visually impaired in China.

The highlight of our third fall Dumplings playgroup was the Harvard Wushu club, who gave a high-energy performance complete with swords, flips, and tumbles. The Wushu club also taught the children a few moves, such as the classic horse stance, which they learned surprisingly quickly. Many of them were much better than Dumplings co-coordinator Daphne Xiao, who lost balance and fell over during the teaching session! For our arts and crafts activity, children made panda costumes. Armed with panda paws, panda masks, and their new martial arts skills, the children transformed into mini-Kung Fu Pandas, tumbling and flipping on the mats!

Calligraphy and painting was the theme for our fourth fall Dumplings. We learned about different styles of Chinese calligraphy, early bamboo scrolls, as well as Chinese painting. We watched a short animation, filled with breathtaking landscapes, that was done in the style of traditional Chinese ink and wash painting. Afterwards, the children used watercolors and ink to paint their very own masterpieces, and used Popsicle sticks to create their very own bamboo scrolls.

Dumplings closed off the year with a big Winterfest! The children had a chance to make their very own scallion pancakes and egg tarts. While the pancakes were frying and the egg tarts were baking, Daphne and I gave a presentation on four different styles of Chinese cuisine—Shandong, Guangdong (Cantonese), Sichuan, and Huaiyang styles. For our arts and crafts, we made little steamers and cute paper dumplings as well as steamed buns to place inside. As for the real food, the egg tarts were beautiful and delicious, and the pancakes were golden and dough-y. Since the children were such efficient cooks, we had more than enough for everyone to have seconds!

We hope everyone has a wonderful holiday season, and see you all in the next year!
In what has become an annual tradition, HCCers paraded out in costumed groups on Halloween night with both friends and volunteers to help children in need. This year, we elected to sponsor an infant from Inner Mongolia named Guang.

Guang was born with clubfeet, a condition that turns his feet inwards and prevents him from walking normally. In addition, because of clubfeet, a muscle in his feet has grown abnormally. To correct this, Guang needs to undergo tenotomy, a procedure that will lengthen and correct the tendon in the foot. Furthermore, he needs to have his feet casted and braced, so that they can grow into their proper positions. For this complete treatment and care, China Care will need to raise a total of $1500.

To raise money for this life-changing project, the groups traveled to many of the wealthiest neighborhoods in Boston, including areas in Back Bay, Beacon Hill, Brookline, and Cambridge. Unfortunately, we did not reach the intended goal of $1500 in one night. However, we did manage to collect almost $475. Through several holiday fundraisers, such as our Prudential Center and Barefoot Books fundraisers, we hope to continue supporting Guang.

The children brought to the China Care Program at Half the Sky (TCCP) in Beijing come from different orphanages all around the country. TCCP is an infant care facility that provides care and attention for medically fragile children before and after their surgeries. This year, with the support of generous donors, Harvard China Care will contribute approximately $40,000 raised from the 2009 Fall Benefit Dinner to sponsor the start up and one year operation of the Special Care Nursery unit at TCCP. The Special Care Nursery unit gives children state-of-the-art medical care before and after their operations. With the help of trained special care staff, the Nursery will provide 24/7 care for these babies.