

JSSCC

Promoting friendship
since 1984

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IMPORTANT

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Deadline to Apply for the
25th Anniversary Trip to
China: July 31, 2010**

**Welcome BBQ/Potluck
for Youth Ambassadors
with JSSCC Members and
Supporters: July 11, 2010
RSVP: Gloria 916.685.8049**

**Join us at the following
concerts with Jinan music
students and Sacramento
Youth Symphony:**

**July 16, Friday 3PM:
Chamber Concerts, Free,
Music Dept, Sacramento
State University (CSUS)**

**July 16, Friday 7:30PM:
Concert at Eskaton Vil-
lage, 3939 Walnut Ave.
Carmichael**

**July 17, Saturday 7:30PM:
Festival Concert. Music
Recital Hall, CSUS, \$10
adult, \$5 students/seniors**

**July 18, Sunday 7:30PM:
Benefit Concert,
St. Anthony's Church,
660 Florin Rd, Sacto, \$10
adult, \$5 students/seniors**

**More Info at SYS office
(916) 731-5777**

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Youth Ambassadors**



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JINAN-SACRAMENTO SISTER CITIES CORPORATION

April - June 2010

Sacramento renews sister city exchange with Jinan, China

It's the year of President Ronald Reagan's re-election, the *Cosby Show's* debut, *Ghostbusters* and 20-cent postage stamps. It's 1984 and it is also the year that Mayor Anne Rudin and the Sacramento City Council first signs a Resolution to endorse the city's sister city affiliation with Jinan, China. On May 19, 1985, the first delegation from Sacramento visited Jinan, and the City Government of Jinan signed an agreement to officially recognize Sacramento as its sister city. Twenty-five years later, the City of Sacramento and the Jinan-Sacramento Sister Cities Corporation (JSSCC) were proud to sign another Memorandum of Agreement to extend the sister-city exchange from 2011 - 2015.

On June 17, 2010, Sacramento City Mayor Kevin Johnson, City Councilmember Steve Cohn and JSSCC Boardmembers and approximately 50 others gathered in City Hall to welcome the official delegation from Jinan and to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the sister-city relationship. The delegation was led by Chairman Xu Changyu of the Jinan People's Political Council. Mayor Johnson welcomed the group to Sacramento, and in a friendly exchange discussing that evening's NBA Championship Playoff game between the Lakers and Celtics, the Mayor asked Chairman Xu who he favored to win. In a witty response that filled the room with laughter, Mr. Xu simply answered, "the Phoenix Suns."

In his welcoming address, Mayor Johnson thanked the delegation and JSSCC for building such a strong relationship over the 25 years. He stated that such relationships benefit Sacramento in positive ways, including student and dignitary exchanges and increased tourism that "help us become a world-class city and really put Sacramento on the map." Councilmember Cohn, who traveled to Jinan with the JSSCC delegation in the past, also spoke of the great relationship between the sister cities, and how this fosters a deeper understanding and mutual respect between the two countries.

After a gracious speech from Chairman Xu, Grace Liu, President of JSSCC, shared the successes of the organization and of upcoming exchanges between Sacramento and Jinan. She explained the importance of such a relationship in strengthening partnerships with another country, and shared the history between the two cities, including many economic, educational and cultural exchanges.

In our ever-changing world and increasing global society, it is without a doubt that Sacramento's sister-city relationship with Jinan, China has and will continue to build friendships between the people of these two great cities.

Read more about us on the Bee: <http://www.sacbee.com/2010/06/17/2827458/sacramento-to-renew-ties-with.html>



Mayor Johnson and Jinan Chairman Xu signed the sister city MOA (left to right: Charlita from Mayor's Office, Councilman Steve Cohn, JSSCC President Grace Liu, Deputy Director Liu of the Jinan Foreign Affairs Office)

**25th Anniversary Trip to Jinan Set to October 2010
- Councilman Cohn to Lead the Delegation**

JSSCC is organizing a trip to China this October with a delegation made up of elected official(s), community leaders and citizen ambassadors from the Greater Sacramento region. Sacramento City Councilman Steve Cohn is confirmed to lead the delegation. The trip will include tours to nine cities such as Beijing, Jinan, Qufu, Zibo, Weifang, Yantai, Qingdao, Suzhou, and Shanghai. A variety of activities are scheduled including to attend celebration

**Jinan Student Musicians to Play Concerts with
Sacramento Youth Symphony next Month**

Sacramento will welcome eight middle school students from Jinan to attend the Sacramento Youth Symphony's (SYS) Summer Chamber Music Workshop and play concerts with SYS between July 8 to July 18. JSSCC sponsors this exciting educational exchange in collaboration with the SYS. The trip is part of the reciprocal "Youth (continue on page 2)

**Sacramento Youth Ambassadors En Route to
Jinan International Youth Festival**

A group of 19 local students and teachers from the Sacramento area left Sacramento for China on June 28, 2010. They will visit Shanghai, Beijing and attend the International Youth Festival in Jinan. This is the fifth year that JSSCC has organized the subsidized youth ambassador trip. At the Festival, our students will (continue on page 2)

IN THEIR OWN WORDS — 2010 YOUTH AMBASSADOR PROFILES

My name is Tee Her. I come from a big Hmong family who faced many struggles during our journey from Thailand to America and in America itself. I grew up being taught to value education and take advantage of opportunities that are out there. When I entered Grant Union High School, I took challenging classes and joined clubs such as Renaissance, Upward Bound, MESA, and Interact, which taught me to better lead groups as well as getting to know more people. During my first two years in high school, I had three friends who went to China with Sacramento Jinan Sister Cities Corp. It was rare to have residents of the Del Paso Heights neighborhood to have opportunities like going to China. I had always dreamed of going to China when I was a little kid; and when they told me of this trip, it was a definite choice for me during the summer. I want to have the chance to explore my knowledge of China's history, culture, art, and language in the country itself. In addition, I want to meet 'Youth Ambassadors' from other Sacramento schools that I will be going with and also people from around the world who will be at the International Youth Festival in Jinan.

I have always enjoyed learning new things and this is definitely the right opportunity for me to experience that. It will also be a great honor to represent Sacramento and the United States in Jinan because not everyone gets this great opportunity.

Why I Want to Go to China By Keegan Pincombe Kennedy High School

Today, China is one of the world's fastest-developing countries, well on its way to becoming the next world superpower. But the fascination and allure it holds for me stem, not only from its rapid modernization and dynamic economy, but from its rich cultural and historic background. China's culture is one of the oldest and richest in the world, and I would consider it a blessing to experience it first hand. Also, I am one half Chinese by descent. I would love to see the land of my ancestors with my own eyes.

My name is Choua Vue and I am a junior at Grant Union High School.

This summer I am looking forward to being part of the Sacramento student delegation that will go to China and represent my school, Sacramento and the United States. This will be my first time flying on an airplane and going out of the country. I am so excited about it. I had never imagined myself going abroad because I come from a low income family and going abroad had never crossed my mind because of financial problems. I believe the trip will take me a step further in my life. I'll be able to find a little bit of myself and make connections with it and see where it takes me next in my life, as I'll be a senior next year and going off to college.

I want to explore the world and enjoy my life since I'm only young once. This will be a great opportunity for me because I always love traveling since one gets to learn and experience so much from it. I think of it as a hands-on learning project. I'll have the chance to meet and interact with other students and develop my leadership and communication skills. Furthermore, this will help me broaden my knowledge and understanding of foreign countries. I truly appreciate this given chance for me to learn and experience things that many teenagers of my age are not able to.

activities in Jinan for the 25th Anniversary of Sacramento-Jinan sister-city relationship as invited guests to Jinan; climb the Great Wall of China and see giant panda bears at Beijing Zoo; visit the World Expo in Shanghai; learn Chinese culture through tours of gardens; and tour major cities in Shandong, one of the most prosperous and populous provinces of China with Jinan as its capital city and Confucius as its most illustrious son; enjoy tour of Confucius' birthplace, wine tasting, beer museum, folk arts and ceramics, etc. **Deadline to apply: July 31, 2010. For more information, please contact Grace at grace.liu@jsscc.org or Gloria at 916.685.8049.**

25th Anniversary Trip to Jinan Set to October 2010 (continued from previous page)

(Continued from Jinan Students) Ambassador" programs that JSSCC offers to students and teachers of both Jinan and Sacramento. The students, age 13 to 16, five girls and three boys are selected by the Jinan Children's Palace, an after-school and weekend program for talented students in arts. They come from seven middle schools in Jinan. Ms. Li Yiqun, their teacher will chaperon them here on July 8. JSSCC will take them to a trip to Disneyland, Universal Studio, etc in Southern California after their exchange here in Sacramento. To volunteer to show the students around Sacramento, please contact Gloria at 916.685.8049 or Grace at grace.liu@jsscc.org. Read more of their stories in our next newsletter, a special issue dedicated to Youth Ambassadors.

(Continued from Sacramento Youth Ambassadors) get to interact with Jinan students as well as their peers from Jinan's other sister cities from over 20 countries. Our students and teachers will also get to explore the World Expo in Shanghai. Three parents of the participating students and two family members of the teachers also traveled with the group to share this wonderful experience together. The group will return to the States on July 8 via the same flight that the Jinan students will arrive by. Read their journals in our next newsletter, a special issue dedicated to Youth Ambassadors.

Students, teachers and their family members excited for Youth Ambassador trip to China



Students, teachers and their family members excited for Youth Ambassador trip to China