

Important dates: Dec. 21 - Jan.1 – Omei Academy closed
Jan 18, 2016 – Day care provided

Student's corner



The winner from the Christmas Card contest is **Arianna Fu**, 3rd Grade student at Omei Academy. **CONGRATULATIONS!**

This holiday season will be a very fun time for everyone. Some people might be celebrating Kwanzaa with their family and friends, others Christmas or Hanukkah. These projects show how the youngest students at Omei Academy started the Christmas celebrations. In the January issue you will see more pictures from projects and our Christmas party.

There are many fun winter sports to be enjoyed during this time of the year. Some sports include sledding, skiing and snowboarding. I hope everyone will have a very happy Christmas season. (by Sylvia)





News *December 2015*



Omei Academy Chinese Public Speaking Competition

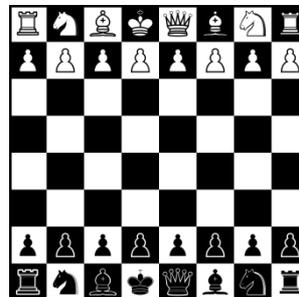
The Omei Academy Chinese Public Speaking Competition contest took place on December 4, 2015. It was a lot of fun. Students could choose from two topics to speak about. The first was “ I am thankful for...” and the other one was “My favorite memory”. The winner was Mary Wang. She won because she used complicated words and was also the only one, who choose the second topic. All the rest of the students concentrated on who they are thankful to. (by Krish)



Do you know, that **chess**

- Improves memory and concentration
- Enhances reading and math skills
- Fosters logic, critical thinking and creativity

Be a part of the Chess Class every Monday to learn different strategies and to have fun playing with your classmates.



Enrichment Classes Introduction

If you are in the GYM during the **Kung Fu** class, there are three words you will be hearing a lot – **spirit, power and speed**. This is what Kung Fu is about! You will see the kids trying their best executing all movements correctly and following the right sequence. They will repeat this until they master it and hear their classmates saying “ good job”. At the end of the class they already feel more confident, more flexible and stronger. Their mind is fresh and they can concentrate on their academic classes.





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Jingle Bells

Joyfully



I like table tennis. It is one of my favorite classes. There are a lot of moves. There is also a contest. Last time's champion was Bao Bao. I really like table tennis because the teacher is very nice. Also, there are a lot of moves and I don't know them all, but I want to learn them. And of course because the contest is a lot of fun. Yesterday I even went to see my dad playing table tennis. I will become better than him. (by Max)

You can learn to play the piano in our group piano class – starting from the basic knowledge about names and duration of the notes, how to read them and how to find the keys for them on the piano and slowly building up to playing simple songs using at first one hand, then both hands.



It's not easy, but very rewarding, because one day you will be able to create your own melodies and enjoy listening to all the wonderful sounds you will be able to connect into a beautiful song.

Around the school



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Principal Zou established **USA Taichi Culture Foundation** and the launching of the foundation took place on Dec. 13th at Omei Academy. Here you can read his speech at the opening ceremony.



Founder Yunjian Zou with mayor Barry Chang

Dear friends, dear colleagues, dear fellow martial artists,

Thank you all for coming tonight. It's such a great pleasure to see so many people, who shares my passion of Taichi.

My whole life has been devoted to learning Taichi, to further understand this art and to continue to develop Taichi.

When I won the World Taichi Championship, it was just the beginning of giving back to the world of Taichi. By sharing my knowledge and experience, I began to teach Taichi and to spread the Taichi spirit among my students and around the world. That's why I see the establishing of the USA Taichi Culture Foundation just a natural continuation of my work, of my passion.

I founded this organization with an agenda -- to commit and support talented martial arts students by assimilating Taichi, Qigong and other styles of Wushu to engage the enhancement of promoting all aspects of the Chinese culture.

My vision is to develop this foundation into the epicenter of cultural and educational activities, in the community; giving every person, no matter at what age, what race, or where you are from, the opportunity to achieve his or her fullest potential.

My goal of this foundation is to be different than the many already existing. I want it to grow strong, with strong supporters, contributing to a strong community and bringing changes.

Just take a look at our Foundation's logo – blue like the sky, because the sky has no limits. Blue like the ocean, because water brings life. Taichi is like water. When water falls, it brings balance to nature. Water can flow and water can crash. This is the shapeless power of Taichi and today I'm asking you to support our foundation by helping me spread this message to the rest of the world.

Thank you!