

Diocesan Cincinnati Choir 2012



The Diocesan Cincinnati Choir – comprising sixty girls, and accompanied by over forty adults – left Hong Kong on July 9, flying to Chicago.

We arrived the next day in Cincinnati at the 2012 World Choir Games. That afternoon was the Games' first big event: the Parade of Nations. The girls were fighting jetlag, but as they burst into the sunny Cincinnati afternoon, their smiles widened as they heard the crowd cheering. Even after the parade, the girls were applauded and pulled aside for photos, and a beautiful photo of the DCC headlined Cincinnati's newspaper the second day.

The second day was full of intensive practice, brightened by a tour of the breathtaking Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption in Covington, Kentucky.

Competition day then dawned, beginning with a breakfast more focused on hairdressing than eating.

The DCC performed magnificently that afternoon, singing four songs – 'Ya Ba Bom'; 'Mountain Nights'; '宛城老景 · 買頂花帽'; and '採茶' – with precision and feeling. The audience was especially impressed by the way our girls turned their western style costume into a colourful Chinese apron to match the two Chinese songs. A parent, Mrs. Deidre Tcheng, was the costume designer as well as the choreographer of the dance that brought much delight to the song '採茶'. The dancers and soloists were flawless. Spirits were high after the competition: Mrs Chiang said the girls had done their best, and all evidence supported her.

The next day the girls performed at an informal, outdoor 'friendship concert'. The DCC sang five songs: 'Come and Praise the Lord'; 'The Alphabet'; 'Alleluia'; '歌聲與微笑'; and 'Shalom to You, My Friend'. The girls achieved a remarkable emotional connection with the large audience, many of whom had teary eyes as 'Shalom' sounded out.

The girls were again superb ambassadors for DGJS. Innumerable photos went home with audience members who sought out the girls in their brightly-coloured blouses shining like jewels in the crowd.

That evening we attended the awards ceremony. The Young Children's category was announced first, and after several choirs received bronze and silver medals, DCC was called. The girls earned a gold medal rating – mission accomplished!

After this, the tour was more relaxed. We enjoyed the WCG's Champions' Concert showcasing thirteen choirs. The closing ceremony was also spectacular, featuring Broadway and opera stars, and a mass choir.

Another unexpected highlight came at dinner one evening. Some girls began to sing a choir song. The restaurant staff then asked them to sing for the other diners. They readily agreed, performing 'The Alphabet' and 'Shalom to You, My Friend' to cheers and applause.

Our last day in Cincinnati was a Sunday, so the girls joined in worshipping God at Christ Church Cathedral, singing 'Come and Praise the Lord' and 'Alleluia'. Afterwards, Christ Church members served us a delicious 'Thanksgiving-style' lunch. That afternoon we learned about God's work at the Creation Museum.

The following day we returned to Chicago, where we sampled many Chicago highlights, including deep-dish pizza, the Legoland Discovery Centre, Michigan Avenue, the Field Museum, and a performance by the renowned Blue Man Group.

The tour's final day was then upon us. Our journey was over, but all of us have fond memories of this excellent trip, which was so carefully planned and successfully guided by the chairperson of the parent organizing committee, Mrs. Teresa Shieh and our Music Director, Mrs. C. Chiang.



Sports Achievements

A Splashing Success at the Kowloon Area Inter-Primary School Swimming Competition

Our DGJS swimmers reaped the reward of their intensive training at the Kowloon West Area Inter-Primary School Swimming Competition. Our swimmers captured the Champion title in both the Girls' A and B Grade divisions. Of particular noteworthy mention is our swimmers' record-setting performance in the A Grade division's 4 x 50M freestyle relay event.



A Smash Hit at the Jing Ying Table Tennis Tournament

Each year the Hong Kong School Sports Federation invites every school to nominate two of their best players to take part in the All Hong Kong Schools Jing Ying Table Tennis Tournament. This year, Karissa Lee of Pr. 5 came first in the Girls' Single event and Jocelyn Ho of Pr. 6 was the 2nd runner-up. With their joint effort, they also captured the championship in the Girls' Double event.

Organic Gardening at DGJS for a Cleaner, Greener School Environment



The DGJS Gardening Club had another busy yet fruitful first term under the blazing sun and drizzling rain. This year the club proudly presents the organic herb garden that is now situated in the Middle Garden. Fresh mint, rue, peppermint, lemon balm and basil have blossomed with the hard work and loving care of the club. A range of organic plants and vegetables such as potatoes, tomatoes, ginger, radish and pumpkin have also been planted and the club members eagerly await a successful harvest in the winter and spring. A hearty thanks to Mrs J. Holdefer, Mrs E. Au and Mrs L. Chan whose guidance has sprouted little green thumbs in all the club members and developed within them a growing awareness of nature and horticulture.



ANZ Money-minded Workshops

The Senior School and the Junior School have reunited once again at the Jordan Road Campus. The unification empowers their collaboration and brought forth the ANZ Money-minded Workshops. The interactive workshops run by accredited Senior School girls and supported by ANZ Bank employees were designed especially for Primary Four students to instill financial literacy in their young minds. Through the workshops, the girls learned to be responsible managers of their money, appreciated the importance of wants versus needs and developed wise spending habits.



Junior School Model United Nations Conference

Dates: 7th November 2012 and 9th November 2012

We are all becoming more aware that our world is a global world. Political and geographical boundaries mean nothing when finance is globalized and we are all affected by climate change. In November 2012, DGS, DGJS and Singapore Chinese Girls' School joined hands to enhance the global dimension in their teaching and learning by embracing education that concerns international, intercultural, and more precisely, global elements. Nothing can be more global and educational than hosting a Model United Nations (MUN) Conference organized by DGS MUN Society in collaboration with Singapore Chinese Girls' School for Primary Six students of DGJS. 20 students from DGJS were invited to participate in this conference in which global issues, such as world peace and security, human rights, sustainable living and development, were explored and discussed. Besides learning about the goals and operation of the United Nations through the conference, students were able to gain multiple inter-cultural perspectives on world events and affairs. We hope that this Model United Nations Conference inspires young people to become partners of the United Nations in the global effort to shape this world into a better place for all.



第一屆「中國書畫班」



傳統的中國畫是本校罕有的學習科目。在2011年12月，初次在本校中國文化室試辦了四次單獨的「認識中國國畫」活動，讓高年級學生參加，以初步認識國畫概念為主。這四次試金石行動得到良好反應，於是本校繼續把這個活動發展成一個正規的校外課程，邀請趙起蛟老師為導師。

根據趙老師的理念，繪傳統中國畫應與書法一起學習，所謂「書畫同源」，書法練得好有助繪畫的技巧，因此這個課程是書法與繪畫相結合的。



課程為五、六年級學生而設，前半部先學習中國書法，除了臨摹楷書之外，還讓學生認識中國不同的字體如隸書、草書、篆書……或各著名書法家如王羲之、顏真卿……的字體，擴闊學生的眼界；後半部則注重國畫學習，先習工筆描摹，以意趣為主。



為方便學習，除了毛筆是學生自備之外，其餘紙張、用墨、用具及稿件均由學校或老師提供。目前學生興趣濃厚，漸入佳境，希望這個活動能觸發學生的潛能，發揮個人的創意，宏揚中國的文化。



「茶道興趣小組」



茶道是中國「飲的文化」，是一門累積千年經驗的學問，自古茶通「六藝」，除了「琴、棋、書、畫、詩、曲」之外，茶道早已成為中國人生活上的另一種藝術。不但有益健康，並能怡情養性。

本校的「茶道興趣小組」為五年級而設，一方面配合語文課程，另一方面以推廣中國文化，增強學生對中國文化的認識為目的。為了引發學習興趣，先以文靜優雅的泡茶活動開始，讓學生親身體驗中國泡茶的方式。

小組活動利用午膳時間進行，每次參加茶聚的人數限4至6人，確保每個組員能親手運作一次，並親嘗自己泡出來的茶湯，實踐以茶款客之道，讓學生自己分辨中國茶藝與西式喝茶的分別。

參與泡茶的學生都充滿好奇，初次接觸雖然有點手忙腳亂，組員卻興趣濃厚，樂此不疲。有些喜歡奉茶待客的過程，有些更自言愛上喝中國茶。此外，我們希望組員學以致用，將來在公開活動中實踐，弘揚中國的文化。

