

MOON FESTIVAL CELEBRATIONS

The Mid-Autumn Festival, also known as the Moon Festival or Mooncake Festival, is a traditional festival celebrated in Chinese culture and is one of the most important celebrations. This year it takes place on Saturday 10 September and events will be held across Canberra that weekend.

The Canberra Moon Festival

This three-day Festival is filled with street food, free activities, carnival games, and stunning performances.

WHEN:

- Friday 9 September, 5-9pm
- Saturday 10 September, 11am-9pm
- Sunday 11 September, 11am-3pm

WHERE:

City Walk and Garema Place, Civic

WHAT:

Friday and Saturday stage performances include dances from various cultural backgrounds, traditional music, lion and dragon dances, lion and dragon roaming at night time, Kung Fu performances, sand art (Saturday morning only), and local bands. Sunday events will include a cooking show (dish presented by a local celebrity chef) and a cooking competition with finalists from CIT hospitality cookery students.

Charges apply for some events. For more information visit:

www.canberramoonfestival.com.au/

Moon Festival Celebration in Gungahlin

Organised by the ACT Chinese Community Association and run by the Federation of Chinese Community of Canberra Inc. this event celebrates the traditional mid-Autumn Festival when families and friends gather together for prosperity and wellbeing, to celebrate the harvest and to enjoy moon cakes and the bright full moon.

WHEN:

- Saturday 10 September, 10.30am-3.30pm

WHERE:

Gungahlin Town Square, green space corner of Hibberson and Gozzard Streets

WHAT:

The event will include waist drum dance, lion dance, singing, traditional and modern recitations and music. There will also be cultural stalls, food and fun activities for all ages.

The event is free and all are welcome. No Bookings required. For more information contact: fccicanberra@gmail.com

NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

I hope everyone is having a wonderful year and survived the winter bugs. I know our family has counted down the days until spring!

Our Annual General Meeting (AGM) is due to take place at 7pm on Tuesday the 18th of October. There will be the option to attend either in person or remotely. At the AGM, as per standard practice we will be dissolving the current committee. I would like to thank the committee members for all their hard work over the last year.

Nominations will open shortly for the next ALMA committee which will be voted in at the AGM. All nominations must be received prior to the AGM. Over the past few years we have utilised committee members skills in accounting, finance, administration, IT, HR, recruitment and policy writing. Volunteering your time with the ALMA committee is rewarding and greatly valued. I strongly encourage everyone to consider nominating for the committee – you can help shape the future of the Association and our centre, meet other parents of the Chinese Australian Early Childhood Centre and gain leadership experience.

Over the last year I have greatly appreciated seeing the hard work and dedication from our staff and drawing on the diverse skills of our committee team to continue to improve our wonderful centre.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Cassie Estrin
President, ALMA

Save the Date
Annual General Meeting



NEW ALMA MEMBERS

We are very pleased to welcome the following new members:

- Tari Okiki and family
- Adam Greer and family
- Yue Qiu (Rebecca) and family

CHINESE AUSTRALIAN EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTRE (CAECC)

We have had many things to share with the children in the last few months.

This term we have started our Music Program on Monday mornings with Carina from Zen Music Play Circle. The children are enjoying this immensely.

The philosophy of the program is based on “We say, sing, move, dance, play, listen and create as we lay the foundations of musicianship: beat, rhythm, melody, tempo, dynamics, texture and form. This program uses the music pedagogy inclusive of: Kodaly, Orff, Dalcroze, Play & Nature.

The preschool children have been introduced to composting as part of our sustainability program. This tied in well with Science Week where the children also discovered their fondness for insects and other creepy crawlies, discovering how volcanoes work and the wonder of mixing colours together.

Book Week is a time to enrich children’s lives with new stories and vocabulary in both Mandarin and English. The children and some educators shared their special books with us and came dressed in their favourite book character.

During the week starting 5 September we will start our Moon Festival celebration with many exciting and fun activities for the children.

The Centre is nearly at full capacity, there are still places available for 2023. Families are encouraged to place their child on the CAECC waiting list for 2023.

We are looking forward to our end of the year activities which will including our end of the year concert on 25 November.

I will leave you with this Chinese proverb “*Do not confine your children to your own learning, for they were born in another time.*”

Annette Chemin
Director, CAECC



Adding food scraps to the compost bin



Reading *The Rainbow Fish* during Book Week

ALMA ACTIVITIES

Mandarin Community Tutoring Project

Our tutoring project continues to introduce adult learners of Mandarin in the ACT area to fluent speakers of the language who have volunteered to share their knowledge of Chinese language and culture. In return, the Mandarin speakers can make more local contacts and friends, practice their English skills, and learn more about teaching Mandarin. Tutors and learners make their own arrangements to meet, usually for one or two hours a week on a one-to-one basis. Follow-up evaluations indicate that most participants see the project as an exchange from which both sides benefit.

For more information about the project and how to get involved, as either a tutor or a learner, visit the Mandarin Community Tutoring page on the ALMA website.

Mandarin radio program on community radio 2XX

Have you listened to the bilingual program that ALMA presents on community radio on Friday evenings from 7-7.30pm? The program is designed with Mandarin learners and young families in mind. It always includes a children's story read in Mandarin, which we discuss in both Chinese and English, and some music and fun songs. It can be heard live at 98.3FM or online at www.2xxfm.org.au.

We are always delighted to feature short items from young learners. Preparing a story, song or poem in Mandarin for broadcast, and then hearing it on the radio is a wonderful way to encourage children to use their Chinese language skills, whether learned at home, preschool or school. If you would like to submit a recording, you are welcome to send it to canberraalma@gmail.com or to contact us at that address for more information.

You can hear two wonderful items we recently received from listeners by accessing previous programs through the 'On Demand' button on the [2XX website](http://www.2xxfm.org.au). Our 12 August program features Year 5 student Ethan talking about a traditional folk song, while the 24 August program has 9 year old Rory telling us the lovely story of tadpoles looking for their mother

As some of you know, 2XX very much relies on volunteers and subscriptions and donations from listeners to ensure its continued viability. The support that 2XX gets from the ACT government and the Community Broadcasting Foundation only covers about half the costs of running the station. 2XX is running a Radiothon from Friday 9 to Saturday 17 September to inspire listeners to 'Support our Community Voices'. For a chance to win great prizes, join some special events and get details of how you can subscribe or donate, see www.2xxfm.org.au. All donations over \$2 are tax deductible.

OTHER NEWS

Australia-China Youth Association at ANU

Are you studying at ANU or are you near the university during the week? This active group focuses on supporting young people with interests in Australia and China. They provide professional, academic and social opportunities aimed to create an inclusive community and empower their members as the next generation of Australia-China leaders.

ACYA ANU organises regular language exchanges and occasional casual networking events. For more information see their Facebook page at @ACYAANU or subscribe to their newsletter mailing list at eepurl.com/cJiwET

Chinese Film Festival

Celebrate the Mid-Autumn Festival with six recent films from China, which has become the world's largest film industry over the past two years. Selections include an animated coming-of-age story about lion dancers (I Am What I Am), a look at the early days of COVID-19 in Wuhan (Ode to the Spring), a legendary historical war epic (The Eight Hundred) and a heartfelt tale of sisterly love (Sister).

Proudly presented by the Embassy of the People's Republic of China.

WHEN: Wednesday September 7 – Monday 12 September .

All screenings at 7.30pm, except for Sunday 11 September at 3pm

WHERE: Cinema, Cultural Centre in ANU's Kambri precinct

The Festival is free to attend and open to the public. All films will be presented in their original language with English subtitles.

To see the full program, visit: www.anufg.org.au/filminfo/20220907.html#film-4881

DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO CONTRIBUTE TO ALMA NEWS?

Please email items for the next newsletter to canberraalma@gmail.com by 15 November 2022.