



GLOBAL VOICES

Office of English Language Learning

International Christmas Party

by Fang ZiWei & Lou ChenYi

On the first day of December, our Global Education Office invited us to a Christmas party in Doctor John's office. The party began at 5:30pm and when I arrived the party, there were lots of people who I had seen lots of times during the orientation, like my guide Patricia, and other internation-

al students at Washington College.

At a Christmas party, there must be a Christmas tree! There were lots of stuffs for us to put on the tree, like balls with different colors. Also, I found there was Doctor John's cat and his name on ornaments on this tree, too. Unluckily, we do not have real fire in the fireplace, because they were worry about the safety, but we had the fire on the television screen with nice music.

In this party, there were over 20 people, and many of them



ChenYi with the Christmas Tree

were part of the orientation group when this semester started.

There were some cookies and some fruit like apples. During this party, I learned some traditional customs like the paper snow flake

and chain cut. To make paper chain, we needed three pieces of paper and write our wishes in there. Then, we made three circles and stick together. Finally, we put this in the tree.

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History of Santa Claus

by Liu YuYing & Wang Yu



Image courtesy of VintageHolidayCrafts.com

When it comes to Santa Claus, people would like to think about gifts and presents. But most of the public do not know the history and bynames of Santa Claus. This article will introduce some basic information about Santa Claus which including alter-

nate names, history, and traditions of Santa Claus.

First of all, Santa Claus will appear the night before Christmas which is called Christmas Eve and early in the Christmas. In addition, Santa Claus only shows up to the chil-

dren who are doing a good job.

In addition, there are different versions of names of Santa Claus which are different from countries. According to Tidmarsh (2015), there are different origins of the

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Christmas Party (Cont'd)

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Also, my friends Peter and Linda joined this party. During this party, Peter cut lots of paper and made lots of beautiful shapes which is a kind of Chinese custom called Window's Followers. It looks like lots of foreigners love this, and they put these paper on the windows, too.



Decorating the Christmas Tree

Then, in this party, the most popular topic was our winter break plans. Lots of people in this party decided to travel around the U.S., such as California and New York. One of my best friends decided to rent apartment with his friends in New York during winter break. Also, some students decided to go to their hometowns, and I decided to go to China, too.

In conclusion, I want to say that this party was very fun, I made some friends, too. Also,



Students Enjoyed Holiday Food

I made up the tree. The only problem is that I wanted to see a real fire!

Santa Claus (Cont'd)

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whole world (Tidmarsh, 2015). Based on that, there are a lot of other names of Santa Claus. The name of Santa Claus in the United Kingdom is Father Christmas; in Mexico is Santo Clos; in Canada, France, and Belgium is Père Noël; and in Italy is Babbo Natale.

Santa Claus did not exist until a man called St. Nicholas was born. His story goes back to 3rd century. St. Nicholas was born around 280 A.D. in Patara, a city of Lycia, in Asia Minor in modern-day Turkey (A&E Television Networks, 2017). St. Nicholas was a monk and because of his kindness and piety, he became the main figure of many legends. In December 1773 and 1774, a New York newspaper reported that the family of Dutch had gathered to commemorate his memorial day. 1822, Clement Clarke Moore, a clergyman of the Anglican Association, and his three daughters wrote "A Christmas poem from St. Nicholas." Moore's poetry, which he initially didn't want to publish, was mainly responsible for our modern image of Santa Claus as having "a portly figure and the supernatural ability to ascend a chimney with a mere nod of his head (A&E Television Networks, 2017, para. 6). Since then Santa Claus showed those features.

St. Nicholas became known as a gift giver. His gifts were given late at night so that seldom people knew the person who gave them the gifts. Gift-giving was mainly around children, has been a vital part of the Christmas celebration, because the festival was revived in the early nineteenth century (A&E Television Networks, 2017). St.

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Thanksgiving Dinner on Campus

by Li MengJiao & Zhao Hongji

The Thanksgiving Day is a national holiday celebrated in the United States. It always happens at fourth Thursday of November in the United States. The history of Thanksgiving Day is very long since November 1621. According to Kirkpatrick (2016), the beginning of the history of the United States, originated by early immigrants in Plymouth, Massachusetts. These immigrants were known as Puritans in England. They suffered pressure from King of England and Church of England. Finally, these Puritans departed from the English Church then fled to North America to find opportunities to be free in religion and to live faithfully as they wished.

In 1620, the famous "Mayflower" sail ship arrived to North America with 102 Puritans. During the winter of 1620 the beginning of the year 1621, the indigenous people in North America encountered those Puritans and brought them some necessities. The indigenous people also taught the Puritans how to hunt, fish and plant corn and pumpkin according to Kirkpatrick

(2016). With the help of the indigenous people, the Puritans finally received enough products from farming. During the harvest days, the Puritans laid down the days which they need to thank their God according to their religious traditions. They also decided to thank the indigenous people for their sincere help and invite them to celebrate the harvest days which is today's Thanksgiving Day.

There are many traditional foods people love to eat during Thanksgiving, like turkey, pumpkin pie, cranberry jam, sweet potatoes, and corn. There

are also many traditional activities like costume parades, theater shows or sports competitions and other collective activities. Now also formed a habit of Black Friday shopping. The way of celebration at Washington College is the Thanksgiving Dinner.

At the Dining Hall, we have a traditional Thanksgiving Dinner on November 16, 2017. It opened at 4:30pm and dinner lasted until

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A Washington College Thanksgiving Turkey

Decker Theatre on Campus

by Yang JinHan & Zhou XinCan



JinHan "Peter" Yang Outside the Gibson Center of the Arts

Did you know Decker Theatre is the favorite theater in Washington college? A month before the end of the semester, on November 17, 2017 at

7:30 p.m., there

was a dance featuring original works by students, with a special guest performance of "Light

Forest" by the Baltimore Dance Project do in Decker Theatre. Because of the dance, around 300 people came to the theatre. But what makes the Decker Theatre benefit and popular in the Chesapeake area? I think people from Chesapeake area want to go to Decker Theatre because of the environment.

Decker Theatre is inside the Gibson Center for the Arts on the campus of the Washington College. The college was started in 1782. So it's a really old school; it has long history. Usually if a school stayed long enough, the buildings should

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An Interview with Sam Rubin

Q: Why did you accept this interview, following the first interview in Ethnography Workshop?

A: I thought the first interview was fun, so I thought I'd try it again.

Q: I often see you join the discussion in Anthropology class. Do you like the discussions?

A: I find a lot of the topics we discuss in anthropology to be very interesting. I enjoy speculating with my peers and discussing the content we learn in class.

Q: By the way, what is a good thing you learn from Anthropology?

A: Something I learned that interested me in anthropology was horticulture. Reading about crop burning and later discussing it was a lot of fun.

Q: Why did you choose horticulture?

A: Because I've never seen the sight of crop burning, and my home town is small town outside Philadelphia.

First Semester at WAC

Q: What did you remember of the arrival day in WAC?

A: I remember when school was supposed to start about halfway through the summer, I didn't want to think about it then because I was busy relaxing. But as the summer went on I wanted to come back more and more. I even visited my friends who were working at the school in mid-August.

Q: How was your first semester in WAC?

A: My first semester at WAC was a lot of fun. Maybe a little too much fun. Balancing work and play is difficult at first, but eventually you figure it out.

Q: How did you do balance work and play?

A: After my work is done, I play basketball for exercise two or three times in a week.

Q: Why did you decide to transfer to WAC?

A: The English program at WAC has a good reputation. I was an English major at my last school and after hearing such good things about the program at WAC, I had to check it out. I liked the look of the college and that was really all I needed to finalize my decision.

Q: Compared with your previous school, what is a characteristic of WAC?

A: The WAC community seems to be a lot more welcoming. I felt like an outsider at my last college, but I almost immediately made friends when I made it here.

Thanksgiving Holiday

Q: How will you spend Thanksgiving Day?

A: I'm going to eat a lot of food and watch football with my dad.

Q: I have an image that the family gathers and has a dinner in Thanksgiving-day. Is this totally different from a usual dinner?

A: The dinner isn't totally different. A lot of the time, when I'm

home, my family and I eat dinner together and talk about how our days went or anything else really. What's cool about Thanksgiving dinner is eating more food with more family and hearing all of the cool news and hilarious stories, all of your relatives have to offer.

Q: What is more food?

A: Turkey, cranberry sauce, stuffing, and mashed potatoes in one plate.

Q: After Thanksgiving Day, Christmas will be com-

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Rina & Sam in their anthropology classroom

An interview with Sam (Cont'd)

(Continued from page 4)

ing. Is Christmas also a special event?

A: My family doesn't celebrate Christmas, but we do celebrate Hanukkah, and Hanukkah is a big deal for us. We usually have one or two big dinners, one with each set of grandparents usually, and eat all sorts of good food.

Q: What is Hanukkah?

A: It's a Jewish festival. The candle holder, menorah is used in Hanukkah.

Fraternity Participation

Q: The pancake event is your favorite activity in KΣ is over. Do you have another favorite event in the future?

A: We have something called "Secret Sigma" that we have near the end of the semester. It's a day where we have a chili cook-off to start the day. We all get into our teams, buy ingredients and cook chili together before meeting in the common room to eat and rank the different chili recipes and decide whose chili was best. After that, we have cookies, eggnog and hot chocolate and give each

other gifts.

Q: Why are the dishes all chili?

A: Because chili is good for winter.

Q: You took a role to melt butter during the charity event. Are you good at cooking?

A: At the pancake event, my job was to stir the batter. Although I'd rather be cooking, because I cook a lot at home, I still had a good time and got a good workout out from stirring batter all day.

International Interests

Q: How was Okonomiyaki in World Culture Night?

A: I thought it was cool. The information provided was interesting and the food was great.

Q: You joined an international event. Perhaps you are interested in studying abroad?

A: I haven't thought much about going abroad, but I sure would love to go to France or England one day.

Q: Why do you want to go to France or England?

A: Because I like art and music in France, and I'm interested in British English because my major is English.

Theatre (Cont'd)

(Continued from page 3)

be looking old, but Washington College is different. More than 20 companies supported Washington College rebuild the Decker Theatre in Gibson Center for the Arts. Now the Decker Theatre can seat 450 audience members. Because Washington College wants audience to have a good time during the show, there is more than one hundred thousand dollars on advanced equipment in the theater.

Since I found out almost half audience were students' family members, I think the other rea-



Decker Theatre Stage

son make the Decker Theatre popular. Which is Decker Theatre belongs to Washington College, and Washington College is popular in all the Chesapeake area. When new students wearing school logo clothes buy something outside the campus, the salespeople usually tell them that Washington College is a good school. Because Washington

College is so popular in Chesapeake area, the Decker Theatre was build inside the college; it helps the college increase its reputation.

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An interview with Prof. Luyang Wang

Q: What is your educational background?

A: I finished my undergraduate educational in China at Guangdong University of Foreign Studies. Then I came to U.S. for graduate school. So I did my master's and Ph.D. at Purdue University.

Q: How many hours do you work every week?

A: It depends, I think generally.... Because this is my first semester, so I actually work longer than the average 40 hours. I think probably 50 hours, around 50 hours, depending on the time of the semester.

Q: What do you think of teaching in U.S.?

A: I think teaching in U.S. is very different from teaching in China. And because—in general, I think in the U.S. people care more about creativity and let students think independently. So it's not more about like teaching, it's more about like accessing student in their learning and inspiring.

Q: Can you describe your teaching style?

A: Everybody's teaching style is different. And my teaching style—I will say that I try to let students do the taking in class more and also because of my personality, I think I'm very easy-going. So I can make students feel relaxed and more comfortable in classroom.

Q: How do you define good teaching?

A: I think there are more than one way to define good teaching and good teaching actually changes all the time. According to students' body and according to the class. I think as long as the student can learn what they suppose to learn and enjoy the class. That is the good teaching.

Q: How do you feel about Washington College?

A: I like this place. It's very quiet and comfortable. And...so...It means people can sit down and concentrate on their own stuff. And is also not far from big cities. So, if you want to do something, it is very convenient.

Q: What is the best way to study for your class?

A: I think generally for my class it's like other classes. It's great if people could prepare beforehand to do the reading and think decently and in decently in the classroom. And also do some review after class. And I also teaching some language classes. I would say if you want to really master a language like probably you need to spend more time learning this language and practice things.

Q: What motivates you to do your best?

A: I don't know. Motivation... It's more like a part of me. Like for a long time...Like...I think I am very...I am a kind of person when I am doing something, I will do it well. And I am a really responsible person, so I want to make sure the thing I'm doing like to achieve the best result it could be.

Q: What was your major?

A: My major? For I'm undergraduate I studied German.

Q: What do you do in your spare time?

A: I love reading. I do love reading especially novels. So I spend

most my spare time reading novel. Actually I want to do some exercise like work out. But seem sad I did not do that.

Q: What are your other hobbies?

A: I like reading, but actually I like reading for pleasure. I like more than reading for academics. And I also like hiking and I like to spend my time with my family and my dog.

Q: Are you ever homesick?

A: Yes, I am. Like during holidays and festivals. The time everyone spends with their families.

Q: Why did you choose to be a teacher?

A: Because I like to spend time with students. I like the feeling of helping others to achieve their



Prof. Luyang Wang

Wang (Cont'd)

(Continued from page 6)

goals. And also I like to stay with young people, they are really energetic.

Q: What is the impressive thing as a teacher?

A: I think the thing that impresses me the most is... everywhere we have very great students. I taught in different universities and different courses, different people and really brilliant students and they really impressed me.

Q: The is the most touching thing?

A: I think two things really touched me. One is students really work hard. No matter how pressure, they try their best. Another thing is like students are cute. No matter where I go, students generally are friendly. And they're willing to share their love with you. And spend time with you. When you leave a place you really miss them.

Q: The biggest difficulty?

A: The biggest difficulty? I think there are more



Prof. Luyang Wang & RuiJia

than one. One difficulty is job market. And the other is both language and culture. Of course I'm an international teacher.

Q: The most interesting things?

A: Many interesting things. I really like discussions in class. No matter what class, because I always can hear very new ideas from students.

Q: What is your opinion on education?

A: Sometimes I really inspired some American students. They did not even know their own culture. For middle school or high school education in America, students need to know

more.

Q: What is your usual schedule?

A: I am a night person, so I work in the evening. So I don't get up early in the morning. My first class is around 12:30. And I generally spend daytime at school. And afternoon I get home I often cook and eat a big dinner, then relax a little bit and do some work.

Thanksgiving Dinner (Cont'd)

(Continued from page 3)

7:30pm. When we arrived Dining Hall at four o'clock, it was crowded on the ground floor. Many students were very excited, and they were waiting in line for this Thanksgiving Dinner. Then, at 5:00pm, we went to second floor to eat. It was very orderly for people to get their special food. You would see a large turkey when you brushed your student card at the entrance. It was a symbol of Thanksgiving.

There were more types of desserts than usual. At the area of placing pizza, it changed to many kinds of desserts such as apple pie, black forest cake and pumpkin cheesecake. Usually, there is always a lot of cold drinks such as Coca Cola and

lemon water, if you want to drink hot stuff, only coffee can drink. However, at this Thanksgiving Dinner, we enjoyed drinking hot chocolate and hot apple cider. Many people were waiting in line to drink them so that the drinks were finished quickly.

In conclusion, we thought most students liked this Thanksgiving Dinner and it brought us a kind of enjoyment for celebrating the American holiday of Thanksgiving.

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DECEMBER 2017

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 Maulidur Rasul	2
3	4	5	6	7 Last Day of Classes	8 Reading Day	9
10 	FINALS WEEK					16
17	18	19	20 Last Day of Hanukkah	21 Winter Solstice	22 	23
24/31 New Year's Eve	25 Christmas Day	26 Kwanzaa Starts	27	28	29	30

Theatre (Cont'd)

(Continued from page 5)



Lobby Outside the Theater

Finally, I think there is one more reason make Decker Theatre became popular. Washington College has acting class, which mean not only actors come the Decker Theatre to play a show. Most time the Decker Theatre is used for student plays and dramas. Washington College has educated people for almost 236 years, how many students graduated from here we don't know, because is too much. But for those students, they

may recommend their friends come to the theater watch a show. Even more, some students may bring their children to the theater, to let their children see where their parents studied, and relive the campus.

All in all, people from Chesapeake area want to come to Decker Theatre because the good environment of the theatre. Not only the inside building looks good, but the Washington College campus is also beautiful. Maybe you don't know every weekend during the semester, a show is prepared. Some are prepared by students, some are prepared by real actors. But all the shows played in Decker Theatre are free for Washington College students. If you have time, please come the Decker Theatre to relax and have good time.

Santa Claus (Cont'd)

(Continued from page 2)

Nicholas did not like to be seen when he was giving gifts, so children were told to be in bed quickly, or he would not come (10 Holidays, 2004). Nowadays, parents will tell children if they do not fall asleep early, Santa Claus will not come and give them gifts.

In conclusion, this article discusses the other names of Santa Claus like Santo Clos and Father

Christmas, the origins of Santa Claus, and some customs of Santa Claus during Christmas.

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