



Chinese American Association of Greater Kalamazoo

欢迎来到第 43 届农历新年联欢会

Welcome to the 43rd Annual Lunar New Year Gala
Chenery Auditorium – Saturday, February 10 from 6-
7:30 PM

Organizers

Emcee: Lynn Chen-Zhang

President: Mei Hua

Vice President: Yongjun Li

Activities Director: Jennifer Jin

Treasurer: Xuebing (Ruby) Chen

Secretary & Assistant Treasurer: Frans Tanade

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CAGK would also like to thank all anonymous donors and volunteers as well!

1 **Dragon Dance**

In Chinese culture, the dragon demonstrates its esteem with its supernatural power, goodness, fertility, vigilance, and dignity. It is believed to bring good luck to people. May the dragon bring you peace, health, happiness, and prosperity in the New Year! This dance is performed under Chinese American Association of Greater Kalamazoo (CAGK).

2 **Waist Drum Dance**

The Chinese Waist Drum Dance is a traditional Chinese folk dance characterized by rhythmic drumming and dynamic movements. Performers use waist drums strapped around their bodies to create vibrant and energetic performances that highlight the rich cultural heritage of China. This dance is presented by Kalamazoo Chinese Christian Church (KCCC).

***** Selected guests are invited to speak. *****

3 **The Brightest Star in the Night Sky**

The song named "The Brightest Star in the Night Sky" is a heartfelt and melodic ballad that expresses the longing and admiration for someone who shines brightly in one's life, even in the darkest of times. This song is presented by Kalamazoo College.

4 **A Thousand Lanterns**

"Dance of a Thousand Lanterns" is a visually stunning and enchanting dance performance that displays the beauty and elegance of Chinese culture. Dancers gracefully move and twirl, amusing fans with a mesmerizing display of light, color, and artistic expression. This dance is presented by MiQi Dance Group of CAGK.

5 Chinese Calligraphy

Discover the timeless art of Chinese Calligraphy, a revered form of expression that combines brushwork, ink, and paper to create intricate and harmonious characters. Immerse yourself in the beauty and grace of this ancient form of art when skilled calligrapher Julia Wang demonstrates her mastery and shares the rich cultural significance behind each brush stroke. The program is presented under KCA.

6 The Golden Furnace by Gang Chen

Experience the enchanting collaboration of violin and piano in "金色的炉台" (The Golden Furnace by Gang Chen), a mesmerizing duet that showcases the harmonious blend of these two classical instruments. Through intricate melodies and passionate performances, this musical masterpiece evokes a sense of warmth and elegance, transporting listeners to a golden hearth of musical delight. This performance is presented by the Irving S. Gilmore School of Music.

7 The Wind from the Horizon

Immerse yourself in the vibrant world of Chinese Mongolian dance with "天边的风" (Wind from the Horizon), a captivating performance that celebrates the rich cultural heritage of the Mongolian people. Through dynamic movements, colorful costumes, and traditional music, this dance transports you to the vast grasslands, evoking the spirit of freedom and the beauty of nature. Jennifer Jin is leading the CAGK adult dance group as they embellish folk-dance art that simulates the expression of Mongolian culture. They symbolize horse riding, herding, training, tying, and racing.

***** 15-minute intermission *****

8 Fairy Tale

Experience the timeless beauty of the Chinese song "传奇" (Fairy Tale), a musical masterpiece that has captivated audiences for decades. With its soulful melodies and heartfelt lyrics, this iconic ballad tells a tale of love, perseverance, and the enduring power of legends, leaving an impression on everybody who hears it. This song is presented by the Male Chorus Team of Kalamazoo.

9 Becoming A Butterfly

Experience the enchanting world of classic ballet with "梁祝" (Becoming A Butterfly), a captivating performance that tells the tragic love story of Liang Shanbo and Zhu Yingtai. Through graceful movements, exquisite costumes, and emotive storytelling, this ballet beautifully combines traditional Chinese elements with the elegance and precision of classical ballet. This ballet is presented by Kalamazoo Ballet Arts Dance Studio.

10 Chinese Standup Comedy about the Dragons

Delve into the world of Chinese Xiangsheng, a traditional comedic performance art, with a hilarious skit centered around the mythical creature of the dragon. Through witty dialogue, humorous anecdotes, and lively banter, the performers bring to life the legendary tales and cultural significance associated with the dragon, entertaining audiences with their quick wit and comedic timing. This comedy show is presented by Kalamazoo College.

11 Kongfu Fan

Witness the mesmerizing fusion of Chinese Kung Fu Fan and the traditional Guzheng instrument as performers skillfully synchronize powerful martial arts movements with the delicate plucking of strings. This unique combination creates a harmonious blend of strength and

grace, captivating audiences with its dynamic energy and melodic charm. This performance is presented by WMU Asian Initiatives.

12 Chinese Yo-Yo

The Chinese Yo-Yo, also known as the diablo, is a traditional Chinese toy. The performers from Kalamazoo Chinese Academy will perform tricks that amaze the audience and symbolize the diablo's cultural significance.

13 Dance of the Red

"Dance of the Red" is an enchanting and expressive dance form originating from China. It combines graceful movements, intricate footwork, and vibrant costumes to depict the joys, sorrows, and complexities of human emotions within the realm of worldly desires. This performance is presented by KCA.

14 Lion Dance

With the beginning of the Lunar New Year, the lions dance to frighten evil spirits away and bring good luck to everyone watching. This performance is coordinated under CAGK.

***** The CAGK Board of Directors announce the date for the 2025 44th Lunar New Year Gala. *****

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