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A community is made up of a group of people who live in close proximity to each other and often share a common interest and values. Our goal at GH is to live and grow together in harmony, meeting the needs of the community while respecting the differences of individuals.

For a community to be successful, every member has to be willing and interested to participate and contribute.

Everyone here has the opportunity to get involved. No one can ever complain GH is a boring place. There are many possible venues for members to actively participate and share their skills rather than be passive onlookers. While sometimes it’s more fun to watch than play, at some point the roles have to reverse; there has to be balance in order for the community to grow and evolve. It is only fair that each person pull his or her own weight.

For some people becoming a part of our community is easy. They move into their room, make friends, join a few interest groups and find their role right away. While others stand on the sideline the whole time and then wonder why their time as a part of a great community is over too soon.

Here are a few tips for anyone who wants to be an active member of the community:

1. **Find a Role and Excel At It.**
   All of us are different and we all have skills that the house needs. Some people will find that they can wear many hats at once while others feel most comfortable with a defined role. Try out a few roles until you find one that is for you. People usually excel at what they enjoy doing.

2. **Reach Out**
   Nothing ever happens to those who wait for things to happen. Go and get to know your neighbors. If you see someone new in the lift that you haven’t met before, say ‘Hi’ and show of the GH spirit. There are numerous interest groups and house activities to join; one doesn’t need to go with a friend because you will meet many new ones there.

3. **Include, not Exclude**
   We are all members of the same house. Everyone should be valued and cherished. Look for residents who have a hard time fitting in, extend an invitation to them to join in on an activity. If they accept, show how pleased you are. I have seen a few residents seldom participating in house activities and I wonder if they would be different if someone has taken them under their wings from the very beginning.

4. **Make Time**
   With most of us having too much to do and not enough time, where we choose to spend our time is highly selective and competitive. Learn to manage your time so that there is enough time to do things you like while contributing to the community. After all, one only gets back what they put in.

5. **Extend a Helping Hand**
   There is nothing more beautiful than offering help to another person in need. Life is a journey that is filled with ups and downs, a perpetual cycle of changes. When we are happy and things are going well, we have a great capacity to share and support others who are going through difficult times. In exchange, others will extend their good will to us when we hit a bump in life. As the wise Ann Frank once said “No one has ever become poorer by giving”.

6. **Work Hard and Do Your Best**
   The time at GH is yours. How you want to spend it here is up to you. The opportunity to build great friendships and memorable experiences is available to everyone. Do your best and there will be no room for regrets.

When we understand that as a community that we are all in the same boat and there is no separation between us, then the drive to better the community would be a sincere and heart felt one. The words “you” and “I” would be used to identify ourselves as individual and not used to exclude others or to encourage separation.
Orientation Talk & Welcome Party
27 Sep 2013

SPEAKERS

- Dr. Eugenie Leung
  Director of Counselling and Personal Enrichment, CEDARS
- Mr. K.P. Li
  Fire Safety Manager, Safety Office
- Miss Hung Wing-chi
  Crime Prevention Officer, Regional Crime Prevention Office, Crime Hong Kong Island, Regional Headquarters, Hong Kong Police Force
A Date with Your Fellow Residents and the Master

18 Nov & 22 Nov 2013

1. BBQ & Sing-along
19 Nov & 21 Nov 2013

2. Dinner Gatherings
20 Nov & 24 Nov 2013

3. Badminton

Squash

Table Tennis
High Table Dinner
14 March 2014

GUESTS OF HONOR
Ms. Mabel CHEUNG Yuen-Ting 張婉婷
Mr. Alex LAW Kai-Yui 羅啟銳
- Renowned film director and producer

INVITED GUESTS

Professor Rudolf WU
- Tutor Fellow of Graduate House
- Chair Professor and Director of the School of Biological Sciences

Professor Gary CHEUNG
- Tutor Fellow of Graduate House
- Professor and Associate Dean of Dentistry

Professor M.H. SHAM
- Tutor Fellow of Graduate House
- Professor and Head of Biochemistry

Professor Bernard CHEUNG
- Previous Master of Graduate House for 1999-2001
- Professor of Medicine

Dr. LI Hui
- Tutor Fellow of Graduate House; Associate Professor of Education

Ms. Jessica YOUNG
- Tutor Fellow of Graduate House; Associate Professor of Law

Ms. Fiona YU
- President of PGSA

Mr. CHOOI Wai Hon
- Vice-president of PGSA

Mr. Jim CHEN
- Chairman of Graduate House Residents’ Committee
Music Sharing Series 1

THE DANCING STRING

by ensemble L'espace de Tinwan 天韻學舍

A cross-over concert between Chinese and Western musical instruments

27 Sep 2013
苏州评弹与昆曲

「欣赏者是水，表演者是船，有了水，船才能航行，没有了水，船只能是靠在岸边的模型。昆曲已在抢救阶段，培养昆曲爱好者、欣赏者是昆曲传承的关键」

—吕成芳

吕成芳 Lyu Chengfang

Music Sharing Series 2
9 Oct 2013
Our Grace Period in Cantonese Opera

我們的粵劇時光

by 頤翔 Danny Cheuk、譚穎倫 Alan Tam、王侯偉 Paris Wong

卓翔——參與作品包括《色戒》、《親密》等。2009年短片《小真的男朋友》被台北金馬影展選映；2010年作品《一個夢》分別被台北金馬影展及香港獨立電影節選映。最新作品《乾旦路》由CNEX紀錄片基金會委約資助拍攝，2012年底正式在香港上映；同時卓氏憑作品榮獲第十三届廣州華語電影傳媒大獎最佳新導演提名。

譚穎倫——師承張寶華老師、呂洪廣老師、伍卓忠老師及鄭詠梅老師習唱科、基本功和古老排場，亦曾隨林錦棠老師練習唱科，多年來屢獲殊榮。近年參加油麻地戲院的「粵劇新秀演出系列」，獲傳媒高度評價為「油麻地之星」。

王侯偉——青年粵劇演員，工旦角，擅唱「紅派」唱腔，曾獲紅線女親自指導。隨粵曲子喉唱家劉艷華女士及京劇梅派唱家洪朝豐先生習唱；隨京劇梅、張派名家朱碧玲老師及傅月華老師習京劇表演。2007年創辦「松月花館粵藝文化堂」；2010年在香港花展旗下設「水月戲臺」，創作及發行第一張粵曲唱片《清宮恨鎖西湖情》。
Christmas Party
25 Dec 2013

Halloween Party
1 Nov 2013
Green Living Campus (“GLC”) contest aims to use teamwork and competitive spirit to promote green living lifestyles and environmental sustainable behaviors in university communities by engaging both undergraduate and postgraduate students from Hong Kong universities in an inter-college or inter-hall competition. After four months’ hard work and final presentation, Graduate House GLC team won the 1st Runner Up in this competition.
Music Interest Group

by Junqi Deng

Graduate house music interest group is full of fun and outcomes.

In the past year, we have a “Piano Chord Basics” activity once a week for those who don’t know much about music to gain some knowledge in basic music theory and piano skill, and for those who have piano skills to gain better knowledge of playing chords on piano. This activity is built on pop music so that those who participate actively can eventually manage to play some pop music comping while singing along.

This year we start to organize a “Guitar Workshop” activity for those who want to know about guitar or learn more about guitar. There’s no regular schedule for the activity. Everyone who comes can play with each other to gain more knowledge on guitar and music theory behind songs through active communications.

Besides learning, from time to time, the Graduate House fellow musician Jonathan de la Cruz may drop by or be invited and give us sing along sections, during which all of us really have fun! Jon is a pop music piano player who knows many of the chord progressions of canton-pop, western-pop as well as Chinese-pop. He is also able to make a quick catch of the chord progression of a new song. So don’t miss these wonderful sing along parties! In addition, the leader of this interest group is Jonathan’s good friend. They sometimes have song writing practices at P1.

We have witnessed some of our group members fell in love with playing piano starting from knowing nothing about it, and some other members managed to sing along with their own piano comping, and some fulfilled their long lasting dream that one day they could be able to play at least one song on piano. The outcome of these activities are quite inspiring!

Besides learning, from time to time, the Graduate House fellow musician Jonathan de la Cruz may drop by or be invited and give us sing along sections, during which all of us really have fun! Jon is a pop music piano player who knows many of the chord progressions of canton-pop, western-pop as well as Chinese-pop. He is also able to make a quick catch of the chord progression of a new song. So don’t miss these wonderful sing along parties! In addition, the leader of this interest group is Jonathan’s good friend. They sometimes have song writing practices at P1.

We’ll also give some nice performances on various activities organized by the house. Such as during the 16th Anniversary High Table Dinner, our group members together with Jonathan performed the Graduate house song We Are One, which is also written by Jonathan himself.

As for our musical facilities, the Graduate House now has a grand piano, a classical guitar, a cajon, an egg shaker and a tambourine. Several textbooks on pop piano, pop guitar and cajon are also available at P1. Individuals may bring their own instruments to join our activities. For the constitution of the members, we have pianists, violinists, guitarists, saxophonists and several vocalists who are willing to give us advices on playing these instruments.
Card Game Interest Group
– The “Killers” in Graduate House
by Yongzhen Li

Attention please! A group of killer is approaching!

We are a group of GH residents who come from different majors and different backgrounds, but with the same hobby, the Legend of Three Kingdoms (LTK, “三國殺”), the most popular card game around the world. We would like to share our happy moments with all of you!

Our team logo and team members

Japanese Interest Group
by Yingjie Xue

Founded in December, 2012, The Japanese Interest Group provides a stage for residents who are interested in Japanese language and culture to learn basic Japanese, practice speaking skills and experience Japanese culture.

The Former leader, Lv Ziyu taught Japanese from December 2012 to December 2013. Her patient guidance and great efforts impressed participants very much. She booked the classroom and prepared every lesson in advance. When some participants missed a class, she would help them to make up the lesson. They gathered every Wednesday to learn along with her. At first, most of the participants could not even recognize the fifty sounds. But after a period of learning, many of them could communicate in simple Japanese and gained a sense of achievement.

Besides offering Japanese courses, the group helps participants to improve their Japanese proficiency. Last Sep, some new residents who have a good command of Japanese joined our group. Their participation encouraged our beginners to learn more complicated Japanese and group members began to practice more advanced skills. The learning atmosphere was quite relaxing. We learned to sing Japanese songs last Christmas. Sometimes climbing and eating served as chances for us to communicate in Japanese.

The group organized participants to visit the Exhibition of Miyazaki’s Layout Designs on June 8 this year. It contained over 1300 items of layout design which is a good chance to understand Japanese culture. Group members exchanged information about Miyazaki on the way to the museum and felt the warmth of love through seeing the beautiful pictures. They not only took a close look at Japanese culture but also promoted their friendship.
Fitness Interest Group
— Your Best Workout Buddy

by Qing Cai

Feeling bored of the endless typing work in front of the computers or get tired of bustling about your samples in the labs everyday? Effective and persistent exercise can help! We all know that doing exercises can make a lot of differences in our health conditions, physically as well as mentally, but not everyone can stick to the exercise routine or has time to go to gym. Our interest group is meant to provide GH residents with a more flexible option to enjoy the benefits of doing exercises.

We are not professional fitness instructors, but we are experienced in doing various kinds of exercises and can help you develop your own training pace. We choose P90X as our routine activities. It is a home exercises regimen including strength training, cardio and stretching. The program is fun to watch, easy to follow. Every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday evening, we organize activities in P1 and do plyometric, yoga and kenpo, respectively. These are the three most popular exercises, which aim at full body training. In the other evenings, we focus on chest, back, abs, arms, shoulders, legs and butt from time to time according to our group members’ needs.

For the upcoming residential year, we will organize outdoor activities more often, such as ice skating and visiting the gym together. The most exciting news is that we will have a Nintendo Wii thanks to RC’s collaboration and generosity. After we get our Wii, we will soon launch a bowling night party. Imagine how cool it would be when playing bowling with refreshments and your best friends indoor, especially in Graduate House, the most awesome residential hall you have ever lived in!

Since we started the fitness group, the number of our group members keeps expanding. We are so glad to see that more residents start to realize the importance of doing exercises regularly. If you are looking for workout buddies, or need suggestions about keeping fit, or just in the mood for a refreshing moment, our Fitness Interest Group will always be here to support you, encourage you and be your best workout buddy. “Do something extraordinary, with your body and your life.” The slogan of P9oX is just the thing we want to say.

Besides our workout routine, we also have some outdoor activities. Last year in November, we organized a Beach Yoga at St. Stephen’s Beach. It was a beautiful day and we had a great time doing yoga on the beach. The sea breeze and sunshine are just perfect for us to ease our minds and have a total relaxation.
Swimming Interest Group

by Kun Huang & Cher Chae Yin

It’s been an eventful year for swimming group in the term 2013-2014.

We started off with cooking gathering and ice breaking session to get ourselves familiar with fellow housemates and group members.

Never let the weather stop you from swimming. Weekly swimming gatherings were organized for swimmers of all levels to have fun and stay actively together, outside pool in summer and indoor heated pool in winter. We also held workshops for interested participants to learn different swimming techniques and strokes. Besides swimming pool, we once held a joint event with Fitness Group to Stanley for a beach yoga + BBQ gathering. We had a session of relaxing yoga by the beach, swimming in the safe area and BBQ at the end of the event. We are never enough of the beach and clear water.

The most anticipated event of swimming group was the ANNUAL BOAT TRIP! The boat trip was a full-day event with exciting activities, banana boat, karaoke, lunch buffet, beach volleyball, sun tanning and many more. Definitely the best way to welcome the warm summer!

Swimming group will organize and have more fun in the coming term, stay tuned!
Voices from Residents

Love and Friendship at the Graduate House
by Ailin Iwan

My first visit at the Graduate House was in year 2010 when I was a masters’ student at San Francisco State University (SFSU) during a summer joint program of SFSU and Hong Kong University (HKU). A friend of mine, Ava, lived at the Graduate House and showed me her room and cooked lunch for me at the pantry. At that time I lived at the Robert Black College together with other students from SFSU for 1 week. I liked Graduate House (GH) even from the first impression. During my application to the PhD study at HKU, I put GH as my first choice of accommodation and I felt really happy when I found out that I could get in and stay at GH for 1 year. I formally moved into GH in late August 2012. Prior to GH, I have lived in different types of dormitories and apartments in the past when I lived in the Bay Area, United States. At first, living at the Graduate House reminded me with living at the International House (I-House) Berkeley where I pursued my undergraduate. However, at I-House the students came from different nationalities but at GH mostly the students came from Mainland China and only a few from other countries. Nevertheless, my journey at GH is a very memorable one. The theme of this article is love and friendship because I feel that these two words sum up my experience at GH. Being in Hong Kong alone, away from family and friends that I have in the United States and Indonesia, is not an easy thing. Many people have warned me that PhD life is a lonely life so I have simply prepared myself for the worst situation especially knowing that my fiancé, Kenneth, works a lot and long hours. It is beyond my expectation that my life in Hong Kong can be dynamic, beautiful, and exciting. Living in GH helps me to experience such life. GH has a great location that makes it so convenient to reach different places. GH proximity to campus, canteen, small restaurants around HKU, and to Flora Ho sports center is really a great advantage for me. Furthermore, I found out that we could hike from the back of GH to the Peak. The first time I hiked up to the Peak, I was so thrill and happy. Hiking is still a really nice activity for me if the weather is not too hot. Other than that, I often swim at Flora Ho, which is not too far from GH.

The most memorable thing for me living in GH is the people and friends that I meet here, which colors my life. GH always encourages her residents to mingle with each other and to get to know with each other through different activities and it is proven to work. I knew my first friend at GH when I attended education faculty welcome night at the Global Lounge. Her name is Jesse and she was 6 months pregnant. Since, I am learning about early childhood development, we got to talk a lot about children and pregnancy. Since then, we become best friend and even I got to see her baby when he was born in hospital. Kenneth and I visited Jesse, her husband, and her baby in Shenzhen several times during her pregnancy and after her baby was born. My second really good friend at GH is my own ex-roommate, Pei Huang, before she moved to the United States in 2013. We had the same supervisor, Prof. Nirmala Rao, and similar interest to help children and we both are Christians. I remember we prayed for each other on several evening and knocking each other’s toilet’s doors whenever we wanted to talk. Pei got married in 2013 before she left to the U.S and I attended her wedding. Another good friend of mine is Lily. We happened to live in the same floor (2nd floor) and studying in the same department, early childhood education. We had many academic discussions together during our initial PhD proposal and she even helped me to observe a preschool. We shared with each other about our personal life and often chatted or ate together at the pantry. Lily recently moved out from GH and she is also presently pregnant. I really applaud to my PhD friends who can handle pregnancy and PhD as they both are stressful.
Lastly is GH full of love memory for Kenneth and me. Hong Kong is a small city and often times we are running out of ideas of eating out or going to movies which is not only expensive activities but also expensive for parking. So, we find ourselves just dating at GH whether watching DVD in the laptop or drinking tea and chatting at P1. Sometimes we pray in the car in front of GH when he dropped me off after our dating. Truly GH gives so much wonderful memories that I shall treasure forever after I leave this place. I believe because of GH, I don’t feel my PhD life is so lonely or boring. Instead it is full with love and friendship as I realize once we open up ourselves to others, they too will open up to us and we can help each other, learn from each other, and care for each other. I feel fortunate to get the opportunity to live in GH and to share my story with you guys. I am sure other residents have their own unique story to share. Thanks for reading.

The other wonderful thing that makes me happy is the Interest Group. In my second semester of PhD, I considered of starting an interest group after reviewing and watching how the other interest group operating. I started “Spirit Shines Fellowship” at GH in the beginning of 2013. This interest group is not only growing steadily but I met many good friends through it. These friends today, I consider as my brothers and sisters in Christ such as: Rennan, Peter, Vera, (who also live in GH) and even Matthew (who doesn’t live at GH). We pray for each other and we co-organize different activities together to share Christ’ love and the gospel. We also had the chance to perform together for Christmas Party in 2013. Other than these friends, living in GH makes me feel closer to some of my office-mates as they too live in GH such as Lin Feng, Chin Mei, and Wang Jing. I often go hiking with Lin Feng and it is a really nice time for us to do exercise together and to share with each other. Other than all of these great friends, I am so thankful to Dr. Li Hui, GH tutor fellow for faculty of education, who always gives us good advices about PhD life and shared his personal experience living in GH. I am also thankful for Master’s wife: Aimie. She is so lovely and kind to me. When I told her that I am getting married next year, she is enthusiastically offering her help and advices to give me information on different wedding preparation. Of course, I also appreciate Master, Jennifer, and Dick Chow, who are always so friendly and helpful whenever we face any problems. Another thing that is worth to mention are the security guards who often greet “Chou San” in the morning when I walk out from GH, which makes me feel like home.
Voices from Residents

Graduate House helped me to settle down in Hong Kong. It also allowed me to meet and get involved in various activities with many brilliant students from different years and research fields. The House itself organized several events where I can learn more about the Chinese culture. I especially enjoyed the music sharing nights which uncovered the beauty of Chinese music to me: from songs on the traditional instruments, such as pipa or guzheng, to Suzhou Pingtan and Kunqu and Cantonese opera performances.

Tomas Tauber, 陶文彬

Graduate House 讓我有一種家的感覺，每次電梯門一打開，我就好像看到了裡面的同學是我的 Family Member 一樣。

Ying Zhou, 周穎

Living in Graduate House is a wonderful experience, and I strongly believe I’m going to recall it from time to time in the future. 在枯燥和壓力大的 research 生涯中，能住在 Graduate House 是一件很幸福的事情。

Jianbing Xu, 徐鑒冰

Thanks to Graduate House. Friends and activities here give me a feeling of home. It was my friends that helped me overcome the difficulty last September. We would like to say “Go back home!” when going back to the House. Having been living here must be the best part of my PhD study in HKU.

Sylvia Zhu, 祝仕雯

我覺得住在 Graduate House 最美妙的就是能在這裡遇到各種各樣、豐富多彩的人。從他們身上，我收穫了很多友誼和快樂。感謝你們！感謝 Graduate House！

Yongzhen Li, 李泳臻

What would be more fun than having a joint event between my favorite club and my warm hall? The joint English workshop jointly presented by Graduate House and HKU ASA Toastmasters Club was one of the coolest activities I’ve ever been involved in. I was so thrilled that many of my dear hall mates actively took roles to run the workshop together. It was a quite successful workshop and all of us had a blast!

Fangfang Jiao, 焦芳芳
Dear GH,
Thank you for the precious memories and the room with a view.
Love,
Dai Ying

THANKS FOR READING!

Editor: Professor Billy Chow
Designed by: Zhiyi Lu

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