

Sharing news and events from Families with Children from Asia Midwest

November FCA Newsletter

This Months Feature

November is National Adoption Month

November is National Adoption Month, a time to raise awareness about the more than 100,000 children and youth in the U.S foster care system, some of whom are older youth, awaiting adoptive families.

National Adoption Month is an initiative of the Children's Bureau, in partnership with Child Welfare Information Gateway and AdoptUSKids. The focus of this year's initiative, "We Never Outgrow the Need for Family," highlights older youth waiting to be adopted and the urgency they face as they begin their transition from out of home care.

The Children's Bureau supports a website providing specialized strategies to recruit families for older youth. Adoption and related professionals will also find examples of [promising practices](#) that States and child welfare agencies can use to promote awareness of and present permanency options to older youth.

Bookmark the National Adoption Month website today at <http://www.childwelfare.gov/adoption/nam>.

[Adoptive Families](#) has a fun calendar of activities to celebrate National Adoption Month available for download.

Stay in touch with FCA

www.fcamidwest.com

Local Events

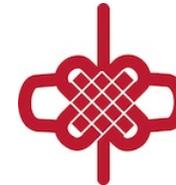
updated weekly

Social Media

[FCA Facebook Page](#)

[FCA Facebook group](#)

Pinterest



Save the Date!

Chinese New Year Celebration

Buffet, Talent Show & Raffle

U Garden - 2725
University Ave. SE
Minneapolis, MN

February 7, 2016

11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Details and
Registration Coming

FCA Activities

Heritage Travel Session

- Saturday, November 14 1:30p-3:30pm
- Hopkins Library Meeting Room
- 22 11th Ave. N.
- Hopkins, MN 55343
- FCA members and children 13 and up are welcome!

Join FCA for presentations by two of the major China heritage travel agencies! Red Thread Tours will present from 1:30-2:30, and Lotus Travel will present from 2:30-3:30. You will find unique information from both companies - in order to learn

about heritage travel and the offerings of each agency, be sure to attend both presentations! More details on the FCA Website [here](#).

UMN CHINA CARE Club



China Care Club & FCA

Mentorship programs are expanding and new opportunities with the China Care Club are available. Find out more about our partnership with the Chinese Care Club on the [website](#). Check out the [registration page](#) to reserve your spot.

- **Make Steamed Buns** - November 8 - 1 - 3 p.m.
 - Mississippi Market; 740 E. 7th Street, St. Paul
 - \$5.00 (limited space available)
 - Learn to make a Chinese classics - steamed buns.
 - Tweens grades 4 - 7.

- **Mentorship Program - flexible times**
 - An opportunity for FCA teens and tweens to connect with a U of M China Care Club Student.
 - Discuss Chinese culture, language practice, share stories.
 - Mentors and Mentees meet 1 - 2 times/month near the U of M campus.
 - One Parent/guardian must accompany the mentee.
 - Parents coordinate location/date with mentor.
 - If interested, please complete the inquiry form on the FCA website.
 - You will be contacted by Michelle Anderson to discuss the program and match options.

- **Upcoming Event - Rock Climbing and Team Building**
 - Base Camp Location
 - January 9, 2016
 - Tweens grades 4 - 6
 - Watch for details and registration.

Teen Meet Up!

We've gathered the best of the best - a group of college-aged young adult adoptees from around the Twin Cities - to meet with FCA teens, ages 13 and up.

Gather at the [Common Roots Cafe](#) meeting room on Saturday night December 5th in Minneapolis, and enjoy a non alcoholic beverage and small dessert, ordered at the cafe. This event is free for members! For all others, a minimum donation of \$5 per attendee is recommended.

Soon

Help Us Build a Better Raffle

Do you know of a business or organization that would be willing to donate items to the FCA Chinese New Year Silent Auction?

Check out our [Volunteer Page](#) for details on how to help.

Travel Grant

For the 3rd year, FCA will offer a \$1,000 grant to help members offset the costs associated with either *Heritage travel to China*, or a Teen trip to the domestic *Adopteen* conference. The FCA feels that these experiences are valuable milestones along an adoptee's life journey, as an individual and as part of a family.

The application will be available on the FCA website Dec. 1, 2015

Volunteer with FCA

Parents receive many demands on their time to get involved and volunteer with schools, church, and community groups. When you're arranging your schedule this year, keep FCA in mind. It's a meaningful way to support your child's life-long adoption journey.

FCA is flexible, so if you can't be at school during the day, you can come to our weekend meetings and gatherings. It's a great way to meet other people and make connections.

Please visit the [Volunteer Needs page](#).



Photo: Kite Making with the China Care Club

Asian Culture and Adoption in the Community

The following programs are provided for informational purposes and are not endorsed by FCA.

4th Annual Adoptee Panel

COME HEAR THE EXPERTS SPEAK! On Nov 7th from 10am-12:30pm at St Joan of Arc Church (4537 Third Ave. S, Mpls, 55419), we will host a young adult adoptee panel. The panel will be for two different audiences: adoptive and prospective adoptive parents and adoptees, aged 8-14. Each group will gather separately, moderated by an adoption professional, to have the chance to listen to and interact with the panel.

When the adoptees are not with the panel, they will be involved in fun, community-building activities. When the adults are not with the panel, they will have an open discussion. Once the panel is done, we'll all gather for a light lunch. If you are able to attend, please rsvp to Gabrielle Dane (gdane@stjoan.com), so we know how many to expect. This is always a very rich event. We hope to see you there! ANYONE INTERESTED IN ADOPTION IS WELCOME.

CAAM Culture Camp 2016 Planning

CAAM dance is now planning their second year offering a summer Chinese culture camp, and your input as a member of the FCA community is valued. If you are interested in your child attending a Chinese-themed summer day camp in 2016, please take a moment to fill out CAAM online survey. <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/T9S2S2WW>

Adoption Oral Histories

Our China Stories is building a forum for adoptees (and their families, friends and mentors) to speak for themselves. Participants decide what they share and all interviews are edited in collaboration with adoptees and their families.

For more information and to learn about sharing your story, contact Jena Heath, teacher of journalism at St. Edward's University in Austin, Texas at jenaheath@gmail.com

Host a Local Exchange Student

Youth for Understanding Intercultural Exchange Programs is looking for a host family for a male exchange student from China, currently attending Roseville Area HS. To learn more about the young man and the requirements and benefits of being a host family, contact Anna Peters at 651-646-8173 or apeters@yfu.org.

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