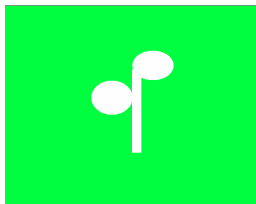


RENREN CHINESE 人人中文



A MONTHLY JOURNAL FOR CHINESE LEARNERS

News from Ray Chinese School

- Much attention in China and abroad, the second installment of "Chinese education model schools" has successfully concluded its selection. After a very competitive selection process, the *Overseas Chinese Affairs Office of State Council of People Republic China* has selected 43 Chinese schools from 14 countries as model schools. Ray Chinese School is one of four selected schools in America. The award is a great honor for Ray school and its Chinese learning community. Congratulations!
- The 3rd Chinese Culture Contest for Oversea Chinese Youth will be held in November 2011. The contest is hosted by *China Overseas Exchanges Association Department of Culture And Education*. Ray Chinese School is one of the test sites. seventh, eighth, ninth and AP classes from Ray Chinese School will participate in the contest. In 2010 contest, there were fourteen Grade A winners from Ray Chinese School.

Chinese Community Event

Dong Fang Performing Arts Association hosted its 6th annual Golden Fall Moon Festival performance at Pfeiffer Hall, North Central College on Sunday, October 9. This was a warm family event including traditional Chinese dance,



vocal and instrumental music and theater. Students from Ray Chinese School also presented a few performances.

- folk dance of Zhuang

CHIEF EDITOR

JEAN CHENG

JOINT EFFORTS OF

LU LEE

XUEJUN YANG

SHAOPING ZHANG

SHERRY ZHU

Ray Chinese School
P.O.Box 4018
Naperville, IL 60567

630-401-9851
rcsonline@yahoo.com

What's in a Chinese Character

What's in a Chinese Character

每月一字

Word of the Month

明 8 strokes

Written character

明天: tomorrow

明白: understand

Man combined the sun (日) and the moon (月) to produce an ideograph for bright, brilliant or enlightened. He called it "ming" (明) and used it also for the brilliant Ming Dynasty of China which came in the wake of the Dark Ages of Europe. Today science and technology has ushered in the dazzling Space Age – with man very much enlightened.



.Practice Chinese Characters here:

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

RCS Calendar and Holidays

October 2011

日	一	二	三	四	五	六
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29 no Chinese school
30 no school	31					

November 2011

日	一	二	三	四	五	六
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24 Thanksgiving	25	26 no Chinese School
27 no Chinese School	28	29	30			

Double Ninth Festival

Culture Express

chong yang jie

The Double Ninth Festival (重阳节), observed on the ninth day of the ninth month in the Chinese calendar, is a traditional Chinese holiday, mentioned in writing



since before the East Han period (before AD 25). In 2011, the Double Ninth Festival is on Wednesday October 5th.



According to the I Ching, nine is a yang number; the ninth day of the ninth lunar month (or double nine) has too much yang (a traditional Chinese spiritual concept) and is thus a potentially dangerous date. Hence, the day is also called

chong yang jie

"Double Yang Festival" (重阳节). To protect against danger, it is customary to climb a high mountain, drink chrysanthemum wine, and wear the zhuyu (茱萸) plant, *Cornus officinalis*. (Both chrysanthemum and zhuyu are considered to have cleansing qualities and are used on other occasions to air out houses and cure illnesses.) On this holiday some Chinese also visit the graves of their ancestors to pay their respects.

Editor's Desk

We like to recommend a book for you to read: **Dreaming In Chinese** by Deborah Fallows.