

M International Students Office

Your Success Is Our Greatest Achievement



January, Enero, 일월, 月, tháng một



Happy Chinese New Year! Celebrate the Year of the Dragon!

Many people in Asia celebrate the Lunar New Year. In some countries it is 3 days; in others it can be as many as 14 days. This year the Lunar New Year starts on January 23rd, and it is the Year of The Dragon.

In China, the New Year is celebrated for 14 days, and ends with the Lantern Festival. Families are reunited and there is a big dinner on New Year's Eve that includes: fish, dumplings, oranges and long noodles. Each food represents luck, fortune and wealth. People clean their homes, settle debts, and end arguments. Children receive red envelopes (hong bao) with money inside. Long red strips with poetry or "lucky" characters are placed on each side of the door frame. There are also lion dances and fireworks.

In Korea, the New Year is celebrated for 3 days. It is a family holiday where the young pay respect to their elders, and receive money and words of wisdom in return. Many dress in traditional clothing called "hanbok". A special rice cake soup (tteokguk) is eaten to ensure a prosperous New Year. Traditional games and flying kites are very popular holiday activities.

In Vietnam, the New Year is celebrated for 3 days. On the first day, money is given to children and the elderly. On the second day, there are family reunions. On the third day, children visit their teachers; who are given a lot of respect in Vietnamese culture. Artificial New Year bamboo trees are decorated with good luck charms and origami. Games that demonstrate knowledge and strength are played. Special foods such as "banh chung" and "bahn day" (meat and bean filling wrapped in a banana leaf) are eaten because they represent the shape of the earth and sky.

By: Dorothea McCurdy

Coming up On-Campus:

- > 2/2: Coffee Time
- > 2/9: Scholarship Workshop
- > 2/10: Shopping at Wal-Mart
- > 2/14: Red Wings Game!
- > 2/17: Field Trip to the African American Museum
- > 2/24: Shopping at 12 Oaks Mall

For more information

about these events please contact International Students Office:
734-432-5791

**Happy New Year (Chinese):
Xin Nian Kuai Le**

**Happy New Year (Vietnamese):
Chuc Mung Nam Moi**

**Happy New Year (Korean):
Saehae Bok Mani Badseiyo**



International Students of the Month

Madonna University would like to welcome two new students: Eun Bit Na Lee and Bomin Ko. Both are from Korea; where they attended the same high school. Eun Bit Na Lee likes watching and playing soccer. Her favorite book is *The Kite Runner*, and favorite film is *Finding Nemo*. She likes spicy Korean food, but wants to try American hamburgers. She says that **"Americans are active and confident"**. Bomin Ko likes to watch soccer and enjoys cooking. Her favorite American character is Winnie the Pooh. She would like to write and publish articles about food. She likes almost every type of food, but her favorite is meat. She said she is **"very interested in learning about American sports like football and basketball."**

By: Dorothea McCurdy

Madonna University would like to welcome all of our students from the following countries: Bosnia, Brazil, China, Canada, Chad, Columbia, Great Britain, Ghana, India, Ivory Coast, Japan, Latvia, Lebanon, Korea, Mexico, Norway, Pakistan, Poland, Romania, Thailand, Slovak Republic, Syria, and Vietnam. We hope you have a great semester!

How to Maintain F-1 Status

- Maintain a valid passport, I-20, and I-94.
- Attend the school you are authorized to attend.
- Pursue a full course of study and make normal progress towards the completion of the course of study. Students should not drop below a full course or withdraw from the University without informing the university and obtaining permission from DSO. Undergraduate: 12 s.h. Graduate: 9 s.h. Only three online credit hours may be counted towards your degree.
- Report a change of address to USCIS within 10 days of your move.

Announcements:

International Students, we would like to know what is going on! Did you take a trip? Try something new? Learn something about American culture? Send us an email at internationalstudentsoffice@madonna.edu and we will include it in our next edition!

What is the International Students Office?

The bilingual staff at the International Students Office strives to provide quality and friendly guidance to our international students, including information on international admission, F-1 student regulations, orientation, advising and coordination of cultural exchange activities. Contact Grace Philson at gphilson@madonna.edu or Joy Cho at scho@madonna.edu with any questions.