

(文接B-1版)

程，還鍛煉了怎樣融入集體生活，離家出門的獨立生活能力，他們也提前體驗了大學生活。每晚看到他們洗完澡後，蹦蹦跳跳地下樓吃宵夜，感覺CYC就像一個大家庭，營造的出來的是一種溫暖而歡快的氛圍。營員們長大一些有參營經驗之後，也可以申請做C或AC，帶領新的營員，這可能就是我們說的傳承吧。雖然短短一個星期的CYC夏令營，但是從營員到C和AC，到每一位元組織人員和工作人員，也包括授課的老師，都非常愉快地和享受這段美好的時光，期間有很多感動的時刻，都來自我們喜愛的CYC，雖然今年的CYC剛落下帷幕，但是我們已經迫不及待地期盼明年啦，期待我們明年再一次相聚在CYC！

**Activity Director Gabriel Wang 王泓龍**

It's hard to believe I have been a part of CYC for a decade. As I went from camper to counselor to activities director, I am still enjoying my time at CYC as much as ever. This summer camp had always been a true highlight of my summers growing up and I cannot be more appreciative to still be a part of this camp. I strive to be able to provide that same experience and opportunity I was given to others.

What makes CYC truly a fixture in the DFW community is all the people who run and visit the camp. The peers that I have attended camp with are some of my best friends to this day. Being able to connect with a network of individuals with similar experiences, interests, and backgrounds is such a valuable thing. I also can hardly appreciate enough all the staff members who have watched me grow and develop into the person I have become today. They have provided me countless opportunities to expand my skill set, take responsibility, and gain social skills through experiences I could have not attained anywhere else. The support system you have in a camp like CYC is immense.

I am truly grateful I have been welcomed to stay with CYC for so long. It has been amazing to watch such a camp grow over the years and it truly means so much seeing all the campers and counselors have fun and grow as leaders. Thank you to CYC for all that you have provided for me. I hope to remain a part of this camp for many years to come. CYC is a community you want to be a part of.

**丁班 Ding Ban Counselor  
Brooke Liu 劉含章**

When I was first introduced to CYC in 2017, I felt like how many 12-year-olds would feel in a room of thirty

other 12-year-olds: anxious and scared, but excited for the week to come. I knew almost no one but my worries about making friends quickly disappeared after seeing the welcoming smiles on my counselors' faces. Throughout those short 6 days of camp, I never once felt out of place. Whether it was through accidentally slapping my counselor in the face with a wet t-shirt during water night or putting lipstick on my friends and counselors during Night Market, I left camp that week with unforgettable memories and an eagerness to return the next year.

Each year after, I would rush to sign up for camp when applications opened, practically drooling over the thought of that one-week oasis. When I received the counselor application in 2022, I was thrilled for the opportunity to pay the camp experience forward. Although many of my friends did not return after the pandemic, working alongside another group of counselors-in-training was just as exciting and enticing. However, being entrusted with the role of Counselor kept me up at night. How was I supposed to know how to manage my ACs and 20-something kids? My mind was flooded with self-doubt, but the reality was that there was nothing to worry about. I had mentors and TAs that were always willing to offer their words of wisdom, ACs that constantly exuded leadership qualities and unique talents during workshops and camp week, and a group of campers that never faltered in their excitement and energy. By being surrounded by a community that cares deeply, I never felt like I was on my own.

Getting to be a counselor these past 2 years is something I will forever be grateful for. Being a counselor has given me endless opportunities to grow as a teammate and a leader, and the amount of amazing, brilliant people I have met through CYC is something I won't ever take for granted.

PS. Shoutout to Ella, Vanessa, Eric, and Josh for being an amazing group of ACs. And shoutout to Ding Ban for being some of the funniest kids I have ever met. You guys are awesome :)

**己班 Ji Ban Counselor Jerry Han 韓傑瑞**

The first time I walked into Arlington Hall, I was met with a frenzy of excitement. All around me, campers and staff bustled about. I could see counselors playing card games with the newly arrived campers. Warm welcoming smiles seemed to emanate from everyone in the lobby. My tiny 11-year old self stood in one corner, clutching onto a gigantic suitcase almost taller than me.

Unlike most of the campers, I wasn't from Texas. During the drive from Oklahoma, worrying thoughts constantly ran through my head. What if I get homesick? Or what if I can't make any friends? I'm happy to say that those thoughts couldn't have been further from the truth. I left my first year of CYC with tears streaming down my face, already missing my friends and wondering why CYC had to end so soon.

On paper, CYC seems like an average Chinese camp. Campers have the opportunity to learn about Chinese traditions such as Chinese Yo-yo, folk dances, calligraphy, painting and much more. However, it's only when you look past what's on paper that you'll find the true allure of CYC. It's the little moments that I shared with my fellow campers and counselors that make CYC so memorable. It's playing high card with your ban at 宵夜 and getting dared to ask your camp crush to banquet or the moment when you finally nail the group choreo. It's the excitement over the notes your counselors wrote you or singing 朋友 for the last time with all of your best friends by your side, unable to contain the tears. Those are the moments that I cherish the most and the ones I'll take with me forever.

My incredible camper experiences wouldn't have been possible without my encouraging and caring counselors. The positive impact they gave me inspired me to come back as a counselor this year. I've always appreciated their hard work, but it wasn't until I was put in their shoes that I truly realized the amount of effort they put into us campers. It was a roller coaster of emotions and countless challenges all jam packed into a single week. But, I came out the other side with a better understanding of myself as a leader and hopefully inspired some of my campers the way my counselors inspired me.

Reflecting back on all these years, I realized that CYC has taught me the importance of finding a community. It's so rare to find a group of people with the same passion and drive, one that you can effortlessly connect with. It's what keeps me coming back every year. The CYC community has continually motivated me and provided me with a sense of belonging like no other. Even though I live in a completely different state, I can feel the CYC family as if they were right next to me.

Thank you to all the staff, volunteers, the counselor group and everyone who makes CYC possible. CYC has given me some of the best childhood memories and friendships that I wouldn't trade the world for. It is truly my second home.

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