

WHEATON ACADEMY

www.wheatonacademy.org
630-562-7500

FAST FACTS:

- Students from more than 12 countries
- 1:15 Faculty-Student Ratio
- Average ACT of 25.1
- Average faculty teaching experience of 9 years with department heads averaging 15 years of experience.

The mission of Wheaton Academy is to nurture growth in our students through relationships, excellence and service to the glory of God.

APPLY TO WHEATON ACADEMY:

Visit the boarding website

www.wheatonacademy.org/boarding.html

to find the application and instructions.

Wheaton Academy International Community

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

NOVEMBER 2009

Kairos

By Brenda Vishanoff, Director of Admissions and Boarding



Welcome to the first issue of WA International Community. We are excited to share stories

of the ways Wheaton Academy is providing a global education for our students.

This year we welcomed international students to campus from over 12 countries including Korea, China, Indonesia, Georgia, Ethiopia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Vietnam, Taiwan, Scotland, Bolivia, Cuba, and Zambia. These students are living with current Wheaton Academy families. This year's group has adopted the name

Kairos from the Greek New Testament word for "time." We are anticipating that God will work in a special way through this opportunity to spend time together on campus.

We believe that our international students enable us to provide a better education for all Wheaton Academy students. Their impact on the American students in influencing friendships and shaping worldviews is evident on campus. Teachers, students, and host families desire to learn about the home cultures of our international students in order to value the students' stories and their cultures as

they also help the international students acquire skills in American culture.

The results are rich dialogue on campus and a growing understanding of the way God richly shares His various attributes among the different cultures of the world. I know you will be blessed in this issue as you meet Widi Moestopo from Indonesia; hear of our Homecoming celebration; listen to a reflection by Jon Keith, a host parent and our Chief Operating Officer; and learn other interesting facts of our program. We encourage you to continue to pray for this movement on campus. *Soli Deo Gloria.*

Meet Widi Moestopo, a Freshman from Indonesia

By Ziyang Yin, Boarding Student from China

What is the most enjoyable part of WA so far?

The most enjoyable part so far is the new friendships I have here. I have a good chance to play sports and to go to International Dinner every Tuesday.

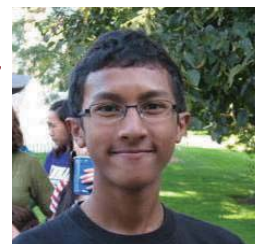
How did you find out about WA?

I found out about WA through a missionary couple who now still lives in Indonesia. She and her husband have been in Indonesia for a long time.

What is the biggest difference between your old school and WA?

The biggest difference is that I can choose what classes I want to take. In my old school the schedule was already set up for me. Also, WA has a great new Field House athletic facility ...I'm loving it.

What are you most looking forward to during your four years at WA?



I'm looking forward to having experiences on how to adapt to a new culture. I want to have friends here and play basketball and be on the cross country team. Eventually, I want to be an expert in mechanical engineering.



Reflections of a Host Parent

By Jon Keith, Host Parent and Chief Operating Officer



Recently, we had an interesting opportunity to take one of our international students on a family visit back to our rural home town. Not only was the small town America experience (no Starbucks, no McDonalds, not even a gas station!) quite an eye opener for our “international daughter,” but the trip up the hill and through the woods to visit our friends, an Amish family, was something she will never forget. Along the dirt road we pointed out the area “pay

phone” attached to a tree. With our international daughter’s cell phone in hand, we explained the significance of the distance of the pay phone from any home and the concern the Amish have for dependence on technology. Pulling in the driveway, the house and yard were immaculate despite the large quantity of chickens and cats wandering about. As we got out of the car, we had to answer the immediate question, “WHAT is that smell?” before pointing out the need to navigate safe stepping spots throughout the barn yard. A couple of the cutest, bare-footed little children pointed us in the direction of the barn. As we entered the open door, what a sight! Father, mother and six other children, ranging from eight to eighteen, were all sitting on their stools milking the old fashion way, with their hands. The buckets were filling quickly with fresh milk while

the cows intermittently did what cows do! Our open mouthed, wide eyed “international daughter” almost fainted as she quickly made her way back out of the barn and exclaimed, “I will never drink milk again!” Sometimes, education is best up close and in person with all the real sights, sounds and smells of life mixed in. We continue to love sharing both our everyday family lives and special outings like these with our international kids. It is incredibly rewarding and continues to change our family for the better.

“We love sharing our everyday family lives and special outings with our international kids.”



Homecoming

By Rachel Swanson, Admissions Assistant

Every year in the fall, Wheaton Academy follows the common American tradition of welcoming alumni back to the school, a custom known as Homecoming. Alumni of all generations gather at the school to enjoy athletic events, a chapel assembly, and various festivities. During the week leading up to Homecoming weekend, students participate in various competitions to build school spirit and to foster a sense of unity

among each class. As a part of the class competition, students and faculty dress up each day according to the day’s theme. Themes this year included “Maroon and White Day,” the school colors; “Western Day,” when students and faculty dressed as cowboys and cowgirls; and “Backwards Day,” when students wore their clothing inside out and backwards. During the week, each class worked after school on decorating a

float. At the end of the week, the floats were judged on quality and creativity and points were awarded accordingly. While the Senior class accumulated the most points and won the competition this year, all classes benefited from the fun activities and the excitement of Homecoming.

Pray for WA International Students

Please be in prayer for our international students and the WA community about:

- the ongoing relationships between Wheaton Academy boarding students and their host families
- our International students’ adjustment to American culture and to the WA community
- continuing discernment for our new students as they build lasting friendships here at WA



- senior students as they prepare for life after high school and strive to leave a legacy at Wheaton Academy