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Check www.shanghaidaily.com/topnews2014 or scan the QR code for the results of 2014 Shanghai International Excellence Award and the top 10 Shanghai news stories for 2014.

Check B8 for the list of candidates.



International Excellence winners take a bow

Li Jiaohao

In December, Shanghai Daily joined forces with International Channel Shanghai, inviting readers to nominate and vote for the expatriates who they consider to be among the most influential people in the city's international community.

Twenty-seven expats were nominated for the Shanghai International Excellence Awards including business leaders, community event organizers, charity activists and opinion leaders. Their personal profiles were uploaded onto the Shanghai Daily website for a public vote. The monthlong vote ended on January 16.

More than 2.5 million votes have been cast online and 10 winners have been selected.

Wong Fatt-heng, an executive of Roche Diagnostics, topped the list with 861,360 votes. He was followed by Peggy Liu, chairperson of JUCCCE, with 578,411 votes, and Mario Alberich Diaz, a Spring Airlines pilot, with 294,655 votes.

Other winners include Silvia Kettelhut, a German Consulate officer; Bobby Male, a skateboard coach; Jason Inch, founder of LOHAUS; Glen Walter, Chief Executive Officer of Coca-Cola Bottling Investment Group China; Tatiana Skuratova, a Russian student at Tongji University; and

Michelle Teopo-Shen, president of the Filipino Community Association in Shanghai.

The winners will receive the 2014 Shanghai International Excellence Award in a ceremony held at the Gubei Civic Center on January 31.

Also in December, Shanghai Daily and ICS launched an annual poll asking expats to pick the city's top 10 news stories for 2014 from a list of 20.

The top 10 Shanghai news stories included the change in one-child policy, Shanghai Husi's expired meat scandal, and the introduction of the "toughest" law on air pollution.

Appreciation of Shanghai history propels her

Yao Minji

When Dr Silvia Kettelhut co-founded the monthly forum "Explore Shanghai Heritage" in 2003, it was intended to raise awareness on "Shanghai heritage, especially architecture, that should be protected and particularly be appreciated by the young Chinese generation."

The monthly lecture started as a primarily expatriate event but over the years has gradually attracted more Chinese, both in the audience and as lecturers. On some occasions, they have also helped preserve some intriguing architectural features in the city, with help from the local government.

It is one among many projects and events by Kettelhut, who works for the Consulate General of Germany in Shanghai.

She has translated and published books about China and is married to former German Consul General, Dr Wolfgang Roehr, who is now a senior research fellow in the German Studies Center at Shanghai Tongji University.

Working for the consulate office, Kettelhut has helped organize many German-Chinese exchange projects in the science field, including educational programs between universities, lectures and research projects.

As a published writer, Kettelhut has introduced both the old and new aspects of China to foreign readers, from the history of the consular missions from Germany in Shanghai starting in 1852 to successful Chinese women in contemporary China. She has also translated some of her

favorite Chinese books for German readers.

Kettelhut is also an honorary member of the Consular Spouses Shanghai and is deeply involved in charity projects, mainly to support women and children.

"Shanghai has something very special," she says, explaining her fascination about the city's history and architecture to Shanghai Daily. "Starting from the mid-19th century, many foreigners lived and worked here and left their footprints. Developments in faraway countries were often reflected here in Shanghai. If you look at the Shanghai history in the 19th century and early 20th century, you can see the city was a mirror of world history."

In 2002, Kettelhut moved to Shanghai when her husband became the consul general here, and she got interested in the history behind the consulate, which turned into a well-researched book starting from the office of the consul of Hamburg city in 1852.

She has raised more than 200,000 yuan (US\$32,000) by selling the book and has donated proceeds to help pay the medical bills of seriously ill children in Shanghai.

The book contains many rare old pictures that were dug out from archives and libraries, including one woodblock print in 1956 featuring Soong Ching Ling, famous writer Lu Xun, as well as educator Cai Yuanpei, who protested to the deputy German consul general in Shanghai against violations of human rights in Germany in 1933, when Nazis started taking power.

Inspired by this picture, Kettelhut is now working on a new project to find

out more about Lu Xun in terms of his influence in the China League for Civil Rights, of which he was an important active member, an aspect of his life relatively unknown by the public.

Kettelhut's interest in China and Shanghai started in the 1980s, when she chose East Asian studies as her university major. In 1986, she studied Chinese for a year in Nanjing, capital city of East China's Jiangsu Province, and around that time paid her first visit to Shanghai.

She worked in Beijing briefly before returning home to finish her thesis. It was also in Beijing where she met Roehr, then working for the embassy.

"China was starting to open up to the world. Somehow the curtains came up, and I was very curious about what would happen in this huge country. I was fascinated by how different it was," she says, recalling her adventurous times as a young foreign student.

"I wasn't only interested in the modern development, but also appreciated the old Chinese art, and that interest has only been growing since my stay here."

The tombs and archeological sites across China are among her favorite spots for family trips, because "they are in impressive harmony with the landscape."

Now, "Explore Shanghai Heritage" sometimes has more Chinese participants than expatriates, as Kettelhut and co-founders had hoped more than 10 years ago. More Chinese students have been going to Germany to study, and she encourages young Germans to learn Chinese language and come to China to achieve a balanced exchange between the two sides.

Striving for a better tomorrow

Lu Feiran

AMERICAN-BORN Chinese Peggy Liu has devoted herself to making the world a better place. From her base in Shanghai, she heads a volunteer organization of top Chinese influencers and international experts to collaborate on improving the way China creates and uses energy.

The MIT graduate with a major in electrical engineering and computer science has worked for McKinsey, several Silicon Valley companies and in venture capital. As a founder of the NGO Joint US-China Cooperation on Clean Energy (JUCCCE), Liu has been lauded a "Hero of the Environment" and one of the top people shaping the future of the US-China relationship.

"To be honest, I didn't find JUCCCE with much professional knowledge about energy or environment protection," says Liu. "But I've leveraged a lot of experiences from my former careers to learn how to build movements and change complex systems."

Liu's "Chinese Dream" is to transform China into an environmentally sustainable and livable place that Chinese can be proud of. Over the past eight years, JUCCCE has introduced smart electricity grid to China, trained more than 900 government officials on how to build sustainable cities and promoted greener lifestyles in a "Chinese Dream" program.

Liu says JUCCCE is now working on

two new projects — "A New Way to Eat" and "China Gateway."

"A New Way to Eat" teaches kids how to eat in a way that is good for them and good for the planet. In development is a new eating framework, primary school food curriculum and healthy lunch menus for China.

"Did you know that our food system is the single biggest driver of greenhouse gas emissions?" she asks. "Simply changing the way kids and parents eat can make a difference to climate change."

The program's first class on sugary drinks and healthy alternatives was taught in YK Pao School's Food Tech classes in 2013. Liu says JUCCCE has worked with Chartwells school lunch provider and local chefs to develop a menu of nutritious lunches that meet school budgets. The first recipes, introduced in December at YK Pao School, have proven popular with both kids and parents.

"China Gateway" is designed to create trusted personal relationships between China and foreign countries at a high level — a skill JUCCCE has been honing since its founding as the first public dialogues between the US and Chinese government on clean energy.

"Sustainability is a much broader topic than one discipline can solve, or one country can handle. Trust opens the door for cross-border problem solving. Only through cultural diplomacy can we lay a foundation for successful

climate diplomacy, foreign diplomacy and responsible trade."

"In recent years China has done so much to restructure and improve the energy sector and reduce pollution, but many people, even Chinese, know nothing about it," says the California native. "So we expect to be a bridge between China and other countries, letting people know about China's intentions while seeking better collaboration."

Liu has lived in Shanghai for a decade and says other family members have established businesses here, so naturally she chose the city when she relocated to China. In her eyes, Shanghai combines Eastern and Western cultures. She sees big changes in the city over the 10 years, including the food, the fashion, the living environment and the way people think.

"Shanghai people are very good at absorbing good things from other cultures and then localizing the best aspects," she says. "And I think they are among the most open-minded people in China."

Liu says apart from work, she expects to raise her sons, who are now in grade-4 and grade-6, as good global citizens who take care of society.

"They have both an Eastern and Western background, and they speak both Mandarin and English," she says. "As cultural bridges, they will be uniquely positioned to lead through collaboration, rather than conflict."



Silvia Kettelhut

Germany

Scientific Officer of Consulate General of the Federal Republic of Germany Shanghai



Peggy Liu

USA

Founder of the Joint US-China Cooperation on Clean Energy

Head of Roche Diagnostics China wins top expat vote

Cai Wenjun

Wong Fatt-heng, Head of Sub-Region 3 of Roche Diagnostics and General Manager of Roche Diagnostics (Shanghai) Ltd, topped the monthlong vote for the most influential expats in Shanghai, which ended on January 16.

The Malaysian, who takes charge of business development and management for Roche Diagnostics on China's mainland, Hong Kong and Taiwan, polled 861,443 votes, almost 300,000 votes more than the first runner-up.

Before joining Roche Diagnostics, Wong was a Medical Technologist as well as Director of the Clinical Laboratory at the East Shore Hospital in Singapore.

"The result is so impressive because the entire company is voting for me — not only our own staff but also their families, friends and our business partners," he says. "It is amazing to have such a good team. I am touched. It is such a passionate voting."

Actually, Wong is not only recognized by his staff and colleagues but also the Shanghai government, which honored him with a Magnolia Silver Award in 2011 and a Magnolia Gold Award in 2013.

Magnolia Award is the highest reward that Shanghai government gives to foreigners for their outstanding contribution to the city's economic and social development.

"I am extremely proud of receiving the Magnolia Award, which is a full recognition to me and our company for what we have done in China," Wong says. "Our mission is to help patients improve their health by introducing the cutting-edge technologies to China. We bring our technology and products to benefit the public and improve the efficiency of China's healthcare."

According to Wong, his company is able to introduce a leading technology from abroad to China in only 12 to 15 months for registration. His responsibility is to choose the right products for China, where laboratory products, capability and management still lag behind developed countries.

Wong cites a recent case of a 5-year-old girl in Fujian Province who was infected with the HIV virus through a blood transfusion during surgery for her congenital heart disease when she was a baby. The blood donor was in the window period, so the test at that time failed to identify the virus.

Wong says Roche Diagnostics started to participate in a pilot program, which was set up by the National Health Authority in 2010 covering blood centers in 12 provinces and municipalities including Shanghai and Beijing, by introducing a nucleic acid test, or NAT, that can greatly shorten the window period, compared with traditional methods.

The technology is going to be promoted all over China this year in order to further improve blood safety and protect people's health, the National Health and Family Planning Commission said recently.

So far, Roche Diagnostics' NAT has screened over 5 million blood samples in China, and 25 cases of HIV infection were detected because the window period was shortened. There were also many more reports of samples with hepatitis B and hepatitis



Wong Fatt-heng

Malaysia

Head of Sub-Region 3 of Roche Diagnostics and General Manager of Roche Diagnostics (Shanghai) Ltd

C under the new method.

"Running a company is a business, so we should be responsible for our stakeholders," Wong says. "But we are a healthcare company. So our mission is much more than making money. We also must improve the quality of medical service and help patients. Our technology can help prevent some people from suffering the same tragedy like the little girl."

Roche Diagnostics now covers 40 percent of the market for NAT blood testing in China.

The company always takes a view to social responsibility. It gives donations and delivers products whenever disasters take place in China and has a role in medical education in China by sponsoring medical research fund and giving medical students scholarships in 18 domestic universities.

Many key opinion leaders are able to participate in big meetings through the communication platform built by Roche Diagnostics to share and learn the latest developments in healthcare.

Diagnostics is extremely important in modern society, as 70 percent of the medical decision is made based on the result of various tests. The development of diagnostic tools can greatly

Roche Diagnostics

HEADQUARTERED in Basel, Switzerland, Roche is a leader in research-focused healthcare, with strengths in pharmaceuticals and diagnostics. It has two parts — Roche Pharmaceuticals and Roche Diagnostics, which offers diagnostic tests along the entire healthcare chain.

Roche Diagnostics entered China in 2000, when Roche Diagnostics (Shanghai) Ltd was established. Now it has business in over 70 cities with 1,800 employees.

Its mission in China is to increase test efficiency, improve medical value and offer differentiated services with high quality to customers. It reached over 7 billion yuan (US\$1.13 billion) sales revenue in China last year. Its slogan is "doing now what patients need next."

Roche Diagnostics has been named the top employer for five consecutive years in China.

help doctors make the right decision and help patients," Wong says. "I am so proud of the industry I am working in and hope China can have more excellent professionals on diagnostics."

Wong himself is a visiting professor in five domestic universities, including Shanghai Normal University, Shanghai Jiao Tong University and Wenzhou Medical College in Zhejiang Province.

Roche Diagnostics also participates in medical reform in China, which is decentralizing many medical services from big hospitals to community and small hospitals to allow patients to receive diagnosis and treatment more conveniently and economically.

"In addition to big hospitals, we are also working with many independent laboratories to cater to the demand of small hospitals," Wong says.

He is excited about the quick development of China and its healthcare sector.

"We observe the rapid growth of the healthcare market and expansion in China. The market is growing faster than anywhere in the world," he says.

Roche Diagnostics entered China in 2000. It developed quickly from a company with over 100 staff to the current 1,800 employees. The business revenue grew by double digit a year from 100 million yuan (US\$161,000) to last year's 7 billion yuan.

"Roche Diagnostics' business in China ranks second, following the United States in Roche Diagnostics global. My ambition is to bring our company to a higher level and surpass the US to prove that Chinese has the potentials to do better. We have the market and the talent to do it. We only should work harder," he says.

Wong says he has a strong passion for China.

"I am a Malaysian Chinese and I always keep in mind when I'm doing business to conduct myself with self-discipline and social commitment. I follow a principle, a famous word in China — *hou de zai wu* — which means a man should seek improvement with honesty and virtue," he says. "I want my team to become the best and my company to become the best in Roche Diagnostics global and the entire industry."

"The key is to look for a value chain that allows all people in the chain to create value to themselves, to the company and to our stakeholders," says the Malaysian.



Looking back at my decision five years ago, I feel no regret to become a pilot for a Chinese carrier.

Spanish pilot's life changed on joining budget carrier

Yang Jian

Mario Alberich Diaz made a quick decision to come to China in 2010 to be a captain with Spring Airlines after he lost his job and had "nothing to lose." Now the Spanish uncle with a short beard and friendly smile has become the most popular figure at the airline.

Diaz serves as a guide to other foreign pilots from across the world, a mentor to young Chinese co-pilots sitting beside him and an ambassador for the budget airline's foreign market.

"Wish you a happy marriage," Diaz said in front of a video camera and repeated in Spanish, which will be broadcast at the wedding of one of his Chinese colleagues late this month.

"Wish you a happy new year." This time, his greeting was recorded for another video clip to be sent to all 6,000 employees of the nation's first budget airline.

"Looking back at my decision five years ago, I feel no regret to become a pilot for a Chinese carrier," Diaz says.

The 41-year-old, one of the most senior foreign captains in China, used to be a pilot with Spainair since 1999. He decided to move to China after his former employer, charter flight carrier Air Comet, went bankrupt in the wake of the economic crisis overwhelming Europe in 2010.

Several days after losing the job, he received a Spring Airlines' offer from one of his friends. He did a Google search for the carrier that he never heard of at that time.

"Budget carrier doesn't have a good reputation in Europe. It means bad service and many other problems," he says. "But since it is the first budget carrier in China and I had nothing to lose, I decided to have a try."

Diaz packed up and flew to Shanghai. The city gave him a quite good first impression — with friendly people who liked to pose with him and touch his beard, tall buildings and many shops and restaurants.

After he passed the tests and a training program six months later, he took his wife, a former flight attendant with Air Comet who also lost her job, to live near Shanghai's Hongqiao International Airport.

The airline had only six foreign pilots at that time, but now the number has increased to 72, thanks to the recommendations of Diaz. After getting used to the environment, he recommended many other captains in the former companies to work in Shanghai.

"I told them there is no language barrier because the air controllers also use English, and few cultural barriers in this cosmopolitan city," he says.

Diaz has helped the company recruit over 70 foreign captains from across Europe, the Americas and the Asia-Pacific. Many others also work for



Mario Alberich Diaz

Spain

Captain with Spring Airlines

tional brand ambassador. His uniformed photos have been printed on brochures and on local subways to help promote the carrier's international image. "My wife loves my portrait on subway," he smiles.

And he loves himself, too. Diaz recalls a story of his film star-like experience in the Bangkok airport last year.

When he entered the airport, he found everyone was smiling at him, from the passengers to airport security guards and the flight attendants.

"A security check staffer later said to me, 'I recognize you. You are the pilot on the promotional poster!'"

Diaz later found his portrait in front of the boarding gate and numerous passengers asked to pose with him in front of the poster.

As one of the most senior captains with the airline, Diaz has a busy flying schedule. He flies international flights to Japan and Bangkok and domestic routes across the nation. Normally, he flies five days a week.

Diaz's favorite route is to fly between Shanghai and Bangkok simply because it is a 4.5-hour flight, longer than most other routes of the carrier.

He also likes flying to Shenyang in northeastern China, especially in summer, because Shanghai's scorching summer heat remains the only thing that he can hardly get used to.



Jared Bishop Schultze

USA

Ambassador for InterNations in Shanghai



Michelle Teope-Shen

The Philippines

President of Filipino Community Association in Shanghai and Chairwoman of Beacon of Love



Helping others seems her life calling

Qu Zhi

Ten years ago, a despairing mother with a thin frame came to Michelle Teope-Shen's office in Shanghai seeking help. Her 8-year-old son, Zhang Yong, had congenital heart disease. The child was at death's door unless he got an operation very soon. His father, a construction worker, had already given up since the fee for surgery would be prohibitive. As the only source of income for his family, he earned merely 800 yuan (US\$129) a month.

Supported by the Filipino community in Shanghai, Teope-Shen helped provide financial assistance for the operation, which was a success.

The last time she saw this boy, he could dribble a basketball, something he could never do before the operation. The mother found a part-time job and the whole family was better off.

"This was my first case helping a child with congenital heart disease," the Filipino tells Shanghai Daily. "It opened my eyes to what the work meant. It's not just the child that you help but also the family because you lighten up the burden of the parents."

Teope-Shen is now chairwoman of Beacon of Love, a non-governmental organization dedicated to public awareness of children suffering from congenital heart disease in Shanghai. The group, which was established in 2002, has about 25 members, most of them expats. All speak fluent Mandarin.

In partnership with the Shanghai Children's Health Foundation, the group has financed 221 life-saving surgeries and raised millions through its annual Charity Carnival event.

There is passion in my heart in helping people. I find being helpful to others very enriching for me. Without the passion, I would never stay this long. But I do more — there are things around me that inspire me to keep continuing.

From the time she was a volunteer, it never occurred to Teope-Shen that she could become the chairwoman of such an organization. "I just followed the flow of the water and it led me to do more charity work," she says.

In 2000, Teope-Shen moved to Shanghai with her husband and two children. At first an architect who was the project manager of the construction of the Grand Hotel Beijing in 1987 and later a housewife, the woman started to involve herself in charity to enrich her life.

She joined the Filipino Community Association in Shanghai, which led her to participate in her first case helping a sick child, cooperating with Beacon of Love. Now she is president of the Filipino Community Association.

Residing in one of the city's most international communities — the Gubei area of Changning District — Teope-Shen recently became a chamber counselor at the Gubei Civic Center, representing expatriate views in the community.

"My passion for bridging Eastern and Western cultures led me to become a counselor for the residents' chamber," she says.

Teope-Shen's life is very hectic. Taking care of the family and all of her volunteer obligations fill her life with various tasks, and her enthusiasm keeps her dedicated.

"There is passion in my heart in helping people," she says. "I find being helpful to others very enriching for me. I know it's a thankless job. Without the passion, I would never stay this long. But I do more — there are things around me that inspire me to keep continuing."

Teope-Shen still remembers the emaciated figure of Zhang Yong, who was 8 but looked like a 5-year-old boy. Unlike other normal children of his age, Zhang had not lost his baby teeth due to his disease. To take care of the child, the mother could not work. She carried him on her back to school every day, climbing up and down five flights of stairs because the child was too weak to walk or climb stairs.

"The saddest part was when the mother told me that the father blamed her for the condition of the child. She was in tears. And he says 'I have been trained in the military and I work in construction. I am such a strong man. Why do you give me such a child?'" Teope-Shen recalls.

After the child's surgery and recovery, even though they still lived in a ramshackle small apartment with no room for a sofa, things were so different when Teope-Shen visited again them. And the

relationship between the parents was better, as well.

In the last 10 years, Teope-Shen and her team members also have helped children with congenital heart disease who have been abandoned by their parents and are in an orphanage.

"A child's operation requires about 30,000 yuan and it is not easy to raise funds," Teope-Shen says. "But I think you have to be realistic about your expectations. If you can raise enough money to save just one kid — it's just as good enough."

"And each year the number has been rising. Today we can save 30 to 45 kids in a year," she adds.

Today, the group is expanding their efforts to western and southern parts of China including Yunnan Province and Tibet Autonomous Region. Yearly they make a trip to visit the children they have helped and select some cases to bring to Shanghai.

"We do the follow-up work to see if the child recovers, but after one year it's beyond our mission and objective and resources to do more. We have to concentrate on helping other kids," she says.

As president of the Filipino Community Association, Teope-Shen organizes events during Independence Day and Christmas each year.

"My role and objective is to get the community together," she says. Together with the Filipino consulate, she has initiated many charitable activities, including raising money when a big typhoon hit their country and funds to help the orphans in Shanghai.

(Shayan Shankar contributed to this article.)



I believe the best gain of life is the art of nuance: taking things as they come, not judging yourself too harshly and avoiding extremes in points of view. Everyone is different. I know that for me — specifics can drag me down. That's why I was lucky in that I made a very high but vague goal. In that way there were many paths to get it accomplished."

Work takes up almost all of his time, but he thinks it's worth it. What drives him is the passion to achieve something grand and return home with glory.

During his spare time, Schultze likes exploring the back streets of Shanghai by riding on a scooter. When talking about his favorite place in the city, he thinks his home is the most comfortable place, with its enchanting view of Fuxing Park.

"Shanghai is an amazing city and does not move slowly," says Schultze. "It will not pick up your slack. So if you are coming here to live, you need to be aggressive in networking and learning how the city works. That's why networking in this city is the key; you just can't do it by yourself."

A big dream of adventure and fierce drive to succeed

Cindy Jiang

Inspired by the adventurous stories he had heard about his great-great-grandfather, Jared Bishop Schultze decided to realize a dream in China.

Starting off with little money and no friends, the German-American now has a great network of friends and a comfortable life as the ambassador of InterNations in Shanghai, the world's leading expat network with 1.5 million members in 390 cities around the world.

He also runs two Italian restaurants, La Bota and Nolita, and a wine shop after being here for five years.

When he was 18, Schultze decided to come to China after learning from his mother the story of his great-great-grandfather, John Bishop Carpenter. Carpenter was a poor young man in his 20s when he decided to set off from Kentucky in 1852 with a group of five other men in search of gold. They sailed around Cape Horn and backed up the western coast of South America and North America to reach the shores of California.

The journey and then the process of mining the ground turned out to be such an arduous task that Carpenter was one of the only two men that survived. But by the end he had accomplished his goal and returned with gold. Later he started a family and a large farm and ultimately became a famous Kentucky politician.

"After learning his incredible story, I came to believe it is in my blood to be adventurous and believe in myself. It also helped give me a solid dream. I felt I wanted to have a great adventure like him more than anything else, and if it wasn't for that goal pushing me, I would have surely given up a long time ago," says Schultze. "And that is the reason I shared the same middle name 'Bishop'."

Shortly after his economics professor told him that China had a big future, he started to learn Chinese and economics. After graduation, he worked in politics for four years, first as an executive assistant to former Kentucky Governor Julian M. Carroll and then helping organize several state Senate campaigns.

"It was now or never if I was really going to take the trip. So I booked a flight and arrived in China with zero regrets," says Schultze.

Taking every opportunity he could, he discovered that even if something didn't work out, he was always better off than he was before, just from the experience or people he met.

As the ambassador for InterNations, Schultze finds it very satisfying to meet so many interesting people. He thinks networking is essential for success in almost anyone's life. Being a good host and ambassador, he holds many networking events and activities. Moreover, he has mapped out a clear direction for



Cindy Jiang

China

Ambassador for InterNations in Shanghai

Skateboarder grabs and grinds in new home

Ma Yue

Bobby Male didn't expect that he would be in Shanghai for over nine years. The Birmingham-native skateboard coach first came to the city in 2006 with some fellow coaches who were invited by an entertainment company to give a series of performances over two months.

"I was 18 years old, and that trip broadened my vision, and helped me to make a decision — skateboarding is for fun, but it can also become a career," Male says.

Male liked Shanghai and considered it affordable.

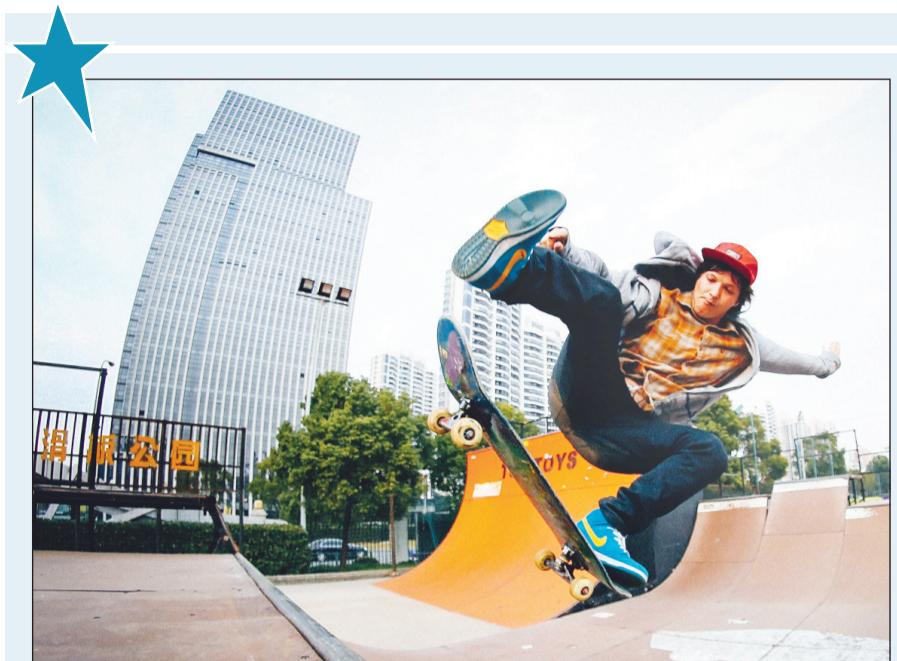
"A steamed meat dumpling only cost 0.5 yuan, and the rent was about 1,000 yuan (US\$166.67) per month. With some early savings, I could make ends meet in the city."

After his two-month job ended, Male decided to return to Shanghai a few months later. He promptly hired a local teacher to learn Chinese.

"The majority of skateboarders in Shanghai were still Chinese, and I had to master the language to communicate with them and find myself a place in the circle," says Male who can do a variety of tricks like grinds, grabs and 360s.

Like other foreigners who want to make a living in the city, Male taught English. However, he soon lost interest when he realized the institutes didn't care about the teaching quality.

"They just wanted an English-speaking foreigner and it seemed that



Bobby Male UK, Skateboard coach

every outlander could take up the job, which wasn't attractive to me," he says.

Male's teaching career took a twist when he was doing some tricks at a skateboard park and was spotted by an expatriate family.

The father was from South Africa, mother from Taiwan. Their daughters were interested in the sport and Male

was hired to be their teacher.

More kids and parents soon followed and gradually Male earned a good reputation and more clients.

Most of his students are between the ages of six and eight, Male says, adding that he organizes monthly competitions for them. He also likes to spend some of his weekends with children at a welfare center in

Hongkou District, together with other foreign volunteers.

"The most recent experience was helping the kids brush their teeth," he says.

Male first picked up skateboarding as a hobby at the age of 14 when a new skateboard park opened in his hometown of Birmingham. He asked his dad to drop him off there on his way to work only to find that the park wasn't going to open until the next day.

Without a cellphone, Male couldn't call his father back. He asked the park staff to let him stay. He helped with some cleaning and other chores and was paid US\$10.

From then on he kept going back, slowly learning a variety of skateboard tricks from others. Eventually he became an amateur teacher and ended up in Shanghai.

Male says he also enjoys making funny short films, though not necessarily skateboard related. He has more than 340,000 followers on miaopai.com, a short clip-sharing platform.

He also organized summer camps for his students, taking them to Birmingham to stay at his parent's house, visit the skateboard park, as well as a trip to London.

Male says being a skateboard teacher helped him build up patience and communication skills.

"Children are restless," he says. "You need to find a teaching method that allows them to enjoy the sport and learn skills at the same time."

Student makes the most of campus life

Yang Meiping

CURIOS about Chinese culture, Tatiana Skuratova came to China in 2011 when she was less than 17 years old and could only say "how much" in Chinese.

After studying Chinese for one year at Dongbei University of Finance and Economics in Dalian, Liaoning Province, she decided to continue her China adventure in a bigger city. She picked Shanghai.

She spent another year studying Chinese at Fudan University and started her studies as a politics and international relations major at Tongji University in 2013. Now the 20-year-old Russian student speaks fluent Mandarin.

Skuratova is very active at school. With her excellent spoken Chinese, pretty appearance and cheerful personality, she was chosen as one of the hosts for Tongji's graduation party last year.

After that she joined other Tongji volunteers in August to teach English to high school students in Gansu Province. She was the first foreign student to join the annual volunteer program and the school has since considered inviting more expatriates to join similar activities, Skuratova says.

They spent six days in Dingxi City, teaching students who were

preparing for China's college entrance exam.

"I was deeply impressed that they were so eager to learn English," she recalls. "Six days are too short for them to improve their language proficiency but I taught them my own experiences in learning a foreign language. For example, I told them to find the inspiration to stay motivated and to stick notes of easily forgotten words on walls to help them remember."

During her first semester as a sophomore, Skuratova took part in a social entrepreneurship project with the Sino-Finnish Center at Tongji, and started up a survey on food waste in the school as a team leader with six other students.

Basketball team manager

The team designed a mobile phone application that showed each canteen menu in advance every day, allowing students and teachers to buy what they wanted and reduce waste.

Although the solution was rejected by canteen managers, Skuratova says she met more people and learned a lot about how to communicate with people from different cultures and make decisions as a team leader.

Skuratova was also active off campus. During the second semester of her first university year, she

organized a basketball club with a Chinese friend for foreigners who had just arrived in the city.

The club attracted more than 80 players from local colleges and companies and their team finished in second place out of four in a competition organized by the China (Shanghai) Pilot Free Trade Zone.

As manager of the basketball team, she was busy arranging practices and games. The club lasted only half a year as she was too busy with her studies, but once again she made hundreds of new friends, including foreigners and Chinese.

Having lived in China for more than three years, Skuratova is now an experienced life tutor for newcomers.

"Sometimes I feel I'm a Chinese because I know more new Chinese words than new Russian words, and my best friend is a Chinese girl. I can understand jokes here but could not get the meaning of what my mother was talking about on the phone as I don't know the latest catchwords in Russian," says Skuratova, who returned to her homeland only once in the past three years.

She also has some advice for other foreigners in the city.

"If you want to learn more and become connected with the city, don't be shy and try new things," she says. "And if possible, learn some Chinese before coming."



Tatiana Skuratova

Russia

Student at Shanghai Tongji University

Tireless CEO finds time to do community work

Leng Cheng

Glen Walter, chief executive officer of Coca-Cola Bottling Investment Group China, can't think of a better gift to give his family than to let them experience China.

As an eight-month resident of Shanghai, Walter is passionate about work, but happily pours the rest of his energy into a variety of social welfare activities in his spare time.

After graduating from Boston University, Walter started his career in the beverage industry as a member of the E&J Gallo Management Development Program in 1991, before joining InBev USA in 2003 as regional general manager, later being promoted to president and chief executive officer.

Before his current post in China, Walter has held a variety of roles within Coca-Cola over the past six years, including president and chief operating officer for Coca-Cola Refreshments, the operating unit responsible for nearly 90 percent of the company's business in North America, and CCR's vice president of regional sales.

Having lived in New York City, Chicago, Boston, Los Angeles and San Francisco, Walter gives Shanghai high praise when he says it is "the most exciting and dynamic city" of them all.

"It's fascinating to see people enjoy products proudly produced by my company here," the Boston native tells Shanghai Daily. "I can feel the economy of the city and China is growing fast, people's



I can feel the economy of the city and China is growing fast, people's consumption growing as well, and it's very inspiring to have the opportunity to be a part of this process.

consumption growing as well, and it's very inspiring to have the opportunity to be a part of this process."

China is the third-largest market in the world for Coca-Cola and its mission is to make China the most profitable one. Walter and his team built a campaign called "The China Dream" to double the size of Coca-Cola's business in the next five to six years, and has been building up a package of projects to accomplish its corporate social responsibility targets in the nation.

"Shanghai is a living example of a thriving city under the 'China Dream,'" said Walter. "We can easily find rich cultural

heritages in the city with a variety of museums and parks around us."

Walter has participated in the Jinqiao 8k run, sponsored by his company, and similar events in the Jiangwan area in Yangpu District.

He has also contributed to building Hope Schools so children in impoverished rural areas can receive an education. He promotes healthy lifestyles and environmental protection with college students at Huazhong University of Science and Technology, Guangxi University and others.

He sees work and life as inseparable parts that require balance. Through the sense of community he feels in Shanghai, Walter says he and his family feel at home here.

"My family has been amazed by China and the different culture here," he says. "I join community activities together with my family. My kids are so proud that their dad is working in a great company which cares about community deeds."

His three children are aged 9, 6 and 3. They are now taking kung fu classes.

As a newly elected board member of the American Chamber of Commerce in Shanghai, Walter also spares some time to promote cultural exchanges between China and the United States.

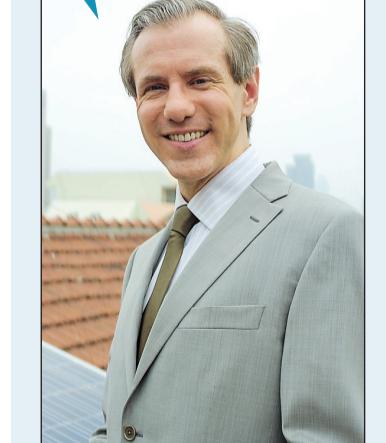
"Although most of the time I have to speak to Chinese people through an interpreter, I can feel the shared passion and for this idea of fueling the dream for China," he says.



Glen Walter

USA

Chief Executive Officer of Coca-Cola Bottling Investment Group China



Jason Inch

Canada

General Manager of Loft of Health and Urban Sustainability

Canadian author, consultant finds niche in China

Leng Cheng

CANADIAN Jason Inch planned to stay in China for five years when he first came to the country. Now the 43-year-old is considering a third "five-year plan" as a social entrepreneur and writer.

As the general manager of his own company, Loft of Health and Urban Sustainability (LOHAUS), as well as the author of two books about opportunities in China's economy, Inch devoted himself for half a decade to learning, thinking, writing and doing to help other people.

Inch's relationship with Asia could date back to his early days. Born in Victoria, the capital of British Columbia, Inch has seen Asian communities and cultures since he was young.

Driven by a curiosity to know about life across the ocean, Inch spent five years working between the US and Japan after he graduated from college with a degree in Pacific and Asian studies in 1997.

"Connecting to China and Japan has always been my desire, and I felt I haven't achieved that yet," Inch tells Shanghai Daily when recalling his determination to come to China. "So I enrolled in an

MBA program in the Richard Ivey School of Business, which has a strong China connection."

Without any language skills or connections, Inch confesses that he didn't really have a career plan when he first came to Shanghai in 2004. After a year and a half of as a freelance consultant, Inch joined US industrial conglomerate Honeywell as an internal consultant.

He says that his first job in Shanghai made an important base for him to start doing other business in China. The job led Inch into writing and sharing his outlook about China's economy.

Together with his mentor at Honeywell, Inch co-wrote "Supertrends of Future China" (2008) and put his thoughts into a second book in 2012. In both books, Inch explains how China is a unique country with so many opportunities.

"Western readers might find new ideas in the book. But it has value for Chinese readers as well, because it points out some of the differences between what's going on in China and elsewhere," says Inch. "I want Chinese readers to know that it's special to live and start a business in such a fast-changing country."

For now, Inch sees "economic

sustainability" as the next trend for the nation. "China in some ways has the biggest sustainability problem," he says. "You look at the air pollution and think this is serious, but there are also big opportunities waiting to be seized."

Inch launched LOHAUS in June 2013 to promote a simple lifestyle. He installed a solar power-generating system on the roof of its office last April, and plans to install a personal gas station in 2015. Both are to showcase the possibility of a self-sufficient model of clean energy.

"LOHAUS was my effort to make a contribution back to society," says Inch. "I know it takes time to change the way people think, so in the coming five years, I'll be focused on making the concept of LOHAUS bigger. That's what I can do and I believe it's the right thing to do."

Inch's third book, "LOHAUS," is set for release next month. Meanwhile, he continues reading and hosting events to deepen his inroads in the city.

"Ten years on, I'm happy that I made the decision to come to China," he says. "I feel grateful for what these days have given me. You won't feel yourself at work when you finally find something you want to do."



Ricardo Blazquez

Spain
Member of Hongqiao International Volunteers



Elisabeth de Brabant

USA
Contemporary art curator and consultant



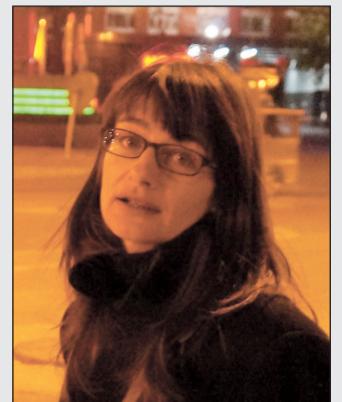
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