

# GLOBAL KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE CASE STUDIES



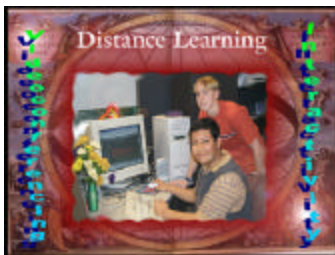
## Case Study: **GKE FACILITATING INTERNATIONAL PUBLISHING** GKE Facilitates Digital Collaboration and International Electronic Publishing

GKE recognizes that the Internet is a powerful influence on 21st century learning. The pace and magnitude of learning can be transformed by effective deployment of technology-assisted methodologies and digital age innovation.

GKE strives to place the empowering tools of learning in the hands of the learner. With full engagement of the learner, demonstrations of insight, achievement, and authentic learning are dramatic. GKE supports and facilitates the international, technology-assisted nature of 21st century learning.



*GKE President James Chang discusses  
Digital Age culture with students*



CyberLits hold the validity of the educational theories that undergird the GKE Learning System. CyberLits are modern, multimedia expressions based upon powerful applications of curricular concepts and modern, learning theories. The original concept and design of CyberLits was created by GKE Vice President of Research, Florence McGinn, and the concept and its further, emerging technologies' applications have received the support of multiple grants.

CyberLits have been created based on original student poetry, and the concept has been deployed successfully in creative writing, literature, and expository writing classes. Additionally, Chinese students' poetry pieces have been interpreted into CyberLits by American student editors. Aspects of CyberLits have been utilized in multiple applications in *Electric Soup*, a student-produced literary magazine. Florence McGinn has received numerous educational awards based upon the concept, design, and educational applications of *Electric Soup*. High school editors in the United States have interviewed professionals in the field of publishing, technology, social work, education, and health. Young editors working on a high school magazine in New Jersey, USA, have published writers from the Bangladesh, France, Italy, China, Singapore, Germany, the United Arab Emirates, and from other parts of their own country including Colorado, Virginia, Texas, California, Florida, and Pennsylvania. Students create multimedia interpretations, multimedia electronic portfolios, on-line literary magazines, and build classroom resources and learning tools. Learners become active, vital participants in crafting and shaping personal, educational processes.



Learning gains authenticity and vitality when it is enlivened by international collaboration. Digital tools become vehicles to help demonstrate understanding, to enhance communication, to build self-expression, and to gain critical, 21st century skills.

It is these concepts of innovation and empowerment based upon 21st century tools and skills that foundation the GKE Learning System and its effectiveness.



Many of these student collaborations are presented in multimedia on-line. They can be viewed at <http://homer.hcrhs.k12.nj.us/esoup/> <http://homer.hcrhs.k12.nj.us/esoup/esvol15/cyberlit/index.html>  
<http://homer.hcrhs.k12.nj.us/china/>

*Mid-Autumn* by Katy Ho, Beijing, China

Mid-autumn day  
standing by the window  
I can see the full moon,  
like my long-lost love,  
high up in the sky.  
Brightening the darkness  
of all the world,  
and smiling to me  
in all my dreams.  
Click, click of the rails.  
Mr. Moon, bring me home  
in the mid-autumn night.



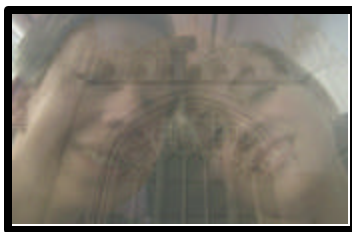
*Katy Ho lives in China. She graduated from a Chinese university and works full-time for Global Knowledge Exchange. Katy speaks and writes in both English and Chinese, and she is an enthusiast of words and poetry in both languages.*

*Power* by Joel Tay

a poet has the power  
of a poisonous snake  
unobtrusive, silent, covert  
even after it strikes  
until the poison seeps in  
and tears at the very fabric of existence  
causing anarchy  
chaos  
till more poets step in  
and preach order  
the antidote extracted from the things they spout  
and when their advice is found good  
the way is clear  
for more poisonous snakes once again



Joel Tay lives in Singapore. He has won many national and international awards for writing. He has often been one of the youngest in these competitions and is quite proud of his achievements. He likes to read work from O'Henry and aspires to become a novelist.



The GKE Learning System's concepts build powerful curricular skill development, motivation through authentic learning, insight through process theories, and Information Age Skills through the integration of the emerging technologies. In addition, the global concepts that underlie the GKE Learning System are well-suited to the Internet's 21<sup>st</sup> century opportunities. Students learn to become functional "global citizens" able to navigate through multicultural, multidisciplinary, and multinational applications of acquired knowledge. Learners are facilitated in curricular, personal, and vocational growth through international learning interactions.



**GKE Case Study:  
SINGAPORE . . . FOCUSING ON EDUCATION**



GKE's Vice President of Research and Innovation, Florence McGinn, presented as a keynote speaker at Singapore-based Conference 2000, NEW LEADERS, NEW SCHOOLS, A NEW FUTURE, a gathering attended by over 1,350 school principals, vice-principals, academics, and senior management personnel from educational institutions in Singapore and other APEC-member countries. Conference 2000 in Singapore was designed to focus on four areas: the use of information technology in a learning society, improvement of teaching systems, reforming educational management systems, and the enhancement of cooperation and exchange of people and expertise in education.



Florence McGinn, a former US Commissioner on the Congressional Commission on Web-based Education, a former Microsoft-sponsored Technology and Learning National Teacher of the Year, and recipient of the Princeton University Distinguished Secondary Educator award, presented on technology-assisted learning projects that emphasized empowering leadership, innovation, academic excellence, and cutting edge technology. Accompanying Florence McGinn were HCRHS students, Emily Judson and Douglas Gorton, innovative student leaders of award-winning pilot projects.

The Conference Organizing Committee indicated in its Conference Proceedings that it had selected "keynote speakers of extremely high calibre" to provide introduction to "the latest thinking and ideas in educational management and leadership."

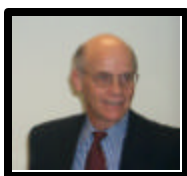
Ten, international, keynote speakers were selected. Philip Yeo, Chairman of the Singapore Economic Development Board and Deputy Chairman of the National Science and Technology Board, spoke as a recognized pioneer of Singapore IT industry. He addressed the topic of new leadership for a knowledge-based economy.



Joining Philip Yeo and Florence McGinn as keynote speakers were IBM Professor of Psychology and Education at Yale University, Robert Sternberg, and senior partner with Educational Renaissance Planners, Alan November.



While in Singapore for Conference 2000, Florence McGinn, met with interested school leaders, made additional presentations at sites such as the Singapore Anglo-Chinese Junior College, and assisted in the dedication of cutting edge computer lab classrooms at ACJC.



Hunterdon Central Regional High School's former Superintendent Raymond Farley, President of GS21 and a leader in educational reform and implementation of innovative, technology-integrated, award-winning educational infrastructures extended Conference



2000's two day impact and depth. Following a Conference 2000 session, Raymond Farley gave a full day seminar for Singapore's educational administration.

## **Additional Collaborations with Singapore: Electronic Publishing**

### **America students have been published by the Ministry of Education in Singapore**

Publishing on the Internet brings immediacy and relevancy to student writing. Students are delighted that their poems are published on the Internet as part of a Millennium Project sponsored by the Ministry of Education in Singapore. Students from US classrooms have had their poetry published on the Internet at Singapore's Ministry of Education site (must be viewed in Explorer) at

<http://www1.moe.edu.sg/>

Click into "Building Tomorrow Today," click into the World Time Capsule, click View the Submitted Entries, click into Wishbook, and scroll down to the USA to find the submissions! Or go directly to

<http://www1.moe.edu.sg/2000world/>

The theme for these MOE-sponsored activities is "**Building Tomorrow Today.**"

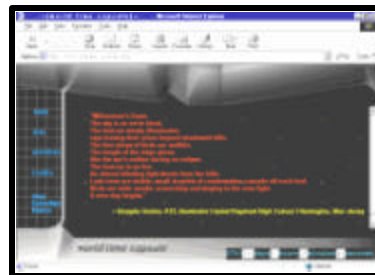
Following is one of several, award-winning pieces of published student poetry!

### **Final Unity**

By Erin Young, USA

#### **A moment before the clock strikes midnight**

All is deathly silent  
Only anticipation  
Penetrates the stillness  
Suddenly a gong sounds  
Reverberating like the beating  
Of a heart  
Calling all people to unity  
Enveloping them in a trance  
The faint beating mesmerizes them  
And they put down their weapons  
Forgetting the hostility and hate  
That has gone back a thousand years  
If only for a moment  
Black, white, red, yellow  
All mesh together in perfect unity  
Until one can scarcely be separated  
From the other



**Additionally, students in America have collaborated with Singapore students through the electronic publishing of Singapore students in the American, student-produced on-line magazine, Electric Soup.**



# A GKE-facilitated International Collaboration in Education and the Emerging Technologies

## Case Study: Dianye School, China . . . A Global Learning Project and Its Development

*Substantive progress has been made in facilitating innovative, technology-assisted learning, but there are many opportunities yet to be fully utilized and even more yet to be discovered. Empowered learning at its most powerful opens up the world, and the global commitment of GKE to international learning creates a natural and effective partnering of this international corporation with the 21st century nature of 24/7, customized, technology-assisted education.*

*This project is one of many GKE activities and projects. With ComWeb Technology Group, its sister corporation, and with numerous, strategic partners at the K-12, university, and corporate level, GKE designs and builds technology-assisted learning interactions that are customized to suit regional and international needs.*

*In support of emerging technologies projects, GKE can facilitate in policy design and development, system-wide deployment of training and strategies built upon Information Age process and theories, turnkey technology-focused classrooms, distance learning collaborations, and implementation of cutting edge, proven strategies in deployment at classroom through government levels.*



*Dianye Middle School, Beijing, China*

This International Learning Project facilitated by GKE (Global Knowledge Exchange) provides for learning collaborations between *Hunterdon Central Regional High School* located in Flemington, New Jersey and *Dianye Middle School*, a prestigious high school, in Beijing, China. This GKE International Learning Project began as a result of a series of presentations made at a seminar on technology-assisted learning, technology infrastructure, and modern innovation held in Beijing, China.

Through the facilitation of GKE and its *President James Chang*, American presenters traveled to China. Among the presenters were *Dr. Roland Pare*, HCRHS Director of Information Systems; *Mrs. Florence McGinn*, US Commissioner on the *Congressional Commission on Web-based Education* and an HCRHS English Instructor; and *Dr. Joseph T. McGinn*, a scientist from *Sarnoff Corporation*, Princeton, New Jersey.



*Florence McGinn*



*Dr. Joseph T. McGinn, Sarnoff Corporation*

Extensive, executive level presentations were made on providing “Electronic Velocity to Technology-assisted Learning” and on “Research Policy Recommendations of the US Congressional Commission on Web-based Education.” Areas of digital culture and current theory were encompassed inclusive of the role of the Information Age worker and a case study of a premiere American research institute, Sarnoff Corporation in Princeton, New Jersey, and its history of award-winning research and venture capital development.





CEO James Chang offered a full, executive overview of E-learning through careful analysis of the development and services of the industry as well as ComWeb Technology Group and GKE.



Joining presenters from America were key officials from China, industry, educational, as well as government stakeholders, who provided background and perspectives on China's initiatives.



*GKE President and CEO James Chang*

In addition to keynote presentations, executive discussion groups and on-site visits were provided to add interaction and depth to the conference.



*President Wang Boli*

Among the many, successful interactions from the trip, an innovative student learning project with Dianye Middle School located in the Liangxiang area of Beijing, China, was initiated with the continued facilitation and support of GKE. Under the leadership of President Wang Boli, a rich and mutually beneficial learning collaboration was envisioned. With the facilitation of President Wang Boli, Florence McGinn was appointed an Off-Campus Professor of Poetry at Dianye.

Students joining GKE Vice President of Research, Florence McGinn, in the explorative, distance learning project at Hunterdon Central Regional High School were experienced ELECTRIC SOUP student editors. They include (from left to right in photo) Sujay Pandit, Christopher George, Sri Adusumalli, Dani Moore, Douglas Gorton, Lin Zhao, Dheera Venkatraman, (not in photo) Jon Rossway, and (seated) pilot projects English teacher, Dan VanAntwerp.



Meaningful, Information Age interactions that demonstrate the 21<sup>st</sup> century learner's ability to penetrate past barriers of time and distance are planned. In-depth and innovative interactions were envisioned. The designed learning interactions:

- a. supported the enhancement of English language skills
- b. built the creative development of literary analysis and original poetry writing to the high accomplishment level of electronic publishing
- c. enhanced the insightful exploration of American and Chinese cultures
- d. facilitated the student-focused development of technology-assisted learning skills
- e. encouraged Digital Age innovation and educational empowerment



*Student Editor-in-Chief Sujay Pandit and Directing Feature Editor Carl Kulpa*





Teaching strategies included were innovative uses of *technology-assisted learning*. Providing additional depth was the inclusion of the published, full-length book of poetry *BLOOD TRAIL*.

The project resulted in a full semester of writing workshop study done through exciting, electronic videoconferencing interactions. Additionally, it provided an opportunity for international, collaborative publishing, and students from China are published in full multimedia on the Internet by Electric Soup editors.

<http://homer.hcrhs.k12.nj.us/china/>

Additionally, students from the United States interviewed and created a feature reflecting the friendships established while learning through this exemplary distance learning project.

<http://homer.hcrhs.k12.nj.us/esoup/esvol16/interview/dianye.html>



The successful project already has seen extraordinary growth. It originated as a collaborative study of poetry, and it already has grown from its English literature roots to encompass involvement with the HCRHS Science Department and the HCRHS Foreign Language Department.

This project based on the GKE Learning System has disseminated strongly to support science lessons as well as collaborative language lessons designed to assist the enhancement of learning both Chinese and English are part of this GKE Learning System project.

Projects utilizing GKE Learning System strategies have resulted in powerful, learner empowerment. A further glimpse of the deployment of methodologies included in this case study have resulted in other projects such as:

- a. American students publishing in Singapore
- b. the development of a CD-ROM of technology-assisted learning strategies for Chinese educators through the support of Centrix Technology and GKE
- c. the involvement of a professional poet and University of Beijing professor with writing students in the United States
- d. students from countries such as Singapore, Italy, France, South Africa, and Germany publishing in the United States
- e. student involvements in international multimedia publication
- f. student involvement in the development of professional web sites

For further information on the GKE Learning System projects, you may contact

**GKE**

CEO, James Chang [jchang@gke.com](mailto:jchang@gke.com)

Vice President of Research, Florence McGinn [fmcginn@gke.com](mailto:fmcginn@gke.com)

The innovative involvement of learners powers international initiatives in technology-assisted education. Please, view powerful products of creative achievement at these web sites!

The GKE Learning System is built upon foundations of visionary applications of innovation, powerful focus on empowering creative process, building in-depth reach in academic achievement, and cutting edge use of the emerging technologies.

You may view project work based upon these concepts applied to writing and electronic publishing collaborations assisted by GKE (Global Knowledge Exchange) at

<http://homer.hcrhs.k12.nj.us/china/index.html>



Further International Initiatives have been facilitated by GKE and grant-supported by AT&T. You may view examples of such interactions in the electronic publication of the award-winning, student e-zine, Electric Soup, available at

<http://homer.hcrhs.k12.nj.us/esoup/>

View student learning involvements with professional Chinese poet, Ke Yan at

<http://homer.hcrhs.k12.nj.us/china/index.html>

<http://homer.hcrhs.k12.nj.us/esoup/esvol12/interview/keyan.htm>

<http://homer.hcrhs.k12.nj.us/esoup/esvol13/internat/index1.htm>

<http://homer.hcrhs.k12.nj.us/esoup/esvol13/internat/index1.htm>

View a student interview with CEO James Chang at

<http://homer.hcrhs.k12.nj.us/esoup/esvol13/interview/title.htm>

<http://homer.hcrhs.k12.nj.us/esoup/esvol13/interview/james.htm>

View the Macromedia Flash animation of poetry of Katy Ho, Beijing at

<http://homer.hcrhs.k12.nj.us/china/poetry/>

View the Macromedia Flash animation of poetry of Dianye Middle School, Beijing, China students at

<http://homer.hcrhs.k12.nj.us/china/poetry/thewind1i.html>

View ELECTRIC SOUP publishing collaboration with the American International School in Bangladesh

<http://homer.hcrhs.k12.nj.us/esoup/esvol12/internat/bangladeshtitlepage.htm>

<http://homer.hcrhs.k12.nj.us/esoup/esvol11/internat/titlepage.htm>

<http://homer.hcrhs.k12.nj.us/esoup/esvol11/intervw/spisso.htm>

View the ELECTRIC SOUP initiative resulting in a thematic NATIONAL EDITION at

<http://homer.hcrhs.k12.nj.us/scity/index.html>

View the ELECTRIC SOUP collaboration with Italy at

<http://homer.hcrhs.k12.nj.us/esoup/esvol14/internat/laurapiancastelli.htm>

These pilot project initiatives and related learning projects have received support from GKE (Global Knowledge Exchange), ComWeb Technology Group, AT&T, AT&T Learning Network, Lucent Technologies, SchoolCity, Macromedia Corporation, Johnson & Johnson, Bose Corporation, Technology and Learning magazine, the Hunterdon Foundation, and others.

Learn more about GKE at

<http://www.gke.com/>

OR through

the ComWeb Technology Group at

<http://comweb.com/>



Learn more about Dianye Middle School at

<http://www.dymschool.com>

Learn more about HCRHS at

<http://www.hcrhs.k12.nj.us/students.htm>

Learn more about Florence McGinn, GKE Vice President of Research and Innovation,

at

<http://www.insynthesis.com>

Florence McGinn is a former US Commissioner, who served on the Congressional Commission on Web-based Education; she chaired the K-12 Issues Group. That Congressional Commission was charged by legislation to deliver policy recommendations and a research report to the President and Congress. That recently delivered research report, **THE POWER OF THE INTERNET FOR LEARNING: MOVING FROM PROMISE TO PRACTICE**, is available on line.

To download the report and its policy recommendations, go to

<http://www.webcommission.org>



Learn more about the GKE Foundation at

<http://gke.com>





## **GLOBAL KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE: FACILITATING INTERNATIONAL LEARNING**

### **GKE Facilitates the Educational Involvements of International Foundations and Corporations**

#### **Case Study: Tzu Chi & LearningDigital**

As part of its commitment to a global community, GKE assumes a role of leadership in disseminating Best Educational Practices and cutting edge research and exploration. GKE initiates and facilitates the critical educational sharing of ideas; it nurtures the networking of visionaries, stakeholders, and decision makers interested in the development of global, e-learning.

GKE recognizes that 21<sup>st</sup> century learning is not confined to the classroom or to a particular age group. It seeks to enlarge global learning's 24/7, globally pluralistic, and cross-generational concepts. It works to bring together educational institutions, government bodies, foundations, and corporations in the shared pursuit of global learning.

### **Tzu Chi Foundation Members and CEO of LearningDigital.com Facilitated in Classroom Visitations and Meetings**



GKE is dedicated to the effective dissemination of cutting edge Best Educational Practices to facilitate the critical implementation of strong, educational technology infrastructures. GKE frequently facilitates classroom visitations and meetings between educational leaders. As a powerful reflection of GKE's dedication and commitment, GKE President James Chang personally elects to accompany key leaders on their visitations and to meet personally to develop visionary initiatives.

*GKE President James Chang and Dr. King V. Cheek,  
President of Global Virtual University  
of Mohlin, Switzerland at a GKE Foundation Meeting*

### **GKE-facilitated Classroom Visitation for the Tzu Chi Foundation**

In March, 2001, GKE President James Chang facilitated members of the Tzu Chi Foundation on a visitation to Hunterdon Central Regional High School, a National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence in Flemington, New Jersey, USA.

Tzu Chi Foundation members were given a facility tour by Dr. Roland Pare, HCRHS Director of Information Systems. Attending members of the Tzu Chi Foundation viewed a pilot classroom presentation by former US Commissioner on the Congressional Commission on Web-based Education and GKE Vice President of Research, Florence McGinn.



Discussion of multimedia project assessment areas was given by HCRHS English Instructor, Dan VanAntwerp. In the HCRHS pilot project classroom, a full ComWeb system is deployed. Award-winning classroom methodologies employ ComWeb technology and the GKE Learning System's concepts.

Members of the Tzu Chi Foundation viewed in-depth, proof-of-concept, award-winning student project work as well as had discussion with pilot project students. The visit was attended by GKE President, James Chang, and the following Tzu Chi attendees:

Jackson Chen: Executive Administrative Assistant, Tzu Chi Foundation, New Jersey; School Administrator, Tzu Chi Academy, New Jersey;  
Katie Chao: Secretary for Inter-office Affairs, Tzu Chi Foundation, New Jersey; School Administrator, Tzu Chi Academy, New Jersey;  
Yong Tai Tsai: Information Technology Team Leader, Tzu Chi Foundation, New Jersey;  
Christina Su: Teacher, Tzu Chi Academy, New Jersey; Activity Coordinator, Tzu Chi Academy, New Jersey;



## LearningDigital.com CEO, Shumin Chuang, Views Award-winning Pilot Projects

CEO, Shumin Chuang, of Taiwan-based LearningDigital.com was facilitated by GKE President James Chang in viewing award-winning, student pilot projects at Hunterdon Central Regional High School in Flemington, New Jersey, USA, in March, 2001.

Shumin Chuang viewed AT&T grant-supported pilot projects Electric Soup and the Multimedia Electronic Portfolio, GKE facilitated International Pilot Projects, Macromedia Corporation-supported Flash presentations, and other pilot projects such as CyberLit and the National Edition of Electric Soup.

CEO Shumin Chuang viewed the HCRHS pilot classroom that utilizes ComWeb technology as an in-classroom network as well as a distance learning configuration. She viewed and discussed usage of classroom methodologies based upon GKE Learning System's concepts of innovation and strategies of technology-assisted learning. CEO Shumin Chuang reciprocated by sharing a presentation of cutting edge, corporate-developed xml tools that can be deployed in educational environments.





## Case Study: GKE-facilitated International Learning and Empowered Student Project Case Study: Ke Yan

### A Global Learning Project Linking a Professional Poet and University of Beijing Professor with Writing Students in the United States

KE YAN, PROFESSIONAL CHINESE POET AND UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR: EXCERPTS FROM INTERVIEW PUBLISHED IN *ELECTRIC SOUP*



In this unusual project utilizing concepts of the GKE Learning System, American writing students are linked with Ke Yan, one of China's foremost, female, Asian writers. Ke Yan, also a University of Beijing professor, interacts so powerfully and intensely with the students of Electric Soup that she releases the copyright on pieces of her professional work to the students to permit them to translate and to publish on-line in their literary magazine.

Concepts of the GKE Learning System are employed to create a distance learning version of the traditional writing workshop. As concepts of curricular writing and literature are covered, additional skills of cultural insight, electronic publishing, interviewing, management, leadership, and innovation are developed.

*The GKE Learning System addresses the needs of the "whole learner."*

<http://homer.hcrhs.k12.nj.us/esoup/esvol12/interview/keyan.htm>

On-line, you may read the entire interview as well as listen to excerpts in Chinese and English. *Electric Soup* is an award-winning, student-written, on-line literary magazine developed as a pilot project by Florence McGinn, Vice President of Research for GKE, with support from AT&T, AT&T Learning Network, GKE, ComWeb Technology Group, the Hunterdon Foundation, and Lucent. *Electric Soup* has won a NJ Best Educational Practices award and a NJ Association of School Curriculum Award. It was identified by Learning in Motion as one of the Ten Best Educational Sites on the Internet.

With facilitation from GKE President, James Chang, on April 27, 1999, HCRHS student editors had the opportunity to interview the renowned Chinese poet, author, and playwright, Ke Yan.



Ke Yan is a member of the Chinese Writer's Association and widely recognized for her children's literature and textbook writing. Ke Yan has also written and published lyrics, plays, novels, and even a script for a television series. As a prominent writer, she has had the opportunity to hold such



esteemed positions such as vice- chief editor of Poetry magazine, editor of People's Literature, vice president of the Children's Educational Society of Beijing, and national committee member of the Chinese Federation of the Art and Literature Circles.

The interview was conducted by Directing Editor Meghan Lembo. However, a HCRHS student translator, Pauline Chiang, from the high school's Chinese Language class interpreted the entire interview.

***It is understood that you are in the United States writing and conducting interviews for your own work. Can you please explain the project you are currently working on?***

I am working on a long novel titled, Cancer Club. I had cancer in 1981 and met a lot of other patients who wanted me to tell their story of cancer. So, I am writing a report giving the message, "cancer doesn't mean death." I published this in Beijing, but the people didn't like it there. By coming to America, I learned even more stories of cancer to add to my novel. I know that in America there are one hundred thousand cases of cancer, and the number is still growing, so there are a lot of people affected by it. Because of this, I decided to make the plot and setting of my novel in China and America. In my novel, I have life, death, and relationships that have dealt with cancer, in order to promote friendship between China and America. My main reason for coming to America is to obtain more research to finish my novel.

***You have had a wide collection of works published, ranging from textbooks to lyrics. What do you find the most enjoyable to write?***

I like to write everything. Basically, everything I write is the same; however, I let the content decide which form it takes. There is so much ancient history to choose from in China, and many genres to choose from. Life is so varied and different; it makes me want to laugh, cry, etc. That is why I use all these different media to express my feelings. Regarding textbooks, the committee of art education (in China) picks whatever goes into their textbooks, and I am very honored to have them choose my writing to include. The entire country of China has the same textbooks, which is very different from America. Middle schools and elementary schools in China have the same texts; they are chosen by the Committee of Art Education, but colleges have more freedom to choose their texts.

***When did you decide writing was going to be your career?***

I was very little; my father was a writer and translator, and this influenced me. In high school, I had very good teachers, who also helped influence me. By the time I was 19, I formally decided to pursue writing, even though it caused me pain. This pain was the fear of not knowing if critics would accept it. Also, sometimes I write about things people don't want to hear. To be an honest writer, you must write about the truth; this is not always what everyone wants to hear.

***Have you found any differences between the poetry written in China and the poetry written in the US?***

There are a lot of similarities and differences. The life of the people in each country is different, so the poetry is different because it reflects different lifestyles. Poetry plays a big part in China's education, a lot more than in America.

***When writing poetry, what types of messages do you try to get across to your readers?***

I would like to convey my passions to people. People who read my work, can love life more. I write about children and peace and love. I would like people to realize that we are all one.



***Who has been an influential role model in your life?***

In middle school, one of my teachers said that society is evil, but you don't have to be afraid; as long as you are upright, you can overcome these things. Another teacher told me to love people and life. I was taught to love life and to warm people with love.

***How do you feel being looked upon as a role model?***

I feel like I am common, but when my books are translated into other media, I can affect more people's lives. (Editor's note: Ke Yan has had a video made reflecting her writings. This video is about violence, and the setting takes place in a rehab center for people, who have committed violent crimes.)

***What words of wisdom could you impart to our readers who are interested in writing?***

Teenagers never think that old people used to be young. When I was young, I had energy and wanted to change the world. I would write all my thoughts down in my notebook about how I wanted to change the world. One of my teachers wrote in the back of my notebook, "In order to write well, you have to learn to be a good person first." This is good advice. My advice to anyone is, "Read a thousand books and go a thousand miles."

With the further facilitation of GKE, Chinese poet and professor, Ke Yan, granted permission for her professional poetry to be published in Electric Soup. Electric Soup student editors were facilitated through the assistance of initial translations done by Ke Yan's grandson in California.

<http://homer.hcrhs.k12.nj.us/esoup/esvol12/internat/ketitle.htm>

On-line at the above URL, you may read some of Ke Yan's poetry published in **ELECTRIC SOUP**.

