



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

John Peyton, Mayor

February 26, 2010

Dear Friends:

On behalf of the great City of Jacksonville, I wish you all a happy and joyous New Year celebration marking the Chinese year of 4708 – the Year of the Tiger. This evening, the Spring Festival provides an excellent opportunity to enjoy the magnificent cultural offerings from the wonderful country of China.

Jacksonville prides itself on being a diverse city that welcomes every chance to share in the celebrations of all of our world's cultures. Since its establishment in 1996, the Jacksonville Chinese Association has continually brought the music, art, drama and dance of this ancient nation to our city for all to enjoy. This Lunar New Year celebration is no exception.

I applaud all those who have come here tonight to enjoy these festivities. You're sure to leave with a greater understanding of the people and traditions of China, as well as how our own customs have been influenced by Asian cultures. I hope this evening serves as a bridge to bring our two nations closer together.

May you all have a memorable evening that brings in the Year of the Tiger with magnificence. I hope this is a year that sees us all in good health, blessed with great prosperity and good fortune.

Sincerely,

John Peyton
Mayor

