

## Sponsorship Helps Families Thrive and Children Succeed in Thailand

Nannapas, or Soo-soo, is a model of a good student who has demonstrated remarkable academic accomplishment. She had received continuing support from the Pearl S. Buck Foundation Thailand from the young age of 8 years old through high school and passing the entrance exam to study at the University level.

Soo-soo and her family faced many problems before enrolling in PSBFT's child sponsorship program. They resided in the village of Ban Nong Luang in a tiny home with a leafy roof. Her family farmed maize plants and only made money from them once a year; their rice harvests were insufficient for the family's needs throughout the year. Every time a family member fell ill, they found themselves in a difficult financial situation.



Since Soo-soo was about eight years old and enrolled in Ban Nong Luang School's second grade, she has been a sponsored child of PSBFT. This has inspired not just her but her whole family to have the strength to overcome obstacles and have greater aspirations for the future. Attending the healthcare and nutrition information workshop for kids and planting vegetables was a proud moment for Soo-soo. Since she and her family began planting and consuming vegetables, their health has improved. In addition, they rear pigs and chickens for their consumption.

Attending the health promotion camp and psycho-social development camp for sponsored children gave Soo-soo a wealth of knowledge and the opportunity to lead groups there, helping PSBFT staff prepare documents and take care of the younger children. Through PSBI and PSBFT, her community has benefited from the generosity of people who have dug wells for drinking and funded village playground equipment.

Due to her diligence, keen attention to detail, confidence in her abilities, sense of responsibility, and cooperative nature during all school activities at the village secondary school, Soo-soo was qualified to continue her education at the local public high school. She has



studied hard and participated in every school activity, which has helped her gain a wealth of experience. She is currently in grade 12, and was able to pass the entrance exam to enroll in University. She pledges to be industrious, to give her studies her entire attention, and to successfully pursue her dream of becoming a Chinese teacher. The Pearl S. Buck Foundation in Thailand, as well as Soo-soo's family, are incredibly happy and proud of her and pledge to keep encouraging her and offering her every assistance to help her successfully attain her goals.

Soo-soo would like to express her sincere gratitude to her generous sponsor for all of her unwavering love, support, care, and concern for her family and her health. Thank you to all our sponsors!

# Winter Events at the Pearl S. Buck Estate



Enjoy a touch of spring with Pearl Buck on February 4 from 1-3 pm for our **Camellia Trail and Greenhouse Open House**. Take a tour of our greenhouses with our talented and knowledgeable groundskeeper and see Pearl Buck's beautiful camellias in bloom. Learn about the many gardens around the Pearl S. Buck Estate and about Pearl S. Buck's history with and love of the camellia flower. The Pearl S. Buck House National Historic Landmark is an American Camellia Trail Garden. Learn more at <https://pearlsbuck.org/camellia/>

Pearl S. Buck International, in collaboration with the Central Bucks Chinese-American Association (CBCAA), will be offering a family-friendly **Lunar New Year Cultural Celebration** on Saturday, February 10 from 12-3 pm at the Pearl S. Buck Historic Estate. Come join us as we usher in the Year of the Dragon!

A slate of family activities, live entertainment, games, and food are scheduled around the grounds throughout the afternoon. Join us and enjoy:

- Traditional live dancing performances
- Kahoot! interactive games and Chopsticks games
- Learn Chinese calligraphy, make a bookmark & the art of paper cutting
- See traditional Chinese costumes
- Dumpling making and tasting
- Live musical performances
- Crafts such as making a fire-breathing dragon, a fan, or a hand drum
- Tours of the Pearl S. Buck House National Historic Landmark

Traditional dances will be performed in the Pearl S. Buck Conference Center including:

- Dragon dance
- Chopstick dance - The Mongolian
- China in the Light
- Ganzi Tap Dance
- Sound Ladder
- The vast grassland
- Our land



Live music will be performed in the Pearl S. Buck Cultural Center including:

- Chinese Zither Ensemble
- Peking Opera performance "Mu Guiying Takes Command"
- Chinese Zither Quartet
- Chinese Classical Dance Dunhuang "Kalavinka"

Have fun at this cross-cultural gathering while learning about who celebrates and how they celebrate Lunar New Year around the globe, including those Pearl S. Buck International works with in China, Korea, and Taipei-Taiwan. This is a "pay what you wish" event. Proceeds from this event will benefit Pearl S. Buck International's humanitarian, educational, and cross-cultural work locally and abroad, and the CBCAA's scholarship fund.

For the most up-to-date information, go to <https://pearlsbuck.org/lunar/>