

Fey and Poehler dazzle at Golden Globes

By Andrew Peterson

Whether you are fascinated by the world of film, are completely obsessed with fashion, or live under a rock, it is impossible to escape the contagious obsession with Hollywood's award season.

Earlier this year, the competitive award season was at full swing during the 71st Golden Globes. Filled with gaffes, awkward moments, hilarious jokes, glimmering dresses, and drunken stars, the Golden Globes is an event that captures the attention of people around the world.

Like every other Award show, the Golden Globes has its flaws. No one truly understands or respects the opinions of the Hollywood Foreign Press Association that distributes the wildly coveted gold statues. Long, confusing, rambling speeches are mumbled on stage. Unexpected winners are as



Courtesy of screencrush.com

surprised as the next guy as they accept their awards. And the combination of adrenaline, nerves, and too much booze create the atmosphere we have come to expect around every award show.

This year was no different. Among the expected award show disasters, this year's undisputed stars were definitely

the shows two hosts, Tina Fey and Amy Poehler. A match made in heaven, these two delivered one liner after one liner seamlessly throughout the show while needling our favorite stars at the perfect moments.

The two hilarious hosts kicked off the night by picking on the audience, mocking the

Hollywood Foreign Press Association, and sent zingers at Matt Damon, Jonah Hill, George Clooney, and Tom Hanks. The most talked about moment was their summary of Gravity—"It's basically the story of how George Clooney would rather float away into space and die than spend one more minute with a woman his own age." Without a doubt, the Fey-Poehler performance made the 71st Golden Globes a hit, even before the first awards were given.

Even despite their best efforts, the Globes definitely experienced a pacing problem as the initial awards were given out; confusing and disorganized stage decisions; and suffering from several annoying and persistent sound issues.

The technical side of the night was far from superb. Despite playing some off too slowly while ushering our favorites off the stage quickly, the Globes avoided creating a terribly dull middle section that often accompanies award shows like the Emmys and the Oscars.

There were some odd missteps during the Globes---the best director announcement came way earlier than expected when the teleprompter provided the wrong words. Despite these errors throughout the night, it was at least enjoyable.

It is so incredibly hard to pull off, and they did it beautifully. No award show is perfect, but the combination of Fey and Poehler left little to complain about. The globes had its technical glitches, and its awkward moments, but in its entirety, the Golden Globes met all expectations.

Lunar New Year an important holiday for many NCSSM students

By Betty Liu

In the next week, Chinese students will be celebrating one of the most popular holidays in Chinese culture: Chinese New Year, also called the Spring Festival. The holiday is based on the lunar calendar, so the date changes every year.

This year, it fell on Jan. 31. Sadly, this fell just shy of extended, which means many of the Chinese students here at NCSSM celebrated the holiday away from their families.

Chinese New Year is to the Chinese as Christmas is to Americans. It is a time for giving gifts, spending time with family, and feasting. The celebration often lasts for two weeks, going from Dec. 31 to Jan. 15 (on the lunar calendar.)

At NCSSM, Chinese New Year was celebrated a little early on Monday, Jan. 27 in the Woolworth Room. The Chinese New Year Celebration was celebrated with the Chinese language program community and the Hangzhou Foreign Language School (HFLS) students who visited from Jan. 19-28.

This celebration's agenda featured an exchange of gifts, tai chi presentation by the HFLS students, Chinese skits by NCSSM Intermediate Chinese students, and food.

Nowadays, families are so busy that they often cannot

spare the time to celebrate, but there are still a few noteworthy celebrations, listed below.

New Year Cleaning—Many families clean the house

out for the feast. Generations of family gather together under one roof to dine together, so there has to be a copious amount of food.

These envelopes are often elaborately decorated with symbols for luck and fortune and represent good luck for the year to come.

Visiting family and friends—After the initial celebration, many people will go out to visit family and friends that they were not with on New Year's Eve.

Lantern Festival—This ends the New Year's festivities and is celebrated on the equivalent of Jan. 15 of the lunar calendar. This day marks the first full moon of the New Year and people go outside with lanterns to admire the moon. People also eat sticky rice balls called yuanxiao, which represents family unity.



Courtesy of NCSSM

NCSSM language students celebrate the New Year with students from Hangzhou Foreign Language School.

during the days leading up to the new year. A clean house can lead to good start, not to mention, it is considered bad luck to sweep on New Year's Day: it is believed that along with the dust, the year's good fortune will be swept out as well.

Decorating the house—Perhaps the most popular tradition, popular décor includes the symbol for fortune, couplets written on red paper, and various forms of koi fish. These decorations add to the air of festivity and are said to bring good luck to the household.

New Year's Feast—One of the highlights of the New Year festivities, the Chinese are notorious for their love of food, and most families go all

Making Dumplings—Dumplings are a traditional food in Chinese culture. They consist of ground meat and chopped vegetables sealed in a thin layer of dough and boiled. While they can be eaten anytime, dumplings are a popular dish during Chinese New Year because families can gather around and make dumplings together.

Watching CCTV's New Year Gala—A rather recent tradition, the gala is a live performance hosted by China Central Television that features some of the most popular singers, dancers, and actors from all over China.

Giving Red Envelopes—On New Year's Day, adults will often give children red envelopes filled with money.

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-If the entire world lived like the average American, we would need five planets to provide enough resources

-Recycling one aluminum can saves enough energy to listen to a full album on your iPod. Recycling 100 cans could light your bedroom for two whole weeks.

-An estimated 80,000,000 Hershey's Kisses are wrapped each day, using enough aluminum foil to cover over 40 football fields. All that foil is recyclable, but not many people realize it.

-Only 13 percent of water bottles are recycled. In 2005, Americans purchased 30 billion water bottles, and 26 billion of them wound up in

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