

HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL
KE KANIHELA O KE KALANA O HONOLULU
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

No. 26-157

RESOLUTION

ACCEPTING A GIFT OF TRAVEL, ACCOMMODATIONS, MEALS, AND GROUND TRANSPORTATION EXPENSES VALUED AT \$7,150.00 TO THE CITY FROM THE FUZHOU MUNICIPAL PEOPLE'S GOVERNMENT, PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA, FOR COUNCILMEMBER ANDRIA TUPOLA TO ATTEND THE 2026 BOND WITH KULIANG FESTIVAL IN FUZHOU, FUJIAN, CHINA.

WHEREAS, Section 13-113 of the Revised Charter of the City and County of Honolulu 1973 (Amended 2017 Edition), as amended, provides the City Council ("Council") with authority to accept gifts to the City and County of Honolulu ("City"); and

WHEREAS, Resolution 05-349, CD1, FD1, establishes a policy of the Council for the solicitation and acceptance of gifts donated to the City; and

WHEREAS, the policy allows for the acceptance of gifts by the affirmative action of the Council; and

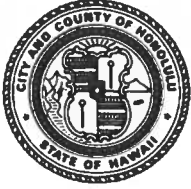
WHEREAS, Resolution 21-75 established a Sister City relationship between the City and Fuzhou, Fujian, China, acknowledging the cultural, historical, and ethnic ties between the two cities, as well as the multitude of shared public policy goals; and

WHEREAS, Councilmember Andria Tupola was invited, along with 300 delegates, including baseball and softball teams, government officials, and other representatives, to attend the "Bond with Kuliang" 2026 China-U.S. Youth Baseball Exhibition Game and Sports Festival ("2026 Bond with Kuliang Festival"), in Fuzhou, Fujian, China, from June 28 to July 2, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the 2026 Bond with Kuliang Festival is co-hosted by the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries, the General Administration of Sport of China, and the Fujian Provincial People's Government; and

WHEREAS, the 2026 Bond with Kuliang Festival includes friendly games and sports competitions, guided field visits, cultural immersion experiences, interactive sessions with local communities and institutions, and cultural exchanges with delegates' Chinese counterparts; and

WHEREAS, Councilmember Andria Tupola has submitted a request to the Council for acceptance of a gift to the City from the Fuzhou Municipal People's Government of travel, accommodations, meals, and ground transportation expenses



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valued at \$7,150.00 to facilitate her attendance at the 2026 Bond with Kuliang Festival;
and

WHEREAS, the description and value of the gift are set forth in the Declaration of Gift form and accompanying letter of invitation from the Foreign Affairs Office of the Fuzhou Municipal People's Government attached hereto as Exhibit A; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City and County of Honolulu that this body gratefully accepts the gift valued at \$7,150.00 from the Fuzhou Municipal People's Government, People's Republic of China, that is more fully described in the Declaration of Gift form and accompanying letter of invitation attached hereto as Exhibit A and incorporated by reference herein; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be transmitted to The Foreign Affairs Office of the Fuzhou Municipal People's Government, 8/F, Bldg. 6, Eastern Office Compound, 193 South Riverside West Avenue, Fuzhou, Fujian, China 350026.

INTRODUCED BY:

A. Ispola

DATE OF INTRODUCTION:

JUL 1 2026

Honolulu, Hawai'i

Councilmembers

**CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU**

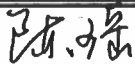
DECLARATION OF GIFT	
NAME OF DONOR	Foreign Affairs Office of the Fuzhou Municipal People's Govern
DONOR'S ADDRESS	8/F, Bldg. 6, Eastern Office Compound 193 South Riverside West Avenue Fuzhou, Fujian, China 350026
DONOR'S TELEPHONE	+86-591-87622096
STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP AND/OR TERMS OF CONVEYANCE	
The donor named above owns the property described below and desires to give the property to the City and County of Honolulu. To carry out this purpose, the donor hereby absolutely and without condition or reservation gives, grants, and conveys the property to the City and County of Honolulu.	
DESCRIPTION OF GIFT	VALUE
Flights	\$ 3,000.00
Accommodations	\$ 3,350.00
Meals and Ground Transportation	\$ 800.00
	TOTAL \$ 7,150.00
SIGNATURE: 	DATE: June 24, 2016
PRINT NAME: YAO CHEN	TITLE: International Exchange Coordinato

EXHIBIT A

中华人民共和国福州市人民政府外事办公室

THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS OFFICE OF FUZHOU MUNICIPAL PEOPLE'S GOVERNMENT P.R. CHINA

May 18, 2026

Invitation to Bond with Kuliang: 2026 China-U.S. Youth Baseball Exhibition Game and Sports Festival

A century ago, Kuliang in Fuzhou witnessed the coexistence of the people of China and the U.S. Despite differences in language and culture, they embraced the spirit of harmony and unity, creating a timeless tale of friendship that has transcended generations. In the year of 2026, this legendary historical bond of friendship will once more be celebrated at “Bond with Kuliang” 2026 China-U.S. Youth Baseball Exhibition Game and Sports Festival. Through the sports exchanges among young people, we'll continue to enrich this lasting story of friendship and play for world peace.

This event is co-hosted by the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries, General Administration of Sport of China and the People's Government of Fujian Province. From June 28 to July 2, around 300 delegates including baseball and softball teams, government officials and delegates from friendly groups from the two countries will travel to Fuzhou for friendly competitions and cultural exchanges with their Chinese counterparts.

In addition to the games, the program will feature an opening ceremony celebrating the historic ties between the two countries, guided field visits and cultural immersion experiences, and interactive sessions with local communities and institutions.

We are delighted to extend a warm invitation to members of Kuliang Friends. Your presence would not only honor the legacy of cooperation between our peoples, but also inspire a new generation of citizen diplomats.

The host organizations will cover all in-country expenses during your stay in Fuzhou, including meals, accommodation, and local transportation. For

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Add: No.193, Nanjiangbin West Avenue, Fuzhou, Fujian, P.R.China 350007 Fax: 0086-591-87620313

中华人民共和国福州市人民政府外事办公室

THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS OFFICE OF FUZHOU MUNICIPAL PEOPLE'S GOVERNMENT P.R. CHINA

confirming attendance, please fill out the attached attendance form and send it back to us by May 29. Should you have any questions or require further information, please contact us at evelyn_fuzhou@gmail.com. We look forward to welcoming you to this celebration of friendship!

Appendix:

1. *Attendance form*
2. *Framework Agenda*
3. *Brief introduction about the Story of Kuliang*

The Foreign Affairs Office of the
Fuzhou Municipal People's Government

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Bond with Kuliang: 2026 China-U.S.Youth Baseball Exhibition Game and Sports Festival
June 28-July 2, 2026 | Fuzhou, China

1. Attendants:

No.1	Full Name	☒ Mr. ☐ Ms.	Given Name	Middle Name	Family/Last Name
			Patrick	Allen	Lin
	Position	Restaurant Owner			
	Organization	Owner			
	City/Country	Beijing, China			
	Dietary Restrictions	☒ No ☐ Yes ()			
	Contact	Tel:18811197471	Fax:		
	Email: Linpatrick@yahoo.com				
No.2	Full Name	☐ Mr. ☐ Ms.	Given Name	Middle Name	Family/Last Name
	Position				
	Organization				
	City/Country				
	Dietary Restrictions	☐ No ☐ Yes ()			
	Contact	Tel:	Fax:		
	Email:				

Arrival	Date: _____ Time: _____ AM/PM	Departure	Date: _____ Time: _____ AM/PM
	Flight/Train No.:		Flight/Train No.:

Add: No.193, Nanjiangbin West Avenue, Fuzhou, Fujian, P.R.China 350007 **Fax:** 0086-591-87620313

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THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS OFFICE OF FUZHOU MUNICIPAL PEOPLE'S GOVERNMENT P.R. CHINA

3. < Person in Charge/Emergency Contact >

Full Name	☐ Mr. ☐ Ms.	Given Name	Middle Name	Family/Last Name
		Xin Rong		Jia
Position	Wife			
Organization				
Address				
Contact	Tel:13911117429		Fax:	
	Email:			

****Note: Please affix a copy of your passport and a CV along with the attendance form.**

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THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS OFFICE OF FUZHOU MUNICIPAL PEOPLE'S GOVERNMENT P.R. CHINA

Appendix 2

Framework Agenda

June 28, Sunday

All day Arrive in Fuzhou, check in and settle in after registration
Dinner Meeting & dinner with Fujian Provincial Leaders(*for some guests*)

June 29, Monday

Morning Opening Ceremony of the “Bond with Kuliang” 2026
China-U.S. Youth Baseball Exhibition Games and Sports Festival
Noon Hotel buffet lunch
Afternoon Visit Kuliang
Kuliang Gala
Dinner Meeting & dinner with Fuzhou Municipal Leaders(*for some guests*)

June 30, Tuesday

All day Baseball games and group tours

July 1, Wednesday or

All day City tours

July 2, Thursday

Departure

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Appendix 2

Brief introduction of the Story of Kuliang

Kuliang is a famous summer resort located in the outskirts of Fuzhou City in East China's Fujian Province. The story of Kuliang dates back to 1886, when a British doctor built the area's first residence. Since then, a large number of Western expatriates, including businessmen, missionaries and consular personnel established their own summer houses there, and Kuliang flourished as a sanctuary for expatriates seeking a rural life. The expats built villas, hospitals, tennis courts, swimming pools, post offices and other amenities in Kuliang, fostering a profound connection with the local Chinese.

Milton Gardner, who in later life was a physics professor at the University of California, was born in the United States in 1901. He arrived in Fuzhou with his parents as an infant and spent his early years in Kuliang. The family returned to California in 1911.

Throughout his life, Gardner had a deep desire to revisit his childhood home in China, but he never had the chance to fulfill his wish, and his last words were "Kuliang, Kuliang".

After Milton Gardner's death in 1986, his wife, Elizabeth, made several trips to China in an attempt to honor his dying wish, though she was unable to determine where exactly Kuliang was.

Eventually, however, she discovered among her late husband's belongings 11 faded stamps with postmarks that said "Kuliang, Fuzhou". With the assistance of a Chinese student, Elizabeth Gardner eventually learned that Kuliang was in the suburbs of Fuzhou.

Upon learning of Gardner's story in an article published by the People's Daily in 1992 with the headline "Ah! Kuliang", President Xi Jinping, who was then Party secretary of Fuzhou, sent government officials to reach out to Elizabeth Gardner

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and extend an invitation for her to visit Kuliang. In the summer of 1992, Elizabeth was finally able to fulfill her late husband's last wish, traveling from the United States to Kuliang. Xi met her on the evening she arrived in Fuzhou and they exchanged Chinese vases as gifts. The next day, with the arrangement made by Xi, Elizabeth visited Kuliang. She saw the mountain landscape and foreign villas her late husband mentioned a lot and met with his childhood friends. She said the trip made her understand why her husband had missed China so much, and she would continue to pass on the friendship between the two peoples. She was also presented with the title of "Honorary Citizen of Fuzhou".

In 2012, Xi shared this story at a welcoming banquet when he traveled to the United States as China's vice president. "I believe there are a lot of touching stories like this between Chinese and American people," he said, calling for stepping up people-to-people exchanges to consolidate the most solid public support for China-U.S. mutually beneficial cooperation.

Since then, with the concerted efforts of Chinese and American people from all walks of life, the story of Kuliang has been further digged into and passed on to younger generations. Descendants of American families who once lived in Kuliang also founded the group "Kuliang Friends", such as the Gardner family, the Donald E. MacInnis family, the Harry R. Caldwell family and the Edward Bliss family, etc. Elyn MacInnis, the daughter-in-law of Donald E. MacInnis, has been actively involved in the cultural research of Kuliang, restoring the history through texts, pictures and material objects.

In June 2023, members of "Kuliang Friends" were invited to attend the Bond with Kuliang: 2023 China-U.S. People-to-People Friendship Forum held in Fuzhou. President Xi Jinping sent a congratulatory letter to the Forum. Xi said, "I hope that you will continue the Kuliang story and carry forward the special bonds, so that the friendship between our two peoples can stay forever strong and robust, as the thousand-year-old cedar trees growing on Kuliang."

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In November 2023, during President Xi Jinping's visit to the United States, he met with representatives of friends, including descendants of Kuliang families, at the joint welcoming banquet of friendly groups. He had cordial conversations and took photos with them. He thanked their contribution to promoting friendship and understanding between the two peoples and pointed out that the foundation of China-U.S. relations is laid by the people; the door of China-U.S. relations is opened by the people; the story of China-U.S. relations is written by the people; the future of China-U.S. relations is created by the people. Chinese people will never forget their old friends and believe that the friendship between the two peoples and bilateral relations will continue to pass on and prosper.

In June 2024, Bond with Kuliang: 2024 China-U.S. Youth Festival kicked off in Fuzhou with more than 200 American youth and over 300 of their Chinese counterparts attending the event. President Xi Jinping sent a congratulatory letter to the Festival. Xi said he is pleased to see young people from all walks of life in China and the United States gather in Fuzhou to relive the story of Kuliang, pass on the love of Kuliang, and enhance exchanges and understanding between the two peoples. Xi stressed that young people are most energetic and full of dreams, and the future of China-U.S. relations lies in the young people and he expressed the hope that Chinese and U.S. youth will have in-depth exchanges, deepen friendship, understand each other and build closer bonds, work hand in hand to carry forward the China-U.S. friendship to contribute to the sound and steady growth of China-U.S. relations, and work with people around the world to build peace, promote progress and create prosperity.

In July 2025, Bond with Kuliang: 2025 China-U.S. Youth Choir Festival was successfully held in Fuzhou, Fujian province, and Beijing. This event also commemorated the 80th anniversary of the victory in the World Anti-Fascist War and the founding of the United Nations. With the theme of "Sing for Peace", the event featured around 30 choirs and more than 1,000 young participants from both countries, making it the largest thematic China-U.S. youth exchange event since the launch of the 50,000-students exchange program. By promoting

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“learning from history and cherishing peace”, the festival highlighted the shared commitment of young people from China and the United States to uphold peace. Peng Liyuan, wife of President Xi, attended the Bond with Kuliang: 2025 China-U.S. youth friendship event in Beijing and delivered a speech, encouraging students to foster China-U.S. friendship, promote peace and goodwill, and contribute their energy and talent to a brighter future for both countries.

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CITY COUNCIL
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
HONOLULU, HAWAII
CERTIFICATE

RESOLUTION 26-157

Introduced: 07/01/26 By: ANDRIA TUPOLA Committee: INTERNATIONAL & LEGAL AFFAIRS (ILA)

Title: ACCEPTING A GIFT OF TRAVEL, ACCOMODATIONS, MEALS, AND GROUND TRANSPORTATION EXPENSES VALUED AT \$7,150.00 TO THE CITY FROM THE FUZHOU MUNICIPAL PEOPLE'S GOVERNMENT, PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA, FOR COUNCILMEMBER ANDRIA TUPOLA TO ATTEND THE 2026 BOND WITH KULIANG FESTIVAL IN FUZHOU, FUJIAN, CHINA.

Voting Legend: * = Aye w/Reservations

07/01/26	INTRO	Introduced.
07/15/26	ILA	Reported out for adoption. CR-207(26) 8 AYES: CORDERO, DOS SANTOS-TAM, KIA'ĀINA, NISHIMOTO, OKIMOTO, TULBA, TUPOLA, WATERS 1 ABSENT: WEYER
08/12/26	CCL	Committee report and Resolution were adopted. 8 AYES: CORDERO, KIA'ĀINA, NISHIMOTO, OKIMOTO, TULBA, TUPOLA, WATERS, WEYER 1 ABSENT: DOS SANTOS-TAM

I hereby certify that the above is a true record of action by the Council of the City and County of Honolulu on this RESOLUTION.



CHADD KADOTA, ACTING CITY CLERK



TOMMY WATERS, CHAIR AND PRESIDING OFFICER