

# Nanjing races to clean air before Youth Games

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Nanjing is going all-out to guarantee the best air quality possible in the city as it prepares to host the 2014 Summer Youth Olympic Games in August.

"We shut down polluting enterprises this year, closing about 30 factories since March," Nanjing Mayor Miu Ruilin said.

The capital of Jiangsu province is also restructuring its industrial focus, Miu said.

During the Games, from Aug 16 to 28, about 3,800 athletes 15 to 18 years old will compete in 28 sports. The first summer Youth Olympic Games took place in Singapore in 2010.

"The environment is one of the most important issues and deserves to be given top priority. It is important to guarantee air quality during the Games," Miu said.

The city government released a temporary environmental management regulation in May with 35 directives for improving air quality from May 1 to Aug 31.

Under the regulation, factories that use coal furnaces had to shut down before June 30. From Aug 1, heavy-industry factories must begin to reduce manufacturing by 20 percent; all construction sites must stop work; and open space barbecue restaurants must close.

Nanjing, along with places in the Yangtze River Delta area, including



**The environment is one of the most important issues and deserves to be given top priority. It is important to guarantee air quality during the Games. It is also important after the Games."**

MIU RUILIN  
MAYOR OF NANJING

Shanghai and Zhejiang province, released a joint plan to guarantee environmental quality during the Games.

The city is improving public transportation to encourage people to leave their cars at home. Vehicle emissions, the main source of PM2.5 and PM10 particulate matter, have a large effect on air quality.

"We're opening three new subway lines right before the Games, one on July 1 and two on Aug 1," the mayor said, adding that the city's subway lines will have increased in August from 80 km before July to 135 km.

With the new subway lines, Nanjing will top Shenzhen as the city with the fourth-most amount of subway lines, ranking behind Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou.

"Because of the Games, subway construction is being accomplished ahead of time, at least five years in advance," Miu said.

But the city will not restrict vehicles during the Games, as Beijing did during the 2008 Summer Olympics.

At the time, Beijing banned private cars in the city's urban areas 15 days a month while extending subway hours.

Nanjing is also taking a market-driven approach to control private cars by increasing parking fees in downtown areas.

Local media reported that since June 15, the street parking fee downtown has increased to 20 yuan (\$3.20) an hour and tops 244 yuan a day.

The one-day street parking charge previously was about 10 yuan.

Nanjinger Zhu Xia, who lives near Jiangdong Road, said she has to switch to the subway to avoid the

"scary parking fees" downtown.

"I'll have to pay more than 200 yuan a day," said the 38-year-old, who works in Xinjiekou, the city's central business district. "Commuting by subway is much cheaper, but it can get really crowded."

Zhu also said that she has to walk 20 minutes from her home to the subway station, which she considered "too long during the hot summer and chilly winter days".

By the end of June, four subway lines and 75 stations across the city had been put into use.

"We encourage people to take public transportation for the environment," Miu said, adding that during the Games, visitors can take the bus for free after showing Games tickets.

## Demand grows for skilled *yue sao* nannies

By **FAN FEIFEI**  
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The demand for Chinese *yue sao* — nannies for baby and mother in the first months after birth — is rising on the back of an expected baby boom in the Year of the Horse and relaxed family planning regulations.

The salaries of some of these highly sought nannies — who specialize in taking care of newborns and mothers for the first few months after childbirth — are even surpassing those of white-collar workers, said childcare and homemaker professionals.

"You need to book the services of senior *yue sao* at least three months in advance. The demand has risen about 10 percent this year compared with those of last year," said Li Jieli, general manager of Beijing Ainong Homemaking Service Co, which provides cleaning services and baby care.

To meet the diverse demands of customers, homemaking companies such as Ainong often classify the nannies into grades based on their

skill level. The price of their services is set accordingly.

"We don't recommend junior *yue sao*, who may lack the requisite experience, to look after newborns. 'Medium-skilled' *yue sao* charge from 9,800 (\$1,575) to 12,800 yuan each month. *Yue sao* with premium skills, the so-called 'gold medal' nannies, can charge 16,800 to 19,800 yuan each month," Li said.

The average salary in March for white-collar workers in Shanghai ranked first among Chinese cities, hitting more than 7,200 yuan a month, figures from major recruitment site Zhaopin.com showed. Average wages in Beijing and Shenzhen were nearly 7,000 yuan, the portal reported.

Medium and premium level nannies are the most popular because of their specialized training and experience, Li said.

There is no standard certification issued by the authorities for *yue sao*. But before they start work, these nannies need to present documents to clients including skills certification

issued by homemaking companies, health certificates and identity cards, Li said.

An employee surnamed Liu from the Beijing Kangaroo Mama Services Center said most families choose nannies who charge between 8,800 to 10,800 yuan a month, with eight to 10 years of work experience.

The earlier these customers decide and reserve potential nannies, the better choice they have, Liu said.

Most of the nannies will live with their customers and provide 24-hour care and services.

They are expected to be especially busy this year.

The Chinese zodiac has a significant influence on the year that families choose to have children.

Many people believe that those born in the Year of the Horse, which falls this year, will be lucky and successful. But those born in the Year of the Sheep, next year, are said to experience ill fortune in their lives.

Xu Jiurong, 49, from Hubei province, has worked as a nanny in Beijing since 2007.

She earns more than 10,000 yuan a month.

"My schedule is fully booked till early next year," Xu said.

The demand for nanny services is so great this year that families should book them at least six months in advance, Xu said.

Before becoming a full-time nanny, Xu studied nursing and received special training on maternal care and childcare. She also trained in diet, nutrition and disease prevention, with the relevant certificates to prove her training.

Xu is now a senior nanny in the industry.

"I try to get to know my customers better before I start work and list the types of services I can provide the families. I also keep up to date on baby care through online and other resources," she said.

Despite her busy schedule this year, Xu said she is satisfied with what she does and regards looking after babies as a huge responsibility.

The money she earns helps cover her son's tuition in the United States.



HE JUNCHANG / XINHUA

**Chinese *yue sao* — nannies for baby and mother in the first months after birth — show their skills at a job fair in February. Many Chinese want to have a baby during this Year of the Horse, increasing demand for the nannies.**

Wu Shasha, who works in a State-owned enterprise, said she booked a nanny through friends for about two months when she was pregnant. She gave birth to a boy in February.

"The *yue sao* was very considerate. She came to the hospital when

I was giving birth. Then she looked after me and my baby well in the next two months, making us dinner and washing our clothes, among other tasks."

Wu said she paid the nanny 10,000 yuan a month and felt at ease when the nanny stayed with her.

## Spiritual quest

Nearly blind, Buddhist master Hsing Yun continues to create calligraphy that inspires, reports **Wang Qian**.

A month-long exhibition of one-stroke calligraphy works by Buddhist master Hsing Yun at Shandong Provincial Museum attracted disciples, art enthusiasts and collectors from across the country.

The exhibition from June 8 to July 6 displayed more than 100 fine Chinese calligraphy works, scripts and pictures from Hsing Yun, founder of Taiwan's influential Fo Guang Shan Temple.

Hsing Yun was born in 1927 in Jiangsu province. His original name is Li Guoshen.

He devoted his life to spreading humanistic Buddhism, which emphasizes on the integration of spiritual practices in people's daily lives and aims to promote peace and harmony among all human beings.

He has established more than 200 Buddhist temples across the world

including the Fo Guang Shan Temple built in 1967.

Suffering from diabetes for more than 40 years, retinal detachment and other eye conditions, Hsing Yun can barely see.

But he continues creating calligraphy by using his shaking hands in a distinctive one-stroke calligraphy style.

The one-stroke calligraphy style means that every work is done in one swift brushstroke. A pause makes it difficult to continue to the next character due to Hsing Yun's poor eyesight.

Traditional calligraphic theories and techniques are not applicable when viewing Hsing Yun's works.

His works are considered rich in Buddhist thought. They bring viewers in touch with the great mind of a Buddhist master, as well as his bless-

ings and teaching.

"The show provides us a rare chance to feel the Buddhist master's reflections on life and the spiritual inspiration in his unique artwork," Yan Shiyuan, head of Shandong United Front Work Department, said at the exhibition's opening ceremony.

"I hope it can also build a cultural exchange and cooperation platform between Shandong and Taiwan," he added.

Hsing Yun, present at the opening ceremony of the exhibition, donated one of his writings to the Shandong Provincial Museum.

"Shandong is the hometown of Confucius, whose thought is a key part of traditional Chinese culture. Confucian creeds have inspired me since I was a child," Hsing Yun said.

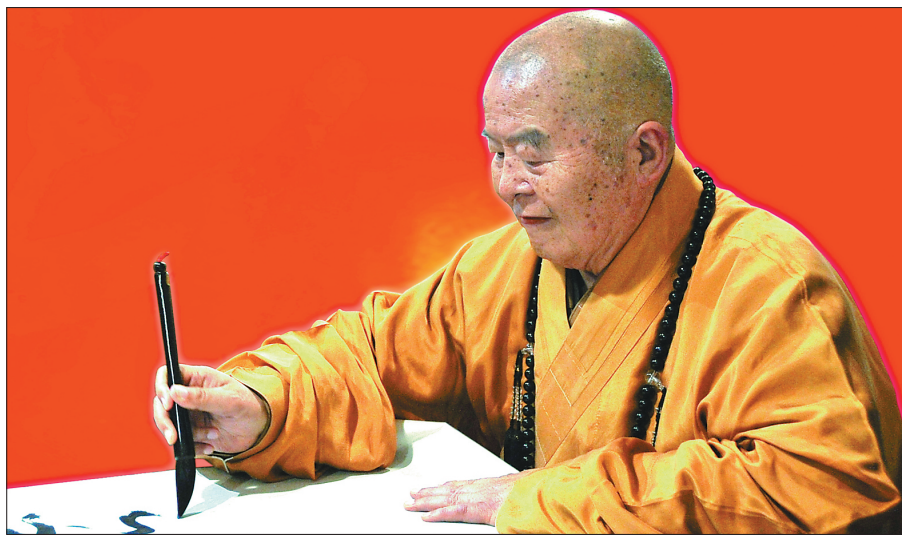
Hsing Yun has donated about \$1 million since 2008 to establish a public education trust fund.

The fund supports charity programs by using the income he receives from his artworks.

His finest works have toured the United States, China and Europe to help sustain the charitable endeavors.

On the Chinese mainland, Hsing Yun's calligraphy exhibitions have been held in more than 10 cities including Beijing, Tianjin and Hainan.

In 2013, he won the You Bring Charm to the World Award sponsored by a dozen Chinese media to honor those who have great influence and make outstanding contributions to Chinese communities.

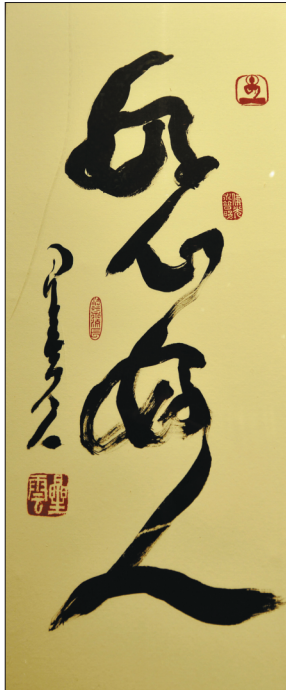


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**Although Hsing Yun can barely see, he continues creating calligraphy by using his shaking hands in a distinctive one-stroke calligraphy style.**



Hsing Yun's calligraphy says "auspiciousness".



"Kind-hearted person".



"Good luck".



JU CHUANJIANG FOR CHINA DAILY

Locals practice Hsing Yun's style at the Shandong Provincial Museum.

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