



**THE NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**  
**Dominick A. D'Angelo, Principal**  
Scott Herman, Assistant Principal  
Eric Ierardi, Assistant Principal  
Joyce Sigona, Assistant Principal

---

**DAVID A. BOODY**  
**INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL 228 FOR MAGNET STUDIES**  
**“EYES ON EXCELLENCE”**  
(718) 375-7635 FAX (718) 998-4013

## MEDIA INVITATION

### **I.S. 228 HOLDS FIRST CHINESE NEW YEAR GALA**

*Student Dancers, Cheerleaders Join Professional Entertainers*

David A. Boody Intermediate School for Magnet Studies (I.S. 228) will host its First Annual Chinese New Year Celebration on Thursday, Feb. 11, featuring performances by the school's celebrated troupe of Chinese dancers as well as professionals trained in classical Chinese art forms. The celebration will begin at 7 p.m. in the school's auditorium at 228 Avenue S in Gravesend, Brooklyn.

“We used to take our dancers to another school, but now we have so many Chinese students and teachers that we decided to have our own celebration,” said Shuya Zhang, who directs the Chinese Dancers and teaches Mandarin courses at I.S. 228.

“Asian students are now the largest ethnic group in our school, more than 35 percent of our population, so a Chinese New Year celebration is a perfect fit for Boody,” said Principal Dominick D'Angelo, who will deliver an address welcoming visitors to the school. “We hope students, parents, and neighbors from our diverse student body and neighborhood will join us in this exciting celebration of a cherished tradition. The Chinese culture is so rich in history that all students will gain from this cultural exposure.”

The Boody Chinese Dancers, 16 girls trained by Mrs. Zhang in an after-school program sponsored by the Italian Federation, will perform six dances during the evening. The group has been invited to perform at numerous community events, such as the

Columbus Day Parade on 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Brooklyn. Several Chinese students from Boody's musical magnets will perform solos or duets for the audience.

Also performing will be Boody's wildly enthusiastic cheerleading squad, led by Nihal Boz, which is also making appearances throughout Brooklyn.

Professional entertainers invited by Ms. Zhang for the celebration include magician Xin Yin Yan, vocalist Jian Wei Han, classical dancer Ya Xing Liao, and Ming Ming Wang, who plays the Chinese stringed instrument Gu Zheng.

"It is important for our young people to be exposed to the beautiful and ancient classical arts from China," Ms. Zhang said.

Boody was the first middle school in District 21 to initiate a bilingual Chinese program, which helps the children of recent immigrants become literate in English while taking courses with appropriate levels of Chinese language support. These students are eligible to participate in Boody's magnet programs, such as chess and music, even if they have not yet mastered English.