Welcome back to your “G2” Global Generations column, a place where teens and young adults around the world can share, inspire and explore. Look for new additions in this section, including:

1. Meet some of your new regional G2 teen correspondents.
3. Fiction by talented G2 writers of adoptee descent, of course.

We need your help! Please join us this holiday season by participating in our first group charity fundraiser, The Postcard Project — “Advice, Lessons Learned, and Words of Wisdom from Adopted Youth Around the World.” We look forward to hearing from you.

Happy New Year!
Jennifer Bao Yu “Precious Jade” Jue-Steuck, G2 Editor for Adoption Today
www.Precious-Jade.com

Meet Your New Regional G2 Teen Correspondents
Look for their work in future editions!

Name: Liu Fang Thomas • Age: 18
G2 Fashion Correspondent
Location: Indiana
Birth country: China
Family: Mom, Dad, Brother
Most Embarrassing Moment: Too many to remember.
If I could change the world: There would not be any kids in orphanages, there wouldn’t be any wars, poverty or discrimination, and people would accept others for who they are.
What do you think it means to be a “Global Girl” today? Though there are many countries, there is only one planet, and one race of people, and we all need to stick together to take care of our planet and one another.

Name: Grace Buckingham • Age: 14
G2 Regional Correspondent
Location: Iowa
Birth country: China
Family: Mom, Dad, Two Brothers, Sister
What Makes Me Smile: Shopping, happy thoughts
If I could change the world: I would want to open peoples’ eyes to adoption and these kids and to end world hunger.
What do you think it means to be a “Global Girl” today? I think it means to be a citizen in two places and being open to two different places around the world.

Global Generations, Inc. is the first worldwide grassroots group created by adopted people and friends of all ages and backgrounds to “empower each other with insider tips for school, life, and personal success through mentorship, shared resources, toolkits, and a global network of G2 Regional Chapters.”
Holiday Art Project Fundraiser

The G2 Postcard Project

In the season of sharing, you are invited to create a piece of artwork and a piece of short writing on 1, 2 or all 3 of the following topics for future generations of adoptees.

1. “Dear Sisters”
   • your mentorship/advice to younger adoptees
   • quotes that are inspirational to you
   • a dream for the world

2. “Bullies Not Wanted”
   • tactics for girls if they’re bullied
   • a personal story involving bullying
   • tips for verbal defense

3. “Love Letters To Our Mothers”
   • letters to your adoptive mother or birth mother
   • letters to your adoptive family or birth family

**WRITING:** The writing can be in any creative form, such as a letter or poem as long as it fits in the message space of the postcard template. We prefer that the writing is clearly handwritten, instead of typed, because it adds more personality to the postcard.

On the “To:” section of the postcard, we ask that you handwrite to whom your poem or letter is for.

Examples:
To: All mothers in China who have relinquished children to adoption.
To: The kid who bullied me in the cafeteria.
To: Anyone growing up who feels alone . . .

This message is up to you! And underneath write our address, according to the example below.

To: _____(your message)_____
“G2” Global Girls - Global Generations
P.O. Box 1236
Laguna Beach, California 92652

**POSTMARK DEADLINE:** March 1, 2009

“From:” section of the postcard must include name (or anonymous), age, where you were adopted from, and where you now live. Although, on actual postcards most people do not write the name of the sender, this is a way for each of the artists to have his or her own “profile.” To protect your privacy, only use the initial letter of your last name, and do not put your actual address on the postcard art.

Example:
From: Jenna C.
Age: 16
Adopted From: Wuhan, China
Lives in: Massachusetts”
ARTWORK: Artwork can be anything representative of you or addressing the topic that you chose for writing (Dear Sisters, Bullies Not Wanted, Love Letters To Our Mothers). Painting, drawing, collage, photography or other art forms are all wonderful. You can create a self-portrait, a family portrait, re-create a scene from your hometown, a picture of you doing something you enjoy — anything you would like. The only restriction is that all postcards must be original pieces of art or photography. For copyright purposes, do not use store bought postcards.

POSTCARD TEMPLATE: To make a postcard for submission, take a standard 8½ x 11 piece of paper or cardstock and fold in half so the paper is 4¼ x 5½. This size allows for a little more writing space than a “standard” postcard. Artwork can take up one whole side of the paper. On the flip side, draw a line three inches from the right hand side as a divider. Dividing line three inches from right. Now you are ready to make your postcard your own.

To send, glue, staple or tape your sheet of paper together, or glue onto a piece of thin cardboard. Make sure your postcard is sturdy enough to make it through the mail. By writing the address directly on the postcard there will be no need for envelopes — just attach a stamp and mail. In the final book, everyone will be able to see the stamps from other countries on the postcards, as well as the postmark dates.

Who can contribute? Parents, grandparents and adoptees of all ages and backgrounds.

How many pieces of art can I submit? As many as you like.

How much postage will I need? If you use our model, affix a standard letter stamp if mailed within the United States. If mailed from outside the United States, look up rates through your local post office.

What will happen to my postcard? If selected, your postcard will be included with other postcards in a fundraiser book made up entirely of postcard submissions bound together as an anthology. G2 Teen Judges will select the best postcards at the first G2 Team Reunion Celebration in Laguna Beach, Calif.

Please Note: We cannot guarantee that every entry submitted will be published in the finished book, but there is a good chance that your postcard will be included. Take your time to create a quality piece of art and writing that is representative of you.

We welcome your submissions. Thank you for making our holiday wish come true by helping us fund our G2 Teen programs by mailing us a postcard with your words of wisdom.

The Global Generations’ Global Girls Postcard Project Team
— Jenna Cook, age 16, Massachusetts
— Ana Tanner, age 14, California
— Haley Butler, age 13, Tennessee
— Julia Tombari, age 13, Washington
— Ying Ying Fry, age 14, California

Adopted From: Xi’an, China
Lives in: Chicago

From: Anonymous
Age: 30
Row after row of tiny metal cribs
Each holding a bundled baby girl
Some sleeping,
Crying
Others lying in bed half awake
As I walked into the room

Babies ready for feeding
From behind metal crib bars
I saw her
She stared at me, her brown eyes confused, yet curious

I walked over and played peek-a-boo
with her
She smiled
According to the translator
She would be adopted soon

She is very lucky
For very few are adopted
Like me,
She needed to be healthy
For if she was sick,
The adoption may never happen

Handed a bowl of congee,
I fed her
I felt our lives were very similar
For we were both adopted from the same orphanage
Building a new life
Beyond the orphanage,
Beyond China

Three months later
She was adopted
She is now 5 years old
And lives with a family in Canada

I hope she goes back to her orphanage
And meets a baby girl that shares her story
Just as I met a baby girl that shared mine
I wonder where she will go, from China to Canada, to where?
Where will life take her?
Where will my life take me?