



## All Grown Up

After just six months of operation, Olivia's Place has grown out of its old space and into a new clinic on Yongjia Lu. The pediatric therapy center, started by Quynh and Nelson Chow to treat their daughter Olivia, now sees over 200 children, with another 100 on the waiting list. While the center is equipped to handle children with conditions like cerebral palsy and Down's Syndrome, their qualified therapists also treat more common developmental issues like dyslexia, speech disorders and bad behavior, which often arise from living in a multi-lingual environment and transitioning to a new city. At their new digs they'll be able to accommodate more clients in six separate therapy rooms, and are now offering a range of classes from handwriting seminars and talks on starting solid foods to support for moms-to-be and kids' Pilates, in addition to therapy services that include occupational, physical and speech therapy and educational psychology. They've also brought on two new speech therapists, Elaine Robin, a speech pathologist and stuttering expert, and Danica Djaja, a trilingual linguist with expertise in fluency and speech. Knowing that the demand for these services is huge in Shanghai, the Chows have set up a charitable foundation to support families that cannot afford treatments, which may not be covered by insurance. The need is so great that the initial US\$10,000 raised by the foundation has already been spent. The center continues to receive applications and reviews them on a case-by-case basis to determine the chances for success, parental commitment to the therapy and financial status.

Find it: 19/F, 35 Yongjia Lu 永嘉路 35 号 19 楼, Tel: 5404-0058, [www.oliviasplace.org](http://www.oliviasplace.org)

## Artsy Immersion

An avant-garde art school just opened over in Gubei. The new salon, **Mier**, is attracting artists of all ages, nationalities and skill levels with a range of classes in art, music and dance. Mier also has a café and exhibition space students for students to display and sell their artwork. For budding Van Goghs, they offer classes in painting and sketching, as well as talks on art history and comparative lectures on art across countries. Little Mozarts can participate in private or group instrumental instruction, learning a range of genres from classical studies to jazz, and aspiring prima ballerinas will curtsy and twirl with professional Russian dancers.

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## Let Them Eat Cake

This couture cakery is making birthday wishes and wedding dreams come true with made-to-order cakes that are customized for each event. The cake artists at **Stir** start with a theme as design inspiration, then let their creativity run wild, creating hand-painted figurines and patterns, even topping off their delectable masterpieces with edible glitter. On the inside, these cakes are just as indulgent as they are creative. The bakers only use Felchin, a Swiss couverture chocolate, so as cake artist Jill Barker explains, "These are cakes you'll want to show, not share. Prices range from ¥1,200-1,800 based on the design, size and number of servings.

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