Highlights of CIUA Second Chinese Culture Festival

CIUA organized and hosted the Second Chinese Cultural Festival, which was very commendable in local circles. The Second Chinese Cultural Festival lasted for ten days and included diverse lectures and activities which met the needs of mainstream Americans who want to better understand Chinese culture. The Festival helped catalyze people’s interest in Chinese language and culture. The rich content of these activities included:

- Lecture Concert: Chinese Instrumental Music
- Forum: Meet the Composer – Mr. Wang Liping
- Chinese Language Day
- Lecture: “Finding them Gone” – Chinese Poems
- Lecture: Chinese Medicine – Massage and Acupuncture
- Lecture: “The Way of Telling a Story: Mo Yan and Contemporary Chinese Literature”
- Lecture & Movie: “Peony Pavilion”
- Chinese Health Day (continued on Page 2)

Implementation of the agreement signing ceremony:

UA with Hanban Confucius Institute Headquarters and CIUA with

On May 24, 2013 the University of Arizona and Hanban Confucius Institute Headquarters (Pic 1). Confucius Institute at the University of Arizona and China Shaanxi Normal University Shaanxi Normal University in Xi’an (Pic 2) both held an agreement implementation signing ceremony at the Hanban / Confucius Institute Headquarters in Beijing. The signing of these two agreements marks a big step forward in the collaboration between the University of Arizona and Hanban Confucius Institute. (Page 2)
In addition to the established "Chinese Health Day" and "Chinese Language Day" (which attracted 815 and 980 participants respectively), the brightest spot of this Culture Festival was the North American premiere of the symphonic suites, *Dream of the Red Chamber* on September 20th and 21st 2013. CIUA successfully co-hosted this concert with the Tucson Sino Choir and Music School of the University of Arizona. An ensemble of six musicians from the music college of Shaanxi Normal University also joined the performance. A concert hall of 600 seats was completely filled with enthusiastic audiences for the two concerts. The famous Chinese contemporary composer, Mr. Wang Liping made a special trip to the United States to provide guidance during the rehearsal and to attend the concert. Ms. Chen Li, who was the original singer in the 1987 version of the TV series, *The Dream of Red Chamber*, was the female soloist in this concert. Counselor Mr. Yuan Dong from the Consulate General of the People’s Republic China in Los Angeles and the Senior Vice President and Provost of the University of Arizona, Dr. Andrew Comrie attended the concert. Under the famous conductor Dr. Tom Cockrell’s direction, more than 200 performers (80% of whom had no Chinese heritage) from China and the United States took part in this concert. As a grand classical music tragedy, the suite *Dream of Red Chamber* aroused strong positive feelings for Chinese culture. CIUA has made every effort to promote new aspects of cultural exchange between China and America and has gained high praise and affirmation from the CGLA.

The Second Chinese Culture Festival also launched a series of lectures and concerts on Chinese culture, involving folk instrumental music, poetry, film, literature, martial arts, and health care, which offered important aspects of Chinese culture to local people. The symposium with composer Mr. Wang Liping attracted more than 120 people. More than 300 teachers and students from the Music School at the University of Arizona attended the lecture on Chinese music delivered by faculty from Shaanxi Normal University. Sinologist William Porter’s lecture on classical Chinese poetry, Professor Brigitta Lee’s literature on the film “The Peony Pavilion”, Professor Li Dian’s lecture “The Chinese Writer Mo Yan”, and Vice President of the Changchun University of Traditional Chinese Medicine, Professor Liu Mingjun’s lecture “On Traditional Chinese Medicine and Acupuncture”, attracted 400 audience members. Hundreds of attendees from all walks of life enjoyed these events. The audiences not only had the opportunity to hear about Chinese culture, but also engage in direct dialogue with the speakers.

The ceremony was hosted by Director Cao Deifeng, second deputy director of the Hanban Confucius Institute Headquarters, Deputy Director-General Wang Yongli also attended the signing ceremony. Also in attendance at the ceremony in Beijing were President and Provost, Dr. Andrew Comrie, UA Vice President of Public Health Iman Hakim, Confucius Institute Co-Directors Dr. Mike Proctor, Dean of the School of Education Ronald Marx, Con-Zhao Chen and Dr. John Olsen, cation Director John Huppenthal, tion Deputy Director Ralph ment of Education official Merle the ceremony by SNUU President the ceremony by SNUU President Zhang Jianxiang, Party Com-P-president of the International Han Academy  Pic 2 UA & SNUU Zhang Jiancheng, Director of the Development Research Center of Beijing Li Zongsi, and Deputy Director of International Exchange and Cooperation Zhang Lingyun.
In April 2013, two CIUA students, Jose and Anne, took part as representatives in the preliminary contest of the Sixth Chinese Bridge—Chinese Proficiency Competition for Foreign Secondary Students, held in San Diego. Through fierce competition, Jose and Anne respectively won the first and second prizes in the Southwest American region. Both were invited to travel to China to join the Final Contest of the Chinese Bridge. Under the instruction of CIUA teachers, Jose took part in the contest and won the third prize in the worldwide Chinese Bridge competition. Anne observed the competition and traveled in China with students from all over the world.

CIUA organized local teachers and students to watch the closing ceremony of this year’s Chinese Bridge. After viewing the program, many students expressed the hope that they one day might also go to summer camp in China, to participate in the "Chinese Bridge".

For more information please visit: http://bridge.chinese.cn/s06/

From September 28th to 30th in 2013, Program Manager of CIUA, Dr. Larry Lang (as representative of CIUA directors) participated in the first Joint Meeting of U.S. Confucius Institutes (Classrooms) hosted by Hanban. Director General of Hanban, Madam Xu Lin, addressed the delegates at the opening ceremony. She gave a brief introduction to the participants on the recent development of the Confucius Institutes around the world. During the two-day meeting, delegates received the news from representatives by the perspective departments from Hanban on major projects; they observed exemplary cases from six Confucius Institutes. At the closing ceremony, Deputy Director-General of Confucius Institutes Headquarters/Hanban, Mr. Yongli Wang, made his concluding remarks.

Dr. Larry Lang represented CIUA presented cultural activity reports in both Chinese and English to the headquarters/Hanban. Separated into eight panel discussion groups, the delegates also exchanged perspectives on “the Implementation of New Confucius Sinology Plan”, “core faculty plan”, “collaboration of Chinese language teacher program”, “local teachers training”, as well as planning for the 2014 “Confucius Institute Mandarin Day”, and many other issues. Dr. Larry Lang provided his respective points of view on the topics mentioned above; he also offered suggestions and constructive comments in the group discussion. CIUA was delighted by this opportunity to deepen their knowledge of one another, and the progression of sharing resources and exchange possibility in the future.

Ms. Ying Yuan, the Language Instructor at the Confucius Institute at the University of Arizona took part in the Hanban Teachers Fellowship Association at the Chinese Consulate in Los Angeles. Consul General, Ms. Lixin Bian, the Counselor for Education Mr. Dong Yuan and other officers of the Chinese consulate presented the meeting. There were more 20 teachers from the Los Angeles consular district took part in the meeting. In LA consular district there were six Confucius institutes, 45 Confucius classrooms. Ms. Yuan represented CIUA and made a speech at the meeting and introduced the Chinese teaching and cultural activities of CIUA. Teachers from SDSU, UCLA and UA exchanged the teaching experience and built up friendship through the meeting.
CIUA and Accelerated Learning Laboratory hold the first CIUA Confucius Classroom Dedication Ceremony

On Nov. 22nd 2013, CIUA co-Director Dr. Lang took part in the Dedication Ceremony of the CIUA Confucius Classroom at Accelerated Learning Laboratory (ALL), a local charter school in 1982. ALL School President Dr. David Jones, Claire Wang, and five CIUA teachers attended the ceremony and first grader and second graders to celebrate during the ceremony. CIUA sixth Annual World “Chinese Bridge” Contest.

Representatives at CIUA and ALL also finalized the 2014 new Chinese culture curriculum at ALL.

So far, CIUA has established two Confucius Classrooms, one is ALL, the other one is CFHS (Sunrise Drive Elementary School). CIUA looks forward to establishing more Confucius Classrooms in Tucson.

CIUA Chinese Culture Demonstration at Tucson Local Schools and Businesses

Between October 10 and October 22, the Confucius Institute at the University of Arizona Chinese Culture Demonstration Team based on enthusiastic invitations from local Tucson schools, and Chinese teachers successfully presented four Chinese cultural performances (or “Culture Demo”), which is also an annual event for some schools. They are BASIS Tucson North School, Catalina Foothills high school, International School of Tucson and Accelerated Learning Laboratory, which is a newly established Confucius classroom that is affiliated with CIUA. The CIUA Culture Demonstration Team members include Dr. Larry Lang, Ms. Yi Chen, martial arts and tai chi teacher Mr. Jun Ming Zhao and Mr. Yue Zhang, Chinese teachers Ms. Ying Yuan and Ms. Qiuhong Zhang, and Chinese traditional medicine teacher Mr. Jiaying Fan. The programs included Chinese martial arts and tai chi performances; Chinese folk instruments like the zither, Hulusi, flute and others; Chinese folk songs and kids’ songs, and a general introduction to traditional Chinese medicine.

As of October 24, the CIUA received a total of 565 questionnaires; the statistical results of which indicate that 91% of students like Asia or the Confucius Institute Chinese cultural demonstration very much, 7% of students responded "OK", while only 2% of students claimed to not like the program. In addition, the questionnaire also revealed students’ preferences among Chinese culture subjects, such as, 42% of students enjoy Chinese martial arts, 20% of students like Chinese folk music and instruments, 16% of students like Chinese language and songs, and 11% of students like Tai Chi and traditional Chinese medicine.

According to feedback received from Tucson primary and secondary school Chinese teachers, the regular Chinese cultural demonstration greatly improved the students’ interest in Chinese culture and learning Chinese, while promoting the Confucius Institute within local schools and school districts, which eventually won the support of both students and parents. Some of the parents and students strongly urged their school to offer elective Chinese music and Chinese martial arts courses or organize after-school clubs, to meet their Chinese language and Chinese culture needs and desires. School representatives and Chinese teachers also sent thank you letters and cards to CIUA, saying that they all had a wonderful time, and expressing their sincere appreciation. The CIUA Chinese cultural demonstration is like a Chinese cultural feast to most of the students who had never been to China themselves.
Huangshan was declared one of the “ten sites of scenic beauty and historic interest” by the Chinese government in 1986; the only mountainous scenic spot granted such a title. It was named a UNESCO World Cultural and Natural Heritage Site in 1990 and in 2004, Huangshan was placed on the list of global geoparks. In 2002, Huangshan was named the “sister peak” of Jungfrau in the Swiss Alps. Huangshan is well known for its pine trees, rock formations, the sea of clouds that surrounds it and its natural hot springs.

You will be amazed by the vitality and strength of the Huangshan pines that can be seen in every corner of the mountain. Pine seeds fall into rock crevices where they take root and grow with great vigor. The uneven terrain prevents the pines from growing upright; instead they become crooked and even grow downward on occasion.

Huangshan’s spectacular rocky peaks will inspire your imagination. Some look like human beings, birds and other animals or many other objects. Something that makes the stones even more fascinating is that they assume varied shapes when seen from different angles.

Mt. Huangshan is home to clouds and mist. The Sea of Clouds has a fairy tale beauty. Winter is the best season for observing this spectacle. If you climb up the Lotus Peak, the Heaven Capital Peak and the Bright Peak, you will find yourself above the level of the clouds and they appear as a sea beneath you. It is true that a similar phenomenon can be seen in many high mountains but Mt. Huangshan’s Sea of Clouds is unique, complemented by the mountain’s oddly shaped rocks and ancient pines.

To be able to refresh yourself in the hot springs on Mt. Huangshan must be one of the best ways to enjoy one’s visit and relax. Flowing from Purple Peak at an elevation of 850 meters (2,789 feet), the hot spring of Mt. Huangshan is the first stop following the park’s entrance.

Huangshan is a frequent subject of traditional Chinese paintings and literature, as well as modern photography. The mountains have also appeared in modern works. The creators of the 2009 film “Avatar” cited Huangshan as one of the inspirations for the movie sets depicting Pandora, the fictional world of that film.

Tour Information:
Students who take CIUA Tourism Chinese will be able to get China tour information, even opportunity to visit China together.
For more information, please visit:  http://confucius.arizona.edu/

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2014 CIUA Tentative Schedule:

♦ HSK&HSKK: Sat. May 10 & Dec. 6
♦ “Chinese Star” Summer Camp
  June 9th - 27th
♦ Third Chinese Culture Festival
  September 19th –27th

2014 CIUA Course Registration opens on

December 8th, 2013

♦ Language:
  Chinese for Tourists Level 1
  Chinese for Business Level 1 &2
  HSK Prep Levels 2-6

♦ Music:
  Ruan Performance
  Guzheng Performance
  Chinese Song Performance

♦ Martial Arts & Taiji

♦ Chinese Traditional Medicine and Wellness Culture

For details, please visit http://confucius.arizona.edu/classes

Thank you for supporting CIUA!

2014 CIUA New Course:

For thousands of years, Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) – especially acupuncture, massage and the China’s unique wellness culture -- has played a central role in protecting people’s health. Although these treatments are sometimes regarded with suspicion they have no ill effects on the human body and, in fact, increasing numbers of people around the world receive and study them on a regular basis. After completing the course, students will gain theoretical knowledge of TCM and wellness culture, as well as have the ability to perform simple massage exercises. Instructor: Mr. Jiaying Fan, Henan University of Traditional Chinese Medicine, China.