



孔子学院

CONFUCIUS INSTITUTE
AT ALFRED UNIVERSITY

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2011

Chinese 101 and 201 at Alfred University

Chinese 101, a beginning Chinese course, and Chinese 201, an advanced Chinese course, began on Aug 29th and 30th at Alfred University. The 22 students registered for Chinese 101 began learning Chinese language and culture under the instruction of Shirley Zhu from CIAU. Students stated their reasons for learning Chinese ranged from basic interest in the culture to hopes of finding a good job in the future by means of being able to communicate in Chinese. All the students expressed their wish to take the HSK test to test their Chinese proficiency after one semester of study. Two students who have completed two semesters of Chinese study continue to move toward an intermediate level of Chinese proficiency.



Guzheng Class at Alfred University

This semester, Daisy Wu, CIAU's music teacher, is offering a new music course featuring the traditional Chinese stringed instrument, Guzheng. Her Guzheng class, which began on Aug 29, is held in the

Performing Arts Center of Alfred University where students meet every Monday and Wednesday morning. Among the eight students in the class, seven are American and one is Chinese. The students are first learning some basic Guzheng skills and then learning to play 5-6 Chinese songs and also 2-3 American songs as well this semester. The Guzheng class will give a recital performance on November 20th in Susan Howell Hall.

Chinese classes at Naples Central School District

Chinese class in Naples High school taught by CIAU instructor Ronald Zhang began on Monday, Sept 5. The students, all beginners, will attend class at 1:45pm-2:30pm on every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Students are diligent and are expected to reach HSK-Level 1 after the learning for a whole school year.

In the meantime, Chinese class in Naples elementary school began on Monday, Sept 26. 22 students in grades 3 to 6 take the class on every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Students are very excited to study Chinese and they are expected to reach YCT-1 within the school year.



Moon Festival Celebration at Alfred University

On the evening of Sept 10, Susan Howell Hall at Alfred University was full of people from the community to celebrate the Chinese traditional Moon Festival. The celebration, sponsored by Confucius Institute at Alfred University for the third year, was well received and highly affirmed by the 180 people in attendance.

The celebration was started by a variety of cultural activities held on the second floor of Susan Howell Hall. The 20 people who have been practicing Tai Chi in the past two months wore their silk Tai Chi outfits and performed 24-Styles of Tai Chi Quan in front of over 100 guests. They showed everybody their commitment, enthusiasm and love for Tai Chi.

On the other side of the second floor, Chinese traditional paper-cutting and calligraphy also drew a lot of attention from guests. They were so amazed by Chinese characters and traditional folk art that they could not help but take up the brushes and scissors to make their own works of art.

Dinner was served after the cultural activities. Distinguished guest, President Charles Edmondson of Alfred University, gave a speech to every guest present and extended his best wishes to all on this special occasion of China.

The director of the Confucius Institute at Alfred University, Dr. Wilfred Huang,

followed the president's speech, welcoming all the guests to this event. He also introduced the faculty members and the Chinese Scholar Student Association members to all, expressing his appreciation of all the Chinese promotions they have made. Distinguished guests also included the Provost of Alfred University Bill Hall, Associate Provost Nancy Evangelista, and professors from Engineering and the school of art. CIAU teacher, Margaret Lin, danced a traditional folk dance of Inner Mongolia and sent the two precious Hadas to the President and Provost.

Traditional Chinese food and moon cakes were served afterwards.

Performances prepared by the faculty of CIAU were presented to everybody at the end of the dinner. They sang several songs related to moon with the music of Guzheng and showed everybody the vitality and energy of CIAU. American students who are now learning Chinese 101 at Alfred University also sang "The Moon Represents My Heart" together with their Chinese instructor Shirley Zhu, which won rounds of applauses from the audience.

The celebration was wrapped up in the happiness filled the whole hall. People all expressed their thanks and appreciation to CIAU to present such a wonderful celebration to the community.



Chinese class at North Hornell Elementary School, Hornell City School District

Starting on Sept 13, Chinese instructor Rosa Luo from CIAU began teaching around 150 students in 6 Kindergarten classes and 7 Grade 1 classes at North Hornell Elementary School in Hornell City School District. Students show great interests in learning Chinese and Chinese culture. Hornell City School District has received the FLAP grants for carrying out Chinese program and this is the third year it has been in cooperation with CIAU.



Southeast Chinese Language Conference

On Sept 17, Program Manager Shirley Zhu attended the first Southeast Chinese Language Conference held in Charleston, South Carolina and presented at the panel discussion about the K-12 Chinese language teaching.



TaiChi classes at Alfred University

On Sept 19, TaiChi master Guifang Liu began another two TaiChi classes at Alfred University, one in the mornings and one in the evenings on every Monday, Tuesday and Thursday till Oct 28. The morning classes are featured

with teaching of 24-Style TaiChi Quan to beginners, while the evening classes focus on the teaching of Swimming Dragon Quan --- an advanced class for those who have already learned 24-Style TaiChi Quan in the summer. She will be demonstrating the steps of TaiChi and leading participants through this complex martial art. This two classes has been welcomed by students, faculty, staff, and members of the public at Alfred community.



Chinese Classes in C.R. Weeks Elementary School, Windsor Central School District

Starting Sept 20, CIAU instructor Margaret Lin will work with 287 students from Prekindergarten to 5th Grade in C.R. Weeks Elementary School, Windsor Central School District, on every Tuesdays and Wednesdays to teach Chinese language and culture. Students showed excitement and great interest in learning about Chinese language and culture including Chinese words and Chinese characters writing, Chinese traditional songs, and Chinese cultural festivals and celebrations.



Class Visit at Alfred University

On Sept 21, Chinese Instructor of the CIAU Huiyang Li was invited by Dr. Christopher Churchill, Assistant Professor of History and Global Studies at Alfred University to give two guest lectures about Chinese history, culture in his class.

Huiyang Li first made a brief summary of 20th century's Chinese history and then introduced Beijing Opera, including the arts of facial make-up, costumes and musical dialogues. He also touched on some introduction of CIAU and its fast-developing growth in the past two and half year.

Students showed much passion for the classes and Dr. Christopher Churchill commented "I thought they were really interesting".

Visit of CUG delegation

From Sept. 21 – 22, delegates Ms. Qinwen Zhu, Deputy Secretary General of China University of Geosciences (CUG in Wuhan); Prof. Mingxin Yang, Dean of Gemological Institute of China; Mr. Quwen Wan, Curator of Hubei Province Museum; and Deputy Dean of School of International Education of CUG, Prof. Lijun Zhang, paid a visit to Alfred University. The group visited the Confucius House and had a meeting with all the CIAU instructors. They listened to the report about the past two and half years and discussed the future development of CIAU. The delegates then had a meeting with President Edmondson in the morning of Sept 22, where they discussed possible further cooperation and academic exchanges between the two universities. The delegates then toured the School of Art and Design under the guidance of Dean Leslie Bellavance before leaving AU

after a successful visit in the afternoon on Sept 22.



Chinese Classes in George F. Johnson Elementary School, Union-Endicott Central School District

Since Sept 22, students in art and music class at George F. Johnson Elementary School in Union-Endicott Central School District have been taking Mandarin classes twice a week with CIAU instructor Margaret Lin. Classes are tailored to appeal to the young students with a brief introduction to modern China, Chinese culture, arts-and-crafts activities such as drawing pandas, paper-cuttings, calligraphy plus learning songs and useful sentences to emphasize the language. Students displayed a great deal of interests in learning about Chinese language and culture.



Chinese class in Genesee Valley Central School District

Chinese class in Genesee Valley Central School District, a new school district in cooperation with CIAU, began on Sept 23 taught by CIAU instructor Jenny Zhang. The Chinese class will cover

about 139 students from 3-9 grades, which is a great opportunity for both the students and teachers to better understand China. They all showed curiosity on various aspects about China, and a strong desire to learn about Chinese culture.

Chinese lessons in North Syracuse Central School District

From Sept 26, 2011, two CIAU teachers Katie Wang and Emma Wang, began to present 6th and 7th graders at Roxboro Road Middle School and Gillette Road middle School with Chinese cultures and language in North Syracuse Central School District. Each week, about 300 students from at least 10 classes will learn the brief introduction to China, including Geography, Chinese four tones, Chinese Written System, the Great wall, the Forbidden City, 2008 Olympic Games, Typical Chinese food, Chinese Animal Zodiac, and etc. The American students also love to count the Chinese 10 numbers along with the Chinese sign language. The students as well as the teachers welcome the lessons with active interactions in class, hoping to know more about China and Mandarin Chinese.



CCA Mid-Autumn Festival Celebration

On Saturday Sept 24, all faculty of CIAU attended the Mid-Autumn Festival Celebration sponsored by Corning Chinese Association in Watkins Glen State Park. Director of CIAU Dr. Huang

introduced the new Chinese teachers and led the group for a hike, enjoying the beautiful sceneries. All the Chinese expressed their missing mood to the family members in China and extended their best wishes to each other. The atmosphere of the celebration was warm and friendly and this strengthened the connection between CIAU and CCA.



Chinese Classes at Avon Central School District

Chinese classes are offered to students at Avon Central School District starting on Sept 27. Avon Central School District is located in the town of Avon, New York State with a total enrollment of about 1000 students. Chinese Language class will be given to 5th grade students every Tuesday, and Chinese enrichment class will be carried out from first to fourth grades. It is expected that nearly 150 students will be enrolled into Chinese language classes where they will learn about Chinese language and culture. CIAU instructor Huiyang Li is the teacher there.



Guzheng Class in Naples Elementary School

The Guzheng class taught by Music teacher began in Naples Elementary School on Monday Sept 26. 10 students from 3rd to 6th grades were enrolled in the class and they will meet every Monday afternoon for an hour. Students will learn some basic Guzheng playing skills and learn how to play 3 songs in this fall. Students in Guzheng class will give a performance at the 2011 Fall Concert of Naples Centre School District.

Exhibition on costume and makeup of Beijing Opera

Confucius Institute is presenting an exhibition of the costume and makeup for Beijing Opera at the east wing of Herrick Library at Alfred University from October 3 to November 4. A video on how to do makeup in Beijing Opera is shown every Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 2:30pm to 4:30pm. Interactive software, which enables the audience to learn about the history, different characters, costumes in Beijing Opera, is also played on site. People who have stopped by to watch the video have been impressed and even amazed by the effort and detail which goes into the makeup and costumes of Beijing Opera. This exhibition has earned many positive comments and much praise from the audience.



Ceramic Artist Tour

On October 7, Professor Debiao Ouyang arrived at Alfred University and started his two-week Ceramic tour of upstate New York. Professor Ouyang visited Alfred University and all 8 school districts now in cooperation with CIAU. He went to the art classes and introduced traditional Chinese pottery and porcelain art to students in K-12 schools. He showed the students and teachers a vivid slides show with photos and video about how to make Chinese traditional blue and white porcelain and he also demonstrated on the potter's wheel about how he would make a piece of artistic pottery. With his guidance, students also tried to create their own works of art.

Professor Ouyang, a member of the Chinese National Artists' Association, is now a professor teaching in the School of Arts and Communication, China University of Geosciences (Wuhan).



Chinese Tea Ceremony at C.R. Weeks Elementary School, Windsor Central School District

On Oct 18, Margaret Lin and Dong Fengbing presented traditional Chinese tea ceremony to 5th graders at C.R. Weeks Elementary School. Margaret Lin introduced Chinese tea culture and Dong Fengbing demonstrated the art of making Chinese tea. Dr. Jason A. Andrews, superintendant of WCSD and Ms. Lisa, Milano principal of C. R.

Weeks attended the tea ceremony.
Students showed great interests in
Chinese tea philosophy and tea tasting.



Upcoming Events

Nov 15: Presentation on Chinese culture
at Rochester Early College
School

Nov 18-19: Exhibition at 2011
ACTFL(American Council on
the Teaching of Foreign
Languages) Convention and
World Language Expo

Dec 4: HSK test at Room 105, Perlman
Hall, Alfred University

Dec 12-15: 6th Confucius Institute
Conference in Beijing

CIAU

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