



孔子学院

CONFUCIUS INSTITUTE
AT ALFRED UNIVERSITY

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2018

Headquarters

CIAU Commemorated Its 10-Year Anniversary

On November 2nd, CIAU commemorated its 10-year anniversary on the Alfred University campus. University President Mark Zupan, Provost Rick Stephens, Chinese Counselor of Education in New York Yang Jun, and China University of Geosciences (Wuhan) Vice President Lai Xulong were present and gave sincere congratulations and credit on the accomplishment of CIAU.



Group photo of performers and audience

At 4:30 pm, over 130 people were invited to the reception dinner in the Alfred University Knight Club. President Zupan and counselor Yang Jun each delivered a speech respectively and expressed their supportive wishes on CIAU. CIAU Director Wilfred Huang proudly introduced the CIAU teaching team to all the guests and expressed his gratitude for their hard work.

At 7:30 pm, more than 300 people from Wellsville, Geneva, Syracuse, and Rochester went to Miller Theater to attend the marvelous gala, which presented teaching achievements and Chinese traditional music. Ceramic artist Wayne Higby delivered a speech about the cultural and educational connection between China and the United States. Wilfred Huang was awarded the “Order of Merit” prize for more than one decade

of remarkable contributions to the Confucius Institute. Not only did Tai Chi group, Chinese classes and Guzheng classes at Alfred University performed, but also elementary school students from the Chinese Immersion Program in GSD sang Chinese children's songs. Many excellent Chinese artists also performed after the intermission: Lin Ma and Yuxiao Chen performed pipa and bamboo flute; Qiushi Xu and Zichen He performed Beijing Opera; Yue Yuan and the Chinese Art Troupe from the University of Geosciences (Wuhan) performed Chinese traditional songs and dances with AU chorus.

Swimming Dragon Sect. and Health Workshop

On November 4, "Swimming Dragon Sect. and Health Workshop" was hosted successfully in Nevins Theater, Powell Campus Center. Master Shihai Yu and Dr. Liping Zhu both gave lectures on stories behind Swimming Dragon, Tai Chi, and Health, respectively. Later, a dinner party was thrown in Confucius House in order to provide a chance for a deeper communication and interaction

between the Alfred Tai Chi group and Tai Chi masters.



Group photo of presenters and audience

Impressive Performances from Chinese Artist Troupe



Chinese artist troupe performing Chinese folk dance

Chinese artist troupe hit a record high with over 4,000 audience including the students, parents and teachers from North Syracuse Central School District, Geneva City School District, Northstar Christian

Academy, and Bishop Kearney High School. Seven shows in four different schools were all marvelous and impressive.

Bishop Kearney High School

On November 7, Bishop Kearney High School celebrated the 10th anniversary of CIAU. Both Principal Jason Simoni and international project leader Mrs. Jolene Bowser presented this celebration gala. Chinese artist troupe performed Chinese folk songs and dance, garnering many rounds of applause. In addition, Chinese class representative Mary delivered a speech.



Group picture of Chinese artist troupe, Principle and international project leader

On November 13, CIAU Chinese Director Yu Jijun came to the Bishop Kearney High School to hear Ms. Tao

Xiaochao's Chinese classes. After the classes, Director Yu and Ms. Tao discussed classroom management, standardization of Chinese pinyin and different classroom games for students with different personalities.



Ms. Tao Xiaochao's Chinese class



Game-playing to practice Chinese characters

Geneva North Street School

On October 30, the 2nd graders in Chinese immersion class performed

a “Fall Poetry Reading” in both English and Mandarin. The parents were amazed that their children could do so well in both languages and so proud that they were able to speak lots of Chinese. What’s more, the principal appreciated the event in his e-mail to CIAU Teacher Ms. Zhang, “The children did a fantastic job. Great job to you and Lucy on preparing them for the performance. They used so many props and kept them all straight. That in itself was impressive. Let alone the students composed pieces and presenting in both languages.”



Liping Ding’s Chinese Immersion Class
Performing “Fall Poetry Reading”



2nd graders’ parents enjoying “Thoughts in the Silent Night”

To celebrate upcoming Christmas, Liping (Lucy) Ding’s students were busy making holiday decorations for their classroom with their parents. Those young students decorated ornaments with Chinese characters meaning “Merry Christmas”, “May you have a great holiday” and so on. The parents were deeply impressed by the nice and neat Chinese characters their children wrote. Some of them followed their children to write the Chinese characters, too. One of the parents found it amusing, saying “Lots of fun with Chinese characters!”



Students and parents writing Chinese characters



Ms. Ding and her student decorating the Jingle Bell

On December 21, Ms. Ding and the 2nd graders in Chinese Immersion Class made a puppet “Rudolph”. Meanwhile, Ms. Ding also presented the Chinese traditional culture “puppet play” to the students. They loved it, and hoped to visit China to enjoy it. One of the students said, “After I master Chinese, I wanna do the puppet play.”



Students making puppet “Rudolph”



Students enjoying puppet play themselves

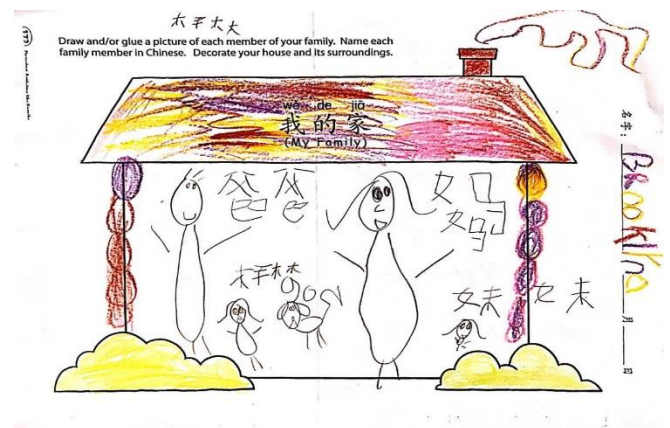
Since Thanksgiving Day was just around the corner, Ms. Gu taught

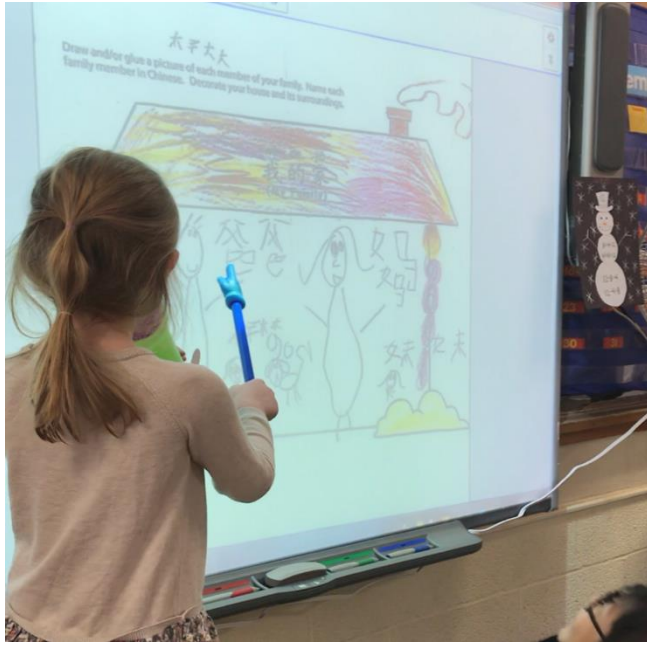
her 1st graders to make a turkey puppet on November 20. Her students were so excited to do the craft. They said “Xiexie,” which means thank you in Chinese, every time they opened the turkey’s mouth.



Students enjoy playing turkey puppets

On December 6, the 1st graders learned Chinese words about family members. They were super focused on drawing their own family pictures and labeled each person in Chinese carefully. They couldn’t wait to introduce their family to their classmates.





Mulin introduces her family members.

On December 20, students got a Chinese fan as a Christmas present from Ms. Mengqi Gu. They were so happy. One of the students said “Gu Laoshi, this is the best fan I have ever got. I like it so much.”



The kids “show off” their Chinese fans

On December 21st, before Christmas break, Ms. Gu received a lot of gifts from her students. One of the precious gifts is a letter from a parent. It said, “Remi loves Chinese so much, and it’s clear that this has a lot to do with your influence. She loves to speak in Chinese, to write it when she makes pictures at home. She even plays teacher and teaches her little sisters Chinese lessons.” These words are so touching that Ms. Gu feels that everything she has done is worthwhile and meaningful.

November 5th is a normal Chinese Immersion teaching day. Today we reviewed how to say “big” and “small” in Chinese. It was easy for kids to speak out “big and small”, “an apple is bigger than a strawberry” and “a strawberry is smaller than an apple”. It was amazing that Xiao Ai could share with her classmate, An Sheng how to understand and memorize those two Chinese sentences. Then kids watched a short video called “Small Tadpoles Looking for Their Mother” which involved many words they learned about family members, big, small, etc. They could

retell the story despite some new words. The kids love learning Mandarin by watching videos.



Our kids love handcraft-making very much. Although it is the first time



for them to make Chinese lanterns, their craftwork is just as beautiful as their smiles. They review the Chinese words about shapes and colors, such as rectangle, circle, square, red, green, blue, and yellow while making the lanterns. Moreover, they learn about the traditional Chinese New Year culture.

In Wang Na's Chinese language and culture class, the kindergarteners are learning to sing the song *You Are My Good Friend* in Chinese. They have learnt such Chinese songs as *Hello* and *Count Numbers*. Many of them can count the numbers from 0-10 randomly.



For Thanksgiving Day, Ms. Wang cut pumpkin with the 1st graders and play games with them. Meanwhile, she compared Chinese Mid-autumn Day with Thanksgiving Day, helping kids understand that in different cultures some different festivals convey the same meanings to give thanks to nature, love of life, and love of family.



Malina, a 1st grader, loves learning Mandarin very much and does really good job in learning to speak Mandarin and singing Mandarin songs. She is reading a Chinese book called *A Greedy Worm* in Mandarin class.

Besides language teaching work at school, Ms. Wang always tries to make friends in the community and introduce Chinese culture to those who have interest in it. She was invited to Wilmart's house and in the

picture she is showing how to make jiaozi to Wilmart and her 84-year-old mother. They like Chinese jiaozi. Wilmart asked about Chinese potato cuisine and Na Wang showed her how to cook Sour and Hot Shredded Potatoes, and the family enjoyed the dish very much.



Na Wang is teaching how to make "jiaozi"



On the Festival of Nations in Geneva held on November 10, Na Wang performed a tea ceremony for the visitors.

On November 5, the students in the third Grade learned Chinese characters about directions. Ms. Zhang Li taught them by means of body language. Students were very excited to know how to give directions in Chinese.



On November 9, Ms. Zhang showed her students how to make a traditional Chinese craft, the paper fortune teller. The students loved it, and they practiced what they had learned by craft-making.



On November 15, Ms. Zhang taught her students to sing the Chinese version of *Mary Had a Little Lamb*. Students were so happy to sing the song. They also learned how to say “sheep, lamb, white, fleece” in Chinese from the song.

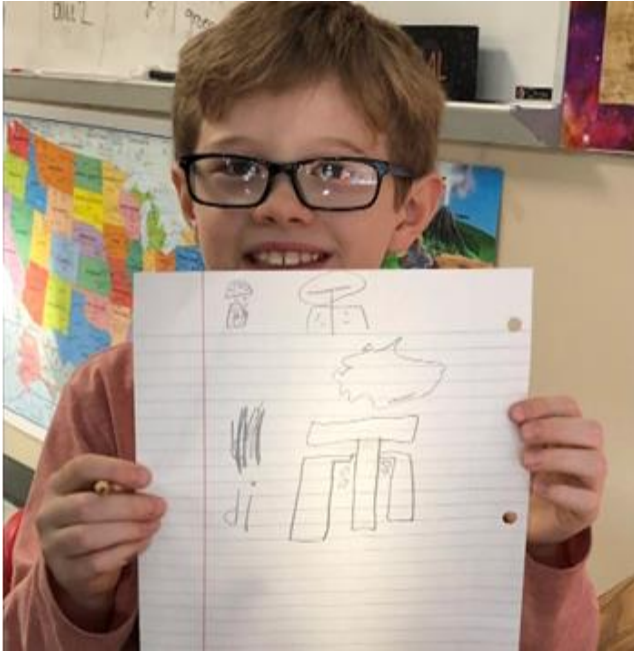
Ms. Zhang demonstrated to her students the development of the Chinese character “羊” (sheep), its cultural implications and its writing order. Martin showed great interest in writing this Chinese character.



On November 20, Ms. Zhang taught her students the Chinese characters about shopping on Black Friday. They learn how to say “I go shopping for...” in Chinese and practiced it in their classroom market.

On December 6, Ms. Zhang taught students how to talk about

weather in Mandarin. Her students learned how to memorize the words by using body language and drawing. The students began to give a weather report in their morning meeting in Chinese ever since.



Owen in grade 3 draws a picture to show the meaning of the Chinese character.



On December 20, Ms. Zhang taught the students to sing Christmas

songs in Chinese, learn some vocabulary about Christmas, and make Christmas wreaths. They were excited about the topic since Christmas was around the corner.

Northstar Christian Academy

A Chinese concert was successfully held in Northstar Christian Academy on November 7 from 10:00 to 11:00am. More than 200 students, teachers, as well as parents enjoyed the show. Professor Yu and Miss Lin from Confucius Institute attended the Concert. The troupe from China Geosciences University (Wuhan) put on a wonderful show for NCA with various programs of Chinese characteristics.



Group photo of performers and staff

K-6 students performed three Chinese songs with props and moves, and High school students Gage and William sang two Chinese songs. The audience loved Chinese traditional instruments, like Chinese zither and cucurbit flute. They were amazed by the stunning dancing.

Teachers and parents spoke highly of the concert. Principal Boshnack praised Chinese teachers Ms. Wenfang Gao and Ms. Yang Yang in the monthly staff meeting saying, “Thank you for your work with Chinese Concert today! It’s a positive attitude to our school. To bring in different cultures is one of great things to get students opportunities and to be creative. I don’t believe if any Christian Academy can do like this or if they have this program. But we can and I want to be unique.” The 2nd grade teacher Ms. Leonard said, “I like the dancing program. It caught my eyes. And my students like Chinese very much, so that’s why they did an awesome job today in the gym.” Gaby’s mom said, “Gaby likes learning Chinese very much. Every

time she speaks Chinese, I feel confused but I’m proud of her.” Some parents brought their friends to the Chinese Concert.



Chinese dance by Huang Mingren



k-2 graders perform Goose song

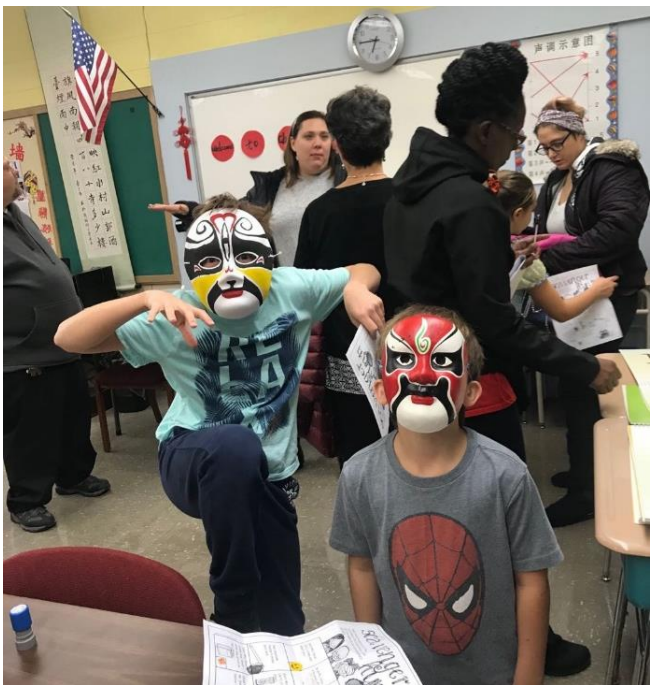


Gage Wheaton and Yifeng Huang sing Chinese songs “Rice Fragrance” and “The Moon Represents My Heart”.

On Nov. 17, Chinese teachers brought a wonderful taste and other activities to the whole school. Up to 120 students and their parents joined us. They showed their interest and curiosity to Chinese chopsticks, writing brush, shuttlecock, and Beijing Opera masks.



Two sixth graders write characters with brushes.



Two students try Beijing Opera masks.



Students and parents having fun

North Syracuse School District

Chinese Art Troupe from the University of Geosciences (Wuhan) visited North Syracuse School District. On November 5, and performed Chinese dances, Chinese songs and traditional Chinese instruments at Roxboro Road Middle School. Some 5th and 6th graders sang



the *Twinkle Twinkle Little Star* in Chinese. Both the teachers and students enjoyed the fantastic show.



On December 13, Winter Wonderland event was held at Allen Road Elementary School. The evening provided students, staff and parents with a fantastic opportunity to learn about cultures around the globe. Invited by Ms. Wheeler, ESL teacher, Ping (Kevin) Wang, Yi (Joy) Zhang, Yuanhuan (Beverly) He, Linyun (Linda) Gao and their family members presented Chinese culture that night. There were paper cuttings, Beijing opera, Chinese knots and fans on display. Besides, every student had the opportunity to make a Chinese lantern. The event was an enormous success with more than 400

participants. People came to know more about Chinese culture from the event. At last, Ping (Kevin) Wang gave two Chinese knots as gifts in the ESL classroom. Ms. Wheeler appreciated the gifts and spoke highly of the Chinese culture presentations.



Upcoming Events

On Feb. 8, CIAU will celebrate **Spring Festival** on Knight Club, Powell Center.

Marvelous performances and delicious food will be provided. Free admission with tickets. Tickets are available in Olin 211.

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