



CONFUCIUS INSTITUTE NEWSLETTER

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June

NCI Staff and Staff Kids Provided Performance on UNNC Staff Night



28 May at the DH Lawrence Auditorium, NCI staff and staff kids provided a performance on the UNNC Staff Night. The performance was a violin and piano ensemble accompanied with dance. It was the first time for the NCI to provide performance on Staff Night.

Farewell to Dora He



30 May was the last working day for CI's Mandarin teaching volunteer Dora He. Dora joined us in September 2020 and was in charge of the HSK 3 group class and private class. During her service at CI, she showed solid knowledge in her profession and excellent personal talents. After the internship at UNNC CI, Dora would come back to her home school – Renmin University - to finish her master degree programme and would serve as a volunteer for the 2022 Winter Olympics. Many thanks to Dora and wish her a bright future.

Cross Cultural Event – Dragon Boat Festival



9 Jun at MN Canteen, about 30 staff participated in the zongzi DIY activity to celebrate the Dragon Boat Festival. This event was jointly organized by the Confucius Institute and HR Department.

Dragon Boat Festival is on the fifth day of the fifth month in the lunar calendar. There were many custom on the day. In ancient time, people believed the fifth month was an unlucky month because natural disasters and illnesses were common in the month. Therefore, they hung calamus and artemisia on the door, hoping the sword shaped herb and the herb's strong smell could remove the evil spirits. Meanwhile, they wore fragrant sachets to avoid poisonous animals approaching to them in order to avoid diseases. People also race dragon boats and eat zongzi to memorize a patriotic poet Qu Yuan.



After learning the origin of the festival, participants started to make zongzi under the guidance of the masters. They showed great interests in the event and many of them claimed that they hope that there would be more activities on Chinese culture.

Cross Cultural Event—Tea Ceremony



16 Jun at TB 228 from 2:00-4:00pm, Confucius Institute co-organized the Cross Culture Workshop: Tea Culture Workshop. About 10 staff joined the session. Under the guidance of the instructor, the participants closed their eyes and took a deep relax. Then they had a taste of the tea, and listened to the introduction about the Chinese tea culture. The fragrant smell and relaxed environment left very enjoyable impression to the participants.

HSK Test



Chinese Proficiency Test

汉语水平考试

19 Jun, 49 candidates sat the HSK test at Room 331 Portland Building, making the overall number of HSK candidates hit 170 in this semester. Due to relocation of the computer lab, HSK test will be temporarily dormant in the following few months. The re-open schedule will be in accord with the process of office move.

Cross Cultural Event—Field Trip to Cicheng



19 Jun, under the jointly organization of Human Resources Department and Confucius Institute, 12 UNNC staff participated in the last cross-cultural event of this semester – a field trip to Cicheng. Cicheng located in the north part of Ningbo city. The old town was established in 2500 years ago. Nowadays, the architecture still remained Ming Dynasty style. After visiting the old lanes and buildings, the participants tried to make a type of typical local food called Nian Gao (rice cake). Nian Gao is made by repeatedly hammered rice. In Cicheng, the tradition to make Nian Gao could date back to over a thousand years. In Chinese language, the pronunciation of Nian Gao can be interpreted as 'better and better year after year'. Therefore, it is a favorable and popular food.

Interview Mandarin Teaching Volunteers



23 and 29 Jun at Room 138 Trent Building, NCI staff interviewed candidates for the position of Mandarin teaching volunteers for 2021-22 academic year. The candidates presented their Mandarin language teaching skills and shared experiences in organizing Chinese culture. Amongst them, 2 of the most outstanding candidates will be selected and work at CI to deliver Mandarin classes to international students and staff.



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