Live Confucian: The Newsletter of the Confucius Institute of Pace University February 2014

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.pace.edu/confucius_institute_newsletter

Part of the Chinese Studies Commons

Recommended Citation
http://digitalcommons.pace.edu/confucius_institute_newsletter/3

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by DigitalCommons@Pace. It has been accepted for inclusion in Live Confucian by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@Pace. For more information, please contact rracelis@pace.edu.
An Historic Day for Cultural Exchange  

By Dr. Min Zhu

On Tuesday, October 8th, 2013 the Confucius Institute at Pace University (Pace CI) and Nanjing Normal University (NNU), one of the Pace CI’s Chinese partner institutions, co-hosted a Chinese Culture Day and welcoming reception for a visiting delegation of NNU faculty and students. Leaders from the two universities attending the events included NNU Vice President Miao Jiandong and Foreign Affairs Division Director Gao Liping, and from Pace, Provost Dr. Uday Sukhatme and Dean of Dyson College, Dr. Nira Herrmann.

Starting at 10:00 am, Pace and NNU leaders held a conference on the details of all-around cooperation between the two universities, focusing on the Confucius China Study Plan (CCSP), drawing up a blueprint for faculty and student exchange in the future. At the end of the meeting, Provost Uday Sukhatme and Vice President Miao Jiandong, on behalf of both universities, signed an historical cooperation and exchange agreement. Another important aspect of the Chinese Culture Day was a fair attracting Americans to study and work at NNU.

(Continued on Page 11)

Viewing Life Through Chinese Opera  

By Ansel Lurio

As part of an expanded New York City Opera Society’s (NYCOS) Winter Cultural Festival the Pace CI had the honor of once again co-hosting two performances of world class Peking Opera on Friday, December 6th and Sunday, December 8th, 2013. In addition to the opera performances, the festival, the seventh annual held, also included a couple of lectures on Peking Opera and an afternoon Tea and Calligraphy session with opera star Jianguo Zhang from Beijing, held at the Flushing Public Library in the week before the performances.

I had the privilege to attend three of the operas at the performance on December 6th. Preceding the performances the Pace CI presented awards of appreciation to the guest artists who were performing with NYCOS that evening. They included the opera stars Jianguo Zhang, Yanji Yang from Toronto and Rujun Wu from Tokyo. Two awards were also given to China National Peking Opera Company members, Drummer Mr. Bin Li and Accompanist Mr. Yang Li.

(Continued on Page 3)
Dear Friends,

This May, the Confucius Institute at Pace University will celebrate its fifth anniversary. Over the years we have gradually established our name as an important cultural center in the Lower Manhattan area. The Pace CI is dedicated to academic and cultural programs that engage not only the Pace community but communities in New York and beyond. Here is just a brief list of what we have achieved over these five short years:

1. Pace professors from all corners of the University participated in two sessions of the Confucius Institute faculty seminar. Together, they offered ten courses that integrated Chinese language and culture into course content, providing a unique academic experience to the Pace community.

2. Bringing six language professors to Pace University from Chinese universities to offer high caliber Chinese language and cultural courses.

3. Initiating a comprehensive Mandarin learning system composed of classroom lessons, weekly “Chinese Corner” community activities, cultural events, and online learning.

4. Compiling a series of textbooks and online learning materials.

5. Setting up the first online HSK test center in Greater New York in 2012.

6. Inaugurating the first Chinese Corner in New York City in 2011 for people to practice Chinese language, learn about Chinese customs, and to learn how to better communicate with Chinese people both in New York and in China.

7. Awarding ten students Confucius Institute Scholarships to study in China for one month to two years.

8. Cohosting the Chinese Bridge Language Proficiency Competition in the Eastern US four years in a row, attracting talented college students from ten different states to compete and perform at Pace.

9. Cohosting summer camps for lower-income children to learn about Chinese language and culture, offering mini-series introducing Chinese culture in New York City public schools and various cultural centers, and organizing Chinese Culture Days.

10. Sponsoring more than 50 different cultural events and academic conferences that have introduce the local community to Chinese language culture, connecting with more than 10,000 people from all over New York City and beyond.

The list can go on and on. In the future, we would like to see the Pace CI become a platform not only for cultural exchange, but as a continuing educational center to help people grow and to develop and sharpen their skills to be more successful. In the Chinese Zodiac, this is the year of the horse, a symbol of courage, adventure, and success. I hope that the Confucius Institute can work with you to maximize your potential, help you to find various learning and scholarship opportunities, and be more successful in the future.

If you have not already done so, I would like to invite you to join the Pace CI community, visit our website at www.pace.edu/confucius, and subscribe to our email list to be notified of new programs and events.

Dr. Weihua Niu

Director, Confucius Institute at Pace University

ci@pace.edu
Chinese Opera (continued from page 1)

The first opera I saw was “Goddess Showering Flowers from Heaven,” an artistic interpretation of a Buddhist sutra in which the Buddha brings flowers from heaven to help the bodhisattva Vimalakirti recover from an illness. Ms. Yingchun Li interpreted the story not only through singing but also through a beautiful dance with multicolored scarves that dazzled the audience. In comparison to the heavenly lightness of the first opera the second opera brought the audience into the depths of hell. In the opera “Judge Bao Prosecuting a Corrupt Judge from Hell,” Judge Bao travels into hell to reverse a wrong. Preceding the action, Yan’s fiancée Liu, was murdered by Li but Yan was wrongfully accused and executed instead. Judge Bao is not convinced and descends into hell, where he checks the Book of Death. Yan is listed as the murderer but Bao also comes across a “wandering soul” who tells Bao otherwise. The soul tells Bao that the judge who keeps the Book of Death (who happens to be Li’s uncle) has changed the entry. Judge Bao succeeds in taking all those involved to the Earth and retry the case, where the corrupt judge from hell is found guilty.

The last opera I saw, “Bringing up Mencius” was a humorous gender-bending take on the early life of the famous philosopher. Mencius’s father has just passed away and the plot centers on Mencius’s aunt attempting to throw Mencius and his mother out of her house. In the first of two acts, Mencius’s aunt and uncle argue about throwing Mencius and his mother out of their house. In a reversal of traditional roles, the aunt (who is played by a man) is very domineering while the uncle is quite subservient. Of course, the aunt gets her way, and in the next scene we see Mencius’s mother bemoaning her fate and what is to become of her son. She worries that he is neglecting his studies and playing hooky. To make Mencius seem as youthful as possible, the young philosopher is played by a woman. Into this scene, the aunt and uncle enter and tell Mencius’s mother about the ultimatum to leave their house. His mother is about to acquiesce when Mencius angrily tells his aunt that they can’t kick them out and how it is wrong. As an American, I assumed that the aunt would eventually listen to Mencius, see the folly of her ways, and let them stay at their house. The lesson would be that standing up for what is right is the best thing to do, even if you are a child. However, in “Bringing up Mencius” Mencius’s mother tells him to be quiet and they eventually have to leave the house, the lesson I assume to be that you should always listen to your elders, a very Confucian way of looking at the world.

京剧

2013年12月6日（周五）和8日（周日），佩斯大学孔子学院很荣幸与纽约梨园社再度联袂举办一年一度的中国京剧文化盛事“第七届冬季文化交流节”。文化节包括主打的京剧表演以及11月底2场在皇后区法拉盛图书馆举办的京剧、茶艺和书法讲座，主讲人是京剧表演大师张国荣。此外，2013年11月22日（周五），梨园社项目主管王依琳女士在佩斯孔院举办专场“汉语角”活动，介绍京剧脸谱艺术。

本人很荣幸观看了了12月6日的三场京剧表演。开幕前，佩斯孔院为献唱的京剧表演嘉宾颁发了嘉许状，感谢各位艺术表演家不远万里来到佩斯，携手纽约梨园社登台表演。献艺的京剧大师有来自中国北京的张建国、加拿大多伦多的杨燕毅以及日本东京的吴俊。受表彰还有中国国家京剧院鼓师李斌和琴师李春。第一个京剧曲目是“天女散花”，是以艺术形式阐释佛经，讲述天女手捧天庭花瓣，为维摩诘居士治病的故事。饰演天女的李迎春女士不仅唱功出众，而且娴熟甩动彩色丝巾的舞步惊艳观众。

第二个曲目“探阴山”是将一个曲目中天庭仙气袅袅的氛围迥异，带给观众的是鬼府的阵阵阴森。这出戏的情节与希腊神话中奥菲斯赴冥府救爱妻尤丽狄丝的故事类似。包括不惜违例，深入阴曹，为书生查散夫妻帐。柳金蝉和查散未婚妻，被李保谋杀，被李保移尸嫁祸查散妻，查散被判处死刑。但是包括查散此案时，发现查散妻有冤情，于是亲赴阴曹，查验死簿。簿上写明颜氏乃凶手，此时包括偶遇一游魂野鬼，得知死簿判官（系李保舅父）擅自改生死簿。包拯将涉案人员带回阳世，判阴曹判官徇私舞弊。

最后一个曲目是“孟母三迁”，是一个2幕短剧，讲述的是思想家孟子的童年故事，情节围绕孟子伯母欲将孟子母子赶出家门展开。戏曲内容幽默，男演员饰演女角，女演员饰演男角。第一幕，孟子幼年丧父，其伯母欲将孟子母子赶出家门。但是孟子的伯父不同意，与中国的男尊女卑相反，孟子的伯母很强势，伯父反倒唯唯诺诺。两夫妻争吵情节很幽默，争吵中还牵扯出伯母被别人调戏过。最终，伯母说服伯父。第二幕，孟母哀叹命苦，儿子荒废学业，逃学嬉戏，她忧心如焚。为了展现孟子的童年朝气，孟子一角由女演员饰演（类似西方戏剧里，彼得·潘常由女演员扮演一样）。孟子表面上让孟母相信，自己会用心学习，其实暗地里一直与朋友嬉戏。此时，孟子的伯母和伯父为孟子和孟母从家里搬走。正当孟母心许同意之时，孟子怒斥伯母，将他们母子扫地出门是无良之举。在美国家人看来，此时伯母应该听从孟子的意见，看到自己的丑行，让母子继续住下去。这出戏的寓意就是，即便是孩子，也要挺身捍卫对的事情。但是，戏里面的孟母却让孟子别再争辩，最终，母子被扫地出门。我觉得，这里寓意是晚辈要听从长辈，这也是孔子的世界观。
Second Faculty Seminar A Great Success

By Min Zhu

This fall, six Pace University professors, including Associate Provost Dr. Mark Allen Poisel and Dyson Associate Dean Dr. Andrés Villagrá, successfully finished the second session of the Pace CI’s Confucius China Studies Program (CCSP) for Professors, commonly known as “Faculty Seminar”. The program, directed by Dr. Weihua Niu and managed collaboratively by Dr. Villagrá and Dr. Min Zhu, is oriented towards Pace faculty who plan to launch academic courses with Chinese culture-focused content. The second session of the program kicked off at the end of 2012 and continued through the spring and fall semesters of 2013.

Chinese language learning and cultural study were major themes of all parts of the program. The first part, held in the spring of 2013, was composed of six lectures on various Chinese cultural topics such as “What Should the U.S. Learn From China,” by experts in their fields. The second part of the program was a two-week immersion trip to China in summer, 2013. While there, the program members attended intensive culture lectures on Chinese education, philosophy, religion, and language at Nanjing Normal University, as well as presentations and workshops on Chinese calligraphy, painting, Kunqu Opera, and other Chinese arts. The faculty also had the opportunity to visit the cities of Suzhou, Yangzhou, and Shanghai. In the third phase of the seminar in the fall of 2013, the program members discussed their own syllabi in detail and received feedback from their colleagues. Based on the seminar, the faculty involved have proposed six new courses including “Confucianism in the Contemporary Legal System.”

Our program has combined the idea of a CCSP with the idea of “university integration.” The professors enrolled in the program have participated in creating credit coursework and have taken full advantage of their role in further disseminating Chinese culture. As an innovative model for CCSP, the forward-looking CCSP for Professors program plays a significant role in a multi-layered diffusion of China-related learning throughout the university, while at the same time allowing it to take on a more localized form within the curriculum.

本土化的新汉学项目融入大学课程

2013年，佩斯大学孔子学院成功举办第二期“新汉学教授研修团”项目。面向拟开设融合中国文化的专业课程的佩大教授，共有柏马克、卫安竺等六位参加。

二期项目选拔上年底启动。主体于春季开始，贯穿春秋两季，包括美国预备——中国沉浸——美国研讨三阶段。主要由孔院牛卫华院长负责，卫安竺及朱敏博士参与组织管理。

三个阶段都包含汉语学习和文化学研讨两部分。除语言学习外，第一阶段主要结合成员专业方向举办中国文化讲座，共开设“美国应该向中国学习什么”等6讲。中国之行，为期两周，依托南京师大，进行密集的文化讲座、展示与研讨，涵盖中国书法、绘画、昆曲及其他中国艺术、中国教育、哲学、宗教及语言比较等诸多方面，并参观了苏州、扬州、上海等地的经济、文化发展。秋季研讨，则着重探讨成员提供的详细课程大纲，提出修改意见，共研讨了“儒家学说对当代公正体系的启示”等6门课程。

项目将总部“孔子新汉学计划”与“融入大学”的理念相结合，透过项目成员参与大学学分课程建设，充分发挥了其“再传播”功能，是一个使“理解中国”行动本土化、学历化的前瞻性“新汉学”模式。
A joint initiative of the U.S. Departments of State and Education, International Education Week (IEW) aims to promote a more global environment for both American and international students on US college and university campuses. Several organizations at Pace University, including Pace CI, joined the national event this year by organizing a series of programs for the Pace community during the week of November 11th-15th. On both the New York City and Pleasantville campuses, CI Chinese Director Dr. Min Zhu and CI Program Manager Lindsay Bennett delivered an interactive primer for faculty and staff on “How to Pronounce Chinese Names” to better familiarize faculty and staff working with a significant international student population. Pace CI also showcased the talents of performers of Mongolian dance, Peking opera, and taiji at the IEW Fair.

Nibbling on Mid-Autumn moon cakes, students and local area residents gathered on September 19th to learn about CI-funded opportunities to study abroad in China. CI Chinese Director Dr. Min Zhu and CI Program Manager Lindsay Bennett led the group through a detailed information session on the various options, requirements, timelines and suggested paths for preparation.

The official announcement for the 2014-15 CI scholarships will be published in late February, and will likely include four-week, semester, and academic year options in addition to a two-year scholarship for those pursuing Master’s Degrees in Teaching Chinese to Speakers of Other Languages (MTCSOL). The generous scholarships cover tuition and registration fees, housing, insurance and medical coverage, and even a monthly living stipend. The application is open to individuals who have studied at Pace Confucius Institute and who have sat for the HSK/HSKK exam, and is available to those within as well as outside of the Pace University community. Previous recipients have described their experiences as invaluable. Those who are interested in learning more information are encouraged to contact the Pace CI.

CI Scholarships

By Lindsay Bennett

At the open house on September 19th, students learned about opportunities to study in China

孔子学院奖学金

白玲珊

2013年9月19日，佩斯学生和附近市民来到佩斯孔子院，品尝中秋月饼的同时，了解由孔子学院资助赴中国留学奖学金情况。佩斯孔子院中方院长朱敏和项目经理白玲珊为现场听众详细介绍了不同种类的奖学金、申报要求、申报期限和要准备的材料。

2014-15年度孔子学院奖学金申请公告将于2014年2月底发布。学院奖学金分为4周、1学期、1学年和2年（针对汉语国际教育硕士生）四种。奖学金涵盖学费、注册费、住宿费、保险、医疗费和按月发放的生活补贴。申请人须在佩斯孔子院参加不少于12学时的汉语水平考试或汉语水平口试辅导课程。佩斯大学在和非佩斯大学成员皆可申请。已获孔子奖学金资助的人员，都认为留学经历受益匪浅。关于孔子奖学金的更多详情，请联系佩斯孔子院。

International Education Week

By Lindsay Bennett

A joint initiative of the U.S. Departments of State and Education, International Education Week (IEW) aims to promote a more global environment for both American and international students on US college and university campuses. Several organizations at Pace University, including Pace CI, joined the national event this year by organizing a series of programs for the Pace community during the week of November 11th-15th. On both the New York City and Pleasantville campuses, CI Chinese Director Dr. Min Zhu and CI Program Manager Lindsay Bennett delivered an interactive primer for faculty and staff on “How to Pronounce Chinese Names” to better familiarize faculty and staff working with a significant international student population. Pace CI also showcased the talents of performers of Mongolian dance, Peking opera, and taiji at the IEW Fair.

At the open house on September 19th, students learned about opportunities to study in China
Mandarin Classes Expand and Diversify

By Dr. Shihong Liang

In the fall semester of 2013, the CI offered a number of diverse courses including Mandarin Levels 1 A-C, HSK test preparation courses, One-on-One tutoring, Chinese Through Music, Tai Chi and Health Qigong and Ethnic Folk Dance. During the inter-session holidays this winter we offered “Chinese Practice” courses, which supplement our existing Mandarin Chinese classes. Focusing on practical speaking and listening skills, these courses are a great way to keep our students’ Chinese from getting rusty. All of these courses were very popular among our students, and this spring we will continue to offer similar language and cultural courses.

This spring, we are privileged to once again hold Chinese language classes for a group of students visiting Pace’s Lubin School of Business from France’s Northern Higher Business School (EDHEC). The 36-hours of special language classes that we hold are an important part of this cooperative project between Lubin, EDHEC and the Pace CI.

In addition to new sessions of our courses “Chinese Through Music” and “Tai Chi and Health Qigong,” we will also be holding cultural courses in Paper-Cutting, Calligraphy, and Chinese Traditional Games allowing students to learn the Chinese language in a fun way and to be exposed to the diversity of Chinese culture.
A new course on Chinese Ethnic Folk Dance was held by the Pace CI on Thursday nights this November at Dance Art New York Studios-Joyce Theater. Pace CI invited choreographer Huang Qingqing, the winner of the Chinese version of the televised dance competition “So You Think You Can Dance,” and Chinese folk dance veterans Huang Hao and Yang Zi, as instructors to teach folk dances of the Wa, Mongolian, and Zhuang minorities. The course attracted Pace students, local New Yorkers, amateur dancers from China, and even a Guatemalan exchange student.

At each two hour session, the students were introduced to the movements of one folk dance along with its distinctive features. The dances studied in the class included a soul-stirring hunting dance from the Wa people, an atmospheric piece from the vast Mongolian grassland, and a heroic dance from the Zhuang people about embracing new life. Students enjoyed the exercise, the culture behind the movements, the East-West mixed style of breathing, and the pleasant music. The dance instructors helped the students better learn the dances by the demonstration of each single movement, breakup of the movements into steps, elaboration on the cultural connotations of the dances, mediation, one-on-one learning, and group competition.

Visiting teachers from China offered students the rare opportunity to learn Chinese ethnic folk dancing.

Popularity of Test Center Grows

In 2013 the Pace CI held the HSK, HSKK and YCT tests a combined six times. As HSK tests at Pace CI become more popular, Dr. Min Zhu, the Chinese Director of Pace CI, has helped to better integrate testing and teaching in order to recruit more students for learning Chinese and attending HSK intensive training. Due to this strategy the number of students and test takers has increased considerably. A record 94 candidates (up from 23 in 2012), many from the New York area, but some from as far away as Florida and Boston, took the test this year.
Learning Mandarin Through Music  By Shanshan Ma

In the fall of 2013 I had the great pleasure to teach a unique course at the Pace CII: “Chinese Through Music.” The students in my class were quite diverse: there were two professors, one lawyer, a political science student and a former UN interpreter. It was the Chinese music that brought them together—my students were filled with joy when singing Chinese songs. As Robert Gumenick, one of my students pointed out, “This Chinese music class has been one of the most pleasurable and relaxed [sic] things that I wanted to pursue all week.” The class ended with learning the folk songs Kangding Qing Ge (Love song of Kangding) and Juhuatai (Chrysanthemum Flower Bed).

A new session of the class will begin in February 2014. It will include singing Chinese songs as well as playing Chinese instruments. Students will have an opportunity to sing with the Garage Band software and perform on stage at the Pace CI’s Lunar New Year Celebration in February. As Confucius stated, “Music produces a kind of pleasure which human nature cannot do without.” My goal for this course is to achieve the same.

Ms. Shanshan Ma is an experienced Chinese language teacher and professional musician with degrees in Music Education from Julliard and Columbia Teacher’s College. A winner of the New York Philharmonic Young Artists Competition she has always shown an interest in learning language through music. She has performed in numerous locations in New York including Alice Tully and Avery Fisher Hall and has composed Chinese songs performed at various schools.

怡情愉悦的中国音乐  马珊珊

从

2013年的秋季开始，佩斯大学孔子学院开设了新艺课程 音乐与中文，学员来自各个领域：有律师，大学教授，联合国翻译，佩斯大学研究生和小学老师。而音乐却把他们带到了一起。每个星期他们在唱着中文歌的时候，总是充满着喜悦来抒发他们的情感。罗博特，我的学生曾说道，“这节中文音乐课是我每周都很向往的，因为它使我了解中国文化而且让我紧张的工作压力得到了放松，这是我非常开心的一课。”在2014年二月，音乐与中文将会继续。春季的课程将不仅包括唱中文音乐而且包括如何欣赏和表演中国音乐。

这节课的结束是我的曲子演奏：我的单簧管来配他们唱“康定情歌”和“菊花台”。我把他们用电脑音乐制作配音和他们原唱合在一起然后让他们自己去听来体会他们自己的作品。这只是第一步，在2014春节我将带领他们将第一次走上舞台，希望他们会演出成功。孔子在《礼记·乐记》所说：“夫乐者，乐也，人情之所不能免也。”意思是说音乐创造一种人类的天性不可或缺的愉悦。而我的这节课目的也是如同。

马珊珊女士不仅是一位富有经验的语文老师，还是一位专业的音乐人。她分别从茱莉亚音乐学院和哥伦比亚师范学院获得音乐教育学士和硕士学位，曾在纽约爱乐青年艺术家大赛中获奖，并一直深信能从音乐中学习语言。她曾在爱丽丝・塔利音乐厅和艾弗里・费雪音乐厅等纽约众多场所演出，并为多所学校谱写中国歌曲。
2013 saw the rapid development of Chinese Corner with a number of new topics that have attracted participants of diverse backgrounds. Its popularity has increased greatly — more than 100 participants came to Chinese Corner during the course of the semester. Apart from introducing modern aspects of Chinese culture to the uninitiated, Chinese Corner also promotes Chinese language and traditional culture. Chinese Corner will continue to serve participants with vivid stories of Chinese culture and many practical Chinese expressions.

**A Taste of China at “Chinese Corner”**

Chinese cuisine is an iconic part of Chinese culture which our American friends hold close to their heart. “Chinese Corner” is a paradise for American gourmands to taste Chinese traditional food, including delicious snacks. This past fall, a Chinese cuisine map was drawn up for participants to get to know the names of representative dishes from different regions, and learn simple and useful expressions to show their pleasure about what they are eating. Learning Mandarin can be fun when you are eating mouth-watering Chinese snacks. “Chinese Corner” attendees wanted to taste the most genuine Chinese cuisine and expressed their desire to visit China and explore the local cuisines.

**“汉语角”：练口语品美食**

华美食一直是很多外国朋友对中国心心念念的一项重要内容。佩斯孔院的“汉语角”活动通过介绍中华美食、特色小吃等系列活动让对中华美食垂涎欲滴的朋友们一饱口福。同时让大家建立了一个简单的中国美食地图，学会了每个地区美食的特色，熟悉夸赞美食的简单口语表达方式。每一位来到汉语角的朋友都在佩斯孔院吃得开心，学得开心。他们纷纷表示有机会一定到中国去点一份地道的美食，感受最真实的中国味道。
Juan Yang: Language Teacher

With excitement, curiosity, and a bit of apprehension, I joined the big family of Pace CI this Fall. I hold a PhD in linguistics and applied linguistics and I have been teaching Chinese as a foreign language at Nanjing Normal University for 6 years. I have much enthusiasm and confidence in my career of teaching Chinese as a foreign language and am committed to enhancing my teaching capabilities. I feel very welcomed as a part of the CI family and am grateful for the wonderful teaching platform created by the Pace CI. I warmly welcome everyone to the Confucius Institute to learn Chinese!

Xiang Ye: Language Teacher

I was recruited to the Pace CI in September 2013, which marked the start of my new life. I feel greatly honored. With a BA and MA in linguistics, I had been engaged in language teaching at Shandong University of Technology for 11 years. Currently at Pace CI, I teach Chinese Speaking and Listening (primary and advanced levels), tutor students for HSK test preparation, organize HSK online tests, and help students apply for CI scholarships. I love the atmosphere here, with its emphasis on hard-work within and easy-going environment.

Qiong Zhang: Program Assistant

As a Chinese volunteer, I have been a family member of the Pace CI for only one short semester. It was a little hard to adjust at the beginning, but I now cherish the fresh opportunities and challenges that my teaching here brings. Together with my students, I enjoy the experience of swimming in the ocean of Chinese knowledge and culture and strive to help them pass the HSK Chinese proficiency tests. I have learned a lot at the Pace CI, a place which I am in great debt to. I want to express my sincere gratitude to this big family in which I am making progress and genuinely feel that I can play a significant role as a Chinese citizen in America.
Following the conference was an academic panel discussion consisting of three NNU professors and hosted by Pace professors Dr. Joseph Morrell and Dr. Joseph Tse-Hei Lee. Professor Pan Zhen delivered a speech on “The Development and Evolution of China’s Economic Policy” while Professors Li Hongling delved into the topic of Chinese literature and how Chinese writers have differed from their Western counterparts. Hongling talked about how Chinese novels tend to have many characters and dwell on relationships between characters while Western novels tend to focus on the individual. Li Bo took a more historical view of Chinese literature, tracing its development from ancient times to the present day. As part of his presentation Bo sang several Chinese ancient poems, displaying the holistic nature of the arts in Chinese culture.

Starting at 4:30 pm, a student troupe from the College of Music of NNU put on a traditional musical performance. After the VIP’s spoke about encouraging young artists to make more contributions to Sino-US cultural exchange, the program began with a performance by a chamber instrument ensemble including a *pipa* (lute), *erhu* (spiked fiddle), *sheng* (reed instrument), and flute. Another highlight of the afternoon was the solo performance on *erhu* of Once Upon a Time in America, interweaving Chinese and western influences. Following the performances the Pace CI granted certificates of honor to the student artists.
Upcoming Events

Lunar New Year Celebration - February 2, 2014


Fifth Year Anniversary - May 3, 2014

4th Annual Essay Contest
Open for Submissions

The New York Chinese Opera Society (NYCOS) is proud to announce that it is now accepting submissions for its annual essay contest. The Fourth New York Chinese Opera Society Essay Competition, co-sponsored by the Confucius Institute and Global Asian Studies Program at Pace University, is open to all students at Pace. The purpose of the contest is to spur more in-depth research in Chinese culture and increase the interest and participation of Pace students in Chinese cultural studies.

Essays can be on any topic related to Chinese art, history or culture. Past winners have written about such topics as Daoism, the Great Wall, Chinese cinema, and women in Chinese society. Applicants should submit only one essay, ten to twelve pages (excluding the title page and bibliography), double-spaced with a 12 point font, completely documented with references, carefully proofread, and following a standard form such as MLA, APA, or Chicago. Entries should include a submission form, complete with a signature from the Pace faculty member who is nominating the essay for the competition as well as from the chair of the department that the student represents. Submissions must be made via email to ci@pace.edu by 12:00 noon on Saturday, March 15, 2014 in order to be considered. Previous awardees will not be eligible.

The essays will be evaluated by a committee, who will recommend the best three essays to the New York Chinese Opera Society for awards. The winners will be recognized at the annual President’s Scholarship Dinner in April. Winners will be notified ahead of time and must attend the ceremony. The first place winner will receive a $600 cash prize while the second and third place finalists will receive $300 and $200 respectively. To receive a registration form and for more information, please visit our website at www.pace.edu/confucius or contact us at ci@pace.edu or 212-346-1880.