

WEEK 9-11

Chengdu American Center in Cooperation with Fairleigh Dickinson University

Sichuan Qingyin Concert

During the 10th week of Spring program, the Center invited several Chinese national first-class performers and instrument players to give our students a Sichuan Qingyin Concert. Listed on the Chinese Intangible Cultural Heritage, Sichuan Qingyin is a form of singing and accompanied by musical instruments such as Er Hu and Pi Pa. It originated from the Ming Dynasty and has been flourishing through today. As soon as the concert started, an introduction was given on Sichuan Qingyin. The performances depicted a vivid view on what ancient Sichuan folk life was like. Students were able to learn about and practice their singing skills in Sichuan Qingyin.



A group photo with the young and senior artists!



The national first-class actor Ms. Linping Tian giving a performance



Students interacting with the artists

A Finance Seminar

Since most of our current students are business or finance majors, the Center arranged a finance seminar for students to attend. The Center invited Dr. Banggang Wu, who earned his PhD from Tsinghua University, to give our students an interactive seminar on futures exchange. He introduced the topic with a classic story. By incorporating recent national and interactional headlines, Dr. Wu drove home the point. At the seminar, our students actively participated in discussion and expressed their thoughts.



Dr. Banggang Wu interacting with the students

Field Trip to a Local Farmers' Market

As part of the course design of World Food and Culture class, Professor Barnabas Seyler took his class to a local farmers' market in Chengdu. During the visit, students were able to learn about all kinds of food first-hand. Students completed a scavenger hunt where they had to find different items within various categories of food like fruits, vegetables, meat, seafood, rice, grains, and other spices and ingredients. This activity gave students the chance to step out of the classroom and learn through experience and practice.



Dr. Seyler explaining the assignments



Students at the market



We went at a great time and were the only people at the cart club!



They won the top three places in the cart racing.

Student Voice

"This is the first time we systematically learned about Sichuan Qingyin. Those topics were chosen from Sichuan folk culture. The proverbs used in the singing made the performance liting and light. We can feel the value of this kind of artist form."

--Tiantian Wu, Business Administration major, Junior, American University

"Sichuan Qingyin is part of Chinese traditional music. We feel grateful for having the opportunity to watch the performances and learn more about Chinese traditional culture. I hope Sichuan Qingyin can keep flourishing."

--Mingtao Zhao, Finance major, Senior, American University

Cart Racing

Last weekend, the Center organized a cart racing at a cart club in downtown Chengdu. This is the first time that we organized this activity since the establishment of this program. Our students were placed into assigned groups and had to race for the top three places. It is an exciting and fun activity. Everyone enjoyed themselves!

