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CONFUCIUS  
INSTITUTE  
IN EDMONTON

通讯

( Tōngxùn- newsletter )

## MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

11/07/2019  
October, 2019



### Chinese Culture Day for School Students

**On October 29**, the Confucius Institute in Edmonton hosted a Chinese Culture Day for 35 students from Riverbend Junior High School. They are studying in the Chinese Language and Culture program. This is the first year that Riverbend School introduced the program. The Chinese teacher hoped that exposure to Chinese culture will inspire the students' interest and passion for learning Chinese.

After listening to a brief introduction about the CIE by director Cameron Mah and taking a tour of the CIE, the students took part in the variety of Chinese culture activities such as 5-animal exercises, handkerchief dance, shuttlecock, dough art, and paper cutting. They showed a great interest in these activities. We received positive feedback from the students as they described the experience as "fun", "amazing", and "awesome".



In the past ten years, the CIE hosted Chinese Culture Day for students from Edmonton, St. Albert, Red Deer, Calgary, and as far as Whitehorse in Yukon. In order to support curriculum and provide culture support to schools, the CIE also provides the free culture workshops for schools such as dough art, paper cutting, Chinese knots, Chinese painting, calligraphy, Tai Chi, etc. Last year the CIE served over 10,000 district students.

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## Intercultural Family Nights

On **October 9**, the Confucius Institute in Edmonton was invited by the City of Edmonton to participate in the Intercultural Family Night at LY Cairns School. Intercultural Family Nights consists of a series of evening events throughout the 2019/2020 year where different cultures are explored and celebrated.

This event focused on various Asian cultures. The CIE teachers shared the traditional Chinese arts and games with the community, including dough art, Chinese knots, calligraphy, Chinese New Year painting, shuttlecock, and dance handkerchief.



## Chinese Culture Support to School in Athabasca

On **October 10**, two CIE teachers drove 160 kms to Athabasca, providing Chinese culture support to Landing Trail Intermediate School's Flying High Day. Landing Trail is a grade 4-6 school with a regular English program and French immersion program.

Over 80 students attended the dough art workshop, learning how to make a rose, Snoopy and Pikachu. The students all worked hard and enjoyed the unique experience.



The event was a good opportunity for the CIE to promote Chinese culture, and celebrate the multiculturalism in the community.

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After the workshop, many students expressed their appreciation and love for dough art. Parents, teachers and the principal were also amazed as the dough art came to life. The school has already invited the CIE to participate next school year.

In the past 9 years, the CIE has been supporting the annual event by providing the Chinese culture workshops such as dough art, Chinese knots, paper cutting and Tai Chi. Over the past 9 years, the CIE has been able to promote the Chinese culture to over 1000 students.

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## Intercultural Family Fun

On Thanksgiving weekend, the Confucius Institute in Edmonton participated in the Intercultural Family Fun day at Central Lions Recreation Centre. The free fun family event was hosted by Multicultural Family Resource Society in celebration of its ethno-cultural parent/child programs.

The event featured cultural performances, carnival



## Read in Week at Schools

On October 7-11, Edmonton Public Schools celebrated the 30th anniversary of Read in Week. This year's theme was "Celebrate with Stories".

The teachers of Confucius Institute in Edmonton once again went to Kildare School and Dovercourt School, sharing the Chinese books they chose carefully from the CIE library with K-6 students.

games, arts & crafts, face painting, reading corner, photo booth and much more. The CIE occupied two booths, showcasing dough art, Chinese knots, calligraphy, shuttlecock, dance handkerchief, paper cutting and Chinese character tattoos. The CIE also performed two Chinese traditional dances.



Approximately 600 people attended the event. This was an event gave the CIE the opportunity to share Chinese culture with newcomers and immigrants in the city of Edmonton and surrounding area.

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## 2019 Fall HSK Test

**On October 26**, the Confucius Institute in Edmonton held the 2019 fall HSK test for the public. 27 candidates wrote the test from level 1 to level 6.

In general, the CIE organizes the HSK test three times a year: one for the students in Mandarin Bilingual program & Chinese and Culture program in May, and the other two for the public in May and October.

Through reading, the students learned about the Chinese culture, traditions and enjoyed some well-known stories retold in Chinese.

Since its establishment in 2008, the CIE has been devoted to providing language and culture support to schools, such as Chinese culture workshops, Chinese story reading sessions for elementary students, Mandarin class for parents and much more.



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## Upcoming Event: the 1st CIE Chinese Writing Contest

**The Confucius Institute in Edmonton** will organize the 1st CIE Chinese Writing Contest in November for the students who are studying in Mandarin Bilingual program or Chinese and Culture program in Edmonton Public Schools.

There will be 5 categories:

In recent years, more and more people have been aware of HSK/YCT test and its importance. In 2019, 769 people participated in the HSK test, and 700 people participated in the YCT test. Parents of students not enrolled in the bilingual or beginners Chinese programs are also encouraging their children to write the exams. On October 26th, 21 of 27 candidates were either from the regular, Academic Challenge or French immersion program. The youngest student was only 6 years old.

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1. Elementary Grade 4-6: Students studying in Mandarin Bilingual program
2. Junior High A: Students studying in Mandarin Bilingual program
3. Junior High B: Students studying in the Chinese Language and Culture program
4. Senior High A: Students studying in Mandarin Bilingual program
5. Senior High B: Students studying in the Chinese Language and Culture program

The writing contest will take place in the schools on November 26th.

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