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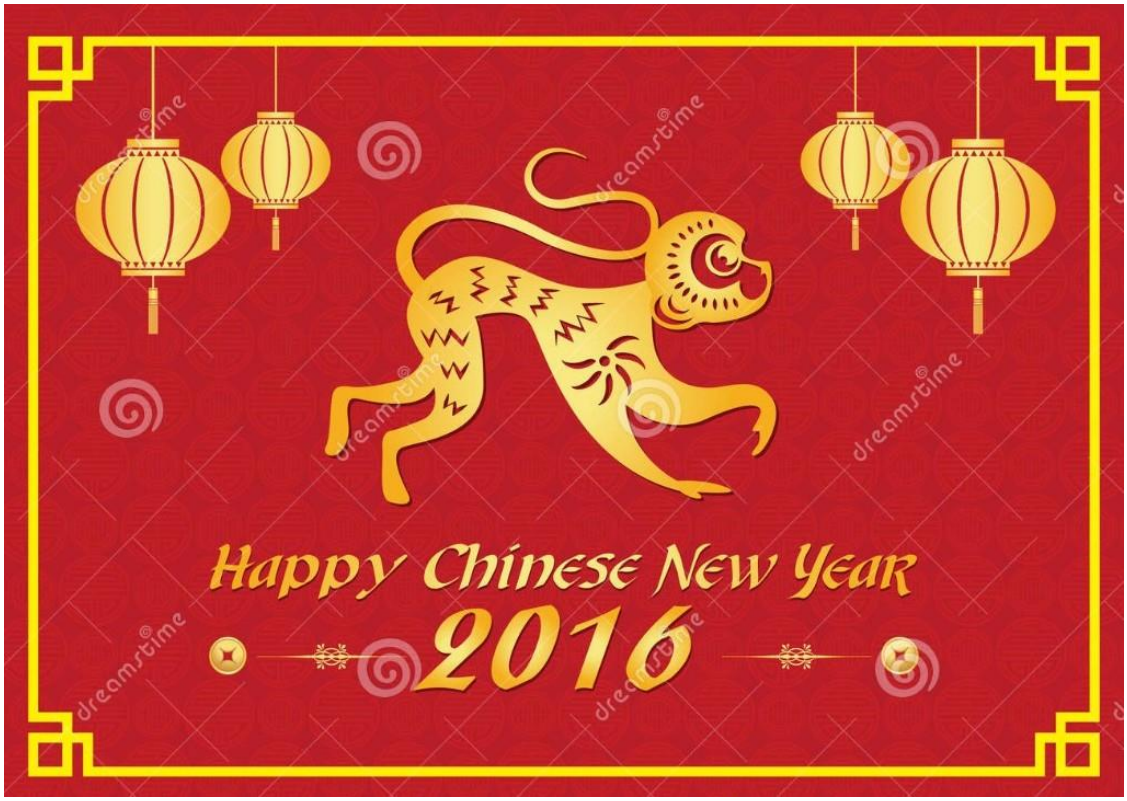
CONFUCIUS INSTITUTE IN EDMONTON

通讯
( Tōngxùn- newsletter )

02/08/2016
issue 01

# MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



# On Behalf of All the Staff at the Confucius Institute in Edmonton, We Would Like to Send Our Best Wishes to You and Your Family for a Happy, Healthy & Prosperous Year!

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## Chinese Bridge Competition for University Students

Date: Saturday, March 12, 2016

Time: 9:30 am - 3:00 pm

Location: ETLC E1 - 003, University of Alberta

Registration: Visit CIE Website at www.confuciusedmonton.ca

Deadline for Registration: March 6, 2016

### Chinese Culture Experience at St. Albert & District Chamber of Commerce

**The Confucius Institute in Edmonton was invited by the St. Albert & District Chamber of Commerce to provide Chinese culture experiences in celebration of Chinese New Year on the occasion of their annual meeting**

### Chinese New Year Celebration at Concordia University of Edmonton

**On January 18th, Concordia University of Edmonton organized an international festival designed to celebrate some of the many cultures that make up Edmonton. Chinese culture was included, others being Dutch, Indian, and**

at St. Albert Inn & Suites.

Over 200 people attended the event. The CIE teachers displayed Chinese knots, Chinese dough art and calligraphy. Participants showed great interest in these Chinese traditional arts. Some learned to make bracelets using Chinese knot skills, while others wrote a few Chinese characters and learned to speak a few Chinese words.

All the participants enjoyed experiencing Chinese culture. The St. Albert & District Chamber of Commerce appreciated the efforts of the Confucius Institute in Edmonton in providing their members the opportunity to explore aspects of Chinese culture.

Brazilian, to name a few.

During the festival, the Confucius Institute provided opportunities for students, professors and staff to learn the traditional Chinese art forms of Chinese knots, Chinese paper cutting and Chinese calligraphy. At the lunch time, the CIE also prepared traditional Chinese New Year foods like Chinese spring rolls, Chinese onion cakes and deep fried wonton. More than 100 people were fortunate enough to sample these delicacies.

Invited by other ethnic groups, CIE teachers learned a traditional Dutch dance and also observed the intricacies of an old Brazil ian dance. The CIE dance teacher, Ms. Du Jinjin, also performed a Chinese tradition folk dance that was well received by the crowd.

## Chinese New Year Celebration at West Edmonton Mall

On January 30 and 31, the Confucius Institute in Edmonton participated in the annual Chinese New Year celebration and carnival in one of the biggest shopping malls in the world. The Chinese New Year activities at West

## Chinese Culture to an Edmonton Catholic Church

The Confucius Institute in Edmonton was invited by an Edmonton Catholic Church to participate in their Chinese New Year celebration carnival at their downtown location on January 30th. Two CIE teachers brought Chinese traditional dough

Edmonton Mall is the largest Chinese New Year celebration in Edmonton and is organized by many groups.

The Yang Qin Team of the Confucius Institute in Edmonton provided performances during the event with beautiful selections of traditional music. The Meyonohk Confucius Classroom put on a 30 minute performance which included Chinese folk dance and a "little lion dance". This entertainment was a hit with the large audience.

The CIE teachers also set up two Chinese culture booths displaying Chinese traditional crafts, such as Chinese dough art, Chinese knots and paper cutting. People of all ages showed great interest in these Chinese arts.

art to the event which was welcomed by many people old and young. Children showed special interest in learning to make some figures using the Chinese dough.

The Confucius Institute has participated in this event every year for many years. More than 1000 people were in attendance this year. The CIE raised more than $200 by selling the dough art and all of the money raised was donated to charities sponsored by the church.

## CIE Teachers Bring Culture Activities to Schools in Celebration of Chinese New Year

Every year during the Chinese New Year season, the CIE teachers are at their busiest. Many schools around the city organize different kinds of culture activities to celebrate Chinese New Year, including the teaching of Chinese traditional culture handcraft. The teachers provide sessions, performances, Chinese lunch at these events.

In just a couple of weeks the CIE teachers have provided a variety of Chinese culture sessions to more than 10 district schools, the majority being schools without any Chinese language programming. More than 3000 students have experienced these sessions covering Tai Chi，Chinese Painting, Calligraphy, Chinese dough art, Chinese paper cutting, Chinese knots and Chinese traditional dance.

## CIE Adult Dance Class

The Confucius Institute in Edmonton commenced its first Chinese adult dance class in the last week of January. This is the first such class of its kind offered by the CIE.

Ms. Du Jinjin is the dance teacher. She is avisiting teacher from Hanban, who is a professional dance teacher and has taught different kinds of Chinese traditional dances in Shanghai for 5 five years before coming to Edmonton.

About 20 people are registered in this dance class, the majority of them are public school teachers. These teachers are already exploring ways to integrate this new skill in their respective schools.

The class runs after school very Thursday from 5:30 to 7:00 at the CIE.

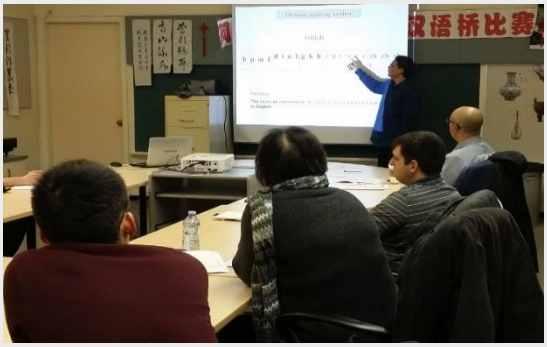
The workshops and sessions are welcomed by the students and teachers. Through these activities and the learning of aspects of Chinese culture, a desire is cultivated to start to learn Chinese language.

CIE teachers will continue to keep busy providing these cultures workshops to more schools in February and March.

The teachers in the class expressed their appreciation to CIE for offering such an opportunity for them.

## CIE Chinese Culture Class

The CIE Chinese culture classes for 2016 Winter Session started on January 30, 2016.



## CIE Chinese Language Classes

The Confucius Institute in Edmonton has offered Chinese language instruction to the community

Like Chinese language classes, the cultural instruction has been offered at the Confucius Institute for the last 7 years.

The culture classes are held here at CIE every Saturday. A variety of classes are offered in this semester, including Chinese Tai Chi, Chinese Calligraphy, Er Hu, Yang Qin, Guzhen and Chinese story telling for younger students.

The CIE culture classes are well received with a number of repeat students who come back for higher levels of instruction in an art form.

for the last 7 years. 2016 Winter sessions just started in the last week of January.

The language classes are welcomed by many people from the community. Some of them have taken the courses here at the Confucius Institute for more than 4 years.  the classes are challenging but very well taught, keeping many students coming back for more advanced levels, even though they put in considerable effort. The classes have helped the students understand that Chinese can be learned with expert instruction, good resources and consistent effort. Students also have the opportunity to sit, when they are ready for the HSK, an internationally recognized standard of Chinese language proficiency.

The Chinese language classes in this semester have been extended to 15 weeks or 45 hours of instruction. This was a request made by students and we are pleased to have been able to accommodate this request.  We know it will further the learning and retention of the Chinese language.

More than 30 students registered in our language classes for this semester at different levels.  CIE also provided the Mandarin class for Cantonese speakers.

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