

Newsletter - Special Report

Summer 2007, Vol. 6 No. 2

Summer in Beijing – 2007 Our 3rd Cultural Exchange Program

This is the third year that our students have gone to Beijing to learn Mandarin and Chinese culture in China. This year, most of our participants were teenagers. Again, our host college, Beijing Chinese and Culture College, made a unique arrangement for our group based on our requests and our students' learning experience. The Principal of the Beijing Chinese Language and Culture College told us: "Come again in 2008!" Even though the 2008 Olympic Games will be held in Beijing, the college is willing to host our group based on our needs and requirements.

Program History

- In 2003, Principal Peng of Beijing Chinese Language and Culture College met with Sharon Gao, the Principal and founder of the Asia Pacific Language School. Both decided to start a cultural exchange program in Beijing.
- Year 2005 was the first year our group went to China. All participants were invited to the opening ceremony of the 1st World Chinese Conference held in the People's Hall in Beijing. Most of the participants were children adopted from China and their family members. Three of them received scholarships for their stay in Beijing.
- Some students from the 2005 group came back in 2006. In 2007, our participants came from 5 areas of North America: Seattle, New Jersey, Boston, Philadelphia, and Toronto.

Major Activities

- Mandarin classes (Conversation and comprehension)
- Chinese geography and history classes
- Touring historic sites (in Beijing and other cities/areas)
- Meeting with local Chinese students
- Singing Chinese songs, Chinese arts and crafts
- Chinese Martial arts, watching acrobatics
- Drawing (Chinese painting), calligraphy
- Touring a book store and supermarkets
- Shopping (learning how to bargain with vendors in Chinese)
- Visiting American businesses in China

Places/Cities Visited

- 2005: Beijing, Hangzhou, Shanghai
- 2006: Beijing, Xi'an / Hangzhou, Shanghai
- 2007: Beijing, Nanjing, Shanghai

2008 Summer Programs in Beijing

- Olympic Chinese & Culture Camp for Teens
- Olympic Culture Camp for Young Children and Families

Applications accepted starting in November, 2007.



Asia Pacific Language School

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2005 participants in the
1st World Chinese
Conference held in the
People's Hall in
Beijing. →



← 2006 young students
with their teacher.

→ 2007 students at
the Great Wall.



Topic presentation
(Group One): Tian An
Men Square ↓



↓ Discussion with
Chinese instructor
from our host
college in Beijing



↓ Meeting students
from other countries:
Thailand, Malaysia
Australia and France



→ In a play directed by
our students for the
graduation ceremony:
See, we learned
Chinese Martial Arts!



**Friendship and scholarship,
We fly to the future together!**