CULTURAL PROGRAMMING

- **September Happy Hours** (September 7-8): GW Confucius Institute held two happy hours to provide networking opportunities for students, teachers, and alumni. Teachers were able to become acquainted with some of their new students while also connecting with returning students before the first week of classes. Participants were able to meet and make new friends and exchange their experiences in learning Chinese language and culture.

- **Mid-Autumn Festival Celebration** (September 15): GW Confucius Institute, along with the GW Language Center, the Chinese Program in the GW Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures, and the Sigur Center for Asian Studies, co-hosted the annual Mid-Autumn Festival. Guests enjoyed an assortment of food, including Chinese dim sum, and moon cake, which is the traditional treat of the Mid-Autumn Festival. The event was held at the GW Confucius Institute building and was free and open to the public.

- **GWCI Cultural Series: Chinese Calligraphy on Confucian Analects with Dr. Hong Zhao** (October 3): The GW Confucius Institute hosted a lecture on Chinese calligraphy and the history of Chinese characters. Dr. Hong Zhao is a professor in Chinese literature at Capital
Normal University in Beijing and a student of the renowned calligraphy master Ouyang Zhongshi. Through this lecture, Dr. Zhao provided an in-depth explanation on the core value of harmony from the Confucius Analects. He also demonstrated and taught the audience how to write harmony in the six different scripts.

- **Movie Screening: The Phantom Lover** (October 12): The GW Confucius Institute screened several popular Chinese movies throughout the fall after evening classes. The third movie viewing was a love story titled *The Phantom Lover*, which is set in China in the 1940’s. An open discussion followed the screening.

- **Meet the Artist: Lecture with Song Wenjing** (October 20): The GW Confucious Institute hosted internationally acclaimed artist Song Wenjing to discuss his exhibition "Art of Heart." The exhibition featured Song Wenjing’s water paintings, as well as his calligraphy. Currently, Song Wenjing is a full-time artist at Qingdao Art Academy and Dean of the Theory Research Department. Song is also the Vice Chairman of the Qingdao Calligrapher Association and a Member of the Qingdao Political Consultative Committee. He is a committee member on the Shandong Calligrapher Association’s Academic Committee, a member of the China Calligrapher Association, Vice Dean of the Academy of Fine Art of Central Committee of China National Democratic Construction Association, and Acting Dean of Qingdao Sub-Academy. The city of Qingdao has also honored him as an “Outstanding Citizen of Qingdao.”
• **Movie Screening: *A Chinese Ghost Story***
  (October 27): GWCI screened several popular Chinese movies throughout the fall after the evening classes. The fourth movie viewing was the classic Chinese horror story *A Chinese Ghost Story*, adapted from *Strange Stories from a Chinese Studio*, which is a collection of classic Chinese stories written by Pu Song Ling during the Qing Dynasty. An open discussion followed the screening.

• **The Chinese Language Teachers Association - National Capital Region (CLTA-NCR) Training** (October 29): The Chinese Language Teachers Association - National Capital Region (CLTA-NCR), with GW Confucius Institute as co-sponsor, hosted a training session at the George Washington University for local Chinese language instructors. The keynote speaker was Dr. Lucy Lee. Co-hosting the training session was an important opportunity for professional development and networking for local instructors.

• **The 6th Annual Jiangsu Cup Chinese Speech Competition** (November 6):
  The George Washington University hosted the 6th Annual Jiangsu Cup Speech Contest of the greater Washington, D.C. area. The seventeen finalists were selected from nine universities in the Washington metropolitan area. The contest is run by the Jiangsu government information office. It was sponsored by Jiangsu International Cultural
Exchange Center, Institute for International Students, Nanjing University, and the George Washington University.

A total of thirteen institutions participated in this year’s competition. After three months of preliminary competition, seventeen finalists from nine institutions moved forward to the final round. The contest includes three parts: an introduction, a question and answer session, and a prepared speech. The candidates spoke on the subjects of travel, celebrities, history, entertainment, food, and social networks. They also discussed their feelings about Chinese culture and history. The contestants were evaluated on their proficiency in Chinese and knowledge of a wide variety of subjects. After the intense competition, Paranjpe Manish, from Johns Hopkins University, and Katherine Olsen, from Virginia Tech, won the Gold Awards. Six candidates won the Silver Awards and nine candidates won the Bronze Awards.

The First Secretary of the Education Office of the Chinese Embassy, Dr. Fengshou SUN, gave remarks on behalf of the embassy. He emphasized the importance of understanding each other’s culture through learning the language. He acknowledged Nanjing University and the George Washington University for their dedication and achievements in promoting the educational and People-to-People exchange between the U.S. and China, and remarked that the “Jiangsu Cup” serves as a true bridge for promoting the bilateral relations and friendship between the two countries.
GWCI Cultural Series - Kunqu Performance (November 11):

The GW Confucius Institute and the UMD Confucius Institute co-hosted the Wintergreen Kunqu Opera Society from Shanghai, China. They performed the famous opera “The Peony Pavilion” at the Hoff Theater at the University of Maryland. Famous Kunqu artists Yili SHEN, Hong NI, and Zhe HOU starred in the performance. This event, which was open to the public, was well-attended, attracting over 500 guests. Attendees came from all backgrounds, including long-standing fans of Kunqu and many first-time listeners.

Combining the art forms of theatre, opera, ballet, poetry, and musical recital, Kunqu opera is one of China’s oldest forms of opera, reaching its peak in the 16th - 18th centuries. In 2001, UNESCO added this art form to its list of the Masterpieces of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity. Inviting professional groups to the U.S. to perform one of the elements of “UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage,” as certified by the United Nations, is one way the GW Confucius Institute increases understanding of Chinese traditional arts.
2016 China Onscreen Biennial Film Festival (November 15-17): The GW Confucius Institute and the Freer & Sackler Galleries, the Smithsonian's Museum of Asian Art, presented six contemporary Chinese films at the E Street Landmark Cinema in DC. This event followed the premiere of these films on the US west coast, which was sponsored by the UCLA Confucius Institute. The audiences from Washington DC were fortunate for the GW Confucius Institute's and the Freer & Sackler Galleries' efforts in presenting the unique opportunity to view these most recent and intriguing films on China.

- November 15: Tharlo and Ta’ang
- November 16: Crosscurrent and The Road
- November 17: I’m Not Madam Bovary and A Simple Goodbye

During the three-day event, a reception was held on the premiere night of Crosscurrent. The sponsors and audience welcomed special guest Chao YANG, director of Crosscurrent. The audience had an opportunity to interact with Dr. Yang after the film screening. The six films attracted almost 500 guests, who were intrigued by the cultural, social, and economic issues presented in these films. The film I’m Not Madam Bovary, directed by the famous Chinese movie director Feng Xiaogang, had its premiere for the DC region at the China Onscreen Biennial. This is a signature initiative undertaken by the GW Confucius Institute in order to present China to the world through literature and film.
STUDENT EXPERIENCES

These courses offer superb individualized instruction. CI teachers tailor instruction to my individual needs to improve pronunciation and listening skills by using language structures and vocabulary from the core CI classes I have taken. The events range from experiencing the Autumn Festival to calligraphy hands-on lessons to opera. These events are an important part of learning about the culture and they afford the opportunity to practice burgeoning language skills with Chinese students and teachers. Every word and phrase I understand is a personal victory! - Merryanna S. - Intermediate Level Chinese 301

I've enjoyed all the classes I have taken at the Confucius Institute, but the individual tutoring and the Hanzi class I'm taking now are very good due to Zhang Laoshi's very stimulating teaching. I also like the individual tutoring because I am made to really improve my Chinese language skills. - Deborah L. - One-on-One Instruction with Instructor

I have greatly enjoyed the learning environment, outstanding support from faculty and staff, and the opportunity to learn something new, interesting, challenging and useful. The free cultural programs have been terrific, particularly jingju, calligraphy, and tea tastings. The film series is a great chance to see new Chinese cinema. - Valerie P. - Chinese Character Fundamentals 2

Studying at the Confucius Institute has helped me pursue my goal of better understanding and communicating in Chinese. The personal attention and thoughtful approach of my teacher has been most important. - Karin F. - Beginner Level Chinese 102

I have enjoyed both of the Chinese classes, 101 and the characters. The characters class is great, because we are taught the “science” behind them. This helps quite a bit in remembering how to write them. - Susan S. - Beginner Level Chinese 101
ACADEMIC & RESEARCH ACTIVITY

Fall 2016 Classes:

- Beginner Chinese 101-102
- Intermediate Chinese 201-402 (6 levels)
- Advance Comprehensive & Special Topics
- Chinese Character Fundamentals 1-3
- Chinese Composition
- Business Chinese
STUDENT AFFILIATIONS

Students come to the GW Confucius Institute from over sixty international organizations. Our top five student-affiliated institutions are:

1. Department of Commerce
2. Georgetown University
3. IMF
4. Noblis
5. World Bank
COMPLETE LIST OF STUDENT AFFILIATIONS

Department of State
World Bank
IMF
IBM
Department of Commerce
Department of Labor
DOC
DOT/FMCSA
American Society for Microbiology
Institute for China-America Studies
Inter-American Development Bank
Korean Embassy
Korea-U.S. Science Cooperation Center
Natural Resources Defense Council
NIH
PwC
American University
Georgetown University
School Without Walls High School
Syracuse University
The Chronicle of Higher Education
The George Washington University
AECOM
AEI
Alliance Bernstein
Ameson Education & Cultural Exchange
Foundation
Armstrong, Fleming & Moore
Atlantic Council

Benjamin Banneker Association
BFSFCU
Bluemercy
Capgemini
Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton
Dechert LLP
Discovery Communications
Dumbarton Oaks
FDM Group
FireEye
Government of Arlington County, VA
LDS Church
LPI
McLarty Associates
MLS Tutors
Noblis
RFK Human Rights
The Lewin Group
Tom Wong
US Environmental Protection Agency
US Global Leadership Coalition
US-AID
US-China Policy Foundation
USPS
Valle
VE
ViiMed
Wells Fargo
World Resources Institute
**Future Strategic Areas of Growth and Development**

- **US-China Cultural Diplomacy Series**
- **STARTALK Grant**
  - A project funded by the National Security Agency. Its mission is to promote the learning of critical languages such as Chinese among students (K-16).
  - Partner with Global Education Division of Office of Teaching and Learning-DC Public School
- **Confucius Classrooms (to be established in 2016-17):**
  - Mckinley Technology High School (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math)
  - DC International (Chartered School with Chinese immersion program)
  - Oyster & Adams Bilingual School
  - School Without Walls