

2010 US-China Youth Culture and Art Festival / Summer Camp

Shenzhen, China

中美青少年文化艺术节暨汉语文化夏令营

中国 ◆ 深圳

July 11 – July 27, 2010

Registration fee : \$200.00/person

All qualified students will get tuition, board, three meals/day, the camp's activities expenses waived in China

1. About the 2010 US-China Culture and Art Festival

Hosted in summer 2010 in Beijing and Shenzhen, China, presented by American International Students Foundation (AISF), co-organized by AISF and OCT EAST with the support of China's governmental agencies, over 10 world's leading business organizations, and local coordinators in U.S. A, the 2010 Culture and Arts Festival for American and Chinese Children is an elaborately-planned, large-scale, and top-notch culture and arts fest for kids from the US and China.

Featuring young artists and musicians from both US and China in music, dance, concerts, live shows, as well as over 300 school principals, deans, directors and scholars from the education system of both countries, the Festival provides the kids with diverse events and programs under 4 categories: Education, Culture, Arts, and Experiencing and Visiting.

Children, teachers and custodians who attend the Festival will be staying in camps with comfortable accommodation, perfect resort facilities, and full board in an international atmosphere with fellow Chinese participants for up to 2 weeks in Shenzhen. A broad range of activities, events and programs are prepared for the attendants either inside the camps or out in various venues.

The Festival is intended to connect youth from two different cultures by

face-to-face communication and interaction, create a distinct opportunity for the kids to experience a brand new cultural environment, and to inspire them with arts by exposing delicate and easy-understanding artistic events to them.

We are looking forward to meeting you! If you want to spend a spectacular summer, please join us in 2010!

2. About AISF



American International Students Foundation (AISF) organizes, funds, and manages either American citizens to international exchange and study activities, or international students to the U.S. in accordance with the laws, regulations and policies of the United States of America. We are committed to, in doing so, helping build cooperation between America and other countries on education, science, technology, and economy, increasing understanding and interactions between American people and people from all around the world, and seeking exchanges and collaboration among different cultures.

The biggest part of AISF's funding is from the American National Education Fund Plan. We also receive donations and funding from individuals, and business, social and other organizations.

AISF, in accordance with the laws of the U.S., provides assistance to international students in the U.S., manages and uses the funds of AISF, plans funding projects, and accepts entrustment to manage bilateral, multilateral, and individual scholarship. AISF also accepts entrustment from organizations and individuals around the globe to manage affairs on education exchanges and technical cooperation and fund educational programs that are beneficial to improving international understanding and friendships. AISF, in the meantime, strives to find more donations and increase funding. AISF also communicates and cooperates with relevant organizations of the world.

3. Events

Events will be held under 4 categories in various venues. They include:

- a) Opening Ceremony

Opening Ceremony will be held on the splendid Ocean Plaza or OCT EAST Theater inside the OCT EAST.



Featuring music performance, dance, and arts show, the ceremony offers a stage for talented teen artists from the US and China. Apart from teen performances, you can also take advantage of this chance to preview some of the fantastic Tianji (The Hidden Message from Heaven) performances which are produced by Mark Fisher before they go public. The Tianji performances will be masterfully integrated into Ocean Plaza's architectural features, which will definitely be imprinted in audiences' longtime memories.

b) Orchestral Concert

Featuring award-winning junior/youth orchestra from the US and China, the Concert will be held in Shenzhen Poly Theater, one of the most prestigious artistic venues. Enjoy the 2-hour performance presented to you by gifted young musicians and guest musicians, and feel the harmony and power that symphony bring to you.

c) Cultural Classes

This series of classes provides continuing exposure to Chinese culture and language. They also help to connect the Chinese experience to the diversity of modern American culture.

Classes include:

- Chinese Pinyin, Chinese Characters
- Chinese Arts, Chinese Games
- Chinese Traditions, including Chinese food, Chinese festivals.

Participants would be encouraged to speak Mandarin Chinese and take roles in scenarios using the just-learned phrases to better acquire them. Participants may also try their hands at interesting activities like Chinese Calligraphy, Chinese board games, Chinese paper cutting art, and Chinese cuisine, etc. It would be a fun and fresh class experience and never-had-before cultural exposures so different from those you see on TV and movies.

d) Cultural Showcase

Participants would be viewing and learning a series of demonstrations of China's cultural heritage. They include:

- Kung Fu Moves;
- Chinese Tea Rituals;
- Peking Opera;
- Chinese Calligraphy.



The demos would be performed either by talented Chinese participants or by professionals. American participants will interact with the performers and learn what they show. American participants are also encouraged to promote and perform their talents on the showcase.

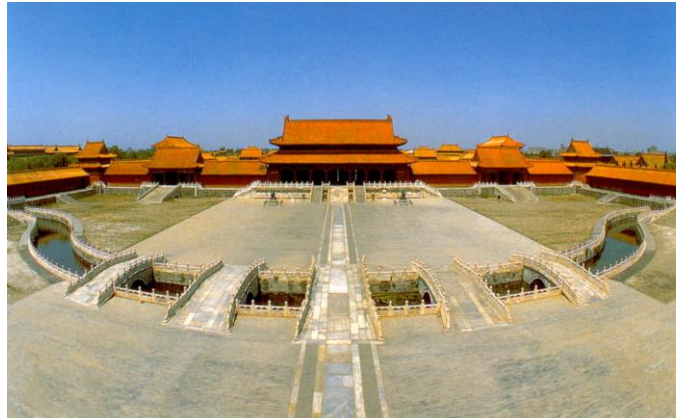
Through the cultural showcase, you will:

- Immerse in genuine Chinese culture
- Witness exposures of mysterious traditional Chinese rituals;
- Acquire better understanding to Chinese etiquette, customs, and manners
- Develop your skills in Chinese traditional arts.

e) Sight-seeing

Between the Festival events days, we have arranged sight-seeing days when participants can have a close look at the famous sights and places around the city. They include:

◇ IN BEIJING



- The Forbidden City
- The Great Wall
- The Summer Palace
- The Temple of Heaven
- The Beijing National Stadium (aka Bird's Nest)
- The Beijing National Aquatics Center (aka Water Cube)

✧ IN SHENZHEN

- OCT EAST
- Window of the World Theme Park
- The Lotus Hill Park

f) Regular Camp Activities

When staying in a camp, camp activities are indispensable. We have planned various camp activities to make your stay wonderful in every way.



Camp activities include:

- Ice breakers

- Balls and parties
- Campfire gather-rounds
- Treasure hunts
- Open day
- Singing Contests
- Speech Contests

g) Homestay

Participants may also choose to stay with fellow Chinese participants' families for a day or two to get firsthand experience of living a common Chinese kid's life.

The homes are strictly selected with the family members that are all nice and generous. It is guaranteed that you have an enjoyable and comfortable stay, like second home away from home!

We guarantee you:

- A suitable match between you and your host
- Comfortable accommodations
- Nice and friendly host family members
- A beautiful homestay memory

Through a homestay, you will:

- Make new friends
- Experience a brand new culture
- Learn and practice Chinese phrases
- Gather new interpersonal skills

h) Principal Summit

The Principal Summit is for school principals, directors and scholars from the education system of the US and China to exchange ideas and discuss issues in the field of education.

The Organizing Committee will invite over 300 principals, deans, directors and scholars from schools and colleges of the US and China to attend the Principals Summit that will be held in the Hotel Interlaken within OCT EAST. Attendants will discuss topics in the frontier area of education and education system in 3 to 4 days.

The Summit is a platform for China's and America's major educators to exchange education experience, to explore new development orientation, and

seek cooperation opportunity. The Summit is composed of the Forum and the Seminars. At the Forum, speeches on more general topics will be delivered by keynote speakers, while topics for the Seminars will be more focused and specific.

Selected student participants will also attend the Summit. They will be to raise questions to the speakers of the Forum on behalf of their fellow participants and deliver speeches in the Seminars.

i) Time Capsule

The Time Capsule is a concluding event to all the activities of the Festival.

All participants will be warmly welcomed to the Time Capsule to witness the closing ceremony. Representatives of the Festival participants will deliver the addresses concluding their Arts Festival, and pick one specific item which they believe highlights the Festival, and along with a letter they write to participants five years later, will place it in a time capsule. The time capsule will be buried, and in five years uncovered at the closing ceremony of 2015 US-China Arts Festival, when the authors of the letters will be invited to read aloud them in front of the audiences.

4. Major Venues

a) OCT EAST

OCT East resort, a 3.5-billion-yuan investment supported by OCT group, is located at DaMeiSha, Shenzhen. Occupying about 9 square kilometers, OCT East, the national ecological resort featuring tourism culture, aims at providing visitors with an opportunity to escape from the bustle of city life and return to the nature.



Elaborately designed along the mountain and the sea, OCT East resort has three major theme parks: Knight Valley, Tea Stream Valley and Wind Valley. It has many cultural travel functions, such as ecological tourism, vacation, outdoor sports etc., to indicate the harmonious relationship between human and nature.

Phase I of the resort opened on Jul. 28th 2007, offering a vast array of attractions to the public. Tea Stream Valley, a combination of western and eastern cultures, has been constructed based on many fundamental elements such as tea, Buddhism, follower and bamboo etc. Wind Valley features Olympic and golf sports, the Interlaken OCT Hotel, The Interlaken Spa, and the Tea Show. The second phase of the project, Knight Valley, will open in 2008. This park will distinguish itself by forests, rivers and outer space, Red Wine Town and the Statue of Guanyin Sitting in a Lotus Throne.

b) Shenzhen Oriental English College (SOEC)

SOEC serves as the camp for teachers, attendants and their custodians who participate in the Festival.



Founded in 1994, Shenzhen Oriental English College has been the pioneering and leading private boarding school in Shenzhen City. It comprises a full range of primary and secondary education, from kindergarten all the way to high school, and a college preparatory program. Designated by the National and Guangdong Provincial Education Research Institutes as an experimental school with an international education program and experienced personnel. OEC aims at fostering well-rounded graduates with all the qualifications necessary for the new century.

c) Shenzhen Poly Theater

Located on the west bank of Shenzhen Bay in downtown Nanshan District, the new landmark, in the shape of a drop of water, had its soft opening in 2008.





Poly Theater, while bearing some resemblance to the National Grand Theater, is curvier, leading some to call it “the computer mouse.” Upon entering the building, visitors are confronted with a spacious lobby with a transparent roof which allows in sunshine during the day and attract attention with its lighting at night.

Inside the theater, more than 1,500 seats on three terraces and eight balconies look over the 1,700-square-meter central stage.

In front of the stage is an orchestra pool that can be elevated during the performance of operas and musicals. A huge movable platform and several hundred computer-controlled lamps allow for the most dazzling stage effects. There are a total of 17 dressing rooms backstage.

The Beijing-based China Poly Group Corporation has invested millions of dollars in this new theater in Shenzhen, which took three years to complete. With the maturing of a well-knit local society and growing demands for entertainment and art, Shenzhen is a highly valued market for the No. 1 live performance supplier in China.

5. Locations(Cities)

a) Shenzhen



Shenzhen is adjacent to Hong Kong. With a sub-tropical marine climate, the weather in Shenzhen is pleasant with rich rainfall. The average temperature of the year is 22.4 C, which is suitable for living and travel. Thanks to its beautiful natural environment, it is regarded as “the Park City”. It certainly lives up to its name, for so far, there are over 400 parks, beauty spots and forest parks all over the city.

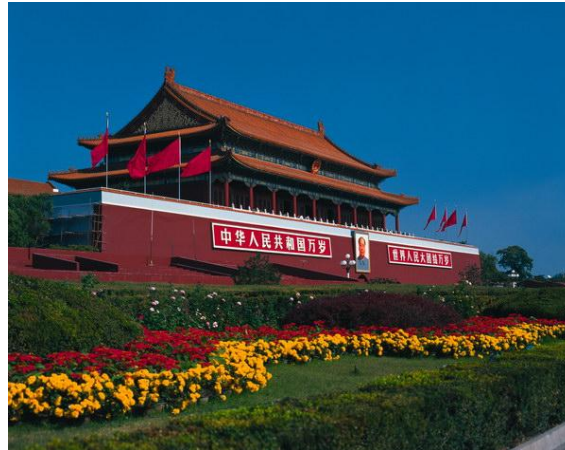
As a window of economical and general reform and a newly-emerging migrant

city, Shenzhen, with its unique geography and cultural environment, has built its culture on openness, tolerance, and innovation. It is a young and modernized coastal city that attracts transnational companies all over the world to invest and elites from home and abroad to start business and seek development.

At present, Shenzhen is getting more and more internationalized with up to 13,000 foreigners living and working in Shenzhen. They are from 111 different countries, mainly representatives from the Chinese branch of foreign companies, employees of Sino-foreign companies, professionals of culture or education circle together with overseas students.

b) Beijing

Beijing is a metropolis in northern China and the capital of the People's Republic of China. It is one of the four municipalities of the PRC, which are equivalent to provinces in China's administrative structure. The municipality of Beijing borders Hebei Province to the north, west, south, and for a small section in the east, and Tianjin Municipality to the southeast. Beijing is one of the Four Great Ancient Capitals of China.



Beijing is China's second largest city after Shanghai, with a municipal populace exceeding more than 17 million and an urban populace of 13 million residents. Beijing is a major transportation hub, hosting dozens of railways, roads and motorways as well as serving as the focal point of many international flights to China. Beijing is well recognized as the political, educational, and cultural center of the People's Republic of China, while Shanghai and Hong Kong dominate in economic fields.

Few cities in the world besides Beijing have served as the political and cultural centre of an area as immense as China for so long. The Encyclopedia Britannica describes it as, "One of the world's great cities, and declares that

“the city has been an integral part of China’s history for centuries”. There is scarcely a major building of any age in Beijing that doesn't have at least some national historical significance. Beijing is renowned for its opulent palaces, temples, and huge stone walls and gates. Its art treasures and universities have long made the city a centre of culture and art in China.

c) Hong Kong



Hong Kong is located on China's south coast, 60 km (37 mi) east of Macau on the opposite side of the Pearl River Delta. It is surrounded by the South China Sea on the east, south, and west, and borders the city of Shenzhen, Guangdong to the north over the Shenzhen River. The territory's 1,104 sq km (426 sq mi) area consists primarily of Hong Kong Island, Lantau, Kowloon Peninsula and the New Territories as well as some 260 other islands. Of the total area, 1,054 sq km (407 sq mi) is land and 50 sq km (19 sq mi) is water.

Hong Kong is frequently described as a place where East meets West, reflecting a mix of the territory's Chinese roots with the culture brought to it during its time as a British colony. Although over a decade has passed since the handover, Western cultural practices remain and coexist seamlessly with the traditional philosophy and practices of Chinese culture.

One of the more noticeable contradictions is Hong Kong's balancing of a modernized way of life with traditional Chinese practices. Concepts like feng shui are taken very seriously, with expert consultants hired to monitor expensive construction and are often believed to make or break a business. Other objects like Ba gua mirrors are still regularly used to deflect evil spirits, and buildings often lack any floor number that has a 4 in it, due to its similarity to the word for "die" in the Chinese language. The fusion of east and west also characterizes Hong Kong's cuisine, where dim sum, hot pot and fast food restaurants can all be found side by side.

6. Accommodation

During the stay in Shenzhen, participants will be accommodated in the dormitories of Shenzhen Oriental English College.

Embraced by mountains, facing towards the ocean, Shenzhen Oriental English College is located just 2 miles to the north of Shenzhen Bao'an International Airport. Its beautiful campus covers an area of 1.6 million square feet, featuring modern, well-equipped buildings, trees, gardens and flowers.

We provide air-conditioned rooms, each accommodating four participants of the same sex and similar age. The rooms are all clean, spacious and quiet, with independent bathroom and toilet facilities. The dormitory building is securely guarded 24/7, ensuring the kids a totally danger-free living environment. The staffs are on duty at nights and ready to meet the kids' needs anytime.

We have on staff very experienced chefs, who cook dishes from delicious and nutritious children-oriented Western and Chinese menus. The dining hall is equipped with a sanitary and industrious kitchen, large dining space and over-head TV's.

Other facilities include:

- Laundry room
- Computer center with Internet access
- Music room
- Arts room
- Exercise room
- Mini theater
- Convenient Store
- Stadium
- Gymnasium
- Basketball courts
- Soccer field
- Swimmer pool

7. Safety & Security

We will do everything we can to make sure the kids are living a secure lives in the camp. Our staff to child ratio is 1:8, and our staff is trained in safety procedures so that every child is under full supervision. The selection of the

staff and volunteer members is strictly in accordance with our policies and regulations, and we check the criminal background on every candidate before employing him/her.

The camp is also guarded by a security force 24/7, and night patrols cover every corner and floor of the dorm building. Every building, including the dorm and the halls, is under surveillance to monitor signs and indications of possible violence—bullying, harassment, or abuse—and prevent it from happening.

Our counselor to child ratio is 1:30, and they are all well-trained in conflict resolution and bullying/abuse awareness and prevention. In addition to conducting reference and criminal record checks on all counselors, we will ensure a counselor is never alone with one child, and that younger children are not left unsupervised with older youth.

8. Healthcare

The camp has a specialized 24-hour First Aid team on site. The team is formed by excellent doctors and nurses from local hospitals. Be it a stomachache or a papercut, our First Aid team will offer instant medical attention. All medication that participants bring must be stored in a secure place and dispensed by qualified First Aiders. If any participant needs special medical service, he/she is to notify us 30 days prior to the opening day.

In the event of an emergency, we have 24-hour access to the nearest hospitals. We will, beforehand, register with all nearest hospitals. If a participant is taken to see a doctor for any reason, parents/guardians will be notified as soon as possible.[fc](#)

9. Insurance

Participants who attend the camp and participate in the activities of the Festival must purchase insurance before they can register into the events. We recommend you should join a travel insurance plan that includes coverage for trip cancellation and interruption, default, trip delay, and medical expenses from your local insurance agency. Please consult your lawyer or your local insurance agency for more detailed information.

10. Stuff to Bring

- Casual wear (Old clothes are best for camp!)

- Slippers
- Swimming suit
- Wash bag—soap, washcloth, toothpaste, toothbrush, deodorant, brush and a plastic bag
- Sufficient underwear
- Moderate amount of money (Don't bring too much!)
- Sunglasses, sun screen, mosquito repellent
- Young artists or young athletes can bring instruments or sports equipments

11. Registration: see registration forms for student, principal, teacher, parents and chaperon

12. Payment: See Guideline for applicants