

## Chinese Food Was Popular in “Zonta” Food Festival

On March 9, 2019, American local time, Confucius Institute at Troy University Dothan team and Troy team took part in the 32<sup>nd</sup> International Food Festival. Chinese food was very popular.

At 1:30 pm, visiting scholars, Jiang Na and He Yan came to the venue and decorated the Chinese food booth into Chinese style with fans and Chinese Opera masks. The visiting scholars of Dothan campus and Troy campus had already dressed themselves up in various Chinese ethnic costumes before the activity started. Although our booth was not close to the center court, the location didn't affect Chinese food popularity at all. There was still a long line at the table. Some people asked excitedly when they saw dumplings, "Can I take more than one?" Some other lovely people came back after eating our food just in order to give us a thumbs-up and said, "Your food is so yummy!" Visiting scholars were too busy to take a break. Some were serving food, some wearing ethnic costumes were taking photos with visitors together as invited, and some were busy with translating a Chinese recipe of oil leached eggplant for the grandpa from neighboring booth. The grandpa said this recipe had been given by a Chinese chef years ago, but he couldn't find one who can read it. Finally he got it today, so he is going to cook the oil leached eggplant when he participates in this festival next year.

Half way through the event, two dozens of trays, five different dishes we had prepared had almost been served out. Fortunately, we prepared enough dumplings according to our experience. Many people went back for two times, three times, even four times... "Great! Dumplings are still available. They are really good!" they said, as they were taking dumplings. An old lady came to us and said, "I'm sorry. I want to take them home for my daughter. It's her favorite." "Oh, I'm so full, but I don't care. I just want to have some more dumplings. They are so good!" Several foreign ladies said as they were filling their plates. No doubt, those were their sincere words. After eating dumplings, the foreign friends in neighboring booths began to recommend our dumplings to the diners around their tables.

Close to the end of the event, over twenty trays were all empty. So different places we come from but so identical taste we have for delicious food.

## “Zonta” 美食节，中国美食大放光彩

美国当地时间 2019 年 3 月 9 日，特洛伊大学孔子学院多森校区和特洛伊校区的访问学者们参加了“Zonta”美食节。中国美食大受欢迎。

中午一点半，访问学者姜娜和何艳来到会场对中国美食区用扇子、脸谱进行了颇有中国风的布置。活动开始前，多森校区的访问学者们和前来支援的特洛伊校区的访问学者程文娟、何静、张蕴初已经穿戴好中国民族服装。虽然我们的美食区靠里，但并没有多大影响，桌子前大排长龙。有的人看到饺子欣喜地问“我可以多拿一些吗？”还有一些可爱的人儿，吃完了特意回到中国美食区向我们竖起大拇指说“你们的食物太好吃了！”访问学者们一刻不得闲，有的帮食客夹食物，有的应邀穿着民族服装摆拍、合影，有的还帮隔壁美食区的老爷爷翻译了一份中文油淋茄子的食谱。爷爷说这个食谱是好多年前一个中国厨师那得到的，一直找不到懂中文的人，今天终于知道怎么做了，打算明年参加这个活动的时候做油淋茄子。

活动进行到一半，我们备的 5 种，二十几盘菜只剩下饺子了，幸好饺子备得多。不少人回头取了第二次，第三次，第四次……一边夹着仅剩的饺子，一边说：“太棒了，还有！真是太好吃了！”一位女士过来说“真不好意思，我想带回去给我女儿尝尝，这是她最喜欢的。”还有几位女士一边往盘子里夹着，一边说：“哎呀，我吃的太饱了，但是我不在乎，我只想再多来一些饺子。”从她们夹菜的果断程度判断，这是肺腑之言。隔壁左右美食区的外国朋友们在吃了饺子以后，开始向他们桌边的食客们推荐，尝尝饺子，真是太美味了！

活动接近尾声的时候，所有二十几盘菜全部光盘。大家虽然来自五湖四海，但对美味的认识却如此一致。