

## **Chinese Calligraphy Class Started at Montgomery Campus of Confucius Institute at Troy University**

On the afternoon of March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019, the Chinese calligraphy class of Confucius Institute at Troy University was officially opened on the third floor of Rosa Park Museum at the Montgomery Campus. The visiting scholars of CITU got all the things to be needed, like copybooks, bamboo painting brushes, ink and paper ready for the calligraphy class before the students came. Mr. Zhelin Dang, one of the visiting scholars, is the instructor of the calligraphy class.

Two of the students are Alisa and her son, Nash. Alisa is a Spanish teacher in Forest Avenue Academic Magnet Elementary School in Montgomery. She has a great interest in Chinese calligraphy and Chinese art. After learning that CITU will have a Chinese calligraphy class, she signed up immediately. On the afternoon of March 7<sup>th</sup>, regardless of the tiredness after a whole day's work, Alisa came to the office of CITU in Montgomery city. Though she couldn't speak Chinese now, Alisa is very eager to learn Chinese calligraphy and Chinese culture and arts. She said that she could probably learn Chinese through the process of learning calligraphy. Nash is a fourth-grade student from Forest Avenue Academic Magnet Elementary School. He is also curious about Chinese calligraphy and tries to write some simple Chinese characters in the class.

Chinese calligraphy has a unique artistic appeal, which makes the characters not only a written expression of Chinese, but also a unique art form. Through Chinese calligraphy, Chinese corners, Tai Chi and other art forms, Confucius Institute at Troy University brings traditional Chinese culture and arts to the local community and the world.

## 为爱学中文

Kate 是一位退休多年的老太太，家住阿拉巴马州的蒙哥马利市。自从她有一个来自中国的儿媳妇，她就萌生了学中文的念头。当她得知特洛伊大学孔子学院蒙哥马利校区开设了成人中文课后，就立刻来报了名。她一来就表达了学中文的目的是为了跟来自中国重庆的儿媳妇及亲家交流，也为了更好地了解中国文化，因此学习中文的心情更加迫切。

虽然跟年轻人相比，Kate 中文发音的准确度不足，学习进度相对缓慢，但她学习态度认真积极，每次上课在教室认真听讲，记笔记，主动开口练习；回到家中复习笔记，并通过电子词典反复复习。

Kate 学习中文的初衷就是那么简单，为爱而学！这样的学生怎能不令人感动？Kate 的中文教师也来自重庆，为她学习汉语、练习听说提供更多话题和机会，并为她量身制定相应的教学方案。纳尔逊曼德拉曾说：如果你用对方听得懂的语言跟他交流，他会记在脑子里；如果你用他自己的语言跟他交流，他会记到心里。特大孔院就是这样，细致入微，因材施教，照顾到每个中文学习者的需求，吸引了越来越多人加入到中文学习的队伍中。