

# Confucius Institute at Troy University

January 18, 2020

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## CIT BEGINS SEMESTER COURSES AT E. L. LOWDER LIBRARY

On January 18th, 2020, the Confucius Institute at Troy University in Montgomery started the Chinese courses for the new semester at E. L. Lowder Library, opening with the celebration of the Chinese New Year. Over 20 students participated in the event.

In the first lesson of the new year, Ms. Zhijing Qiu, a CIT Visiting Scholar, shared some Chinese characters, such as “春联(couplets)”, “福字(happiness)” and “放鞭炮(setting off the firecrackers)” about the Chinese New Year. She also taught the students how to make Chinese New Year decorations with the character “春(spring)”.

At the end, the Visiting Scholars also shared Chinese Tea Culture with the students to celebrate the Chinese New Year. The event was successful.

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## CONFUCIUS INSTITUTE ATTENDS THE DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING PARADE

The Confucius Institute at Troy University was invited to attend a parade on January 20th in 2020, the holiday to remember Dr. Martin Luther King, the leader of the Civil Rights Movement.

Various events, like parades and rallies, are held throughout the United States to celebrate this holiday. Since 1986, the third Monday of January each year has been Martin Luther King National Day.

The parade started from the southern part of the Montgomery Campus of Troy University and marched eastward to the Capitol of Alabama. The Visiting Scholars performed both the dragon and lion dances which were greatly welcomed. The two lively and lovely lions drew the attention of the children. The Dragon dance team performed the “8-shape Dragon Dance”, “Flying Dragon Dance” and “Jumping Dragon Dance”.

The audience on both sides of the road stopped and took pictures of the performance. This event helped to establish a stronger influence of the Confucius Institute at Troy University in Montgomery.





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## CIT CELEBRATES CHINESE NEW YEAR WITH VISIT FROM ECLECTIC MIDDLE SCHOOL

On January 21st, more than 120 teachers and students from Eclectic Middle School in Elmore County, Alabama gathered at the Confucius Institute to celebrate the Chinese New Year. Dr. Li Fang first introduced the customs of the Chinese Spring Festival to the students, including things such as the 12 Chinese zodiac signs and Peking Opera. The scholars then had the students color Peking Opera masks and make New Year's gifts. After that, the students visited the Terracotta Warriors and the Confucius Institute Cultural Exhibition Hall. They learned to play traditional Chinese musical instruments and learn Chinese chess, which inspired a strong interest in Chinese culture. This event is one of a series of Confucius Institute's events celebration of the Chinese New Year.



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# Confucius Institute at Troy University

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## CONFUCIUS INSTITUTE CELEBRATES CHINESE NEW YEAR AT CHMS

The Confucius Institute at Troy University celebrated the coming of the Chinese year of the Rat at Charles Henderson Middle School. On the afternoon of January 23rd, Zhou's Family Band was invited to perform for the teachers and students at the CHMS Confucius Classroom. Zhou's Family Band plays music with traditional wind and percussion instruments. They performed songs such as "Bai Hua Tang," "Hundred Birds Saluting the Phoenix," and "Yu Opera." Then they introduced a variety of stunt performances.

With their performance, the audience was amazed and clapped along to the rhythm of the music. After the performance, the principal of Charles Henderson Middle School Mr. Aaron Brown said that he appreciated the Confucius Institute for bringing Chinese culture to his school, so that teachers and students could experience the charm of Chinese folk art. Zhou's Family Band played "Happy New Year" as the last song while students dismissed.

This performance is one of the CIT activities celebrating the Chinese New Year. It aims to bring Chinese folk art into the Confucius Classroom, so that teachers and students can experience Chinese culture from multiple aspects. It also reflects the continuous support of the Confucius Institute at Troy University for the exchange of culture with Alabamian students.

