

## **CIT Attended Chinese New Year Celebration in Birmingham, Alabama**

February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2018 is the third day of Chinese New Year celebration. Confucius Institute at Troy University (CIT) was invited to attend the 12th Birmingham Chinese New Year Celebration held at Boutwell Auditorium in downtown Birmingham, Alabama. The celebration kicked off at 11:00 am. Thousands of Chinese and local people who love Chinese culture attended the ceremony with great interests.

At the beginning of the event, Ms. Hongmei Liu, Deputy Consul General of the Consulate General of People's Republic of China in Houston, came to CIT's booths to learn about its overall work schedule during the Chinese New Year celebration. She fully affirmed CIT's great efforts to promote Chinese culture and Chinese language teaching. She especially congratulated CIT on winning the award of "Confucius Institute of the Year 2017", and sent Chinese New Year greetings and wishes to all CIT staff.

During the event, Chinese teachers from Yuren Chinese School at Birmingham and Tuscaloosa Chinese School also came to the CIT booths to learn from the CIT's experience in cultural promotion and to discuss about the cooperation with CIT in the future.

CIT had three large exhibition booths in this big event. Chinese knots, Chinese calligraphy, Chinese paper-cut, Chinese paper fans and other arrangements with rich Chinese charm were particularly prominent among the nearly 40 booths in Boutwell Auditorium. The CIT booths were home to books and CD-ROMs of Chinese language learning and various Chinese cultures. CIT staff and their family members also demonstrated Chinese calligraphy and bracelet knotting skills. Guests from all over the country attentively listened to the brief introduction of CIT, curiously inquired about Chinese customs, carefully selected their favorite Chinese books, enthusiastically appreciated Chinese calligraphy displays, and joyfully experienced the traditional Chinese New Year celebration.

CIT has participated in the Birmingham Chinese New Year Celebration for eight years. The organization committee specially thanked CIT for its long support to this event and praised CIT's outstanding contribution to Chinese teaching and cultural promotion in Alabama.

