

## **CIT Held a Field Trip to Chinese Restaurant**

On May 10, 2018, the field trip of "*Chinese Traditional Food Experience*" organized by Confucius Institute at Troy University (CIT) for the Confucius Classroom in Pike Road Historic School (PRHS) was held in a Chinese restaurant, Montgomery. Thirty students from Grade 7 participated in this event. This field trip included several activities such as, making orders in Chinese, learning Chinese tea art, practicing Chinese paper-folding and tasting Chinese food. This experience opened a window for the students to move on to their further Chinese language learning.

Ms. Zheng Zhou, a visiting scholar from CIT, demonstrated students the Chinese tea art and guided everyone to experience it. Ms. Zhengqing Cui, another visiting scholar from CIT, showed the students how to make paper roses for the coming Mothers' Day. She hoped that the children could give their mothers a surprise with a gift made with love. The students also practised ordering Chinese food such as, dumplings, fried noodles, Twice Cooked Pork in Chinese and used chopsticks to eat for the first time. The students were very excited to have such authentic Chinese food. Everyone said they would taste more Chinese food later.

Since the establishment of Confucius Classroom in PRHS, the number of students studying Chinese has been increasing year by year. In the Confucius Classroom, the Chinese teacher shared the Chinese language and culture with the students in the way of "education and pleasure". In the YCT test held in April, 2018, 81% of the students passed the YCT1 test and the passing rate of the YCT2 was as high as 100%. Now more and more students are expecting to continue to learning Chinese in the new semester.

The event was strongly supported by CIT Director, Dr. Iris Hong Xu, Deputy Director, Mr. Zhi Zha and the principal of the PRHS, Mr. Sikes.

