Invitation for Participation

Dates: August 3-7, 2016

Location: JM School, Los Angeles, California

Registration Deadline: May 27, 2016

Organized by: The Chinese Language Association of Secondary-Elementary Schools (CLASS)

Sponsored by: The Chinese People’s Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries (CPAFFC)

The objectives of the contest aim at promoting better understanding and appreciation of the language and culture of each other among student participants from China and the United States in light of The One Million Strong Initiative.

Registration and Rules

1. The contest will pair selected students into teams, i.e. each team has one student chosen by CLASS from a US school and one from a school in China. Students from the US schools use Chinese while students from China use English in the contest.

2. In order to encourage better cultural interaction between student-participants from both countries within a team, only non-native Chinese speakers/students are invited to take part in the contest as the US participants.

3. Topic of preliminary stage of the speech competition is “An Interesting Happening (一件有趣的事情)”.

   Requirements:
   a. speech is written based on the topic “An interesting happening”;
   b. speech should be original and be in Mandarin Chinese;
   c. the length of the speech is between one to three minutes.

4. Each school may enter up to two students for the contest. Individual schools should decide how their participants are selected (e.g. holding a preliminary school-wide speech contest).

5. Heritage students already speaking Mandarin before taking Chinese in school are not eligible.

6. Based on the results of the preliminary screening and selection from all entries, qualified finalists will be invited to Los Angeles, California, to compete on-site. All travel expenses from home to Los Angeles are participants’ own responsibilities. Expenses during the competition while in Los Angeles are all covered by the organizer. The invitation notice will be sent out on June 3, 2016.

7. The contest is for high school and middle school students only. There will be 2 categories. Within each category (listed in item #8), contestants compete for the opportunity to win a scholarship to go to China and study for one
month in selected schools and/or universities in China. Specific time for the study will be decided between the winner and the organizer.

8. Categories:
   Group A: for high school students
   Group B: for middle school students.

9. Schedule of the event

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>ACTION BY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5/27/2016 (Friday)</td>
<td>Registration deadline</td>
<td>Participants and teachers of respective schools</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/3/2016 (Friday)</td>
<td>Notice of acceptance</td>
<td>Organizer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/3/2016 (Wednesday)</td>
<td>Arrival and pairing up (more details are to be announced)</td>
<td>Participants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/4/2016 (Thursday)</td>
<td>School Activities</td>
<td>Trainers and participants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/5/2016 (Friday)</td>
<td>Forming Team &amp; Ice-Breaking</td>
<td>Trainers &amp; participants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/6/2016 (Saturday)</td>
<td>Final Contest &amp; Prize-Presentation Ceremony</td>
<td>Participants, Teachers &amp; Judges</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/7/2016 (Sunday)</td>
<td>Departure</td>
<td>participants</td>
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10. To be entered into a screening for the final contest, each participant should submit the following materials:

   1) two completed Registration Forms (in Chinese and English)
   2) the recorded speech (1 - 3 minutes)
      The recording of the speech should be in MP3 format with participant’s name as the file name.
   3) the script of the speech in WORD or PDF format.

11. Registration (use attached Registration Forms in Chinese and English) begins on April 30, 2016, and ends on May 27, 2016. The Application Forms must include a student photo (2 inch x 2 inch /color), a student signature, recommending teacher’s signature, as well as a parent or guardian’s signature.

12. Please submit all registration materials to the email address listed below by May 27, 2016.
   USWestSpeechContest16@gmail.com

13. We wish to invite you to select student representatives of your school to participate in this event. As this the first time of its kind in the US, we would also like to hear from you about your suggestions regarding the process of this event.

   For more information, or if you have questions, please refer to http://www.classk12.org/ or email to Ms. Ying Jin at USWestSpeechContest16@gmail.com.

   Thank you for your support and active participation!

Sincerely,

Baocai Jia
President of CLASS

Yu Tian Tian
Chairperson of Organizing Committee
Representative of CPAFFC