



BUFFALO STATE
The State University of New York



Center for China Studies

CCS Newsletter

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CCS Newsletter

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I. CHINA WEEK OPENS A NEW CHAPTER, SHOWCASING THE DIVERSITY AND BEAUTY OF CHINESE CULTURE

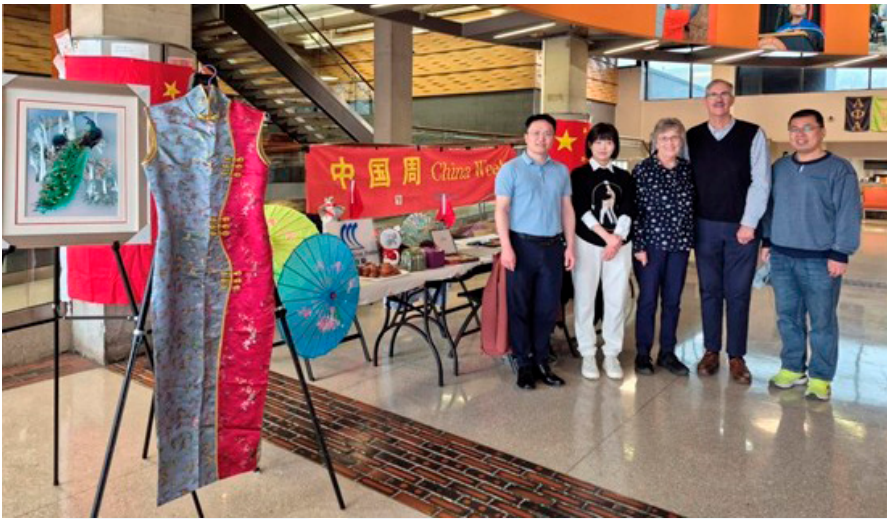
From April 20 to 24, 2026, the Center for China Studies at Buffalo State University hosted its annual China Week on campus. Continuing the Center's long-standing tradition of promoting cultural exchange between China and the United States, this year's event further expanded its exhibits, participants, and interactive activities. Featuring traditional Chinese arts, folk crafts, festival culture, everyday aesthetics, and Chinese martial arts, the event became a distinctive celebration of Chinese culture during the spring semester.

Organized by the Center for China Studies, China Week 2026 was actively supported by visiting scholars from China. Visiting scholars Li Jinguo Li and Deng Lyu from Hunan First Normal University, together with Yang Dongliang from Jilin University, helped prepare the exhibits, introduced cultural items, facilitated interactive activities, and engaged with visitors. Through themes such as traditional Chinese clothing, folk crafts, calligraphy, festival customs, everyday aesthetics, and the spirit of Chinese martial arts, they presented the rich meanings of Chinese culture to Buffalo State faculty, students, and community visitors.

The exhibition featured a wide range of cultural items. Included in the exhibit were qipao dresses representing the beauty of traditional Chinese clothing; Chinese knots, Spring Festival couplets, lanterns, and the Chinese zodiac symbolizing good fortune, reunion, and blessings. Porcelain, folding fans, and oil-paper umbrellas reflected the aesthetics of Chinese craftsmanship. Calligraphy works and desk calendars highlighted Chinese writing and cultural concepts of time. Face-changing dolls and books on Chinese culture also attracted many visitors. The inclusion of



Mr. Zhang Yuanming and his marshal arts students performed at the exhibition.



Barb and Phil Klumpp, CCS long time friends, visited the current visiting scholars at the China Week 2026



At the China Week site

community. Visitors from different cultural backgrounds exchanged ideas about Chinese festivals, clothing, food, art, written language, traditional customs, and martial arts. Some students showed strong interest in calligraphy, Chinese knots, the Chinese zodiac, and martial arts, while others learned more about Chinese history and social life through books on Chinese culture. These on-site interactions made China Week not only a cultural exhibition, but also a process of cross-cultural dialogue.

a Chinese martial arts demonstration added a dynamic dimension to the event, allowing visitors to experience Chinese culture not only through objects and images, but also through bodily movement, expressive energy, and ritual practice.

Different from earlier descriptions that focused mainly on “displaying Chinese culture,” this year’s China Week placed greater emphasis on how cultural understanding is formed through interaction. The visiting scholars not only introduced the names and uses of the exhibits, but also explained their connections to Chinese festival life, social etiquette, aesthetic values, cultural expression, and embodied traditions. For example, Chinese knots convey wishes for peace and good fortune; Spring Festival couplets express hopes for renewal and family well-being; the Chinese zodiac reflects traditional concepts of time and folk memory; qipao dresses embody clothing culture and bodily aesthetics; and calligraphy brings together the structure of Chinese characters, the spirit of brushwork, and ideas of personal cultivation. Chinese martial arts, with their balance of strength and flexibility, integration of internal discipline and external form, and emphasis on respect and self-cultivation, offered another meaningful entry point for visitors to understand traditional Chinese culture.

The event attracted students, faculty, staff, and members of the local



Provost Amitra Wall visited the China Week exhibitions



Learn Chinese calligraphy

The continued success of China Week reflects the important role of the Center for China Studies in advancing campus internationalization and deepening cultural understanding between China and the United States. Through the joint participation of visiting scholars, students, and community members, China Week 2026 connected traditional cultural displays, embodied cultural experiences, and contemporary campus engagement, bringing Chinese culture into an American university setting in a direct, approachable, and engaging way. Looking ahead, the Center will continue to use China Week and similar programs as platforms for cultural exchange, academic collaboration, and community outreach, to build bridges of understanding and respect among cultures. (Li Jinguo)



Yang Dongliang

II. INTRODUCTION TO DR. YANG DONGLIANG AND DR. DENG LYU, VISITING SCHOLARS TO THE CENTER FOR CHINA STUDIES

Yang Dongliang is a professor from Jilin University in China. His research focuses on regional economics, population economics and happiness. He earned his Ph.D. degree in economics from Jilin university and is a doctoral supervisor. He is a council member in both the China Society of Quantitative Economics and the China Society for Futures Studies.

Dr. Deng Lyu, a Lecturer holding a Ph.D. in Education, currently serves as a full-time faculty member specializing in Early Childhood Education at the College of Education, Hunan First Normal University. Dr. Deng's research focuses on children aged 0 to 6, with a particular emphasis on their mental health and family education. She has led two provincial-level and two university-level research projects, participated in numerous other provincial-level projects, and authored a textbook. She has developed one "Class A" and one "Class B" university-level "Golden Course"—courses recognized for their exceptional quality—and has published numerous academic papers. Her achievements have earned her various honors, including the title of "Outstanding Provincial-Level Instructor of Hunan Province" and recognition as an "Outstanding Individual" by Hunan First Normal University.

In April 2026, Dr. Deng embarked on a one-year academic visit to Buffalo State University, where she is conducting research under the mentorship of Professor Zhang Jie, a renowned expert in the fields of psychology and sociology. Currently, she is dedicated to researching the policies and regulations governing the early childhood education system in the United States. She has been deeply impressed by Buffalo State University's vibrant academic atmosphere, forward-looking research culture, and inclusive, open community environment.

It is anticipated that her year-long academic visit to Buffalo State University will broaden her international horizons and enhance her research capabilities, while simultaneously serving as a solid bridge for future academic exchange and cooperation in the field of education between China and the United States.



Deng Lyu

III. OPPORTUNITY TO STUDY IN CHINA IN SUMMER OF 2026

A new study-abroad program is available for Buffalo State University students in July of 2026. The name of the program is Zhi-Xing China-U.S.-China University Student Leaders Academy program. The capacity is about 30-40 American students. Both graduate and undergraduate students with good disciplinary and academic standing can apply.

The two-week program will be in Beijing, Suzhou (Jiangsu Province), and Lanzhou (Gansu Province). Costs in China, including accommodation and meals, insurance, inter-city transportation are covered. Additionally, international flights (round trip) are covered as well. More information can be found with the link: <https://ecnay5auqaf7.feishu.cn/share/base/form/shrcnvJ3zfxJMRw5YJcX9FBdbac>.

To apply, please email Professor Tian Yongbo in the Modern and Classical Languages Department: tiany@buffalostate.edu.

This study abroad program is hosted by the China Center for International Educational Exchange (CCIEE), a non-profit organization stationed in Beijing, China promoting US-China academic exchanges. The current project is part of the San Francisco Agreement between Chinese President Xi Jinping and then US President Joe Biden in San Francisco in November 2023, that projected 50,000 American students to be invited to visit China within five years.

IV. PROPOSAL OF NEW EXCHANGE PROGRAM BETWEEN BUFFALO STATE UNIVERSITY AND JINGGANGSHAN UNIVERSITY IN CHINA

Buffalo State University and Jinggangshan University in China are negotiating a new 3+1 program. This program will allow Chinese college student to study in Jinggangshan University for the first three years and then come to Buffalo State University for their senior year. Buffalo State University will send faculty to China to teach students in this track some of the requested courses. The students will earn bachelor's degrees from both Jinggangshan University and Buffalo State University. Currently the two administrations are considering specific undergraduate programs that may fit the needs of both sides. When the terms of the exchange program agreement are complete, the program will be moved to the SUNY Central level for approval.