



Young Envoys Scholarship

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中国教育国际交流协会
CHINA EDUCATION ASSOCIATION FOR INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE

Build a brighter future together: Zhi-Xing China: U.S.-China Youth Leaders Dialogue



In November 2023, during President Xi Jinping's visit to the U.S., he announced a significant initiative to "invite 50,000 young Americans to China on exchange and study programs in the next five years." As part of this initiative, China has set up the Young Envoys Scholarship (YES), providing more opportunities for American youth to come to China for exchange and study, and allowing them to experience China firsthand and gain a true, multi-dimensional, and panoramic view of China.

Zhi-Xing China: U.S.-China Youth Leaders Dialogue was held at Peking University on July 18, to enhance friendship and promote mutual understanding between Chinese and American youth. The program was co-hosted by the China Education Association for International Exchange (CEAIE) and Peking University. Distinguished guests in attendance included Chen Jie, Vice Minister of Education of China and Academician of Chinese Academy of Engineering; Yang Dan, Director-General of the Department of International Cooperation and

Exchanges of the Ministry of Education; Yang Jun, Vice President and Secretary General of China Education Association for International Exchange; Gong Qihuang, President of Peking University and Academician of Chinese Academy of Sciences; Fang Fang, Vice President of Peking University; and Yuan Ming, Honorary Dean of Yenching Academy and professor of the School of International Studies of Peking University. Over 200 students from nearly 50 universities in China and the U.S., including Harvard, Princeton, the University of Chicago, Peking University, and Tsinghua University, participated in the program.

The Dialogue featured three parallel sub-forums with the themes of "Youth Exchange and Mutual Understanding," "Climate Change and Green Development," and "Technological Innovation and the Future." Young people from both countries, drawing on their rich experiences of studying and researching in China, engaged in roundtable discussions on global topics such as enhancing cross-cultural understanding among

Overview of Zhi-Xing China: U.S.-China Youth Leaders Dialogue



the youth, promoting sustainable development in the world, and leveraging technology to empower a better future. Through these in-depth discussions, they deepened their friendships, shared valuable insights, and fostered mutual understanding and consensus. These mutual exchanges and learning experiences inspired the Chinese and American youths to envision boundless possibilities for jointly shouldering the responsibilities of the era and creating a brighter future together.

At the closing ceremony, Professor Yuan Ming, Honorary Dean of Yenching Academy of Peking University, delivered a keynote speech entitled "Jointly Innovate to Reconnect the East and the West." Through sharing three stories involving herself and students from both China and abroad, she elaborated on the important role of the younger generation in promoting cultural exchange and mutual learning between the East and the West.

In his message, Chen Jie, Vice Minister of Education of China, shared three keywords: "Experience," "Friendship," and "Future." He expressed his hope that American students could cherish this opportunity of an "immersive experience" in China and gain a true, multi-dimensional, and panoramic view of China. He emphasized that the youth of China and the U.S. are enthusiastic, friendly, open, confident, and full of vigor and vitality, representing the hope for the development of both countries and the future of China-U.S. relations. Chen Jie called on the youth of both countries to join hands to create a more beautiful, peaceful, and prosperous world for the shared future of humanity.

Gong Qihuang, President of Peking University, warmly welcomed the young friends from both China and the U.S. and expressed gratitude to people from all sectors who supported the program. He stated that Peking University would continue to give full play to its strengths and advantages to promote educational exchanges between China and the U.S., strengthen dialogue and cooperation with American university partners, and help build mutual understanding and friendships between the youth of both countries. He encouraged the students to share their experiences in the program with more friends, to introduce a true, multi-dimensional, and panoramic view of China to the world, and to make positive contributions to the healthy and stable development of China-U.S. relations as well as global peace and prosperity.

As one of the key outcomes of the program, young people from both countries jointly released the *PKU Initiative by the U.S.-China Youth*, which embodies the consensus of the youth of both countries in key areas such as people-to-people exchanges, green development, and scientific and technological innovation, opening a new chapter of understanding, exchange, and cooperation between the young people of China and the U.S. The youth of both countries will take the Initiative as the guide to strengthen the cultural exchanges, and jointly paint a colorful picture of civilization; safeguard green development and build a better home for the earth; advance technological innovation and jointly shape a promising future for humanity.

Roundtable discussion: Sharing wisdom of Chinese and American youth

Parallel Session 1: Youth Exchange and Mutual Understanding

Topic: Chinese and American youth discussed the importance of cultural exchange and mutual learning, and how young people could contribute to the peace and prosperity in the future world.



Chinese and American youth are representatives in global cultural exchange, bearing the responsibility to inherit and promote their own excellent culture, enhance mutual trust and friendship, and contribute to a prosperous, peaceful and shared future. This forum called on the universities of both countries to accelerate the improvement of the conditions for exchange and interaction, to build more bridges for the young generation to understand each other and to enhance friendship. **Sofia Sevak from Johns Hopkins University** believed that openness, empathy, and courage were the three essential elements of cross-cultural communication. She said that exchange was a two-way street, not a one-way road and that both Chinese and American youth should have an open mind and the capability to overcome language barriers and accept each other's differences. **Luke Aloe from Dartmouth**

College, who was born in Southern California where many Chinese Americans live, has been exposed to Chinese language and culture since childhood. He had a deep understanding of the Chinese American tradition of preserving and passing on their unique culture. He believed that strengthening exchanges between Chinese and American youth was of great significance. He said, "China and the U.S. are two major powers with significant global influence, and their relationship has a profound impact on the world. Cross-cultural communication is a crucial way for Chinese and American youth to understand each other and serves as the foundation for China-U.S. cooperation."

This session delved into the double-edged role of social media in youth cultural exchanges, discussing frontline issues such as the social responsibilities of social media companies, how to balance online virtual with offline real life, and the influence of personalized algorithms on youth cultural cognition. In the era of global digitalization, the forum emphasized that young people should make good use of social media platforms with respect and curiosity, to build a solid bond for cross-cultural communication.

This session encouraged the young generation of China, the U.S., and around the world to uphold the spirit of openness, inclusiveness, empathy, and exploration, strengthen two-way interactions, actively listen to and share each other's stories, learn each other's languages and cultures, and value the opportunities of people-to-people exchanges, and jointly promote the depth and breadth of global cultural understanding and contribute to creating a

more harmonious and progressive world. **Alyssa Wagner from Harvard University** and **Chen Zhengkun from Beijing Institute of Technology** presented this session's outcomes.



Parallel Session 2: Climate Change and Green Development

Topic: The role of the youth in addressing global environmental challenges and working together to achieve low-carbon and sustainable development, and a greener planet.



This session focused on the severe challenges posed by global climate change, the irreversible impacts of frequent occurrences of extreme climate disasters, and frequent climate changes. **Dong Shengliang from Capital Normal University**, from the perspective of his major in geographic information science, introduced climate changes by monitoring the geographical environmental changes in different regions during his study. He encouraged the students to start with little things around to protect the

environment. **Kyle Bleisch from Wesleyan University** stated, "The Daoist concept of 'harmony of heaven and mankind' in Chinese philosophy aptly describes the relationship between humans and nature. Humans are a part of nature, and human development is closely related to nature." He called on Chinese and American youth to enhance cooperation in environmental protection to reduce carbon emissions and slow down the rise of sea levels.

This session has provided an in-depth analysis, highlighting that climate change is a major challenge facing every citizen, community, and the well-being of all humanity. Chinese and American youth leaders called on people worldwide to take active steps and shoulder responsibility, jointly build a stronghold of responsibility against climate change, and showcase the responsibility and commitment of the younger generation. This session proposed specific moves: encourage individuals to start from daily life by practicing energy-saving and emission-reduction principles, prioritize public transportation, and advocate for a circular economy model to reduce the carbon footprint through concrete actions. At the same time, it also called on enterprises to leverage the power of technological innovation and collaborate with social organizations to embark on a new era of green transformation, to promote sustainable economic and social development.

This session emphasized that international cooperation was a key force in achieving sustainable development goals. Particularly, China and the U.S., as major engines of the global economy, should work hand in hand and take a leading role in driving the world towards a greener, low-carbon, and more sustainable future. **Anna Lehman from Yale University** and **Shi Youwei from Peking University** presented this session's outcomes.

Parallel Session 3: Technological Innovation and the Future

Topic: Technological innovation is a major engine for a better quality of life. Chinese and American youth envision how technology could transform the future of human living.



This session engaged in a lively discussion on technological innovation and its impact on the future of humanity, showcasing the in-depth reflections of Chinese and American youth on this field. When discussing technological advancements, both Chinese and American youth highlighted the changes that technology had brought to daily life and work. **Dong Haoze from Peking University** mentioned that artificial intelligence was not just for entertainment but could also be used in complex surgeries and various aspects of social life. Facing numerous challenges, Chinese and American youth should work together to advance technological progress. **Christina Law from Yale University** shared her observations since arriving in China. She said that she saw firsthand how technology was affecting ordinary people's lives, from the robots at the airports that could answer questions to the electric vehicles with green license plates on the streets, as well as convenient public transportation facilities and mobile payment access, which let her feel the development of science and technology in Beijing. She also

mentioned that technology could help people with disabilities integrate into society, such as electronic guide dogs helping visually impaired people to cross the streets, and translation software helping people with language barriers to communicate. Additionally, technological advancements could also benefit the elderly by helping them enjoy a more independent lifestyle. For example, research was underway in Shanghai on AI-driven elder care, aiming to monitor health conditions and provide companionship. Overall, while AI has contributed to a more supportive society, it is also important to be mindful of the potential negative impacts of technology development.

This session showcased the transformative power of technology in daily life, entertainment, and healthcare through vivid examples, such as cutting-edge applications of drones and virtual reality, igniting the audience's boundless imagination about future technological life. Additionally, this session explored the intersection of technology and language learning, offering new perspectives on the development of language and culture. Artificial intelligence, as a central topic, was analyzed in-depth, with a focus on comparisons between its theoretical and mathematical capabilities and those of human abilities. The forum also offered a series of forward-looking suggestions regarding the potential impacts of AI on politics, economics, and society. These parallel sessions not only enhanced mutual understanding between Chinese and American youth but also injected new energy into bilateral technology innovation cooperation. With enthusiasm and insight, the youth collectively mapped out a promising future driven by technology. **Samuel Kefallinos from UC Berkeley** and **Yu Yawen from Renmin University of China** presented this session's outcomes.

Chinese and American youth reach consensus, jointly release the *PKU Initiative by U.S.-China Youth*

After heated discussions in the parallel sessions, Chinese and American youth focused on ideas, unified their thoughts, and reached a consensus, forming the *PKU Initiative by U.S.-China Youth*. The *Initiative* represents the collective efforts of the youth from both countries and embodies their aspirations for the future. It marks the direction and commitment to future cooperation between the two countries' youth and symbolizes the steadfast friendship between them.

On the historic and milestone occasion marking the 45th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and the United States, more than 200 youth representatives from top universities in both countries have gathered at Peking University in China today. We have had thorough discussions on global issues such as cultural exchanges, green development, and technological innovation, and reached several consensuses. Therefore, we hereby jointly propose the following initiatives, striving to contribute the strength of youth in global development.

Strengthen cultural exchanges and jointly draw a colorful scroll of civilization

Global civilization is enriched through curated opportunities and resources for cultural exchanges. We advocate for respecting the diversity of world civilizations, while also creating common ground. We hereby encourage an increase in infrastructure and opportunities for young people to experience cultural immersion with curiosity, courage, and respect.

Sustain green development and jointly create a beautiful planet Earth that we call home

Our land, our future. We advocate for green development and practice a low-carbon, inclusive, and sustainable lifestyle. We hereby

中美青年北大倡议 The PKU Initiative by U.S.-China Youth



call on all young people, organizations, and corporations in China and the United States to act together and share the responsibility of shaping a more sustainable future for all. Furthermore, we seek to explore an eco-friendly path and jointly build an eco-livable and climate-resilient planet Earth. Our pursuits for a just and greener world are connected.

Promote technological innovation and jointly envision a hopeful future for humanity

Technological innovation is an important engine for driving improvement for humanity. We advocate for innovative development, allowing more technological achievements to equitably benefit all mankind. We hereby call on young people from China and the United States and the whole world to actively engage in technological innovation, act as bridges for technological cooperation, and jointly promote global technological advancement for a better future for mankind.

Jointly Innovate to Reconnect China and West

Professor Yuan Ming, Peking University

Yuan Ming, Honorary Dean of the Yenching Academy and Professor at the School of International Studies of Peking University, fondly recalled her 40 years of dedication to China-U.S. exchanges in her speech. She welcomed the young friends from across the ocean and shared with the youth representatives three stories about China-U.S. cultural exchanges.

The first story was about a young man named Dominic Romeo, whose Chinese name was Luo Shijie. He came to Peking University to learn Chinese and made rapid progress. Quickly, with fluent Chinese, he became a star of a Chinese program on CCTV. Six years ago, he joined Peking University as a Yenching scholar and worked with Professor Yuan for a long time. Professor Yuan once invited him and his friends to the class of American culture and society. In the class, they shared their stories in China. Professor Yuan shared an anecdote about Dominic. Six years ago, in Professor Yuan's class, the students from China and the United States were discussing relations between the two countries. Due to some unpleasant news that day, the atmosphere in the classroom was gloomy. Suddenly, the door opened, with Dominic, holding a basketball in his hand, sweating, and shouting out very excitedly, "We won!" In an instant, the whole room was like winter to spring, with snow and ice melting. The students shouted excitedly, congratulating the team on winning the school competition. The classroom was full of happiness, with everybody cheering, "Wow, congratulations! We won the university championship!" Professor Yuan couldn't help



pondering on the meaning of the word "we" that Dominic mentioned. "What does 'we' mean? 'We' means all human beings -- not Chinese, not Americans, but WE. We share the same concerns and common values as human beings." Dominic is currently pursuing his PhD at the University of Pennsylvania's School of Medicine. He even sent a message expressing his great joy when he knew that Professor Yuan could exchange views with the Chinese and American youth representatives.

In the second story, Professor Yuan recalled the hard days when people around the world fought the COVID-19 pandemic together. She candidly said in those difficult days, as the Dean, she also had low times, but the young people gave her great encouragement and aspirations. They knocked on her door and invited her to a symposium. They said, "We could do that online! We have friends all around the world!" Professor Yuan had felt once again the enormous strength and hope in the young people.

In the third story, Professor Yuan recalled the friendship between Peking University and Dr. Henry Alfred Kissinger, an old friend

Keynote speech by Professor Yuan Ming, Peking University



of Chinese people. Professor Yuan and Dr. Kissinger have known each other for more than thirty years. Dr. Kissinger made his first trip to Peking University 23 years ago. He passed by a group of 30 to 40 Peking University students from different departments and schools and stopped to talk with them. A girl named Zhang Xiaoxiao, who was holding *Diplomacy*, the book written by Dr. Kissinger, caught his attention. He asked how Zhang thought about the book. Then Dr. Kissinger, like a grandfather, talked with these young students. Dr. Kissinger made seven visits to Peking University, leaving cherished memories and valuable thoughts. Zhang Xiaoxiao, the girl in the story 23 years ago, is now 45 years old, with a successful career and three children. Whenever she recalls her encounter with Dr. Kissinger, she is always moved. She said, "Dr. Kissinger is one of the greatest thinkers of that time. When he first visited Peking University, he

immediately recognized the book *Diplomacy* in my hand and stopped to talk with me. His approachability, humility, and concern for the younger generation of China have always inspired me, motivating me to continue passing this righteousness to those around me."

In her speech, Professor Yuan noted that: "The great truths are the simplest." The essence of relations, no matter international relations or working relations, lies in people-to-people connection. She hoped that peace would remain the theme of the world, and bless the Chinese and American youth, who will shape the future. She hoped that China-U.S. relations would be brighter with the wisdom of the young, and the young people of both countries would work together to build a more vibrant 21st century.



Messages from guests to Chinese and American youth



Chen Jie, Vice Minister of Education of China and Academician of the Chinese Academy of Engineering

Message from Chen Jie

Just now, I watched the video of the students participating in this summer program together with you, and I also listened carefully to some students sharing their experiences and thoughts from the past few days. I was deeply moved by your enthusiasm, sincerity, wisdom, and sense of responsibility. Chinese students spoke fluent English, and American students shared their experiences in idiomatic Chinese, which has greatly impressed me. Professor Yuan just shared touching stories with young students and recalled the scene when Dr. Kissinger visited Peking University in 2001 to communicate with our students. I believe it's not only me, but all the teachers, students, and friends present here today have been moved by these memories. Like all of you, I was once a young man. I have worked in universities for a long time and have served many young students. So, when I came to Peking University today, I felt that I had returned to the good time with young people and there's a natural affinity when I see you. So today, I am especially pleased to attend the closing ceremony of the *Zhi-Xing China: U.S.-China*

Youth Leaders Dialogue program on behalf of the Ministry of Education of China and Minister Huai.

I would like to share with you my thoughts with three keywords.

The first keyword is "experience." In the past ten days or so, we have more than 200 students here today, only representatives of Chinese and American youth, who have participated in this summer program in many places in China, including Beijing, Shanghai, and Zhejiang, to Fujian, Sichuan, and Shaanxi, which is in the west of China. Just now you mentioned in your summary that these experiences have left a pleasant memory for you. Recently, the word "city" became viral online as an adjective for China. So, I would like to ask if you feel China is very "city"? I also notice that many American students said that they hoped to have more opportunities to communicate in Chinese over the past ten-day immersive program. I believe your experience should be good. We hope both Chinese and American students, especially American students, can stick to this aspiration and not only be experts in the Chinese language but also become a China hand. As we all know, last November President Xi said that China was ready to invite 50,000 young Americans to China for exchange and study programs in the next five years during his visit to the U.S., which has built a platform for further expanding exchanges between Chinese and American youth. The Ministry of Education and China Education Association for International Exchange (CEAIE) have jointly carried out this initiative, with Zhi-Xing China: Shanghai Discovery program held on January

29 in Shanghai as a starting point. Six months later, we gather here at Peking University, a top university in China, to hold the Zhi-Xing China: U.S.-China Youth Leaders Dialogue, bringing this initiative to a new height in the mid of 2024. We aim to ensure that every American student learning in China can have an immersive experience, which means you can personally experience what you see and hear in China. That means seeing with your own eyes, hearing with your ears, and measuring China with your footsteps. I believe you will have a true, multi-dimensional, and panoramic view of China. I also believe that, with the delicious food you taste yourself, and the voices you hear yourself, the land you measure yourself, you will find a China that is different from what you've been introduced to in books, classes, on TV, and in media. That's why the first keyword is your personal "experience."

The second keyword I would like to share is "friendship". Friendship is an inexhaustible treasure. As Professor Yuan Ming mentioned earlier, Dr. Kissinger has visited China multiple times. According to our records, he has visited Peking University seven times, engaging in discussions and communication with faculty and students on different occasions. As an old and good friend of China, Dr. Kissinger has forged a deep friendship with Peking University, which has become a well-known story.

The friendship between Chinese and American youth is a vital foundation for strengthening mutual trust and cooperation between the two countries. Through the interactions these days, I believe many of you have already established a deep and unforgettable friendship. I hope that the youth of China and the United States will continue to maintain open and sincere communication and build an even more enduring friendship. We also look forward

to seeing all the students present today becoming envoys of friendship between our two countries and call on the youth of China and the United States to become good friends and partners, thus writing a new chapter in the story of friendship for the new generation.

The third keyword I want to share is "future." We live in a time of great uncertainty, where knowledge and technology evolve rapidly, driving social progress and profound industrial transformation. However, the challenges facing humanity are also unprecedented. Where to find the only and ultimate solution to these uncertainties? The answer lies in the youth present here today and the joint efforts of the younger generations in China and the United States. "Youth" is such a wonderful word. It is a generation that is passionate, friendly, open, confident, energetic, and full of vitality. The youth are not only the hope for the development of both countries but also the future of China-U.S. relations. I hope that the youth of China and the United States can join hands to create a more beautiful, harmonious, and progressive world for the shared future of humanity. The PKU Initiative by U.S.-China Youth was just launched, which I believe is a fresh start. I am confident that the younger generation of China and the United States has the willingness and the ability to contribute their youthful energy to the development of both countries and the whole world.

Dear students, my young friends,

Youth embodies hope, and it can create a bright future. I sincerely hope that you, the younger generation of China and the United States, can overcome the barriers, reach out to each other, become friends, and join hands for a brighter future. How wonderful it is to be young! Long live youth! Oh, YES!



Gong Qihuang, President of Peking University and Academician of the Chinese Academy of Sciences

Message from Gong Qihuang

Today's world is changing rapidly and is full of opportunities and challenges. The relationship between China and the United States, the world's largest developing country and developed country, not only impacts the well-being of their people but also the peace and development of the world as well as the future of humanity. President Xi Jinping has stated, "The hope of the China-U.S. relationship lies in the people, its foundation is in our societies, its future depends on the youth, and its vitality comes from exchanges at subnational levels." By hosting programs and engaging in dialogues, we aim to enhance understanding and friendship between the young people of China and the United States through friendly exchanges, shaping a beautiful future for both nations and the world.

In the past few weeks, the students from China and the United States have had an unforgettable exchange journey together. They listened to wonderful lectures by renowned scholars and traveled to various places in China for field study and practice. Through this integration of knowledge and action, they have experienced the profoundness of Chinese culture, appreciated the diverse landscapes of beautiful China, felt the pulse of the open and progressive era, and witnessed the vigorous vitality of Chinese modernization. They have

also sown the seeds of friendship and hope. In the afternoon parallel sessions, students engaged in in-depth discussions on topics such as youth exchange, climate change, and technological innovation. They have reached many consensuses and fully demonstrated the responsibility and commitment of the youth from major countries. The youth from both countries jointly released the *PKU Initiative by U.S.-China Youth*.

Peking University has always been an important window, and a continuous facilitator of people-to-people exchanges between China and the United States. Nearly 150 American experts work at the university, and over 300 American students come to study here every year. There are also many teachers and students from Peking University visiting and participating in exchange programs in the United States. In the future, Peking University will continue to give full play to its strengths and advantages to promote educational exchanges between China and the United States, enhancing mutual understanding between the young people of both countries. We are willing to strengthen dialogue and cooperation with our American university partners, jointly cope with the new situations, challenges, and requirements of the digital and intelligent era, collaboratively improve the quality of higher education, and cultivate outstanding talents with a global vision.

Youth is the hope of the future. Every young friend present here is a vital force for China-U.S. friendship. We hope that everyone will share the study and exchange experiences with more friends, present a true, multi-dimensional, and panoramic view of China to the world, continuously deepen the friendship between the peoples of China and the United States, and contribute to the sound and steady development of China-U.S. relations, and world peace and prosperity.

Conferring of certificates and badges

Chen Jie, Gong Qihuang, Yang Dan, Yang Jun, and Yuan Ming presented certificates and badges to the representatives of Chinese and American students. They witnessed the fruitful achievements of their study. The guests and student representatives jointly activated the light pillars that symbolize friendship and cooperation. As the screen lit up, it instantly displayed the smiling faces of Chinese and American youth. The smiling faces came together and formed the "YES" symbol, forever capturing this moment of youth and friendship.



Presentation of certificates and badges



Activation of light pillars



YOUNG
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Voices of student representatives



Wang Ziyu

Beijing Institute of Technology

Through this program, I have deeply felt the capability and sense of responsibility shared by the youth of China and the United States. American college students traveled thousands of miles to China and had an in-person experience of the 5,000-year-old Chinese civilization. Meanwhile, the Chinese college students each air their views in fluent English, demonstrating the confidence of the youth in the new era. During the traditional Chinese cultural experience session, we had a cordial exchange with American students who were learning Chinese. One of them told us, "Seeing is believing. I'm very happy to come to China and know you all!" At that moment, I realized that this exchange program truly allowed more American youth to "feel China, experience China, and understand China." This is destined to be an unforgettable experience, which has injected new momentum into our efforts to create a brighter future.



Liu Sichen

Capital Normal University

Zhi-Xing China: U.S.-China Youth Leaders Dialogue was undoubtedly a feast for my mind and soul and an unforgettable journey of cross-cultural exploration. I had the opportunity to meet with some young elites from top universities like Harvard and Yale and jointly participated in a vibrant international cultural festival. The youth from China and the United States engaged in heated discussions around three main topics: cultural exchange, green development, and technological innovation. Through the collision and integration of ideas, we not only deepened our understanding and respect for each other's culture but also forged a strong friendship. This cross-border connection made us realize that, despite the differences, with open minds and sincere dialogue, we can find common grounds and jointly pursue harmony and development of human society.



Luke Aloe

Dartmouth College

I had the opportunity to speak at the *Zhi-Xing China: U.S.-China Youth Leaders Dialogue* hosted by Peking University. In a parallel forum on cultural exchange, I engaged in discussions with about 70 college students from both the United States and China. I shared my experiences of learning Mandarin Chinese and discussed the necessity for young people in both countries to have opportunities to experience each other's cultures. Additionally, our group also explored how social media could help cross-cultural communication and promote understanding. I believe our discussions are productive and engaging. Besides the seminars, I also enjoyed the cultural visits, where Chinese and American youth gained a deeper understanding of authentic Chinese culture.



Noah Bruce

University of Minnesota

I love China, and the more I learn about this country, the more I love it. I hope to visit China again soon and experience as much of China as possible. I want to explore different aspects of China and deepen my understanding of the country and its people. Only by promoting more exchanges can we strengthen the people-to-people bond. I believe that the most important thing is to build bridges of communication between the people of our two countries.

Chinese and American youth jointly participate in the International Cultural Festival

The youth from both China and the United States participated in the interactive activities of Chinese intangible cultural heritage and visited PKU Geeklab. They developed a deeper understanding of Peking opera masks, Chinese knots, shadow play, traditional Chinese opera and folk music, dragon boats, and 3D printing. While learning about China's excellent traditional culture and the current development of science and technology, they also enhanced their friendship with one another.



Ping-pong competition

At the end of the program, the students from both countries engaged in a friendly ping-pong competition and appreciated the unique charm of "ping-pong diplomacy" in China-U.S. relations.



As an important platform for cross-cultural communication between Chinese and American youth, the *Zhi-Xing China: U.S.-China Youth Leaders Dialogue* program vividly represented the shared pursuit of a peaceful, green, and innovative future by the youth of both countries. It highlighted the wisdom and sense of responsibility of the younger generation and injected new energy into the healthy development of China-U.S. relations. We look forward to seeing more Chinese and American youth work together to create a better future for both countries and the world.