

Capstone : Chinese Club Activities

Hu Qian Western High School

4/6/22

Abstract: My capstone project is Chinese Club. Chinese Club is a platform for me to share rich Chinese cultures and various activities with those who show enthusiasm for Chinese Culture and Chinese language in our school. It encompasses typical activities like “How to use chopsticks”; “Traditional Chinese sports--Rope Jumping and Shuttlecock-kicking”; “The most popular dances from Tik tok”; Chinese folk Story-telling; Introduction and Appreciation of Chinese Literature classics like “Journey to the West” ; Handicrafts like Paper-cutting; Chinese Calligraphy; Chinese Painting; Chinese knots and Chinese food.

Session 1:

Time: Oct, 7th, 2021

Place: Room 536 Western High School

Topic: Poster design+ Discord creation

This is the first time the members of Chinese club gather, we made the poster to attract more students to join us, and at the same time, one student created discord for us to communicate online.



Session 2: Election

Time: Oct, 22nd , 2021

Place: Room 536 Western High School

Topic: Election

This is the second time the members of the Chinese club gather, we made the election and the result is as follows:

President: Sinay

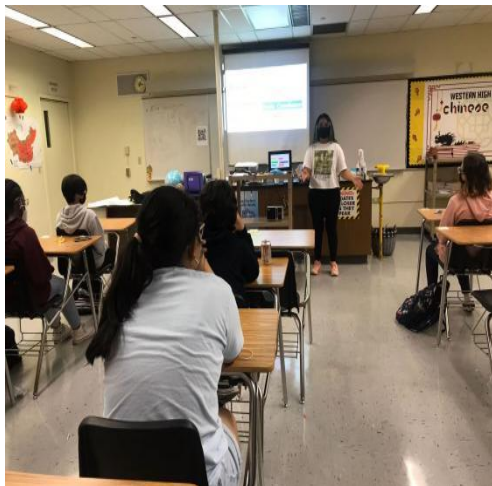
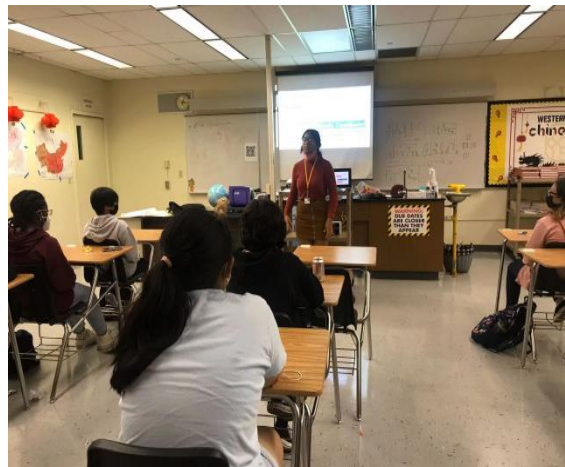
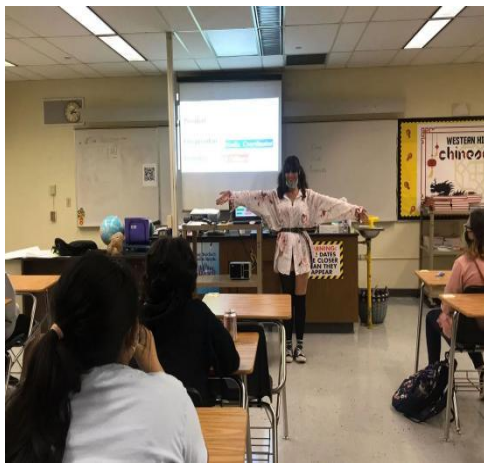
Vice-president: Amanda

Medium : Layla

Treasure: Vienna

Secretary: Alahi

AO: Jessica



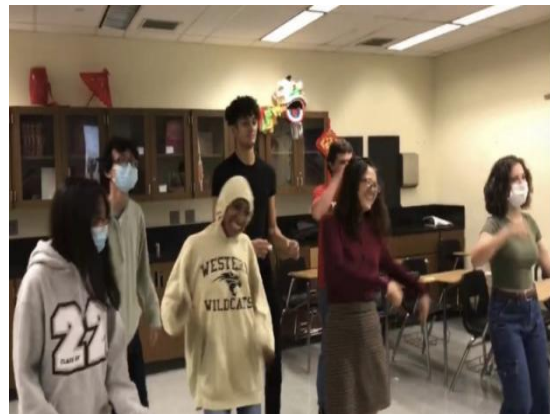
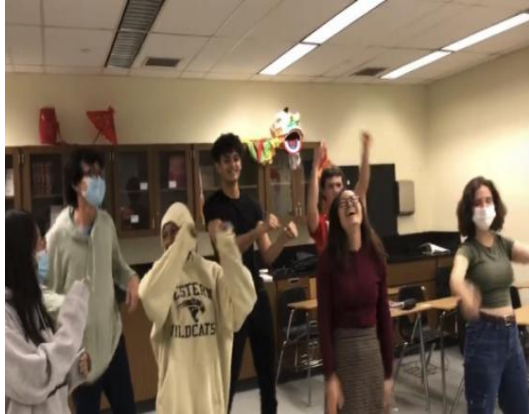
Session 3:

Time: Oct, 29th , 2021

Place: Room 536 western high school

Topic: Tiktok dance

We practiced the most popular dance on Chinese Tiktok: 《轻松旋律》. As one of the most popular social media in Chinese, Tiktok has become a culture symbol for Chinese people, especially for younger generation and teenagers. The dance in the video is a hit recently, to lead the students to so the dance is a good way for them to experience authentic contemporary Chinese culture.



Session 4:

Time: Nov, 5th , 2021

Place: Room 536 western high school

Topic: Group photo for the Year Book

The kids look vibrant with red top and they are delighted to pose for the photo.



Session 5:

Time: Dec, 3th , 2021

Place: Room 536 western high school

Topic: Learn to use chopsticks

The teacher first made a presentation introducing the origin, material of chopsticks, the cultural taboos when using chopsticks and the way to use chopsticks.

1. Hold one chopstick between your thumb and middle finger.
2. Place the other chopstick between your thumb and forefinger.
3. Keep the first chopstick stationary as you practice moving the second chopstick up and down.

The participants are then encouraged to use chopsticks to take the candies and popcorn prepared for them.



Session 6:

Time: dec, 10th , 2021

Place: room 536 western high school

Topic: play jianzi

The game is believed to have evolved from cuju, a game similar to football that was used as military training. Over the next 1000 years, this shuttlecock game spread throughout Asia, acquiring a variety of names along the way. During play, various parts of the body (except for the hands) are used to keep the shuttlecock from touching the ground. It is primarily balanced and propelled upwards using parts of the leg, especially the feet. Skilled players may employ a powerful overhead kick. In China, the sport usually has two playing forms:

- 1) Circle kick among 5-10 people
- 2) Duel kick between two kickers or two sides.



Session 7:

Time: Dec, 17th , 2021

Place: Room 536 western high school

Topic: Dragon Dance

Historically, the Chinese dragon was associated with the Emperor of China and used as a symbol to represent imperial power.

During the Tang dynasty, Emperors wore robes with dragon motif as an imperial symbol, and high officials might also be presented with dragon robes.

On auspicious occasions, including Chinese New Year and the opening of shops and residences, festivities often include dancing with dragon puppets. These are "life sized" cloth-and-wood puppets manipulated by a team of people, supporting the dragon with poles. They perform choreographed moves to the accompaniment of drums, drama, and music. They also wore good clothing made of silk.



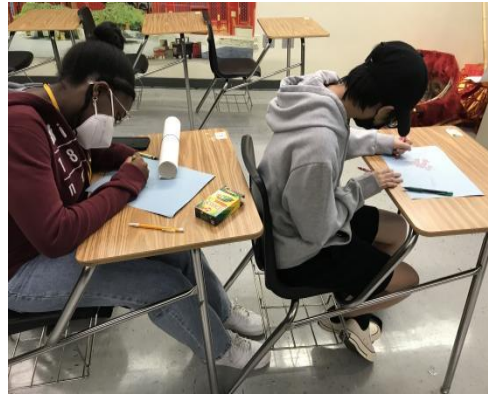
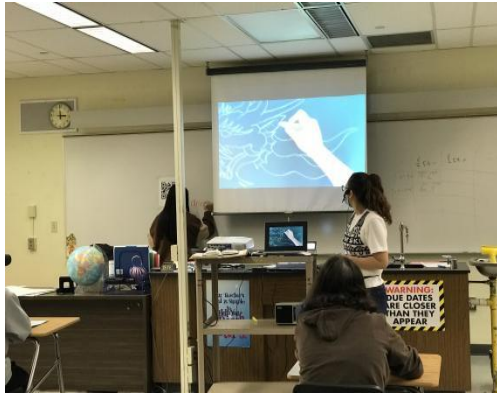
Session 8:

Time: Jan, 14th , 2022

Place: Room 536 western high school

Topic: Chinese symbolism--dragon

I used a powerpoint to illustrate the symbolic meaning of dragon and displayed some pictures of artifacts of dragon and then we draw a dragon together.



Session 9:

Time: Jan, 21th , 2022

Place: Room 536 western high school

Topic: Papercutting--tiger

The year of 2022 is the year of The Tiger. Tiger is known as the king of all beasts in China. The zodiac sign Tiger is a symbol of strength, exorcising evils, and braveness. Tigers are the third of the Chinese zodiacs. According to legend, Tiger was confident that no one could compete with its speed and vigor for the celestial race that would decide the order of the zodiacs. However, when Tiger climbed out of the river, thinking it was first, it was informed that Rat placed first for its cunning and Ox placed second for its diligence. This left the king of the jungle having to settle for third place. Like their eponymous zodiac animal, people born in years of the Tiger are vigorous and ambitious, daring and courageous, enthusiastic and generous, self-confident with a sense of justice and a commitment to help others for the greater good.



Session 10:

Time: Jan, 28th , 2022

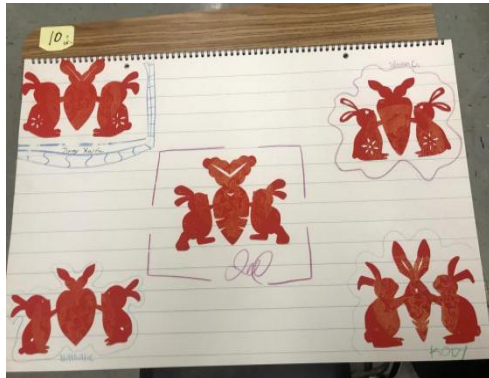
Place: Room 536 western high school

Topic: Paper cutting--Rabbit

The Rabbit is the fourth of all zodiac animals. Legend has it the Rabbit was proud—arrogant even—of its speed. He was neighbors with Ox and always made fun of how slow Ox was. One day, the Jade Emperor said the zodiac order would be decided by the order in which the animals arrived at his party. Rabbit set off at daybreak. But when he got there, no other animals were in sight. Thinking that he would obviously be first, he went off to the side and napped. However, when he woke up, three other animals had already arrived. One of them was the Ox he had always looked down upon.

Personality and Characteristics:

To outsiders, the Rabbit's kindness may make them seem soft and weak. In truth, the Rabbit's quiet personality hides their confidence and strength. They are steadily moving towards their goal, no matter what negativity the others give them. With their good reasoning skills and attention to detail, they make great scholars. They are socializers with an attractive aura. However, they find it hard to open up to others and often turn to escapism. A plain and routine life is not their style. Though conservative and careful in their actions, they need surprises every so often to spice things up.



Session 11:

Time: Feb, 4th , 2022

Place: Room 536 western high school

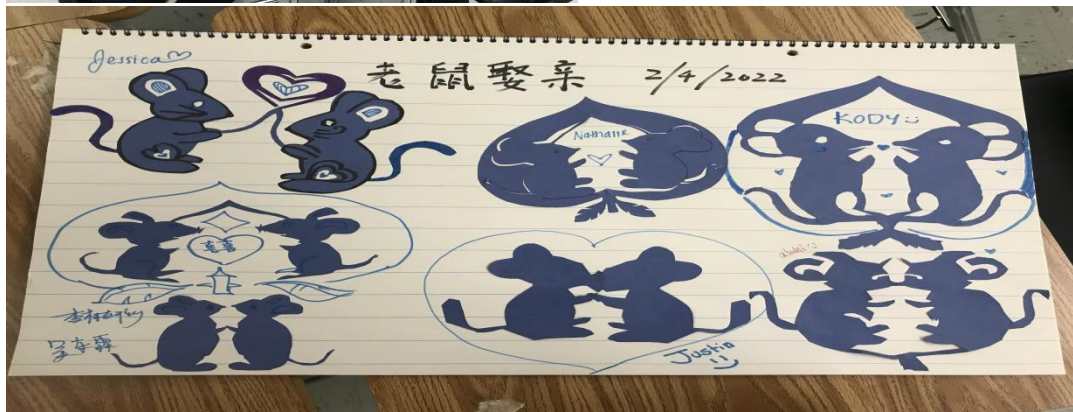
Topic: Paper cutting--mouse

The Rat is the first of all zodiac animals. According to one myth, the Jade Emperor said the order would be decided by the order in which they arrived to his party. The Rat tricked the Ox into giving him a ride. Then, just as they arrived at the finish line, Rat jumped down and landed ahead of Ox, becoming first. Rats are clever, quick thinkers; successful, but content with living a quiet and peaceful life.

Personality and Characteristics

Optimistic and energetic, people born in the Rat year are likable by all. They are sensitive to other's emotions but are stubborn with your opinion. Their personality is kind, but due to weak communication skills, their words may seem impolite and rude.

On the financial side, they like saving and can be stingy. However, their love for hoarding will sometimes cause them to waste money on unnecessary things.



Session 12:

Time: Feb, 18th , 2022

Place: Room 536 western high school

Topic: Making Chinese Lanterns

The Lantern Festival is a Chinese traditional festival celebrated on the fifteenth day of the first month in the lunisolar Chinese calendar, during the full moon. Usually falling in February or early March on the Gregorian calendar, it marks the final day of the traditional Chinese New Year celebrations. As early as the Western Han Dynasty (206 BC–AD 25), it had become a festival with great significance.

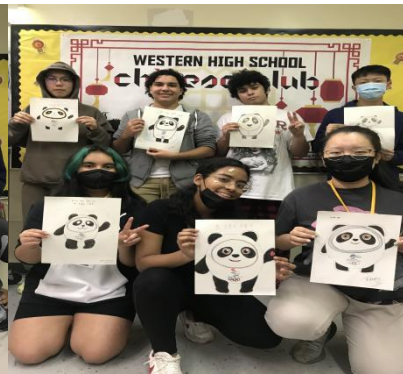
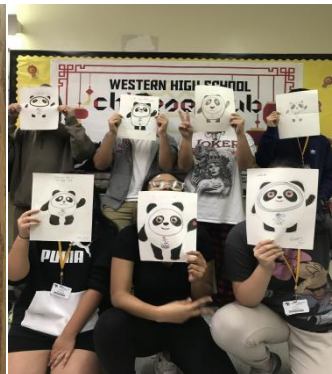
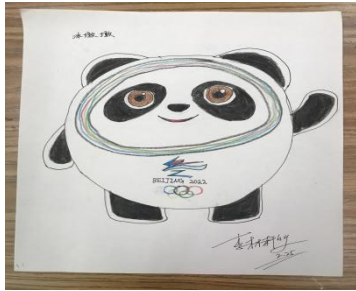


Session 13:

Time: Feb, 25th , 2022

Place: Room 536 western high school

Topic: Making Bing Dwen Dwen (mascot for the 2022 Beijing Olympic Games)



Session 14:

Time: Mar, 11th , 2022

Place: Room 536 western high school

Topic: Making Xue Rongrong (mascot for the 2022 Beijing Paralympic Games)



Summary: The participants really benefited and learned a lot from these diversified hands-on activities concerning Chinese culture. Each time when we approach the ending, the kids would ask me “ Miss Hu, can we stay a little longer, it is so much fun here that we don’t want to leave.” and they sometimes take their friends to our club.