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Travel Opportunity for teachers

Sponsored by the "Cultural Exploration of Greater China Foundation" (CE)

Since 2000, CE has provided opportunities for over 50 Puget Sound area teachers to tour **Mainland China** and **Taiwan**. This unique program includes sightseeing tours of historical landmarks as well as school and host family visits in **Beijing, Xi'an, Shanghai and Taiwan**.

We are pleased to announce that CE is planning on sending **4 teachers in the summer of 2015**. All **K-12** teachers from the Greater Seattle area interested in enhancing their China-related teaching components are welcome to apply.

The abundance of online resource may broaden your knowledge about China, but history really comes alive when you personally visit these historical landmarks! What better way to learn about Chinese people and culture than actually meeting them and experiencing their daily lives? To name a few past tour experiences, consider the opportunities to visit an under-privileged school in Beijing, discuss Confucianism with a Shanghai family over dinner, and make your own tea in a tea farm near Taipei...

We hope you can take advantage of this unique cultural exploration opportunity and share your transformational journey with your students and colleagues. The **application deadline is February 23rd, 2015**. For more information about our organization and the application form, please visit our website at <http://www.culturalexploration.org/>. Please help us spread the words; forward the information to other teachers that may be interested. Thank you!

Sandy Teng, Executive Director
Cultural Exploration of Greater China Foundation





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Travel Opportunity to Greater China for Teachers

INFORMATION

Background

The Cultural Exploration (CE) of Greater China Foundation is a community-based non-profit organization dedicated to promote a better understanding of greater China and Chinese culture through education by offering cultural learning opportunities to schools or other educational institutions. In the past fifteen years, through generous donations from local communities and businesses, CE has sponsored over 50 teachers to tour **Mainland China and Taiwan**. This year, through successful fund-raising, we are pleased to offer this great travel opportunity again to teachers that are enthusiastic about bringing China and Chinese culture to their classrooms.

Unlike other cultural exchange programs sponsored by various governments or academic organizations, CE is a community-based program. We believe that the most effective way to know modern day China, Chinese Culture and people is through pressure-free interpersonal interactions.

Objective

Today, Chinese people live in different parts of the world and Chinese culture is manifested in a variety of ways. The objective of this program is to assist American teachers to:

- Introduce greater China to their students with accurate information, confidence and authority.
- Develop teaching plans to enhance curriculum related to China, Pacific Rim and Asia.
- Inspire students to learn about China, Chinese culture and language.
- Have a better understanding of Americans with Chinese heritage.



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Cultural Exploration Trip Outlines

- **Format:** To optimize the tour experience and align with the cultural exchange objective, the trip provides two distinct focuses:
 - A commercially managed private sightseeing tour to historical landmarks in Mainland China such as the Great Wall, the Forbidden City and the Terra Cotta Warriors and visits to modern cities such as Shanghai, Beijing and Xian. It is fast-paced and well structured. The tour guides provide informative narrations on history and geography.
 - Host-family sponsored programs in Beijing, Shanghai and Taiwan provide opportunities to interact with local families, teachers and students on an informal basis. Unlike the sightseeing tours, this emphasizes the understanding of modern day Chinese family living, school systems and cultural exchange. The participating teachers will have an opportunity to exchange teaching philosophies with local educators and conduct teaching demonstration in local schools.
- **Time & Place:** The trip will take place in the summer of 2015: Tentatively from mid-July through early August for about two weeks. While every year's trip is planned independently, the trip generally includes major cities such as Beijing, Xian, Shanghai, and Taipei. Other cities may be added depending on each year's focus.
- **Expenses covered by CE:** Airfare, land transportation, lodging & meals. **Expenses not covered by CE:** personal expenses including but not limited to visa fee, excess baggage charge, telephone expenses, gifts for the host families and tips for tour guides and drivers.
- **Logistics:** Summer in these parts of Asia is extremely hot and humid. Average temperatures easily reach 100 F° with 50% or greater humidity. A typical day during the trip involves 12 to 14 hours of activities. Consideration and preparedness for the physically and mentally demanding schedule is the key to a successful trip in a foreign land.
- **Continuing Education Credits:** Several teachers in the past have successfully applied and earned up to 70 clock hours or 7 continuing education credits for the CE Tour through Seattle University. Interested teachers will be responsible for completing the necessary application form and coordinating with CE.



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Application Process

The application form is available at CE website portal:

<https://culturalexploration.org/Public/Tours/Application/CEApplication.aspx>

Please submit a completed **application form** with a **resume** through CE online portal or to CE2015selection@culturalexploration.org in **MS Word** format by **February 23th, 2015**. Qualified and selected applicants will be interviewed on **March 28th, 2015** and CE will inform final candidates of the final decision in **April, 2015**.



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2015 APPLICATION FORM

- ❖ **Name of applicant and school**
- ❖ **Telephone (both work and home)**
- ❖ **E-mail Address (All correspondences will be via e-mails. Providing accurate e-mail address is critical)**
- ❖ **How did you learn about this program?**
- ❖ **Teaching subject and/or professional specialty**
- ❖ **Please answer the following questions. There is no limit in length:**
 1. How do you relate your current teaching or work experiences to the CE program?
 2. How have you incorporated a prior experience to augment a lesson plan?
 3. What are your short-term and long-term teaching goals?
 4. How do you expect this travel experience to benefit your students and your teaching; and how you can successfully develop a lesson plan after the trip? **(If you are selected for the interview, you will be requested to submit a written lesson plan proposal and plan on making a 5-minute presentation.)**
- ❖ **Please list three references (preferably one each from your school's administration, a student, and a colleague.)**

Thank you for your interest!

Please prepare your application in MS Word with resume and submit to our online portal:

<https://culturalexploration.org/Public/Tours/Application/CEApplication.aspx>