Student Leaders Exchange to China
July 9-23, 2015

Final Itinerary

**Wednesday, July 8**

8:00 a.m.  Depart for San Francisco Airport (SFO)

11:10  Depart on United Airlines Flight 889 from San Francisco to Beijing

**Thursday, July 9**

2:40 p.m.  Arrive at Beijing International Airport

6:00  Dinner

**Friday, July 10 – Orientation Day**

8:00 a.m.  Tiantan (天坛) – Temple of Heaven

The Temple of Heaven, literally the Altar of Heaven, is a complex of Daoist buildings (although Chinese Heaven worship pre-dates Daoism) visited by the emperors of the Ming and Qing dynasties for annual prayer ceremonies to Heaven for a good harvest.

10:30  Briefing at the Institute of Public and Environmental Affairs

6-1-91, Jianguomenwai Diplomatic Residence Compound, No.1 Xiushui Street, Chaoyang District, Beijing, 100600 (北京市朝阳区秀水街1号建国门外外交公寓6-1-91)

**Session I: China’s Environmental Challenges**

Mr. Matthew Collins, Project Manager, Institute of Public and Environmental Affairs (IPE)

IPE is a Beijing-based, registered nonprofit organization that promotes the disclosure of environmental information and the greening of corporate supply chains in China. Since its founding, the IPE has developed the “China Pollution Map Database,” the first public database of corporate environmental performance in China. More recently, the IPE has released comparative reports about the transparency of pollution information (PITI) and air quality information (AQTI) in China and around the world, as well as a series of reports on heavy metal pollution.
Mr. Matthew Collins joined IPE as a project manager in 2010, with responsibility for communications with foreign brands in IPE’s green supply-chain initiative. He also translated IPE content from Chinese to English, including investigative reports, audit reports and website content. Prior to joining IPE, Collins studied at the School of Oriental and African Studies in London, where he graduated with a bachelor’s degree in Chinese.

12:00 p.m.  Lunch

1:30  Briefing at Caixin  
Sanlitun SOHO, 8 Gongti North Road, Chaoyang District, Beijing (朝阳区工体北路8号)

Session II: China’s Media Environment  
Mr. Huang Shan, Associate Managing Editor and Editorial Board Member, Caixin Media

Caixin Media is a Beijing-based media group that provides financial and business news. The editorial staff is known for its independent thinking and professional practices.

In addition to being Caixin’s Associate Managing Editor, Mr. Huang Shan has served as an editorial board member since late 2009 when the media group was first formed. There he has been involved in a wide range of reporting and management activities. Active in the foreign business community, he has also developed good relationships with foreign embassies and chambers of commerce. Prior to joining Caixin Media, he spent five years as an international editor and correspondent for Caijing Magazine, including a year in Hong Kong (2005) and a year in the United States (2008).

2:30  Orientation at China Education Association for International Exchange (CEAIE)  
Meeting Room on the first floor, CEAIE (复兴门内大街160号)

CEAIE is China’s nationwide not-for-profit organization conducting international educational exchanges and cooperation. Its mission includes developing exchanges and cooperation between the Chinese educational community and other parts of the world, promoting the advancement of education, culture, science and technology, and strengthening understanding and friendship among the peoples of all countries and regions of the world.

Session III: Briefing on CEAIE  
Ms. Shen Xuesong, Deputy Secretary General, CEAIE

Session IV: Survival Chinese and Primer on Chinese Culture  
Ms. Yao Zhenzhen, Teacher, Luoyang No.2 Foreign Languages School

5:00  Rickshaw tour of Beijing hútòng neighborhood

Hutongs are the narrow streets and alleys that run through the Ming- and Qing-era neighborhoods still standing in Beijing.

6:00  Dinner at a local hutong

SATURDAY, JULY 11

8:00 a.m.  Check out of hotel
9:00  Beijing No. 8 High School, Yihai Branch

- Welcome Ceremony
- Meet host families

Beijing No. 8 High School is a prestigious public beacon secondary school (grades 7–12). 99 out of 100 of the school’s graduates matriculate into China’s top universities. Currently, the school has over a hundred faculty members, making the student to faculty ratio approximately ten to one.

All Day  Free day with the host families

SUNDAY, JULY 12

8:30 a.m.  Activities at Beijing No. 8 High School Yihai Branch

- Chinese wushu class
- Chinese calligraphy class

12:00 p.m.  Lunch at Bianyifang Roast Duck Restaurant

According to local history, the earliest roast duck restaurant in Beijing was the original Bianyifang, which opened during the Jiajing (1522-1566). The original Bianyifang roasted its ducks with radiant heat: the walls of the oven were first heated with sorghum stalks and the duck cooked by the heat given off by the walls. A duck roasted this way is crisp to the touch, golden brown, and succulent.

2:00  Tiananmen Square and Forbidden City

Tiān'ānmén Square (天安门, “Gate of Heavenly Peace”) is the largest open-urban square in the world, and the geographical and spiritual center of Beijing. An important historical site in Beijing for hundreds of years, today it is surrounded by various government buildings, including the Great Hall of the People and the Chinese Revolutionary History Museum. Near the south end sits Mao's Mausoleum, where China’s former leader lies in state in a crystal coffin.

The Forbidden City, now called Gǔgōng (故宫) or the Palace Museum, was given its name because commoners were barred from entering the grounds. With a total area of 183 acres, it is the largest palace complex in the world. During the Ming and Qing dynasties (1368-1911), 24 emperors ruled China from within the Forbidden City.

6:00  Return to host families

MONDAY, JULY 13

8:30  Assemble at the school

Please note: Dress for business meetings

10:00  Ministry of Education

The Ministry of Education is an agency of the State Council that regulates all aspects of the educational system in mainland China, the equivalent to the U.S.’s Department of Education. It
certifies educators, standardizes curricula and textbooks, establishes standards, and monitors the entire education system.

Meeting with Mr. Fang Jun, Deputy Director General of Department of International Cooperation and Exchanges, Ministry of Education of China

11:30 Lunch

2:00 p.m. Ministry of Foreign Affairs

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is the government office responsible for China’s diplomatic relationships with other countries, analogous to the U.S. State Department.

3:45 Perfect World

Perfect World Plaza, #86 Beiyuan Road, Chaoyang District
北京市朝阳区北苑路86号完美世界大厦（100101）

Perfect World is a leading online game developer and operator based in China that specializes in MMORPGs, massively multiplayer online role-playing games. While a majority of its revenues are generated in China, the company operates its games globally through its own subsidiaries.

Meeting with Ms. Wang Yuyun, Senior Vice President; Mr. Peng Binge, Chief Strategy Consultant; Mr. Kai Hu, Special Assistant to the Chief Strategy Consultant

TUESDAY, JULY 14

7:30 a.m. Depart school for Badaling Section of the Great Wall

Badaling (八达岭) is the site of the most visited section of the Great Wall of China, approximately 50 miles northwest of the urban Beijing city. The portion of the wall running through the site was built in 1504 during the Ming Dynasty, along with a military outpost reflecting the location’s strategic importance. It was here that President Richard Nixon and his wife, accompanied by Vice Premier Li Xiannian, visited on February 24, 1972, during his historic journey to China.

12:30 p.m. Lunch

2:30 Tour of the Ullens Center for Contemporary Art (UCCA) in the 798 Art Space

The UCCA is a comprehensive not-for-profit art center serving a global Beijing public. As a platform for contemporary art linking China and the world, UCCA offers exhibitions and public programs which focus attention on the cultural situation in China, stimulate the development of the arts, and advance the public cultural sensibility. 798 Space is an area of contemporary art galleries, many of which are located in a former electronics factory known as Factory #798.

Meeting with Mr. Patrick Rhine, Publications and Exhibitions Coordinator, UCCA

6:00 Return to host families
北川 Běichuān

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 15**

6:00 a.m.  Assemble at school to transfer to the airport

8:40   Depart on flight # CA1451 to Mianyang, Sichuan

11:30  Arrive in Mianyang, Sichuan

Mianyang is a prefecture-level city that contains Beichuan Qiang Autonomous County. Since the catastrophic 2008 earthquake, the area has fought hard to recover economically and culturally.

Host siblings will meet the group at the airport.

12:30 p.m.  Lunch

1:30  Beichuan High School

- Welcome Ceremony
- English Classes taught by SLE group (30 minute session)

4:00  Qiang Ethnic Minority Folklore Museum

The Qiang are one of 56 ethnic groups officially recognized in the People’s Republic of China. A matrilineal society, they live mainly in mountainous region in the northwestern part of Sichuan province on the eastern edge of the Tibetan plateau. This state-of-the-art museum replaced the original Qiang facility that was destroyed in the 2008 earthquake.

5:00  Beichuan Earthquake Site and Memorial Museum

On Monday, May 12, 2008, the Great Sichuan Earthquake hit western China. Measuring 8.0 and 7.9 on the Richter Scale, the earthquake caused massive destruction, killing tens of thousands and injuring hundreds of thousands more. (Many blame shoddy construction for numerous building collapses. Attempts by activists to collect the names of all those killed in the earthquake has been stopped repeatedly by the authorities.)

6:30  Dinner

8:00  Check in to hotel

成都 Chéngdū

**THURSDAY, JULY 16**

8:00  Check out of hotel; drive to Chengdu

Founded 4,000 years ago, Chengdu (population: 14 million!) is the provincial capital of Sichuan province, as well as a major economic hub in southwest China. With big industrial, manufacturing, and transportation bases and access to China’s western and southwestern provinces, many consider Chengdu to be China’s “Chicago.”
11:00  Chengdu Shishi High School

- Welcome Ceremony
- Lunch
- Meeting with the school’s president

Founded in 141 B.C. and having operated continuously on the same site for 2,150 years, Chengdu Shishi High School is the oldest known school in the world.

3:00  Wuhou Temple, Jinli Ancient Street

A relic of China’s Three Kingdoms Period (220-280 A.D.), the Wuhou Temple is the only temple in China dedicated both to an imperial ruler, Marquis Wu, and his ministers – particularly Minister Zhuge Liang, remembered for his shrewd military strategies and remarkable loyalty. The temple was rebuilt in 1672. The adjacent Jinli Ancient Street dates back to the same era. Ten years ago, it was “restored” to reclaim its commercial prosperity of former days.

5:00  Broad and Narrow Alley, Return to Host Families

The area is known for its traditional courtyards, local street foods, and Chengdu-style nightlife.

**FRIDAY, JULY 17**

7:00 a.m.  Drive to the Dujiangyan Irrigation System

9:00  Dujiangyan Irrigation System

Established in the 3rd century B.C., the Dujiangyan irrigation system is an ecological engineering feat that has consistently served to prevent flooding and nourish crops for over 5,300 square kilometers of land ever since. It became a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2000.

11:30  Lunch at Dujiangyan

2:30 p.m.  Briefing at U.S. Consulate General in Chengdu

`4 Lingshiguan Road, Chengdu, Sichuan 610041`

The American Consulate General at Chengdu opened on October 16, 1985. On August 2, 1993, the Consulate General completed its move from the Jinjiang Hotel to its current facility at No. 4 Lingshiguan Road, just south of the city center.

The Chengdu consular district is made up of the Provinces of Sichuan, Yunnan, and Guizhou, as well as the Tibet Autonomous Region and Chongqing City Municipality.

Meeting with Mr. Raymond Green, Consul General

5:30  Dinner

7:30  Sichuan Opera performance, return to host families
Saturday, July 18

7:30 a.m.  
Assemble at school

8:00 a.m.  
Chengdu Giant Panda Research Base

The Chengdu Giant Panda Research Base is a non-profit research and breeding facility for giant pandas and other rare animals. Started in 1987 with six pandas rescued from the wild, the base now has the largest panda population on earth with 113 captive pandas. The Research Base also helps with governmental diplomatic missions by sending pandas to overseas locations as good-will ambassadors. It has an ongoing partnership with the Smithsonian, the San Diego Zoo, and many other international organizations.

12:00 p.m.  
Lunch

1:00  
Sichuan Provincial Museum

Walk around with your host siblings to explore the various galleries, encompassing everything from calligraphy to Tibetan culture. The museum boasts a collection of more than 160,000 cultural relics telling the story of Sichuan.

3:30  
Lecture: Social Culture and Economic Development in Sichuan

6:00  
Return to host families

Sunday, July 19

9:30 a.m.  
Lecture: Chinese Tea Culture

10:30  
Chengdu Shishi High School
- Talent show
- Discussion of U.S.-China cultural exchange

12:00 p.m.  
Return to host families to have lunch and pack

3:00  
Assemble at school and farewell

5:30  
Overnight sleeper train to Yueyang
Train # Z124 (arrives 9:01 a.m.)

Monday, July 20

9:00 a.m.  
Arrive in Yueyang

岳阳 Yuèyáng
Yueyang Foreign Languages School

- Campus tour: school labs, library, students’ dorms
- Meet host siblings

The Yueyang Foreign Language school (originally named Yue Yang Eighth High School) was founded in 1993. It is directed under the Bureau of Education. In 2007, the Hunan Department of Education approved an experimental high school English program to be implemented at Yue Yang Foreign Language School. In 2009, the school became the center for the Hunan Department of Education’s foreign study training service center.

Tuesday, July 21

8:30 a.m. Assemble at school

Morning Visit Junshan Island

Junshan Island played a key role in the Qin dynasty’s Dragonboat Festival, and served as a place of meditation for Daoist monks.

12:00 p.m. Lunch

Afternoon Yueyang Tower

Yueyang Tower, with a history dating back to the Three Kingdoms Period, is one of the Three Great Towers of Jiangnan, although some sources call the tower a pavilion and place it in the ranks of China’s four greatest pavilions. It is a three story structure that and is constructed entirely from wood.

5:00 Return to host families

Wednesday, July 22

8:30 a.m. Assemble at school

8:30 Chinese painting class, ping pong and taiqi class
12:00 p.m.  Lunch

1:00  Comparative Discussion: Environmental Protection in China and the United States
Meeting with representatives from the students’ union

2:00  Farewell

3:16  Depart on flight to Beijing – flight # G504 (arrives 9:26 p.m.)

北京 Běijīng

THURSDAY, JULY 23

8:00 a.m.  Check out of hotel and transfer to Beijing International Airport

12:00 p.m.  Depart on United Airlines Flight 888 to San Francisco

8:55 a.m.  Arrive at San Francisco Airport
Transfer to domestic flights home