Message from the Outreach Coordinator

Isn’t this a great photo? It was taken on February 20th at Fashion Square Mall here in Charlottesville as part of the Chinese Lunar New Year Fest, sponsored by the U.Va Asia Institute and East Asia Center, and the Charlottesville area Piedmont Chinese Association. This was one event that didn’t get cancelled or postponed due to the winter weather!

The snow we had this winter has certainly made it difficult to schedule events. Even postponed events, like the Workshop for Teachers and Docents at the U.Va Art Museum had to be cancelled altogether because of the weather.

All the same, there have been many bright spots this winter. The Asia Institute hosted twelve teachers for a workshop on South Asian literature with Anindyo Roy and Geeta Patel on February 20th. The participants, mostly teachers of English and language arts, left with many ideas of how to integrate some very unique texts into their classes. On February 25-26, we co-sponsored a conference, Global Security in the Balance: Pakistan and U.S. Foreign Policy. Be sure to read a little in the Past Events section about this and about the mini-conference the Asia Institute held for high school students on the same topic.

Perhaps the best news, though, is that this is the Spring (!) edition of the Outreach Newsletter.

-Rachel Stauffer

Recent Events

- Chinese Lunar New Fest at Fashion Square Mall – see photos!
- Tibet Day 2010 was held on-Grounds for community, U.Va faculty, staff, and students – see photos!
- The Chinese Outreach Program has already visited all seven of the elementary schools in Charlottesville City to review and/or reinforce the 2nd grade SOLs on contributions of Ancient China to the modern world.
- Elizabeth Miller, an East Asian Studies graduate student, traveled to Bedford County to answer teachers’ questions about Chinese language and culture.
- Fluvanna County students were introduced to Indian languages and culture by Rich Cohen, Managing Director of the Institute.
- Classroom sets of books on Indian lit and Chinese language were contributed to requesting school districts.
Upcoming Events: Spring 2010

March/April
*March 31: Deadline for applications to Chinese STARTALK Academy
*April 2: Prof. Ezra Rashkow presents on water, sustainability and India in Stafford County schools
*April 17: Japan Spring Festival at Fashion Square Mall
*April 24: Master Class on South Asian Literature (by invitation only)
*April 24: K. Sridhar concert
*Presentation in Harrisonburg City Schools by Prof. Len Schoppa on U.S. involvement in the Korea and Vietnam wars

May/June
*May 8: Charlottesville Festival of Cultures, Lee Park
*Village School Asia Club continues
*May 21: Deadline for lesson plan challenge
*Orientation for educators traveling to China
*Panel on local business at Blue Ridge Community College
*June: Lesson plan winners announced
*Title VI funding competition results announced
*U.Va Summer Language Institute and Summer Session begin with language offerings in Hindi/Urdu, Korean, Pashtu, and Chinese

The Asia Institute announces:

2010 Asia Lesson Plan Challenge

K-12 teachers are invited to submit original lesson plans on any topic that directly addresses a Virginia Standard of Learning that can be linked to education about South Asia or East Asia in the content areas of Social Studies, English, Modern Foreign Language, or Fine Arts.

Eligibility: Teachers must be employed either full- or part-time in a Virginia public school district.

Rules:
1. Teachers may submit lesson plans created independently or as the result of a team effort.
2. Lesson plans must have clear and cogent correspondence to at least one of the Virginia SOLs and to South and/or East Asia.
3. Submissions must be received by the deadline: 5 p.m. on May 21st, 2010
4. In order to be considered, teachers must agree to allow their lesson plan to be posted on the Asia Institute’s K-12 website.
5. Submissions will be evaluated by Asia Institute-affiliated faculty and staff. All decisions will be final. Results will be announced in June 2010 and prizes subsequently awarded.

PRIZES:
Overall Winner: $250 cash
Runner-Up: $150 cash
Best South Asia: Class set of books, maps or other materials
Best East Asia: Class set of books, maps or other materials
Two Honorable Mentions: National Geographic Society’s Giant Asia Map travels to your school

For more info, visit: http://artsandsciences.virginia.edu/asiainstitute/outreach/challenge.html

The Asia Institute is actively seeking ideas for programming for Fall 2010 and Spring 2011. As always, our programs are 100% free of cost to Virginia public schools. As you think about your district’s plans for next year’s calendar, keep us in mind.
Asia in the Virginia SOLs: US & VA History, Geography, Government

USII.7 The student will demonstrate knowledge of the major causes and effects of American involvement in World War II by a) identifying the causes and events that led to American involvement in the war, including the attack on Pearl Harbor; b) locating and describing the major events and turning points of the war in Europe and the Pacific;

USII.8 The student will demonstrate knowledge of the economic, social, and political transformation of the United States and the world between the end of World War II and the present by a) describing the rebuilding of Europe and Japan after World War II, the emergence of the United States as a superpower, and the establishment of the United Nations; c) identifying the role of America’s military and veterans in defending freedom during the Cold War, including the wars in Korea and Vietnam;

USII.9 The student will demonstrate knowledge of the key domestic and international issues during the second half of the twentieth and early twenty-first centuries by d) examining American foreign policy, immigration, the global environment, and other emerging issues;

CE.11 The student will demonstrate knowledge of how economic decisions are made in the marketplace by a) applying the concepts of scarcity, resources, choice, opportunity cost, price, incentives, supply and demand, production, and consumption; b) comparing the differences among traditional, free market, command, and mixed economies;

CE.14 The student will demonstrate knowledge of personal finance and career opportunities by d) examining the impact of technological change and globalization on career opportunities;

WG.8 The student will distinguish between developed and developing countries and relate the level of economic development to the standard of living and quality of life;

WG.9 The student will analyze the global patterns and networks of economic interdependence;

WG.10 The student will analyze how the forces of conflict and cooperation affect the division and control of the Earth’s surface;

WG.12 The student will apply geography to interpret the past, understand the present, and plan for the future;

VUS.9 The student will demonstrate knowledge of the emerging role of the United States in world affairs by a) explaining the changing policies of the United States toward Latin America and Asia and the growing influence of the United States in foreign markets;

VUS.11 The student will demonstrate knowledge of World War II by a) analyzing the causes and events that led to American involvement in the war, including military assistance to the United Kingdom and the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor; c) describing the role of all-minority military units, including the Tuskegee Airmen and Nisei regiments;

VUS.13 The student will demonstrate knowledge of United States foreign policy since World War II;

VUS.15 The student will demonstrate knowledge of economic, social, cultural, and political developments in recent decades and today by f) assessing the role of the United States in a world confronted by international terrorism.

GOVT.12 The student will demonstrate knowledge of the role of the United States in a changing world by a) describing the responsibilities of the national government for foreign policy and national security; b) assessing the role played by national interest in shaping foreign policy and promoting world peace; c) examining the relationship of Virginia and the United States to the global economy; d) examining recent foreign policy and international trade initiatives since 1980;

GOVT.13 The student will demonstrate knowledge of how governments and economies in Mexico, the United Kingdom, and the People’s Republic of China compare with the government and the economy in the United States;

GOVT.14 The student will demonstrate knowledge of economic systems;

GOVT.15 The student will demonstrate knowledge of the United States market economy by f) analyzing global economic trends and the relationship of Virginia and the United States to the global economy.

Find out updated information about upcoming professional development opportunities, outreach programs, planning sessions, and lectures and other Asia-related events and outreach on-Grounds sponsored by the Asia Institute

http://artsandsciences.virginia.edu/asiainstitute
BEIJING – Afghan President Hamid Karzai will visit China for talks next week with President Hu Jintao, Premier Wen Jiabao and other officials on what China calls common issues of regional and global concern. China made news last year when it made the largest-ever foreign investment in Afghanistan, a $3 billion mine project to tap one of the world’s largest unexploited copper reserves. A Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman says Karzai will visit China from March 23-25. Spokesman Qin Gang said the two countries will discuss all kinds of cooperation and bilateral relations. It will be Karzai’s first visit since 2008, when he attended the Beijing Olympics opening ceremony. - AP

NEW DELHI, March 16 - India could see double-digit inflation in March, Finance Minister Pranab Mukherjee told parliament. – Reuters

SEOUL (AFP) - -- South Korean President Lee Myung-Bak Tuesday appointed one of his close associates as new central bank chief, prompting questions about the bank’s independence. Kim Choong-Soo, 62, ambassador to the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development, takes over as governor of the Bank of Korea from Lee Seong-Tae, whose four-year term ends on March 31, the president’s office said. The finance ministry welcomed the appointment saying he would closely cooperate with the government to help the economy recover fully from the downturn. The president took into account the central bank’s independence in selecting Kim, a presidential spokesman told reporters, although the appointment does not require parliamentary approval. The main opposition Democratic Party, said Kim, who served as chief economic aide to president Lee in 2008, is not “a proper figure” to maintain the bank’s independence.