

Binghamton University STARTALK Summer Program: "Sounds of China - Learn Chinese Through Beijing Opera"

PROGRAM DATES: July 31st - August 18th, 2017

TIME: 8:30-4:30, Monday-Friday. Students should arrive between 8:15 and 8:30 to ensure classes start promptly at 8:30

AGES: Students who will be entering 6th through 12th grades in the Fall of 2017 may apply

APPLICATION DEADLINE: June 23rd with notification in early July. If spaces remain or become available, additional selected applicants will be notified on a rolling basis, so late applications will be accepted.

COST: There is no cost for this program. Lunch will be provided. Students may bring money the day of the field trip.

ATTIRE: Campers should wear comfortable clothing and closed-toe shoes (no heels!)

PERSONAL ITEMS: If participants choose to bring their cell phones, electronics, or other personal items, the camp and Binghamton University will not be responsible if they are lost, stolen or damaged.

ATTENDANCE: Students must commit to attend the entire program. Given the intensive nature of the program, students who are absent two days will not be allowed to continue following the second absence.

SIBLINGS: We understand that in ideal circumstances, siblings would be accepted to the program together. However, with the rising interest in our program and the number of highly qualified students, it is not possible to give preference to siblings.

PAST PARTICIPANTS: One of the main goals of STARTALK is to promote the continued study of critical languages. For this reason, past participants are welcome to re-apply. However, in order to give this opportunity to as many deserving students as possible, only those who met the highest standards of participation, behavior, and attendance will be invited to return.

SITE: The camp will take place on the Binghamton University campus (4400 Vestal Parkway East, Binghamton, NY 13902-6000). The exact building and room numbers will be announced closer to the start date. Students should be dropped off and picked up each day; Binghamton University and "Sounds of China" staff are not responsible for transportation to and from the summer camp.

READY TO APPLY? This application will take about 30 minutes to complete, or longer including time needed to write essay response (student must write a personal statement of 300 words or less). You will be asked to provide the email of a teacher reference. You may preview the entire application before starting here:

xxx

Direct link to this application: xxx

Email cbuck@binghamton.edu for questions about the program or this application.

* Required

1. **Email address ***

Where should we send your acceptance decision?

Please provide your preferred email for program communications above.

Student Info

2. **First Name ***

3. **Middle Name**

4. **Last Name ***

5. **Gender ***

Mark only one oval.

Male

Female

6. **Birth Date ***

Proof of age will be required upon registration

Example: December 15, 2012

7. **Student's grade level for the academic school year starting August/September 2017 ***

Mark only one oval.

6th

7th

8th

9th

10th

11th

12th

8. **What school are you currently attending? ***

9. **Student's non-weighted GPA**

If available

10. **Student's weighted GPA**

If available

Student Contact Info

11. **Are you a local student or will you board with friends or family during the program? ***

Mark only one oval.

- I am a local student living within driving distance of the program.
- I am a resident of New York State, but I will board in or near Binghamton during the program.
- I live out of state and will board in or near Binghamton during the program.
- Other: _____

12. **Street Address ***

Primary residence

13. **City ***

Primary residence

14. **State ***

Primary residence

15. **Zip Code ***

Primary residence

16. **Mailing Address**

If different from primary residence

17. **City**

If different from primary residence

18. **State**

If different from primary residence

19. **Zip Code**

If different from primary residence

20. **Student Email Address**

21. **Student Phone Number**

(xxx)xxx-xxxx

Parent/Guardian Contact Info

Parent/guardian information is required. Information for a second parent/guardian is desired, in case of an emergency.

22. **First Name ***

23. **Last Name ***

24. **Parent/Guardian Email Address ***

25. **Parent/Guardian Phone Number ***

(xxx)xxx-xxxx Please provide a cell phone number that we can use to contact you during pick-up times as needed, and in case of an emergency.

26. **Emergency Contact First Name ***

27. **Emergency Contact Last Name ***

28. **Emergency Contact Relationship ***

Mark only one oval.

Mother

Father

Grandparent

Other Relative

Family Friend

Other:

29. Emergency Contact Email Address

Optional

30. Emergency Contact Phone Number *

(xxx)xxx-xxxx

Agreements, Authorizations and Safety Information

31. Student Commitment to Program Goals and Attendance *

I agree that if I am accepted into and register for the STARTALK program, I will attend all classroom sessions, complete any scheduled assignments, and participate in field trips and other related program activities, including the final performance, between July 31st and August 18th, 2017. I understand that if I miss more than two days - consecutive or non-consecutive - I will not be able to continue in the program. Significant financial resources are invested into each participant, and only those who can benefit from the entire program experience should register. Attendance is a factor in acceptance decisions for subsequent years.

Mark only one oval.

- Yes, I agree
- Disagree

32. Student Commitment to Attend *

If accepted, can you make a firm commitment to attend the program, or are you still unsure about summer plans? (This lets us know to make sure to double-check with you. It does not negatively affect your admissions decision.)

Mark only one oval.

- Yes, I can make a firm commitment.
- Not sure yet/still considering plans

33. Photo and Video Authorization *

I do hereby agree for my child (or myself, if age 18 on or before July 31st 2017) to participate in the Binghamton University STARTALK Summer Program: "Sounds of China - Learn Chinese Through Beijing Opera" and authorize him/her (or myself, if age 18 on or before July 31st, 2017) to be videotaped/recorded/photographed for the purpose of documenting his/her/my linguistic performance and Beijing Opera theater skills and performance, and for evaluating and promoting current and future STARTALK programs.

Mark only one oval.

- Yes, I agree.
- Not sure yet.
- Disagree.

34. Do you have reliable access to the internet?

At your home or elsewhere, such as a library.

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No

35. Any medical conditions, allergies, or special needs that the staff should know about? *

Please include food allergies, other health or religion-related food needs, and all other non-food related allergies.

36. Any medications that the camp should be aware of? Will the student need to bring these to camp? *

37. Face Painting Consent *

In Beijing opera, one of the most distinctive and fun features is traditional face painting. As part of “Sounds of China,” we will give students the opportunity to paint their faces in this way, both in class when learning about Beijing opera characters and during the final performance. The face paint we use is oil-based and used specifically for face painting. During “Sounds of China,” the students may decide to go home with their faces still painted. If your child decides to WASH or cleanse his or her face after painting, the Beijing opera instructors will distribute sensitive baby wipes and/or paper towels for wiping, using cream cleanser, cold cream cleanser, water, makeup remover, makeup remover wipes, and/or other soaps, wipes, towels or cleansers to wash their faces.

Mark only one oval.

I give my consent to have my child's face painted, or to let my child paint his/her own face according to the teacher's instructions. My child may use soap, cleansing cream, water, etc. provided by the Beijing Opera teachers to wash his/her face.

I give my consent to have my child's face painted, or to let my child paint his/her own face according to the teachers directions. HOWEVER, I will provide any necessary cleansing materials for my child to wash his/her own face, or I will wash my child's face after the camp has ended for the day.

I do not give my consent to have my child's face painted, or to let my child paint his/her own face according to the teacher's directions

Getting to Know You

This section should be completed by the applicant in his/her own words. Follow-up interviews may be requested by phone, Skype, or in-person if additional information or clarification is needed. Parents of students entering grades 6-8 may assist the student, but the information shared should reflect the feelings of the student, not the parent. An in-person meet and greet may be held in June or July prior to making admissions decisions if needed.

Essay

Please respond to the questions in essay format. You will be able to discuss your motivation and experience with Chinese later in this application, if applicable.

38. Why do you want to learn Chinese? Why do you think you will be successful, and what makes you uniquely suited for this program? What experience do you have learning or speaking any languages other than English? *

Topics to address in the essay may include: personal characteristics, extracurricular activities, academic strengths, foreign language classes, family heritage, religion, travel experiences, etc. You will be asked to provide specific details about your experience studying Chinese later in this application, but you should also briefly mention and summarize your experience here. Prior experience is NOT required, but it is important for us to know.

39. What are some other things we should know about you (hobbies, accomplishments, extracurricular activities, clubs, leadership, work, etc.)? *

Please briefly share any important information that was not mentioned elsewhere on this application, but that is a crucial part of who you are.

40. T-shirt Size *

Please indicate your t-shirt size. If you would like an XS, please choose "Child's L". All other sizes are adult sizes.

Mark only one oval.

- Child's L
- S
- M
- L
- XL

Teacher Reference

Please ask a current or former teacher for a reference and provide this information to them: References should be typed directly in the body of an email and sent to cico@binghamton.edu with [STUDENT NAME REFERENCE] in the subject line. Information in this brief reference should include how long the teacher has known the student and in what capacity (what courses were taken with the teacher, etc.). We are especially interested in the teacher's opinion of the student's commitment and ability to learn Chinese. If a meaningful teacher reference is not possible, acceptable alternatives would be another individual who knows the student in a supervisory capacity, such as a coach, or a director of another extracurricular activity. Relatives and family friends are not suitable references.

41. Name of anticipated teacher reference *

42. School of anticipated teacher reference *

If the reference is not from a teacher, indicate the role of the person providing the reference (i.e. coach).

43. Email address of anticipated teacher reference *

Prior Experience

44. Do you have ANY experience studying, learning, or speaking Chinese, including past STARTALK programs? *

Answer "Yes" if you have meaningful experience with Chinese. Prior experience is not required. Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No *Stop filling out this form.*

Experience with Chinese

45. Have you ever attending "Sounds of China" at Binghamton University before? *

Check all that apply.

- No
- 2016
- 2015
- 2014

46. How many classes have you taken in Chinese? *

Mark only one oval.

- Never learned Chinese
- Elementary (has taken up to one year of Chinese)
- Intermediate (has taken 1-2 years of Chinese)
- Advanced (has taken 3+ years of Chinese)
- Other: _____

47. Which of the following methods have helped you learn Chinese? *

Check all that apply.

- None
- Significant self-study (workbooks, internet resources, conversation partners, etc. that have significantly increased knowledge of Chinese language)
- Private tutor
- Other classes (not associated with school)
- Someone in my home speaks the language
- In school prior to 6th grade
- Other immersion camps or programs
- Travel or study abroad
- Other: _____

Submit Form

48. Would you like to submit this form now? *

If not, you may go back and review your answers prior to submitting.
Mark only one oval.

Yes *Stop filling out this form.*

Send me a copy of my responses.

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