Global Perspectives
Clough Center for Global Understanding
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Boston Latin Hosts Three Chinese High Schools in Feb

Beijing came to Boston Latin School in February! Students and faculty members from Beijing High School #8 and the Experimental High School Attached to Beijing Normal University shadowed BLS students, and attended classes, lunch and extra-curricular activities during the first two weeks of the month. Students from RDFZ high school came to BLS for an exchange concert with students from the BLS Fine and Performing Arts department.

All three programs are part of the work being supported by the Clough Center for Global Understanding. The Beijing #8 students are part of a China Sci-Tech program, now in its third year, that will allow eight BLS students, led by science teacher Zach Smith, to travel to Beijing in March for an international science competition. The students from the Experimental High School traveled to Boston for the Harvard Model United Nations, in which the BLS Model UN team also participated.

Both groups stayed with BLS host students and families during their time in Boston. In addition to attending classes, they immersed themselves in the BLS/Boston culture, by sight-seeing, visiting colleges, and conducting independent research projects led by BLS teachers. The BLS concert strings orchestra participated in the exchange concert with the RDFZ high school Art Troupe as part of the Beijing / BLS February programming.

Prior to the concert BLS Chinese teacher Nancy Yang was presented with the Confucius Classroom Award. (see picture)

German Consul Visits BLS

On February 4, 2015, the Consul General of Germany, Mr. Rolf Schütte, visited Boston Latin School. He toured the school with students from Ms. Kuchta’s German 4 class (Robert Arnold, Mahlet Shiferaw, Nate Krieger, Anna Peng, and Olivia Todd), and then gave a presentation to over 50 students titled, “Why is it good for an American student to learn German”.

Mr. Schuette, a career diplomat, discussed the importance of learning foreign languages as well as the benefits of German. Everyone also enjoyed Schwarzwälder Kirschtorte, or Black Forest Cherry Torte as a thank you to Ms. Marlene Neumann for her work while Ms. Kuchta was on leave, and to welcome Ms. Kuchta back to BLS.

CIEE Scholarships Expand

Thanks to the generosity of BLS Alum and CIEE Chairman Ro Fallon, ten Boston Latin School students will receive full scholarships to CIEE summer learning programs. The students will participate in world language immersion, service leadership, entrepreneurship and science programs at one of 16 destinations world wide.

The BLS Chinese teacher Nancy Yang and Program Dir. Christine Kelley accept Confucius Classroom Award from Baifeng Sun of Confucius Institute prior to RDFZ concert.

The Global Navigator Scholarships cover all expenses for the four week programs that will give BLS students the opportunity to learn alongside peers from around the globe. The past two summers, four BLS students were able to participate in the program, thanks to Mr. Fallon. Increased financial support will allow additional students to build their global understanding.