MEDIA ADVISORY

CHINESE TEACHERS GET TEACHING EXPERIENCE AT UNIVERSITY HIGH SCHOOL, LOS ANGELES

**UCLA-based training helps prepare Chinese instructors to teach in the U.S.**

LOS ANGELES, CA (July 26, 2013) -- In the largest program of its kind, 115 teachers from across China will have 3 days of hands-on practice teaching elementary, middle-, and high-school students. Some 170 students—culled from 82 schools all over Los Angeles, and with no fees required—will have a chance to take short term intensive courses in Chinese language, calligraphy, taiji, and other traditional Chinese cultural arts, as the teachers themselves learn to teach to American students.

While the hands-on teaching practice is new this year, this is the 4th year of the Chinese Guest Teacher Summer Institute, which is sponsored by the College Board, in collaboration with the National Council of State Supervisors for Languages (NCWSSFL), and the UCLA Confucius Institute. The program receives support and funding from China’s Confucius Institute Headquarters and the US government’s Startalk Initiative.

In addition to guidance in methodology and U.S. educational practices, the program also seeks to raise the teachers’ awareness about the diversity of American culture and to dispel stereotypes. Courses in the way the American school system functions, classroom management, and U.S. communication styles and social etiquette are covered. Teachers first undergo a 6-week orientation and training in China, followed by 10-days of intensive training at UCLA before they are sent to their assigned schools around the U.S. where they will teach for 1-3 years.

**DATES:** Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday -- July 29, 30, 31

**TIMES:** 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**PLACE:** University High School, 11800 Texas Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90025. Enter parking lot on Barrington Avenue, just south of Texas Avenue.

**VISUALS:** Children from diverse backgrounds singing, doing art, and playing games in Chinese. Photography/videotaping is welcome in the classrooms and playground areas. Please contact Holly Hernandez to RSVP.

**Press contact:** Holly Barnhill Hernandez, hbhernandez@international.ucla.edu, mobile: (818) 406-0561

###