

Chinese Festival Celebrates Culture and Traditions

Bennington College's Regional Center for Languages and Cultures celebrates the Chinese culture and wealth of traditions on November 8-11, 2000. The Chinese Festival coincides with the visit of scholar-in-residence Dr. Qinggen Xu, a scholar of comparative literature teaching at Bennington through a grant from the Chinese government. All events are free and open to the public.

The Chinese Festival kicks off with an introduction to Chinese culture on Wednesday, November 8, beginning at 7 p.m. in Room D-208 of the Visual and Performing Arts building. Experience the traditional food, clothing, music, calligraphy, and tea of China.

The film *Not One Less* will be shown at 7 p.m. on Thursday, November 9, in Barn 1. The movie tells the touching story of a young country teacher going through the hardships of educating children in a remote area of contemporary China. A discussion of the film, in relation to Chinese education today, follows.

On Friday, November 10, learn about the WU culture and its water-country lifestyle. Two brief films will be followed by discussions about the unique South Yangtze River region cultures and the classical gardens in Suzhou City, representative of the private gardens in China. Talks begin at 7 p.m. in Tishman Auditorium.

A taste of China is offered on Saturday, November 11, from 3-6 p.m. on Commons Lawn. Detect the differences between northern and southern Chinese foods, learn how to set a formal Chinese dinner table, master the tricks of chopsticks, and discover the secrets of Chinese cooking. In the event of rain, the event will take place in the Upstairs Cafe.

For more information on the Chinese Festival, contact Nancy Pearlman, Assistant Director of the Regional Center for Languages and Cultures, at 802-440-4710.