Happy Chinese New Year!

February 3rd 2011 marks the beginning of the Year of the Rabbit. In Chinese mythology, the rabbit is a symbol of peace and endurance. The Year of the Rabbit is said to be peaceful, positive and inspiring. It comes for many as a welcome change from The Year of the Tiger, which can be associated with unpredictability and ferociousness.

People born in the Year of the Rabbit are said to be very talented and artistic. They are also trustworthy and calm in demeanour.

The University of Sydney Confucius Institute is delivering an exciting program in 2011. We will be hosting the Chinese Film Forum on the 6th of February as part of the City of Sydney Chinese New Year Festival celebrations. For more information, visit our website.
In December 2010 and January 2011, the Confucius Institute organised intensive Chinese language programs at Fudan University in Shanghai and People’s University Suzhou Branch.

The programs were an overwhelming success. In-country study enhances cross-cultural communication skills and the application of formal language training to real life situations. There is no better way to achieve substantial progress in language studies.

The Confucius Institute will offer In-Country Chinese language programs in June/July and December 2011/January 2012.

New Courses in 2011

The Confucius Institute offers Chinese language and culture courses designed to cater for a variety of interests. From 7 March 2011, the following courses will commence:

- Chinese for Beginners (Levels 1 & 2)
- Intermediate Chinese
- Tai Ji for Beginners
- Tai Ji 24 Forms
- Advanced 24 Forms

Visit our [website](#) for further information.

Click [here](#) to see the YouTube video of our popular 24 Forms Tai Ji Class from last year.

Chinese Film Forum: 6th February 10am

Take a behind the scenes look at film making at the 2011 Chinese Film Forum, co-presented by the Institute and the Sydney Chinese Film Festival.

From its birth in Shanghai in the late 19th Century with recordings of Beijing Opera, to the immensely popular Hong Kong action movies of the 1980’s and the lavish aesthetic beauty of recent historical epics - Chinese cinema has grown into a rich and immensely diverse art form.

Join us as Chinese and Australian film makers and Chinese film academics gather to compare and contrast the art of film making from Chinese and Australian cultures. To register your attendance, email us.
Ticket Give-Away: Sydney Chinese Film Festival

The 2011 Sydney Chinese Film Festival will take place from the 5th to 14th of February. It is the largest Chinese film festival in Sydney and is supported by the Confucius Institute. We have three double movie passes to give away. The first three people to email us with the subject title ‘Film Festival Competition’ will receive a double pass to a screening at the festival.

For the rest of us, at screenings of the film ‘Confucius’ (6:30pm 9th Feb and 8:45pm 12th Feb), if you mention the ‘Confucius Institute’ and have eight people or more in your group, you will pay a discounted price of $10 per ticket.

Contemporary Chinese Literature Talk

On the 16th February at 5:30pm, the China Studies Centre and the Confucius Institute will host a talk by Chinese author Murong Xuecun at the University of Sydney. His debut novel, Chengdu, Leave Me Alone Tonight, was immensely popular in China, in particular among the country’s internet readership.

Murong will discuss the current state of contemporary Chinese literature. The talk will be in Chinese with English translation.

To reserve your attendance, send us an email.

A night of Enchanting Chinese Opera

On the 16th of March, we will be co-presenting a Chinese opera performance at the State Theatre with Australian International Trade and Commerce Inc.

This year’s opera troupe is from the internationally renowned Tianjin Youth Opera Company and will be performing Scenes from the Legend of White Snake.

The story tells of a young scholar who falls in love with a beautiful woman, unaware that she is a white snake who has taken on human form. A monk intervenes, revealing Lady White Snake’s true identity.

To book your ticket, phone 1300 139 588 or go to www.ticketmaster.com.au
China Model Forum & Sydney Ideas Lecture

On the 29th of March, the China Studies Centre and the Confucius Institute will host a one day academic workshop on ‘The China Model’ with scholars from Fudan University, Shanghai and The University of Sydney. The workshop will deal with the dimensions and impact of socio-economic developments in China.

Professor Suisheng Zhao of The University of Denver, editor of the ‘Journal of Contemporary China’ will introduce the topic to the public in a free Sydney Ideas Lecture on Monday the 28th of March 2011, 5:30pm at the Law Faculty Building.

More Info: sydney.edu.au/chinastudiescentre

Chang An Drum & Wind Music Ensemble

On Thursday 17th of February, the Chang An Drum & Wind Music Ensemble, will perform at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music (SCM).

The ensemble originates from Xi’an, Shaanxi province. Notably, Chang Ning performed on the sound track of The Last Emperor and Mao’s Last Dancer.

The first three people to email us with the subject title, ‘Chang An Music Ensemble’ will receive a double pass to the event.

古曰：一年之计在于春，一日之计在于晨。
Chinese Proverb: A successful year depends on a good start in Spring, a successful day depends on a good start in the morning.