

2010 USCPFA National Tours – EDUCATORS’ TOUR

Educators to China – 10 days, Oct. 21-Nov. 1, 2010 – Apply by July 15

The US-China Peoples Friendship Association (USCPFA) has been taking travelers to China since the 1970s. USCPFA has the opportunity to take a group of 9 educators (plus a USCPFA tour leader) to China for 10 days in 2010, hosted by Youxie (the Chinese People’s Assn. for Friendship with Foreign Countries). In order to visit schools and meet educators in China, the delegation must be there while China’s schools are open; we hope some American teachers, principals, and others will be able to take time off for this tour, October 15-26, 2010. APPLICATION DEADLINE is JULY 15, but talk with us earlier to contribute your ideas for itinerary and activities, and indicate your interest and availability.

The Educators’ Tour is designed to give participants a first-hand look at China and its education system, and an opportunity to meet and talk with educators in China. Exposing educators to China first-hand can multiply the effects of the experience, because educators touch so many people—especially young people.

ORIENTATION with written materials, links to resources, and Q&A will be provided before departure. An experienced USCPFA tour leader will travel with the group, and bi-lingual guides will assist the group.

TOUR ACTIVITIES in China will include visiting schools at several levels (basic primary, middle, & high school, vocational school, and college), and meeting educators, officials, and researchers to share information--and touring historical and cultural sites. The delegation will visit Beijing, Xian, and Shanghai.

APPLICANTS will be persons who are involved with academic or vocational education at the K-12 or university level as teachers, principals, administrators, or policy makers, and whose effectiveness can be enhanced by learning more about China and its educational system. USCPFA membership is not required.

PASSPORTS & VISAS: A valid passport is required for China travel. The passport must be valid to May 1, 2011, and have at least 1 blank visa page. Check your passport now, and apply for a new/renewal passport if needed. USCPFA will obtain visas for delegates.

COST & PAYMENTS: Each participant will pay for airfare (est. \$1,000-\$1,300) and will pay \$600 to USCPFA for visa, arrangements, and a share of leader cost. Youxie will cover the cost of hotel (double occupancy), meals, tours & activities, transfers & transportation for the group in China. Participants will pay a \$300 deposit (included in the total \$600) with the application; the deposit will be returned to any applicant not selected. Those selected as delegates will make final payment of \$300 to USCPFA by August 15. Payments to USCPFA must be by check; payments to travel agent or airline for flights may be made by credit card.

APPLICATION PROCESS: By July 15, applicants will submit the completed application form, a brief bio, and tour deposit (\$300 check payable to USCPFA National Tours) to USCPFA at the address below. In the bio, each applicant will briefly describe his/her educational & professional background, current job & responsibilities, community activities, interest in China, any special interests/requests for this tour, & involvement (if any) with USCPFA and/or other China-related organizations or activities.

In selecting delegates, preference will be given to applicants who have NOT lived in China, and who work in/with schools that offer courses in Chinese language & culture. Nine (9) delegates will be selected, and all applicants notified, by August 1. Final payment of \$300 is due to USCPFA by August 15.

FLIGHTS: The Tour Coordinator will designate group flights and gateway, and delegates will arrange and pay for flights directly with the airline or travel agent. Based on price & schedules, the US gateway will be Chicago, NYC or Newark, or Washington DC.

Questions? Contact Barbara Cobb, Tour Coordinator, at Barbara.cobb@juno.com (Tel/Fax 615 833-9512). Mail applications & payments (check payable to USCPFA National Tours) to USCPFA National Tours, 496 Ellenwood Drive, Nashville, TN 37211-5716. Visit us on the Web at www.uscpfa.org.