Proposal for the 17th "Chinese Bridge" Foreign Secondary School Students Chinese Proficiency Competition in Belgium

The official launch of the 17th "Chinese Bridge" foreign Secondary School Students Chinese Proficiency Competition in Belgium has commenced. Below are the details of the competition proposal.

1. Event Background

The "Chinese Bridge" Foreign Secondary School Students Chinese Proficiency Competition is a prestigious international event organized by the Chinese Language Education & Research Center of the Ministry of Education. Since its inception in 2008, this competition has been held annually. To date, it has garnered participation from 112 countries and engaged 750,000 high school students globally. It serves as a platform for students to showcase their Chinese language proficiency and share the joy of learning Chinese. With over 3,000 exceptional contestants competing in the global finals, the competition has earned the reputation of being the "Olympics of Chinese Language Learning" worldwide.

2. Competition Objectives

The aim is to provide a platform for young students learning Chinese in Belgium to showcase their proficiency in the language, foster mutual learning and exchange, inspire enthusiasm and interest in acquiring Chinese, and deepen their understanding of Chinese language and culture.

3.2024 Competition Theme

Fly High with Chinese

4. Host and Organisers

Host: Education Section, Embassy of China in Belgium

Organisers: China Cultural Center in Brussels / Confucius Institute Howest

5. Eligibility Criteria:

Participants must be aged between 12 and 18, hold Belgian nationality, have grown up abroad, and both the participant and their parents must have a native language other than Chinese. Contestants who participated in the previous global finals are generally not eligible to compete in consecutive editions.

6. Competition Content

(1) Chinese Language and Knowledge of China Quiz (Written Test)

Past competition question sets can be downloaded from the official competition website:

http://bridge.chinese.cn/test

(2) Theme Speech

Participants will deliver a prepared short speech of approximately two minutes on the theme "Fly High with Chinese" during the competition.

(3) Talent Showcase Participants may choose one talent performance from a variety of options including Chinese songs, traditional musical instruments, Chinese opera, recitation, calligraphy, painting, martial arts, etc.

7. Detailed Arrangements

(1) Registration and Selection

Schools are responsible for organizing the selection and recommendation of participants and appointing a Chinese language teacher as a guide. Please instruct the teachers to send the registration form of the participants (see attachment) along with their personal photos to the registration email before May 17, 2024. Additionally, each participant should prepare background music for their talent performance and upload the audio file to the registration email before May 17, 2024. The format of the audio file should be "Name + Background Music Title.

Registration Email: hanyuqiaobilishi@163.com

Registration Deadline: May 17, 2024.

(2) Competition Schedule: May 26, 2024, from 14:00 to 18:00 (Participants check in at 12:00 for rehearsal, and judges check in at 13:00 to convene the judges' meeting: to review the participants' registration materials, familiarize themselves with the competition procedures, and scoring rules, among other relevant matters).

(3) Competition Venue: China Cultural Center in Brussels (Rue Philippe Le Bon 2, 1000 Brussels).

(4) Competition Procedure: 12:30—13:00 Written Test (10 questions in total, including 4 questions on Chinese language knowledge, 3 questions on Chinese culture, and 3 questions on the situation in China)

14:00—15:00 Observation of Elementary School Student Group Competition

15:00-16:00 Keynote Speech (2 minutes per person)

16:00—18:00 Talent Show (approximately 3 minutes per person)

8. Competition Scoring Method: The organizing committee will invite experts from China and abroad to form a judging panel to score the participants' written tests, on-site speeches, and talent presentations. Each part of the competition will account for 30%, 40%, and 30% of the total score, respectively.

9. Competition Awards and Rewards: The 17th "Chinese Bridge" Foreign Secondary School Students Chinese Proficiency Competition, Belgium Regional Finals, will offer various awards based on registration. All participants will receive a prize or souvenir. The first-place winner will be recommended to participate in the global finals in China. Finalists under the age of 18 may be accompanied by one guardian with authorization to China. In principle, no quota for accompanying teachers will be provided for participants over 18 years old. All registered participants have the opportunity to take part in the 2024 summer camp activities in China.

10. Contact Information of the Organizing Committee:

The organizing committee is composed of relevant personnel from the Education Office of the Chinese Embassy in Belgium and the organizing institution, responsible for the design of the event plan, overall guidance, and organizational implementation.

Contact Person: Cheng Jing (井澈) Phone: 0492 13 31 33 (Mobile)

Email for Registration: hanyuqiaobilishi@163.com

Required Registration Materials: Participant Registration Form (see attachment), 1-2 personal photos of the participant (resolution not less than 300 x 400 pixels, at least 1 solo photo).

CHINESE BRIDGE - Belgium Regional Organizing Committee April 2024