2012 China Week at Bryant University:
Bryant University just celebrated its first China Week from April 2-5th. It welcomed many talented individuals, and different programs were offered to the general public, such as a seminar by MIT notable Hepeng Jia and a live show, “From Mao to the Met” with Hao Jiang Tian.

Chinese Painting and Calligraphy demonstration at Westerly-
On Tuesday, March 20, 2012, a group of 16 high school students participated in an activity with Ms. Xiaochun Lai, a visiting Chinese teacher from the China University of Geosciences. Ms. Lai gave a small presentation with students who had the opportunity to utilize their Chinese painting skills.

“Museum Night” at Old County Road Elementary School” – On Wednesday, March 28, 2012, from 6pm to 8:30pm, one of Smithfield Public Schools’ elementary schools, Old County Road, hosted a “Museum” Night for all students and parents to attend. Ms. Ann Short invited the U.S.-China Institute and Confucius Institute to represent its programs through Chinese cultural crafts. Ms. Quan Long, Ziqin Zhang ’14, and Kee Ming Yeung ’12 attended, and assisted with the Chinese exhibit. Attendees raved that this was their most favorite section. They enjoyed the event and had the chance to take away Chinese paper cuts, calligraphy, and Chinese paper cut dragons!

Short Films: “Follow Me” to China – Tuesday, April 3, 2012 provided potential STARTALK participants with a window into the program’s optional China study trip. The STARTALK study trip provides students the opportunity to travel to various locations in China and test out their new found language skills. These ‘Follow Me’ short films were created and presented by Jason Fortin ’12, Margaret Wong ’14, Ryan Richter ’12, and Bakhtiyar Baidaralin ’12, all Bryant students with an active interest in Chinese culture. Each film focuses on a different theme in order to spark the interest of students and provide a platform in which to practice a variety of vocabulary words. These themes range from historic landmarks to unusual local street food, and are an excellent complement to the STARTALK curriculum.