



# Forte International Exchange Association

## Summer 2010 China Summer Camp Program Terms & Conditions

### **Cost to the Family**

All travel, accommodations, and activities within China will be arranged and paid for through Forte International. See *Amenities Included in China Exchange Program* for more details.

*Application Fee* - There will be an application fee of \$300 for each participant to reserve their spot on the trip. The fee is due at the time of the participants application following the confirmation of a groups participation in the July 2010 Summer Camp.

*Travel to China* - Forte International will be reserving a group flight to China departing from San Francisco International Airport (SFO). These tickets are estimated to cost no more than \$1,200. Each participant will also be responsible for getting to the departure airport. In addition, each group leader must give their groups arrival information to a staff member at Forte International no later than 2 weeks before the trip is set to depart.

### **Amenities Included in China Exchange Program**

*Travel within China* - Travel within China includes all transportation within each hub city and transportation city to city that will be conducted by bus, train, and/or plane.

*Accommodations within China* - Accommodations will include stays in school dormitories and hotels during the sightseeing portion.

*Activities throughout the Exchange and Camp* - Activities will include local guides, sightseeing tours, and admission to excursion sites (the Great Wall, Tiananmen Square, the Forbidden City, the Temple of Heaven, Beijing Olympic sites, and more)

*Meals* - Three meals per day will be provided including breakfast, lunch and dinner. The only time a meal will not be provided is if a free period falls on a meal time during the sightseeing portion.

### **Responsibilities of the Participant before Departure**

*Passport* - Each participant must have or obtain a passport that is valid for at least eight months after the departure of the exchange program (eight months past July 2010). It is recommended that if a participant does not have a passport that they apply as soon as they apply for the exchange program. Passport information can be found at the following website - <http://travel.state.gov/>

*Chinese Visa* - Each participant must apply for and obtain a Tourist Visa (L Visa) from the Chinese Embassy or Consulate. Forte International will assist each family in the process, but it is participant's responsibility to obtain the visa. The normal visa applicant submits his/her application one month before the trip and the process takes 4 business days with a fee of \$130.00 for a single entry visa. There is also the possibility of express service (2-3 working days) for an additional fee of \$20.00 or same day rush service for an additional fee of \$30.00.

### **Payment of Application Fee**

At the time of submitting the Summer Camp Application by the participant a nonrefundable deposit of \$300 will be due. The application fee should be paid by check and made payable to Forte International. Groups are asked to submit their applications together and not have individual participants send in the application.



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## **Adult Chaperones**

The summer camp will be chaperoned from the flight departure on July 5th through arrival back in the US on July 24th. At least two staff members from the Forte DC office will be in attendance along with staff members from the Forte Shanghai office, tour guides, and teachers from the Chinese school in addition to the adult chaperones accompanying each group.

## **Medical Insurance & Treatment Overseas**

Participant's US based medical and accident insurance should cover them and their belongings overseas, however participants should check with their current insurance carrier to learn the specifics. Some participants choose to purchase additional travel insurance, but that is at the discretion of each individual family.

The participant's parents or guardians will be asked to authorize Forte International and the exchange chaperones to consent for and sign documents if there is a medical emergency. The parents and guardians will be informed if any medical treatment is required.

## **Participant Rules & Responsibilities**

A successful trip is accomplished with the help of everyone involved. Just like international exchange students are ambassadors of their home country while in the United States, the American participants will be ambassadors of the United States while they are traveling in China. It is important to be punctual and attentive to the chaperones directions and rules throughout the exchange. Below are the rules and regulations that are important to adhere to during the exchange:

- All scheduled activities are mandatory. A student who is unable to attend due to a physical ailment must inform the adult chaperones.
- Students of the opposite gender are not permitted to sleep in the same room. If necessary, a curfew will be set and nightly room checks will be conducted.
- Smoking is not allowed on buses, during meals, in hotel rooms or in any other shared, enclosed space.
- Hitchhiking and the driving or renting of any motor vehicle is strictly forbidden for all students
- The legal drinking age in China is 18 years old. Parents may give consent on the student application, giving their permission for students under the age of 21 to consume wine or beer, on occasion under supervision if the student is of legal drinking age in China. Excessive drinking by any participant, of any age, will result in disciplinary action, including dismissal from the exchange program at the participant's expense.
- Shoplifting, possession of illegal drugs and all other illegal activity will not be tolerated and is punishable by immediate dismissal from the exchange program. All costs to return home are at the participant's expense. Should the local authorities be involved, participants will be subject to the laws of China.
- Participants are required to pay for any phone calls or incidental expenses incurred at the dormitories and hotels. These will be payable the evening before departure at each location.
- Compensation for damage done to hotel rooms, dormitories, or to buses is the responsibility of the participants.



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## **Participant Rules & Responsibilities Cont.**

Participants not in compliance with any of these rules and regulations risk disciplinary action and possible dismissal from the exchange program, returning home at their own expense. This decision is reached in consultation with group chaperones, Forte International Staff, the Forte International Director and the student's parents.

## **Responsibility of Forte International**

Forte International Exchange Association is a Washington, DC based nonprofit organization. Forte assumes responsibility only in regards to the following statement of Conditions and Responsibilities.

*Conditions and Responsibilities* - Forte International reserves the right to accept or decline any person as a program participant. Should any persons health, physical infirmity, or general deportment, in the judgment of the delegation leader, impede the operation of the project or the rights or welfare of other participants, the leader retains the right to terminate that person's participation.

In arranging transportation, hotel reservation, or other services and in carrying out the project, neither the sponsor nor their agents shall be responsible or liable for any loss, cost, injury, delay, irregularity, or expense of any kind arising from the use of any conveyance, accommodation, service, theft, government restriction or regulation, or loss incurred during the project. Nor shall the sponsor or the sponsor's agent be held responsible or liable for any acts or omissions of any transport carrier, hotel, school camp location or other service, subject to the laws of the respective country in which the service is offered. The sponsor shall not be responsible in any way for loss or damage to project members' baggage or personal effects.

This Agreement, including its interpretation, performance, and all proceedings shall be governed and adjudicated subject to the laws and authority of the District of Columbia and the United States of America. In any action or other proceeding that may arise in connection with, or by reason of this agreement, the laws of the District of Columbia and the United States of America shall be applicable and controlling. The participating parties agree that all claims and litigation in relation to this Agreement, when possible, shall take place in the courts of the District of Columbia.

If the project must be canceled, the sole liability of Forte International and its agents is limited to refunding \$300 application fee received by Forte International or its agents. The sponsors reserve the right to cancel the project in face of uncontrollable situation. The sponsor also reserves the right to make such alterations in the projects schedule as they may deem necessary or desirable. In particular, where special visits and/or meetings are arranged, Forte International cannot be held liable for any charges, substitutions, or alterations in arrangements which may be necessary. Alternate arrangements or substitute programs will be arranged when possible in such an instance.

No refund will be made for services not taken in case of sickness, accident, or emergency resulting in omission of services during the trip. Refunds for unused air tickets will be made in accordance with the respective carrier's regulations.

## **Cancellations**

If a participant wishes to withdraw from the Summer Camp Program a written letter must be sent to Forte International from the guardians of the participant. The letter can be mailed or emailed to the attention of: Sarah Crockett - Program Manager, 529 14<sup>th</sup> Street NW, Suite 270, Washington, DC 20045 or [sarah@forteintl.com](mailto:sarah@forteintl.com).