



A Drive for the Greater Good

George Wang

The biannual CYOC Donation Drive took place today, June 1, 2025—but for me, the journey began nearly a month ago. This was my first experience organizing a donation drive, and I'm deeply grateful to my partner Ruicheng, the families, volunteers, parents, and the CYOC platform for making it all possible. Organizing this event required thoughtful planning, widespread outreach, dedicated volunteers, and generous donors. I'm especially

grateful to everyone who helped bring this effort to life.

One memory that stands out from the preparation phase was the day I went out to distribute flyers. It started off cloudy, with cool, slightly damp air. Thinking it was a good window, I grabbed a stack of flyers and began walking through the neighborhood, placing them in mailboxes. But midway through, it began to rain—light at first, then heavier. Soon, I was completely soaked. My shoes squished with each step, my clothes clung to me, and I had to shield the flyers from falling apart. Still, I kept going. Oddly enough, I felt great. The discomfort didn't matter because I knew every flyer helped raise awareness and bring people together.

For several days, I even took different bus routes home from school so I could reach new neighborhoods. The buses dropped me off farther than usual, and I used the longer walk to distribute flyers in areas I hadn't yet covered. I was often wet and tired, but proud—each small effort felt like a meaningful

contribution to something much larger.

The day before the drive, I set up a special donation station at a local Chinese school. I knew not all families would be able to attend the main event, so I wanted to provide a convenient opportunity for them to donate and help others. It was raining heavily yesterday, and I worried no one would come. But to my surprise, families showed up—some with umbrellas, some without, all of them smiling. Watching them arrive in the downpour, grateful and eager to give, moved me deeply. I was truly touched. In that moment, I was reminded of why this work matters so much.

Today is the day of the drive, we arrived early to help with setup—organizing tables, pitching the main tent, and preparing the volunteer sign-in sheet, which I managed throughout the day. It was incredible to see how smoothly everything came together as people began to arrive. CYOC volunteers played a big role—we worked together enthusiastically to direct traffic, greet donors, unload

cars packed with donations, and sort through thousands of items. The teamwork and energy lifted everyone's spirits and brought a real sense of community to the event. By the end of the day, we had collected an estimated 10,000 items—an incredible outcome that reflected everyone's hard work and generosity.

Later in the day, the team from So What Else arrived to collect the donations. They were genuinely impressed by how much we had gathered and by the dedication of our volunteers. Everyone quickly jumped into action to help load the donations onto their cargo van. We worked together efficiently, passing boxes hand to hand, trying to fit as much as possible into the van. Even though we packed the van floor to ceiling, there were still many more donations left. Thankfully, several amazing volunteers stepped up and used their own vehicles to deliver the rest. Watching it all come together so seamlessly reminded me of a Chinese saying I grew up with: “人多力量大”—“many hands make

light work.” That moment brought it to life. It was community in action, and it left me feeling inspired and hopeful.

To everyone who donated, volunteered, or supported this event in any way—thank you. Your kindness, time, and heart made a real impact. And to anyone considering getting involved in future drives: go for it. You might get tired, soaked, or have to take the long way home—but you'll walk away with something far more meaningful: the joy of giving back and a deep connection to your community.



我的中国相册里的华府青年

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2025年5月28日晚,中国驻美大使馆内灯光璀璨明亮,音乐欢快轻松,在这样美好温馨的氛围下,第六届“我的中国相册(My China Album)”活动拉开了帷幕。“我的中国相册”是中国驻美国使领馆与《中国日报》联合主办的民间友好交流活动,主要是通过征集照片、视频和访谈等形式,记录中美人民友好交往的历史与现状。本届活动的主题是“我的中国足迹(My China Footprints)”,包括影片首映暨现代化的中国体验活动。中美各界嘉宾200多人受邀出席,华府青年(Capital Youth Outreach Club, CYOC)作为当晚唯一受邀的青年团队,也很荣幸地参加了本次活动。

晚上6点,华府青年的小嘉宾们身着正装,准时到达大使馆,在工作人员的帮助引领下顺利进入活动现场。使馆内的工作人员专业、友好、从容,每个环节都安排的有条不紊。他们和煦的笑容和亲切的态度,让华府青年的孩子们瞬间放松了下来。大家首先进入的是二楼的展览大厅,大厅内高悬的宫灯、珐琅彩落地花瓶、古朴的司母戊大方鼎处处彰显着我们华夏文明的灿烂和厚重。多个展位有序的分列在大厅的两侧,有AI展

台、最新的飞行信息展示、中国传统服装试穿和拍照以及多个中美合作项目的介绍和成果总结,力求全面呈现一个现代的、高速发展的中国。嘉宾们在展位前驻足,大家轻松的交谈,分享交流。憨态可掬的国宝大熊猫虽然没有到现场,可是表演者穿着大熊猫卡通服扮演的大熊猫更加可爱,引得大家纷纷上前要求合影留念。中国AI科技企业展示的“中国智造”成果是当晚的重头戏,来自宇树科技的机器狗和机械人更是吸引了现场所有的嘉宾。机器狗不仅行动灵活,会走会跑,还会跳街舞;机器人步履稳定,会招手,还会感应邀请和人握手。“中国智造”的成果让大家大饱眼福、惊叹不已!沿着宽敞的楼梯走到一楼,喷泉彩灯灿若星辰,让大家眼前一亮,而与之交相辉映的就是精选布置的博物馆展览。喜庆的财神文化代表着中国独特的传统民俗文化,而举世瞩目的三星堆考古和文物介绍则彰显了华夏文明的灿烂悠长,其中蕴含的东方美学更是令各国嘉宾啧啧称奇、流连忘返。华府青年的小嘉宾们更钟情于三星堆文明的VR展示,8分钟的VR影像让大家身临其境了解了三星堆遗址的考古历史和文物发掘的全过程,使得大家对祖国

的渊源的历史和灿烂的文明有了更深的、全新的认识。

晚上7点,主持人宣布第六届“我的中国相册”活动正式启动!中国驻美国大使谢锋先生首先致辞!大使先生回顾了中美建交45年以来,中美两国人民经过广泛深入的人文交流而建立的深厚友谊,详细阐述了现代中国全面、持续的发展,并着重表示欢迎更多的美国朋友到中国,亲身感受和体验现代化的中国。大使先生精彩的致辞深深感动了在场的嘉宾,赢得了大家的阵阵掌声!接下来,中国日报社社长兼总编辑曲莹璞做了视频致辞,全面总结“我的中国相册”活动的历史、取得的成果以及其深远的影响,强调“我的中国足迹”聚焦中国城市探索,必将促进中美两国人民的友好交往。之后现场放映了“我的中国相册——我的中国足迹”系列纪录片,包括记述深圳、重庆和敦煌彩塑和壁画的短片“我爱这座城(My City, My Home)”、记录高速铁路和二维码支付等中国科技成果的短片“看!中国有这个(Welcome to the Future)”、展现中国人民的友善与城乡绿色发展的短片“中国和我想象的不一样(Misconceptions vs. Reality)”、记录游客通过中国免签

过境政策游览北京和天津的短片“中国, City 不 City (City or Not City)”以及着重记述美国青少年到中国交流成果的短片“我的中国足迹(My China Footprints)”。“我的中国足迹”系列纪录片以全面的视角,详实而深刻地传达了丰富的信息,令人震撼!本次活动的最后一个环节是邀请中美两国的嘉宾上台,分享他们在中国的旅游、经历和故事,对中国多元文化的感受和对中国人民友好善良的感动,并从他们各自独特的视角讲述了对中

国式现代化发展成就见证!每位嘉宾的故事分享都令人动容,谢锋大使也再次登台,与各位嘉宾合影留念,本次活动圆满结束!

许多华府青年的成员参加过“我的中国足迹”活动,所以对本届“我的中国相册”活动的感受更加独特和深刻!中美关系希望在人民,基础在民间,未来在青年,活力在地方。作为未来和期望,我们华府青年会再接再厉,继续为中美两国人民的友谊而努力!

