

# Relating stories of Wuhan in different languages

Wuhan Planning Exhibition Hall recruits international volunteers

By Wang Yaxin



Volunteer guides holding their certificates  
Photo by Hu Jiusi

Native speakers of 12 different languages were included in the first group of 21 international volunteer guides who began working at the Wuhan Planning Exhibition Hall on June 23.

It was the first time for the exhibition hall to recruit international volunteers as guides to help introduce future planning schemes for Wuhan. In recent years, the Wuhan Planning Exhibition Hall has continued to attract more and more foreign visitors as a result of the

development towards the city's internationalization.

Over 150 young people from 53 countries applied for the position. The first group of guides were selected after training and assessment, and all of them are international students in Wuhan who came from 20 different countries. They include Russia, Germany, the Republic of Korea, Pakistan, India, Nepal, South Africa, and Peru. They will carry out their volunteer duties at the exhibition hall at least twice a month.

Andrey (Andrei), a Russian volunteer, said that he is currently studying at Wuhan University for a master's degree in international law. "Wuhan's planning makes people feel very excited about its future, and I believe it is going to be a city with a global influence," he said.

Since its opening in 2012, the Wuhan Planning Exhibition Hall has received more than 1,000 groups of international visitors and 15,300 foreign guests.

## 40 swimming pools free for children during summer vacation

By Gao Chongcheng

The Wuhan Municipal Bureau of Sports announced on June 21 that the free swimming scheme for teenagers that has been in effect for years will launch again next month.

The bureau has paid for designated time periods for 20 days from July 11 to July 30 in 40 swimming pools in

Wuhan for students from primary and middle schools. The time slots are 9 A.M. to 11 A.M. and 3 P.M. to 5 P.M. The paid pools are scattered around all major areas in Wuhan except the East Lake Scenic Area. Pupils under 16 years of age need to be accompanied by a parent while

they swim. Each ticket for the parent costs two yuan.

The free swimming program started in 2009 and so far more than 1 million free tickets have been given out. A large number of children have participated in the activity and enjoyed a healthy and cool summer.

## High-speed railway from Wuhan to Lanzhou

By Han Wei

The Wuhan Railway Bureau announced that a new railway operation plan will be put into use as of July 1. With the opening of the Baoji-Lanzhou section between Xuzhou and Lanzhou, Wuhan will soon embrace its first high-speed train to Lanzhou. It will take only seven hours to get a taste of authentic Lanzhou ramen.

The expansion of the railway network will enable Wuhan to have high-speed access to as many as 24 municipalities and provincial capitals. With the opening of the Baoji-Lanzhou section, six high-speed trains will shuttle between Wuhan and Lanzhou.

## No fee for bicycles crossing Yangtze River on ferries

By Wang Gang

To promote green commuting, bike riders (shared bikes included) are encouraged to take ferries with their bikes over six cross-river routes free of charge from June 21 to July 20.

The six routes include crossing the river from Wuhanguan to Zhonghua Road, Jijiazui to Hanyangmen, Qingshan to Tianxingzhou, Wangjiaxiang to Zengjiaxiang, Wangjiaxiang to Yueliangwan, and Qingchuan to the Yellow Crane Tower.

Currently, around 2,000 people take the ferry with their bicycles every day.

## Urban signposts designed by Chinese and foreign children

By Ouyang Chunyan

On June 17, about 100 Chinese and foreign children came to the Wuhan Children's Library to help launch a major international cultural exchange program — Creative Month for Chinese and Foreign Children in Wuhan.

During this month, one hundred children who have won the Maliang Cup and some foreign children in Wuhan will design signposts, including traffic signs, for the city. They will then go to residential neighborhoods to create their artwork there.