

Zwieńczeniem NORIFEST była prelekcja Pawła Hermana oraz pokaz chińskiego dramatu *Przypłynę* (oryg. *Feng Liu Yi Dai*) z 2024 r. w reżyserii Zhangke Jia.

Ponadto w ostatnim dniu Festiwalu z tymi samymi atrakcjami co dzień wcześniej towarzyszyły nam Japonistyczne Koło Naukowe „Kohaku”, Naukowe Koło Sinologii oraz ekipa NORIFEST.

Druga edycja NORIFEST pełna była wartościowych prelekcji, ciekawych spotkań i wyjątkowych warsztatów. Nie odbyłyby się one, gdyby nie praca i zaangażowanie wszystkich gości, wolontariuszy i osób, które wspierały organizatorów w przygotowaniach. Wszystkim serdecznie dziękujemy.

Agnieszka Grzegowska

The Polish Final of the “Chinese Bridge” Competition, University of Gdańsk, 6 June 2025

On 6 June 2025, the Polish final of the global “Chinese Bridge” (汉语桥) competition was held at the University of Gdańsk. The event brought together fifty participants from across Poland, including twenty-five university students, eleven secondary school students, and fourteen primary school pupils. It was organized by the Confucius Institute at the University of Gdańsk, with academic and financial support from the Department of Science, Technology, and Education of the Embassy of the People’s Republic of China in Poland.

The opening ceremony was jointly hosted by Professor Aneta Lewińska, Polish Director of the Confucius Institute at the University of Gdańsk, and

Professor Guan Yu, the Institute’s Chinese Director. In their speeches, they emphasized that 2025 marks the Institute’s 10th anniversary and highlighted its impressive achievements: 313 students enrolled in Chinese language courses, 205 successful HSK and HSKK exam takers, and 25 recommendations for the summer program at the University of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences in Beijing.

The official part of the event also involved speeches from Gdańsk university administrators: Professor Urszula Patocka-Sigłowy, Vice-Rector for Student Affairs at the University of Gdańsk, and Professor Mikołaj Rychło, Vice-Dean for Research and International Cooperation. Both underscored the role of the University as a hub for intercultural dialogue and international collaboration in education.

Among the distinguished guests were: Yi Jun (易军), Education Counselor at the Embassy of the People’s

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Republic of China in Poland; Zhang Yuchuan (张玉川), First Secretary for Science and Education; Mr. Zhou Jinglai (周菁徠), Managing Director of CHIPOBORK; and renowned sinologists, university teachers, and scholars from leading Chinese language education centers in Poland.

Immediately following the official ceremony, the audience enjoyed some outstanding artistic performances. Maria Lejczak, a previous winner of the Polish competition, performed an excerpt from traditional Chinese opera. This was followed by a symbolic cultural exchange in the form of a traditional Krakowiak dance, performed by the Academic Song and Dance Ensemble “Jantar” of the University of Gdańsk.

The main competition then began. It was divided into three age categories:

- The 24th edition of the “Chinese Bridge” for university students,
- The 18th edition for secondary school students, and
- The 5th edition of the language talent competition for primary school pupils.

Participants demonstrated their Chinese language skills through prepared speeches, artistic performances (e.g., calligraphy, playing traditional Chinese instruments like the *guzheng*, and dance), and responded to questions testing their knowledge of Chinese language, culture, history, and geography.

Each age group was evaluated by a panel of judges, made up of experts in sinology, Chinese language and culture, and representatives of Confucius Institutes and academic institutions. The

members of the judging panels were as follows:

University Student Category:

- Marcin Jacoby – Dean of the Faculty of Humanities in Warsaw and Head of the Department of East Asian Studies, SWPS
- Małgorzata Religa – Lecturer of Department of Sinology, Warsaw University
- Yang Huilin (杨慧玲) – Chinese Director, Confucius Institute in Kraków
- Gong Wenjing (龚文静) – Chinese Director, Confucius Institute in Opole
- Guan Yu (管宇) – Chinese Director, Confucius Institute at the University of Gdańsk

Secondary School Category:

- Maciej Szatkowski – Director of the Chinese Language and Culture Center, Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń
- Liu Yunsheng (刘云生) – Chinese Director, Confucius Institute at Adam Mickiewicz University
- Bi Wei (毕微) – Chinese language lecturer, University of Gdańsk
- Wang Wubo (王武博) – Chinese language teacher, The 9th Cyprian Kamil Norwid High School

Primary School Category:

- Bai Mengxuan (白梦璇) – Chinese Director, Confucius Classroom at the Jagiellonian Academy in Toruń
- Gao Yongge (高永革) – Chinese Director, Confucius Classroom at the Vistula University
- Tan Dinghua (谭鼎华) – Chinese language lecturer, Center for

Chinese Language and Culture,
Nicolaus Copernicus University in
Toruń

- Paulina Andrzejczak – Chinese language lecturer, University of Gdańsk

After all the competition rounds were concluded, the judges announced the winners in each category:

24th Chinese Bridge Competition for University Students

1st Place

- Kinga Kizner (Confucius Institute at the University of Gdańsk)

2nd Place

- Lidia Maria Witer (Confucius Institute in Kraków, SWPS branch)
- Natalia Elżbieta Richert (Confucius Institute at the University of Gdańsk)

3rd Place

- Maksym Bobrowski (Confucius Institute at the University of Gdańsk)
- Filip Tomasz Wierzbowski (Confucius Institute in Kraków)
- Alicja Tomczyk (Confucius Classroom at the University of Silesia)

18th Chinese Bridge Competition for Secondary School Students

1st Place

- Artur Simkin (Confucius Institute at the University of Gdańsk)

2nd Place

- Joanna Maria Skubisz (Confucius Institute in Kraków)
- Aleksandra Miązek (Chinese School in Warsaw)

3rd Place

- Julia Sochacka (Confucius Institute at the University of Gdańsk)

- Zofia Major (Confucius Classroom, Jagiellonian Academy in Toruń)

- Zofia Maria Pakulska (Confucius Institute at Adam Mickiewicz University)

5th Chinese Bridge Language Talent Competition for Primary School Pupils
1st Place

- Alicja Jakubczyk (Confucius Classroom, Jagiellonian Academy in Toruń)

2nd Place

- Magdalena Jakubczyk (Confucius Classroom, Jagiellonian Academy in Toruń)
- Natalia Zaremba (Confucius Institute in Kraków, SWPS branch)

3rd Place

- Maria Katarzyna Ziólek (Confucius Institute in Kraków, SWPS branch)
- Gabriela Julia Mularska (Confucius Institute in Kraków)
- Julia Rochowicz (individual recommendation)

Coverage of the Gdańsk final quickly gained the attention of the international media. The Chinese news agency *Xinhua* described it as one of the largest competitions of its kind in Central and Eastern Europe, highlighting participants' personal stories and the wide range of talents on display. The *People's Daily* focused on the thematic richness of the speeches across age groups and the impressive number of experts and judges in attendance. Meanwhile, *CCTV News* aired a dynamic video report featuring vibrant artistic performances, audience reactions, and jury interviews.

All media coverage emphasized the competition's dual importance: not only as a test of linguistic proficiency, but also as a platform that fosters deeper educational and cultural ties between Poland and China.

The Polish final of the "Chinese Bridge" once again confirmed the high level of Chinese language proficiency and the growing cultural interest in China among young people in Poland. Thanks to the efforts of the University

of Gdańsk, the Confucius Institute, and the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Poland, the event became an important milestone in building enduring, collaborative relations between the two countries.

This year's winners will go on to represent Poland in the global final of the competition, demonstrating their skills on the international stage in Beijing.

Guan Yu 管宇
Paulina Andrzejczak