

2023 Cultural Heritage Awareness Season

Successful Conclusion of "Silk Roads: the Reservoir Project" Serial Activities
on International Day for Monuments and Sites, 18 April

In 1982, ICOMOS established 18 April as the International Day for Monuments and Sites (IDMS), followed by UNESCO adoption during its 22nd General Conference. Each year, ICOMOS proposes a theme for activities to be organised by its members and partners - and anyone who wants to join in marking the day. 2023, IDMS features the following theme: HERITAGE CHANGES.

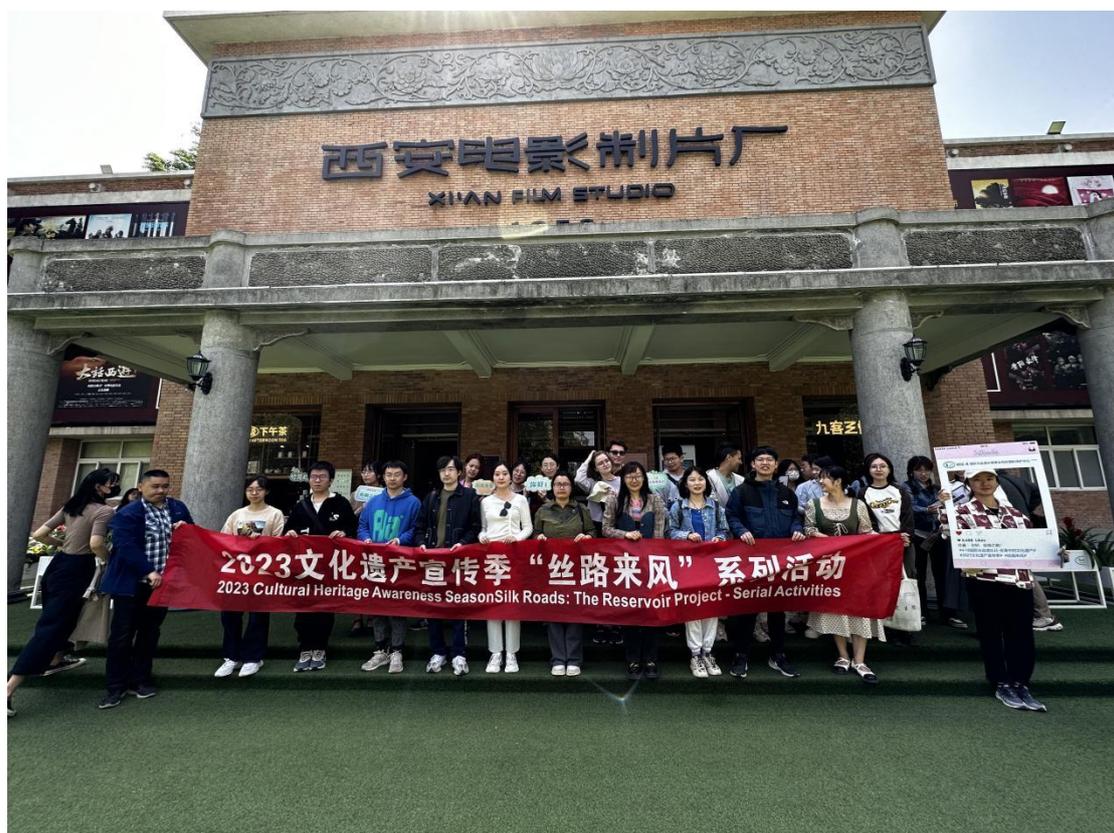


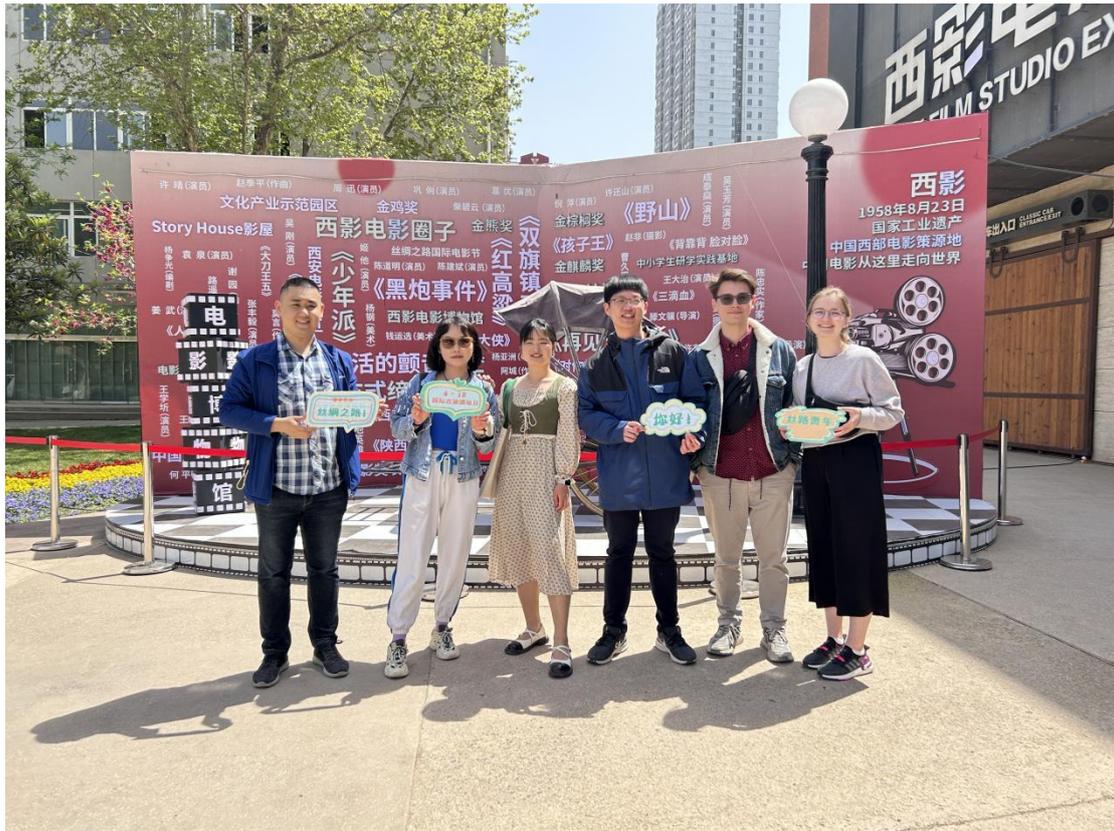
ICOMOS International Conservation Center- Xi'an (IICC-X) has organised a series of IDMS activities, under the guidance and support of ICOMOS/ CHINA, and jointly organised with Xi'an Jiaotong University Employment and Entrepreneurship Guidance Service Centre, Daming Palace Research Institute, and Xi'an Media Group (Xi'an Daily News), with the support of Xiyi Film Museum, Tang West Market Museum, Silk Road Street of Tang West Market, School of Chinese Studies of Xi'an Foreign Studies University, XJTU Association for International Organisations, Xi'an Institute of Heritage Conservation and Archaeology, and Shaanxi Tang Daming Palace Heritage Site Preservation Foundation. International and domestic young volunteers from various universities participated in and celebrated the 2023 IDMS. The events include site visiting, round table sharing on cultural heritage and volunteer works, collaborative competition of cultural heritage knowledge,

creation and editing of graphic promotion materials, vlog shooting and production.

Event 1: Conservation and Utilisation of Industrial Heritage - Xiying Film Museum Study Tour and Exchange

The inaugural event on 15 April was jointly organised by IICC-X and Xi'an Jiaotong University Employment and Entrepreneurship Guidance Service Centre. About 30 international and domestic university students were guided by professional interpreters to visit Xiying Film Museum and exchange views on innovation in conserving and utilising the industrial heritages in Xi'an. With the successful public event at Xiying Film Museum, the 2023 "Cultural Heritage Awareness Season" of IICC-X and the 418 IDMS "Silk Roads: the Reservoir Project" serial activities were officially kicked off.





Event 2: The Daming Palace Site in Transformation - Education & Inspiration Practice at Daming Palace Site Research Centre

On the morning of 18 April, IICC-X, Daming Palace Research Institute, and the Daming Palace Foundation organised an Education & Inspiration Practice workshop with the theme "The Daming Palace Site in Transformation". 170 students from Xi'an Jiaotong University, Northwest University and Shaanxi Normal University attended on site. The event aims to encourage students from different universities and fields of study to think and explore the critical issues related to "Heritage Changes" and join hands in innovative heritage conservation, utilisation, and development. It also calls for the active participation of all people in the Great Heritage Site conservation, with broader attention from youth groups and society.





Event 3: Visit the Tang West Market Museum and Collaborative Game Themed on the Silk Roads Cultural Heritage

On the afternoon of 18 April, more than ten international students from six countries (Korea, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Argentina, Russia, Japan and Pakistan), as well as nearly twenty students and youth volunteers from Xi'an Foreign Studies University and Xi'an Jiaotong University, visited the Tang West Market Museum and learnt about the history and culture of Tang Chang'an City and the Tang West Market. They experienced and participated in the Silk Road cultural heritage theme collaborative games on the Tang West Market's "Silk Road Street".

Each group combined domestic and international students. They teamed up to collect "Silk Roads Map" stamps at five locations on the Silk Road Street: China Square, India Square, Kucha Square, the "Mogao Caves" model, and the Southeast Asia Corridor of the Silk Road Street.





The first pass, "Seeing the Present and Interpreting the Past", was set in the Indian Square on Silk Road Street. Chinese and international students taught and learnt the four methods of making Chinese characters by drawing references from one instance. The second pass, "Silk Road Style", was like a "dance show". Two professional Indian dancers taught the students typical Indian dance moves in Kucha Square. Students learnt to dance

enthusiastically, with music and laughter everywhere, attracting many visitors. The third pass, "Silk Road Code", was at the Southeast Asia Corridor of Silk Roads Street. Students should find the corresponding items and patterns influenced by Chinese and Western culture from the motifs on a relic excavated in Xi'an. The fourth one, "Art on the Silk Road", was set in the "Mogao Caves" model, where students coloured the line drawing of the Silk Road art well with the introduction and prompt of the professional staff. The last stop, "Silk Road Culture", was the Tang poetry recital at China Square. International students had to learn to recite a Tang poem with the help of Chinese students and record a video to pass. For a time, this place became a stage for international students to show their Chinese proficiency. Many students recited Tang poems not only with accurate pronunciation, but also expressed the beauty of rhythm and cadence of Tang poems, winning bursts of applause from the audience. In the end, South Korean student Lee Se-young and Chinese student Li Xinran won the first prize and happily took a photo at the Silk Road Street entrance.









After the outdoor activities, it was the stage of communication and sharing. Feng Jian, Executive Deputy Director of IICC-X, shared the origin and significance of the International Day for Monuments and Sites, the Silk Roads cultural heritage conservation overview, and the knowledge of cultural heritages in Xi'an presented in the previous games. Dong Xiaoying, head of the Cultural Relics Management Department of Xi'an Qujiang Daming Palace Relics Region Preservation and Development Office, shared the protection and utilisation practice of the Daming Palace site, which reflected the urban "changes" brought by heritage conservation. Students also shared their understanding of cultural heritage and Silk Roads, as well as their voluntary experience, making the knowledge and friendship fruits of the day mature. After sharing, the organisers gave out prizes to the winning teams of the "Silk Roads: the Reservoir Project" Collaborative Game and awarded the certificate of "Ambassador of the Silk Roads" to all participants.

On behalf of Xi'an Jiaotong University Employment and Entrepreneurship Guidance Service Centre, the co-organiser of the follow-up events, IICC-X calls on the students to continue actively participating in the extended session. We aim to help students to develop good cultural exchange concepts and global vision, and strengthen students' in-depth understanding and ability reserve of international organisations and world cultural heritage sites.