

CCDC MONTHLY

Official Newsletter of Columbia College (CCDC)



UPCOMING EVENTS

01

**Career Workshop
Tysons Campus**

April 9 & 10 at 11am ~ 1pm

02

**D.C. Cherry Blossom Field Trip
Tysons Campus**

April 3 & 4, for ESL Students

03

**Game Night
Tysons Campus, Student Lounge**

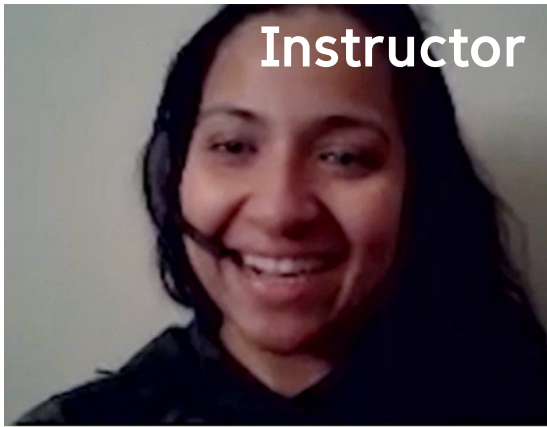
April 25 at 5:30pm ~ 7:30pm

SPRING IS HERE!

BY Dr. OK CHA SOH

Can you believe spring is already here? Yes, green is coming soon around us. Are you familiar with Saint Patrick's Day as we just did celebrate? St. Patrick is one of Ireland's patron saints and many Americans with Irish ancestry remember him on March 17. St. Patrick's Day observes the death of St. Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland. While Ireland embraces its patron saint day by holding vibrant, green parades, wearing shamrocks and flying Irish flags, celebrations also take place in other countries around the world. Many cities in America with a large Irish-American population like New York, New Orleans, and Seattle have street parades.

The patron saint was captured by Irish pirates at the age of 16 and brought to Ireland as a slave. Eventually Patrick's spiritual path led him to become a legendary figure. Legends suggests that Patrick used the three-leaf shamrock on his mission to explain the Holy Trinity. That led to the common practice of people wearing the symbol of green. Water is dyed green in public places in some towns. Other symbols can include the harp, which was used in Ireland for centuries. Our ESL program students also joined celebrating St. Patrick's Day, wearing green clothes, enjoying green cookies and drinks. What a learning experience about the history and other cultures!



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*YOU CAN LEARN
ANYWHERE AND
ANYTIME*

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If you want to contribute to this newsletter,
send an email to Lyn Im (lyni@ccdc.edu)

DISTANCE EDUCATION ONLINE ESL

BY Dr. OK CHA SOH

Online ESL is mainly designed for students who need English as a Second Language (ESL) services but who are not able to attend on-site ESL classes due to a job schedule conflict or mobility issues. There are exciting benefits from learning English online. You can learn anywhere and any time at your convenience. Furthermore, you will have full support from the online ESL team, homeroom teachers, and student services for career consultation. The Columbia College Online ESL Program has been providing homeroom teacher class for full-time ESL students since 2017, and it has been growing and expanding since.

Homeroom teachers will meet and teach practical speaking via Zoom video group calling once a week. This is a 30-minute weekly live video chat with a professor with a roster of up to three students per class to better allow individual attention, participation, and communication with students based on one-on-one listening and speaking activities. Students can have the opportunity to participate in a regular on-site class with ESL instructors and also study online. The hybrid classes combine online and on-site classes. Financial Aid (FAFSA) is available for qualified students, and the ESL program is approved by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) and accredited by the Council on Occupational Education (COE). A laptop is provided as a learning tool under the condition of commitment to complete the 60-week course.

