



# YALE ALUMNI SERVICE CORPS

## Xiuning, China

Community(s):	Xiuning
Partner:	Yale-China Association
Projects:	Athletics, business consulting, construction, creative arts, educational enrichment, medical/public health education
# Volunteers:	2011 (180) Trip Producer: Kathy Edersheim '87

In an exciting partnership between Yale-China and YASC in 2011, the 100th anniversary of the Yale-China Teaching Fellowship Program, YASC volunteers had the unique opportunity to volunteer in Xiuning, China – working with Chinese school children and adults. While serving others our volunteers experienced a China not experienced by tourists – we learned about rural China, which is both more traditional and less developed than cities like Beijing or Shanghai. The one-on-one relationships formed during this program gave us a better understanding of daily life in a rapidly changing society, and our Chinese students and peers taught us more about Chinese culture and society than we could learn on a typical trip. We also sponsored lectures and programs designed to immerse our volunteers in the culture of China and in particular, the Anhui province. Projects included educational enrichment and creative arts for about 1300 students, medical concepts exchange, library construction, athletics, and small business consulting. The Yale-China Association bridges American and Chinese cultures by creating lasting, transformative partnerships and experiences in education, health, and the arts.

### About the community:

Our volunteers worked in the rural town, by Chinese standards, of Xiuning with a population of about 250,000 and a surrounding community of 1,000,000 in Anhui province where Yale-China has been working since 2005. It is located near one of China's most spectacular tourist destinations, the UNESCO recognized world heritage site Yellow Mountain.