

THE BIG PICTURE

A TASTE of CHINESE CULTURE

Athletes and officials from all over the globe have been sampling the delights of China. From calligraphy to shuttlecocks, they have been doing it all and forging new bonds in the process.



Eileen Daviaga (first left) of Papua New Guinea kicks a shuttlecock with athletes from Namibia in the Youth Olympic Village.



A Slovenian athlete shows her interest in a Chinese folding fan and numerous butterfly masks.



Thomas Bach, IOC president, and Liu Peng, director of the China State General Administration of Sport paint vermilion dots on the eyes of Chinese lions before the traditional lion dance, a symbolic motion of giving life to the beast. PHOTOS BY XINHUA



Athletes play Chinese drums at a party in the Youth Olympic Village.



Floflo Daniel of Vanuatu plays guzheng in the Chinese traditional culture room at the Youth Olympic Village.



PHOTO BY WEI XIAOHAO / CHINA DAILY



Top and above: YOG athletes learn Chinese calligraphy.



Antigua and Barbuda women's swimmer Gabriella Courtney M. John learns to weave a traditional Chinese knot.