

Public cultural service space being created at local residents' doorsteps

Zhou Yulin and Li Xinran

In recent years, Jiading has created a number of public spaces at the residents' doorstep to enrich their lives.

Named after "Jia" for Jiading, such kind of facilities like the Jia · Show Space, Jia · Reading Space and Jia · Art Space aim to provide better leisure and culture services for the Jiadingers and improve their satisfaction and sense of gain.

"We will make every effort to build a modern public cultural service system with wider coverage and higher efficiency, create a new cultural spaces cluster, and expand the service radius of existing cultural facilities," an official with the district's cultural and tourism department said.



A granny teaches a young office worker how to weave a straw mat in a crafts class at a neighborhood Jia • Show Space. — Photos by Zhou Yulin

Some locals show an interest in shadow puppetry.



A lecture on the development of industries in Shangha is held.

Stage performances, cultural courses at doorsteps

Since 2021, Jiading has launched the Jia · Show Space. High-quality performances, exhibitions and lectures are no longer confined to government-run cultural centers and community cultural activity centers only. They are accessible to residents in privately operated neighborhood cultural spaces as well.

So far, Jiading has established 36 show spaces covering all of its communities and towns.

"I used to take a bus with my friends to the district cultural center and library. But as I get older, I am a little overwhelmed. I hoped these cultural activities could be held at my doorstep," a woman surnamed Sun said.

"I didn't expect this to happen so quick. And the activities are quite diverse, including literature lectures and arts and crafts lessons, which are suitable for all ages. And I strongly recommended that the arts and crafts lessons be continued and extended to other spaces."

The supply of diversified highquality cultural services is a result of cooperation involving multiple parties including the district cultural center, the district Party construction center, the district disabled people's federation and the intangible cultural heritage inheritance base, with cultural activities being promoted on project and brand bases.

As one of the practical projects for Shanghai residents in 2022, the Citizen Night School has been open in Jiading for two years and incorporated with Jia \cdot Show Space.

At the Zhongfang Neighborhood Center in Malu Town, the course of "persuasive speech training" has attracted many young office workers.

"I lack expression skills," said an office worker surnamed Ma. "This course is in particular suitable for me. The skills taught by the teacher are very practical!"

These days, with the efforts of all parties, show spaces are almost everywhere in Jiading, such as in commercial buildings, public parks, tourist scenic spots and community activity rooms, to improve people's access to cultural resources, and the whole system has taken shape.

In 2022, a total of 83 cultural activities, such as art tours, stage performances, arts and crafts lessons and cultural lectures, were held at Jia \cdot Show Space.