

www.AsianAmericanHeritage.org



Plano AsiaFest

8th Annual Plano Asian American
Heritage Festival

11:00 am - 5:00 pm, Saturday, May 7, 2011
Haggard Park in Downtown Plano



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PLANO ASIAFEST '11 supports the Japan-America Society of Dallas/Fort Worth (JASDFW) emergency relief fund that will be used to aid relief and recovery efforts in Sendai, Japan, one of the cities hardest hit by the disaster. Sendai and Dallas have been International Friendship Cities since 1997. Money raised will be sent to organizations involved directly with relief efforts in Sendai. Please visit the JASDFW booth to make your donations.

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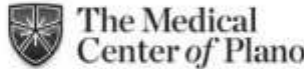
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Celebrating Asian American Heritage Foundation (CAAHF) is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization staffed completely by volunteers. The Foundation is the organizer of the annual Plano ASIAFEST. CAAHF supports education, arts, and cultural activities. Visit www.AsianAmericanHeritage.org for the latest up-to-date information.

Dear friends of this great community

I'm sure all of you must have heard about the event that has become an annual feature of the Plano social calendar. You guessed it: AsiaFest '11.

That's the day when Haggard Park, downtown Plano, becomes a theater for the music, dance, costumes, martial arts, food and culture of Asian countries, stretching from Japan, through Korea, China, Taiwan, the Philippines, Vietnam, Bangladesh, India, Nepal, to Pakistan.

You may have heard of names of various dances; here's your chance to see them. Martial Arts is a broad term; come and see the different displays of skill, timing and graceful body movements. Japanese and Korean drum playing is well known; the festival offers you a chance to hear their vibrant rhythms. As for costumes, a colorful fashion show will describe the display well. Restaurants representing various cuisines are prepared to tickle your taste buds with their wonderful fares.

To make it a family outing, Plano AsiaFest provides a wide variety of fun activities to keep your children entertained while you enjoy the many cultural offerings.

The fact that this event is supported by the City of Plano, the Plano City Council, the Cultural Affairs Commission of Plano, a large number of agencies, local businesses and financial institutions, reflects on its importance in the multicultural make-up of Plano.

Admission is always free and parking is plentiful.

We are glad you and your family and friends are here to support this colorful feather in the cap of our beautiful city, Plano.

Sincerely,



Rachel Tran
Chairperson, AsiaFest '11



Info@dfwaacc.org
www.dfwaacc.org

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Traditional Lion Dance

Chinese Cultural Center

www.hungfist.com



The Lion Dance has been part of Chinese culture for thousands of years and is performed on auspicious occasions such as weddings, store openings, and various festivals and celebrations. The lion, a symbol of power, wisdom, and good fortune, chases away evil spirits and brings happiness, longevity, and good luck.

At the age of 11, Sifu Philip Ng Ngai Foon began studying the Hung Gar System under the guidance of Lee Yat-Ming in Hong Kong. In 1994, he established the Kung Fu Academy in Richardson. In 2005, Sifu Ng opened the Chinese Cultural Center in Garland.

ASIAFEST 2011 Master of Ceremonies

Diana Shao, Nasima Chowdhury, Felicia Li, Hilton Kong, and An Le.



Indian Traditional Dance: *Charishnu*

Ellora Center of Performing Arts

www.satyavani.com

Ellora Center for Performing Arts (ECPA), an institute dedicated to promoting the learning and practice of the great ancient Indian classical dance form Bharatanatyam, is run by Artistic Director Vani Iswara. *Charishnu* is a spectacular dance and music presentation that offers a glimpse of the diversity and richness of India's performing arts. The word *charishnu* literally means 'the desire to move.' Dancers in different dancing forms move in varying rhythms, each in their own stylized way, and revel in their respective language of expression.

Martial Arts: *Shaolin Kung Fu*

Shaolin Wu-Yi Institute

www.swyi.com

Shaolin Kung Fu refers to a collection of Chinese martial arts that claim affiliation with the Shaolin Monastery. At the Shaolin Wu-Yi Institute, students enjoy a training area much larger than that of the average martial arts school as well as a wide array of training equipment. While the Institute has multiple group classes

available every day, the school is available for students to come and work out on their own at any time during business hours. The training curriculum includes: Traditional Forms, Chinese Weapons, Sparring, Chin Na, Chi Gung, Shaolin 5-Animals, Shuai Chiao, and many others. The School is certified by the World Chinese Martial Arts Federation and the Taipei Kung Fu Association.

Okinawan Traditional Dance with Drums

Miyagi Ryu Noushoukai of Texas

Ryukyu Dance developed as a court dance in the 15th century in the Ryukyu Kingdom (present-day Okinawa). It was originally performed to welcome envoys from China. The restrained nature of the dance is unique — emotions coming from the music build up inside the dancers, but the dancers express their feelings only through subtle movements.

Traditional Indian Dance: *Maharashtrian Ganesh Song*

Masti Dance Academy

Lord Ganesha is one of the most prominent deities in Hinduism. A deity in human form with the head of an elephant, he is worshipped at the beginning of many performances for blessings and auspiciousness. This dance represents Lord Ganesha and celebrates his wisdom.



Chinese Folk Dance: *Feng Yang Flower Drum*

Mathews Elementary School

This group of girls will perform a folk dance with music from a folk song of the same name from China's Anhui Province. Fengyang of Anhui is the birthplace of the first Emperor of the Ming Dynasty (1368 to 1644). During his reign, this central region was constantly flooded, and poor artists performed this dance to make a living as street performers. The girls dress in traditional Chinese red outfits representing good luck. We all wish that hunger would be history, and that everyone enjoys a good time as the girls do.



The May 14 City and School Board election is exactly one week from today. Be a part of the community: Vote!



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Chinese Kung Fu Demo

Wang Tao Kung Fu School

www.wangtaokungfu.com

Wang Kung Fu USA teaches three forms of Chinese Kung Fu for all ages: Kung Fu Routines, Tai Chi, and Chinese Boxing. Master Wang Tao is the only international Grade A Chinese Kung Fu Judge in America. He is also a four time Grand Champion of International Kung Fu Competition between 1997 and 2000. He has won over 100 gold and silver medals in international and national competitions.



Traditional Korean Percussion: *Samulnori*

Dallas Bethany Presbyterian Church Korean School

Samulnori is a genre of Korean percussion music that is performed with four traditional Korean musical instruments, *kwaengwari* (a small gong), *jing* (a large gong), *janggu* (an hourglass shaped drum), and *buk* (a barrel drum), with varying numbers of players on each instrument depend on the size of the ensemble. *Samul* means 'four objects' and *nori* means 'play.' *Samulnori* is traditionally performed in rice farming villages to celebrate good harvests.

Indian Traditional Dance: *Bharathanatyam*

Shruti & Smriti Natarajan

Shruti Natarajan (age 12) and Smriti Natarajan (age 10) have been studying Indian dance for the past five years. During their last visit to India, they were mentored under the guru Nathan in Coimbatore. They learned folk and classical fusion dances with music orchestrated by the 2009 Oscar award winner



Mr. A. R. Rahman. For ASIAFEST '11, Shruti and Smriti Natarajan will present one of the great Indian classical dances *Bharathanatyam*, an ancient traditional art form with its origins steeped in divinity, which reflects the culture of India at its best.



Ms. Frances at the Merit Chinese School Booth
would surely know ...



Japanese Martial Art: *Aikido*

Rising Son Association



Aikido is a Japanese Martial art developed by Morihei Ueshiba based on his experiences of martial art, personal philosophy, and religious beliefs. *Aikido* is performed by blending with the motion of the attacker and redirecting the force of the attack rather than opposing it head-on.

Chinese Folk Dance

The Golden Autumn

The Golden Autumn is a dance group of grandmothers and Golden Girls. Their average age is over 65. They love dancing and put all their talents into performing Chinese folk dances and aim to show their high spirit to the community. They will perform three dances: *The Arrival of Spring*, *Taiji Ball*, and *On the Lake Shore*.

Nepalese Folk Dance

Kali Services

Nepal has a very rich culture of song and dance. Over 60 ethnic groups live together in this predominantly Hindu and Buddhist country. They celebrate a tremendous variety of festivals throughout the year where each important occasion is celebrated with music, songs, and dances.

Chinese Folk Dances: *Happy Deer* and *Chopsticks*

Jiaping Shi Dance School

www.jpdsdance.com

Ms. Jiaping Shi has been a Chinese folk and classical dancer, teacher, and choreographer for over 30 years. She is a member of the Association of Chinese Professional Dancers in China. The purpose of the school is to preserve and advance the excellence of Chinese culture, and to train, develop, and nurture new talent. Students regularly participate in performances, arts festivals, and community activities.

Happy Deer is performed by Xiao Xiao Wang.



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Vietnamese Tai Chi

Integral Tai Chi

Integral Tai Chi (CK10) is a series of exercises, relaxation techniques, and meditation that combine Yoga, Tai Chi, Qi Gong, and meditation into a self-healing system that integrates the body, mind, and spirit. This comprehensive approach involves a series of 10 body movement postures each designed to increase balance, awareness, endurance, flexibility, flow, concentration, energy, and spiritual transformation.

Vietnamese Dance: *Loi Ve Xom Nho - A Path to my Small Village*

Plano Butterflies

The song describes the lovely and scenic Vietnamese countryside during the harvest season. The countryside is so beautiful with its golden rice field glistening under the bright sun, as young village girls sing, dance, and look forward to a good rice harvest season.



Korean Martial Art Taekwondo Demo

Lee's U.S. Taekwondo Academy

www.leesustaekwondo.com

Taekwondo is a Korean Martial Art that has been scientifically developed over many centuries. It utilizes the mind, body, and spirit. When practiced diligently, the discipline can improve all areas of a student's life. Taekwondo is one of the best all-around exercise programs consisting of stretching, toning, calisthenics, and cardio-vascular development.

Master Lee's U.S. Taekwondo is a special school dedicated to fitness, family, and education.

Filipino Traditional Folk Dance: *Glimpse of the Philippines*

Maharlika Dancers, USA

www.maharlikadancer.com



Maharlika sprung up from the Sanskrit words *Maha*, meaning 'great' or 'noble,' and *Lekha*, meaning 'creation' or 'work.' So *Maharlika* means 'great work' or 'noble creation.' In pre-colonial Philippines, *Maharlika* denoted a warrior-noble who belonged to the lower aristocracy and rendered military service to his lord. At one time there was a movement seeking to change the name of the Philippines to *Maharlika*. The *Maharlika* Dance Group was formed to give a glimpse of the culture of the Philippines through its songs and dances.

Chinese Classical Dance

The Jasmines



The Jasmines were founded in January 2008. They are a female ethnic performing arts group specializing in Chinese dance and traditional Chinese fashion show.

Maid of Honor Dancing with Fan presents the image of well educated ladies in the Qing dynasty and contains features of ancient Chinese female dances. These features are reflected in the smoothness and simplicity of gestures and movements. The culture of foot binding for women greatly influenced Chinese female dances. The dance presented portrays the footprints of history and culture.

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| Time (appx) | Performance |
|--------------------|--|
| 11:00 am | Traditional Lion Dance Grand Opening |
| | Indian Traditional Dance: <i>Charishnu</i> |
| | Martial Arts: <i>Shaolin Kung Fu</i> |
| | Okinawan Traditional Dance with Drums |
| | Traditional Indian Dance: <i>Maharashtrian Ganesh Song</i> |
| Noon | Chinese Folk Dance: <i>Feng Yang Flower Drum</i> |
| | Chinese Kung Fu Demo |
| | Traditional Korean percussion: <i>Samulnori</i> |
| | Indian Traditional Dance: <i>Bharathanatyam</i> |
| | Japanese Martial Art: <i>Aikido</i> |
| | Chinese Folk Dance: <i>The Arrival of Spring</i> |
| | Nepalese Folk Dance |
| | Chinese Folk Dance: <i>Happy Deer</i> |
| 1:00 pm | Vietnamese Tai Chi |
| | Chinese Folk Dance: <i>Taiji Ball</i> |
| | Chinese Folk Dance: <i>Chopsticks</i> |
| | Vietnamese Folk Dance: <i>Loi Ve Xom Nho</i> |
| | Chinese Folk Dance: <i>On the Lake Shore</i> |
| | Korean Martial Art Taekwondo Demo |
| | Filipino Traditional Folk Dances: <i>Glimpse of the Philippines</i> |
| | Chinese Classical Dance: <i>Maid of Honor Dancing with Fan</i> |
| | Cantonese Songs |
| 2:00 pm | City of Plano Asian American Heritage Week Proclamation Lion Dance and Kung Fu |
| | Asian Cultural Fashion Show |
| 3:00 pm | Asian Music |
| | Traditional Filipino Dance |
| | Traditional Chinese Song: <i>Wang Ning Mei</i> |
| | Bharatanrityam Dance: <i>Dance of the Lord</i> |
| | Indian Bollywood Dance: <i>Barso Re Megha Megha</i> |
| 4:00 pm | Taekwondo Demo |
| | Korean Drummers: <i>Drum Beat for a New Beginning</i> |
| | Bangladesh Traditional Dance: <i>Flower Dance</i> |
| | Chinese Martial Art: <i>Kung Fu</i> |
| 5:00 pm | Festival Ends |

| Performer | Origins |
|--|-----------------|
| Chinese Cultural Center | China |
| Ellora Performing Center | India |
| Shaolin Wu Yi Institute | China |
| Miyagi Ryu Noushoukai of Texas. | Japan |
| Masti Dance Academy | India |
| Mathews Elementary School | China |
| Wang Tao Kung Fu School | China |
| Dallas Bethany Presbyterian Church Korean School | Korea |
| Shruti & Smriti Natarajan | India |
| Rising Son Association | Japan |
| The Golden Autumn | China |
| Kali Services | Nepal |
| Xiao Xiao Wang from the Jiaping Shi Dance School | China |
| Integral Tai Chi | Vietnam |
| The Golden Autumn | China |
| Jiaping Shi Dance School | China |
| Plano Butterflies | Vietnam |
| The Golden Autumn | China |
| Lee's U.S. Taekwondo Academy | Korea |
| Maharlika Dancers | The Philippines |
| The Jasmines | China |
| Merit Children's Choir | China |
| Mayor | Plano |
| Chinese Cultural Center | |
| Various | Asia |
| Dallas Asian American Youth Orchestra | Asia |
| Balikatan Performing Arts | The Philippines |
| Keren Wang | China |
| Nritya Performing Art | India |
| Bollywood Dancers | India |
| Sun Lee Texas Taekwondo Center | Korea |
| Dallas Korean Cultural Foundation | Korea |
| Bangladesh Association of Dallas/Fort Worth | Bangladesh |
| Kung Fu for Christ Academy | China |
| | |

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Cantonese Songs

Merit Children's Choir

www.meritchineseschool.org

Merit Chinese School was established in 1987 and is currently the largest non-profit Cantonese Chinese School in DFW. The School offers a ten year program for children to learn reading and writing skills and conversation, as well as festival culture. Students come from different cultural backgrounds such as Hong Kong, Vietnam, Guangzhou, Malaysia, Singapore, and Thailand. The curriculum is tailored for children whose first language is English.



Song 1: **It's a Small World.** *'It's a world of laughter. It's a world of hope. There's so much that we share. It's a small world after all.'*

Song 2: **New Year Drums to Welcome the Spring Season.** Merit students will use traditional Chinese drums to celebrate the New Year, and say greetings to wish everyone good luck, good fortune, and good health.

Asian Cultural Fashion Show

The Children's Fashion Show is a showcase of Asian culture through costumes and music. Children representing Afghanistan, Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, Korea, Lebanon, Pakistan, Vietnam, etc. will parade on the catwalk to display the beautiful tradition and culture of different Asian countries.

Dallas Asian American Youth Orchestra

www.daayo.org

DAAYO was founded in 1998 with the mission to promote the values of cultural diversity and community service, encourage communication between the Western and Asian music traditions through an orchestral music playing environment, and provide a musical environment and education especially with highlights in Asian music for all youth in the community.

Currently there are three orchestras in DAAYO with over 100 members, varying in age from six years to college. The members meet for rehearsal every Sunday in Plano. DAAYO performs four concerts annually, and actively participates in cultural and community events in the greater Dallas area. On March 5th, DAAYO performed a very successful spring concert at SMU's Caruth Auditorium. The next concert will be on May 14th at the Custer Road United Methodist Church in Plano.

DAAYO welcomes young musicians from all ethnic groups to join us. Today we also have a booth where you are welcome to drop by and pay us a visit. Today's performance is presented by the youngest group of DAAYO – **the Young Musicians Orchestra**, ages 6 to 12. Ms. Erin Fox is the conductor.

Traditional Filipino Dance

Balikatan Performing Arts

balikatanperformingarts.blogspot.com



Balikatan Performing Arts is a group of individuals who enjoy entertaining and educating the world about Filipino culture through native songs and dances. Filipino culture is very diverse. It embraces other cultures and adds them to its own. The result is a fusion of many different cultures: American, Spanish, Pacific Islands', and Asian. Three dances will be performed: ***Salakot***, ***Bulaklakan***, and ***Curacha***.

Traditional Chinese Song: *Wang Ning Mei*

Keren Wang

This traditional Chinese song, *Wang Ning Mei*, originated from the famous novel *Dream of the Red Chamber*.

Bharatanrityam Dance: *Dance of the Lord*

Nritya Performing Arts

Bharatanatyam is a classical dance form originating from Tamil Nadu, a state in Southern India. This popular Tamil dance is a 20th century reconstruction of *Sathir*, the art of temple dancers. *Sathir* was performed by the *devadasis* at the temple as part of the various rituals and functions being celebrated.

The artistic director of the school is Narayanee Venkatasubramanian. The dance classes are held in West Plano over weeknights and weekends. Director Venkatasubramanian is a disciple of the well known dancer Dr. Padma Subramanyam.

THANK YOU

The AsiaFest would like to extend a very special Thank You to the students of Plano Independent School District for volunteering their time to help make this Festival a success. The students of Plano ISD exemplify the District motto 'Teamwork for Excellence.'

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Modern Indian Bollywood Dance: *Barso Re Megha Megha*

Bollywood Dancers



This Dance is from a song of the Hindi movie *Guru*. These first and fifth graders have been performing for almost three years at various school functions.

Taekwondo Demonstration

Sun Lee Texas Taekwondo Center
www.txtkd.com

Sun Lee Texas Taekwondo Center provides Martial Arts Instruction and has been training students in the North Dallas area since 1987. Its focus is on building character through martial arts training. Students learn Traditional and Olympic Taekwondo techniques during the process of developing these core values: Respect for oneself and others, Integrity, self-control, and Perseverance.

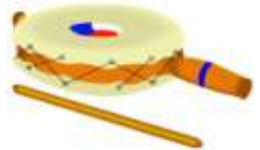


They will do a Taekwondo demonstration of board breaking and forms.

Korean Drums: *Drum Beat for a New Beginning*

Dallas Korean Cultural Foundation

Drum Beats (*Nan Ta*), literally 'wild beating' of drums, follows the traditional drumming modes such as the symbolic sound of dawn, becoming active, and showing the tune of old music.



Bangladesh Folk Dance: *Flower Dance*

Bangladesh Association of DFW

www.bantdfw.org



BA-DFW is a non-profit community organization, founded by and for the people with an interest in the language, literature, culture, and heritage of Bangladesh. The vision of BANT is to enrich the lives of the people of Bangladesh origin living in North Texas by inspiring their mind and spirit.

The Flower Dance is usually performed to welcome the New Year.



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Plano ASIAFEST '11 Organizing Committee

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Performance: Khatina Wahab, Nasima Chowdhury **Fashion Show:** Rachel Tran, Frances Leung
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Volunteer: Dollie Thomas **Children Activities:** Murli & Mona Melwani
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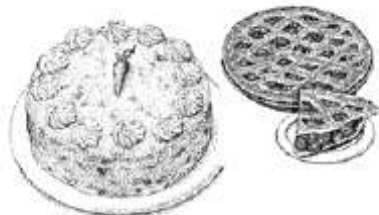
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PLANO ASIAFEST '11 supports the Japan-America Society of Dallas/Fort Worth (JASDFW) emergency relief fund that will be used to aid relief and recovery efforts in Sendai, Japan, one of the cities hardest hit by the disaster. Sendai and Dallas have been International Friendship Cities since 1997. Money raised will be sent to organizations involved directly with relief efforts in Sendai. Please visit the JASDFW booth to make your donations.