

Approximate Time	Performance	Performer	Country, Region, or Culture Represented
11:50 am	Traditional Lion Dance Grand Opening	Chinese Cultural Center	China
12:00 pm	Eisa Drum Dance	DFW Chanpuru Okinawa Society	Okinawa/Japan
12:15 pm	Tamil Songs	Shruti & Smriti Natarajan	India
12:20 pm	Japanese Pop: Tyryo Buchi A fisherman's good luck song	Satoko Tomihira	Japan
12:25 pm	Chinese Yo-Yo	Daniel Higley and Keith Chen	China
12:35 pm	Chinese String Orchestra Music	Joanne Chen, Valerie Wong and Jeffrey Weng Dallas Chinese Music Society	China
12:50 pm	Classical Indian Dance: Pushpanjali Shri Rama Chandra	Ellora Center for Performing Arts	India
1:05 pm	Internal Martial Arts: Ba Gua, Hsing-I, and Tai Chi	US Cheng Ming Martial Arts Assoc.	China
1:20 pm	Munde Punjabi (Boys from Punjab)	Sunita's Dance Group	India
1:25 pm	Silk Road Dance	Janet Zhou & Emily Kong	China
1:35 pm	Chinese Dances	Jiaping Shi Dance School	China
1:55 pm	Traditional Lion Dance and Kung Fu	Chinese Cultural Center	China
2:00 pm	City of Plano Asian American Heritage Week Proclamation	Mayor Evans	
2:15 pm	Kanhaiya	Sunita's Dance Group	India
2:20 pm	Bangla Folk Dance	Bratati Saha School of KATHAK	Bangla
2:35 pm	Children Fashion Show	Hedgecoxe Elementary School	Asia
2:55 pm	Chinese cultural fashion show	Merit Chinese School	China
3:05 pm	Brandenburg Concerto No. 5 by J.S. Bach Finlandia by Roy Phillippe Spring Breezes by Richard Meyer	Dallas Asian American Youth Orchestra (DAAYO)	Classical
3:30 pm	TAEKWONDO	LEE'S U.S. TAEKWONDO ACADEMY	Korea
3:45 pm	Sri Lankan song Nepali Song	Iona de Silva	Sri Lanka Nepal
4:00 pm	Northern Chinese Dance Yang Ge	Cross-Century US-China Friendship Assoc.	China
4:05 pm	Traditional Bangladeshi Folk Dance	Bangladeshi American	Bangladesh
4:15 pm	Solo Vocal Performance: Shades Of Emotions	Yogesh Ratnaparkhi	India
4:20 pm	Mandarin Songs by Mason Crumpacker	Hwa Xing Chinese School	China
4:25 pm	Samulnori	Dallas Korean Cultural Foundation	Korea
4:30 pm	Chinese Aerobics	Cross-Century US-China Friendship Assoc.	China
4:40 pm	Lion Dance, Kung Fu, Weapons, and Tai Chi	Lee's White Leopard Kung Fu	China
5:00 pm	End of Performance		

## **The Lion Dance**

Chinese Cultural Center, Garland, [www.hungfist.com](http://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. The Lion Dance is also performed at many business locations during the Chinese New Year's Celebration because the lion brings prosperity and good luck to the business for the upcoming year.



## **The History of the Southern Cantonese Lion Dance**

Cantonese Lion dancing originated in the Foshan, Guangdong province. At the beginning of the Ming dynasty, circa 1368, a monster was spotted in Foshan. It had big eyes, a broad mouth, and a horn. The monster made a horrible sound "Nien...nien," so people called it the "Nien Monster." Everywhere it went, the monster destroyed farmland and livestock. Even though the peasants hated the monster, they were afraid of killing it because bad fortune may befall the village.

The villagers used bamboo sticks to form ferocious Lion heads and painted them with bright colors. When the monster showed up, loud drums were played and the Lion heads were held aloft by the peasants.

Frightened by the sudden appearance of the lion, the monster fled and has not been seen since. People believed that the Lion heads had rescued them from evil.

From then on, drums would be played along with a Lion dance at every house during New Year's. This act symbolizes ridding the house of evil and bringing good luck. To prepare a warm reception for the Lions, every house would hang a "chien" outside the front door. A chien is a few green vegetable leaves wrapped around a "hung bao," which is a red envelope containing a token amount of money. The act of the lion retrieving the chien is called "chi chien."

## **The Chinese Cultural Center**

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 1975 he taught at the Chinese Cultural Center of Boston. He also taught martial arts at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst and the University of Alabama at Birmingham.



In 1979, Sifu Ng opened a martial arts school in Boston's Chinatown. He relocated to Dallas in 1984. Since 1986, he has been teaching at the Richardson Chinese Community Activity Center. He established the Kung Fu Academy in Richardson in 1994, and the Chinese Cultural Center in Garland in 2005.

"I believe that the spirit of Hung Gar Kung Fu is a form of physical and mental fitness development, as well as self-defense. I will use all my knowledge to

train those who are determined to learn the traditional Shaolin Kung Fu".

### **Eisa Drum Dance**

DFW Chanpuru Okinawa Society [www.dfwchanpuru.com](http://www.dfwchanpuru.com)



Originated from Okinawa Island, the Eisa is a dynamic, spirited dance that is always part of the festival. Traditionally Eisa performances are concentrated around lunar mid-July, when it has been used for centuries to mark the end of the Obon Festival.

It is danced by young men and/or women, mainly in a circle to the accompaniment of singing, chanting, and drumming by the dancers, and folk songs played on the *sanshin*. The dancers also sometimes play small hand gongs and *yotsutake* castanets. Eisa dancers wear various costumes, usually according to local tradition and gender of the dancer. Modern costumes are often brightly-colored and feature a characteristic, colorful Ryūkyū-style knotted turban. Special vests and leggings are also popular.

The DFW Chanpuru Okinawa Society, specializing in Okinawan dancing and performing at local events and festivals, is dedicated to preserve Okinawan culture and pass it down to future generations.

### **Japanese Pop Song: Tyryo Buchi (A fisherman's good luck song)**

Ms Satoko Tomihira

The song is about a wife supporting her husband when time is difficult.

Satoko Tomihira is a member of the Northern California Singing Society. She has performed at the 2005 and 2006 Plano Asian Heritage Festival, at the 2005 and 2006 Dallas Asian Festival, the 2005 and 2006 Fort Worth Botanic Garden Japanese Spring Festival, the 2005 Japan America Society Show in New York, the 2004 Mannatech Company Christmas Show, the 2004 Fort Worth Botanic Garden Japanese Fall Festival, and the 2004 Dallas Japanese Fall Festival.

### **Chinese String Orchestra Music**

Joanne Chen, Valerie Wong and Jeffrey Weng

Dallas Chinese Music Society

Joanne Chen - Di (Chinese flute)



As the leader of the Dallas Chinese Music Society, Joanne Chen keeps an active schedule with di, erhu, piano, and other musical private lessons throughout her professional career. She resides in Plano, TX and teaches musical lessons in the Metroplex.

Valerie Wong - Pipa

Currently an Art student at UT Dallas, Valerie Wong has been performing her other talent - pipa - for over 10 years.



Jeffrey Weng - Yanqin (Chinese Dulcimer)

Currently a senior at Plano Senior High, Jeffrey Weng, 17, shares his passion for music through his



everyday activities, whether they are school-related or extracurricular. A dulcimer addict, he is planning to study composition next year at UT Austin.

### **Classical Indian Dance**

Ellora Center for Performing Arts [www.satyavani.com/ecpa.htm](http://www.satyavani.com/ecpa.htm)

*Shri Rama Chandra* is an item in Bharatanatyam style which incorporates both the Nritta (pure dance) and Abhinaya (Expressional dance). This has been choreographed as a dance drama where a short narrative piece is also included.



*Pushpanjali* means "an offering of Flowers" Here the dances enter the stage with flowers in their hands and after doing some movement patterns offer the flowers

ELLORA CENTER FOR PERFORMING ARTS (ECPA) is a cultural phenomenon functioning from Dallas-Fort Worth Metro area and Baroda, India. Cultural boundaries, however, are not barriers for ECPA since it desires to relate with the Ellora age of ancient India. The formation of ECPA was the inspiration of Gurus Rema Shrikant and Satyavani Iswara, who wished to institutionalize the efforts of promising performing artistes under one umbrella and provide means for their inherent talents to blossom. The objectives of ECPA are to promote the cause of all dance forms, such as Bharatanatyam, Kuchipudi, Mohiniattam and others; and to provide infrastructure and training facilities necessary for performers to improve in their art.

### **Indian Dances**

Sunita's Dance Group

*Munde Punjabi* (Boys from Punjab)

This dance is from the state of Punjab. In this dance, the boys are expressing their great personalities to a girl named Paaro.

*Khaike Paan Banaras Wala*

People in India love to eat paan, a kind of edible leaf. This is a dance about paan:

This paan brought some life back in me  
Eating paan from Banaras opens up the locks on your brain  
...

*Kanhaiya*

Also known as 'stick dance' as performers use a pair of colorfully decorated sticks as props. The dancers strike the sticks with their partners to the rhythm of the music. The origin of these dance performances or 'Raas' can be traced back to the life of Lord Krishna. Today, 'Rasa' is not only an important part of Navaratra in Gujarat but extends itself to other festivals related to harvest and crops as well.

The children in the group range from Grade 2 to 7. The group performed at SMU's India Night in January and at the Punjabi Festival in Plano Civic Center this April.

### **Dance of the Silk Road**

Janet Zhou & Emily Kong

Silk Road is an interconnected series of trade routes connecting China with Asia Minor and the Mediterranean in ancient time. It is the route of cultural exchange where the east meets the west. The dancers dance to the music of Dunhuang, an historic site on the Silk Road.

### **Indian Classical Dance: Ganesh Prayer**

Bratati Saha School of Kathak [www.geocities.com/bratatisaha](http://www.geocities.com/bratatisaha)



This is a traditional prayer for Lord Ganesha

Bratati started to learn Kathak at the age of four years under Guru Lakhnan Nandi. With this initial establishment, Guru Sontosh Maharaj groomed her up under the tender care and extraordinary training of Kathak Dance.

At the age of twelve she offered her first Stage Performance and at the age of fourteen she had completed her five year degree from Banga Bharati. Banga Bharati awarded her with silver medal for outstanding performance in Kathak.

Then onwards she has performed numerous Kathak dance recital in different parts of India and won many awards.

### **Chinese Cultural Fashion Show**

Merit Chinese School [www.meritchineseschool.org](http://www.meritchineseschool.org)



The show is a broadcast of ancient Chinese costumes: First Emperor and Empress of China, Qing Emperor and Empress, Princess of Wing On/Wang Jiaozun, Song Dynasty Scholar, Ming Dynasty General and more.

Located in the Dallas-Ft. Worth area, Merit Chinese School is a non-profit organization registered under Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The School teaches the Chinese dialect of Cantonese, found in the regions of Hong Kong and Guangzhou, China, as well as Cantonese communities in Southeast Asia, Europe, and North America.

Merit Chinese School's mission is to provide an opportunity for children to learn the Cantonese language and to understand their cultural heritage. The curriculum emphasizes Cantonese reading and writing skills, listening and conversation, as well as moral education.

Merit Chinese School is currently the largest Cantonese-dialect teaching school in the Dallas-Ft. Worth area and has served the local community since 1987.

### **DAAYO: the Dallas Asian American Youth Orchestra [www.dayyo.org](http://www.dayyo.org)**

Thousands of years ago in ancient China, Confucius declared music as one of the six major arts discipline. Since then the Chinese people have always valued music as part of their cultural tradition and daily living. With the injection of western cultural influences into the Asian cultural tradition in the last several hundred years, many Asian, including the Asian-Americans in the United States, have studied and took a great appreciation in the study of western music. This of course

includes the Asian-American Community in the Dallas/Ft. Worth metropolitan area. With the ever-increasing number of Asian-Americans in this area, the Asian-American youths have also increased tremendously. The number of Asian Youths that took up the study of instruments are large and in a notable number. Some have also gained success and recognition in their local schools as well as in competitions. However, they were only able to play music from the western classical repertoire. In view of the lack of information and environment available to cultivate the Chinese cultural music tradition as well as music from other Asian countries for our youths, a group of music lovers, parents and concerned individuals have organized the "Dallas Asian American Youth Orchestra". Through participation in this orchestra, they wish to provide an environment for all youths, not only the Asian-American young people, in the community to display their artistry, but also, to inherit, to learn and to develop Chinese and other Asian music traditions as well as to promote these music traditions to the American Community.

The mission of DAAYO is to promote the values of cultural diversity and community service, provide a musical environment in the Asian tradition for all youths in the community, elevate the techniques, musicianship and quality of instrumental playing of each member through concert and rehearsal activities, encourage communication between the Western and Asian music traditions through orchestral music playing environment and attract broad audiences from different ethnicities and cultures for the support of the organization's activities within the diverse community.

**Jiaping Shi Dance School** [www.jpsdance.com](http://www.jpsdance.com)



Jiaping Shi Dance School was founded on April 1, 2000. Ms. Jiaping Shi is a Chinese folk and classical dancer, teacher, and choreographer for more than 30 years. She is also a member of the Association of Chinese Professional Dancers in China. The purpose of the school is to disseminate Chinese national folk dances, preserve and expand the excellence of Chinese culture, and to train, develop, and nurture new talent who share a deep love for the oriental arts. Since the founding of the school almost two years ago, students have undergone rigorous, professional, and scientific based training. Currently, they have learned and mastered 20 national folk dances of various styles and characteristics. The students regularly participate in performances, arts festivals, and community activities.

### **Shades of Emotions**

Yogesh Ratnaparkhi

A solo vocal performance portraying various emotions through a medley of songs composed in Indian music.

Yogesh Ratnaparkhi won first place in the Senior Male Singing category at the 2005 Destani Idol National Talent Competition in Dallas. He began studying Indian Classical Music at the age of nine. Yogesh earned a Sangeet Visharad, which is the equivalent of a Bachelors Degree in Music, at the age of 16. He participated in several music concerts and competitions in various cities across India. Since moving to Dallas in

2001, Yogesh has been an active member of the DFW Indian Classical Music Circle (ICMC). He was among six artists who performed at Art Stage 2002 at the Dallas Museum of Art. Yogesh also performed in the Bruhan Maharashtra Mandal's 2003 convention held in New York City.

### **Samulnori**

Dallas Korean Cultural Foundation

Samulnori is a group of four dynamic musicians dedicated to performing and preserving traditional Korean music and dance. The Korean words *sa* and *mul* mean four objects (instruments called *kwaengwari*, *jing*, *janggu*, and *buk*) and *nori* means to play. With roots in Buddhist and farmers music, the style has changed through the years and evolved in different ways. One of the major influences of the style has been the Kim Duk Soo *SamulNori* ensemble. Founded in 1978, the group called SamulNori sparked a renaissance in Korea's music scene and has garnered worldwide acclaim.



### **Lion Dance, Kung Fu, Weapons, and Tai Chi**

Lee's White Leopard Kung Fu School [www.leeswhiteleopardkungfu.com](http://www.leeswhiteleopardkungfu.com)

The most talented and gifted students at Lee's White Leopard Kung Fu represent the school by joining Team White Leopard. Led by senior instructor John Su, the demo team performs electrifying martial arts exhibitions and traditional lion dance for a variety of occasions.

Team White Leopard showcases traditional Kung Fu Forms, Lion Dances, martial arts combat applications, choreographed fight scenes, and other martial arts technique.