

2010 OREGON Asian Celebration

25th Anniversary

February 20 and 21, 2010
Lane Events Center/Fairgrounds, Eugene OR
“Reflections of 25 Years”

Eugene OR – Twenty-five years ago, no one really planned that an evening of Asian cultural entertainment would later blossom into a two-day festival and become one of Lane County’s longest running cultural festival. The Eugene-Springfield Asian Council will celebrate their 25th year of presenting the Oregon Asian Celebration on February 20 and 21 at the Lane Events Center at the fairgrounds in Eugene OR.

The doors open at 10:00 a.m. both days and conclude at 7:00 p.m. on Saturday and 6:00 p.m. on Sunday.

The key to its success, says event chair David Tam, is the volunteer commitment of the Asian community to bring Lane County citizens two days of cultural entertainment and education for the entire family that is unmatched anywhere else in the state. “It started as an evening of dinner entertainment for visiting Taiwanese dignitaries and then city of Eugene officials at that time asked the Asian community, how can we make this a bigger event for the rest of the community to enjoy,” Tam said.

Each year the event featured a different theme and this year is no different. The theme “Reflections of Asia” can be found throughout festival venue at the Lane Events Center where visitors can Asian culture through the five physical senses of sight, smell, taste, hearing, and touch.

Visitors will be visually treated to colorfully adorned dancers, hear traditional instruments of Japan, China, Indonesia, the Middle East, and Hawaii. Smell the aroma of Asian delicacies and taste an array of popular food favorites that are only available at the event once a year. Enjoy the thunderous roar of taiko drums by the Portland Taiko, one of the West Coast’s premier taiko groups or take the kids to the Youth Room where they partake in. Children plenty of hands-on Asian craft activities from making Japanese fish prints to folding paper ornaments.

To commemorate the 25th anniversary, cooking demonstration chair Marvy Schuman assembled 185 Asian inspired recipes for a cookbook titled, *Reflections of 25 Years: The Asian Celebration's Community Cookbook*, featuring many recipes from various organizations and members of the Eugene /Springfield Asian area. Recipes

represent many Asian countries with ingredients readily available at local stores. The cookbook is \$10 and can be purchased in cooking demonstration area in the performance hall and the Asian Council information booth near the main stage.

Non-stop entertainment is planned for the main stage and represents many Asian cultures. Returning this year is the crowd-pleasing Portland Taiko, a renown West Coast taiko group. This year, two Asian consulate offices are bringing entertainment. The Consulate General of Japan (Portland office) is bringing traditional koto music that will include a shakuhachi bamboo flute performer. The Indonesian Consulate of San Francisco is bringing traditional Bali dancers.

Reminiscent of Asian street fairs, the expansive exhibit hall features more than 75 vendors in the Asian Marketplace where visitors can find one-of-a kind treasures, jewelry, clothing, sushi making supplies, bonsai plants, and so much more.

Next to the marketplace, Asian craft demonstrations by more than a dozen artisans welcome visitors to their booths to learn or participate in such crafts as Japanese bookbinding to the creation of life-masks that can capture your image for posterity.

After perusing the marketplace, visitors may be tempted to travel to another marketplace located in the adjoining Performance Hall where it is filled with the aroma of Asian delicacies steaming in warming trays. On the way to the food court marketplace, visitors can stop at the Atrium and take in the fine art exhibit featuring many styles of art from Chinese painting to sculpture or the beautiful display of orchids and Bonsai. A small stage in the Atrium features lectures about the Asian heritage of Lane County, a delightful puppet performance by the Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art and a sponsor of the event, storytelling, and interviews with Asian Celebration elders recounting the beginning years of the event.

Visitors should plan to arrive on an empty stomach because once inside the Asian Food Court, more than 20 food booths will feature intriguing Asian delicacies such as huli huli and kula pig cabbage to popular favorites as yakisoba noodles and phad thai.

With food in hand, visitors can take a seat in front the Cooking Demonstration stage to learn how to prepare quick, healthy, and nutritious Asian foods prepared by guest chefs, or head to the Martial Arts stage for non-stop demonstrations and performances by 15 different martial arts schools specializing in a variety of techniques ranging from taekwondo to jujutsu.

Outside both main halls, visitors can travel through the hallway to the smaller rooms where there is the Youth Activities Room (near the exhibit hall) filled with "fund and messy" hands-on activities and cultural performances; the Komorian Room featuring Asian games including video games; and the DisOrient Film Festival room (both are near the Performance Hall). Stop and watch short films by budding filmmakers who have premiered their films at the film festival this past year.

There is so much to do, plan on visiting both days. A schedule of all activities and performances is available in the event program guide available at the door or at www.asiancelebration.org.

Admission is \$4 for adults and free for ages 12 and under. The event is produced by the Eugene-Springfield Asian Council with sponsorship support from Kikkoman International, Sunrise Asian Market, McDonalds Restaurants, Noodle Bowl Restaurant, City of Eugene, PacInfo Internet Services, MIX 94.5, Comcast, and KVAL-TV.

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Oregon Asian Celebration Partner Events

The Oregon Asian Celebration partners each year with other organizations to host community events. This year's partner events are listed below.

WHAT IS THE JAPANESE WOODBLOCK PRINT?

January 12-April 4, 2010

Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art

University of Oregon

jsma.uoregon.edu or 541-346-3027

When you hear "Japanese woodblock print" what do you imagine? Images of Mt. Fuji? Courtesans in brilliant kimonos? Kabuki actors in dynamic poses? Beautiful views of the countryside along the highway to Kyoto, perhaps? The Japanese woodblock print is all of these and much more. This exhibition showcases the depth and breadth of the museum's Japanese woodblock print collection. Come and explore magnificent works by renowned printmakers such as Utamaro, Hokusai, Hiroshige, and Kunisada. Immerse yourself in a world that ranges from early modern book illustrations, religious icons, political propaganda, and erotica to contemporary abstraction and surrealism. This exhibition is organized in conjunction with ARH4/588: Japanese Prints, taught by Akiko Walley, University of Oregon assistant professor of Japanese art history.

4th ANNUAL PACIFIC MARTIAL ARTS CONFERENCE

Sponsored by Best Martial Arts Institute

Held at Eugene School of Karate

921 International Way, Springfield

Saturday, Jan. 30, 2010 & Sunday, April 11, 2010

10:00 am-5:00 pm

Free, \$10 donation requested

www.pacificmartialartsconference.com

This is a one-of-a-kind event that allows martial artists to learn from a wide range of experts from the Eugene/Springfield area and around the Pacific Northwest. PacMAC brings our martial arts community together to train and exchange ideas. Teen and adult students of all

martial arts are welcome. Don't miss this rare opportunity to experience so many styles under one roof! Classes will be 25 minutes long with a 5-minute break in between.

MELE 'OHANA 'UKULELE JAMS

Second Friday of each month except Dec., 7:00-10:30 pm
Our Savior's Lutheran Church
2200 Coburg Road
\$3 per person
www.meleohana.net
Sponsored by Mele 'Ohana

Mele 'Ohana (literal translation: "song family"), invites the public to this "kanikapila" fun, relaxing forum for those who wish to play, sing, and dance traditional, contemporary, or Hawaiian-inspired music, while perpetuating the culture of Hawai'i through song, dance, education, and fellowship; with plenty of aloha. We always have a potluck so feel free to bring food and drink.

ASIAN STORYTELLING

Saturday, February 13, 2010
2:00-4:00 pm
Smith Family Bookstore
525 Willamette
dauidyuentam@hotmail.com

Spring Atman of the Chinese American Benevolent Association will be telling a variety of stories for different age groups. She will be sharing many of the famous and unique stories of Asia, which are sure to be a hit with the Kids. Our kind venue sponsor, Smith Family Bookstore, will be on hand to help your children search for their own wonderful Asian story books for years to come. Light drinks and snacks will be provided by the Chinese American Benevolent Association.

CHINESE NEW YEAR'S CELEBRATION

Saturday, February 13, 2010
6:00-9:00 pm
Many Nations Longhouse
University of Oregon
dauidyuentam@hotmail.com

In partnership with the Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art, the Chinese American Benevolent Association will put on a Chinese New Year's Celebration, featuring the very popular Chinese Lion Dance Team and many other types of entertainment. There will be other hands-on activities for the whole family as well as foods that are commonly found during the new year. Bring your family out to celebrate the Chinese New Year with CABA. Please feel free to bring food and drink.