

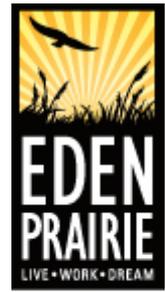
NEWS RELEASE

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FIFTH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL PLANNED FOR AUGUST 10

Eden Prairie, Minn. — Eden Prairie's fifth annual International Festival will be held on Sunday, Aug. 10 at Staring Lake Park (14800 Pioneer Trail) from 3 to 8:30 p.m. The International Festival is designed to highlight the cultures and traditions of Eden Prairie residents and festival attendees are encouraged celebrate their heritage by dressing in traditional cultural attire!

Entertainment highlights of this year's Festival include:

- A performance by the St. Mary's Balalaika Orchestra, featuring traditional Russian folk music at 3 p.m.
- Songs from around the world performed by students from the International School of Minnesota at 3:45 p.m.
- Performances in dance and Taiji by the Eden Prairie Chinese School at 4:15 p.m.
- Latin American folk music by Leo and Kathy Lara starting at 4:45 p.m.
- Latin Dance steps led by Aaron Clarey at 5 p.m.
- Original poetry reading in Somali (also translated into English) at 5:30 p.m.
- The Sansei Yonsei Kai Japanese Dance Group demonstrating the art of Kitsuke (Kimono Dressing) at 5:45 p.m.
- A presentation of Japanese Taiko, musical drumming based upon traditional Japanese styles and techniques, by Mu Diako at 6 p.m.
- A performance by *Cyril Paul and the Calypso Monarchs*, known throughout the Midwest for their toe tapping Calypso melodies, at 7 p.m.

The Festival will also feature:

- Cultural displays from Nepal, India, Pakistan, Somalia, China, Japan, Brazil and Chile.
- Crafts, clothing, and jewelry from Germany, the Andes, Africa, Peru, Mexico, Russia, and the Hmong culture.
- Body art from henna artist Farida Kathawalla.
- A special children's booth featuring multi-cultural arts and crafts, games, and face painting.
- Food and beverages from India Palace, Holyland Catering and Eden Prairie Boy Scout Troop 695.
- Displays from local agencies such as Eden Prairie Library, Eden Prairie Schools Community Educational Services, Community Action Partnership for Suburban Hennepin, The International School of Minnesota, and the Eden Prairie Rotary Clubs.

Sponsors of this year's event include the City of Eden Prairie Parks and Recreation Department and Human Rights and Diversity Commission, the International School of Minnesota, the American Muslim Community Center (AMCC), the Rotary Club of Eden Prairie A.M. and Shakopee Total Rental.

For more information or to volunteer at the event, contact **Sandy Werts** at **952-949-8450** or swerts@edenprairie.org.

The City of Eden Prairie is a vibrant community of more than 60,000 people located just southwest of Minneapolis. Eden Prairie has been nationally recognized as a great place to live, work and raise a family. In 2006, MONEY Magazine named Eden Prairie the 10th "Best Place to Live" in America.