

calendar of EVENTS

Cultural Connections encourages cultural understanding through learning about different communities. Over twenty exciting new programs this year will each focus on one of three broad themes: Art as a Window into Culture; Historical Experiences; and Community Celebrations. The following events are listed according to the theme. All programs are from 6:00-8:00 pm and include ethnic foods.

Art as a Window into Culture

Exploring Culture through Music

The Field Museum 1400 South Lake Shore Drive

Wednesday, September 8

The Cultural Connections program kicks-off with a celebration of music at The Field Museum! Learn how anthropology can be useful for understanding the cultural diversity that surrounds us in Chicago. Then, explore our cultural connection of music. Using the new exhibit "Sounds from the Vaults" we will look into the role of the environment, history, and our creative ability in shaping diverse music traditions across the world and in Chicago.

Images of Filipino Immigration

Filipino American Historical Society of Chicago 3952 N. Ashland Avenue

Wednesday, October 13

Through paintings and photographs, experience Filipino immigration to America. Beginning with the galleon trade to Louisiana in the 1500s, this journey continues with the struggle of plantation workers in California, the Post Office labor of the 1930s, and the "brain drain" of the 1960s. You will also learn of Filipino immigrant's whimsical involvement in mainstream celebrations like the Fourth of July.

Eyes on Ethiopian Culture: Healing Arts

DuSable Museum of African American History 740 East 56th Place

Thursday, November 4

What impact has Ethiopia had on the cultures of the world? Ethiopia has a culture rich in healing traditions and much of this information was recorded in a variety of ways over the centuries. Join us as we learn about Ethiopian culture while examining the healing arts as depicted in scrolls, books, and paintings. Food, music, and dance complete your immersion into Ethiopian culture.

Art Deco Poland

Polish Museum of America 984 N. Milwaukee Avenue

Wednesday, November 17

Come back to the glamour and sophistication of the '20s and '30s as we introduce you to Art Deco Poland. Through posters, artifacts, paintings, and photos, learn about Polish culture and the contribution to the International Art Movement and how traditional folk arts were interpreted in the "Moderne" period. Examine the items from the museum's collections highlighting the 60th anniversary of the 1939 New York World's Fair, "The World of Tomorrow" and the Polish Pavilion.

Coming in Spring 2000

SPRING KICK-OFF EVENT! 400 Years of Diversity in Chicago, AD 1600-2000
Chicago Historical Society Tuesday, January 25

Living Traditions: Lithuanian Easter and Egg Decorations
Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture Wednesday, February 2

Art of the Border Culture
Mexican Fine Arts Center Museum Tuesday, February 8

My People Keep Moving: African American Migrations
DuSable Museum of African American History Saturday, February 19

Historical Experiences

History of Chicago's Lithuanian Community

Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture 6500 South Pulaski Road

Wednesday, October 6

Come learn about the Lithuanian community in Chicago! With over 100 years of history in our city, the community is growing today as immigration continues. You will learn about their experiences as a community, the efforts to preserve their heritage, and their continuing connections with the homeland. Discussions with members of the Lithuanian community over a hearty meal complements your experience.

Chicago's Diverse Heritages, AD 1600-2000

Chicago Historical Society Clark Street and North Avenue

Tuesday, October 19

Today, Chicago is a world-class city, yet few realize that Chicago has been the center of international activity for over 300 years. Tonight, explore the history of Chicago and its diverse people, from the native people who first inhabited the area to the waves of immigrants from across the globe and migrations within the US. Using objects from the CHS collections, and explore the conflict and cooperation between these diverse groups and how it continues to shape life in the city today.

You are what you eat: Greek American History and Gyros

Hellenic Museum and Cultural Center 168 North Michigan Avenue, Suite 400

Wednesday, October 27

Join us as we explore the history of Chicago's Greek community using food as our guide! The Greek community grew rapidly as immigration increased in the late 1800s and early 1900s. Many found economic success as they became food vendors and invented gyros. Tonight we explore the history of gyros and the Greek community, and compare the early immigrant's experience with the new immigrants of today. Also, explore the Greek diet and its impact on today's society. Of course, gyros will be served!

Andersonville: From Swedish Farm to Urban Swedish Center

Swedish American Museum 5211 North Clark Street

Wednesday, November 10

Swedes have been coming to Chicago since the 1840s and settled throughout the city. Andersonville, once one of several centers of Swedish community life in Chicago, is now the only remaining neighborhood that shows significant signs of "Swedishness." Join us this evening as we trace the history of the Andersonville's Swedish Community, beginning with John Anderson's farm and continuing through today!

Greek Art in America
Hellenic Museum and Cultural Center Thursday, March 9

Celebraciones Mexicanas
Mexican Fine Arts Center Museum Tuesday, March 14

Swedish Bonader in Swedish Culture
Swedish American Museum Thursday, March 20

Polish American Easter Traditions
Polish Museum of America Wednesday, April 12

Community Celebrations

The High Holy Days:

Reinventing Yourself with the Jewish New Year

Spertus Museum — 618 South Michigan Avenue

Thursday, September 30

Welcome the New Year with the call of the shofar (ram's horn)! Explore the Jewish view of repentance and forgiveness through the Jewish High Holy Days of Rosh Hashana (Jewish New Year) and Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement). Taste the traditional foods, including apples dipped in honey, round challah bread, and gefilte fish. View the ceremonial objects and create your own heshbone hanefesh, an introspection of your conduct from the past year.

Ukrainian Christmas Traditions

Ukrainian National Museum — 721 North Oakley Boulevard

Friday, December 10

Deeply rooted holiday traditions reflect a people's culture in many subtle and colorful ways. The traditions in arts, crafts, music, religious rites, and holiday rituals connect immigrants with their homeland, keeping alive both the old and new cultures in their adopted homeland. Tonight, use all your senses as you see, feel, hear, smell, and taste a traditional Ukrainian Christmas, eat a Christmas feast and experience the rites and rituals practiced during this holiday period.

Jishin Balpki: Celebrate Korean New Year!

Korean American Resource and Cultural Center — 2725 W. Peterson Avenue

Wednesday, December 15

Celebrate Korean New Year! Traditionally, the Korean culture has followed the lunar cycle, marking the New Year in February. This year, celebrate the New Year early by taking part in the tradition of Jishin Balpki — stepping on the spirit of the earth. This ritual cleanses the community of evil spirits to prepare for the New Year. Then, play traditional games and enjoy savory food of the New Year.

Ukrainian Easter Traditions
Ukrainian National Museum Thursday, April 27

Mazel Tov: It's a Jewish Wedding
Spertus Museum Thursday, May 11

Korean American Culture
Korean American Cultural Center Wednesday, May 25

Culture and Cuisine
The Field Museum Thursday, June 8

FALL 1999