

calendar of EVENTS

Cultural Connections is a unique way to learn about the rich cultural diversity everywhere you go. Between September 2000 and May 2001, you will explore the reasons for our cultural differences and uncover your connections to "others." Fall 2000 launches the fourth season of events that promote cross-cultural understanding. Each event takes place at one of the wonderful museums in and around Chicago, and presents fascinating aspects of cultural expression. Participants will experience different cultures through artifacts, presentations, participation, and sampling ethnic foods.

"What Is Your American Way?" — A

The Field Museum
1400 S. Lake Shore Drive
Chicago

Wednesday, September 13
6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Fall Kick-Off Event! Join us as we kick off the Fall 2000 season with a unique event that explores the many facets of "the American Way." Using the new exhibit *Americanos: Latino Life in the United States* as a starting point, we will examine the multiple expressions of American identity. Whether distinctive dialects, religious iconography, favorite recipes, music, photographs, or knick-knacks, many of us have treasured items that define our place in this country's mosaic. Bring an item with you and share your American way with us! Treat yourself to this fascinating evening and enjoy a tasty meal!

"Honoring Our Ancestors" — A&F

Mexican Fine Arts Center Museum and the
Chicago Japanese American Historical Society
1852 W. 19th Street
Chicago

Saturday, September 30
5:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Every culture has ways of celebrating the lives of its departed loved ones. For this event, two cultures will present their unique, yet similar, practices for honoring the dead. Join the Mexican Fine Arts Center Museum and the Chicago Japanese American Historical Society in a comparative look at the Mexican Day of the Dead and Japanese Obon traditions. There will be a demonstration of the Mexican "Danza de los viejitos" and Japanese Obon dancing. Traditional foods from each culture will complement the evening!

A — Adult Event

A&F — Adult and Family Event

"Spirit of the Cedar" — A&F

Mitchell Museum of the American Indian
2600 Central Park Ave.
Evanston

Sunday, October 8
3:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Using traditional hand-carved Native American flutes, the artists of Cedar Wind will recreate sounds of the forest and plains, music of the nation's first inhabitants. Pow wow fare, corn soup, and Indian fry bread will be served.

Transportation from The Field Museum is available.

"Czech/Moravian Folk Dancing" — A&F

Czechoslovak Heritage Museum
122 W. 22nd Street
Oak Brook

Saturday, October 21
3:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Kroj, the colorful costumes worn by Czech, Moravian, and Slovak dancers, are said to express the spirit of the people who wear them. Spend an afternoon with the Moravian Cultural Society as they perform their native folk dances wearing traditional costumes. Enjoy a delicious, authentic Czech meal after the dancing, and learn more about this fascinating culture.

Transportation from The Field Museum is available.

"A Day in the Life of an Ancient Greek" — A

Hellenic Museum and Cultural Center
168 N. Michigan Avenue
Chicago

Thursday, November 16
6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

If you've ever wanted to know what it felt like to be a mythological Greek god or goddess, here is your chance! Start the evening with a new Greek persona, assigned to you upon arrival. Then feast on foods that empowered the gods. Following dinner, enjoy a guided tour of the hands-on exhibit, staged readings of ancient myths and plays, and an informal discussion on the Greeks, their gods, and their myths, led by a guest scholar. Foods of the ancient Greeks are on the menu!

"Polish Christmas Traditions" — A

Polish Museum of America
984 N. Milwaukee Avenue
Chicago

Wednesday, December 6
6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

The days are getting shorter – Christmas preparations are just beginning. The Holiday season is a very important time in Central Europe as the long periods of darkness fall on the land. Join us as we present Polish Advent traditions that include a Christmas Eve "Wigilia" meal of 12 meatless courses, and Christmas tree decorating. Since December 6th is his namesday, there just might be a visit from St. Nicholas!

EVENTS COMING SPRING 2001

"Swedish Folk Tales"

Sunday, February 18
Swedish American Museum

"Ukrainian Immigration to Chicago"

Saturday, March 10
Ukrainian National Museum

"Purim/Book of Esther"

Thursday, March 29
Spertus Museum

"Chicago's Global Communities"

Thursday, April 5
Chicago Historical Society

"Amber and Its Place in Lithuanian Culture and Art"

Wednesday, April 25
Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture

"Shared Stories" a joint event

Thursday, May 17
Filipino American Historical Society of Chicago and the
Korean American Resource and Cultural Center

"Chicago's Southeast Side: A Community Story"

Saturday, May 19
Southeast Historical Society