

September 10, 2019



International Heritage Festival offers imaginary trip on Oct. 5

New performers and crafts added; free fun for the family

(Modesto, CA) – Children and families are invited to take a trip around the world at the 28th annual International Heritage Festival on Oct. 5 at Modesto Junior College (MJC) East Campus on College Ave. in Modesto. The fun starts at 11 a.m. with an opening ceremony which includes a colorful parade of flags with participants in beautiful international dress. Plus, “Betsy Ross” will make a special appearance.

Scheduled performances throughout the day are from the Philippines, India, China, Mexico, Germany as well as Middle Eastern countries. New this year are performances by Drum Love, a drum group that blends drumming sounds from West Africa, the Middle East, Native America, and Asia, and regional favorite The Blues Box Bayou Band which brings Americana, Cajun Zydeco and Tex-Mex music.

The Kids World craft area, sponsored by the Antone E. and Marie F. Raymus Foundation, features a variety of make-and-take crafts and the popular passport coloring books for kids to collect stickers and stamps from the heritage displays which represent various countries.

New crafts this year include a Chinese lion head and paper lantern. The crafts are provided by the Overseas Community Affairs Council, Rep. of China (Taiwan) office from the Culture Center of the Taipei Economic and Culture Office in San Francisco.

The Great Valley Museum will also be on hand with Dr. Al Chemist giving a fun science presentation. The Modesto Nuts mascots will visit and kids can learn about instruments with the Modesto Symphony’s Instrument “Petting Zoo.” The Shriners will provide children’s fingerprinting, and both Modesto Fire and Police departments will have interactive displays for children.

For foodies there are international dishes from France and Puerto Rico. Plus, there’s linguica and kettle corn.

The 28th International Heritage Festival runs from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. The free event showcases the kaleidoscope of international heritages from the local area and celebrates a shared American heritage. For more information, visit InternationalFestivalModesto.org or call [\(209\) 521-3852](tel:2095213852).

The all-volunteer, non-profit International Festival Committee organizes the event. The event is made possible through generous sponsorships from E&J Gallo Winery Gallo Family Charitable Giving Fund, Antone E. and Marie F. Raymus Foundation, MID, Mocse, Anthem Blue Cross/Care More, KRVR and KVIN radio stations, Dianne Gagos, 209 Magazine, Stanislaus County Office of Education, Visit Modesto, Downtown Improvement District, Bertolotti Disposal, J & P Jumpers, DejaBlue Water, and the participation of local businesses, organizations and volunteers.

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