

NEIGHBORHOODS OF THE WORLD



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Navy Pier Celebrates “Neighborhoods of the World”

Back by popular demand the second annual fun, festive and educational performance series returns celebrating Chicago’s ethnic neighborhoods

CHICAGO – Navy Pier, Inc. is proud to celebrate the rich tapestry of Chicago’s diverse ethnic communities in its second annual cultural tribute: ***Neighborhoods of the World***, presented **Sunday, February 26 – April 15, from noon – 5 p.m., in Navy Pier’s Crystal Gardens**. This event is **FREE and open to the public**. Over the course of eight weeks celebrate the many cultures of our world-class city by enjoying authentic live music, dance performances, cuisine, and folk art from various ethnic Chicago communities.

Neighborhoods of the World transforms Navy Pier’s Crystal Gardens into a premier destination spot for cultural celebrations that appeal to visitors of all ages. Navy Pier has collaborated with many consulates, community museums, arts groups and cultural organizations to produce this unique and celebrated performance series.

The celebration begins **February 26** with ***Amazing India***. Presented in partnership with the **Consulate General of India** and the **Indo–American Heritage Museum** come celebrate the rich Indian culture with performances by **Bollywood Rhythms, Kalapriya Center for Indian Performing Arts and the Punjabi Cultural Society**. Also, experience **Henna art by Sitara** and delicious cuisines by **Klay Oven and Uru-Swati Restaurant**.

The month of March presents four spectacular Sundays beginning with a Navy Pier partnership with the Consulate General of Greece and the National Hellenic Museum to present ***A Greek Journey in the Windy City, March 4***. Special performances feature the **Orpheus Hellenic Folklore Society and the Chicago Hellenic Choir**. Be prepared to sample exquisite cuisines by **Greek Islands, The Parthenon, Athena, Pegasus, Avli Estiatorio and Taxim**.

Neighborhoods of the World

Chicago has long been called the second capital of Lithuania, and keeping with that illustrious tradition on **Sunday, March 11** Navy Pier will host ***Celebrate Lithuanian Independence***. Presented in partnership with the Consulate General of Lithuania, this event will welcome the **U.S. premiere of Ugnelė Folk Dance Ensemble (Vilnius, Lithuania)**, with additional performances by **Biru Bar Folk Music Ensemble, Gabija Folk Music Ensemble, Dainava Chorale** and more. Cuisine will be provided by **Grand Duke's Restaurant**.

Celebrate Mexico takes center stage on **March 18**, for a one-of-a-kind celebration of authentic Mexican food, music, and art. In cooperation with the Consulate General of Mexico and the Mexico Tourism Board, come enjoy performances by **Mariachi Perla de Mexico, Cuerdas Clasicas, Latino Arts Mariachi Juvenil** and more.

In cooperation with the Italian Cultural Institute and Consulate General of Italy, ***Bell'Italia*** will take place **Sunday, March 25**. Enjoy performances by **Alessandra Belloni and Ensemble** from New York and **Vince Amore**. Also, cuisine will be provided by **Taste of Tuscany by Phil Stefani** and discover the traditional gifts by the Joint Civic Committee of Italian Americans.

Navy Pier's ***Neighborhoods of the World*** series continues **April 1** with **Philippine Fest Chicago**. This event will feature a performance by **Universal Records Philippines recording artist Jay R** - who will be making his Chicago debut! Other performances include **Chicago Angklung Rondalla Ensemble, Sama Sama Project, PACF Performing Arts and winners of the Battle of the Bamboo contest**. Special thanks to GMA Pinoy TV and GMA Life TV for programming support. The event will be presented in cooperation with the Consulate General of the Philippines and the Philippine American Cultural Foundation.

In cooperation with the Africa International House share in the rich traditions of African heritage with music, dance, food and more with ***Africa in Chicago on Sunday, April 8***. Special performances by **Avain Hightower and Full Circle, Dahnyeekeh African Dance Troupe, Senabella – The Bronzeville Diva** and many more. Plus, nearly two dozen vendors will be on hand to sell traditional folk art. Cuisine will be provided by **West Indies Restaurant and Rawk N' Vegan**.

And ***Neighborhoods of the World*** concludes on **Sunday, April 15** as Navy Pier partners with the Dank-Haus German American Cultural Center and the Lincoln Square Chamber of Commerce to present ***Germania on the Pier***. This event will include Bohemian waltzes, traditional Bavarian dances and German pop hits of the 50s and 60s by the band **Pieptone!** Other performers include **Paloma Band, Amazing Mike, The Fanfaren Drum and Bugle Corps** and many more.

For more details on this performance series and other winter activities at Navy Pier, please check our website: www.navypier.com/neighborhoods

Neighborhoods of the World

Weekly Schedule Roundup

- **Sunday, February 26: *Amazing India***
Presented in partnership with the Indo-American Heritage Museum and the Consulate General of India

- **Sunday, March 4: *A Greek Journey in the Windy City***
Presented in partnership with the Consulate General of Greece and the National Hellenic Museum

- **Sunday, March 11: *Celebrate Lithuanian Independence***
Presented in partnership with the Consulate General of Lithuania

- **Sunday, March 18: *Celebrate Mexico***
Presented in partnership with the Consulate General of Mexico and the Mexico Tourism Board

- **Sunday, March 25: *Bell'Italia***
Presented in partnership with the Italian Cultural Institute and the Consulate General of Italy

- **Sunday, April 1: *Philippine Fest Chicago (Piyesta Pinoy sa Chicago)***
Presented in partnership with the Consulate General of the Philippines and the Philippine American Cultural Foundation

- **Sunday, April 8: *Africa in Chicago***
Presented in partnership with Africa International House

- **Sunday, April 15: *Germania on the Pier***
Presented in partnership with DANK-Haus German American Cultural Center and the Lincoln Square Chamber of Commerce

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