

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## Travel the world with the Free Ultimate Stay-cation

Families can enjoy some free international fun at the ultimate stay-cation, International Heritage Festival presents "A Celebration of Cultures." This year's event will take place at the Gallo Center for the Arts, on Saturday, Oct. 4 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

This free family event will celebrate music and dance from around the world with indoor and outdoor activities. Local cultural groups will perform throughout the day. There will be craft projects and other cultural learning activities for children. Traditional foods from various ethnicities will be available and cultural groups will showcase displays of their native lands.

The Americana Opening will kick off the event at 11 a.m. in the Rogers Theater, with an international parade of flags and presentation of "The Star Spangled Banner" by renowned local vocalist Joe Rykert. Cultural dance and musical performances will follow on the Rogers Theater Stage throughout the day. Seating is on a first come, first served basis.

Creating the "world information area" will be cultural representatives hosting display tables on the plaza. Also outside, the Stanislaus County Office of Education will present several children's activities, including passport making and hat decorating.

The International Heritage Festival committee and numerous volunteers have worked tirelessly to bring this cultural event to the community, as part of a weekend full of international entertainment at the Gallo Center for the Arts. Making the event possible are sponsors such as E. & J. Gallo Winery, U.S. Bank, Dianne Gagos, the City of Modesto, Stanislaus County, Stanislaus County Office of Education, Stanislaus County Library, and Aquas bottled water. Additional sponsorships are still available.

For details visit www.internationalfestivalmodesto.com or call (209) 521-3852. For information about other international performances, please visit www.galloarts.org.