



May 2012

MESSAGE FROM NANCY PEARLMAN, Executive Director of Educational Communications



VIDEOS, FILMS AND CULTURAL PERFORMANCES

Sharing experiences is a delightful part of writing these editorials. This month I wish to inform you about some videos, films, and cultural performances that you, too, may enjoy.

The film, "WORLD ON A STRING" is a four-part film video set that focuses on beads and how they are used by people around the world. Even if you never thought about the variety of beads in your life, you will thoroughly enjoy these documentaries that are superbly shot and edited by award-winning documentarians Diana and Lionel Friedberg. The world of beads made from gems, shells, and other natural materials is presented showing their artistic, religious, and social purposes and creations. The producers also show beautiful landscapes, human stories of those involved in creating beads, and stunning costumes. They provide a fascinating history of the beads by different peoples and their context in different cultures including how beads have literally been traded thousands of miles from their source of origin because of their unique qualities. The impact on the environment is also presented as people create pearls, remove corals, and obtain other items as raw material. Even if you don't care about beads (but who doesn't have some in their household?), you will love these videos because they have gorgeous video and enlightening commentary. Film was sponsored by the Bead Society of Los Angeles. The website for the movie is: www.worldonastringmovie.com/

Another video is "SISTERS OF THE PLANET" which is a half-hour DVD from Oxfam America, 226 Causeway

St., 5th Floor, Boston, MA 02114, www.oxfamamerica.org, that presents "four inspirational women and the fight against climate change." But it is more than an environmental story because of the insight into women in other cultures. While Muriel Saragoussi works in Brazil through the government's Environment Ministry and presents the issues of ecological destruction as both a local and global problem, the other women focus primarily on their individual communities. Sharon Hanshaw from Biloxi, Mississippi, USA, is trying to rebuild her town after losing her house and business when Hurricane Katrina devastated the U. S. Gulf Coast in August 2005. Sahena Begum is a young woman in Kunderpara, Bangladesh, who is trying to prepare women in her village for the next flood and drought caused by living in marginal land. But for Martina Longom in Calcaoan village in Karamoja, northeastern Uganda, the change in weather is causing the rivers to dry up so there is not enough water to drink, to maintain the fruit trees, or to have crops. Seeing Martina's plight should truly bring home the message that the developed world must change its habits so those in the developing world can survive. Because of floods and drought, her family's grain store sits empty. She tries to collect water and firewood to sell to people in the nearest town but the lack of food and milk is making her children ill and collecting wood is becoming more difficult to due its scarcity. She is looking forward to having a women's group build a well. Sahena has her women friends store portable clay ovens and wood in high places to use during floods and to keep seeds that can be planted when crops are

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MUSICA MEXICANA

by Preston Ashbourne



It's Cinco de Mayo month! No, that's not Mexican Independence Day, but Battle of Puebla Day. Now that we got that out of the way, I'm writing about the music from Mexico that we can hear on many radio stations here in the southwestern USA. It's called "Ranchera."



RANCHERA MUSIC

Ranchera (rancher) music is the folk music of the northern half of Mexico, roughly speaking. It is played by Mariachi, Norteño, Banda and other types of musical combos. The instrumentation is typically strings (Mariachi), accordions (Norteño), and horns (Banda). The themes of the songs are love, patriotism, and nature. The traditional rhythms are polka, waltz, schottisch and bolero. Since the 40's they've also been playing cumbias which came from Colombia.



Mariachi Music

Mariachi music is mainly strings. The performers (since the 1930s or earlier) wear the famous Traje de Charro which is the fancy suit with the really big sombrero. They were originally street musicians in Jalisco (in the western part

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Corner Your Memories

first-hand stories from our community



WHO ARE THE KURDS AND WHERE IS KURDISTAN?

by Assieh "La Mora"

The Kurds are an ethnic group that has been living for many centuries in an area called Kurdistan. Kurdistan is not a country but rather it's a provincial region which is scattered in Turkey, Syria, Iraq and Iran. The name of their language is Kurdish, that it is a subdivision of the Iranian branch of the Indo-European language family. They have been fighting for many years in order to create their own Democratic Republic of Kurdistan and maintain their own independence and freedom.

The Iranian Kurdistan is located to the west of Iran and shares borders with Iraq and Turkey. There are some Kurds however throughout centuries who have been forced to relocate to the province of Khorasan, in the northeast of Iran, near the border of Afghanistan.

Kurdish cuisine includes almost everything from vegetables and fruits to lamb and chicken, bread and dairy products. They like to drink sweetened black tea and strong bitter coffee. Another popular beverage is Ava Mast, which is yoghurt and salt mixed with water.

The Kurds are very well-known for their music and dance and their colorful national attire. Kurdish music is very rich and dynamic with intense rhythm. Playing Daf has a very important place in their music. The songs are mostly about love tales, nature and daily life. Music and dance are performed at night gatherings, festivals, birthdays and weddings. Their dances involve men and women together. They hold hands in a group and dance in circle and usually there is a leader with a handkerchief leading the line. They dance and move to the front and the back and sideways to the beat of the music. Kurdish people love to dance and they look so amazing. Women wear colored long dresses and men wear

baggy trousers called Shirwall.

The majority of The Kurds are Sunni Muslim but some also belong to other minority communities with different faiths such as; Judaism and Christianity. The Kurdish Dervishes have their own community who are the followers of several mystic Sufi orders. In general, The Kurds have a great reputation of having a very strong character and personality.

I remember when I was young in Iran, I used to get so excited every time we had a family visiting us from Kurdistan. I specially remember my aunt who was a simple woman but with a strong charisma. She used to always dress traditionally and I remember her color velvet vests with lots of coins stitched to them. As a little girl, I was thinking; "Oh My God she is so rich that she has sewn coins on her vest!"

During the time of family visiting, our home turned into a little Kurdistan with our Kurdish relatives, Kurdish conversations, Kurdish music, singing, dancing and clapping.

My mother who was the "Tehrani Bride" without speaking one word of Kurdish, had always been the most wonderful host. She used to spend hours in the kitchen to prepare the most delicious gourmet food for our guests. They all loved to eat food! My mother was from Tehran or more specifically from Shemiran in the northern part of the city, and all her relatives were living near us. But my father's exotic land of Kurdistan was far away from us and far from my imagination.

I only started to feel the importance of being connected to my Kurdish roots when I was in my 20s. I started to think that it doesn't matter what part of the globe you are from. When you reach your teens you tend to rebel against your culture and tradition specially the music and dance. In some cases the rebellion goes against even ethnic dialects, food, or simply against the way one looks.

As a young person, everything seems to

be the "passe" and old-fashioned that you don't want to be associated with anymore. In my case, when I was a teenager, all that mattered to me was the Western pop and rock music and dance. To me the West was everything, especially after my first trip to Europe. But regardless of my passion and interest in the West, I was still living with my own family and in my culture that was impossible to ignore. There was a time when I had completely indulged myself in the Western lifestyle. It was then when I slowly found myself leaning towards all those things that I had tried to escape from. They all later became important to me.

By then I was already living in the US and far from all of my cultural heritage. But, thanks to the preservation of all ethnic and folkloric songs and dances of the countries from all over the world, with live performances for the sake of keeping them alive for all the generations now and after. Two such groups are; Gypsy Folk Ensemble here in Los Angeles and Kamkaran Group, a family of great musicians from Sanandaj of Kurdistan in Iran.

At the end I would like to invite you to watch a sample of Kurdish music from Iran on YouTube. I hope you all enjoy it.....

Kamkaran nobel concert, Shirin Ebadi, Kurdish music,
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dy4_pIQB8Yw

The same song was also performed in Tehran in 2009 in front of the Iranian audience. Kamkars concert 2009 in the house of music in Tehran , Kurdish part.
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kQ1fOC86GHs>

Corner Your Memories is a periodic column in the Culturally Speaking newsletter focusing on memories and stories of members of our multi-cultural community. We invite you to send your story for possible inclusion in the newsletter to: culturallyspeaking@earthculturesproject.org



Recently I joined a dinner group that meets once a month to taste fine cuisine at new boutique restaurants. Let me know if you wish to join me next time (ECNP@aol.com or 310-559-9160). I've only attended twice but am thoroughly pleased by the reasonable prices for extremely tasty and unique food.

Batch Restaurant and Bar is owned by Mat Gries and James Couey who opened their establishment in Culver City on Washington Boulevard at Sherbourne (8631 Washington Blvd., a few blocks east of the Helms Bakery). As a trustee of the Los Angeles Community College District, I am delighted that the executive chef, Salvador Roldan, is a graduate of our Trade-Tech Culinary Department. He created a menu where everything including the condiments are made in-house, and are mostly local and organic. We enjoyed: a very Cranberry Mocktail; Head Cheese, Pickled Shiitake, Cornichons, House Grain Mustard; Manilla Clams, PBR, Chorizo Tomato Sauce, Green Garlic; Snap Pea Hummus with Lemon; Farro Grain Salad, Roasted Chicken; Rocket, Cherry Tomatoes, Nuts, Balsamic Vinaigrette; Short Ribs in Mole with Jasmine Rice, Gremolata; Lamb Meatballs with Mint Scented Pasta, Rocket, Pecorino; Pork Shank with Golden Beet Farrotto, Curant and Hazelnut Herb Salad; Cheesy Mac with Pancetta; Roasted Asparagus; and Banana Tarte Tartin with Chantilly Cream. I'm looking forward to returning

to try their regular menu.

Another restaurant that I highly recommend is La Casita Mexicana, at 4030 East Gage Ave., Bell, CA 90201, (323) 773-1898, info@CasitaMex.com. Do not expect burritos or other fast food Mexican food but be ready to savor delicious artisanal fine cuisine from Mexico where the chefs create delicious sauces and dishes that go beyond the standard taco and enchiladas.

contributed by Nancy Pearlman

Have a good (or bad) food memory, recipe or restaurant? Write to us (200 words or less) at:

**culturallyspeaking@
earthculturesproject.org**

You may see it published!

As always, don't forget the hungry.

www.freerice.com

Play a free game and rice will be donated to those who need it!

FreeRice is a non-profit website run by the United Nations World Food Programme.

VIDEOS, FILMS AND CULTURAL PERFORMANCES

by Nancy Pearlman

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destroyed. Sharon heads Coastal Women for Change to train women to speak up, provide child care, and develop disaster preparedness kits. Muriel reinforces the important role of women in caring for family and the environment.

Periodically, William Close, the creator of the Earth Harp, the world's largest stringed instrument presents a music evening along with the opportunity to hear some of the other surreal instruments he has created. The large harp is stringed across the entire ceiling and can be played simultaneously by two individuals. Drummers and guitarists will often accompany the music. His museum of instruments is at 711 Hampton Dr., Venice, CA 90291. Information from MASS Ensemble, 4091 Redwood Ave., Unit G, Los Angeles, CA 90265.

The Gay Men's Chorus of Los Angeles provides beautiful music regardless of your sexual orientation. Their recent concert at the First Congregational Church in the Wilshire Center District at 540 S. Commonwealth Ave., Los Angeles, had a variety of pieces including: "Bohemian Rhapsody," "Elanor Rigby," "Eli's Coming," "Evil Ways/Mercy," "He Ain't Heavy, He's My Brother," and "Laulja/The Singer" among other pieces. The range of adaptations from Beatles songs to those in Estonian as well as original pieces were a delight to listen to in this one-hundred year old Gothic-style venue which claims to have the largest church organ in the world (and the organ selections were equally wonderful.). The Chorus' June theme is country music.

Each year there is a free French Language Cinema Screening for six days at Theatre Raymond Kabbaz in West Los Angeles at the Le Lycee Francais de Los Angeles on Pico Boulevard across from Rancho Park. This years films were delightful and explorative of many important issues but most with a comedic approach. I highly recommend: Ontario, Canada's "La Sacree," Belgium's "Les Filles," France's "Les Mains en l'air," Switzerland's "Operation Casablanca," and Quebec's "Starbuck."

Some links of interest:

YouTube link to a song thanking mother earth in honor of Earth Day:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q7g7-ccD-2Q&feature=youtube_gdata_player&noredirect=1

Spring of Sustainability
www.springofsustainability.com
Spring of Sustainability is a massive mobilization of thought leaders, luminaries and ordinary citizens, coming together to find solutions to the most pressing problems of our time. The Spring of Sustainability, lasting through June 22, 2012, is bringing renowned sustainability pioneers to the public in free daily phone/webcast interviews, featuring Q&A's that allow callers to interact with leaders and luminaries directly. Registration is free, as is access to all the teleseminars. Sign-up is available at www.springofsustainability.com. Downloads and transcripts of the entire series are available for purchase.

--Nancy Pearlman

MUSICA MEXICANA

by Preston Ashbourne

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of Mexico) playing Sones (rumbas) etc. for serenading, weddings, & quinceañeras (15th birthday parties). (Compare street musicians in Veracruz which are called Jarochos meaning “brusk” & they wear white suits and cowboy hats) The name is probably NOT derived from the French “Mariage” as was always assumed. It may be a Cora Indian word for a type of wood used in stages and possibly guitars.

Norteño Music (also called Conjunto)

Norteño music is from the northern territories of Mexico including the Southwestern US. The instrumentation is normally accordion and bajo sexto, with later versions including drums and saxophone (especially in Chihuahua). They play corridos, polkas, & rancheras. The music is heavily influenced by German immigration.

Tejano Music (or Tex-Mex) is a derivative of Norteno, and differs in being influenced by Country-Western music and Jazz.

Banda Music

Banda is Brass-band music from Sinaloa that also uses brass, woodwinds and percussion. The rhythm instrument is often the Tuba! They play rancheras, corridos, cumbias, boleros, pop, jazz, waltzes and opera! There is strong German influence from Polka music. Usually the band has 15-20 members including 1-3 singers.

Corridos

Corridos are ballads or “narrative songs” with the structure:

1. Introductory Salutation and Prologue
2. The Story
3. Moral and Farewell

These songs are about criminals, heroes, horses, love, and in one famous case “La Cucaracha” which is not about the insect, but Pancho Villa’s Model T Ford! Older Corridos are usually waltzes, later ones are often Polkas (or other even rhythms).

I listen to Ranchera a lot on a couple of our local L.A. stations (am 930 & fm 101.9). Lately I’ve heard clarinets in Ranchera music, giving it a Klezmer sort of sound like from Eastern Europe. This music is a living tradition, constantly evolving. Ranchera is overall a sort of happy music with wonderful poetry in the lyrics which those of us who speak Spanish get to enjoy!

UPCOMING EVENTS IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**ANITA AND THE YANKS**

Anita and the Yanks broke into the Celtic rock music scene in 2008 and have built an impressive fan base in and around the Los Angeles area. Lead singer, guitarist Anita Mansfield and Bryan Dobbs mandolin player started out as a duo and they picked up Ryan Dean (drums) Damon Stout (bass) and Pat D’Arcy (uilleann pipes) along the way, featuring special guests Rachel Grace and Chris Loken on violin.

FINN MC COOL’S IRISH PUB

Fri, Jun 1 10 PM - 1:30 AM
2702 Main St
Santa Monica, CA 90405

MULDOONS IRISH PUB

Sun, Jun 3 call for time
202 Newport Center Drive
Newport Beach, CA 92660
(949) 640-4110

**THE FORD
AMPHITHEATRE**

Sun, Sep 16
2580 Cahuenga Blvd. East,
Los Angeles, CA 90068

www.anitaandtheyanks.com

**ASSIEH “LA MORA”**

Assieh was born and raised in Iran. She started her Flamenco dance training at early age in Los Angeles and later in Spain at Amor de Dios Flamenco Dance Academy in Madrid with master teachers like; La Tati, Ciro, Carmela Greco, La Truco, Manolete and in Sevilla at Manolo Marin Dance Academy. She has also studied under private training of Angelita Vargas and Pepa Montes. She teaches at Gypsy Camp near Motor and National in Los Angeles. Call for class schedule: (310) 558-0746.

**May is . . .**

Jewish American Heritage Month
www.jewishamericanheritagemonth.us

Haitian Heritage Month
www.hauinc.org/

Asian Pacific Heritage Month
<http://asianpacificheritage.gov/>

to name a few!

MORE UPCOMING EVENTS IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA



JOHN BILEZIKJIAN

John Bilezikjian is “America’s Oud Virtuoso.” Mr. Bilezikjian may be the most prominent Oudist of his generation. He is a master Oudist who has elevated this instrument to the concert stage as well as continues to perform as a folk musician. He has performed for some 51 years on this ancient eleven stringed Persian fretless instrument dating back some 2,000 years. The Oud is performed with an eagle’s quill. See below for John’s performance schedule.

Usually every other Sunday evening

Olympus Greek Tavern, 6304 Laurel Canyon, North Hollywood, (818) 766-4100

Call to confirm dates & times, reservations required, \$15 minimum charge Food and drink available

First Tuesday of the Month

7:30 PM to 9:30 PM

Casablanca Restaurant, 6030 Paseo del Norte, Carlsbad, CA. 92008 (760) 603-9672

Belly Dancing and Folk Dancing

Third Thursday, Every other Month

8:30 PM to 11:30 PM

Tango Del Rey, 3567 Del Rey St., San Diego, CA. 92109 (858) 794-2687

With featured and guest belly dancers and Frank Lazzaro and Dave Dhillon

<http://dantzrecords.com>



Saturday May 5th

Soka University in Aliso Viejo **Annual International Festival** over 900 musicians and dancers on three stages exhibits, educational presenters, international food, and kids adventure land. This is a very popular event and part of the Orange County Dept. of Education Imagination Celebration.

www.soka.edu

LA BLOOM FESTIVAL

Japanese American Cultural Community Center in Little Tokyo LA’s own special twist on the international springtime cherry blossom festivals, LA Bloom celebrates the beginning of a new season with nine days of performances, workshops, exhibitions, and other community events, including a heavyweight workshop for kids with three-time world champion of sumo wrestling, Byamba.

Friday, April 27th to Saturday, May 5th

Japanese American Cultural Community Center, 244 S. San Pedro downtown LA/Little Tokyo

www.jacc.org
www.labloom.org



GYPSY FOLK ENSEMBLE

The Gypsy Folk Ensemble is a world dance performing company based in Los Angeles, California which was formed in 1978 to preserve, perform and teach traditional folk dances from countries around the world. See website for workshops and assemblies available. See below for upcoming library shows, free and open to the public.

Wed, May 2 “Mexican Mosaic”
San Fernando Library – 4pm
217 N Maclay Ave
San Fernando, CA 91340
(818) 365-6928

Wed, May 2 “Mexican Mosaic”
Sunkist - La Puente Library
6:30pm
840 N Puente Ave
La Puente, CA 91746
(626) 960-2707

Sat, May 5 “Mexican Mosaic”
Orange Main Library – 2pm
101 N Center St
Orange, CA 92866
(714) 288-2420

Wed, Jun 6 “Dream Big”
dances of Estonia & Scandinavia
Grandview Library – 3pm
1535 5th St
Glendale, CA 91201
(818) 548-2049

www.gypsyfolkensemble.com

Always check with venues to confirm dates, times, and locations.

MORE UPCOMING EVENTS SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

THEATRE RAYMOND KABBAZ
10361 W. Pico Blvd. Los Angeles, CA

Wed, May 9 – 7:30PM

SAMARABALOUF
French Gypsy Band with accordionist
Jean-Luc Amestoy

Boogie-Woogie blues, Flamenco
Rock and Klesmer

www.theatreraymondkabbaz.com

FREE Chamber Music Concert
Monday, May 14th at 8 p.m.

St. Thomas the Apostle Church
Members of the
Los Angeles Philharmonic
will perform a free neighborhood
chamber music concert

St. Thomas The Apostle Church 2727
W. Pico Blvd.,
Los Angeles, CA 90006
(323) 737-3325.

www.laphil.com

THE G2 GALLERY

Nature & Wildlife Photography

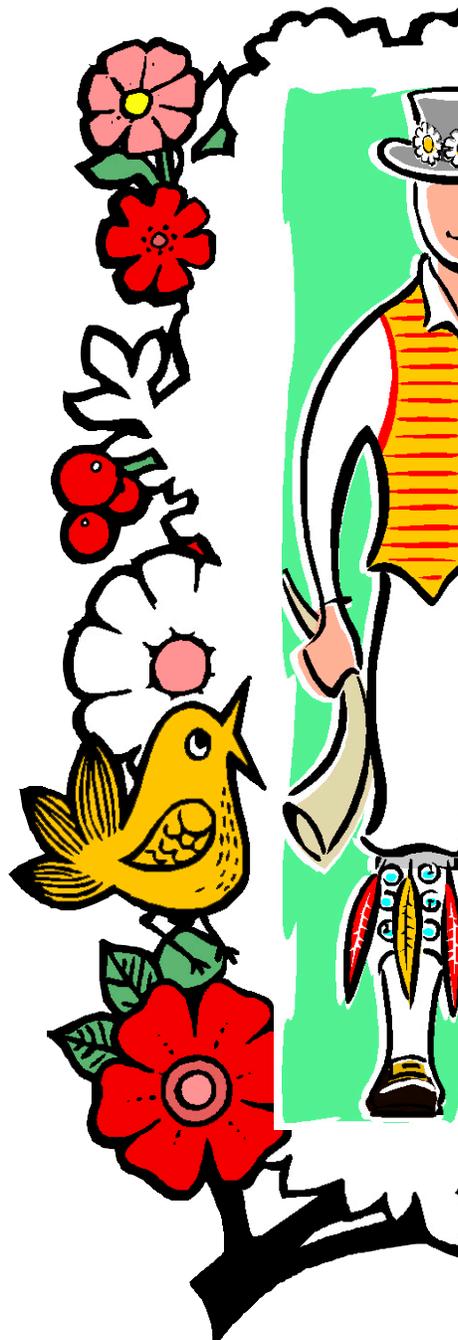
1503 Abbot Kinney Blvd.
Venice, CA 90291

Ansel Adams
February 21 - May 13

Cheryl Medow
April 3 - May 13

Usually free, some charge for special
events. See website for details.

www.theG2gallery.com



*“Every year, back comes Spring,
with nasty little birds
yapping their fool heads off
and the ground
all mucked up with plants.”*

- Dorothy Parker

NATIVE VOICES AT THE AUTRY

*Devoted to developing and producing new
works for the stage by Native American
playwrights*

The Hummingbirds

By Elizabeth Frances (Cherokee)
Kimberly Norris Guerrero (Colville,
Salish-Kootenai, Cherokee),
and Shyla Marlin (Choctaw)
Friday, June 1, 7:30 p.m.

The Bird House

By Diane Glancy (Cherokee)
Saturday, June 2, 2:00 p.m.

Distant Thunder

A Native American Musical
Book by Shaun Taylor-Corbett
(Blackfoot) and Lynne Taylor-Corbett
Music and Lyrics by Shaun Taylor-
Corbett (Blackfoot) and Chris
Wiseman
Saturday, June 2, 7:30 p.m.

4700 Western Heritage Way, Los
Angeles, CA 90027
NativeVoicesAtTheAutry.org

Saturday & Sunday, June 2-3, 2012 PACIFIC ISLANDER FESTIVAL

9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Discover the rich and diverse cultures
of the Pacific Islands through traditional
craft demonstrations, ethnic cuisine,
educational programs, storytelling, and
an ocean of entertainment, including
music and dance performances. Watch
hula performances, listen to Tahitian
drumming, try out ancient Hawaiian
games, enjoy island cuisine, and admire
artisans as they create traditional
weavings. The ninth annual Pacific
Islander Festival will feature various
cultures, including Hawaiian, Fijian,
Marshallese, Chamoru, Tahitian,
Samoan, Tokelau, and Maori.

Cost: General Admission--\$24.95 adult
(12+), \$21.95 senior (62+), \$13.95
child (3-11), and free for children
under age 3 and Aquarium members.

Aquarium of the Pacific

100 Aquarium Way
Long Beach, CA 90802
562-590-3100
www.aquariumofpacific.org

Always check with venues to confirm dates, times, and locations.

MORE UPCOMING EVENTS SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

1st Annual Open SPIRITUAL ART EVENT

All spiritual artists are invited to join the Spritual Art Festival presenting their work to the world, via the SpiritualArtFestival.com event on:

June 2, 2012, 10am-10pm.

The venue is a 29,000 sq. ft. Spirituality in Business Incubator, the Avante Center, located at 2233 El Segundo Blvd., near LAX.

Message from event coordinators:

"All spiritual artists are invited to register online at our website, and help us get the word out to the community, friends and family.

Our featured spiritual artist, Syamarani Didi, will give a presentation and her vedic art and knowledge, and will be available to mentor all during the event.

Srimati Syamarani is a treasure that is waiting to be shared with other Spiritual Artists and with the world. It is time to open up to all forms of spiritual art, whether it be Vedic, Islam, Muslim, Buddhist, Christian, Catholic, Islamic, Jewish, and/or any and all pure love and appreciation of the Divine in any and all forms of Interfaith and Culture Spiritual Art.

We hope you will join us, and help us get the word out, so these spiritual artists can have a way to get their spirit driven and inspired art out into the world."

www.spiritualartfestival.com

LOOMING ELECTION: WOVEN WORKS

Works by Tanya Aguiñiga,
Connie Lippert, Michael F. Rohde,
Cameron Taylor-Brown,
and Consuelo Jimenez Underwood

On view at the
Craft in America Study Center
June 16 - September 1, 2012
Opening reception and artist talk on
Saturday **June 16, 2012**
5-7 PM, talk at 6PM

(Los Angeles, CA) In light of the imminent 2012 election, Craft in America proudly gathers together politically charged work by five contemporary textile innovators. This is a vast and varied group of exceptionally skilled artists who push the medium of fiber, and the traditional technique of weaving, into new realms. Their work redefines what weaving can be, in terms of method, material and meaning. Visually engulfing, boldly crafted, their messages speak loud and clear, causing us to reconsider the road our nation has paved and where we are heading.

www.craftinamerica.org

The Craft in America Study Center
8415 West Third Street
2 blocks East of La Cienega

The Study Center is open
Thursday - Saturday
from 12:00 - 6:00 pm.

For more information and to RSVP:
info@craftinamerica.org
or (323) 951-0610.

June 27, 2012

Los Angeles, CA

Join an international group of
climate change leaders

The Mediterranean City: A Conference on Climate Change Adaptation

Water - The United Nations has identified issues related to water as a critical area in which climate change adaptation may occur.

Energy - With a natural supply of abundant solar energy and the potential for tidal and off-shore wind power, the Mediterranean climate zones have great potential to harness existing local renewable energy supplies.

Biodiversity and Open Space - Mediterranean ecosystems are nutrient-poor, seasonally-stressed, yet species-rich ecosystems that provide unique services to urban centers while mitigating both drought and floods, cleaning polluted urban runoff and providing open space.

The Built Environment - In the face of rapid development and population growth, redefining the built environment to include parkland and open space promotes the preservation of regionally-unique habitat while also ensuring access opportunities to individuals of all income levels.

Public Health - Dependent on clean air and water, natural geophysical processes, and biological diversity - a healthy human population must respect and tend natural resources.

Governance - Cities are now the engines of the world economy and social structure and must, therefore, work as a network across national boundaries to bring more resources and knowledge to building solutions.

For sponsorship opportunities:
info@medcityconference.org
www.medcityconference.org

Hawaiian Inter-Club Council of Southern California

HO'OLAULE'A 2012

ALONDRA PARK

LAWNDALE, CALIFORNIA

(Between Redondo Beach Blvd/Manhattan Blvd and Prairie Avenue Crenshaw Blvd)

Iulai (July) 21- 22, 2012 9:30 A.M. - 5:00 P.M

ENTERTAINMENT - BOUTIQUES GAMES - FOOD

WEBSITES OF INTEREST

MUSEUMS

The Autry National Center
www.theautry.org

Bowers Museum
www.bowers.org

Craft & Folk Art Museum
www.cafam.org

The Getty
www.getty.edu

Metropolitan Museum of Art
(search the database for works of art, costumes & more)
www.metmuseum.org/works_of_art/

Museum of Latin American Art
www.molaa.org

Museum of Tolerance
www.museumoftolerance.com

Pacific Asia Museum
www.pacificasiamuseum.org

ONGOING ACTIVITIES IN THE LOS ANGELES AREA

Current Cultural Happenings Around Los Angeles
groups.yahoo.com/group/caltechfolkdance

Olvera Street in Los Angeles
http://olvera-street.com

Folkworks (click on "calendar")
www.folkworks.org/

FOLK DANCE & FOLK MUSIC INFORMATION

Dick Oakes' Folk Dance Pages
www.phantomranch.net/folkdanc/folkdanc.htm

Folkways (ethnic music)
www.folkways.si.edu/index.aspx

ARC Music (ethnic music CDs)
www.arcmusic.co.uk

FOREIGN LANGUAGES

BYKI
Free language software downloads
www.byki.com/

FREELANG
Free bilingual dictionary downloads
www.freelang.net/

ARTS AND CULTURES

Smithsonian Magazine Arts & Cultures
www.smithsonianmag.com/arts-culture

Smithsonian Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage
www.folklife.si.edu/

BBC - Holidays Around the World and so much more!
www.bbc.co.uk/naturehumanplanetexplorer/events_and_festivals

Pulse of the Planet
www.pulseplanet.com

CULTURAL CENTERS

(a small sampling, list growing every month)

Acadian Cultural Center
www.nps.gov/jela/new-acadian-cultural-center.htm

Croatian Cultural Center
www.croatianamericanweb.org/index.php

Hibulb Cultural Center
http://www.hibulbculturalcenter.org/

Ilanka Cultural Center
www.ilankacenter.org/

Indian Pueblo Cultural Center
www.indianpueblo.org/

Polynesian Cultural Center
http://www.polynesia.com/

Skirball Cultural Center
http://www.skirball.org/

West Virginia Division of Culture and History
www.wvculture.org/

-----FOR KIDS-----

Yahoo's site for kids to learn about the world's countries
www.kids.yahoo.com/reference/world-factbook

CHILDREN'S BOOKS BY DK PUBLISHING

www.us.dk.com

Complete Flags of the World
My World, My Story:

Life Stories from Teens from Around the World
Homes Around the World
Children Just Like Me
A Life Like Mine

CHILDREN'S MUSEUMS

http://kidspacemuseum.org
http://www.bowers.org/kidseum.php/

(These links are for reference only and are not necessarily endorsed by Educational Communications)

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This is Culturally Speaking, the monthly newsletter of the Earth Cultures Project, one of Educational Communications' many projects which focuses on cultures of our planet and "Education through the Arts." Educational Communications is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization founded in 1958, dedicated to improving the quality of life on this planet.. Volunteers and donations are always appreciated.

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