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## TAKE A JOURNEY AROUND THE WORLD AT THE NEW INTERNATIONAL PAVILION!

Taste and experience an array of global culture and customs at the NEW International Pavilion. Taste goers can enjoy a journey around the world, June 29 through July 8, and discover diverse cultural aspects from around the globe represented by cuisine, art forms including music, dance, martial arts, folklore and storytelling, hands-on activities and educational demonstrations for the whole family. *For a complete schedule visit [www.tasteofchicago.us](http://www.tasteofchicago.us)*

Visit the orient for a unique martial arts demonstration by the **Shaolin Kung Fu Performers** from Henan Province, China. For almost 20 years millions of visitors have visited their Center in China to witness their unique form of Kung Fu the troupe is led by Mr. Jiao Hongbo, Deputy Chairman of the shaolin style martial arts society of the Chinese Wushu (Kung Fu) Association of Chicago. The troupe will perform at Taste June 29 – July 4, with performances beginning at 12:30 p.m.; on July 4 they will perform at 12:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m.

The “Lady Miles of Europe” and Dutch jazz trumpet sensation **Saskia Laroo** along with **Warren Byrd** will groove at the pavilion on Saturday, June 30 at 6:00 p.m. Her “swingin’ body music” is a blend hip hop, jazz, salsa, funk, reggae and daring. Influenced by a wide range of cultures and musical genres, **HiJazz** possesses an exciting and unique rhythmic energy. They perform on Thursday, July 4 at 4:30 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. Syrian Omar al Musfi, an accomplished Arabic percussionist, has assembled HiJazz’s distinctive and original blend of jazz, Arabic, Brazilian and Indian music. The members of this ensemble bring their talents, skills and passion from locations spanning the globe, including Brazil, Syria, Venezuela and the United States.

The International Pavilion also boasts dance performances representing nations from around the globe. Performances include Irish, Latin, Tibetan and African dance. The **Foy School of Irish Dance** will provide a taste of Celtic culture on Sunday, July 1 at 6:00 p.m. while the Suzanne **Perfetto Salsa Dance School** adds a little Latin flavor to the pavilion on Monday, July 2 at 6:00 p.m. Chicago-based Company and cultural treasure, **Muntu Dance Theatre**, demonstrates the music and dance traditions from Africa. On Friday, June 29 at 4:30 p.m. and 6:00 p.m., they will perform authentic and progressive interpretations of contemporary and ancient African and African-American dance, music and folklore.

Shop the world market for spices, jewelry, textiles, antiques and more. Choose food items from countries such as Vietnam, Africa, and Mexico from J&L Catering and purchase items from vendors located at the International Pavilion or on the midway where great ethnic specialties have always been a Taste tradition.

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Go on a journey with ***Grannie's on Safari***, WTTW's successful travel series, will delight young and old as hosts Pat Johnson and Regina Fraser discuss their adventures around the world on July 8 and 9 at 2:30 p.m. Also enriching the cultural diversity of the International Pavilion are story tellers and folklorists embodying the verbal history and heritage of their cultures. **Mamma Eddie** takes the stage conveying the art of African story telling on Tuesday, July 3 at 2:30 p.m. and the **KOLO Serbian folklore group of St. Archangel Michael** enriches audiences with re-enactments of historical folklore passed down through the generations on Sunday, July 1 at 2:30 p.m.

The International Pavilion is part of the The 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Taste of Chicago and is presented by the City of Chicago and U.S. Cellular and programmed in conjunction with Chicago Sister Cities International. For more information on the International Pavilion and the Taste of Chicago, call the Mayor's Office of Special Events (312) 744-3315, TTY (312) 744-2964 or visit [www.tasteofchicago.us](http://www.tasteofchicago.us). The Mayor's Office of special events encourages taking public transportation. Free Bike Valet is located on the northwest corner of Lake Shore Drive and Monroe.

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