

31st annual International Festival to be April 22

Mankato East High School

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Minnesota State University, Mankato Media relations Office news release

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The 31st annual festival, which attracts international students from across the world, will be from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. April 22 at Mankato East High School. Free and open to students, faculty, staff and the public, the event provides some 3,000 local participants with the opportunity to see and hear entertainment and meet people from many cultures.

This year's festival, focusing on "One World, Our World," will include singing, dancing, demonstrations, vendors, a silent auction, a colorful flag parade, food from around the world and a fashion show featuring native costumes.

The festival honors Native Americans with an opening drum ceremony starting at 11:15 a.m., an opening flag parade led by Native American Student Association representatives at 11:30 a.m., and another Native American ceremony before the international entertainment segment of the festival.

The festival's songs and dances offer glimpses into core elements of world cultures. Festival food booths feature professional cooks serving traditional food items. Student organizations representing various nations or regions of the world also have booths where they sell traditional cultural items.

The campus branch of TCF Bank is a major sponsor of the event. Those who want more information may contact Laura Marsala at (507) 389-1281 or laura.marsala@mnsu.edu, or visit the festival website, www.mnsu.edu/iso/ifest.html

For MSU events: individuals with a disability, who need reasonable accommodation to participate in this event, are asked to contact the [Office of Accessibility Resources](#) at 507-389-2825 (V/TTD), 800-627-3529 or 711 (MRS/TTD) at least five days prior to the event.