

BBN DIGEST

Tech's International Festival set for Feb. 26 at the Melbourne campus

Entertainers will share their cultural talents, and craft and food vendors will do their part in Florida Institute of Technology's Fifth Annual International Festival from 12 to 5 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 26.

This free of charge event, a highlight of the university's spring semester activities, will take place at the university's outdoor Panthereum, located off Country Club Drive, in Melbourne. The rain location is the Clemente Center for Sports and Recreation, on campus.

Food and craft vendors have until Jan. 15 to sign up for the festival.

Every year community singers, dancers and musicians join with Florida Tech international student organizations to present a colorful lineup of ethnic entertainment and cultural displays.

This year's participants include the African Student Association; Saudi Student House; United Arab Emirates students; Sanskriti, the Indian Student Organization; Sons of Norway's Space Coast Vikings; Brevard Indonesian Angklun & Dance; Taiwanese Student Association; the Caribbean Student Association; Colombia Baila, a traditional dance group; and Space Coast Asian American Fellowship.

The list continues with the Israeli Dancers of Brevard; the Greek American Association of Brevard; Heifer International; Costa Rican students; Hungarian students; Panamá Sueños y Tradiciones; Viera High School's Asian Club; Melbourne Regional Chamber; Florida Tech School of Psychology Diversity Committee; Florida Tech Persian Association; and TWITCHY, the school's all-faculty band.

Local food vendors, including Hazel's Caribbean Restaurant, La Estancia de Luisa, and Olympia Restaurant, will sell ethnic food specialties, and students will offer handmade jewelry and traditional artifacts for sale. Children will enjoy carnival-type games and activities.

The festival is sponsored by Florida Tech International Student and Scholar Services, Florida Tech Residence Life, WFIT 89.5FM and the Melbourne Regional Chamber of East Central Florida. For more information, call 674-8053 or visit www.fit.edu/isss/international-fest.php.

Julie Albert is guest speaker Jan. 18

Julie Albert of the Marine Resource Council will talk about "Northern Right Whales" as part of the Lunch with Nature program at the Enchanted Forest Sanctuary, 444 Columbia Blvd., in Titusville. The luncheon is at 12 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 18. These endangered whales use the Atlantic Coast off Georgia and Florida as calving grounds. Volunteer spotters report right-whale sightings to track the whales' movement and behavior patterns along the coast, in an effort to determine migration characteristics of these highly endangered marine mammals. Lunch with Nature is held the third Tuesday of the month. Guest speakers cover topics of interest for residents living along the east coast, such as conservation, water management, historical sites, plants, and sea turtles. There is no cost to attend, and participants provide their own lunch. This program is offered by Brevard County Parks and Recreation Department. Contact Andrea Chestnut at 264-5105 for further information.



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