

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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City of Renton Contact

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Renton Multicultural Festival will showcase our diverse community

Two-day event features dance, music, food, storytelling and games

Renton, WA – Have you ever wanted to dance the Lion Dance? Wondered how African and Taiko drummers do what they do? Had your mouth water at the smell of fry bread? At the <u>Renton Multicultural Festival</u> you'll find answers to those questions and much more.

For two days, Renton will come alive with the sights and sounds of one of the most diverse populations in the country as we celebrate diversity and community. Admission to this family-friendly festival is free.

The festival opens on Friday, September 30, at the Carco Theatre (1717 SE Maple Valley Highway) from 6 to 9 p.m. with *Performances through Art*. The featured performers include African dancers, Bollywood dancers, Ukrainian performers, a Miss India Washington contestant fashion show and a closing performance by a leading jazz artist.

On Saturday, October 1, the festival moves downtown to the Renton Events Center and Piazza Park (233 Burnett Ave South) from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. with *Power of Play*. Two indoor stages will showcase Filipino dancers, Lion dancers, African drummers, Sikh martial artists, jazz, Taiko drummers, Polynesian performers, Mariachi bands, Bollywood music and dance, Marimbas and Krump/Break dancing. In addition there will be strolling musicians, interactive games, community booths, food, arts and crafts and storytelling. Former KING5 anchor Dennis Bounds and current Miss Washington Alicia Cooper will make special appearances. Miss Cooper recently finished as the third runner-up at the Miss America pageant.

Free street parking is available throughout downtown Renton for Saturday's event. The City Center Garage (655 South 2nd Street) is open from 4:30 a.m. to 1:30 a.m. Overnight parking is not allowed.

The Renton Multicultural Festival is presented by the City of Renton in partnership with the Mayor's Inclusion Task Force and several local community groups and organizations.

About the City of Renton

The City of Renton, Washington, population 101,300, is located on the southeast shore of Lake Washington, just south of Seattle. Renton's strong economic base, diverse marketplace and favorable business climate have attracted the attention of nationally recognized companies that provide employees and their families with an outstanding quality of life. It is the home of Boeing, IKEA, the Seattle Seahawks and the eternal resting place of Jimi Hendrix. More information can be found at rentonwa.gov.