Year of the Rabbit Celebration
Southwest China Folk Music
and Dance Performance

Dance | Music | Singing | Face-changing

Date: Wednesday
Jan. 19, 2011

Time: 7:40-8:20 AM
10:30-11:30 AM
1:44-2:35 PM

Place: Barnard Elementary
Riverview International Academy
Montgomery Middle School

Tickets: Free Admission. Limited seating.

For more information, please visit
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Sponsored by (in alphabetical order)
Barnard Mandarin Chinese Magnet Elementary School
Confucius Institute at San Diego State University
Hanban
Montgomery Middle School
Riverview International Language Academy
Sichuan University, P.R. China

Performed by
Sichuan University Arts Troupe
Chinese Folk Music & Dance Celebration Performance Bill

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1. Happy Lunar New Year
Based on the music of Happy Lunar New Year, the performance demonstrates the joyful and auspicious unique charms of traditional Chinese festivals in the form of singing and dancing.

2. Female Solo:
   ① New Year Joy
   The explosion of firecrackers sends the old year away, while spring wind warms the New Year wine up”, for Chinese people, now it is the time to say goodbye to 2010 and hello to 2011, the year of the rabbit. At this moment of national celebration, we bring our New Year’s greetings, let’s party, let’s enjoy!
   ② Bountiful Blessings
   Bountiful blessings for all families, for all people, and for whole China! Happy you and happy me are celebrating the beautiful life of us. Celebration fireworks are blooming in the night sky, this land is full of festive joy so bountiful. We are singing happily to celebrate this golden age, we are dancing happily to celebrate the peaceful life in this great country of ours.
   Blessings are bountiful, flying goddess legendary, Olympie torch in Beijing sacred. Rural areas are turning a new leaf, urban areas are becoming more prosperous, this is a Great China with bountiful blessings.

3. Male Trio Dance: Jiegu Drum Welcoming Spring
   "Jiegu" is a traditional folk dance at drumbeats.
   Each year, on occasion of the advent of the "Sang Jie" Man La Festival" on the grassland, each village will organize its own "Sha Mu" team to celebrate the festival. Lads will dance "Sha Mu" dance in competition with great passion.
   Based on original traditional folk dance, integrated with drum playing, this dance gives us a live picture of the energetic and healthy spiritual outlook of today's Tibetan people.

4. Pipa Solo: Joyful Yi Cottage
   Lyrical melodies and strong rhythms depict an enchanting night scene in a Yi cottage where people are dancing happily. The music is rich in ethnic features as well as strong sense of modernity.

5. Sichuan Opera Duet: Qiao Hua Dan (Pretty Chinese Opera Girls)
   Greatly enriched with local features, Sichuan Opera is one of China's ancient traditional theatrical arts.
   However, among all the roles in Sichuan Opera, "Hua Dan" (beautiful female actor) has undoubtedly the greatest artistic appeal.
   With the artistic image of "Hua Dan" as the prototype, the dance "Qiao Hua Dan" innovatively combines both traditional and modern elements and embodies the energy and beauty of "Hua Dan" through dancing on the stage, completely revealing the charms of "dancing" Sichuan Opera.

6. Male Solo Drum Dance: Heartbeats at Drumbeats
   Mysterious bell rings and solemn drumbeats are resounding in our ears, while a magic, indescribable emotion is rising inside our heart.
   Our lives are united with the drumbeats which lead our souls to nature, to happiness, and to love.

7. Female Solo: Cradle of Happiness
   On this land so beautiful, we gathered in joyful, basking in the golden sunshine so bright. At this moment so happy, we are singing so delighted, with smile on every face since, leaving hearts to memory so far away. Turning into flag, everywhere in the sky is our hard work so much. O, to this land and sea, where in four seasons flowers bloom everywhere, is our heart so sweet.

8. Tu Dance: Girls' Colorful Dream
   Tu nationality is a unique ethnic group most famous for their colorful costumes. In this colorful hometown, are Tu girls happily dancing colorful sleeves' dance. In pleasant spring with shining sunrays, Tu girls, beautiful, kind-hearted, innocent and energetic, are dancing with delight in the season of grain in ear, in the colorful clouds, far above the green mountains...

9. Sichuan Opera stunt: "Bian Lian" (Face-changing)
   A unique means of revealing the inner emotions of characters, Face-changing is a stunt skill in Sichuan Opera.
   Through some special theatrical moves, actors can change their faces into different pattern of different colors, contributing a lot of attractive, romantic touches to plot development.

10. Pas de Deux: Love in Qiang Cottage
    "Di Jiao" is a special way for Qiang people to convey love between lovers as The dance employs traditional ways of expressing love between lovers to present young Qiang people's romantic and healthy life for life.

11. Mariuha Solo Dance of the Golden Dragon
    The performance comes from adaptation of folk music.
    High-spirited, full of passion, the performance highlights the joyful festival atmosphere.
    The composer skillfully makes use of the special structure in folk drum performance by gradually reducing the length of questions and answers while quickening their speed up to the climax. This kind of performance gives a vivid presentation of the joyful festive scene with distinct ethnic traits.

12. Qiang Trio Dance: Embroidered Love
    Qiang embroidery is a unique folk craft which Qiang girls are most expert at.
    The performance presents the scenes of three Qiang girls embroidering kerchief through four steps i.e., "knitting", "embroidering", "displaying" and "wrapping" as an appreciation of the dextorous and beautiful Qiang girls.
    The dance is a manifestation of Qiang girls' love for and pursuit of happy life.

13. Female Duo:
   ① What a Beautiful Jasmine Flower
    Jasmine flower, beautiful jasmine flower, fragrant and no other flowers are sweeter. I want to pick just one jasmine flower, but I fear I'll anger the gardener. What a beautiful jasmine flower, what a beautiful jasmine flower, full-bloom and even snow is not white. I want to pick just one jasmine flower, but I fear I will cause the laughter. What a beautiful jasmine flower, what a beautiful jasmine flower, full-bloom and no other flowers are purer. I want to pick just one jasmine flower, but I fear it can not bloom next summer.
   ② Today is a Good Day
    The joyous sounds of gongs and drums, ring in one happy new year after another. The lively dancing, starts the jubilant celebrations. With the sunshine, life is more colorful today. With a prospering life, we cannot help smiling. Today is a good day, we'll get just what we want. The red lanterns outside, signify a prosperous life ahead. The melodious songs, express deep feeling. The bright moon shines, promising a brighter time for tomorrow. We cherish a bright world in our hearts.

14. Yi Dance: Red Skirt
    In Sichuan, a province located in west China, there live an ethnic group of horn singers and dancers, the Yi people. When the Suoma flowers are blooming over mountains and pastures, the Yi girls would put on their beautiful red skirts and have joyful dance of “Di Jiao”, with their steps like colorful Suoma flowers in full bloom in the mountain valley, pure and lovely.