

Azalea International

Folk Fair: School Field Trip

(Exclusively reserved for school students
who study **Asia** & **Africa!!**)

Teacher's Field Trip Planner

Dates

Thursday, March 8, 2012
&
Friday, March 9, 2012

Time

9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Place

Valdosta-Lowndes County
James Rainwater Conference Center
(#1 Meeting Place, Valdosta, GA 31605)

Website

www.GAinternationalfolkfair.org

Video Channel

www.youtube.com/azaleainternational

Reservation & Contact:

project.director@gainternationalfolkfair.org

229-242-0974 / 229-506-1973

Schools are welcome to visit **Saturday, March 10, 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.** as a field trip when the historical and cultural exhibition and presentation extend to Latin America, Europe and beyond. However, the exhibition, presentation and all activities will **NOT** be structured as Thursday & Friday's field trip programs.

A Letter from the Project Director

Dear Teachers,

We cordially invite you to be our **Guiding Angels** for this extraordinary opportunity.

In designing the Folk Fair's field trip program, we focused the project on the clear and definite goal of enriching your social studies curriculum. We created exploring activities to provide a historical, geographic and cultural expression of East Asia, Southeast Asia & Africa to supplement school textbooks and lessons.

We began our planning immediately following 2010's folk fair. Based on teachers' helpful feedback and suggestions for the past years, from 2011, **the fair's field trip programs will focus on the continents of Africa and Asia.** A group of middle grade students from the country of Taiwan will join us for a new International Exchange Programs between ChiaYi City Schools and Lowndes County Schools. These students will interact with your students throughout the fair, providing them with an opportunity to discuss cultural similarities and differences.

As you will see in the accompanying materials, there is a **"world"** of information to be shared.

Please feel free to tell us what else we can do to make your **typical** social studies & science classes a most interesting adventure. We vow to passionately and tirelessly refine this project year after year to reach the highest level of excellence in enriching education and lives here in South Georgia.

Please be our guiding angels.

Sincerely Yours,
Serena Huang, Project Director
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(1) Tour Around Asia and Africa - 5 Stations for Students to Explore

Schedule: 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

A group of **160 - 200** students will visit each station for **60 minutes**. There will be a total of **180/200 students/per group x 5 groups = 800 - 1,000** middle school students exploring the following **5** activity stations in one trip.

Station 1: **International Exchange Program** –Teachers and students from Taiwan
Directors in Charge: Dr. Li-Mei Chen of VSU

Station 2: **Covered patio**
(Director in Charge: ????)

Area 1: Lunch

Our menu this year consists of spring roll (1 pc), fried chicken wings (2 pc), vegetable fried rice, vegetable noodle and sesame chicken. We will only sell the combo meal box featuring all 5 items plus a soft drink is available for **\$5.00**. **We recommend students to pre-order. Teachers' lunch will be complimentary.**

Area 2: Global Bazaar

(Director in Charge: Adviser for Lowndes Middle Beta Club)

Area 3: Hands-on Activities: Arts & Crafts / Puzzles & Magic (In charge: CIA)

Area 4: Games and Toys (In charge: CIA)

Station 3: East Asia (Director in Charge: Jae Branch)

Station 4: Southeast Asia
(Director in Charge: Randall Strother)

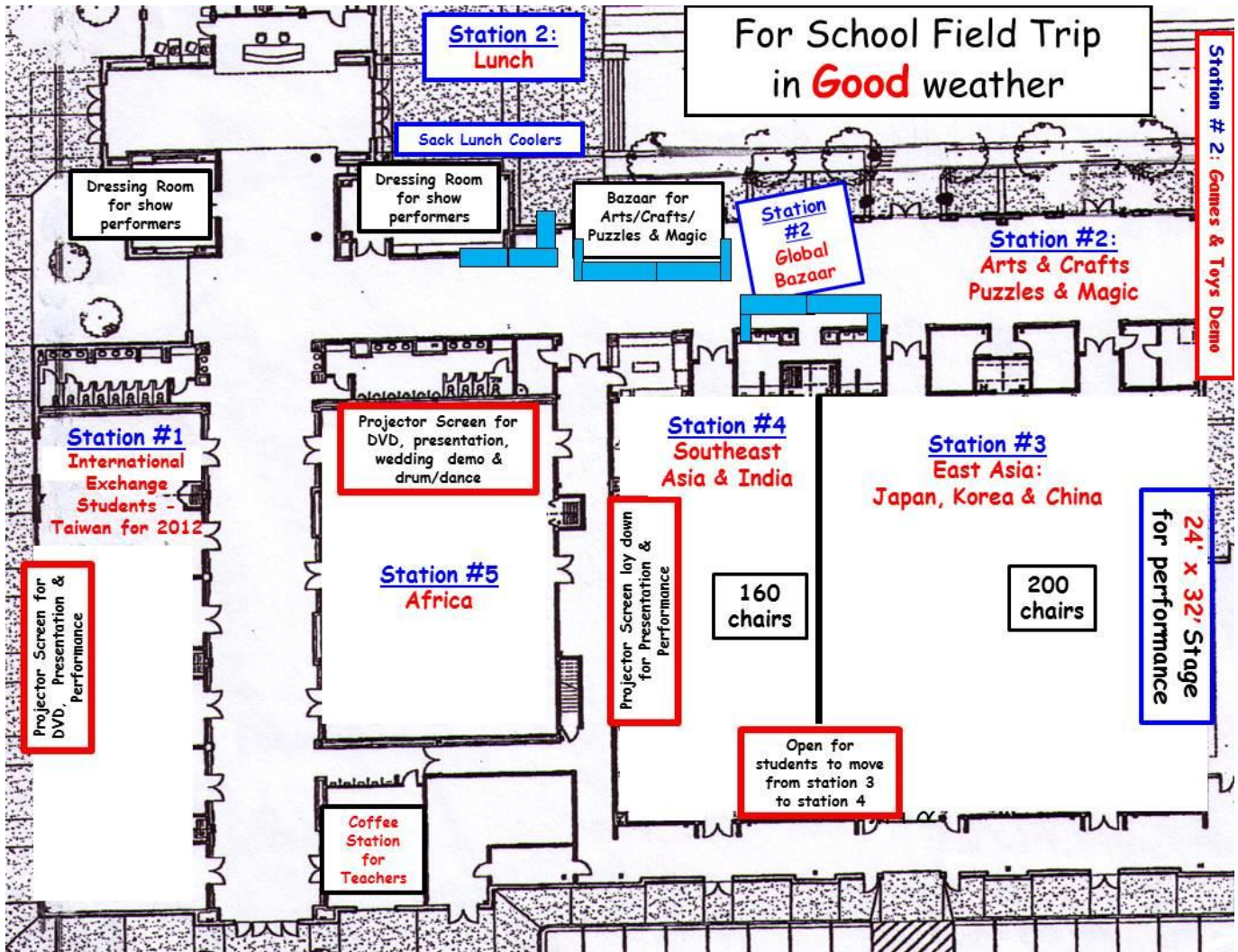
Station 5: Africa
(Co-Chairs: Dr. Shani Gray, Mahja Zeon & Wanda Cureton)

**(2) We offer 8 exploring activities
for good reasons, purposes and goals**

Activity	Reason, Purpose & Goal
1. Sparkling Video - Present the country at a glance	The video clips will provide an indispensable, impressive and comprehensive introduction for anyone with an interest in the country. It will depict the factors and traits that define what country was yesterday and is today.
2. Entertaining, yet educational Show Performance	The show performance is destined to bring the tradition, the heritage, the value and culture to life in an entertaining way that is easy to understand.
3. Informative Presentation	Each exhibition will be well explained by its on-site presenters. These real-life explanations and interactive dialogues will add lively context to the rich visual displays.
4. Intriguing Questions	Help to review what students have already learned from school's social studies classes. Create intriguing questions to interact with students for a motivating review.
5. Cultural Exhibition	Exhibits will be dynamically accompanied by plenty of original, exquisite cultural artifacts, such as paintings, calligraphy, pottery, musical instruments, handicraft, foods, antiques, etc. that truly reflect the country's cultural uniqueness.
6. Vibrant Demonstration - Dances, martial arts, drums	Dances express aspects of people's everyday lives, directly reflecting the music, lifestyles, customs and beliefs of the people.
7. Hands-On Participation	Hands-on, interactive activities—including playing with toys & games, creating arts & crafts, learning folk dances, sampling authentic ethnic foods, and dressing up in traditional fashions— provide a direct and lively cultural exchange.
8. Tasty Food Sampling	The world's rich cultural diversity is even more apparent through the experience of tasting ethnic unique snacks & foods.

(3) Floor Plan for Thursday's & Friday's Field Trip Program

In GOOD weather



(4) Cultural Ambassadors

There will be cultural ambassadors, recruited from Valdosta State University College of Education Friends Become International Club (FBI), assigned to each group as **tour-guides**. They will receive and welcome teachers and students once they get off the school bus. They will be responsible for **controlling the time** as well as guide students through all of 6 activity stations.

There will also be cultural ambassadors recruited from Lowndes High School Cultures in Action Club (CIA) to conduct the **hands-on workshops** for **arts, crafts, puzzles, magic, games, & toys** activities.

All of these cultural ambassadors will be well trained to fulfill their assigned responsibilities.

Teachers!! Please accompany students through all of these stations and assist the presenters in any way you can.

We thank you!!

(5) Schedule

All schools please try to arrive on or **before 8:50 a.m.** in order to visit all **5** stations.

Teachers, please read carefully....

If schools were not able to arrive on or before 8:50, please let the Project Director know **your arrival time as well as the time your group needs to leave!!**

If you **CAN NOT** visit all of 5 stations, then tell the project director which stations your group chooses to miss. We can certainly work to accommodate your choice.

- (1) 9:00 – 9:55: **1st** Station
9:55 – 10:00: Leave & Arrive to the next station
- (2) 10:00 - 10:55: **2nd** Station
10:55 – 11:00: Leave & Arrive to the next station
- (3) 11:00 – 11:55: **3rd** Station
11:55 – 12:00: Leave & Arrive to the next station
- (4) 12:10 – 12:55: **4th** Station
12:55 – 1:00: Leave & Arrive to the next station
- (5) 1:00 – 1:55: **5th** Station
1:55 – 2:00: Leave & Return to School

(6) Rules for Order and Safety

During the exhibitor's presentation,
teachers, please be most kind to help us out!!

We need you to advise your students to be quiet
and be respectful to the presenters.

**Before the field trip,
remind students that.....**

(a) **Using cell phone or texting is NOT allowed during this field trip program.**

(b) **Chewing gum is NOT allowed during this field trip program.**

(c) After playing games, students must put the items back to the original table.

(d) After sampling the food or eating their lunches, students must throw the trash into the garbage cans. **No food will be allowed to be brought to other stations.**

(e) When students leave the room for the next station, they should not leave any trash on the floor. Please help us to keep our exhibit rooms neat and clean.

(f) If students purchase souvenirs, the items should be kept in the bag and not played with during the program. Students playing with the souvenirs are distracting to our presenters.

At the request of our presenters, please advise students to keep the souvenirs in bags to enjoy later.

Important!!

All teachers are responsible for **constantly** monitoring the behavior of their students at all times and in adherence to each local school system's "Student Code of Conduct".

We thank you!!

(7) Reservations are due by September 30

Admissions are due by January 31

We urge all schools to make reservation for your attendance as soon as you feel sure of this field trip. Our commitment to your reservation is on the **first reserve, first served** basis.

Donation of **\$7.00** is required per student and is due on **January 31**. This donation includes all hands-on activities & snack foods sampling. Teachers and chaperones are not required for such donation.

Teachers, we urge your thoughtful understanding and kindly concur that because of the high volume of up-front costs involved in preparing for the project from all hardworking, non-paid volunteers who have been giving generously their time, effort, and even personal funds to support the project, we cannot ask them to take all loss for schools withdrawing from the trip at the last few days. **We regret that we must enforce a policy of non-refundable, pre-paid admissions.** Please feel free to discuss this policy with the project director if there ever arises a concern. We will work to evaluate each case individually to accommodate your special request.

In case of inclement weather that caused schools from being able to attend on time, we urge schools do not call off the trip immediately in the early morning, but wait till **11:00 a.m.** since the program last till 2:00 p.m. and we will be most happy to stay open as long as you like. If the weather continues to be bad and makes it impossible for your school to come, we will then come to your school for an exhibition and presentation in the following week or at your convenient schedule. If schools can NOT cooperate on this policy, we will then not be able to give your school our priority to serve in the future.

Mail and Pay the admission check to:

Azalea International Folk Fair of Valdosta, GA
3810 Winchester Place
Valdosta, GA 31602

(8) Snacks Sampling

The world's rich cultural diversity is even more apparent through the experience of tasting snacks & foods.

Students will have the opportunity to sample a variety of **authentic, ethnic "snack foods"** during their visit to each exhibit room including **East Asian, Southeast Asia, Taiwan & Africa.**

Be sure to get parents' approval for this snacks sampling and **waive the Azalea International Folk Fair Organizing Committee & your schools from any liability of this snacks sampling...** **Our board of directors insists!!**

(9) Lunch

Once you arrive at the conference center, please drop off your lunch coolers directly at **Station #2** located at the **Covered Patio**

At the station #2, students & teachers will eat lunch as schedules assigned. We provide two menus for teachers and students to choose from:

Menu #1

Asian lunch box consists of:

- (1) Fried Chicken Wings
- (2) Vegetable Fried Rice
- (3) Vegetable Noodle
- (4) Sesame Chicken
- (5) Egg Roll
- (6) Soft Drink

We also sell the bottle of soft drink for \$1.

Menu #2

Chicken Sandwich combo consists of
Chicken sandwich, waffle fries and soft drink.

A combo meal of either Asian food or chicken sandwich sells for \$5.

We will not sell individual items.

Pre-paid admission of \$7 and lunch combo of \$5 will get a free fan to write in different Asian languages.

(10) Global Bazaar: Souvenir Sale

We intend to keep our program an adventure of cultural and educational experiences and prefer **to keep commercial activities to a minimum.**

However, **a trip around the world isn't complete without souvenirs!!** It will also help students to remember our program if they can **bring home a bit of the world.** Thus, we create the **Global Bazaar** to sell ethnic, educational and fun treasures related to our creativities of arts, crafts, games, toys and puzzles.

For the last eight years, we have been successful in soliciting grants support from state government agencies as well as donations awarded from public and private foundations and corporations.

However, these funds are only sufficient to help develop the project's educational aspects and content. They help us to reach our goal and accomplish our mission of enriching life and education here in South Georgia. But **most of the funding does NOT allow it to be used for food sampling, awards, toys, games, arts and crafts** that the students enjoy very much.

These hands-on activity stations have become one of the most significant achievements of our Azalea International Folk Fair. Our collections are exceptional and make our programs extremely unique among all festivals in America.

The funds raised from these souvenirs/foods sale make this accomplishment possible!!

Please kindly concur our proposal of Global Bazaar and monitor your students watchfully during the shopping time at the Global bazaar.

(11) Project Evaluation

Students' Essay Contest

There will be an **Essay Contest** entitled **“My Day to Experience the Worldat The Azalea International Folk Fair”** to encourage students' comprehension of the exhibition, presentation, show and workshop.

We earnestly recommend the English teachers to make this essay writing **a homework requirement of your English class**, so we can learn to improve the project from students' inputs.

The English teacher will only need to collect the essays from students. We will provide envelopes for teachers to mail to us all essays. The Folk Fair board members will choose a winning one from each participating school.

The 1st place winner will be awarded and the article will be submitted to the Valdosta Daily Times for publication.

Surveys from School Teachers

When school teachers arrive at the conference center, surveys will be passed out to them. Teachers' input provides us with valuable insights we can use when preparing future presentations. Azalea International Folk Fair is committed to providing a valuable cultural experience program for our school teachers and students. We value teachers' comments deeply and work hard to exceed their expectations.

Please be advised

Our area program directors are **“required”** to earn a score of 90 or higher. All of the teachers have been most fair and respectful to us for the last five years, 2004 - 2010. We have the greatest faith in and respect for the teachers' feedback. Area programs fail to meet our expectations and requirements will result in our committed funding to help with their program's expense **to be discounted** or **even disposed from the project.**

Please take this survey seriously.

(12) A Sample Letter of Requesting Permission from Parents

Attached next page is a sample letter of requesting parents' permission allowing students to attend the program as a field trip. Most of all, we request parents' permission for students to sample the foods and waive the Organizing Committee and schools from any liability of the food sampling. Students will not be permitted for the food sampling without this consent from parents or guardians.

**Teachers,
please be sure to keep a record of this consent.**

Dear Parents or Guardians of 7th Grade Students:

On Thursday or Friday, March 8 or 9, 2012, students who study Asia and Africa in the social studies curriculum will participate in an **International Folk Fair** to be held at the Valdosta-Lowndes Conference Center.

The event promotes lively cultural exchanges on the largest scale ever in South Georgia. Programs feature exhibitions, presentations and performances highlighting the history, geography, traditions, humanities, culture and arts from around the world. There will be many hand-on workshops (arts, craft, games, toys, puzzles & magic) for our students to take part. You may visit the website at www.GAinternationalfolkfair.org for further details.

There will be **\$7.00** donation required with all activities included. The **"Global Bazaar – Bring Home A Bit of the World"** will be open for souvenir shopping. Students may either bring their own lunch or purchase the food at the festival. We offer two menus: Asian menu consists of : spring rolls, fried chicken wings, vegetable fried rice, vegetable noodle, sesame chicken. A combo platter featuring all 5 items plus a soft drink is available for only \$5.00. Chicken sandwich combo from Chick-Fil-A is also available to choose.

Please sign the following section and have your child bring it back to school with the paid admission **before January 31**. If your child has any food allergies, we would encourage you to take that into consideration and indicate that they should not sample the foods.

_____ (cut here)

My child _____ has permission to participate in the Azalea International Folk Fair field trip to the Valdosta Lowndes Conference Center on March 4th. The \$6.00 required donation is enclosed.

_____ My child has permission to sample the food which may contain nuts, wheat, and lactose base products. We hereby waive the AIFF Organizing Committee & schools from any liability of this snacks sampling.

_____ My child **will not** sample the snacks/foods.

_____ I have discussed this with my child and he/she is fully aware of this.

_____ My child will bring sack lunch from home.

_____ My child will bring sack lunch from school.

Signed _____ (Parents or Guardian of student)