



Media Advisory

11th Colorado Dragon Boat Festival What's New In 2011

WHAT: 11th Annual Colorado Dragon Boat Festival, the largest celebration of pan-Asian culture in Colorado

WHEN: Saturday and Sunday, July 30-31, 2011

WHERE: Sloan's Lake Park, 25th Ave. & Sheridan Blvd, Denver

HOW MUCH: Free admission!

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- **“Gambare Japan”**- This year's theme is focused around Japan and all things Japanese. “Gambare” means “to persevere” and as Japan continues to rebuild after last year's devastating earthquake and tsunami, our theme is one of encouragement, love and support for those affected. The color red will be prominent throughout the festival as well as origami cranes, which symbolize, hope. There will also be a fundraiser to help contribute to the relief in Japan.
- **Japanese Obon Dance**- This traditional Japanese dance will be performed for the first time ever at the festival Saturday, July 30th. The dance will be a tribute to the victims of the March 11th tragedy. It is a Japanese-style line dance, where people follow a group of dancers and mimic their moves. Traditionally this dance honors one's ancestors in Japan.
(<http://www.cdbf.org/performance/new-japanese-obon-dance/>)
- **ImaginAsian Mural Collaboration**- This is CDBF's first ever interactive art project. The collaboration will bring together local artists and the public. Four different and unique projects make up the collaboration and they will all share the theme “Ode to Japan.” The public is encouraged to contribute to the artwork. More details will be provided on this project in the coming weeks.
(<http://www.cdbf.org/performance/gateway-to-asia/imaginasian-mural-collaboration/>)
- **Health & Wellness Village**- This year CDBF introduces our Health & Wellness Village. We will have free screenings and health education for all who attend the festival. Our focus is keeping the community healthy by providing different alternatives for health.
- **Asian Food Truck**- This year CDBF will feature our first ever Asian food truck. “Manna from Heaven” will be cooking up traditional Vietnamese sandwiches called *Banh Mi*. Be sure to stop by and try one for yourself!
- **“Senior” Racing Team**- This year the Dragonboat races will see some very different faces than in years past out on the water. Our first ever “over 50” racing team from Portland, OR will be competing against some long time competitors.

- **Dragonland Storytelling-** “Dragonland”, our children’s play area will feature Asian community leaders reading traditional, folk stories to children at the festival. This is the first time CDBF has brought this experience to the community.

ABOUT THE COLORADO DRAGON BOAT FESTIVAL

Established in 2001, the Colorado Dragon Boat Festival has drawn over 100,000 visitors annually to celebrate Colorado's diverse Asian Pacific American (APA) communities. The Colorado Dragon Boat Festival, a 501(c) 3 non-profit organization, has become the region's fastest growing, family-friendly summer festival. CDBF offers festival-goers the opportunity to explore APA culture through performances, educational programs, arts and crafts, shopping, dining and the exciting athletic competition of dragon boat racing.

The 11th Annual Colorado Dragon Boat Festival will be held at Denver's Sloan's Lake Park on July 30-31. 2011.

It's your weekend passport to Asia and the Pacific!

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