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**SPECIAL EXHIBITS AND DISPLAYS PRESENTED AT
HOLIDAY FOLK FAIR *INTERNATIONAL***

MILWAUKEE, WI — A variety of special exhibits and displays will be highlighted throughout the grounds at the 73rd annual Holiday Folk Fair *International*, America’s premiere multi-cultural festival, to be held Fri., Nov. 18 – Sun., Nov. 20, 2016, at the State Fair Park Exposition Center at in West Allis, Wis.

The Sisters Cities International 2016 Young Artist and Authors Showcase entitled “Peace through People” will be on display at Folk Fair, as youth from around the world, including the United States, Ghana, Japan, Moldova, Poland, and South Korea, used artwork, poems, photography, video, and essays to share their vision of peace and expressed how connecting globally allows them and their communities to prosper.

World Heritage photo panels from the Japan Foundation will be on display, featuring 67 images of sites in Japan, including the Ogasawara Islands and Hiraizumi - Temples, plus gardens and archaeological sites representing the Buddhist Pure Land.

The U.S. Diplomacy Center “*Faces of Diplomacy*” exhibit features portraits and videos of those who serve on the frontlines of diplomacy. The portraits and videos in this exhibit tell the story of those who advance diplomatic relations at the Department of State and U.S. missions around the world. These men and women work in different regions abroad, have diverse ethnic and educational backgrounds, and carry out a wide variety of responsibilities. Their diplomatic service to the United States, however, unites them in purpose. Each of them serves by promoting peace and prosperity on behalf of all Americans.

“*Faces of Diplomacy*” is a collaborative project undertaken by the Department of State’s U.S. Diplomacy Center. The U.S. Diplomacy Center will be a museum and educational center dedicated to telling the story of American diplomacy. The portraits and videos were produced by students from The George Washington University’s Corcoran School of the Arts and Design and the Department of Defense’s Combat Camera crew. It was made possible through a generous grant from Wallis Annenberg and the Annenberg Foundation to the Diplomacy Center Foundation (DCF).

For the second consecutive year, Folk Fair will feature a Refugee Camp display that will include a typical refugee tent that accommodates five people, featuring photos and refugee quotes on the outside of the tent and photos and typical supplies on the inside.

The Artisan Corner, presented by Debra Stefl and Katherine Kral, Financial Advisors with Morgan Stanley, will include local vendors demonstrating their craft throughout the weekend. Artisan Corner participants include...

Jack Douthitt from Fox Point, Wis. practicing bonsai.

Bill Hoettels from Milwaukee, Wis. demonstrating Scottish knitting.

Robert Holmes of Mequon, Wis. conducting woodturning.

Bernadine Jendrzejczak from Hales Corners, Wis. presenting the craft of Wycinanki, Polish “paper cut design.”

Darinka Kohl of Cudahy, Wis. showing the Slovakian style of bobbin lace.

Eugene Orlandini from Milwaukee, Wis. practicing Italian ornamental plastering.

Kim Reyes from Milwaukee, Wis. demonstrating cornhusk doll making.

Barbara Rothwell of Portage, Wis. decorating gourds.

Sidonka Wadina from Lyons, Wis. explaining wheat weaving.

Joseph Whitmore of North Prairie, Wis. carving Welsh love spoons.

The Dirty Kettle Native American interactive display will feature Herb Heck, aka “Dirty Kettle” depicting and teaching the traditions of the Plains Indians and the Mountain Men. The display is comprised of a teepee arranged as it would have been more than 150 years ago, with items that were typical of the period, including willow beds covered in buffalo hides and back rests wrapped with deer and sheep skins. In addition, a variety of furs line the inside of the teepee, including bobcat, moose, ermine, fox, beaver, mink, coyote, and Canadian timber wolf. The display will also feature items used during the period, including dance sticks, talking and prayer feathers, bows and arrows, tools, traps, fire starting items, and hand-made musical instruments, such as flutes and drums.

The Wisconsin Woodturners will have its annual display, with several woodturners conducting demonstrations throughout each day. Fair-goers will be able to get a close look at the woodturning process and browse products, such as bowls, sculptures, vases, and more. Kids will also be able to play with a tongue drum, a wooden musical instrument with slits.

Folk Fair attendees will have the opportunity to learn about and enjoy bonsai trees from the Milwaukee Bonsai Society. Some of the bonsai trees will be colorful, and others will have already dropped their leaves. The trees will range in size and age, with some trees up to 80 years old. Children

will also be given a card with various styles of bonsai trees, so they can find and identify the different trees on display, plus attendees will be able to vote on their favorite tree.

Kohl's Color Wheels, presented by the Milwaukee Art Museum, will appear at Folk Fair, with a mobile art experience where kids take part in fun projects, plus grow and learn through art.

Heritage Lane, presented by Weather Tight Corporation, allows attendees to take a leisurely stroll and discover traditional and unique customs from around the world by interacting with diverse cultures that are brought to life through ethnic exhibits. There will displays on behalf of more than 20 groups, including the African, Burmese, Filipino, Irish, and Swiss.

Skilled artisans from distant lands have created characteristic treasures to be on display in the International Bazaar, presented by Leaf Filter, providing a distinguished shopping experience. Attendees will find products from more than 20 ethnicities, including Arab, Chinese, Czech, India, Lithuanian, and Turkish.

A program of the International Institute of Wisconsin, Holiday Folk Fair *International* celebrates the cultural heritage of the people living in southeastern Wisconsin. This year's theme, "Celebrate the Culture of Water," will allow Fair-goers the opportunity to learn the ways in which water and its symbolism is incorporated into the music, food, dance, arts, and crafts of Holiday Folk Fair.

The three-day event features the All Nations Theater with traditional music and dance, the World Café offering traditional dishes, the International Stage where young people perform their ethnic dances, the Tanzhauz (Music Pavilion) where attendees dance and sing along with a variety of musical styling's, the Coffee House where patrons enjoy a beverage and baked goods while listening to talented musicians, and the Callen Construction Chef's Stage featuring local chefs preparing traditional cuisine.

Hours on Fri., Nov. 18 are 2 p.m. – 10 p.m.; 10 a.m. – 10 p.m. on Sat., Nov. 19; and 10 a.m. – 7 p.m. on Sun., Nov. 20.

Advance tickets will be sold for \$10 each, with family four-packs for \$36, and available for purchase on-line at www.folkfair.org. Admission at the gate will be \$12 for adults; \$8 for children ages 6 to 12; children under the age of five will be admitted at no charge. Those 62 and over will be admitted for \$10, and all military personnel with a military ID card will be admitted free.

For more information on the 2016 Holiday Folk Fair *International*, visit www.folkfair.org or call the International Institute of Wisconsin at 414-225-6225.

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