

# Chinese Culture Days

May 21-22, 2011

Sponsored by Novus International, Inc.



中華日



聖路易中華文教服務協會

Chinese Culture Education and Service



MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN



中日  
Chinese Culture Days

May 21-22, 2011  
10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Welcome to the 2011 Chinese Culture Days. I would like to thank the Missouri Botanical Garden for providing the beautiful garden and support for this great event. In the next two days, we will provide a variety of shows and activities which highlight Chinese culture, arts, and history. I would also like to thank the Chinese Culture Days planning committee members and hundreds of volunteers for their hard work, time, and dedication. I hope that you will have wonderful time at the garden!

Sincerely,

*Chunsheng Xia*

Chunsheng Xia  
Chairman, Chinese Culture Days Committee

**Admission:** \$12 adults, \$10 seniors (65+), \$5 Garden members, and children (3-12). Family level members and above and members' children (12 and under) are free.

**Join or renew today! Get in free or get your admission refunded if you join the Garden as a member or renew your existing membership at Chinese Culture Days.**

Saturday, May 21 and Sunday, May 22

11 a.m.	<b>OPENING PARADE</b> , Saturday only <i>Spoehrler Plaza to Cohen Amphitheater</i>	<b>Guided Tours of the Chinese Garden:</b> noon to 4 p.m., hourly  <i>See page 9 for additional events in the Chinese Garden</i>
11:15 a.m.	<b>OPENING CEREMONY</b> , Saturday only <i>Cohen Amphitheater</i>	
noon	<b>New Shanghai Circus</b> , <i>Cohen Amphitheater</i> <b>Chinese Culinary Arts</b> , <i>Kemper Center for Home Gardening</i>	
1 p.m.	<b>Cultural Fashion Show</b> , <i>Shoenberg Theater</i> <b>Hundred Man T'ai Ji</b> , <i>Central Axis (Saturday)</i> <b>T'ai Ji Lesson</b> , <i>Chinese Garden</i>	
2 p.m.	<b>GRAND PARADE</b> , <i>Spoehrler Plaza to Cohen Amphitheater</i>	
2:30 p.m.	<b>Traditional Arts Program</b> , <i>Cohen Amphitheater</i> <b>Chinese Culinary Arts</b> , <i>Kemper Center for Home Gardening</i>	
3 p.m.	<b>T'ai Ji Lesson</b> , <i>Chinese Garden</i>	
4 p.m.	<b>New Shanghai Circus</b> , <i>Cohen Amphitheater</i>	
4:30 p.m.	<b>Cultural Fashion Show</b> , <i>Shoenberg Theater</i>	
all day	<b>Tea Tasting, Chinese Chess Game, and Traditional Music</b> , <i>Chinese Garden</i> <b>Cultural Exhibits and Children's Programs</b> , <i>Ridgway Visitor Center</i>	

*Note: In the event of rain, some programs will be moved indoors. Rain schedules provided on back cover.*



# Outdoor Programs

## Opening Parade

11 a.m., Saturday

*Spoehrer Plaza to Cohen Amphitheater*

Begin the celebration with a magnificent Chinese dragon dance at Spoehrer Plaza. Dragons are believed to bring good luck. This 12-man dragon will be accompanied by a 40-member drum dance and a welcoming dance featuring multi-ethnic Chinese groups. The dragon will lead a parade to Cohen Amphitheater for the opening ceremony.

## Food Court

*Upper East Parking Lot*

A variety of food and beverages from different regions in China will be available for purchase.

## Opening Ceremony

11:15 a.m., Saturday

*Cohen Amphitheater*

Welcome Remarks  
and Honored Guests

- Chunsheng Xia, Chairman, Chinese Culture Days 2011
- Arnold Donald, Chair, Board of Trustees, Missouri Botanical Garden
- Charlie Dooley, St. Louis County Executive
- Josh Wiese, Office of St. Louis City Mayor
- Deborah L. Price, Esq., Office of Missouri Governor

## Grand Parade

2 p.m., Saturday and Sunday

*Spoehrer Plaza*

One of the highlights of Chinese Culture Days, this colorful parade consists of dance teams, acrobats, groups in traditional costumes, martial arts teams, and drummers along with lion and dragon dancers. The parade winds through the Garden path to the Cohen Amphitheater, where performances immediately follow.

## New Shanghai Circus,

noon and 4 p.m.

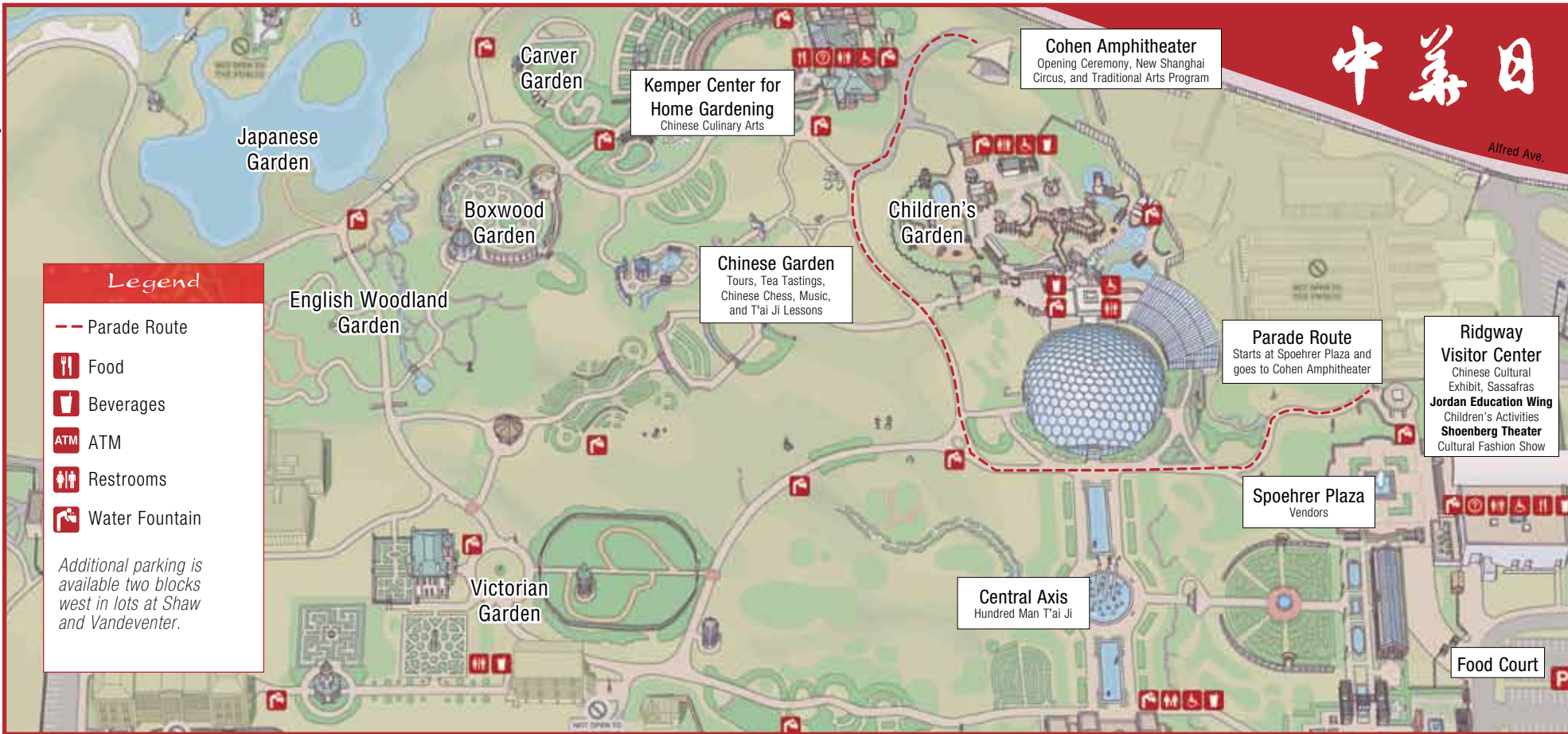
*Cohen Amphitheater*

The New Shanghai Circus featuring the Acrobats of China is a spectacular extravaganza of elegant dance, dazzling acrobatics, mysterious magic, mystical music, and much more. For more than 40 years, the New Shanghai Circus troupe has worked to perfect the fine Chinese folk art of tumbling into an international award-winning performance involving both artistry and acrobatics. The troupe has toured throughout Asia, Europe, and North America.





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**Legend**

- Parade Route
- Food
- Beverages
- ATM
- Restrooms
- Water Fountain

*Additional parking is available two blocks west in lots at Shaw and Vandeventer.*

## Traditional Arts Program, 2:30 p.m.

*Cohen Amphitheater*

**Folk Dances** – Chinese folk dance has a wide range of rhythms and various colorful costumes because China is a large and multicultural nation. Most of the dances come from various ethnic and folk customs and activities, such as harvest celebrations, marriage, funerals, and religious rituals.

**Martial Arts** – Martial arts have been an integral part of Chinese culture for thousands of years. Various skills of martial arts with knives, sticks, and spears will be performed.

## Hundred Man T'ai Ji 1 p.m., Saturday

*Central Axis*

Are you looking for another way to reduce stress of today's busy lifestyles and improve health? Come join the Hundred Man T'ai Ji exercise in front of the Climatron. T'ai Ji is sometimes described as "meditation



in motion" because it promotes serenity through gentle movements, connecting the mind and body. Originally developed in ancient China for self-defense, T'ai Ji evolved into a graceful form of exercise that's now used for stress reduction and to help with a variety of other health conditions.

## Dragon Dance

*Opening and Grand Parades*

The most auspicious being in Chinese folklore, the dragon is a creature of incomparable strength whose 24-legged dance can dispel bad luck and ward off evil. Earliest written records place dragon dancing in the West Han Dynasty (206 B.C.–24 A.D.) when the dragon danced during a spring drought. The dragon also dances to celebrate the New Year or to open a festival.

## Chinese Garden

The Grigg Nanjing Friendship Garden is a private "Scholar's Garden," designed as a retreat to escape the distractions of everyday life. Chinese gardens, it is said, are built, not planted. Much of the space is filled with pavilions, bridges, and decorative pavements, reflecting the traditional Chinese *shan shui* (mountains and water) landscape. Stones symbolize the five sacred mountains in China around a central pool of water.

## Schedule

- Guided tour each day at noon, 1, 2, 3, and 4 p.m.
- T'ai Ji lesson/participation at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.
- Tea tasting throughout the day
- Chinese Traditional Music
- Chinese Chess Game





# Indoor Programs

## Chinese Culinary Arts, noon and 2:30 p.m.

*Kemper Center for Home Gardening*

Chinese cuisine has evolved over 5,000 years, and in China, cooking is considered an art and a science. Watch demonstrations of the eight major cuisines of Chinese cooking, and learn about their rich history. Take a cup of fresh-brewed Chinese tea and enjoy the harmonic music played with traditional instruments. Bring home a recipe to try yourself; you will be surprised how easy it is to make an authentic Chinese dish!



## Cultural Fashion Show, 1 and 4:30 p.m.

*Ridgway Visitor Center, Shoenberg Theater*

In Chinese culture, dance is a way to express not only personal emotions and feelings, but also the character of the nation. The background of this indoor show is based on the history of the Han Dynasty and also modern history. Through beautiful costumes and wonderful music, performers demonstrate the evolution of fashion along with the change of history and culture. The show concludes with joyful modern dances and different colorful ethnic costumes, illustrating the great unity of China as a nation and the scene of people's prosperous lives.

## Cultural Exhibits, all day, Ridgway Visitor Center, Monsanto Hall

See live demonstrations and exhibits of traditional Chinese painting and arts.

## Children's Program, all day, Ridgway Visitor Center, Jordan Education Wing

The St. Louis Chapter of Families with Children from China (FCC) invites children of all ages to learn more about Chinese culture through fun crafts. Make a dragon boat, decorate a fan, try out a Chinese yo-yo, Chinese jump rope, or chopsticks! Be sure to stop by this indoor program.



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## INCLEMENT WEATHER PLAN—

*In the event of rain or ground saturation the following events will be canceled, relocated, or rescheduled.*

11 a.m.	<b>OPENING PARADE</b> , Saturday only, <i>canceled</i>
11:15 a.m.	<b>OPENING CEREMONY</b> , Saturday only, <i>Shoenberg Theater</i>
noon	New Shanghai Circus, <i>Shoenberg Theater</i> Chinese Culinary Arts, <i>Kemper Center for Home Gardening</i>
noon to 4 p.m.	Guided Tours of the Chinese Garden, <i>hourly, weather depending</i>
1 p.m.	Traditional Arts Program, <i>Shoenberg Theater</i> T'ai Ji Lesson, <i>Orthwein Display Hall</i>
2 p.m.	<b>GRAND PARADE</b> , <i>canceled</i> Chinese Culinary Arts, <i>Kemper Center for Home Gardening</i>
2:30 p.m.	Cultural Fashion Show, <i>Shoenberg Theater</i> Hundred Man T'ai Ji, Saturday only, <i>Orthwein Display Hall</i>
3 p.m.	T'ai Ji Lesson, <i>Orthwein Display Hall</i>
4 p.m.	New Shanghai Circus, <i>Shoenberg Theater</i>
all day	Tea Tasting, Chinese Chess Game, and Traditional Music, <i>Chinese Garden, weather depending</i> Cultural Exhibits and Children's Programs, <i>Ridgway Visitor Center</i>

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## 2011 CHINESE CULTURE DAY COMMITTEE

Chairperson	Chunsheng Xia
Co-Chair	Matthew Yu
Advisor	Leo Lo
Children's Program	Donna Schneiders
New Shanghai Circus	Matthew Yu
Dragon Dance Team	Yimin Zhu
Exhibition/Vendors	Lisa Hu
Food Court	Jackie Tung
Grand Parade	Youchun Zeng
Opening Ceremony	Yingwen Huang
Grigg Nanjing Friendship Garden	Shan Cong
Culture Fashion Show	Jiangying He and Yin Chen
Chinese Culinary Art Show	Xia Hong and Shuiping Wang
Traditional Arts Program	Rensheng Luo and Hailing Chen
Press Release	Francis Yueh and Wen Huang
Photos	Lisa Hu
Public Relations	Helena Hseu



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