



The Colorado Dragon Boat Festival News

July 2009

WELCOME!



Aloha (Welcome!)

Only days away from this year's 9th annual Colorado Dragon Boat Festival on July 25 and 26, and already I can hear the sounds of paddlers and their boats racing in the water, exotic food sizzling on the vendor's outdoor grills, colorfully-costumed artists performing on stage, and people of all walks of life enjoying themselves! Whatever motivates you to attend, we look forward to seeing you, your family and friends at Sloan's Lake for a terrific weekend of

free, family-friendly fun!

Here are a few reminders of what's waiting for you at this year's festival:

* **Hawaii 5-0:** Saluting the colorful history and timeless appeal of Hawaii as it celebrates its 50th anniversary as the 50th state with special performances, Polynesian music and hula dancing, as well as cultural exhibits and ceremonies, and an outrigger boat on site to show how Hawaiians have historically taken to the waves to race.

* **Local and National Race Teams:** Nearly 1,000 racers making up 44 teams will prepare their paddles for this year's fast-paced dragon boat racing competition with two full days of racing on two race courses, and multiple team divisions, as well as onsite paddling clinics offered on both days of the festival for racing wannabees.

* **More Flavors and Fashion:** Satisfy your appetite with culinary delights from Asia and the Pacific featuring an abundance of affordable mouthwatering cuisine. Then shop to your heart's content for unique, one-of-a-kind arts, crafts and vendors often found in the open-air

In This Issue

Welcome Letter

Dragon Boat 101

Getaway Raffle!

Volunteer this weekend!

Winning Artist On Site

Hawaii 5-0 Highlights!

Getting to the Festival

Governor's Mansion Photo

Maximize Your Donation!

Upcoming Events

Help Us Promote the CDBF

2009 Sponsors

Community Partner:

street markets of faraway ports and bustling cities.

* [We've Got Talent](#): Performers of all ages, cultures and talents will take center stage all weekend long on the Performing Arts Stage, the Gateway to Asia and Explore Asia stage, in and around the Cultural Unity and Dragonland tents, as well as at the Explore Asia exhibit tent displaying an array of Hawaiian history, cuisine and customs.

Also check out this issue's Hawaiian Highlights and new ways to support the festival this year - with our [Getaway Raffle](#) or on [GivingFirst.org](#)! Either way, your kind donation goes a long way to helping the festival continue its outreach to Asian Pacific communities long after the festival ends!

Join us as we count down these final days to Colorado's "Weekend Passport to Asia and the Pacific!"

See you on the lake later this month!

Alisa Zimmerman, CDBF Executive Director

Pictured above is an outrigger boat, a symbol of island pride and protection for centuries.

DRAGON BOAT 101- CALLING ALL FIRST-TIME PADDLERS!

If the dragon boat racing bug is biting you, Dragon Boating 101 is your solution! For the second year, DB 101 offers festival-goers the opportunity to buckle on a life jacket, grab a paddle, and get into the action! For only \$20 you (and 19 other introductory racers) will get a chance to race an official dragon boat. The Dragonboat Racing Association of Colorado (DRACO) will provide on-shore training, personal floatation device, and paddle.

Registration is for adults (18 years of age and older) and youth (ages 13-17, with permission from a parent or guardian). This year we're offering two opportunities to participate in DB101, with sessions on both Saturday and Sunday to choose from.

The DB101 schedule for both Saturday and Sunday, July 25-26 is:

1:00pm - 2:00pm On-shore safety and training
2:00pm - 3:00pm Equipment distribution, on-water practice and warm-up
3:00pm RACE!!!

[Sign up here](#) or on site during the Festival before 1:00pm each day at the Team Registration tent.

GETAWAY TRAVEL RAFFLE AT THE FESTIVAL!

Win a Getaway Travel Prize Package worth over \$2250.00 at the Festival! The package includes 2 roundtrip Southwest Airline tickets, a week's stay at any continental resort timeshare from Worldmark by Wyndham resorts (sleeps 4-6), and a Stay, Park and Fly package from Embassy Suites at DIA. **Raffle tickets are just \$3 each, 2 for \$5** at the Festival Merchandise Booth all weekend long and you need not be present to win. The winner will be announced from the Main Performing Arts Stage at 5pm on Sunday, July 26th. Travel certificates are valid for one year and are good for airline travel on Southwest Airlines within the continental United States.

After 37 years of service, [Southwest Airlines](#), the nation's leading low-fare carrier, continues to differentiate itself from other airlines--offering a reliable product with exemplary Customer Service. Southwest Airlines is the most productive airline in the sky and offers Customers a comfortable traveling experience. Southwest Airlines, the nation's largest carrier in terms of domestic passengers enplaned, currently serves 65 cities in 33 states.

Many thanks to Southwest Airlines, the CDBF Board of Directors, and Embassy Suites at DIA for their kind donations.

VOLUNTEER AT THE FESTIVAL!

Have you ever wanted to travel to Asia and the Pacific to experience the cultures there, but just didn't have the time? Do you enjoy working at community-oriented events that are exciting, entertaining and engaging? Do you have a knack for helping people and doing what's needed at a moment's notice? Then the 2009 Colorado Dragon Boat Festival is the place for you - and it's closer than you think!

The Colorado Dragon Boat Festival needs more than 500 volunteers to produce its two day outdoor weekend event. It is because of the dedication of volunteers that the Festival will be



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FAST FACTS **from the** **Colorado Dragon Boat Festival:**

Days left until the Festival:

4

Number of Paddlers from

celebrating its 9th anniversary this year on July 25 and 26. Recruit your family, friends and colleagues, and make it a weekend to remember!

Think: Spam sushi, Bollywood West, Team Highflyerz, Hiphoppas, Mongolian gher, Dragon wine, Boba tea, Bongo the Balloon Man, Hawaiian Jazz...and too much more to name!

Enjoy 3 hours of heat, sweat, and a LOT OF FUN. The shift times allow ample opportunity for festival play before and after. And for those of you with older teens, or working with organizations, please feel free to forward this invitation for attending and/or volunteering. Hope to see you there! Be there or be without banana lumpias!

[Click here](#) to learn how you can help in the various Festival areas and fill out the volunteer application.

Many thanks to our countless number of volunteers for making the Festival happen, and thank you to Wells Fargo for sponsoring the 2009 Volunteer Program.

WINNING ARTIST ON SITE AT THE FESTIVAL!

Duc Huynh, First Place Winner of the CDBF's Second Annual Commemorative Poster Contest, will be on site Sunday, July 26th, from 1:30pm to 3:00pm at the Festival Merchandise Booth. Stop by the booth to meet the artist and have Duc personally sign his winning design for you! "I wanted to portray a modern illustration with a conceptual approach of a dragon emerging from the water. The shape of the dragon's body suggests that it is a boat, with the rays in the back symbolizing boat paddles. The water is a more stylized approach to the traditional painting by Hokusai titled The Great Wave," says Huynh. Duc is a professional graphic designer who also teaches for Rocky Mountain College of Art and Design. Commemorative Posters will be sold at the Festival for \$10 each, or \$35 framed and ready to take home as a unique souvenir for you or your family!



HAWAII 5-0 HIGHLIGHTS - Facts about our 50th State!



The Hawaiian Islands

Hawai'i became a state in 1959 after numerous settlements on its island archipelago dating back a thousand years. Its geographic and strategic position in the Pacific, both economically and politically, make it a place of great history and complexity, boasting over 1.2 million inhabitants of various origins and beliefs. Despite this reality, the Hawaiian spirit is alive in the vitality of the aloha ambience, the welcoming of others despite their

differences, and a willingness to absorb the teachings of others while maintaining the simple, easy-going Polynesian attitude toward life. The state capitol, Honolulu, is located on the most populous island, O'ahu. Other noteworthy facts about Hawai'i: it is not geographically located in North America, is completely surrounded by water, has a royal palace, grows coffee (as well as many other tasty things), and doesn't have a straight line in its state boundary.

GETTING TO THE FESTIVAL

With amazing positive feedback from attendees about the location of last year's Colorado Dragon Boat Festival, the 2009 CDBF will again be on the east side of Sloan's Lake Park at West 23rd Ave. and Stuart Street - for a full view of the Festival site, [click here](#). As part of year two of the CDBF's three-year greening initiatives to become a fully earth-friendly event, the Festival is offering even more environmentally sound transportation options for [getting to the Festival](#) this year.

To reduce the carbon footprint of those traveling to the Festival this year, the CDBF will not provide parking at INVESCO field with bus shuttle service. Instead, the Festival encourages

outside CO:
64

Number of
horizontal stripes
on the Hawaiian
Flag:
8

Number of
Volunteers still
needed for the
Festival:
LOTS!!!

Number of daily
visitors to Waikiki:
72,000

Length
of the Dragon
Boat Youth Races
at the Festival:
250m

Number of
beaches in
Honolulu:
over 100!

the public to take advantage of the following green transportation options, which are healthy for the environment and healthy for your body!

* **BikeDenver** returns for its second year, providing racks and monitored storage of bikes for a public donation. Bike route and access information can be found on the BikeDenver website at www.BikeDenver.org.

* For the first time, a monitored **Scooter Station** will be offered at the Festival for a public donation. Scooter and motorcycle parking will be on Stuart Street at designated locations.

* **Public transit** is available through **RTD** bus routes (#31, 51, 16, 20, 28, and 32) or light rail to INVESCO, transferring to Bus #16 or 20 to Sloan's Lake Park on the weekend. Visit www.rtd-denver.com for times and exact stops, or call phone: 303-299-6000.

* **Walk to the Festival!** The CDBF encourages getting some exercise before indulging in Asian culinary delights by walking to the 2009 Festival. A map of pedestrian access to the Festival will be available, along with information on walking tours of the historic Sloan's Lake surrounding neighborhoods. [Click here](#) for details about Sloan's Lake History.

* **Load up the car and drive together.** The CDBF promotes carpooling to the Festival with friends and neighbors this year. Scroll down the page after [clicking here](#) to see a list of alternative parking areas.

* **Handicapped access** will be available at this year's Festival with designated drop off and pick up areas at both entrances. Handicapped parking will also be offered along Stuart Street on a first-come, first-served basis. Seating will also be provided at select locations throughout the event.

* For those who do drive to the Festival, **Public parking lots** located along major streets lining the south and west sides of the Park are being confirmed for use on a first-come, first-served basis.

* **To show consideration for our neighbors who live around Sloan's Lake** and to allow the CDBF to hold the event in a perfect location, as well as to allow quick access for emergency vehicles, the Festival asks those who drive to respect directional signage and barricades, and to refrain from parking on those designated streets. Police officers and security will be monitoring these areas to ensure that the Festival traffic plan is followed. The Festival will also provide direct phone numbers and additional contact information for the neighborhood to report any parking violations and/or additional disturbances during the weekend of the event. Details on street closures will be provided and available at www.cdbf.org.

Thank you to the CDBF's 2009 Transportation Partners:
BikeDenver, Denver Public Schools, RTD, CDBF media partners, North Denver Tribune, Sloan's Lake Neighborhood Association, Sloan's Lake Citizen's Group, Denver/Edgewater/Lakewood city liaisons and Police/Security Services.

CDBF GUESTS CELEBRATE AT THE GOVERNOR'S MANSION!

Members of the 2009 CDBF Board of Directors, performers, and guests are pictured at right with First Lady Jeannie Ritter at the Governor's Mansion Asian Heritage Reception on June 8, celebrating the success of the June 6 public event showcasing Asian arts, music and dance on the mansion grounds. The event was the first in a series of Free Open and House and Family Days hosted by the First Lady. For more information on other upcoming events at the Governor's Mansion, [click here](#).



MAXIMIZE YOUR CDBF DONATION WITH GIVING FIRST!



The Colorado Dragon Boat Festival (CDBF) is excited to announce our participation with GivingFirst, a program of Community First Foundation. GivingFirst is the most comprehensive online portal to Denver area

charities. GivingFirst.org is a place where you can support the organizations who speak to your passion, while learning more about our mission, programs, impact and fiscal responsibility. All of the information presented is verified by the Foundation's staff, so you can donate with confidence.

To encourage online giving, when you donate thru GivingFirst, Community First Foundation will pay the credit card processing fees (typically at three percent per gift!). This is a great way to maximize your generous donations, and those of your friends and family, in support of the Festival's annual Asian Pacific celebration.

Just [click here](#) to get started, and many thanks for your support!

Upcoming Events

For events happening in the APA community visit asiexpress.com and [Cultures](#) Across America.

Do you have an upcoming event that you want to share with the local APA community? If you would like your event listed in the next CDBF monthly enewsletter, please email a brief description to media@cdbf.org.

The 9th Annual Colorado Dragon Boat Festival

Your Weekend Passport to Asia and the Pacific - Dragon Boat Races. Cultural Education. Performing Arts. Food. Marketplace.

About the CDBF

Founded in 2001 to celebrate Colorado's diverse Asian Pacific American (APA) communities, the Colorado Dragon Boat Festival (CDBF), a 501© 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.

New Office Location/Contact Information:

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