

Contact: Silver Dollar City Publicity
(417) 338-8207/338-8210
Email version & images available
mbohner@silverdollarcity.com

**From Zunyi Acrobats to Polynesian FireKnife Dancers,
Silver Dollar City Presents
The World's Best for *World-Fest***

Plus: Grand Opening of The Giant Swing April 5

(Branson, Mo. 3/07) **Silver Dollar City brings together the world's best performers from six continents for the spectacular spring festival, *World-Fest*, April 5 – May 6.** *World-Fest* showcases the astonishing artistry of the **Zunyi Acrobats of China**, returning from last year's "wow" performance with more acrobats in an even bigger show. **New shows include the Polynesian FireKnife Dancers, colorful Costa Rican drummers and dancers, and a Celtic Isles Celebration. These shows premiere along with the Grand Opening of Silver Dollar City's new \$6 million ride, The Giant Swing, on April 5** at the Branson, Missouri theme park.

Rated by guests as one of the top *World-Fest* groups ever during their U.S. debut last year, the **Zunyi Acrobats of China bring two thousand years of artistic tradition to their encore performance at Silver Dollar City.** Combining a ballet-like elegance with incredible balance, agility and strength, the Zunyi Acrobats give guests the opportunity to experience some of the world's best acrobatics, developed over generations with talent and intense training, said *World-Fest* coordinator Rex Burdette. The Zunyi Acrobats perform throughout the entire festival, with additional shows added to accommodate more guests for this popular show.

From **FireKnife dancers twirling flaming ceremonial knives to champion hula dancers wearing handmade costumes**, a new Polynesian dance show features the music and dances of Hawaii, Tahiti and Samoa. The show includes storytelling hulas, lightning-fast Tahitian dances, and drummers performing on traditional wooden drums.

Also new this year, *World-Fest* presents a Celtic Isles Celebration with a high-energy Scottish Celtic band and Scottish Highland dancers along with Irish

Over...

dancers and musicians. A new troupe of **drummers and dancers presents the folk music of Costa Rica.** Popular returning groups include a steel drum band from Trinidad, a Zambian vocal group, a Russian band and pan flute musicians from Ecuador.

Food and craftsmanship take on an international flavor too, as the park offers a pavilion of specialties such as Jamaican jerk chicken, Mexican fajitas, Asian sushi, and Italian tiramisu. Visiting craftsmen from Bulgaria demonstrate woodcarving, pottery, leather crafting and weaving, and the unique craftsmanship of talented artisans from 32 countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America is featured in a showcase from *Ten Thousand Villages*, including handcrafted baskets, jewelry, textiles, musical instruments and home décor.

Each evening, the show *This Country's Rockin'* is featured in Echo Hollow Amphitheatre, with guest performances during *World-Fest* by a Scottish Highland band.

***World-Fest* runs April 5 – May 6**, with the park offering Family Spring Break Days on select dates in March and early April. During *World-Fest*, the park is open Wednesdays through Sundays, 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., and 9:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Saturdays (closed Easter Sunday, April 8). For festival information, schedules and tickets, call 1-800-831-4FUN. For season passes, call 1-800-888-PASS. Information is also available at www.silverdollarcity.com.

#####

World-Fest 2007 includes performers from:

Russia

Ireland

Scotland

Zambia

Tahiti/Samoa

Australia

Ecuador

Trinidad

China

Costa Rica