

Contact: Silver Dollar City Publicity
(417) 338-8207/338-8210
Email version & images available

Experience the World's Most Unique Entertainment at Silver Dollar City's *World-Fest*

(Branson, Mo. 3/05) When representatives from 14 countries around the world from Zambia to the Philippines gather in Branson in April, it won't be to discuss foreign policy or international relations – it's all about world-class entertainment. ***World-Fest, which takes place at the Silver Dollar City theme park April 7 – May 15, brings in over 200 performers from five continents***, all enthusiastic about presenting their country's artistic heritage.

“Whether it's folk dancers from the Philippines, a brass band from Russia or acrobats from Kenya, these performers love to entertain,” says Rex Burdette, Silver Dollar City's *World-Fest* coordinator for 11 years. “And *World-Fest* brings in varieties of performance arts that most Americans have never seen before, performed by those who are among the best in their countries.”

Groups with such unique entertainment include the **Russian Cossack dancers who perform athletic leaps and choreographed sword-fights that send sparks flying** as part of the dance, and the **Italian flag throwing teams who throw their colorful flags high in the air in precise arcs**.

New this year, the park presents **German dancers who perform on stilts**, an **Irish Celebration** with five distinct shows from Irish Celtic music to Irish dance, an a cappella **vocal group from Zambia**, a **Philippine dance troupe**, a **Honduran choir** and a **Czech brass band**. Major shows include **Bulgaria se Artistka** with Olympic-style “eurhythmics,” a blend of acrobatics, folk dance and classical dance; and the high-energy **Russian Cossack National Dance Company**. Each evening, the **Kenya Safari Acrobats** showcase their skills in a show in Echo Hollow Amphitheatre.

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Not-to-miss events are the noon parade, where the *World-Fest* groups parade around the Square in their colorful costumes, and the closing activities, where each night before park closing, a featured group jams on the Square. Then guests join the *World-Fest* performers for a song and dance ceremony that draws performers and visitors together in an international circle of friendship.

Food takes on an international flavor too, as the park offers a pavilion of specialties such as Jamaican jerk chicken and Caribbean barbecue ribs, Italian calzones, Mexican fajitas, oriental platters, and Greek pies, salads and gyros. International desserts include French crème brulee and Italian tiramisu with chocolate and espresso.

***World-Fest* runs April 7 – May 15**, 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. 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.

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World-Fest 2005 includes performers from:

Germany	Bulgaria	Ireland
Kenya	Zambia	Russia
Philippines	Italy	Austria
Ukraine	Ecuador	Trinidad
Honduras	Czech Republic	