

The Alliance

Dedicated to promoting unity, justice, equal opportunity, ethnic awareness, cross-cultural understanding and appreciation for diversity.

Inside this Issue:

Membership & News	2
Tulipanes Events	3
RLP Gets Under Way	3
Columbia Arts Festival	4

Board of Directors

- Becky Arenas
- Liz Barveld
- Linda Blauwkamp
- Janie Briones
- Bin Lim
- Eleanor Lopez
- Kim Romero
- Marvin Younger
- Mary Yedinak

ACEH Meets September 14 to Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month with Folkloric Dance Group

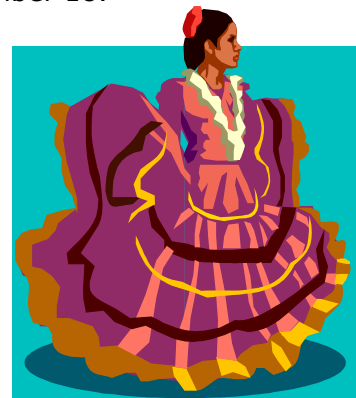
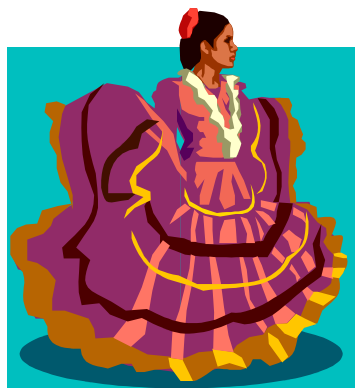
The Alliance for Cultural and Ethnic Harmony will celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month Friday, September 14, with a program of Mexican folkloric dances and a Mexican dinner.

The meeting, which is open to everyone, begins at 7 p.m. at the Center for Women in Transition, 411 Butternut, Holland.

Six dancers from the All For One dance group in Holland will provide information about the dances and perform "El Triste" from the state of Jalisco, "El Tilingo Lingo" and "El Palomo Y La Paloma" from the state of Veracruz, and "La Capsula" from the northern region's state of Nuevo Leon. Taking part are Lenora Mendoza, Marlene Perez, Vanessa Tijerina, Yvette Tijerina, Anisa Morales, and Ciana Morales. Their instructor is Dominique Vargas.

A variety of foods from Mexico will be served.

Hispanic Heritage Month, which was established in the United States in 1988, begins September 15, the anniversary of independence for five Latin American countries—Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua; Mexico declared its independence on September 16, and Chile on September 18.





Joining the Alliance

A warm welcome to new member **Amy Otis**, director of the international office at Hope College.

Please consider joining with Amy and other ACEH supporters in Lakeshore communities as we work together for social justice and appreciation for diversity, to make West Michigan a place where all are welcomed and respected. The ACEH dues structure is as follows:

Individual: \$20.00 one year; \$35.00 two years
Family: \$30.00 one year; \$50.00 two years
Nonprofit: \$40.00 one year
Business: \$75.00 one year

The ACEH fiscal year runs October 1 – September 30. In lieu of, or in addition to, paying dues, you may make a pledge of service to ACEH. Checks or service pledges should be made out to ACEH and sent to Treasurer Janie Briones, P. O. Box 3007, Holland, MI 49422-3007. To pay by credit card, go to our website www.harmonyalliance.org, click on "Join Us" and use the secure Pay Pal system.

60 Adults, Kids Enjoy 9th Annual Potluck in the Park

The rain stayed away, and some 60 adults and children enjoyed an afternoon of good conversation, games, music, art, and great food at the 9th annual ACEH Potluck in the Park August 5. Music by Alexander Kofi Washington, polymer clay sculpture with **Annie Olson** of Annie's Arc, and fantastic balloon creations by ACEH President **Kim Romero** were highlights for everyone. People's favorite foods from Mexico, Chile, Brazil, Indonesia, Korea, Germany, Norway, and the United States covered the tables. Kids played basketball and then tried their best to break the piñata with a baseball bat, finally bringing down a shower of candy. Special thanks to ACEH board members **Bin Lim** and **Liz Barveld** for their work in making the event a success. For pictures of the Potluck, go to www.harmonyalliance.org and click on Photos and then Summer 07.

ACEH Member News

Congratulations to **Sara De Roo** and Jaime Blomeling, who were married in May, creating a blended family of 12 children ages 4 to 18. Sara also received her master's degree in social work from Grand Valley in the spring, winning the outstanding graduate award in community and public service. She is employed as a medical social worker for Spectrum Health.

7th Annual Tulipanes Festival Features Films, Music, Art, and More

One, two, three, four, five, six...and SIETE! The 7th annual Tulipanes Latino Art and Film Festival takes place over Labor Day weekend in downtown Holland, showcasing Latino culture with a wide selection of films, art, music, dance, poetry, storytelling, a fine art fair, children's mural, a giant piñata, and a cantina of food from Mexico, Cuba, Spain, and elsewhere. All events are free except for the August 29 concert and Salsa Night on September 1. **For a complete schedule, go to the website www.tulipanes.org** (Volunteers are still needed—check the website.)

Events start at 7 pm Wednesday, August 29, with soprano Martha Juliana Ayeche Rodriguez from Holland's Sister City, Querétaro, Mexico, in concert at Dimnent Chapel, College Ave at 12th St. Tickets, at \$11.50 for adults, \$6.50 for students, can be purchased at the Hope College box office in DeVos Field House on Fairbanks Ave. or by calling (616) 395-7890.



The family film "Happy Feet" will be shown Friday, Aug. 31, in Centennial Park at 8:30 pm.

Saturday, September 1, features Cuban storyteller Carmen Agra Deedy at Herrick Library at 10 am, 1 pm, and 3 pm. In the evening, Salsa Night takes the floor at 9 pm at the Holland Armory, 9th Street at Central, with Orquesta Sensacional playing for a night of Latin dancing. (Free lessons will be offered at 8 o'clock.) Tickets are \$10 ahead of time, from the Holland Visitors Center, 76 East 8th St, (616) 394-0000, or \$15 at the door.

A bilingual Faith and Worship Celebration will be Sunday, September 2, from 3 to 4 pm in Centennial Park, led by pastor Edgar Gomez of Resurrection Life church.

Reciprocal Language Partnership Expands to 3 Sites

Do you want to learn Spanish—or English? Would you like to develop cross-cultural friendships? The Reciprocal Language Partnership (RLP) may be just the place for you. And beginning in September, with the help of a grant from the Community Foundation of the Holland/Zeeland Area, the program will expand to three teaching sites: First Presbyterian Church of Holland, Fellowship Reformed Church, and South Side Christian School. Classes are once a week, from 6:30 pm to 8:45 pm, and include bilingual child care.

If you are a native speaker of English, you'll be paired with a native speaker of Spanish. With a teacher and a curriculum, plus speaking practice in class and short writing assignments at home; the two of you will help each other. Each class is two hours, one in English and one in Spanish. Beginner classes are Mondays at Fellowship Reformed (300 168th), Tuesdays at South Side Christian (913 Pine Ave), or Thursdays at First Presbyterian (659 State St). An intermediate class will be Tuesdays at First Presbyterian.

You will need to attend an informational meeting (6:30 pm for English speakers, 7:30 pm for Spanish speakers) at one of these locations: Thursday, Sept 6, at First Presbyterian; Monday, Sept 10 at Fellowship Reformed; or Tuesday, Sept 11, at South Side Christian School. For more information, go to the RLP website www.rlpprogram.org or contact executive director Pieter Kiwiet at (616) 392-9022, ext. 103.

The Alliance

THE ALLIANCE FOR
CULTURAL AND ETHNIC
HARMONY

Box 3007
Holland, MI 49422-3007

PHONE:
616-405-6761

E-MAIL:
aceh@harmonyalliance.org.

WEB ADDRESS
www.harmonyalliance.org

*Bringing People
Together from Worlds
Apart*

New Arts Festival Hits the Local Scene

Taking it to the streets will have a whole new meaning Saturday, September 22, when the first Columbia Arts Festival gets under way, celebrating local arts and recent renovations in the Columbia Art District.

A diverse group of artists, musicians, performers, writers, and food vendors will create, educate, and entertain between 18th and 20th Streets on Columbia Ave. and on 19th Street east of Columbia (near Leaf and Bean coffee shop). The event will run from 9:30 am to 10 pm. It is free, except for the food booths. Art and books will be for sale.

ACEH board member **Linda Blauwkamp**, one of the organizers, says there will be local bands, art booths and artists' chairs, a writer's block, a stage for storytellers, puppeteers and other performers, and a beer tent featuring four microbreweries and winemakers. A bed race will feature people pushing beds downhill from 20th to 19th Street on Columbia; beds will be evaluated on "speed and art." The Holland Area Arts Council will assemble a mural from construction paper chalk-art created by children of all ages. At dusk, a family film will be shown on 19th Street.

Working on the Festival are Jodi Rademacher, Hopwood DePree, Tina Perry, and ACEH member **Annie Olson**. Many volunteers are needed to help out at the Festival, too. Contact Linda at Leaf and Bean or check www.columbiaartsfestival.org

The Alliance for Cultural
and Ethnic Harmony

Box 3007
Holland, MI 49422-3007