



# Cedar Trails Festival of Cultures

## Host Information Packet

April 26, 2024

6pm-8pm

Cedar Trails Commons/Lunchroom



Thank you for signing up to host a table at this year's Festival of Cultures! This is your guide to planning your table and hosting another great event.

Each country/region/culture will be given:

1. One 6 ft or 8 ft x 30-inch folding table
2. Small stickers to give out to guests for their passports after the student has learned something about your culture

**TO DO:** If you need power, have any other requirements, or have other questions please contact Amy Bhatt at [FestivalOfCultures@cedartrailspts.org](mailto:FestivalOfCultures@cedartrailspts.org), and we'll do our best to facilitate your needs.

**Timing:** You are invited to set up your table starting at 5:30pm on Friday, April 26, 2024. Please do not arrive before 5:30pm unless you are volunteering to set up before the event starts. The festival doors will open at 6:00pm to the public.

**Format and Program:** Each guest will be given a “**passport**” with facts about each community represented to encourage everyone to visit each table. Guests must ask a question or participate in an activity at your table to earn their stamp. We will provide you with a sheet of stickers to use as “stamps.”

**TO DO:** Please send us a list of 5-6 facts about your country/community so we can include them in the passport by **April 19th**.

We will set up tables at the perimeter of the Commons facing the stage. We will assign your group a table and you can decorate it as you like! People will be invited to visit each table, ask questions, sample foods, participate in any activities you may have, and collect their passport sticker.

This year, we will have some **performances** at the same time as the festival, including dances, musical performances, and more! The program is still being confirmed, but the performances will start around 6:30pm and will be going on while guests are visiting tables.

**TO DO:** Please let us know if you have suggestions for performers or if you would like to use the stage for any kind of performance.

**Set-Up:** To prepare your table, you may want to incorporate some of the following elements or come up with your own!

### **1. Table Decorations**

- a. We recommend putting together a tri-fold posterboard that can stand up on the table with a display of visuals, facts, maps, or other images, and of course the name of your country/region/community. Be sure to label images and ask your kids to help!
- b. Include visuals in any form (snapshots, movies, printed images, slides, or a PowerPoint on a laptop) are a great way to teach others about your heritage.
- c. You can show a short video of the region, about the history of that place, or an art/cultural performance (you will need to supply your own laptop).
- d. Incorporate art, traditional costumes, flags, books, artifacts like small

statues, musical instruments, or games from your community. Keep in mind that guests may want to interact with items, so bring only what you are comfortable with having touched or keep it further back on the table as part of the display.



## 2. Activities

- a. **Passport stamps:** Each table will “stamp” guests’ passports (give out a flag sticker) after they have interacted with and learned something at the table.
- b. **Handouts:** You can bring a simple activity or handout that shares something special about your community/place. Examples include games that are popular or traditional (i.e., mahjong for China or chess for India), paper arts like origami, calligraphy, or henna tattoos.
- c. **Interactives:** We’ve had tables set up drums for people to play, a surfboard to test out (on land :), cutouts to take photos with, and fabrics to feel. Feel free to get creative!

## 3. Food

- a. Food is a great way to share your culture! Feel free to hand out samples, but only to children who are accompanied by an adult.
- b. Please offer finger foods with napkins or provide disposable dishware, for example: empanadas, honey candies, meatballs, milk cakes.

**TO DO:** Print out a list of ingredients or known allergy ingredients in your food item and post on your table.

## 4. Table Volunteers

- a. Be sure to have at least one person stationed at your table through

the event. Encourage your children and their friends to help! If you have other families that want to host your community, please let us know and we can help facilitate

b. Wearing some sort of traditional dress is a fun way to share as well!

**TO DO:** Let us know if you know other families that would like to participate!

**Next Steps (complete by April 19th or ASAP):**

1. If you need power, have any other requirements, or have other questions please contact Amy Bhatt at [FestivalOfCultures@cedartrailspts.org](mailto:FestivalOfCultures@cedartrailspts.org).
2. Send us a list of 5-6 facts about your country/community/region so we can include them in the passport. If you participated last year, we could reuse those facts if you'd like.
3. Let us know ASAP if you have suggestions for performers or if you would like to use the stage for any kind of performance.
4. Print out a list of ingredients in your food item and post on your table.
5. Let us know if you know other families that would like to participate!

Thank you so much for making this another great event at Cedar Trail!



