

Dear Parents.

We are so excited to be preparing for our most signature event at GEMS - our International Festival, also known as the "Taste of GEMS" on Saturday May 20, 2017 from 12-4 pm. The theme will be "Culture through the senses".

The most pressing issue is making sure we have all the flags represented from every country of every student at GEMS. We have a pretty good start with about 50 flags from last years event, **but please** contact the appropriate cultural lead by Monday, May 8 to let them know which country flag you would like to see flying high for your student.

The event will follow a similar format as last year. The cuisine will all be in the cafeteria to represent "taste & smell", and all the cultural wares/clothing/antiques representing "sight, touch and sound" will be proudly displayed in the gymnasium.

We would appreciate all those that are interested in sharing their cultural heritage, whether it be first, second or third generation, to please contact the appropriate lead:

African Diaspora (African, Caribbean, African American heritage) Lead Debra Roberts debravroberts@yahoo.com

**European Heritage Lead** 

Edie Milosevic Edie.milosevic@gmail.com

Latino/Hispanic/Brazilian/South American/Central American Lead Elvia Ulloa <u>elviavulloa@gmail.com</u>

Middle Eastern Heritage Lead

Azeh Atout azehatout@yahoo.com

Asian/Indian Heritage Lead

Ena Jung jung.ena@gmail.com

Also if anyone is interested in helping out in general, please contact Joselynne Gardner at <a href="mailto:igardner1908@gmail.com">igardner1908@gmail.com</a>

Many more specific details will follow next week, but for now, please reach out to the appropriate cultural lead to make sure we have your country flag ordered and ready to be proudly displayed.

Best.

Tiffany Miller Spriggs
PTO Cultural Engagement Chair tiffanyjmiller74@gmail.com