

The poster features a golden background with intricate, swirling white patterns that resemble traditional Chinese clouds or stylized waves. In the center, a vibrant red square with a distressed, ink-like border contains the event's title in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters. The text is stacked vertically: 'LUNAR' at the top, 'FEST NJ' in the middle, '2024' in a larger font size below that, and 'MAPLEWOOD' at the bottom.

LUNAR
FEST NJ
2024
MAPLEWOOD

We join you in celebrating

LUNAR FEST NJ

Honoring the rich traditions
of Asian arts and culture



1 8 5 6

Dear Friends,

It is our pleasure to extend warm greetings to everyone attending SOMA Cross Cultural Works' (SOMA CCW) annual Lunar Fest NJ! This festival recognizes and celebrates Lunar New Year, the Year of the Dragon. SOMA CCW is a non-profit based in Maplewood, NJ that is dedicated to the diversity and inclusion in our two towns.

As a non-profit organization, we thrive on working with and leading the community in creative and cultural diversity. We truly believe that cultural diversity is a powerful force for the development of all as individuals, and our community. It is a vehicle that can mobilize us, help us generate meaningful dialogue with others and help us to foster intercultural connections that encourage inclusion, understanding and friendship.

While you are here, we hope you savor the delicate flavors of some of our amazing local restaurants, delight in the music and dance of our performers and enjoy being present with your children at our cultural activities tables.

This event was made possible by you and your community. This event took months of planning and was truly a labor of love for our volunteers. Thank you to our incredible sponsors and vendors. This would not be possible without you. We are appreciative of our food vendors, choreographers, performers, committee members and volunteers.

Lunar Fest NJ 2024 promises to be a feast for the senses! Enjoy!

From all of us,

Lunar Fest NJ 2024 Committee

Ommer Khaw
Allison Kim Lord
Jessica Lian Pace
Elaine Bu
Beth Fund Ceglio
Jessica Cabato
Mia Charlene White





Are you up to date with your care & screenings? There are new guidelines for health screenings & vaccines!

您按時做檢查和篩檢了嗎？請瞭解目前關於健康檢查和疫苗的最新指南！

- Get care for your chronic conditions.
我們能幫助您控制慢性疾病。
- Get the latest information about vaccinations, lifestyle and nutrition.
我們能為您提供關於疫苗接種、生活方式與營養的最新信息。
- CDC recommends a test for hepatitis B for anyone 18-59. There is now a 2-dose vaccine for Hepatitis B.
美國疾控中心建議所有18-59歲的人進行一次乙型肝炎檢測。現在有一種更加方便的2劑乙肝疫苗。
- Colon cancer screening now starts at age 45 not age 50.
腸癌篩檢現在從45歲開始（不再是50歲）。
- Don't forget to get your mammogram! The Ambulatory Care Center now offers walk-ins on Wednesdays.
請別忘記做乳房X光檢查！巴拿巴門診醫療中心現在每周三提供無需提前預約的檢查。

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Every second Saturday, 9 am to 3 pm |

每月第二個周六上午9時至下午3時

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華人醫療服務中心

LUNAR NEW YEAR CELEBRATIONS



Lunar New Year typically begins with the first new moon of the lunar calendar and is celebrated in many countries such as China, Korea and Vietnam. The celebration ends on the first full moon of the lunar calendar, 15 days later. Since the lunar calendar is based on the cycles of the moon, the dates vary slightly from year to year.

Today in China, the Lunar New Year celebration is called the Spring Festival. In Chinese culture, approximately 10 days before the beginning of the new lunar year, people thoroughly clean their houses to remove any bad luck that might be lingering inside. Traditionally, New Year is a time to return home and honor ancestors. Family members receive red envelopes (*lai see*) containing small amounts of money. There are lots of dances and fireworks throughout the holidays, ending in the Lantern Festival, which is celebrated on the last day of the New Year's celebrations. On this night, lanterns light up homes, and traditional foods such as *yuanxiao* (sticky rice balls that symbolize family unity), *fagao* (prosperity cake), and *yusheng* (raw fish and vegetable salad) are served.

In Korea, the Lunar New Year is known as "Seollal." The traditional greeting for the new year is *Saehae Bok Mani Badseiyo*. It is a family holiday and a time to pay respects to ancestors. Many Koreans dress up in traditional Korean clothing called *hanbok*. Children receive colorful bags with small amounts of money. Typical foods eaten during New Year are *Tteokguk* (soup with sliced rice cakes) and *Jeon*, a savory pancake sometimes called *buchimgae*. Traditional games such as *yutnori*, *gongginori* (similar to jacks), and *jegichagi* (hacky sack) are often played during the New Year.

Tết, Vietnamese New Year, is the most important holiday in Vietnam. The word is a shortened form of Tết Nguyên Đán, which means "Feast of the First Morning of the First Day" and celebrates the arrival of spring. The Vietnamese prepare for the holiday by cleaning the house and cooking special foods. Traditional foods include *bánh chưng*, *bánh dày*, dried young bamboo soup (*canh măng*), *giò*, and sticky rice. The

traditional greetings are "Chúc Mừng Năm Mới" (Happy New Year) and "Cung Chúc Tân Xuân", (gracious wishes of the new spring). Tết Customs include visiting a person's house on the first day of the new year; ancestral worship with offerings as displays of fruit or candy platters, flowers; writing New Year's greetings in calligraphy; and giving "lucky money" in red envelopes to children and elderly people.



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SCHEDULE OF PERFORMANCES

12:00 PM	WELCOME REMARKS LION DANCE New York Chinese Freemasons Athletic Club
12:30 PM	FA DANCE ACADEMY Hip Hop Dai Dance Mongolian Dance
1:00 PM	NEW YORK CHINESE CULTURAL CENTER Northern Lion Dance Ribbon Dance Music on Guzheng
1:30 PM	COLUMBIA HIGH SCHOOL CHINESE LANGUAGE STUDENTS
2:00 PM	ZEN WUSHU ACADEMY Wushu Kung Fu Performance
2:30 PM	CHINESE THEATRE WORKS Hand puppetry - Hao Bang Ah Dragon
3:15 PM	WOORIGARAK KOREAN CULTURAL ART CENTER
3:45 PM	CLOSING REMARKS

UPSTAIRS IN THE PARLOR

Childrens crafts
Millburn Korean School – Korean crafts
Balloon Artist – Ausome Balloon Creator

VENDORS

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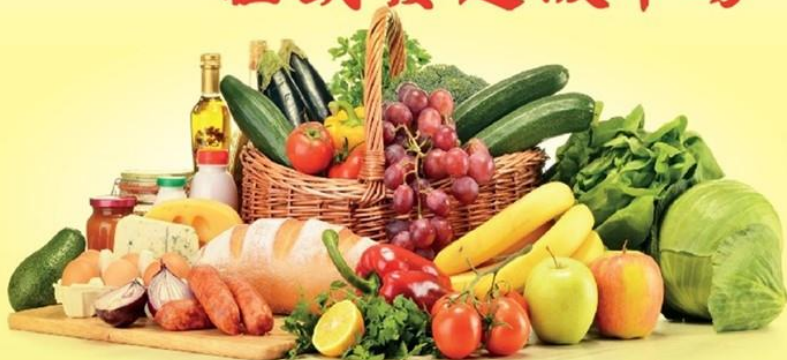
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Friday ~ Saturday 星期五及六

8:30 am-8:30 pm

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Tel: (973) 564-9092

SOMA Cross-Cultural Works would like to thank the following sponsors, participants, and supporters of Lunar Fest NJ.

SPECIAL THANKS

MASTER OF CEREMONIES

Elaine Bu

DECORATION AND CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

Jessica Cabato

Elaine Bu

Maplewood Middle School

South Orange Middle School

Columbia High School

Millburn Korean School

TOWNSHIP OF MAPLEWOOD

Mayor Nancy Adams and The Township Committee

The Department of Recreation and Cultural Affairs

Art and Graphic Design

Allen Gaoiran, Gaoiran Studios, Graphic Design

Manman Huang, Artist

ALL the Volunteers

Mike Choi - Sound Engineer

Beth Fung Ceglio - Operations

Our Valued Performers and Guests

NY Chinese Freemasons Athletic Club

FA Dance Academy

New York Chinese Cultural Center

Columbia High School

Zen Wushu Academy

The Chinese Theatre Works

Woorigarak Korean Cultural Art Center

Ausome Balloon Artist

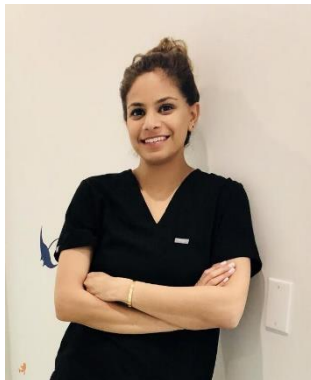


Precious Pearls

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Wishing Everyone a
Happy
Healthy
Prosperous
New Year



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Happy Lunar New Year!

Meridia South Orange is a brand-new apartment building in the heart of downtown South Orange, New Jersey. Our building is conveniently located within walking distance of South Orange Train Station along with many dining establishments, boutique shops, and entertainment options.



Happy New Year!
Wishing you prosperity and good future!



TINA ERWAY
Sales Associate
Call/Text 973-454-2133
tinaerway@gmail.com

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