This year's theme was "Worldwide Snapshots". Our hope was to not only showcase all the different cultures around the globe, but also bring together the local domestic community and the international community. The festival highlighted talent, food, dress, culture, and much more from all around our world.

The multicultural fashion show features student models displaying cultural wear from around the world. The goal of this event was to educate people on different cultures as well as cultural appropriation. It is important to remember, cultures are not costumes. They hold cultural significance and ethnic pride associated with them.

Baile Monarcas dance to traditional Mexican Folk music, and the traditional dance incorporates vibrant colors. This dancers' make-up was inspired by a sugar skull that is big during the Day of the Dead that is celebrated every year Oct 30-Nov. 2. This Mexican tradition is to remember and pray for friends and family who have passed away.

Japanese calligraphy, also known as shodo, is the art of writing by hand to create letters or symbols using a brush dipped in ink. It's a beautiful art form as well as a means of communication. The ability to do calligraphy is a skill passed from one generation to the next, and it requires a lot of training.

Restaurants around Springfield donated many delicious foods. Many provided traditional Mexican, Indian, Korean, etc. meals. The goal of traditional foods is to introduce others to the different dishes and to taste amazing food.

Mehndi is a form of body art originating in ancient India, in which decorative designs are created on a person's body, using a paste created from the powdered dry leaves of the henna plant (Lawsonia inermis). Mehndi originates from the Sanskrit word mendhikā. Mehndi decorations became fashionable in the West in the late 1990s, where they are called henna tattoos. Mehndi in Indian tradition is prevalent during special Hindu weddings.
**42nd International Festival**

**PERFORMERS**

- **Baile Monarcas**
  Mexican Dance Performance

- **Croatian Dance & Music**
  Showcase of traditional Croatian Dance & Music

- **The Royal Starettes Majorette Team**
  Dance Performance

- **Celtic Dancers of St. Andrew's Society of Central Illinois**
  Stottish Highland Dance

- **UIS Legacy Dance Team**
  Legacy Dance & Performance

- **Celtic Dancers of St. Andrew's Society of Central Illinois**
  Irish Traditional Dance

- **Sun-Ren Chang and Elva Chang**
  Choy Li Fut Long Pole (Chinese Martial Arts)

- **The Collective & Lotus Fire Belly Dance**
  Celebrating Day of the Dead

- **Springfield Dance Theatre**
  Tinkerbell

- **Torch-Nation**
  Sing, Dance & Rap!

- **Afro-Beat Dance**
  Afro Beat!

- **Epic Praise for Christ Dance Team**
  Dance Performance
42nd International Festival

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ASSOCIATION
FLAG PARADE & INTERNATIONAL FASHION SHOW
FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

It is hard to believe that it snowed on Halloween. For those of you who saw snow for the very first time on that day, I hope that you enjoyed the experience. There is more to come.

It is also hard to believe that the fall 2019 semester will soon be over and that some of you will be graduating and moving on. It has gone by so fast that we have barely begun to get to know you. Stay in touch, and keep us informed about how life is going for you. Congratulations on all that you have achieved while you have been with us, and best wishes for whatever the future holds.

A few reminders:

1) If you are graduating and still need to apply for OPT or finalize an application for admission to another program of study, do that right away.

2) If you are returning to continue your studies in the spring, make sure that you have registered for a full course load or requested authorization for a Reduced Course Load.

3) If you are travelling outside the US during the break between semesters, check your immigration documents to make sure that they will all be valid when you show up for re-entry and get your travel signature on page 2 of your I-20.

4) If you have ANY questions about ANYTHING related to your immigration status, check out all the great information on our website, then email or call with any remaining questions.

Make the best of these final few weeks of the semester. Get your work done, then join us for our remaining events. You will enjoy them. We will enjoy seeing you.

Best,

Rick Lane

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SERVICES
INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION WEEK

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15
Foreign and Independent Film Series:
Whale Rider (2002), New Zealand, 7 pm – 9 pm, Brookens Auditorium, presented by Student Life

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 18
Study Away in Taiwan, 12 pm – 1 pm, BRK 411 presented by the office of Study Away programs

Study Away in England, 4 pm – 5 pm, BRK 411
presented by the office of Study Away programs

Read Around the World: Pairing Global Lit and Hot Sips, 4 pm -6 pm, Brookens Library, presented by the Brookens Library

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19
Lunch and Learn American History: Thanksgiving,
12 pm – 1 pm, Student Union Ballroom, presented by office of International Student Services

Study Away in Japan and China, 12 pm – 1 pm, BRK 333, presented by the office of Study Away Programs

Study Away in Japan and China, 5 pm – 6 pm, BRK 373, presented by the office of Study Away Programs

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20
CBM and Japan Linking
Together, 11:30 am - 1 :30 pm, Student Leadership Center,
presented by CBM

General Info Session on Study Away Opportunities, 12 pm – 1 pm,
BRK 333, presented by office of Study Away Programs

General Info Session on Study Away Opportunities, 5 pm – 6 pm, BRK 411, presented by office of Study Away Programs

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21
Study Away in Spain,
12 pm – 1 pm, BRK 411, presented by office of Study Away Programs

H1B Workshop, 1 pm -3 pm, Brookens Auditorium
presented by office of International Student Services

*FRIDAY-THURSDAY
IEW Online Trivia Quizzes presented by office of International Student Services
Thanksgiving Day is a national holiday in the United States, and Thanksgiving 2019 occurs on Thursday, November 28. In 1621, the Plymouth colonists and Wampanoag Indians shared an autumn harvest feast that is acknowledged today as one of the first Thanksgiving celebrations in the colonies. For more than two centuries, individual colonies and states celebrated days of Thanksgiving. It wasn’t until 1863, amid the Civil War, that President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed a national Thanksgiving Day for all to celebrate each November.
SRUJANI GINNARAM
From: Hyderabad, India
Spoken Languages: Telugu, Hindi, & English
Major: Master’s in Computer Science
What #hashtag best describes you?: #Hyperactive
What is your dream job?: UI developer
Interest & Hobbies: My hobbies are art and craft. I am interested in web designing because I like the idea that as a web designer, you can create a new world out of imagination.
Favorite Movie & Why: My favorite movie is Bahubali. It's like many Indian mythology stories that deal with a righteous king. The director of this movie is Rajamouli's, he creates a vision and execution that is beyond brilliant. He may have a stellar cast, but Rajamouli is the actual hero of this movie with his talent to show our culture's history in all its glory.

Describe your home country and what you like best about it: India is the world’s largest, oldest, continuous civilization. Although modern images of India often show poverty and lack of development, India was the wealthiest country on earth until the time of British invasion in the early 17th Century. India’s wealth attracted Christopher Columbus. India is one of the few countries in the World, which gained independence without violence. India has the second-largest pool of Scientists and Engineers in the World and is the largest English speaking nation in the world. India is the only country other than US and Japan, to have built a supercomputer ingeniously. There are many more reasons to feel proud! The best part I like about my country is its culture and the food.

What is your favorite food in your home country and in the US?: My all-time favorite food in Indian is Hyderabadi Biryani, and in the United States, I like funnel cakes.

What do you like best about Springfield?: I love to spend my free time at Lake Springfield, because it makes me feel happy being with nature.

What does life after UIS look like for you?: Life after UIS, I see myself web designing. I would want to be a UI developer.

What other countries would you like to travel to?: I love traveling and hope to go to France, Mexico, Italy.

Were you involved in any clubs, organizations, or campus employment while at UIS? If so, please describe which club, organization, or employment and what you enjoyed or learned.: While at UIS, I was part of ISO. Being part of this club made me happy to be able to celebrate my culture in the United States. Now, I am part of the International Student Association (ISA), which creates an opportunity to work with students from around the globe. I have enjoyed having time to get to know the students because it has molded me into the person I am today. While participating in ISA, I am also an International Student Ambassador for the International Student Services. It is an honor to play a role in ISS international events and UIS celebrations, as well as learning about different cultures and traditions from around the world.

What tips could you offer new students?: Grab the opportunities when you have them. Develop as an individual learner. Do not worry about success: focus on your goals. Success will eventually fall into its place.

Why did you choose UIS?: I chose UIS because of the opportunities that UIS provides international students like GPSI, GA'S.
UPCOMING PROGRAMS

November 14
Cambodia Water Festival, Student Union
Patio, 11am – 2pm

November 18-22
International Education Week

November 19
International Thanksgiving Luncheon, Student Union Ballroom, 12 pm – 1 pm

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SERVICES

WALK-IN HOURS

MONDAY – 2:00PM TO 4:00PM
TUESDAY – 2:00PM TO 4:00PM
WEDNESDAY – 9:30AM TO 11:30AM
THURSDAY – 2:00PM TO 4:00PM

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