

For Immediate Release

Contact: Leanne Ricchiuti, Headline Media for ICCR, 518-222-8073

June 26, 2024

PRESS RELEASE

International Center of the Capital Region Announces Taste of the World Dinner Showcase Series in Schenectady's Central Park

With Support from Music Haven, Local Restaurants to Highlight International Fare as Fundraiser for Nonprofit

(Troy, N.Y.) – The <u>International Center of the Capital Region</u>'s (ICCR) Taste of the World Dinner Showcase is a series of prix fixe dinners provided by area restaurants and complimenting some of the <u>Music Haven</u> concert themes, that will be held in Schenectady's Central Park pavilion before the concerts.

ICCR's Taste of the World program complements the organization's <u>Food Passport</u>, encouraging food lovers to learn about different cultures through food, just as Music Haven encourages people to "travel the world, one concert at a time." That learning experience will now also be possible through these dinner offerings, while enjoying music concerts at Music Haven, an award-winning concert series that helps illuminate ICCR's mission. These dinners will be held rain or shine under the covered Thomas Isabella Pavilion on the specified dates, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The free concerts begin at 7:00 p.m. just adjacent to the pavilion in Central Park.

The dinner series is a fundraiser to support ICCR's youth programming. ICCR hopes to teach young people in the Capital Region to be global citizens for the next generation, as part of the ICCR Youth Diplomacy Program which includes <u>Academic WorldQuest</u> with plans to host a Model UN Conference at Hudson Valley Community College tentatively in the fall, and host world learning programs for students K-12 next year.

Music Haven is a generous sponsor of this special dinner series, providing the use of the pavilion on three special concert nights where music and food aficionados alike may enjoy a full three-course prix fixe dinner before the concert, starting at 5:00 p.m. The dinners are catered meals, and offered at an incredible savings of just \$40 per person, (\$35 for ICCR members).

Each prix fixe meal will include an appetizer, meat or vegetarian entree, and dessert, with non-alcoholic drinks included. A cash bar will be available as well.

Local restaurants will provide the prix fixe dinners on the following days.

July 21 – Keobi's, offering African cuisines

August 4 – Pataconia, featuring Caribbean flavors

August 18 – Simone's Kitchen, providing tastes from the Mediterranean

Those interested in tasting international cuisine and supporting ICCR are encouraged to purchase tickets on the <u>ICCR event web page</u>. There is member and non-member pricing. A limited number of tickets will be sold at the door so it is best to sign up in advance.

"We're very thankful to Music Haven for their support," said ICCR Executive Director Holly Planells McKenna. "The mission of ICCR is to share everything about worldly cultures, and food and music is one of the most profound ways to do that. We're proud of ICCR's accomplishments with the Cultural Food Passport and encourage everyone to attend our dinners to support our youth programming."

ICCR's Cultural Food Passport is available for purchase online.

For more information on the International Center of the Capital Region, visit https://iccralbany.org/.

-30 -

About International Center of the Capital Region. The International Center of the Capital Region (ICCR), a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization, has been welcoming and assisting international newcomers throughout New York's Capital Region since 1956. We enable citizen ambassadors for professional and cultural exchanges through the International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP), the U.S. Department of State's premier professional exchange program, while promoting the diverse people, rich history, and unique assets of the Capital Region.