

The 1999 Southeast Asian Water Festival was made possible by the hard work and dedication of the following organizations and individuals:

American Training
Angkor Dance Troupe
Cambodian Mutual Assistance Association
Center for Family, Work, & Community, UMass Lowell
City of Lowell
Hope Organization
King of Thailand Birthplace Foundation
Latinos en Accion
Lao Family Mutual Association
Lowell Community Health Center
Lowell Heritage State Park
Lowell National Historical Park
Lowell Police Department
Lowell Small Business Assistance Center
Lowell Telecommunications Corp.
River Ambassador Program
University of Massachusetts Lowell
Visiting Nurse Association of Greater Lowell, Inc.

Special Thanks to:

Khan Chao, Southeast Asian Water Festival Coordinator
Lowell Regional Transit Authority
Lowell Heritage Ice Cream
Page One Productions
...and our many volunteers
who have put endless hours in planning this event.

Friends of the Festival

Peter Aucella
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Photography: Rady Mom

3rd Annual Lowell Southeast Asian Water Festival

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Festival Schedule

- 10:00 AM Blessing Ceremony & Opening Remarks - Main Stage
- 11:00 AM Boat Races Begin
- 11:00 AM Entertainment, Ethnic Food, Market Place, Environmental and Informational Booths Open
- 12:00 PM Second Stage Opens
- 4:00 PM Boat Racing Award Ceremony
- 4:30 PM Acknowledgment of Participants & Appreciation Awards



Buddhist monks bless the racing boats during the 1998 Southeast Asian Water Festival.

Performance Schedule

MAIN STAGE

Hosts: Somkhith Vongkaysone & In-Oy Panyanuvong (Lao Community)

Hosts: Bunrith Sath & Sopalina Tim (Cambodian Community)

- 9:40 AM Chhay Yam Parade
- 10:00 AM Blessing Ceremony
- 10:30 AM Opening Remarks
- 11:15 AM Sava Band Introduction
- 11:30 AM CMAA Friendship Dance Group
- 12:00 PM Lowell Lao Teen Group
- 12:30 PM Seasia / Buddha Power & New Generation (CMAA)
- 1:00 PM Big Brother Big Sister ADAM Project / United Teen
Equality Center (UTEC Tribe)
- 1:30 PM Lao Middle School
- 2:00 PM Studio Fabu/ River Ambassador Program/ Souchitta Designs
- 2:30 PM Dance with Sava Band
- 3:00 PM Tou Kouï Nao Kao Nouï
- 3:30 PM Chea X-treme Taekwondo
- 4:00 PM Boat Racing Awards Ceremony
- 4:30 PM Acknowledgment of Participants & Appreciation Awards

SECOND STAGE

Hosts: Arn Chorn Pond & Sophy Theam (Cambodian Community)

Host: Somsak Kounsombath (Lao Community)

- 12:00 PM Century Band
- 12:30 PM Tou Kouï Noa Nouï
- 1:00 PM Poetry Reading / Bayon Traditional Music
- 1:30 PM Darasine
- 2:00 PM ADAM Project / UTEC Tribe & Buddha Power / New Generation
- 2:30 PM Lowell Lao Teen Group/ Lao Middle School
- 3:00 PM Phainame
- 4:00 PM Return to Main Stage for Awards Ceremony

August 21, 1999

Dear Friends!

Welcome to the Third Annual Southeast Asian Water Festival and welcome to the City of Lowell — the All America City! We are so happy that you are joining us today to celebrate our cultures and the environment in which we are now living today.

People have always drawn to rivers because water is life. For centuries, people throughout Southeast Asia have gathered along the major rivers to celebrate the importance of water in all aspects of life: food, agriculture, spirituality and economic prosperity. Today, Lowell's Southeast Asian Water Festival transports this ancient tradition to the banks of the Merrimack River, some thirty thousand miles away from its homelands.

First held in the summer of 1997, the annual Southeast Asian Water Festival has attracted some 30,000 people in respect, celebration and appreciation for the water. It is the only festival of its kind in the United States. As in Southeast Asia, the Water Festival appeals to people of all ages who come together for traditional dances, music, poetry, story telling, fortune-telling, food, and craft booths, boat races, and parades of decorated boats. Beginning with a public ceremony of religious, cultural and community dignitaries, the day ends with a Water Blessing by Buddhist Monks. Now, more than 60 non-profit agencies, community organizations and private businesses contribute funds and talent to the Festival. More than 150 volunteers work hard to ensure that the event is successful. The August celebration has doubled participation in only two years — from 10,000 visitors in 1997 to more than 20,000 last summer. Its growing popularity guarantees that larger crowds will participate in this year's event.

The Southeast Asian Water Festival was driven by the leadership of the Southeast Asian community. The Cambodian Mutual Assistance Association of Greater Lowell, Inc. (CMAA), which headed the festival, was created by the Cambodian community leaders in 1984 to provide social services, employment, educational and cultural programs to Lowell's newest immigrants. With the technical assistance from the Center for Family, Work, and Community at UMass Lowell, the cultural and religious groups throughout the city are represented in the festival planning. The Laotian Family Mutual Assistance Association, Lowell Community Health Center, temples, churches, neighborhood residents and the Heritage State Park representatives are actively involved in organizing and carrying out the Festival project.

In late June of 1999, the Southeast Asian Water Festival project was highlighted as the one of three projects in an application to the National Civic League at the All-America City Award jury competition in Philadelphia. As a result, Lowell was one of the ten cities designated as an "All America City", and the only city in the East Coast. This is the most prestigious contribution from the Southeast Asian community to the City of Lowell, which is home to the second largest Cambodian community in the United States; the largest one being in Long Beach, California. It is estimated that 35,000 Southeast Asians reside in the Lowell area and make up almost one third on the City's population.

We hope that you will enjoy participating in our Third Annual Southeast Asian Water Festival as much as we are enjoying organizing it. Also, while you are in the area, please don't forget to see many other establishments in our City as well. Water is life, and there is a lot to like about Lowell!

Sincerely Yours,

Samkhann C. Khoeun
Executive Director, Cambodian Mutual Assistance Association

BOAT RACES



Boat racing is an integral part of the Southeast Asian water festival tradition. Racing teams from different provinces and towns compete for the right to represent their temples in national championships held every mid-November on the Mekong River in the capitals of Cambodia and Laos.

In Lowell, we have adapted this time-honored tradition to the Merrimack River. Our boats, built in Cambodia, are 32 feet long by 4 feet wide and hold 12 rowers.

Boat races are scheduled every few minutes beginning at 11:00 AM. Races begin upstream toward the Bellgarde boathouse and end near the main stage at the Sampas Pavilion. Race results will be announced at the Awards Ceremony at the Main Stage at 4:00 PM.

TODAY'S TEAMS:

Asian American Federation of New England
Coalition for a Better Acre
Dao Ban Done
Devils
Extreme
F. O. B
Khmer Krom
Lanexang
Laos Community Soccer

Latinos En Accion
Light of Cambodian Children
Lowell Real Estate
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Best wishes to all and Have
 A Wonderful Celebration day.

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សូចស្វាគមន៍

- ១- សួស្តីប្រើមិត្ត លោកអ្នកថ្វាយជិត យុវទាំងឡាយ
ខ្ញុំសូមស្វាគមន៍ មកជុំសប្បាយ ក្នុងថ្ងៃរីករាយ
អបអរសាទរ។
- ២- ពិធីប្រណាំង ស៊ុន្ទូកនិងតាំង សិល្បៈពិពណ៌
លើកតំកើងកេរ្តិ៍ ជាតិសាសន៍វប្បធម៌ ឲ្យមានជំហរ
លើដីបរទេស។
- ៣- គោរពស្វាគមន៍ លើកហត្ថប្រណម្យ ផ្ទះអង្គពិសេស
ព្រះត្រៃសរណៈ ប្រក់ព្រំចំណេះ ឲ្យពិធីនេះ
ស្របតាមប្រពៃ។
- ៤- សូមស្វាគមន៍ញាតិ បងប្អូនរួមជាតិ ទាំងប្រុសទាំងស្រី
ក្រៅរដ្ឋ-ប្រទេស ទំនៀតឃ្លាតឃ្លី ទោះឆ្ងាយអ្តេចក្តី
ចូលរួមជុំគ្នា។
- ៥- ពិធីអ៊ុន្ទូក ដែលបានទាំមក ពីដៃទកម្ពុជា
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Councilor Grady Mulligan

Best Wishes to Everyone
 at the
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 Southeast Asian Water Festival!

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Enjoy
 the
 Water
 Festival!



**Thank you for Helping Lowell Become an
"All America City"**

The Southeast Asian Water Festival promotes a true
sense of community.



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ບຸນຊວງເຮືອ

ບຸນຊວງເຮືອ ເປັນບຸນໃຫຍ່ບຸນນຶ່ງປະຈຳຊາດລາວ ທີ່ຈັດຂຶ້ນທຸກໆປີ ທຸກໆເມືອງໃຫຍ່ ທົ່ວປະເທດ ຊຶ່ງມີແມ່ນ້ຳໃຫລຜ່ານ. ບຸນຊວງເຮືອ ຢູ່ໃນປະເທດລາວ ຈັດຂຶ້ນໃນທ້ອງເດືອນ ຕຸລາ ກົງກັບເດືອນລາວ ແມ່ນເດືອນສິບເອັດ ແຮມ ໑ ຄ່ຳ ຫ້ວງຈາກພິທີຂອງ ບຸນອອກ ບຸນອອກພັນສາໃນວັນຂຶ້ນ ໑໕ ຄ່ຳ ສະນັ້ນຄົນລາວມັກຈະຮ້ອງ ບຸນນີ້ວ່າ ບຸນອອກພັນສາ ຫຼື ວ່າບຸນຊວງເຮືອ. ຍ້ອນວ່າບຸນອອກພັນສາເປັນບຸນໃຫຍ່ຂອງຊາວພືທທັງຫລາຍ, ສະນັ້ນ ຈິ່ງມີຊາວລາວທົ່ວທຸກບ່ອນ, ຈາກບ້ານຫ່າງໄກເມືອງ ຫຼື ຈາກບ້ານໃກ້ໃນຕົວເມືອງຕ່າງໆເຂົ້າ ມາທຽວຊົມງານດ່ຽວກ່າວຢ່າງພິດພັນທີ່ສຸດ. ນັບຕັ້ງແຕ່ຄົນວັນຂຶ້ນ ໑໕ ຄ່ຳ ຝູງຊົນໄດ້ຊົມການ ການໂຫລເຮືອໄຟຢ່າງມ່ວນຊື່ນ ຊຶ່ງຕິດຕາມດ້ວຍການລອຍກະໂທງຕາມລ່າແມ່ນ້ຳຂອງແລະນ້ຳ ອື່ນໆ.

ໃນມື້ຂອງການຊວງເຮືອ ຝູງຊົນຈະເຕົ້າໂຮມກັນຕາມແຄມຝັ່ງ ເພື່ອລ່ຽມການຊວງເຮືອ, ຕອນເຊົ້າ ມີການແຂ່ງຂັນສິພາຍປະເພດຍິງ, ຕອນບ່າງ ແຂ່ງຂັນສິພາຍປະເພດຊາຍ. ນັກສິພາຍ ທັງຫລາຍໄດ້ພາຍເຮືອຂອງຕົນຢ່າງສຸດຝີມີຂອງຕົນເພື່ອຈະໄດ້ເຂົ້າຮອບຊິງຊະນະເລີດແລະນ້ຳໄຊຊະ ນະມາສູ່ທີມສິພາຍຂອງຕົນ, ທີມເຮືອທີ່ຊະນະເລີດ ກໍ່ພາກັນເຊົ້າຟ້ອນລ່າຍໃນເຮືອ ແລະຂຶ້ນມາ ຟ້ອນຕາມຫົນທາງ ປະບົບກັບບັນດາຜູ້ຊົມທັງຫລາຍ, ສ່ວນຢູ່ຕາມຫົນທາງແຄມຝັ່ງ ກໍ່ມີການຂາງ ເຄື່ອງກິນ, ເຄື່ອງດື່ມທຸກໆຢ່າງແກ່ມ່ວນຊື່ນ, ຫ້ວງຈາກສິ້ນສຸດການແຂ່ງຂັນເຮືອແລ້ວ ກໍ່ມີການ ແຈກຂອງລາງວັນຕາມລຳດັບ, ຖືວ່າເປັນການ ພິບພັກັນຂອງບັນດານັກສິພາຍທັງຫລາຍຈາກທ້ອງ ຖິ່ນຕ່າງໆ ແລະຈະໄດ້ກັບມາລອງສິພາຍກັນ ອີກໃນປີຕໍ່ໄປ.

ສ່ວນການແຂ່ງຂັນຊວງເຮືອຢູ່ເມືອງໂລ ຂອງພວກເຮົາເປັນ ປີທີ່ ໓ ແລ້ວຂອງຊາວເອ ເຊັ່ນຕາເວັນອອກສຽງໃຕ້ທີ່ໄດ້ຈັດຂຶ້ນຈາກການອຸປະຖັມແລະຄວາມຮ່ວມມືຈາກອົງການຈັດຕັ້ງ ຕ່າງໆຈັດຂຶ້ນ ໃນເດືອນ ສິງຫາ ວັນທີ່ ໒໑ ໑໙໙໙, ສະນັ້ນຫ້ວງວ່າບຸນຊວງເຮືອປີນີ້ຈະນຳເອົາ ຄວາມສຸກ ຄວາມມ່ວນຊື່ນມາສູ່ບັນທານຝູງຊົນທີ່ມາທຽວຊົມ ທຸກໆທ່ານແລະຄອບຄົວ.



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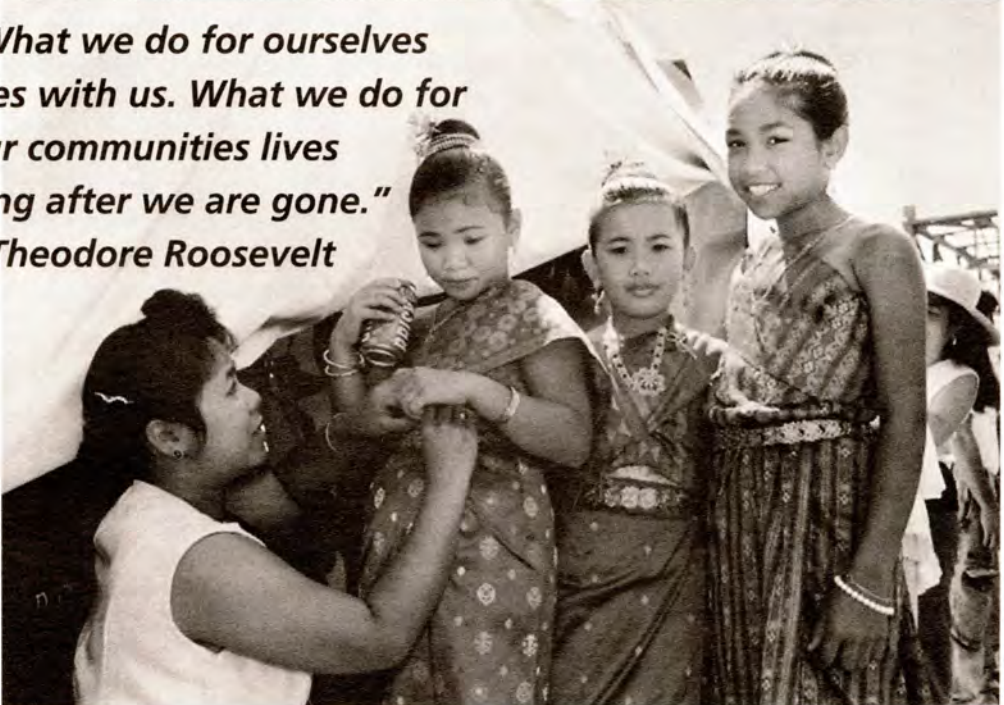
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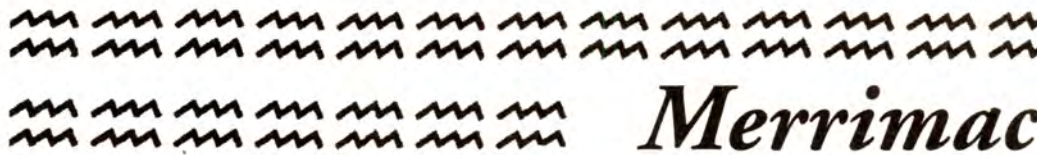
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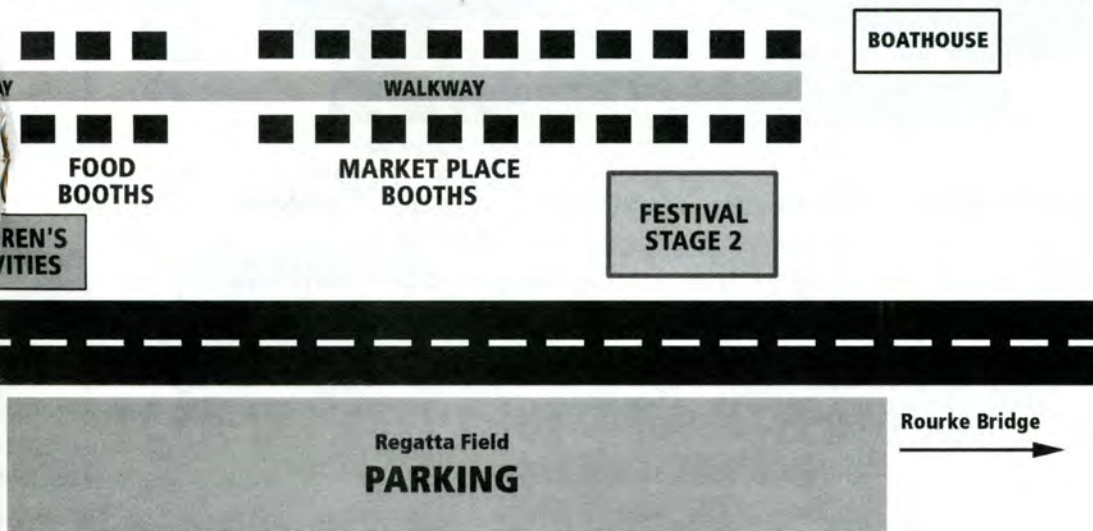
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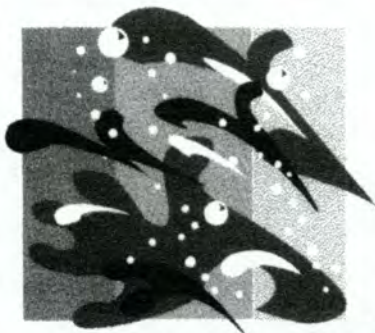


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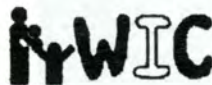
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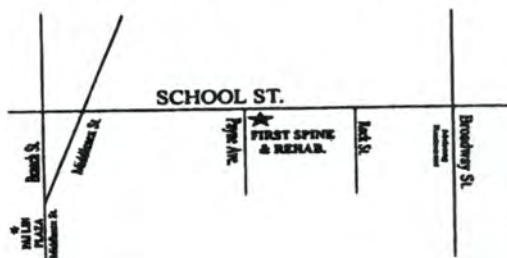
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