

LA SEMANA NEWSLETTER

TUESDAY, AUGUST 2, 2011

Newsletters will be posted daily on the La Semana website. Check www.lasemana.org for newsletters and other Camp information, including Dance costume requirements. If you have any items for the newsletter, please drop them by the office area by Noon.

Absences: Please report any absences, child or adult, daily to the camp office located just inside the main entrance. Or call 612-208-7522.

Market Day: On Wednesday, August 3rd from 8:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m., there will be a variety of vendors selling items for both kids and adults. Goods include crafts, clothing, greeting cards, books, musical instruments, CDs and adoption-related items. Campers will have opportunities during the day to see and buy the merchandise and there will be a number of inexpensive items for younger campers to purchase. Please remember to **send money with your child** if you will not be with them. Also note that Market Day will take place in the cafeteria this year, not throughout the halls of the building as in the past.

Lunch on Wednesday: Since Market Day will take place in the cafeteria, we will be eating snack and lunches in tents outside. You might consider bringing a blanket for a picnic.

Heads Up, Facilitators: Wednesday, a face painter will be approaching your class to paint faces for the Brazilian Carnival Celebration happening in Specialty. We hope you won't mind a bit of an interruption throughout the day; you may see us during any class time except Dance or Life. The face painter should only take about 5-10 minutes per class and will need the kids sitting down. He will bring an assistant to help shuffle kids so you don't have to. Thanks for your help. Questions? Please call Shelly Murray (612-201-5146).

Specialty: We will participate in a Brazilian Carnival on Wednesday by learning about traditional mask making, then have a chance to purchase our own mask at Market Day. As described above, most campers will have their faces painted for our more modern Carnival celebration. In Specialty, campers will try the percussion instruments made popular in Brazil and make music along with our guests to accompany a traditional Samba dancer!

Fiesta Update: The Fiesta will be at Lakeville South High School on Friday, August 5th at **5:30 p.m.** In order to seat all campers and their families, Fiesta is limited to immediate families – please no extended family or guests. For more information, **be sure to pick up the Fiesta 2011 Information Sheet on Wednesday** in your child's classroom, or visit the website at www.lasemana.org.

Fiesta DVDs: If you didn't order a Fiesta DVD when you registered, you are encouraged to pre-order before Friday evening. The Fiesta along with the Flag Ceremony and other Camp events are being filmed by Family Ties video, professional videographers and we are excited about what this final product will look like. This year the video will also include images from the last 30 years of La Semana. You can pre-order a DVD by dropping by the office located just inside the main entrance. The DVD costs \$20, payable by cash or check.

Special Guest Artists To Perform on Wednesday in Specialty!

Beira Mar Brasil has been performing Brazilian music in the Twin Cities area for over ten years at venues like the Walker Art Center, First Avenue, the Ordway and the annual Twin Cities Brazilian Carnival celebration, organized by bandleader Robert Everest. Their last CD, "Sonho Meu," which has been featured on KBEM and KFAI radio, will be available for purchase at Market Day. The CD contains creative and diverse arrangements of some of the most popular Brazilian songs from several regions of the country, and kids love it! Your purchase helps to support Brazilian music and culture in the Twin Cities! See more at www.robteverest.com.

Buy Lunch for Guatemalan Kids! Support this year's Service Project by purchasing delicious Latin American food in the cafeteria. Coffee, soda and sweet empanadas will be available throughout the day. For lunch, look for Argentinean empanadas, tamales, quesadillas, rice, beans, tortilla chips and a daily entrée. All profits will be donated to Common Hope to purchase playground equipment for children in Guatemala.

Alfombras! Today in Specialty, we learned about several Latin American celebrations including Semana Santa, or Holy Week. This week leading up to Easter is one of the largest holidays celebrated in Latin America. Guatemala has many processions during Semana Santa, and the streets are decorated with alfombras, or natural carpets, for the processions to walk on. Hundreds of years ago, alfombras were decorated with feathers and flowers, colored stones and earth. Today, alfombras are made from brightly colored sawdust, flowers, vegetables, fruit and other organic materials. Sawdust alfombras are created layer by layer using detailed stencils and are stunning to behold. Today the kindergarteners each made a small "alfombra" to bring home. Grades 1 through 7 made more elaborate alfombras on large boxes using colored sand, silk flower petals and greens, colored feathers, chenille stems, foil and more. These alfombras will be displayed on the stage at Fiesta. To see alfombras being made, go to this video: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SnovDaZ28Gw&feature=email>.

Minnesota Supreme Court Justice Paul Anderson will speak to the Senior Teens on Thursday at 10:30 in the Senior Tent. He and his wife are adoptive parents and were involved in founding La Semana. Adults are welcome to come and listen to what he has to say.

Camp Directory and Camp History: Directories and a history of camp were delivered yesterday. The youngest child in each family should have received these items. If your family did not receive them, please check first with your child's Classroom Facilitator and then with the office. **Alumni**, please pick up your directories in the camp office, located just inside the main entrance.

Directory Updates: If you have any changes to be made to the directory, please bring them to the office by the end of the camp day on Thursday. We will have an addendum on Friday.

La Semana Business Cards: We have printed "business cards" with information about La Semana. Families are all encouraged to pick up two or three at the office so you have them handy to share with new families you meet in the community. It's a way to spread the word and provide potential camp families with contact information.

Provide Input on La Semana's Mission: We have never crafted a formal mission statement and are now seeking input as we put one together. We've put up a poster in the office area where you are encouraged to contribute your thoughts. In the same area, on another poster, we are seeking input on our Code of Conduct for both youth and adults. Please come by and share your ideas.

SEE YOU ON MARKET DAY!