This year we are celebrating the 37th Annual New Jersey Folk Festival. We here at the Folk Festival warmly welcome you to come out to celebrate the rich folk culture of Kalmykia! Whether you have come every year for the past 36 years, or are a newcomer to the festival, we guarantee that you will enjoy a day of food, crafts, and entertainment. We look forward to seeing you on Festival Day!

Save the Date
April 30, 2011
10AM-6PM

About the Kalmyks
A culture of Mongolic decent, the Kalmyk inhabit the autonomous Republic of Kalmykia on the western shore of the Caspian Sea. Kalmykia and its inhabitants offer a fascinating glimpse into the ancient culture, song and dance of western Mongolic peoples - known as Oirats.

In 2000, their number in New Jersey was about 3,000. Kalmyk communities were originally established during the 1950s in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Paterson and Howell, New Jersey. These people were originally refugees from Russia and were rapidly assimilated. There is a Kalmyk Brotherhood Society in Philadelphia and a number of Buddhist Temples in Howell, New Jersey.
**Lifetime Achievement Award**

Each year the New Jersey Folk Festival chooses a member of the folk community to receive the Lifetime Achievement Award. This honor is given to someone who has shown outstanding accomplishments in the traditional arts.

This year the New Jersey Folk Festival will be honoring Gordon Bok. A non-Kalmyk, Gordon Bok is a scholar and a famed maritime folksinger who acts as caretaker of the music and liturgy of the Kalymk Mongolians who immigrated to America in the 1950’s. Come see Gordon Bok receive this award at 12PM on the Skylands Stage! In addition, Mr. Bok will be participating in the “Kalmyk Strings” workshop on the Pinelands stage at 1:30PM.

**Traditional Kalymk Dancers**

The Kalmyks participate in many forms of dance and lyric folksongs in which they participate in maintaining their culture. Two dance troupes we will be highlighting are the Lotus Dance Troupe and the Orn Nutg Dance Troupe. Both groups are responsible for the maintenance of the performance traditions of the Kalmyks. Of the dances included will be the "Ur Sar" Dance. "Ur Sar" is the ritual holiday, which is celebrated at the end of May. Also included will be performs selections from the epic poem “Dzhangar” accompanied by guitar and dombra (a two-stringed, long-necked lute).

**Family Friendly Activities for 2011**

This year’s children will be able to make crafts, including pet rocks, paper flowers, pasta necklaces, a variety of Kalmyk inspired crafts including coloring activities, sand art and spin art. In addition to making crafts, there will be face painting, temporary tattoos, a bubble station and pony rides. The Rutgers Zone is sponsoring “larger than life” game stations including a blow up ropes ladder course.
Interested in Volunteering?

If you are interested in volunteering for this year’s New Jersey Folk Festival please visit our official website for more information.
www.njfolkfest.rutgers.edu

The New Jersey Folk Festival is now a part of Rutgers Day. Visit http://rutgersday.rutgers.edu/

Become a Friend of the NJFF

The Friends of the New Jersey Folk Festival is a campaign that allows you to show your support for the festival. If you are interested in making a financial contribution to the festival, please visit our website for more information.

http://www.njfolkfest.rutgers.edu/friends.html

Being that the Folk Festival is a non-profit organization, all donations are tax deductible.

Check out the NJFF Online!

The New Jersey Folk Festival is now on Facebook and Twitter! Search “New Jersey Folk Festival” to find current news on Facebook as well as the 2011 event page. For Alumni news, check out our Alumni Facebook page “New Jersey Folk Festival Alumni” and our Twitter, NJfolkfestalum.

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