

## International Festival booked at Mississippi College



Special to The Clinton Courier

The International Festival will be held at 6:30 p.m. on April 5 at Swor Auditorium.

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Mississippi College will hold its annual International Festival on April 5.

New Zealand's Daniel Martin, president of the International Student Association, and graduate student Dinisha Paul of India will serve as co-hosts on stage that Friday evening. Martin is majoring in biomedical sciences, while Paul is studying mental health counseling.

Three Mississippi College exchange students are among the performers. The show begins at 6:30 p.m.

Man-Hua Huang of Taiwan will do a dance number. Huang comes from Chung Yuan Christian University. Yaqi Chen of China will deliver a poetry reading. Chen is from Central China Normal University in Wuhan.

Singing with guitar in hand will be Willyam Barros Souza of Brazil. Souza comes to Mississippi College from Senac university.

Other performers from around the world are booked, too. They come dressed in the attire of their native countries.

Audiences are still buzzing about the performances of a Bollywood dance at the 2018 International Festival at Swor Auditorium. India's

Paul and Harmanpreet Kaur, also a mental health graduate student, combined their on-stage skills with nursing major Jiyoung Chun of South Korea. Accounting major Abigail Finley of Port Gibson, Mississippi, joined in with her dance moves.

The Mississippi College Office of Global Education sponsors the production every spring. Refreshments will be served to audiences in the Nelson Hall lobby after the show. The public is invited.

Many people quietly work behind the scenes to make the show a success. They sell tickets, work as backstage managers, move props and much more. Other volunteers run the music and videos or operate the spotlights.

"More than any other event that the Office of Global Education sponsors each year, the International Festival is a team effort," says Phala Echols, international programs coordinator.

Prior to the event, tickets cost \$5 for students, \$7 for faculty and staff and \$10 for the community. At the door April 5, prices rise to \$7 for students, \$10 for faculty and staff and \$15 for the community.

For more information, contact Phala Echols at 601-925-7762.

## Clinton Park PTO president is CPSD Parent of the Year



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The Clinton Public School District 2018-19 Parent of the Year is Carrie Miley (second from left). Presenting her award are (l to r) Dr. Tim Martin, superintendent of schools; Clinton Park Principal Kelli Pope; and Assistant Superintendent Anthony Goins.

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Carrie Miley is a familiar face at Clinton Park Elementary School.

As president of Clinton Park's Parent Teacher Organization, Miley oversees student reward parties, fundraisers, hospitality and many other activities. She was named the Clinton Public School District's 2018-19 Parent of the Year in a surprise presentation at Clinton Park.

"We are blessed to have parents like Mrs. Miley in our school helping out every day," said Clinton Park Principal Kelli Pope.

Under her leadership, the Clinton Park PTO is growing and becoming more innovative. PTO board meetings are now live-streamed on the group's Facebook page so that more parents can be involved; plans are under way for a Website that will allow members to give donations and sign up for volunteer opportunities online; and the PTO and school are working

together on outreach efforts for English language learners and their families.

"We have the best public schools here in our hometown," Miley said. "We want the best education possible for our children, and we chose CPSD for the level of education and available resources."

Carrie and Matthew Miley have three children in Clinton's public schools and one future Arrow in preschool. As CPSD's Parent of the Year, she will go on to represent Clinton in the Mississippi Parent of the Year competition, hosted this spring by the Mississippi Department of Education.

"We have so many wonderful parents in our district," said Dr. Tim Martin, superintendent of schools. "Mrs. Miley has done an outstanding job as Clinton Park PTO president, and she will represent us well in the state competition."

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