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Lafayette Elementary Celebrates International Night

Submitted by Daniela Wolff



Photo Benedikt Wolff

On January 28, 2009, Lafayette Elementary School celebrated International Night with a Global Jam that highlighted the school's commitment to cultural awareness and ethnic heritage in our community. The school wide event, sponsored by the Lafayette PTA, was held in the school's multipurpose room and was attended by more than 200 students and their families.

This year's theme, Global Jam, included an international food potluck, arts and crafts of percussion instruments from around the globe, and necklaces celebrating the Lunar New Year. Participates of International Night were also treated to an international showcase of local talent including: Eden Aoba Taiko Drummers, Lafayette Scottish Country Dancers and the Caribbean-Neo Folk performer, Asheba, who got all the children on stage with their percussion instruments for a real global musical jam. "This event is our chance to showcase the many cultures at our school and in our community," said Daniela Wolff, PTA co-chairperson for International Night.

Local merchants also made donations of food and gift certificates in honor of the event: Trader Joe's, Mangia and Kopitiam Restaurants, The Handlebar and Powell's all contributed to the evening's festivities.

"The International Night committee, Lafayette PTA and our school are very dedicated to celebrating our student's cultural identity. We just add the arts and

crafts, quality entertainment, and of course great food," Wolff added. International Night is an annual event held every January at Lafayette Elementary School.

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