

# International Celebration

May 8, 2024

Sara Fallahi, Adriana Rodríguez,  
& the International Celebration  
Committee



# What is International Celebration?

- WPS-SCOW Collaboration
- District-wide event
- Hosted annually
- Country showcase
- Musical performances
- Community partnerships
- A unifying theme each year



Philippines booth, 2019 International Celebration

Moses Y. Beach Flag Parade  
2019 International Celebration





## Dominican Republic booth, 2023 International Celebration



# Event History

## *Themes*

2016

2017

2018 - Myths and Legends

2019 - Inventions Around the World

2021 - A virtual event

2022 - Proud of My Heritage

2023 - Holidays and Traditions

2024 - Learning Around the World

2025 - Kindness and Compassion Around the World

### **International Celebration is created.**

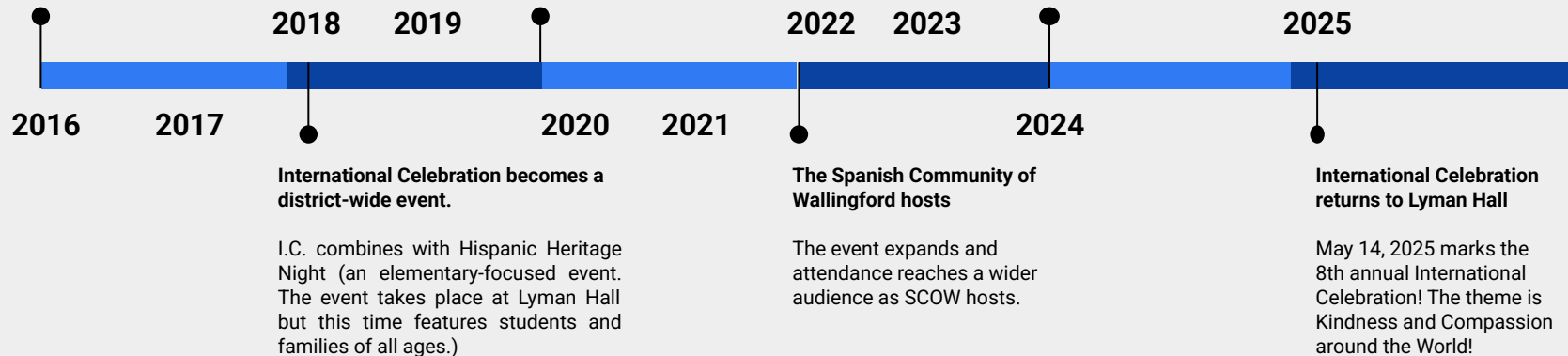
The event takes place at Lyman Hall with mostly high school students in attendance.

### **A virtual event**

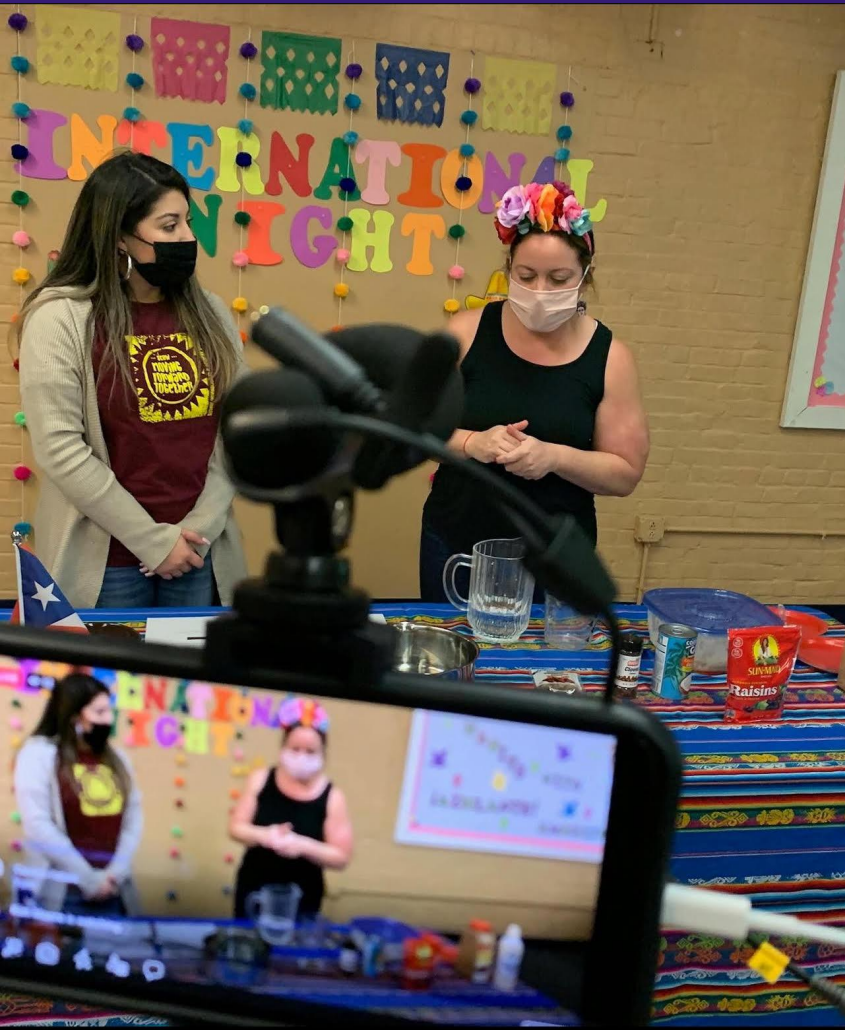
During the pandemic, the event is broadcasted virtually for the entire district.

### **Diversifying and expanding**

The I.C. committee seeks wider representation of musical performances. It must accommodate large numbers of attendees by providing transportation.



## Cooking Demonstrations Around the World 2021 International Celebration





## Myths and Legends from Mexico, 2018 International Celebration



**SCOW AND WPS Present the 8th Annual**

# *International Celebration!*



**LEARNING AROUND THE WORLD**

**Wednesday, May 8, 2024**

**5:30-7:30 PM**

**Spanish Community of Wallingford  
284 Washington Street**

**ACTIVITIES & PRIZES FOR CHILDREN**

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**SAMPLE INTERNATIONAL CUISINE**

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**SONG & DANCE PERFORMANCES**

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**COUNTRY SHOWCASES**



*Free Admission!*



**To the Wallingford Education Foundation:**

**Thank you for the generous Educational Impact Grant! These funds enhanced the educational experience of students and their families at the 2024 International Celebration.**

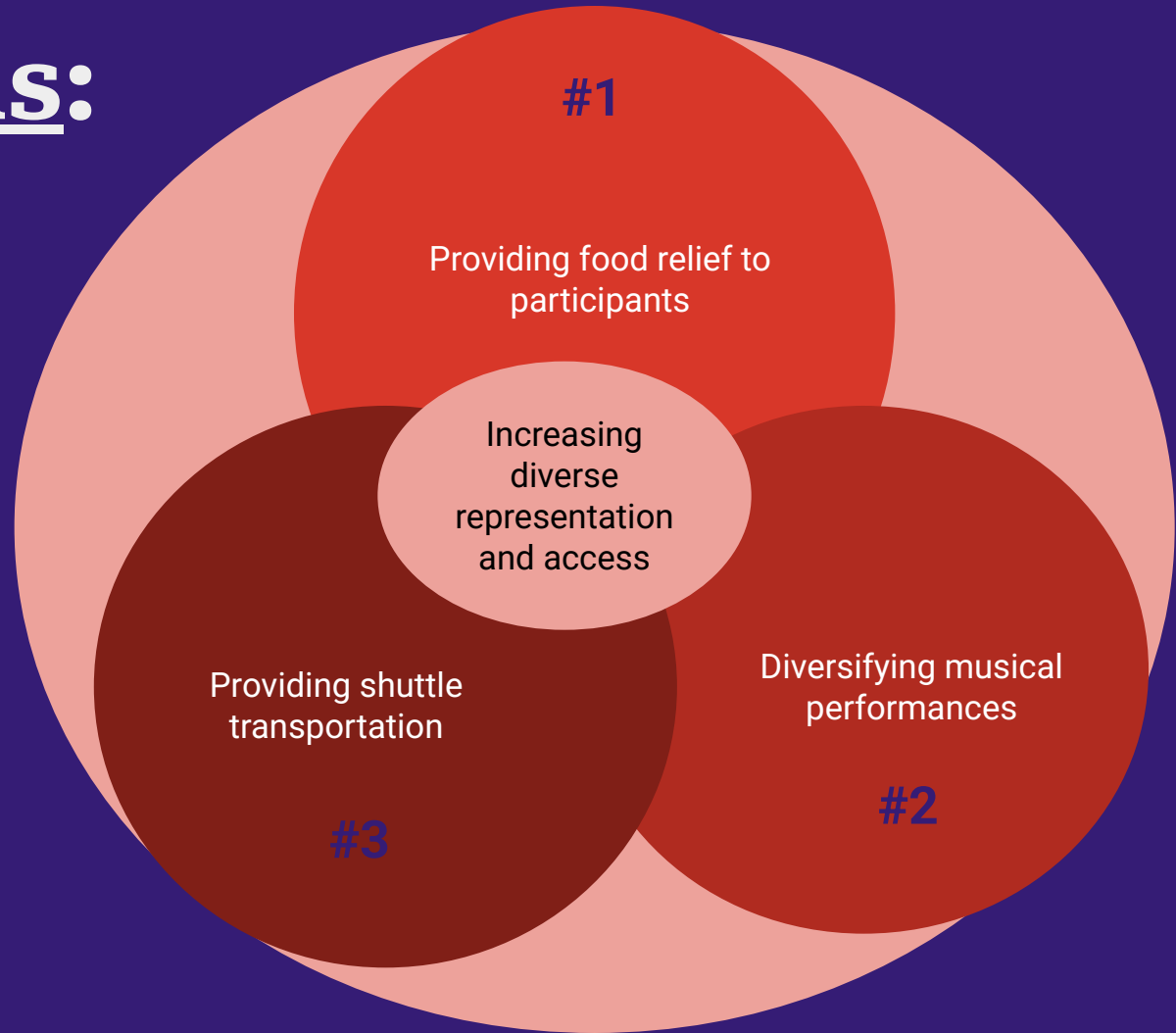
Turkey booth, 2024 International Celebration



Members of the *Adelante America* Student Group  
2024 International Celebration



# 2024 Goals:



SALE! 25¢ for 3 Months

# International Night showcases cultures, diversity of Wallingford

By **Lau Guzmán**, Staff Writer

May 9, 2024



E.C. Stevens bilingual teacher Sara Fallahi said that fundraising for the event was the result of a community-wide effort and thanked community contributions from the district and the town to run dress-down dates, as well as help from the Wallingford Pancheros.

“The International Celebration Committee is grateful to the Wallingford Education Foundation for awarding funds to support our project. This contribution helps us diversify our musical acts to show the wide representation of the Wallingford community,” she said.



# #1 Providing Food Relief to Participants



Participants who display table of country receive a gift card incentive as a thank you for displaying/making food for event.



## #2 Diversifying Performances

East Culture Arts,  
2024 International Celebration



Ballet Folklórico Alma de México,  
2024 International Celebration



SCOW School of Music,  
2024 International Celebration

RECORD-JOURNAL

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Students from the Mariachi Laureles del Monte and the Ballet Folklórico Alma de México at the SCOW school of music also performed song and dance representing Mexican culture.

Performers from West Hartford based East Culture Arts Inc., shared a traditional Dragon dance to mark the year of the dragon. Clinton-based Ritmo y Cultura dance group from Ecuador performed two twirling dances from the Andean region of the country. Co-founder Iván Castañeda wore a traditional Andean "Diabluno" costume that features two matching faces and hairy chaps to mimic a devil during traditional dances.

"Our objective is to try to preserve and save Ecuadorian culture," he said in Spanish.



## #3 Providing Shuttle Transportation

### INTERNATIONAL CELEBRATION SHUTTLE

**No parking?**  
**Go to PNA Park!**

171 North Plains Industrial Road  
Wallingford, CT

**The shuttle will run 5:30-8:00**



SPANISH COMMUNITY  
OF WALLINGFORD

Bus provided by Wallingford Public Schools

*International  
Celebration!*

LEARNING AROUND THE WORLD

Wednesday, May 8, 2024

5:30-7:00

Spanish Community

28

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RECORD-JOURNAL

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Despite rain on the forecast, over 700 people attended. The weather was mild and sunny and let students play games on the lawn, interact with firefighters and the Police Department and get their faces painted outdoors. Yellow schoolbus shuttles came and went from the Polish National Alliance, who sponsored the parking. Wallingford Mayor Vincent Cervoni also attended and said he was impressed by the turnout and variety of the event.

# Thank you!

# ¡Muchas gracias!



SAVE THE DATE

SCOW & WPS

## International Celebration!

May 8th, 2024

ACTIVITIES & PRIZES FOR CHILDREN  
DANCE, PERFORMANCES, & MORE!

 SPANISH COMMUNITY OF WALLINGFORD

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 WALLINGFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
WE ARE PROUD