"Shaping International Unity" (SIU) is the theme for the 2019 festival. Students from about 100 countries call SIU their “home away from home” and during this festival, they will share a bit of their culture with the region.

A tradition dating back more than 40 years, the fest launches with the colorful International Parade of flags at 10 a.m. on Feb. 4. International students from around the world, many wearing traditional attire from their home countries, will carry their nation’s flags from Woody Hall to the Student Center’s International Lounge. There, university and city officials, including Chancellor John M. Dunn and Carbondale Mayor John “Mike” Henry, will sign the official proclamation and open the celebration at 10:30 a.m.

The International Food Fair offers a unique opportunity to sample dishes from across the globe. International students, under the supervision of dining services personnel, will prepare an eclectic mix of treats from their countries and from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Feb. 6. Everyone is invited to come taste. Food tickets are $1 each and each dish typically takes 3-6 tickets. Or, complete meal options will be available.

The fest wraps up with a truly worldwide show. Students from numerous nations will participate in SIU’s Cultural Show at 7 p.m. on Feb. 8 in the Student Center Ballrooms. The event will feature diverse student performances of drama, dance, song and much more. The show, which is often standing room only, is free and open to the public.
I'm Jingmin Liu, and I come from China Shenzhen University. I’m very happy and lucky to have the opportunity to visit SIU as a short-term scholar.

After three months of studying and living in Carbondale, I fell in love with this place. Carbondale has a good natural and cultural environment. The people here are friendly and helpful. Since I came here, I have met many great people and have had many interesting experiences.

During my stay at SIU, I participated in some local cultural exchanges and I chose to share there.

In Carbondale, there are many cute animals, such as deer, squirrel and tortoise, I love them. And I also like the environment and plants, I think the sky is very beautiful just like a painting.

I have only seen a rainbow in China, and it was when I was a little girl. But in here, I have seen the rainbow twice, I think the rainbow is very pretty and amazing, and I believe it can bring me good luck.

I attended the Sunset Concert of the Summer outside of Shryock Auditorium on June 14th. At the scene, everyone enjoyed the music, sat in their own chair, and drank their own drinks. I feel that everyone has a comfortable state in the United States.

Professor Andy Wang arranged a tour for us to visit CASA programs, which were spread out in three locations: ASA Building, Quigley Hall, and Southern Illinois Airport. We have a deeper understanding of SIU.

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### CHOCOLATE COVERED STRAWBERRIES

**INGREDIENTS**
- 16 ounces milk chocolate chips
- 2 tablespoons shortening
- 1 pound strawberries with leaves

**DIRECTIONS**

In a double boiler, melt the chocolate and shortening, stirring occasionally until smooth. Holding them by the toothpicks, dip the strawberries into the chocolate mixture. Insert toothpicks into the tops of the strawberries. Turn the strawberries upside down and insert the toothpick into styrofoam for the chocolate to cool.
INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ORIENTATION

The beginning of the semester is an exciting time for SIU's campus as students from near and far are welcomed on campus. The International Students and Scholars (ISS) office was busy registering incoming students and organizing tours to show off SIU's sprawling campus.

The Tuesday before classes started, students from many different continents joined the SIU community here at the ISS office. Volunteers and staff members greeted the new students and helped them fill out paperwork. The favorite part of the week is always the lunches provided by ISS and the tours around campus.

ISS could not do this on our own. Campus police, student legal assistance, and the health center are just a few who lend their services and resources to help make orientation week a success.

If you see the new students around campus, make sure to stop and say hello!

SEVERE WEATHER REMINDER

With Spring weather fast approaching, the chance of a tornado increases. If you hear the tornado siren, move away from windows to a basement or an interior hallway or room (such as a bathroom). Stay away from windows and heavy objects and wait until the danger has passed. We also suggest having a battery powered radio and flashlights available in your ‘safe room’ location.