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### 1) Participate and share your culture

The University Center for International Education (UCIE) organizes the Annual International Friendship Affair (IFA) Festival to give the WSU and surrounding communities an opportunity to learn more about the cultural heritage of WSU students.

The event includes an entertainment program featuring performances from a wide variety of international groups, flag parade, international fashion show, table displays featuring various artifacts, and a variety of door prizes donated by local ethnic restaurants.



Would **YOU** like to participate in the **International Friendship Affair (IFA) Festival 2013** on Saturday, **April 13th** ? This year's theme is **"Celebrities around the World"**. If you would like to participate, please view the message below.

**Performance** – If you want to put on an artistic performance such as dancing, playing instruments, singing a song etc., please contact **Nam** at [ucie11@wright.edu](mailto:ucie11@wright.edu) and she will provide you with the information that you need. The performance slots are expected to be no longer than 15 minutes.

**Table Display** – You can help to create the most colorful and interesting features of the IFA: the Table Displays. This is your opportunity to present your culture and traditions of your home country by using interactive media, posters, books or any artifacts that you may have brought from your country. You are more than welcome to contact **Belinda** ([belinda.grody@wright.edu](mailto:belinda.grody@wright.edu)) and she will provide you with the information that you need. The table displays must be ready by 12:30 pm on April 13th, 2013 and the displays are expected to be open until 4:30 pm.



For more information contact Nam or Dammy at [ucie11@wright.edu](mailto:ucie11@wright.edu) or [ucie4@wright.edu](mailto:ucie4@wright.edu)

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**The Cultural Advantage**



## 2) Travelling during Spring Break

Any student travelling outside the United States of America for this Spring Break 2013 (Feb 23 - Mar 3, 2013) must submit the Travel Request Form as soon as possible. Please be reminded, processing time for all immigration documents is 5 - 7 business days.

- Kimberley Brumbaugh



## 3) OPT Employment Authorization Application Deadline

This message is for those students graduating this **Winter Semester**.

If you have already applied for OPT then you may ignore this message. However, this message is to inform those international student who have not yet applied, **YOU HAVE UNTIL THE END OF Winter Semester (April 30, 2013) TO APPLY FOR THE "OPT"**

**Please note that application processing usually takes up to 3 months.**

If you want to apply for OPT, please do so **IMMEDIATELY**—go to the web site below to prepare and submit to UCIE the OPT application: <http://www.wright.edu/ucie/student/files/optApplication.pdf>



## 4) Spring 2013 Coffee Hour Schedule

The International Cultural Exchange (ICE) is planning an event for every other Friday this semester. ICE is a student organization that sponsors events to allow international students to experience American culture, culture of other nations and have fun in an informal setting. Our upcoming events are:

**March 8th, 3PM - Counseling / Acculturation**

**March 22nd, 3PM - France**

**April 5th, 3PM - Potluck**

**April 12th, 3PM - Flag Parade Rehearsal**





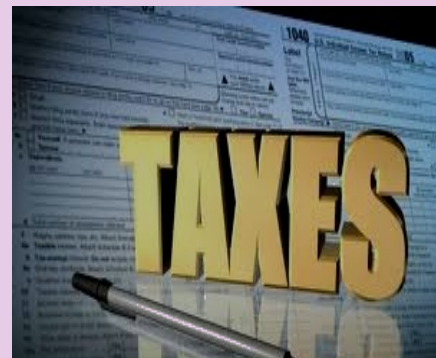


## **5) Tax Tips: Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN)**

### **Who needs an ITIN?**

IRS issues ITINs to foreign nationals and others who have federal tax reporting or filing requirements and do not qualify for SSNs. A non-resident alien individual not eligible for a SSN who is required to file a U.S. tax return only to claim a refund of tax under the provisions of a U.S. tax treaty needs an ITIN.

Other examples of individuals who need ITINs include: A nonresident alien required to file a U.S. tax return; A U.S. resident alien (based on days present in the United States) filing a U.S. tax return; A dependent or spouse of a U.S. citizen/resident alien; A dependent or spouse of a nonresident alien visa holder.



### **How do I apply for an ITIN?**

Use the latest revision of Form W-7, Application for IRS Individual Taxpayer Identification Number to apply. Attach a valid federal income tax return, unless you qualify for an exception, and include your original proof of identity or copies certified by issuing agency and foreign status documents. Because you are filing your tax return as an attachment to your ITIN application, you should not mail your return to the address listed in the Form 1040, 1040A or 1040EZ instructions. Instead, send your return, Form W-7 and proof of identity and foreign status documents to:

Internal Revenue Service  
Austin Service Center  
ITIN Operation  
P.O. Box 149342  
Austin, TX 78714-9342

### **When should I apply for an ITIN?**

You should complete Form W-7 as soon as you are ready to file your federal income tax return, since you need to attach the return to your application. If you meet one of the exceptions to the tax filing requirement, submit Form W-7, along with the documents that prove your identity and foreign status. You are also required to include supplemental documents to substantiate your qualification for the exception, as soon as possible after you determine that you are covered by that exception.

You can apply for an ITIN any time during the year. However, if the tax return you attach to Form W-7 is filed after the return's due date, you may owe interest and/or penalties. You should file your current year return by the prescribed due date to avoid this situation.

**\*\*\*ITINs are for federal income tax purposes only. Getting an ITIN does not change your immigration status or your right to work in the United States.**

More workshops are available in March and April. Please stop by UCIE front desk or keep checking newsletter for the other dates. ***You should only register for the workshop if you have received your W-2 or as a GA you have received your 1042-S.***

### **Questions?**

If you have any questions regarding tax please don't hesitate to email Jiao Li at [ucie9@wright.edu](mailto:ucie9@wright.edu) or visit UCIE website at <http://www.wright.edu/ucie/student/tax.html> for more information.