

Vietnamese Cultural Day at the University of Hamburg

Motto: “A Scent of the Old Days – Hương Xưa”

Vietnam is not only famous throughout the world for its majestic and poetic natural scenery, but also for its long history of more than thousands of years of civilization. Although the country has experienced many historical, social and political changes, they cannot overshadow the natural beauty and amazing grace of its long-lasting culture and traditions. This beauty and grace are not only the pride of the Vietnamese people but also arouse interest and love from foreign friends. The Day of Vietnamese Culture with its topic "A Scent of the Old Days – Hương Xưa" will be held at the University of Hamburg, Edmund-Siemers-Allee 1 (*Ostflügel*, AAI). The desire of the organizers is to share with the guests the most intimate cultural experiences of this geographically long S-shaped country. Our program includes many traditional cultural activities of the Vietnamese people, like tea ceremony or calligraphy, which are elaborately prepared. See you at the Vietnamese Cultural Day – “Hương Xưa”!

Date: 22.06.2019

Venue: Asien-Afrika-Institut, Edmund-Siemers-Allee 1 (Ostflügel), 20146 Hamburg

Time	Title	Contents
10h00	Inauguration	MC and Prof. Dr. Engelbert deliver an opening speech.
10h15	Opening music performance	Traditional music (Zither and Dance)
10h30	Five cultural spaces are opened to welcome visitors: Traditional music, Folk paintings, traditional costumes, Vietnamese tea and calligraphy. There will be a short presentation/introduction in every cultural space with different time sets so that visitors can enjoy them all in an adequate frame of time. (Information will be given in a flyer and at each booth.)	
	Traditional music	Mrs. Trang with a solo Zither performance “Lưu thủy kim tiền” (A bracket of classical court music depicting the sound of music which can be as sweet as the sound of floating water, as clear and pure as golden coins rubbing each other) Mrs Trang and Mr Trung (guitar) with a duo performance “Cò lả” (one of the most popular folk lullaby songs of the Northern Delta, Vietnam) Ms. Tâm with a chain of performances with the monochord (đàn bầu), chèo singing and (hopefully) her own song with a taste of ancient and modern music. Before each individual performance there will be a brief introduction. After that, visitors can join our performers on the stage to talk and try to play our Vietnamese traditional instruments.
	Calligraphy	Mr. Nguyễn Sử, PhD student in London, will come and introduce Vietnamese calligraphy. Mr Sử is the author of the book “The history of Vietnamese calligraphy”

		He will show us his skills in calligraphy and any visitor wants to have their name or a wishing message written in calligraphy can ask for one.
	Vietnamese tea	Duy, Julian, Tâm and Thùy Anh will introduce and perform to our visitors how Vietnamese people prepare tea on a table. Two different kinds of tea will be presented. Visitors have the chance to observe the process of preparing and enjoying a cup of freshly-made tea.

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	Traditional costumes. Organizers will set up a huge background image with the panorama of Hoàn Kiếm Lake (Sword Lake) in order to allow visitors to try our traditional costumes and take a photo or selfie.	In the last few years, Vietnamese youngsters have been paying more attention to the promotion of traditional Vietnamese costumes. This cloth space will introduce Vietnamese clothes' history.
	Folk paintings (Đông Hồ, Hàng Trống and Kim Hoàng)	Vietnamese folk paintings have been studied by the French for a long time. There is a nearly complete book about these paintings. This time, the folk painting space will introduce Dong Ho rural paintings, the pictures of Hang Trong and a line of paintings on the way to be restored - Kim Hoang red paintings. There are coloring activities for adults and children. Folk paintings are available for purchase as well.
11h30	Vietnamese language class for foreigners	Ms Huệ will be in charge of a Vietnamese class
From 12h	Vietnamese food and beverage	Finger food for lunchtime: summer rolls, mango salat, wok noodle. Beverages: Vietnamese coffee, fruity jelly.
18h – 18h30	Closing ceremony	Fare-well speech and one last music performance.