



# This Week from the Mayor



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The Multicultural Festival treated attendees with performances that spanned the globe and with the ability to learn first-hand about the different cultures that represent Renton.

## Multicultural festival rocks Renton

I hope you were able to catch part or all of our annual Renton Multicultural Festival. It was two days of color, pageantry, and interactive activities, all designed to celebrate the diverse cultures of our city.

Carco Theatre was at capacity on Friday and Saturday's events attracted record crowds. Festival attendees were treated to music and dance from around the world and were also given the chance to experience elements of the various cultures first-hand. The turban tying and henna tattoo stations were busy throughout the day, as were the community booths. Attendees were encouraged to complete a survey giving their impressions and 90% rated their overall experience as excellent.

Some of the comments we received included:

*"Great idea, bring more of us together as a community, while appreciating the special traditions and diversity of cultures we collectively represent."*

*"Good variety of cultures, both young and older performers."*

*"[We loved the] interaction with [the] audience [and the] diversity."*

*"The quality of the performers was outstanding!"*

One of the stated goals in our Renton Business Plan is to *build an inclusive, informed city that provides opportunities for all*. Alone, those are simply words on paper, but adding a civic event like the multicultural festival brings those words to life. It's our chance to walk our talk and give all our residents the opportunity to share a part of their heritage and for us to understand and respect our differences.

If you'd like to relive the festival, or see what you missed, we've uploaded a couple hundred photos to our [Flickr account](#). Please download your favorites.

Putting on a festival as large as this one takes the work of the entire community. My sincere thanks to the members of the Mayor's Inclusion Task Force for their work in producing the show, to the performers who gave of their time and talents, and to all of you who attended and made it such a great success.

## Renton student is Miss Washington Pre-Teen

I was very pleased to host Chelsea Davatos, Renton resident and 2018 National American Miss Washington Pre-Teen, earlier this week.

Chelsea is 13 and this November will represent our city and state at the national competition. She's no stranger to a national stage as she represented Washington at the National History Day competition in Maryland in 2017. She's also an honor student and ASB president.

Good luck at the national competition, Chelsea. We couldn't have a better representative of our city.



Mayor Law and Miss Washington Pre-Teen Chelsea Davatos.

## Feedback

Comments, questions or suggestions, or just want to share all the great things that are happening in the city, please [email](#) me. Thanks for reading. | [Newsletter archive](#)