

EVENTS

Cannery Row to host first family-friendly Cultural Festival

By James Herrera

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MONTEREY » The waterfront district in Monterey will be the scene for the first Cannery Row Cultural Festival — a celebration of the contributions and history of the diverse cultures and people who have made Monterey renowned.

The Cultural Festival will be held Oct. 5 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Cannery Row and is free to the public. More than 15 different performance groups, displays and demonstrations will highlight the music, dance and literature of the many cultures that have contributed to the Monterey Peninsula's history.

The event will include performances by the Shinsho-Mugen Daiko Drum Troupe, the Monterey Bay Lion Dance Team, Azahar Flamenco de Monterey, the Italian song stylings of the Monterey International Trio and the Mexican melodies of the Javier Sanchez Duo.

Taelen Thomas will portray John Steinbeck, the Pulitzer Prize-winning au-



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thor who brought Cannery Row's story to the world. Festival attendees can revisit their favorite chapter from Cannery Row in the Steinbeck Reading Room, or type their own stories on vintage typewriters in the Steinbeck Writing Room. A pop-up Steinbeck museum, large-format archival photos and historical timeline

exhibits will also be on display, along with those of natural history and representations of significant events.

The family-friendly festival will feature activities for kids including a creation station where they will be able to color their own sardine can labels, as well as balloon art and a special Squid 4 Kids science presentation

with a real Humboldt squid.

Event parking will be available in the Cannery Row parking garage located at the intersection of Foam and Wave streets. For more information call 831-649-6690 or visit www.canneryrow.com

Contact reporter James Herrera at 831-726-4344.