



# Media Alert

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
June 17, 2011

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## Celebrating our Many Heritages

The International Institute will be hosting its biennial gala event, ***Wish You Were Here!*** the evening of Saturday, June 18 in the rustic beer garden, the Bauernhof, at Grant's Farm. This year's theme is **Sommerfest**. The event planning committee has pulled out all the stops to ensure an entertaining and unique evening for 300 guests.

Proceeds will support the Institute's services for refugee and immigrants newcomers.

Some event highlights:

- Raffle items including a getaway to the Hamptons!
- Guests will meet-and-greet with a Clydesdale!
- A heartwarming presentation by the Abduljabbar family, who fled Iraq to find safety in St. Louis.
- A mini Festival of Nations, featuring performances by Bollywood Shuffle (Indian), Afriky Lolo (W. African), Aalim Belly Dance (Middle Eastern), and Robert Fishbone (World Music).

The Gala will be held on Saturday, June 18, 2011 from 6:30-10pm. Grant's Farm is located at 10501 Gravois Road, St. Louis.

INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE  
**Sommerfest**  
JUNE 18

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*Annually, the International Institute of St. Louis helps thousands of immigrants become more integrated into America. We teach English, resettle refugees, help newcomers find jobs, and provide orientation, translation and other supportive services. We also produce the popular Festival of Nations, annually drawing a crowd of 140,000+ to honor and celebrate our community's growing cultural diversity. Immersion, investment and inclusion are our three pillars of service. They offer a solid structure to build positive relationships between newcomers and long-time Americans.*

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