

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 22, 2008

Contact: Kate Howell

Community Relations Manager

howellk@iistl.org

(o)314.773.9090 x189

(m)618.447.0480

New Americans Reflect on Thanksgiving, Share Traditional Holiday Meal

Who: Students, staff, clients, volunteers & board members representing 80+ ethnicities

What: Celebrating Thanksgiving

Where: International Institute St. Louis, 3654 S. Grand

When: Tuesday, November 25. Activities at 11:50am - meal at 12:30pm. Evening activities at 6pm - dinner at 6:30pm.

On Tuesday, November 25, 2008 at noon and 6pm, immigrants and refugees from around the world will share their first traditional Thanksgiving meal. Each year the International Institute St. Louis hosts a traditional Thanksgiving celebration for its students, clients, staff, volunteers and board members. The dinner includes turkey and the traditional fixings. Special *halal* (blessed) turkeys are prepared for Muslim clients.

English language students' written reflections on the past year are posted around the agency. The adult students representing 80+ ethnicities have been learning about the American Thanksgiving tradition, including the lyrics to *This Land is Your Land* by Woody Guthrie. The song will be performed by the students before the meal begins.



Students and staff will be available for interviews.

The 2008 Thanksgiving Celebration was made possible by the generosity of [Enterprise Rent-A-Car](#), [African Mutual Assistance Association of Missouri](#), Metropolitan Cab Company and volunteers who prepared turkeys.

Online media resources can be found at: <http://www.iistl.org/media.php>. Follow us on Twitter: [iistl](#).

About the International Institute St. Louis: Celebrating its 90th Anniversary in 2009, the International Institute has a long history of connecting immigrants with the wider St. Louis community through events like Festival of Nations. The agency is a catalyst for economic development in St. Louis, with a small business center for immigrant entrepreneurs and extensive language translation services. Top notch education and social services are also available. Learn more about the International Institute at www.iistl.org. Proud member of the United Way of Greater St. Louis and the US Committee for Refugees and Immigrants.