

music **DANCE** *crafts* **GAMES** **food**



# PLANO international festival

Profile photos/Mike Newman

**Y**OUR PASSPORT TO ANOTHER COUNTRY is right here—and it's free! The **Plano International Festival** is Saturday, October 10 at Haggard Park. The family friendly event promises an array of music, dance, crafts, games, and ethnic cuisine. A Parade of Nations will kick off the festivities, and a naturalization ceremony will highlight the event. Last year, more than 100 cultures were represented, 75 people were sworn in as U.S. citizens, and artists from around the

globe displayed their work in an International Art Exhibit.

"The festival is an opportunity for the community to witness the many rich heritages that make up as cosmopolitan a city as Plano," said **Dr. Christopher Parr**, MCOR (Plano MultiCultural Outreach Roundtable) liaison officer to the festival. "It benefits those

ethnic communities as well, by proving that they can showcase their differences for all to respect."

Attendees are encouraged to participate in the festival's "green"

## Celebrate the myriad cultures of Plano at Haggard Park in old downtown on October 10

initiatives again this year. In 2008, the Plano International Festival diverted more than 50 percent of waste from landfill through a comprehensive Zero Waste program and received the City of Plano's Environmental Star of Excellence Award.

"We are very excited to have won this award," said festival president **Graciela Katzer**. "We showed

that a large public event like ours can be green, and we hope that other events and organizations will follow in our footsteps."

The festival is sponsored by the Plano International Festival Corporation and is underwritten by the City of Plano. Other

