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U.S. ARMY MANEUVER SUPPORT CENTER OF EXCELLENCE FT. LEONARD WOOD, MISSOURI



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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Know Your World reception set for Tuesday**

**FORT LEONARD WOOD, Mo.** – Fort Leonard Wood community members will have the opportunity to “take a trip around the world” in just one night, as the International Military Student Office is scheduled to host their annual Know Your World reception from 6 to 8 p.m., Tuesday at Nutter Field House.

More than 40 countries, including 83 international students, are scheduled to be featured at the event. Military students from the various countries will host information cultural displays about their countries. Many of the displays will feature food, music, art and many of the students will wear their country’s traditional dress.

Amanda Koren, IMSO field studies program manager, said the program is open to the public.

“Everyone would benefit from learning more about their world and meeting new international friends. We have so many students here that the community at large is bound to have some interaction with them, and this is a laid-back environment in which to get to know each other better and have dinner in the process,” she said.

According to Charlie Rogers, IMSO chief, the event can be an eye-opening evening for participants.

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“With today’s technology, our world has gotten smaller. What do you know about the world in which you live in? What do you know about the culture and people of Turkmenistan, Bahrain, Sierra Leone, just to name a few of the many countries that will be represented at the Know Your World. This will be a great opportunity to be able to visit and talk with Soldiers and Family members from these countries; to learn about the people and their culture in this world that we live in,” Rogers said.

Organizers have created “passports” for children. Children will have the opportunity to get their “passports” stamped at the various country displays by asking the international students certain questions about their countries. When the “passports” are complete, children will receive a certificate.

Koren said she believes a quote from President John F. Kennedy sums up the value of the reception and the International Military Student Program best.

Kennedy said, “There is little question that the reception and treatment of foreign visitors coming to the United States... has an important effect upon the attitudes of other peoples toward the United States ... dedicated Americans in international exchanges will help us to achieve our common hopes for a durable and just peace.”

In the spirit of Kennedy, Koren hopes the evening helps promote understanding between Americans and their fellow global citizens.

“The entire time the students are here we are immersing them in U.S. culture, and this is their opportunity to give back to a community that has welcomed them with open arms and let the U.S. be immersed into an evening of visiting the world,” she said.

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For more information, please contact the Fort Leonard Wood Public Affairs Office at 573.563.4145.

### *About Fort Leonard Wood*

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*Fort Leonard Wood is a thriving and prosperous installation that has evolved from a small basic training post 70 years ago to a premier Army Center of Excellence that trains about 80,000 military and civilians each year.*

*Home to the Maneuver Support Center of Excellence, Fort Leonard Wood now trains and educates service members and develops doctrine and capabilities for the Training and Doctrine Command’s U.S. Army Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear School, U.S. Army Engineer School, and U.S. Army Military Police School, three gender integrated Initial Military Training brigades, and the Army’s largest Noncommissioned Officers Academy.*

*Over the past several years, Fort Leonard Wood has received numerous additional responsibilities to include supporting a colonel-commanded Marine Corps Detachment and an Air Force Detachment, which are both the largest on any Army installation, are located on Fort Leonard Wood; a large Navy Seabee Detachment and elements of the Coast Guard train here as well.*

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