



Prague Days Chicago June 2015

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The “Prague Days Chicago” festival celebrates the 25th anniversary of the sister cities relationship between Prague and Chicago. “The City of Chicago is proud of the Sister City partnership it has formed with the City of Prague and its long history of friendship and cooperation with the people of the Czech Republic,” says the Mayor of Chicago Rahm Emanuel.

“We dedicate this festival to the great Czech history in Chicago and to its most famous representatives,” adds Borek Lizec, Consul General of the Czech Republic in Chicago. “We are very proud of the incredible achievements of the Chicago Mayor Anton Cermak, the founder of McDonald’s Ray Kroc, “Papa Bear” George Halas, the actress Kim Novak, the astronauts Eugene Cernan and Jim Lovell, the rock musician Jim Peterik, the political lioness Judy Baar Topinka and many others.”

The Mayor of Prague Adriana Krnacova invites Chicagoans to “a selection of the highly diverse Prague cultural scene.” The festival kicks off in Pilsen, originally a largely Czech neighborhood, with **“This is Pilsen: Bohemian Past, Latino Present”** (Thalia Hall, June 10, 6:30 pm). The event features music and art from Prague as well as from the local community. The Ondrej Havelka and his Melody Makers orchestra will play retro hits from Pilsen’s early day. **Egnoise** will be on stage **at Millennium Park’s Jay Pritzker Pavillion** as part of the Downtown Sounds series (June 11, 6:30 pm). The “Treasured Legacy” exhibit features **highlights of Alphonse Mucha, a world-renowned, leading figure of Art Nouveau**, inspired by Chicago, and jewelry, glass and sculptures by his granddaughter Jarmila Mucha Plocková (Maya Polsky Gallery, June 11, 5:30 pm). **Golden Prague Gala, honoring famous Czech-Chicagoans and their families**, will be the culmination of Prague Days. The program includes unveiling of the sculpture, La Nature, 2010–2013, from The Richard H. Driehaus Collection (University Club, June 12, 6:30 pm). **Jim Peterik of the Ides of March hosts Prague Rockfest** and will perform his top hits Vehicle and Eye of the Tiger (June 13, 1 – 10 pm). The event will feature several Czech and Czech-American bands, including Michael Kocab, Katerina Garcia and Egnoise. **Kim Novak hosts “Prague Days – Czech that film”**, a film festival that will include a screening of one of her most famous movies **Vertigo**, followed by Q&A with the legendary actress (Film Row Cinema, Columbia College, Sunday, June 14, 5:30 pm). Late Czech President Vaclav Havel became a worldwide symbol for freedom, democracy, and human rights. In the concluding event of Prague Days, a **sculpture “A Heart for Vaclav Havel”**, gift from Prague to Chicago, will be unveiled by the Mayor of Prague and the Mayor of Chicago in the presence of President’s former close colleagues (Chicago City Hall, 5th floor, June 15, 9 am).

Schedule of events: praguedayschicago.com/FestivalPoster.pdf

Detailed program: praguedayschicago.com/FestivalBooklet.pdf

Interviews with famous Czech-Chicagoans & more: YouTube Channel, “Consulate General of the Czech Republic in Chicago”

More information for the media: www.mzv.cz/chicago

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