University of Montana: Taiwan Culture Week

April 8-13, 2024

The University of Montana has an important and growing relationship with the democratic island of Taiwan. To honor this collaboration, the Mansfield Center is organizing "Taiwan Culture Week." The week will entail several learning events to allow students and the Missoula community to expand their knowledge about Taiwanese culture. See below for events open to the public!

April 10: Try a Taiwanese treat

Time: 5:30PM-6:30PM

Location: University Center (UC), 1st floor

Details: Visiting Taiwanese Scholar Lily Chih-Hsuan Tsao will show students how to make ice cream spring rolls, made with spring roll pastry wrappers, peanut powder, pineapple ice cream, and cilantro. The people of Taiwan typically eat these sweet treats on Tomb Sweeping Day, a national holiday that is celebrated to show respect for ancestors. Be sure to stop by the China Club table in the UC to make yours!

April 11: Learn a Taiwanese Game (and Write Chinese characters!)

Time: 2PM-3:30PM

Location: University Center (UC), 1st floor

Details: Have you ever played Jianzi? Now is your chance! Jianzi is a traditional Chinese sport in which players aim to keep a heavily weighted "featherball" in the air using their bodies apart from the hands. Or maybe you've always wanted to see your name written in Chinese characters? Stop by the Taiwan Culture Week Table in the UC to explore Taiwanese game play and language.

April 12: Enjoy a Taiwanese Film

Time: 5:30PM-7:30PM

Location: University Center theatre (UC 3rd floor)

Details: Directed by Heather Tsui, the film "Long Time No Sea" is set amidst the Indigenous Tao community in Taiwan. The uplifiting movie explores the life of a young boy, Ma Na Wei, and his journey to reclaim his pride in his heritage through an Aboriginal Dance Competition. Visiting Taiwanese Scholar Lily Chih-Hsuan Tsao will explain the cultural importance of the movie ahead of the screening.

April 13: Meet "Lost in Taiwan" author Mark Crilley

Time: 11AM-12PM

Location: Missoula Public Library, Blackfoot Communications Room and on Zoom: Zoom Meeting Link (Meeting ID: 918 4700 3677; Passcode: 842268)

Details: Author Mark Crilley will join this hybrid event via Zoom to discuss his graphic novel, "Lost in Taiwan." The idea for the novel, which tells the story of high school student Paul's visit to Taiwan, pays tribute to Crilley's own love and fascination with the country and Chinese

language after living in Taiwan for several years. As Crilley puts it, learning to write in Chinese "is as if someone has handed you the keys to a secret door." Crilley is the author and illustrator of more than 50 books, including several acclaimed graphic novels, for which he has received 14 Eisner Award nominations.