

Tumen ekh successful touring to North America

The ACM has organized a one month tour of Mongolian folk song and dance ensemble, Tumen Ekh, to North America in May, 2006, in collaboration with the Seattle International Children's Festival and the ACM-US.

Established in 1989, the “Tumen ekh” is the best, most successful and experienced folk song and dance ensemble in Mongolia. The tour of 13 traditional artists, featuring morin khuur, long song, epic and eulogy singing, contortion, shaman ritual dance, ancient palace dance and Tsam mask dance, has visited Children’s festivals in the USA and Canada, introducing unique folk song, music and dance of Mongolia



Starting from the opening at the Asia Society Hall in New York on May 5 and the following concerts at Kennedy Center Millennium Stage in Washington, Denver, Seattle and Tacoma in the USA and in Toronto, Ottawa and St. Albert of Canada, the tour run very successful with all tickets sold out and the halls full of audience, giving the viewers a brief tour to the vast steppes of grassland, clear blue sky, and nomadic way of life through their highly professional performances of authentic folk arts.

The organizers believe that this tour will not only introduce Mongolian traditional arts and culture in North America, encouraging greater awareness and understanding of Mongolian history and culture, but also will promote international partnership, cultural exchange and deeper understanding between the peoples of North America and Mongolia opening a new gate to introduce to the world the distinct, diverse and vibrant nomadic art of Mongolia.

The tour was funded by Trust for Mutual Understanding, Asia Society, Boeing company, KHAN Bank, Western Union, Ulaanbaatar and Denver Sister Cities Committee, Seattle Children’s Art Festival, Embassy of Mongolia to Canada, ‘SUU’ Toronto International Children’s Festival and International Children’s Festival in Northern Alberta.

As this tour was a pilot, but a success project, proposals to organize another tour to the USA have already been initiated, meaning that Mongolian cultural heritage is on the way to be promoted internationally and commercially.