

News from Bennington College

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RELEASE: Immediately
March 19, 1982

BENNINGTON, Vt.--A three-day Indonesian cultural festival will be held at Bennington College beginning Thursday, March 25.

Sponsored by the Indonesian Embassy in Washington, D.C., a group of visiting dignitaries, led by the embassy's cultural attache, Sambas Wirakusumah, will offer demonstrations and lectures on Indonesian art, customs and traditions.

Some of the topics presented will include Indonesian costumes, music, dance, language and foods. Several films will be shown during the event, ranging from an examination of the ancient batik techniques to an overview of Indonesian geography, climate and population.

All events will take place in the Commons Building on the Bennington campus, and the public is welcome. Gunnar Schonbeck of the music faculty is coordinating arrangements.

On the program for Thursday, March 25: from 10 a.m. to noon, an

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introductory lecture and films, then from 2 to 4 p.m. an introduction to Indonesian foods and cooking will take place in the College dining and kitchen facilities.

On Friday from 10 a.m. to noon, Indonesian customs, language and religion will be discussed; and between 2 and 4 p.m., fabrics and costumes will be explored, including hand-weaving techniques and a film on the batik process.

On Saturday from 10 a.m. to noon, Indonesian music and dance is on the agenda, and from 2 to 4, a lecture and films will focus on development in Indonesia today. From 7 to 8:30 Saturday evening there will be a cultural performance featuring Balinese and Javanese songs and dances.

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