

## INVITATION

Dear Micronutrient Forum Participants:

On behalf of the Local Organizing Committee for the Micronutrient Forum, it is our pleasure to invite you to attend a Chinese banquet in the evening of May 12, 2009. The evening will feature delicious Chinese cuisine and a cultural program, which is outlined below. We look forward to seeing you there and hope you will enjoy it!

**Date:** May 12, 2009

**Time:** 18:00 to 21:00 hours

**Location:** Beijing Opera Theatre (Ping Fangqiao road, Chaoyang district, Beijing)

### **Beijing Opera Theatre**

The Beijing Opera Theatre is an important monument of Chinese heritage which allows tourists to appreciate the Peking Opera in its original style. As the biggest theatre in Beijing, this traditional tower-like building can seat more than 1500 people and has three floors.

Please have your Micronutrient Forum participant badge available.

### **Transportation:**

**By Bus:** The Local Organizing Committee has arranged for 20 buses to transport Micronutrient Forum participants to and from the Beijing International Conference Center (BICC). Buses will be departing from the hotel beginning from 18:30 on May 12, 2009. Return buses will begin departing from the Opera Theatre at 21:00 hours.

**By Taxi:** Taxis are easily available in front of the Beijing Continental Grand Hotel reception and Theatre, and staff can assist you in flagging one down, should you wish to depart earlier or later. Please be sure to have your hotel card with you so that you can communicate where you are going with the driver.

**Driving:** For those Forum participants driving to the Opera, a map from BICC to the Beijing Opera Theatre is provided below. The estimated driving time is around 40 minutes.

### **Special dietary requests and confirmation of participation:**

At the time of registration please inform staff at the registration desk if you have any particular dietary request as well as to confirm your participation to the banquet. All confirmations must be done at the registration desk before the first morning break on Tuesday May 12, 2009.

Best wishes,

The Micronutrient Forum Local Organizing Committee  
Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention

## Cultural Program

### **18:00 Welcoming Ceremony and Theatre Visit**

### **18:30 Chinese Banquet**

### **18:30 Welcoming Remarks**

### **Cultural Show**

#### **19:00 Beijing Opera**

Top artists from the Mei Lanfang Beijing Opera Troupe, established by the famous Beijing Opera artist, Mei Lanfang, will perform.

#### **19:30 Sichuan Opera and Magical Mask Change**

Sichuan Opera is one of the most widely recognized opera schools in China, with a history that can be traced back 300 years. The changing of masks is the essence of Sichuan Opera, involving the on-stage transformation of facial features and expressions with a magical sweep of a hand.

#### **19:45 Acrobatics**

Chinese acrobatics are a favorite art of the Chinese people, with a distinct style evolving from everyday life and work. Despite the advent of dazzling film shows and song-and-dance performances, acrobatics still shines as one of the brightest stars in Chinese culture. With 2,500 years of history, Chinese acrobatics have won the nation the title of "Kingdom of Acrobatics."

#### **20:15 Chinese Wushu**

Wushu is an important component of the cultural heritage of China and has steadily grown to be an integral part of the national culture. In the literal translation of the word, "Wu" means military and "Shu" means art. Wushu then means the art of fighting, or martial arts. In this performance, you will see China's most traditional martial arts demonstrated.

#### **20:35 Chinese Classical music**

Option 1: The Butterfly Lovers -- Violin Concerto

Liang Zhu or "Butterfly Lovers," is undoubtedly the best-known music in the country and can be traced to a Chinese folk legend about a tragic romance between "Liang Shanbo and Zhu Yingtai". Their love transforms them into butterflies upon death, so they can flutter and dance side-by-side among the flowers, never to be separated again.

Option 2: Spring Moonlight on the Flowers by the River

Spring Moonlight on the Flowers by the River has been one of the most famous Chinese traditional Pipa (lute) musical pieces for over 1,000 years.

#### **20:45 Folk dance**

Option 1: Dance of the Yi people

Option 2: Mongolian dance

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**Driving directions to the Beijing Opera Theater:**

