

## **Overview**

### **Ohio Valley International Council**

Ohio Valley International Council (OVIC) is the outreach arm of National Resource Centers for Africa and Southeast Asia in the Center for International Studies at Ohio University. OVIC promotes cultural and global sensitivity and helps to combat stereotypes in Southeast Ohio by offering cultural presentations in K-12 classrooms.

A typical OVIC visit consists of a team of 2-3 students called "Cultural Consultants" (OHIO students from Southeast Asia and Africa or U.S. students who have lived in one of these regions for at least one year) who visit a school for 1-2 class periods, depending upon their availability and classroom needs. The program focuses on the geographic regions of Southeast Asia (Brunei, Burma, Cambodia, East Timor, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam) and Africa in order to serve the outreach mandates for Ohio University's National Resource Centers for African and Southeast Asian Studies. Presentations generally cover culture, geography, and language, are age appropriate, fun and interactive. For more effective interaction between the Cultural Consultants and students, we ask that group size is kept to 60 or fewer students at one time. Students will be encouraged to ask questions at the end of presentations.

The program is free of charge to the schools. Transportation and a \$25 honorarium are provided to each Cultural Consultant by the program for every visit. We also bring our own laptop computer and traveling LCD projector. Because funding and staffing for the program is limited and demand from this region is great, requests for presenters by teachers should be made at least 3 months in advance. Visits will be scheduled during the third and ninth weeks of Ohio University's academic quarters to allow us to gather student schedules and arrange the visits at the beginning, and prepare for exams at the end. We will do our very best to accommodate!