

**CITY OF MADISON HEIGHTS**  
**Human Relations & Equity Commission**

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*Event Proposal & Funding Request*

# THE PARADISE EVE

*A Community Lantern Festival*

Civic Center Park • Madison Heights, MI • May 30, 2025

<b>Event Name</b>	The Paradise Eve — Community Lantern Festival
<b>Date</b>	Friday, May 30, 2025
<b>Time</b>	5:00 PM – 9:00 PM
<b>Location</b>	Civic Center Park, Madison Heights, MI
<b>Submitted By</b>	Human Relations & Equity Commission (HREC)
<b>Presented By</b>	HREC Subcommittee
<b>Submission Date</b>	May 20, 2026

## 1. Executive Summary

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The Human Relations & Equity Commission (HREC) of Madison Heights respectfully requests formal approval to co-produce The Paradise Eve, a community Lantern Festival scheduled for Friday, May 30, 2025 at Civic Center Park from 5:00 PM to 9:00 PM.

The Paradise Eve is a multicultural community celebration designed to foster cultural appreciation, community belonging, and cross-cultural connection among Madison Heights residents. The event will feature lantern making, Asian cuisine, a traditional fashion show, and a ceremonial lantern parade through the park.





This proposal requests two specific approvals from the HREC: (1) authorization to proceed with The Paradise Eve as an official city-supported event, and (2) a \$500 budget allocation to fund professional DJ services for the evening.

## 2. Event Overview

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The Paradise Eve takes its inspiration from the rich tradition of lantern festivals celebrated across Asian cultures — occasions symbolizing hope, community, and the letting go of burdens. Rooted in these traditions, our event reimagines the lantern festival as a Madison Heights community gathering open to all residents.

The four-hour program will create an immersive cultural experience across Civic Center Park:

Activity	Description
 <b>Lantern Making</b>	Hands-on workshop stations where attendees of all ages craft their own paper lanterns to carry in the parade.
 <b>Asian Food</b>	Curated Asian food offerings celebrating the culinary diversity of Asian cultures represented in our community.
 <b>Fashion Show</b>	A cultural fashion presentation showcasing traditional Asian attire and contemporary cultural fashion, celebrating heritage and artistry.
 <b>Lantern Parade</b>	The ceremonial closing: a procession of lantern-bearing community members parading around Civic Center Park, culminating the evening's celebration.

### 3. Community Partnerships

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The Paradise Eve has been developed through a collaborative planning process bringing together key community and organizational stakeholders. The following partners are actively engaged in event planning and co-production:

Partner Organization	Role & Contribution
<b>Madison Heights–Hazel Park Chamber of Commerce</b>	Business community liaison and local outreach; supporting vendor engagement and community promotion.
<b>DAsian Media Group</b>	Cultural programming lead; media coverage, community outreach to Asian communities, and cultural authenticity guidance.
<b>The 168 Group</b>	Event co-production partner; event logistics, programming coordination, and community network engagement.
<b>Human Relations &amp; Equity Commission (HREC)</b>	Requested as official City commission partner; providing institutional credibility, civic endorsement, and budget support for DJ services.

### 4. Request to the HREC

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The organizing committee respectfully presents the following formal requests to the Human Relations & Equity Commission:

#### 4a. Partnership Request

We request that the HREC formally endorse and join The Paradise Eve as an official event partner alongside the Madison Heights–Hazel Park Chamber of Commerce, DAsian Media Group, and The 168 Group. HREC approval to proceed with The Paradise Eve will:

- Affirm the City's commitment to celebrating cultural diversity and community inclusion

- Provide institutional credibility and visibility for the event
- Demonstrate the HREC's active engagement in Madison Heights' multicultural community
- Strengthen the collaborative relationship between city government and community organizations

#### 4b. Budget Request — DJ Services (\$500)

We request HREC approval of a \$500 budget allocation to cover professional DJ services for the event. Entertainment and sound quality are central to the atmosphere of a lantern festival, ensuring the evening program flows cohesively from the fashion show through the closing lantern parade.

Budget Item	Funded By	Amount
DJ Services (4-hour event set, sound equipment)	HREC	\$500.00
All Other Event Costs (programming, supplies, food, logistics)	Partner Orgs	TBD
<b>TOTAL HREC REQUEST</b>		<b>\$500.00</b>

### 5. Community Impact & Alignment with HREC Mission

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The Paradise Eve directly aligns with the Human Relations & Equity Commission's core mission of promoting equity, inclusion, and cross-cultural understanding within Madison Heights. This event will:

- Celebrate and elevate Asian cultural heritage within the broader Madison Heights community
- Create an inclusive, accessible public event welcoming to all residents regardless of background
- Strengthen relationships between established residents and Madison Heights' growing Asian American community
- Provide a model for future multicultural programming and city-community partnerships
- Increase positive visibility for Madison Heights as a welcoming, diverse community

### 6. Formal Requests for HREC Approval

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The organizing committee respectfully requests that the Human Relations & Equity Commission take the following actions:

- **APPROVE** formal HREC partnership in The Paradise Eve Lantern Festival
- **APPROVE** a budget allocation of \$500.00 for DJ services
- **AUTHORIZE** HREC representation and co-branding on event materials

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We appreciate the HREC's consideration of this proposal and are available to answer any questions, provide additional information, or present before the commission at its convenience. We are proud to bring this celebration to Civic Center Park and look forward to the HREC's continued leadership in making Madison Heights a truly welcoming and equitable community for all.

**Respectfully submitted,**

*On behalf of:*

Lantern Festival Subcommittee

Madison Heights Human Relations & Equity Commission