

Castle Clinton

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Castle Clinton National Monument



They Came to America

April 17, 2010

1 p.m. and 2:30 p.m.

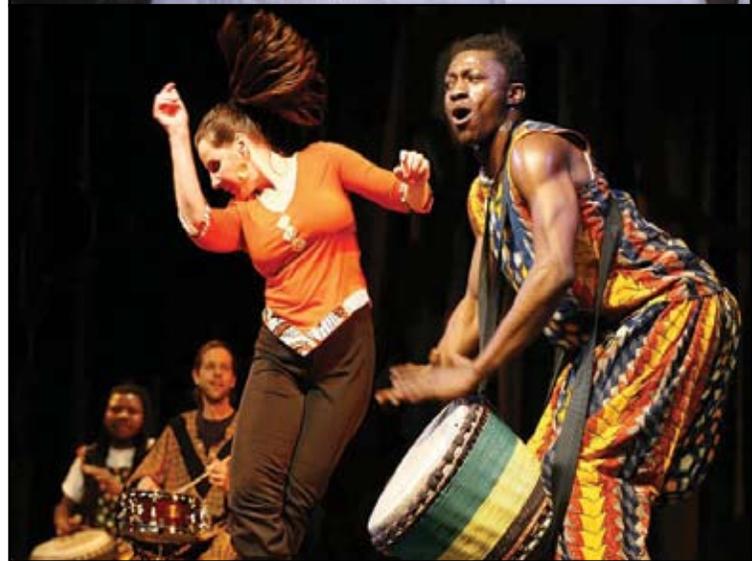
When most people think of immigrants coming to New York, they think of Ellis Island. But before there was Ellis Island, there was Castle Garden (the site of Castle Clinton National Monument), which opened as an immigrant Landing Depot in 1855. More than 8 million immigrants passed through the Battery's Castle Garden between 1855 and 1890. To celebrate this important part of its history, Castle Clinton is taking part in New York City's Annual Immigrant Heritage Week. To this end, the National Park Service is offering two special programs on April 17.

A Visit from Victoria at 1 p.m.

"A Visit from Victoria" is a living history program that portrays a 14-year-old Sephardic Jewish immigrant who lived in 97 Orchard Street. This is an interactive program in which the audience takes on the role of newly arrived immigrants and asks Victoria questions about adjusting to life on the Lower East Side. Audience members will also have the chance to look at the special objects she brings to help her tell about her life. This hour-long program is suitable for all ages and may be of particular interest to families and youth groups.

Voices of America immigrant experience through song and dance at 2:30 p.m.

This program by the Feraba African Rhythm Tap Dance Company features Irene Koloseus, an accomplished Austrian tap dancer, and Abou Sylla, a world-renown African balafon player. Their collaboration has created a blend of music and dance that unites their histories with traditional West African music/dance and the uniquely American art form of tap dance. They work to promote friendship, tolerance and cultural understanding among people. On April 17, the group will perform dances and music from multiple cultures. This hour-long program is suitable for all ages and may be of special interest to families and youth groups.



Plan Your Visit

Castle Clinton, located at the southern tip of Manhattan in Battery Park, is open daily (except December 25), 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. However, severe weather can close the site. Please call ahead if the weather is questionable.

There are numerous ways to get to Castle Clinton using public transportation. Please visit www.mta.info for more information and maps.

212-344-7220 • www.nps.gov/cacl