

“2013 – Year of the Snake”
By Diane Alba-Means

Chinese New Year's is the most celebrated of the Chinese Holidays. February 10, 2013 marks the first day of the Year of the Snake, according to the Chinese lunar calendar, or Farmer's calendar as it is commonly known. This is the beginning of a 15 day celebration, often referred to as the Lantern Festival. In Chinese tradition, you should wear something new and preferably in red. Red symbolizes happy active energy and is used in combination with gold in decorations and clothing.

There are 12 celestial animals of the Chinese Zodiac, each represent one of the 12 years in the Chinese lunar calendar system. The animals are used in a sequence, counting from Year 1,2,3, ... up to twelve and then starting over from year one. The order of the celestial animals is Rat, Ox, Tiger, Rabbit, Dragon, Snake, Horse, Sheep, Monkey, Rooster, Dog and Pig. The Snake is the sixth animal in the Chinese Zodiac. Your celestial animal is the Snake if you were born in 1917, 1929, 1941, 1953, 1965, 1977, 1989, 2001, or 2013. The Snake is most compatible with the Ox and Rooster, and have a secret friend in those born in year of the Monkey.

People born in the year of the Snake are considered the wisest and most mysterious of all the animal signs. They may become a philosopher, a theologian, a politician or a clever financier. In general they like communicating and prefer to focus on new interesting ideas and intelligent discussion.

Famous people born in the Year of the Snake are Kim Basinger, Bob Dylan, Greta Garbo, Art Garfunkel, Audrey Hepburn, Paul Hogan, Liz Hurley, Carole King, Dean Martin, Robert Mitchum, Ryan O'Neal, Brad Pitt, Brooke Shields, Paul Simon, Dionne Warwick, and Oprah Winfrey.

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Diane Alba-Means, author of *Feng Shui Fashion Makeover for Success*, is a Feng Shui and color consultant on Maui. She can be reached at www.HawaiiFengShui.com