

FIESTA CULTURAL: Annual Pan-Latino Celebration and Fall Fundraiser for Inter-American Magnet School

LATINO WORLD MUSIC, DANCE, ART & FOOD FESTIVAL

Benefiting over 30 years of multicultural, multilingual public education at Inter-American Magnet School

INTER-AMERICAN MAGNET SCHOOL is hosting their annual spring benefit, FIESTA CULTURAL, on Saturday, November 10, 2012 from 4 to 8:30 PM at 851 W. Waveland Ave. in Chicago. This year's event features food and entertainment from Spain, Latin America, China, and Russia in support of Inter-American's "Curriculum of the Americas".

FIESTA CULTURAL celebrates Latin America's rich and diverse cultural heritage with live music and dance performances, a savory food fair, children's art displays, artisan bazaar and children's art activities. The mission of the event is to celebrate cultural and artistic diversity while raising much-needed funds for Inter-American Magnet School. The event is bilingual, family-friendly and open to the public. Tickets are reasonably priced for a fundraising event at \$10 adults, \$5 children. Family tickets for two adults and their children will be available for \$25.

We have arranged for free parking at the Addison/Halsted public lot and at the Lakeview Lutheran Church lot at 835 West Addison.

Inter-American is a Chicago Public School serving almost 700 ethnically and economically diverse, preschool through 8th grade students from all over Chicago. One of few public schools to be founded by parents, Inter-American is the oldest "dual language" program in the Midwest. This nationally-

renown program teaches Spanish and English speaking children to read, write and speak fluently in both languages. The innovative school is not only known for its dual-language (also known as "two way immersion" or TWI) approach; Inter-American's "Curriculum of the Americas" integrates studies of the history, cultures and contributions of the indigenous peoples of the Americas, promoting heritage pride and a framework of social justice to build a lifelong love of learning with a global perspective.

Performances will include live professional entertainment from La Bompleneras, Los Jarochicanos, Marimba Ixchel, Latin Street Semi-Pro Team, Kid Jungle & Latin Street Kids the Chiara Mangiameli Ensemble, Chinese dancer Ling Ling Tao and her students, and a special delegation of youth singer from Sochi, Russia. Inter-American students will also perform Latin American folkloric dance and Aztec dance. Performances begin at 4:00 PM.

This year's Fiesta food court represents a wide range of traditional, regional dishes from Argentina, Colombia, Cuba, El Salvador, Guatemala, México, Panama, Puerto Rico, Venezuela, Ecuador, Portugal, Bolivia, Australia and more. Food service will begin at 5:00 PM and end at 6:00 PM when the performances resume.

Fiesta Cultural will also present a series of workshops between 5pm-7pm: Latin percussion with El Ritmo School of Percussion, Bachata, Salsa, and Kid's Hip-Hop dance workshops with Latin Street Dancing.

There will also be story time readings for the younger kid's sponsored in part by Tres Americas books.

This year's entertainment:

Student performances: Aztec dance with Inter-American middle school teacher Claudia Bravo and the IAMS International Folkloric Dance group with Middle school teacher Ms. Ramirez.

**LAS BOMPLENERAS-** Las Bompleneras is an all-female group that plays traditional rhythms, Bomba and Plena, from Puerto Rico.

**MARIMBA IXCHEL** – This talented group of youth performers from México and Guatemala perform on the Marimba, an indigenous instrument related to the xylophone which is the national instrument of Guatemala

**LOS JAROCHICANOS** – This is a group of younger musicians performing the traditional Son music from Mexico with an emphasis on the music of the southern state of Veracruz.

**THE CHIARA MANGIAMELI ENSEMBLE** – This Flamenco trio features top Chicago musicians and singer and dancer Chiara Mangiameli.

**LATIN STREET SEMI-PRO TEAM** – This team has performed at numerous Salsa Congresses and Conventions around the World. Including Montreal, Los Angeles, Miami & Chicago. The Semi-Pro Team also performs every year at The Latin Street Salsa Congreso & Bachata Convention in August and The Latin Dance Revue in December.

**KID JUNGLE & LATIN STREET KIDS**– Latin Street Dancing presents their youth performance teams for Hip-Hop and urban dance. Kid Jungle has appeared in a Twista music video, danced for artists like KRS-ONE and Shannon (“Let the

Music Play”), and done a line of commercial work. He teaches his own dance classes and performs regularly with his own urban dance troupe, “Thee Authentic Fewsion.

LING LING TAO – Ling Ling Tao is a professional dancer from China who will be joined by her students and Chinese language instructor Ms. Chen for a special presentation of folkloric dance from China.

RUSSIAN YOUTH PERFORMERS – These talented artists from Sochi, Russia are top competitors and award winners from a nationally televised talent competition in Russia visiting Chicago to promote Russian culture. Four vocalists between the ages of 9-21 will be performing.

The event is run by FELE (Familias en la escuela), the school's parent volunteer organization and 501(c)3 nonprofit. All proceeds benefit Inter-American Magnet School, commemorating over 30 years of multilingual, multicultural public education. For more information, go to [www.iamschicago.com](http://www.iamschicago.com)