

Date: 9/14/2021

Festival Latino of the Berkshires 2021 on Saturday, September 25<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Press Release submitted by Liliana Ortiz-Bermudez,

For further information, contact Festival Volunteers: 413-717- 1096, Erika Wainwright 413-854-5419

---

The Festival Latino of the Berkshires celebrates its 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on Saturday, September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2021 from 12:00 to 6:00 p.m., rain or shine, at the Town Hall Green Park and Saint James Place on Main Street in Great Barrington, MA. The Latino Festival is free of charge, open to the public, and alcohol-free. The Festival Latino is committed to maintaining public health and following all Covid-19 safety guidelines as recommended by the CDC.

This grand event, which takes place during Hispanic Heritage Month, is one of the most eagerly anticipated cultural events of the year. The Berkshires Hispanic community has continued to grow and thrive in the area, making an invaluable contribution to all of our lives. The festival provides a huge sense of pride and education to the immigrants and their children; it is invaluable for this! The inspiration and joy of the Latin arts engages students and adults alike, whenever people have the opportunity to engage with them. School faculty and students are especially encouraged to stop by the **Hablemos Español** table at 3:00 p.m. with Ana Cristina Velez, Miss Hall's Spanish teacher, and other bilingual speakers, to practice casual conversation in Spanish!

Kicking off at 12:00 p.m. a variety of Latin American cuisine vendors will make delicious ethnic dishes available such as tacos, chorizos, arepas, tamales, empanadas, arroz con pollo, frijoles, tostones, and more! At 1:00 p.m., local Mexican singer Laura Cabrera will perform, and D.J. Bernardino will provide the best Latin music hits throughout the afternoon to provide a soundtrack for exploring the foods, social services, artists, artisans, and activities present at the festival. Between 2:00 and 6:00 p.m. the Festival Latino of the Berkshires will premiere five extremely talented and highly accomplished Latin American folkloric dance companies who will perform at Saint James Place theater and in the park.

**Tumbaga** is a New York City dance company showcasing the artistic character of the Colombian folklore with its cast of energetic dancers and eccentric costumes. Founder, director, and choreographer, Armando Moreno, drives his company to display the splendor of the Colombian heritage by promoting the history in the music and dance.

**Quetzalcuauhtli Mitotiani** is a dance company from in New York City which celebrates the dance and music traditions of Mexico, incorporating rich pre-Hispanic Aztec traditions and rituals. This group was formed as a project of harmonious coexistence, striving to promote values of tolerance, responsibility, respect, love, and community through dance

**Cali Salsa Pal Mundo** is a Colombian dance school from New York City. Led by director-choreographer and dancer Johnathan Ramos, Salsa Pal Mundo will display "La Historia de la Salsa" Cali's own salsa style - known for its fast-paced footwork and incredible energy.

**Tecuanes** are a dance group based in New York City with dancers from Los Tecuanes de San Gabriel in Puebla, Mexico. The dance represents two tribes, the Chichimeca and the Zapoteca, working together in an attempt to capture the Tiger.

**Dominican Collectives Dance Ensemble**, a Folkloric Squad based in New York City that performs and produces presentations that uplift Dominican pride across the U.S., striving to promote cultural authenticity and education.

We are appreciative of [Barrington Stage Company](#) which is helping us promote Hispanic Heritage with spectacular musical show. For the safety of our community, the Festival Latino of the Berkshires will NOT be hosting a Gala After-Party Celebration. The Festival Latino's Gala Party will be postponed to Spring 2022.

As the only Berkshire County event that brings so many Latinos together to take pride in our heritage, we welcome donations to defray the expenses of producing the 2021 Festival Latino and to maintain the Festival's artistic excellence. Tax deductible donations can be made to: Festival Latino of the Berkshires Inc., P.O. Box 1021, Lee, MA 01238. The Festival organizers continue to seek business sponsors wishing to reach thousands of Latino residents and inform the community about their services. Donations are also welcome through Venmo @Festival-Latino.

For further information, please visit our Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/festivallatinooftheberkshires/> or our website: [www.festivallatino.org](http://www.festivallatino.org).