

Date: 9/9/15

Contact Information:

Liliana Ortiz-Bermudez

413-243-3961 or 413-717-1096

Bermudez1388@roadrunner.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Festival Latino of the Berkshires is proud to bring the 20th Annual Festival Latino of the Berkshires, in conjunction with Lee Founders Day Weekend, to Lee, Massachusetts on Saturday, September 19th, 2015 from 1:00 to 8:00 PM, preceded by the Lee Founder's Day Parade in the morning.

More than 20 Latin American countries will assemble for this Hispanic Heritage Celebration at the First Congregational Church Park on Main Street in Lee, Massachusetts. This unique cultural event is a favorite amongst families in the Berkshires and surrounding areas. The event is free, open to the public and prohibits alcohol. Spanish language students from local Berkshire high schools can receive extra credit for attending the Festival as part of their educational experience.

The theme of this year's event is "Latin American Folkloric Dance", celebrating the spirit, vitality and resilience of the Latino communities. Following commencement of the parade at 1:00 PM, Amanda Morton, Miss Berkshire County, will be attending and will work with the children at the event to participate in a pageant exhibiting costumes and customs of Latino culture.

Attending and performing at the event, "La Compañía Artística Cali Salsa Pal Mundo", former dancers of the Ballet Nacional de la Salsa de Colombia", led by director-choreographer Jonathan Ramos, will display "Estilío Caleño", known for its fast-paced footwork. Winners of the Miami World Salsa Summit 2015, Connecticut Salsa Fest, and Cali Salsa at Orlando Salsa Congress 2014.

Other performances by "Sueño Ecuatoriano", "Ballet Folklorico Mexicano Nuestra Señora del Refugio," "Ballet Folkloric Pañameno Noberto Basilio Mowatt," and Music Ensemble "Trio Candela", will provide music for dancing as well as numerous other performances both local and national. Vendors participating at the event will make available ethnic dishes to include tacos, chorizos, lechona, arepas, tamales, empanadas, horneado, pichada and more!

Following the festivities, at 9:00 PM, the celebration will continue with a Latin Gala Party at the Eastover Estate and Retreat, Tally-Ho barn at 430 East Street in Lenox. The Gala will feature a live Latin Band phenomenon Charlie Cajares & his Salsa Ensemble! El Abogado de la Salsa (formerly of Las Estrellas de Niche and Los Latin Brothers) originally from Cali, Colombia, a singer, composer and percussionist, featuring Salsa, Tropical Cumbias, Mambo, Merengue and Bachata, for a fun filled evening.

A Gala cover charge of \$45 per couple will help defray festival expenses. ID is required (18 to dance with parental accompaniment)

Donations are most welcome and needed to continue the Festival's artistic excellence at Festival Latino of the Berkshires Inc., P.O. Box 1021, Lee, MA 01238

For further information please contact Angela Bermúdez at 413-717-7123, or Liliana Ortiz-Bermúdez at 413-243-3961 & 413-717-1096. Or visit us on the Web: www.festivallatino.org.