



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 29, 2020

CAPA Announces Schedule for ¡Viva Festival Latino! August 3-9

CAPA today announced the schedule for ¡Viva Festival Latino!, a week-long, online experience that will stand in for the popular, annual Festival Latino canceled for 2020. ¡Viva Festival Latino! will offer a series of online cultural events and activities that highlight some of the favorite features of Festival Latino, including offerings in Latin music, food, dance, visual artists, children's activities, fashion, and community and health and wellness resources.

Produced by CAPA, ¡Viva Festival Latino! is presented by HONDA. Additional support has been provided by Nationwide, AEP Foundation, L Brands Foundation, City of Columbus Department of Recreation and Parks, and Abbott.

¡Viva Festival Latino! events and activities will be posted to the [Festival Latino web site](#) and [Festival Latino Facebook page](#). The schedule is as follows:

Monday, August 3 - FOCUS: Festival Latino History & Local Community

- A health and wellness resource page will be posted, offering links to local health and social service organizations offering free health screenings and bilingual services as well as information on local education and community programs.
- Those who have attended previous years of Festival Latino are encouraged to post their favorite festival images from years past in the online photo gallery.
- 7pm video feature: DJ Cale (also known as Derek Amaya) will kick off the week with a special introduction video that looks back on some great moments of Festival Latino from past years. He'll chat with some of the event's most popular

vendors and introduce a customized Spotify playlist that will be made available for download featuring hits from the international and national artists that have previously headlined Festival Latino.

About DJ Cale/Derek Amaya

Born in Honduras and raised in Queens, Derek Amaya is the founder of Amaya Productions, providing marketing, promotions, graphics, motion design, DJ, and sound/visual services. As DJ Cale, his Latino and New York hip hop influences have led him to collaborations with many heavyweight artists such as Daddy Yankee, Prince Royce, Farruko, Fuego, Extreme, and De La Ghetto.

Tuesday, August 4 - FOCUS: Latin Cuisine

- A Latin cuisine resource page will be posted, offering links to local restaurateurs and Latino grocery stores that specialize in a wide variety of cuisine from Latin America and beyond.
- Submit your favorite traditional Latin recipes.
- 7pm video feature: Nadia De Jesus, owner and operator of D’Nadia Catering, will demonstrate how to make the traditional Dominican dish mangú, salami, y queso frito (mashed plantains, salami, and fried cheese) and the popular Dominican beverage morir soñando, a creamy combination of milk and freshly squeezed orange juice. Omar D’Angelo of Barroluco Argentine Comfort Food will share some special dishes and the recipe for their famous empanadas, a fried turnover common in Latin America.

Wednesday, August 5 - FOCUS: Latin Dance

- An online gallery will be posted showcasing images of dance demonstrations and instruction from past Festival Latino events.
- Columbus-based flamenco and classical Spanish dancer Griset Damas-Roche will post a flamenco dance demonstration video, exhibiting the genre’s emotional intensity, proud carriage, expressive use of the arms, and rhythmic stamping of the feet.

About Griset Damas-Roche

Born in Havana, Griset Damas-Roche began a ballet career at the age of eight with Escuela Alejo Carpentier and then in the Escuela Nacional de Arte before being selected by the Ballet Español de Cuba in a new career as a flamenco and classical Spanish dancer. In 2014, during a vacation to the US, Damas was invited by Columbus-based Flamenco del Corazon to teach a flamenco workshop. Damas decided to stay and began teaching regular flamenco and ballet classes. She was hired by Powell Dance Academy as a ballet and pointe teacher and invited to

teach intensive flamenco courses by the Dublin Dance Center and Gymnastics and BalletMet.

- 7pm video feature: Carlos “El Hiperactivo” Rubio, “The Salsa King of Ohio,” will teach salsa and bachata dances in an online video lesson.

About Carlos Rubio

Rubio is an instructor at the Salsamante Dance Academy and Ohio’s all-time winning-est salsa dancer.

Thursday, August 6 - FOCUS: Children’s Activities & Local Latin Artists

- Children’s activity sheets will be available for download including Dia de los Muertos coloring pages, a how-to worksheet on creating Mexican paper flowers, and a how-to worksheet on crafting Papel Picado (paper snowflakes). Photos of completed activities can be posted to #vivafestivallatino.
- A resource page of Festival Latino marketplace artists will be posted, offering links to shop the work of local Latin artisans.
- An online gallery will be posted showcasing images of marketplace vendors from previous years of Festival Latino.
- 7pm video feature: Local Mexican culture expert Leticia Vázquez-Smith explains the Mexican holiday Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead), the significance of calaveras (sugar skulls) to the celebration, and demonstrates how to create and decorate sugar skulls at home.

About Leticia Vázquez-Smith

Vázquez Smith is a cultural worker, researcher, craftswoman, and an avid promoter of Mexican traditional culture in Columbus. She is president of Latino Arts for Humanity and has curated an annual Day of the Dead program at various locations since 1999.

Friday, August 7 - FOCUS: Latin Fashion

- An online gallery will be posted showcasing images of Festival Latino fashion shows from previous years.
- 7pm video feature: Local fashion designer Gerardo Encinas exhibits his latest cultural fashion line with a video runway show.

About Gerardo Encinas

Gerardo Encinas moved to Columbus from Mexico in 2002. He owns one of the few all-service event planning agencies in Ohio which is also fully bilingual. Encinas organized his first fashion show in 2013 as a launch for his modeling and makeup studio. In 2014, he became co-director of the Miss Ohio Latina pageant. Encinas

has presented collections at Fashion Week Columbus in 2016, 2017, and 2018 and the Opera Columbus Gala in 2019.

Saturday, August 8 - FOCUS: Latin Music

- 7pm video feature: DJ Cale broadcasts a DJ House Party from Genoa Park, spinning the hottest Latin tracks from a variety of national and international Latin artists.
- Viewers are encouraged to prepare for the DJ House Party by downloading the ¡Viva Festival Latino! Spotify playlist and picking up pre-party Latin food from the posted list of local Latino restauranteurs.

Sunday, August 9 - FOCUS: Latin Music

- 7pm video feature: ¡Viva Festival Latino! presents an online, video concert from headlining musical act Funk Salsa Urban.

About Funk Salsa Urban

One of the most dominant and sought-after bands in New York City, Funk Salsa Urban (FSU) fuses salsa rhythms, funk, and urban with Spanglish lyrics to create their own fresh inner-city sound. Since their 2016 debut, FSU has released original songs "Amazing," "Subelo," "Ajena," "The Anthem," "No Hay Amor," and "Dale Down" and recorded cover versions of Bruno Mars' "Uptown Funk" (changed to "Uptown Salsa"), The Weekend's "Starboy," Sam Smith's "Dancing with a Stranger," and a boogaloo version of the Jonas Brothers' "Sucker." They have also released a tribute to Colombian salsa music and a medley tribute to El Gran Combo de Puerto Rico. FSU has performed in major festivals and parades through the tri-state area and at Joe's Live in Chicago, Illinois.

- Viewers are encouraged to prepare for the concert by downloading the Viva Festival Latino! Spotify playlist and picking up pre-concert Latin food from the posted list of local Latino restauranteurs.

www.FestivalLatino.net

www.capa.com

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The Ohio Arts Council helped fund CAPA's 2020-21 season with state tax dollars to encourage economic growth, education excellence, and cultural enrichment for all Ohioans. CAPA also appreciates the generous support of the Greater Columbus Arts Council and the Lois S. and H. Roy Chope and Helen W. Wildermuth Fund for Drama and Music funds of The Columbus Foundation.

About CAPA

Owner/operator of downtown Columbus' magnificent historic theatres (Ohio Theatre, Palace Theatre, Southern Theatre) and manager of the Riffe Center Theatre Complex, Lincoln Theatre, Drexel Theatre, Jeanne B. McCoy Community Center for the Arts (New Albany, OH), and the Shubert Theater (New Haven, CT), CAPA is a non-profit, award-winning presenter of national and international performing arts and entertainment. For more information, visit www.capa.com.

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