



Plainfield Public Schools Celebrates the Culture of Latin America & The Caribbean with a Latino Festival

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PLAINFIELD, NJ – Plainfield Public Schools will celebrate a Latino Festival as part of its Hispanic Heritage Month celebration on Saturday, Oct. 14 from 12:00 to 6:00 p.m. The family-friendly event will be held at Plainfield High School, 950 Park Avenue, and will feature student performances, face painting, vendors, food tasting, exhibits, local businesses and social agencies, and lots of music and fun.

“The Latino Festival’s mission is to provide the students and our community with an opportunity to experience traditional and contemporary Latin American culture through the presentation of music, student and community performances,” said Dr. Caryn D. Cooper, Acting Superintendent of Schools. “This year, for the first time, the community will be able to participate fully on stage and in the

planning of this event. Our goal is to bring the students and our community together.”

The Latino Festival, in partnership with the Plainfield Arts Council and the Latin American Cultural Association of Plainfield, will feature performances by Inti Raymi, Orquidia de Oro, the Kalpas, the Pablos, and the Ecuador Chamber Music of the City of Ambato.

Student performances will include dances and vocal performances by students in grades K-12 from Clinton, Cook, Evergreen and Jefferson Elementary Schools and from Plainfield High School and the Plainfield Academy for the Arts and Advanced Studies.

The Latino Festival is a district-wide event that annually attracts the largest Hispanic/Latino and multicultural audience from all of the district's schools and the City of Plainfield.

The schedule of events (subject to change) is as follows:

- 12:00 pm – Opening ceremony that includes a parade of flags from Latin American, and a pledge to the United States flag.
- 12:10 pm – Cook School - Ms. Pinto's First Grade Class - Representing Panama with dance performance to "La Gozadera"
- 12:15 pm – Plainfield High School - Dancers
- 12:25 pm – Jefferson School Ms. Susana Roman's Fourth Grade Class – Representing Mexico with Jarabe Tapatío (folk dance)
- 12:35 pm – Clinton School Ms. Susana Roman's, Zumba style dancing, Echa pa`lla (Manos pa`riba) Pitbull and "La gozadera" (Gente zona) CoreoFitness
- 12:45 pm – Evergreen School - Ms. Castillo & Mr. Guzman – Representing Mexico with "Hat Dance"
- 12:55 – Plainfield High School – Vocalist Vivian Flores. Mr. Andre Robinson on piano performing "The Crime," by Miley Cyrus and "Corre," by Jesse & Joy.
- 1:30 pm – Chamber Music of the Orquesta de Camara of the City of Ambato. The Orquesta de Cámara del Municipio de Ambato is exporting its music to the world with its renditions of culture and talent, according to Culture Director Carlos Quinde.
- 2:00 -3:00 pm – Food tasting in the Cafeteria
- 3:00 pm - Inti Raymi - Inti Raymi is an Ecuadorian folk dance group directed by Vinicio Gómez and Luis Caluña and Ballet professor Edgar Jadan, and integrated by young students from Plainfield. In the native language (Quichua) Inti-Raymi means "Tribute to the sun" which is represented in the dancing.
- 3:30 pm – The Kalpas - Kalpas is a magical Andean music from Ecuador, Peru, and Bolivia that will be played by the virtuous folkloric group Kalpas. They are from Ambato, Ecuador, and play a variety of traditional wind and string instruments such as kena and quenachos (traditional flutes of the Andes),

panpipes, charango and the bandoline. Kalpas has several native rhythmic musical compositions.

- 4:30 pm – Los Pablos - The Pablos is a musical duo that plays Latin American music. Los Pablos is formed by the guitarist and accompanied by vocalist Pablo Cubillo, and Pablo Jurado as the lead vocalist. They interpret several genres such as romantic ballads, rhythmic, social, folklore, latin rock, and much more.
- 5:00 pm – Orquidia de Oro - Orquidia De Oro represents the national dances of Colombia. Founder Nurys Capello is proud to present.
- 5:30 – 6:00 pm Closing ceremonias

