

MEDIA ADVISORY
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Latin D.C. Dance Company to Host 16th Annual Cinco de Mayo Festival

Maru Montero Dance Company's festival features an array of musical performances, ethnic food, and activities for the entire family

What: Maru Montero Dance Company will host its annual Cinco de Mayo Festival on May 4 to bring together people of all nationalities in order to celebrate Latin American culture. Two stages will be set up for salsa, Mexican folk dancing, mariachi, and merengue performances. A children's pavilion will contain arts and crafts activities where kids can make piñatas, braid hair, build dancing puppets, and play *loteria* (Mexican bingo) to win prizes. Other highlights at the day-long festival include:

1. Bilingual story time sponsored by the D.C. Public Library
2. Soccer clinic
3. Music from merengue band Oro Solido
4. Horse demonstrations from Mexican cowboys
5. Mexican market
6. Fine arts exhibits from Latino artists
7. Eclectic mix of Latin American food

When: Sunday, May 4, 2008 from noon to 6 p.m. *RAIN OR SHINE!*

Where: National Mall. Sylvan Theater at the base of the Washington Monument, 15th Street SW and Independence Avenue SW, Washington DC 20024. Take metro (Smithsonian Station).

Who: The festival is organized by the Maru Montero Dance Company with support from founding sponsor Freddie Mac Foundation, Target, Univisión, and the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities

About MMDC: Founded in 1992, the Maru Montero Dance Company has emerged as one of the finest and most popular Latin dance company in the nation's capital, performing Mexican folk, cha-cha, mambo, salsa, tango and many other dances from Latin America. The company, founded by former Ballet Folklórico de México lead dancer Maru Montero, is a non-profit 501(c)3 corporation dedicated to promoting the joy and beauty of Latin culture in the United States. MMDC performs at various venues around the Washington area and offers a wide selection of Latin American dance programs.

www.marumontero.com