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ST. LOUIS MOSAIC PROJECT

ST. LOUIS MOSAIC PROJECT PRESENTS CINCO DE MAYO EVENTS AND ARTS TO ELEVATE HISPANIC COMMUNITY

(ST. LOUIS, MO) - St. Louis Mosaic Project is excited to announce events happening in the St. Louis region that contribute to the welcoming efforts of the Hispanic community in conjunction with Cinco de Mayo.

As part of the 52 Weeks of Art Project, Arte Latino Traveling Exhibit is featuring seven artists representing Mexico, Puerto Rico, Argentina, Colombia, Brazil and Costa Rica who will have their art displayed at various locations. Their art is rich, colorful, innovative, imaginative and traditional reflecting diversity of the Latino communities that are part of the St. Louis region. The Arte Latino Traveling Exhibit offers the opportunity to demystify stereotypical concepts of Latinos and Latin art and to promote integration of the various groups within our region. Latino artists include Gabriela Toujas, Nelson Perez, Alexandra Mertz, Olga Rusinova, Cecilia Andre, Alejandra Velasco, and Vivian Gutierrez. The Arte Latino Traveling Exhibit is free and open to the public.

St. Louis Venture Café is hosting Latino artist, Nelson Perez on April 28, 2016 from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm. Nelson Perez, along with curator Cileia Miranda-Yuen, will explore how contemporary Latino artists continue to build on rich traditions that reflect a unique multi-ethnic experience, taking established art forms and reinventing them, constantly challenging themselves and the communities which nurture them. Arte Latino Traveling Exhibit will also be displayed during this event.

St. Cecilia School and Academy has become the newest Mosaic Ambassador School and is having their inaugural Cinco de Mayo fiesta on May 05, 2016 from 5:30 pm to 8:30 pm. To celebrate Cinco de Mayo, the fiesta will include delicious traditional food from Puebla-Mexico, Mexican bingo, taste and vote for the best chips & salsa from several local restaurants while learning some salsa, Latino art and students' art contest and live dance and music performances.

Arte Latino Traveling Exhibit will be displayed at this event. Tickets are only \$20 if purchased in advance online or \$30 at the door.

The largest Cinco de Mayo celebration will also take place on Cherokee Street, May 07, 2016 from 11:00 am to 9:00 pm. This event includes a People's Joy Parade, a one-of-a-kind grassroots menagerie of crepe paper float makers, homemade costume fashionistas, marching bands, Lucha Libre Wrestling, children's activities and more.

The St. Louis Mosaic Project is having an Ambassador reception at the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce St. Louis, May 11, 2016 at 6:00 pm. St. Louis County Historian Danny Gonzales will share some history about the Mexican presence in the St. Louis region since the 1800s. The Missouri Humanities Council will have posters of the "Latinos in Missouri Oral History". Arte Latino Traveling Exhibit will be on display at Hispanic Chamber of Commerce St. Louis from May 11 to September 1, free and open to the public.

Arte Latino Traveling Exhibit will also be displayed during the Cortango Orquesta event at the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra at the Powel Hall on May 18, 2016 from 7:00 pm to 9:00pm. The Cortango Orquesta is an ensemble from the St. Louis Symphony that specializes in Argentine Tango followed by a reception. This event is free and open to the public but RSVP is requested for planning purposes.

As part of PBS Latino 500, the Missouri Humanities Council is presenting a lecture: El Cinco de Mayo: An American Tradition at the St. Louis Public Library Carpenter branch. This lecture is taking place on May 19, 2016 from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm. Author David Hayes-Bautista examines the reasons why a holiday commemorating a Mexican victory over the French at Puebla in 1862 that is so widely celebrated in California and across the United States, is scarcely observed in Mexico. Arte Latino Traveling Exhibit will be displayed at this event and is free and open to the public.

The World Trade Center St. Louis is hosting an open house - Arte Latino Traveling Exhibit from May 02, 2016 to May 05, 2016 from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. The Arte Latino Traveling Exhibit can also be viewed at the International Institute of St. Louis from May 07, 2016 to May 31, 2016, during regular business hours and is also free and open to the public.

For additional details about all of these events please visit www.stlmosaicproject.org

About the St. Louis Mosaic Project

The St. Louis Mosaic Project was launched in 2012 in response to an economic impact report, outlining St. Louis to be lagging in immigrant growth as well as highlighting the economic benefits of increasing its foreign-born population. The Mosaic Project is a regional initiative that is professionally managed by St. Louis Economic Development Partnership, World Trade Center and a 27-member committee. Its goal is to transform St. Louis into the fastest growing major metropolitan area for immigration by 2020 and promote regional prosperity through immigration and innovation. Learn more at www.stlmosaicproject.org