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NEWS

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Sept. 2, 1998

For Immediate Release:

EASTERN TO CELEBRATE LATINO HERITAGE THROUGH SERIES OF EVENTS

CHARLESTON -- Eastern Illinois University is taking cultural awareness one step further by once again planning a series of events to celebrate Latino Heritage Month.

By presidential proclamation, the achievements, history and culture of Latinos in the United States are celebrated annually during the months of September and October. Local events, as well as those sponsored throughout the country, all have the same goal.

“(We hope) to get a lot of people to have a better idea of Latino culture and heritage, as well as a taste of the music,” said Isabel Castro, EIU’s Latino Heritage Committee chairperson.

This year’s local events include the annual **Latino Heritage Banquet** to be held from 6 to 9 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 13, in the Grand Ballroom of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union. EIU’s Panther Union Catering and Dining will prepare several different Latino recipes given to them by the Latino Heritage Committee. The recipes come from different countries such as Brazil, Mexico, Venezuela, Nicaragua, and Columbia.

The banquet will also feature the entertainment of renowned **Latino storyteller Antonio Sacre** and music from the band “**Adelante,**” who will be playing throughout

Eastern Illinois University emphasizes distinguished teaching in the liberal arts, sciences and selected professions. A traditional, residential state university of recognized quality, Eastern enrolls more than 11,000 students in undergraduate and graduate programs. The university, located in Charleston, also serves the region through a variety of non-credit and off-site degree programs, as well as cultural and recreational opportunities. Eastern’s pursuit of excellence attracts well-qualified students of an increasingly diverse population and a teaching faculty active in research and public service who utilize the latest technology.

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the course of the evening. Immediately following the banquet, doors will open to the public from 9 to 10 p.m. for salsa dancing, a more popular and romantic form of Latino dancing. Tickets, priced at \$6 for EIU students and \$12 for non-students, are on sale at the Office of Minority Affairs (Blair Hall 111, (217) 581-6690) and ***must be purchased by Wednesday, Sept. 9.***

Other events scheduled to take place on Eastern's campus include:

- **El Vez, the "Mexican Elvis,"** who will be performing several Elvis-style songs set to Spanish rhythms. The show starts at 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 17, in Dvorak Concert Hall, located in the Doudna Fine Arts Center. Tickets are \$8 for EIU students and \$10 for non-students.
- **The Mexican Folkloric Dance Company of Chicago,** who will be performing several traditional Latino dances at 7 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 19, in the Grand Ballroom of the University Union. Tickets are \$3 for students and \$5 for non-students.
- A **Cultural Fair,** scheduled to take place from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday, Sept. 21, in the University Ballroom, University Union. The fair will feature different artifacts, crafts and foods from various Latino countries. Admission is free and open to the public.
- **Authon Banos,** who will lecture on "**NAFTA and Mexico**" at 7 p.m. Monday, Sept. 21, in the Kansas Room of the University Union. Free admission.
- The movie, "**Lone Star,**" which focuses on relations between ethnic groups on the Texas-U.S. border. The movie will begin at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 22, in Lumpkin Hall 017. Free admission.
- An all-day Latino movie festival featuring "**Carmen**" and "**Milagro Beanfield War,**" Monday, Sept. 28, in the Union Walkway.

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- **Piedad Peniche**, who will **lecture** on **“Women’s History: A Mexican Perspective”** at 7 p.m. Monday, Sept. 28, in the Arcola/Tuscola Room of the University Union. Free admission.
- **Latin Fest (A Kids’ Event in the Park)**, beginning at 9 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 3, in Charleston’s Morton Park. Registration/nominal fee required; please contact the Charleston Rec. Department, 345-6897, by Wednesday, Sept. 30.

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Editors: Please note deadline -- **Wednesday, Sept. 9** -- to purchase tickets for **Latino Heritage Banquet**.