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BPO partners with Hispanic Heritage Council of WNY to present Festival Encanto Hispano

**Free festival at Kleinhans Music Hall celebrates Hispanic heritage
in anticipation of Aída Cuevas' WNY debut with the BPO**



The Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra proudly continues their partnership with the Hispanic Heritage Council of WNY this month to present **Festival Encanto Hispano**, a vibrant event featuring local Hispanic musicians, performers, artists, and food vendors. The free festival takes place on **Saturday, October 14** from **12-4pm** at **Kleinhans Music Hall**, preceding the exciting WNY debut of **Aída Cuevas**, the "Queen of **Mariachi**," with the BPO that evening.

This day-to-night celebration marks the BPO's annual collaborative observance of Hispanic Heritage Month with the Hispanic Heritage Council. Buffalo-based performers, artists, and vendors joining the festivities include:

- Amor and Heritage Dance, a nonprofit dedicated to the promotion of diversity, kindness, self-confidence, and multiculturalism through dance
- Anaidelis Makes Crochet & Jewelry, showing handmade crocheted and beaded items
- Artesanía Boricua Familiar, offering jewelry, art on wood, and various handcrafted wooden pieces
- Buffalo Choro, a local musician collective led by guitarist Stephen Guerra educating and performing Brazilian Choro music
- Buffalo Tango Orkestra, performing Argentine Tango on the bandoneon (a type of accordion popular in Argentina and Uruguay), violins, cello, piano, double bass, and guitar, with singers
- El Batey Puerto Rican Center, whose mission is to celebrate, inspire, and connect children to their culture and each other, so that together they can reimagine and reshape their future
- El Buen Amigo & Latin American Cultural Association, Inc., a nonprofit offering fair trade arts, crafts, clothing, and jewelry directly from artisans and farmers in Latin America
- Gabriela's Kitchen, a local food truck with Cuban cuisine, parked just outside of Kleinhans
- La Marimba de Buffalo, a musical group offering an original take on traditional music of Mexico and Central America performed on the marimba, with lilting tunes, danceable grooves, and improvisation
- Los Artistas del Barrio, a Latino/a/x arts collective representing various local artists with original art, prints, and artisanal jewelry
- Multinational Illumination Art, presenting traditional Puerto Rican Vejigante masks carved from coconuts, converted into lamps

Casimiro D. Rodriguez, President of the Hispanic Heritage Council of WNY, stated: "Our partnership with the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra has been instrumental in bringing Hispanic artists from around the world to the Western New York community. We are proud to be collaborators with the BPO to continue to celebrate and share our Hispanic culture and arts with the community at large."

The BPO and the Hispanic Heritage Council invite the community to join this celebration of the rich tapestry of Hispanic culture in Buffalo. This free event offers a unique opportunity to immerse oneself in a multicultural array of visual and performing arts, while supporting local independent artists and nonprofit organizations.

After the festival, **Aída Cuevas** will complete the celebration with a thrilling performance featuring the BPO and her mariachi band, conducted by BPO Assistant Conductor and Diversity Fellow **Fernanda Lastra**.

For festival information, visit bpo.org/encanto.

For concert details and tickets, visit bpo.org/aida.

Find images [here](#). For additional information, interviews, photos, or video, contact Simone Viola at sviola@bpo.org or (716) 242-7814.

About Aída Cuevas



Aída Cuevas, known as “The Queen of Mariachi Music,” celebrates 47 years singing traditional Mexican and Latin American music. Cuevas is the first and only female singer in the traditional mariachi genre to ever win a Grammy and a Latin Grammy Award, and now celebrates a long-lasting career which includes eleven Grammy nominations in the “Best Mariachi/Ranchero Album” category. Much like Ella Fitzgerald’s classic releases for Verve, her “songbook” albums have played a central role in defining Mexican popular music. Over her career, she has recorded an impressive 41 full-length albums that have sold internationally in excess of 11 million copies.

An international icon of Mexican music since she was a teenager, Aída Cuevas is an impassioned performer with a striking voice that evokes life’s deepest sorrows, greatest joys, and most profound longings. An artist known widely as the “Queen of Ranchera Music,” and “La Voz de México” (the Voice of Mexico) in her native country, she celebrates her 47th year as a performer with this special tour, *Yo Creo Que Es Tiempo* (“I Think It’s Time”), named for her 1983 hit written by her late mentor and producer, pop icon Juan Gabriel.

Her two latest albums, *Antología de la Musica Ranchera Vol. 1* and *Vol. 2* (2020 & 2021), feature her interpretations of the timeless songs made famous by the iconic



1930s ranchera singer Lucha Reyes, and both albums earned Grammy nominations again for the “Best Mariachi/Ranchero Album” category.

To learn more about the BPO's storied history, [distinguished conductors and world-class musicians](#), and commitment to [IDEA](#), visit the [Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra](#).



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