



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **Bachata Superstar Luis Vargas and “Salsa’s Lion” Oscar D’Leon to Headline 2015 Festival Latino**

CAPA today announced the lineup of national and international acts which will be headlining the 2015 Festival Latino presented by Honda. The two-day, family-friendly, free event will be held Saturday and Sunday, August 8 and 9, from 11 am-8 pm each day. Due to continuing construction in Genoa Park, the 2015 Festival Latino will again be held in Bicentennial Park just across the river.

### **Saturday, August 8**

#### **Jose Peña Suazo y La Banda Gorda**

Dominican – Merengue

After years of experience working as a performer, composer, and arranger, Dominican-born trumpet player Jose Peña Suazo established his own merengue music project, La Banda Gorda. The group’s first album, *Libre al Fin* (1994), launched the group into stardom in the Dominican Republic, and its second album, *Candela Pura* (1995), made them a national and international music phenomenon known for its diverse style and Caribbean flavor.

#### **Luis Vargas – HEADLINER**

Dominican – Bachata

Singing and playing lead guitar, Luis Vargas is one of the Dominican Republic's most popular bachata musicians. He was one of the first to play bachata with the electric guitar, an innovation which contributed to the genre's expanding popularity. One of the most active live bachata acts in recent years, Vargas has added an urban Reggaeton style to his performances.

### **Sunday, August 9**

#### **Banda Machos**

Mexican – Banda/Quebradita

Now touring in celebration of their 25-year career, Banda Machos has essentially combined Banda with cumbia to create Quebradita, a danceable style of the traditional Banda music. After more than 20 albums to their credit, this Mexican band has become known as "La Reina de las Bandas" (Queen of the Bands) because of their unique costumes and early contributions to the Quebradita genre. [www.BandaMachos.com](http://www.BandaMachos.com)

#### **Oscar D’Leon – HEADLINER**

Venezuelan – Salsa/Caribbean

Better known as “El León de la Salsa (Salsa’s Lion),” Venezuelan singer Oscar D’ León is one of the world’s most prominent authors and performers of salsa and Caribbean music. His musical career spans a trajectory of more than 30 years, recording more than 50 albums inspired mainly by Benny Moré and Cuban sounds. <http://oscardleon.com/en>

A detailed schedule will be released on a later date, and will include the full lineup of Ohio-based Latino bands and dance companies that will also be featured at the 2015 Festival.

[www.FestivalLatino.net](http://www.FestivalLatino.net)

All programs and artists are subject to change.

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The **Ohio Arts Council** helped fund this program with state tax dollars to encourage economic growth, education excellence, and cultural enrichment for all Ohioans. CAPA also appreciates the support of the **Eileen and Josiah Brooks Heckert, Joey and William Henderson, Fred B. and Mabel Dean Hill, James W. Overstreet, and Robert B. Hurst Funds of The Columbus Foundation**, assisting donors and others in strengthening our community for the benefit of all of its citizens, and the **Greater Columbus Arts Council**, supporting the city's artists and arts organizations since 1973.

**About CAPA**

Owner/operator of downtown Columbus' magnificent historic theatres (Ohio Theatre, Palace Theatre, Southern Theatre) and manager of the Riffe Center Theatre Complex, Lincoln Theatre, and the Shubert Theater (New Haven, CT), CAPA is a non-profit, award-winning presenter of national and international performing arts and entertainment. For more information, visit [www.capa.com](http://www.capa.com).

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