



1751 Gentilly Blvd., New Orleans, LA 70119 www.fairgroundsracecourse.com

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Contact: Jim Mulvihill, Communications and Pari-Mutuel Marketing Manager, 504.948.1233, james.mulvihill@fgno.com

FIESTA HISPANA BRINGS LATIN FLAVOR TO FAIR GROUNDS

Marimba Sol de Chiapas, Rumba Buena Headline Cultural Fest with Music, Food and Fun

NEW ORLEANS (Wednesday, September 1, 2010) – On **September 17, from 5-9 p.m.**, Fair Grounds Race Course & Slots will present **Fiesta Hispana**, a new festival celebrating Latin Heritage on the week of Mexico's bicentennial, as well as the independence holidays of all Central American nations. Four hours of live music will feature the traditional Mexican sounds of **Marimba Sol de Chiapas**, making their first public appearance in New Orleans, as well as local favorites **Rumba Buena** and **Javier Gutierrez & Acoustic Swiftness**. Authentic cuisine and libations will be available at stations representing the city's top Latin American restaurants and vendors.

Admission will be free prior to the day's last race at 5 p.m. From 5-9 p.m. admission is \$10. Main acts will perform on the west side of Fair Grounds' air-conditioned grandstand, while food and cultural demonstrations will be ongoing trackside and around the open-air paddock. Parking in the secure, well-lit Fair Grounds lot is always free.

Fiesta Hispana is presented in partnership with the Consulate of Mexico in New Orleans, the Consulate General of Honduras in New Orleans, KGLA-TV Telemundo and KGLA 1540-AM Radio Tropical.

First post for live American Quarter Horse racing on Sept. 17 is 12:40 p.m. General admission to the Summer Quarter Horse Season (Tuesdays to Saturdays, Sept. 14-25) is always free.

About Marimba Sol de Chiapas

Committed to the authentic performance practice and spirit of the marimba heard throughout Mesoamerica, Marimba Sol de Chiapas (which translates as The Chiapan Sun Marimba Group) maintains an active schedule of performances, recordings, and multi-cultural workshops. More than 20 years of ensemble highlights range from a feature on National Public Radio's *Morning Edition* and an appearance on ABC's *Good Morning America* to performing at the art world's premier event of the Americas – Art Basel Miami. So authentic is their interpretation and approach that the ensemble has toured Mexico on numerous occasions as guests of the Mexican government.

About Fair Grounds Race Course & Slots

Fair Grounds Race Course & Slots, the nation's third-oldest racetrack, has been in operation since 1872. Located in New Orleans, Fair Grounds is owned by Churchill Downs Incorporated (NASDAQ Global Select Market: CHDN); it also operates a slot-machine gaming facility and 10 off-track betting parlors throughout southeast Louisiana. Fair Grounds will host its third annual Quarter Horse Racing Season Sept. 14-25 as well as Quarter Horse racing's championship night, the Bank of America Challenge Championships, Nov. 19. The 139th Thoroughbred Racing Season will run Nov. 25, 2010-March 27, 2011, highlighted by the 98th Grade II Louisiana Derby on March 26. Information about Fair Grounds can be found online at www.FairGroundsRaceCourse.com.