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The Latino Cultural Center Inaugurates Annual Children's Day Festival

April 25, 2010 from 1-6 p.m.

In celebration of children around the world, the LCC hosts free festival to feature over 15 music, dance, movie and art activities specially designed for children and their families.

DALLAS, March 17, 2010 – Summer fun comes early this year with the Latino Cultural Center's 2010 Día de Niño Festival April 25, 2010 from 1-6 p.m. In keeping with the Mexican Día del Niño holiday on April 30th, the LCC is offering a day of free music, dance and art activities designed for children and their families.

In inaugurating this festival, the LCC demonstrates its continued commitment to the community and more importantly, to the development and appreciation of Dallas' children. The 2010 Día del Niño Festival not only promotes and preserves Latin American traditions, but also creates an opportunity to expose children to the artistic and cultural offerings available in the area.

All programs are free and open to the public; families can come to the LCC for a couple of hours, or stay for the whole afternoon. Activities will be held throughout the building, allowing families to drop-in on art workshops, view a film in the theater, or listen to a storyteller in the gallery. Among the artists featured are Alegre Ballet Folklórico, Parranda Venezuela and the Ollimpaxqui Ballet Company.

"The Latino Cultural Center is thrilled with the opportunity to kick-off this program in 2010, expanding our offerings for Dallas families and responding to their request for more programs for youth," said María Muñoz-Blanco, director of Cultural Affairs for the City of Dallas. "We hope it will become an annual tradition in years to come, celebrating the creativity of our young people and particularly sharing with them the diverse cultural heritage of our community."

For a full schedule of activities, please visit our Web site at www.dallasculture.org/latinoculturalcenter.

About Children's Day

A holiday celebrated in over 100 nations, including most Latin American countries, Día del Niño brings attention to the rights and needs of children. The designation of a universal day to honor children dates back to 1954, when the United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution to recommend all countries institute a "Children's Day" to be observed as a day of worldwide fraternity and understanding between children.

Día del Niño celebrations have taken a strong hold throughout Latin America, where it is observed on different dates as determined by each country. For example, while Mexico celebrates Día del Niño on April 30, Argentina holds its celebration on the 2nd Sunday in August. Some countries use the holiday to review their nation's commitment to the Universal Declaration of Children's Rights; many families give toys and other presents to their children.

Latin America's Día del Niño

- April: Bolivia (12); Mexico (30); Colombia (last Sunday)

- May: Paraguay (31)
- June: Ecuador (1)
- July: Cuba, Panama and Venezuela (3rd Sunday)
- August: Argentina, Chile and Uruguay (2nd Sunday); Peru (3rd Sunday)
- September: Costa Rica (9)
- October: El Salvador and Guatemala (1); Brazil (12)

About the Latino Cultural Center

The Latino Cultural Center is a division of the City of Dallas Office of Cultural Affairs. Established in 2003, the LCC's mission is to serve as a regional catalyst for the preservation, development and promotion of Latino and Hispanic arts and culture. The LCC offers a year-round season of programs, including visual arts exhibitions in two galleries and more than 50 dance, theater and music performances annually in the Oak Farms Performance Hall. The LCC's signature family programs include Target Second Saturdays, the Día de los Muertos Celebration, and the annual Posada. The Center is located at 2600 Live Oak, Dallas, Texas 75204. LCC hours: Tuesday – Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For additional information, please call 214-671-0045 or visit our Web site at www.dallasculture.org/latinoculturalcenter.

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