



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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THE 5TH ANNUAL AFRO-LATIN FEST 'A CALL FOR UNITY'

Houston, Thursday, July 26 to Sunday, July 29, 2018

With collaboration and support from the **City of Houston, Houston Blues Museum, Flamart, Rice University Boniuk Institute's Arts of Tolerance, Foundation for Modern Music, Strictly Street Salsa, Houston Arts Alliance, Texas Commission on the Arts, Gite Gallery, American Heart Association, DAPA (Danmar Academy of Performing Arts)**, and others, the 5th Annual Afro-Latin Fest brings Houstonian a unique cultural immersion experience representing over 15 countries from around the world. The country's largest curriculum of classes of its kind features over 25 dance and percussion workshops, concert series, dance shows, panel discussion, visual art exhibit and more; and is currently Houston's only festival promoting **Indigenous, African, Latin American, European, and African-American** art-forms in one event.

This year's special guests include dance/percussion instructors **Yeni Molinet** (Cuba), **Armando Crisanto Meléndez** (Honduras), **Maria Fernanda Urbaz** (Venezuela), **Royland Lobato** (Cuba), **Julian David Garcia** (Colombia), **Oladejui Babalola** (Nigeria), **Tony Paraná** (Brazil), **Sandi Morales** (Mexico/USA), **Raúl Orlando Edwards** (Panamá/Jamaica), **Reinaldo Costa** (Cuba) and others; panelists **Dr. Melissa Torres** (Mexico/USA), **Nneka Stefania Achapu** (Nigeria/USA), **Laurel Rutledge** (USA), **Diana Carolina Barrera Triviño** (Colombia/Native Indian), **José Griñan** (host, FOX 26). Among the musicians launching the inaugural 'Concert Series' are several legendary artists presenting four concerts in two nights (Friday and Saturday) among them **Bobby Lyle** (jazz), **Diunna Greenleaf** (blues), **Manolo Mairena** (salsa, timba), **Jewel Brown** (blues), **Tweed Smith** (blues), **Los Hijos del Son** (Cuban son and more), **Jorge Orta y su Tumbaká** (Caribbean and South American Latin music); **DJ's 'El Gato Volador'** (Italy/Cuba – Latin music), **DJ Franky** (Honduras – Latin and contemporary Afro), and others. An engaging, varied and exciting programming seeks to build bridges between communities that experience many of the same issues yet seldom come together to collectively address them. Cultivating an atmosphere where tolerance, understating, and respect are center in creating a better society for all; the 5th Annual Afro-Latin Fest exemplifies the diversity that has made Houston 'Most Diverse City' in the country.

Location: Crowne Plaza River Oaks, 2712 Southwest Freeway, Houston, Texas 77098

Cost: Free to \$120 (panel discussion is free with reserved tickets)

For more information, tickets (including panel), schedules and details: <http://www.afrolatinfest.org>

Proceeds from this event benefit Flamart's community programs that provide monthly free dance classes for the public that promote health, physical activity and unity, through culturally artistic activities.

About the Producer: FLAMART is the Recipient of a Certificate of Congressional Recognition and Certificate from the City of Houston. A 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, FLAMART celebrates over 10 years of promoting diversity and unity, through high quality performing arts programs that are inclusive of people of all ages and backgrounds (www.flamart.org).