



**Office of
General Services**

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SALSA ARTIST MICHAEL STUART TO HEADLINE HISPANIC HERITAGE CELEBRATION ON SEPTEMBER 10

Event Will Take Place Inside the Empire State Plaza Convention Center

New York State Office of General Services (OGS) Commissioner RoAnn Destito today announced the state's annual tribute to Latin culture will bring a colorful pageantry of live music, dance, food, and family-friendly activities to the Empire State Plaza Convention Center for the 2016 Hispanic Heritage Celebration. The free event will be held from 5 to 10 p.m. on Saturday, September 10.

"The Empire State Plaza comes alive each year with amazing music, dancing, and food as we celebrate the contributions of Hispanic New Yorkers who have helped to define what makes New York State great," Commissioner Destito said. "I want to thank all our generous sponsors for making this event possible."

From a young age, this year's headliner, salsa singer Michael Stuart, was influenced by his uncle, bandleader Israel "Timbalero" Stuart, and his father's love for music. Playing together at home with his mentors, Stuart became familiar with the percussion instruments and melodies that laid the groundwork for modern salsa music. His debut disc "Cuentos de la Vecindad" earned him the Tu Musica Award for Best New Artist in 1997. Career highlights include a 2005 Latin Grammy nomination for Best Tropical-Contemporary Album and nominations for Billboard Music Awards in both 2006 and 2007. The festival will also feature performances by DJ Boy Boy, Luis Damon, and Judy Torres.

In addition to the music and dancing, visitors to the Empire State Plaza will be able to enjoy delicious food and beverages as well as family friendly activities throughout the event.

Performance Schedule

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| 5:00 p.m. | DJ Boy Boy |
| 5:45 p.m. | Luis Damon |
| 7:15 p.m. | Judy Torres |
| 8:30 p.m. | Michael Stuart |

Free parking will be available in the cathedral lot off Madison Avenue and in the East Garage on the corners of Madison Avenue, Eagle Street, and Philip Street. Parking is also available for \$5 at the visitor or V lot underneath the plaza.

No alcoholic beverages, coolers (defined as rigid insulated containers), or glass containers of any kind; animals or pets (excludes ADA-defined service animals) will be allowed. Alcohol will be served by vendors to adults with proper identification.

For event updates, people can follow @plazaevents on Twitter, visit Empire State Plaza on facebook, or call (518) 474-4759. For additional information, including ground rules, visit our website at www.empirestateplaza.org.

Sponsors include New York's 529 College Savings Program, NY State of Health, CDTA, All Over Albany, Albany.com, Hot 99.1 FM, and Renaissance Albany Hotel.

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