



The Chicago
Cuatro Orchestra

Tony Toyán

Maribel Delgado



Concierto Jíbaro Navideño



La Orquesta Jíbara de
Francisco López Cruz

Tuna de Cayey

Ricky Villanueva

DECEMBER 12, 2020 7:00 PM



The Chicago Cuatro Orchestra was founded 24 years ago by brothers Orlando and David Rivera, both professional music teachers in the Chicago Public School system.

The Chicago Cuatro Orchestra Project is a recognized 501(c)3 educational not-for-profit organization dedicated to enriching lives through the music of Puerto Rico's national stringed instrument, the Cuatro.

The organization lives out this mission by developing the next generation of talented Cuatro musicians and by educating the community at large of the influence of the Cuatro on Puerto Rico's rich cultural heritage.

The Chicago Cuatro Orchestra fue fundada hace 24 años por los Hermanos Orlando y David Rivera, ambos maestros de música profesionales del sistema de escuelas públicas de Chicago.

La misión de la orquesta es educar y promover la cultura de Puerto Rico usando el instrumento nacional, el Cuatro, como herramienta principal. Es nuestro propósito perfeccionar nuevas generaciones de "cuatristas" para que lleguen a ser los futuros líderes, instructores, compositores, y directores de la orquesta.

The Chicago Cuatro Orchestra Project es reconocida como organización educativa 501(c)3 sin fines de lucro dedicada a enriquecer vidas a través de la música del instrumento Nacional de Puerto Rico, el Cuatro.

La organización vive esta misión desarrollando la próxima generación de músicos talentosos de Cuatro y educando a la comunidad en general de la influencia del Cuatro en la rica herencia cultural de Puerto Rico.

Program Directors

Orlando Rivera - Executive Director, Music Director

Jeff Kust - Assistant Music Director

Sonia Repoll - Program Coordinator

Board of Directors

Jaime Santana - President

Tony Ruiz - Vice President

Maria Vazquez - Treasurer

Nelson Gonzalez - Secretary

Elsie Albelo - Director

Carmen Kurban - Director

Mensaje del Director Ejecutivo

The Chicago Cuatro Orchestra Project les da la bienvenida y las gracias por decir presente en este hermoso y memorial Concierto virtual.

Nos sentimos sumamente orgullosos por los logros culturales que hemos obtenido en los ultimos 5 años y sabemos que esta presentación será del agrado de todos.

Aunque, hayamos tenido un año de muchos retos económicos, políticos, de salud, y sociales, hemos demostrado que lo que hacemos lo hacemos de corazón y con un compromiso serio con la comunidad.

Gracias al Dios Todopoderoso pudimos sobrevivir los momentos difíciles del principio de la pandemia, e inclusive la perdida de un gran amigo y hermano como lo fué nuestro amigo y hermano en la cultura: José Vázquez.

Por esa razón queremos dedicarle hoy este concierto Y celebrar la vida de todos los que batallaron y siguen batallando en contra del covid-19, pero en especial la vida de nuestro amigo y hermano: José Vázquez.

¡Para ti José y para todos los hermanos que están junto a ti en la divinidad con mucho amor!

Executive Director's Message

The Chicago Cuatro Orchestra Project welcomes you and thanks you for being present at this beautiful memorial Virtual Concert.

We are extremely proud of the cultural achievements we have made in the last 5 years and we know that this presentation will be to everyone's liking.

Although, we have had a year of many economic, political, health, and social challenges, we have shown that what we do, we do from the heart and with a serious commitment to the community.

Thanks to Almighty God, we were able to survive the difficult moments of the beginning of the pandemic, and even the loss of a great friend and brother as was our friend and brother in culture: José Vázquez.

For that reason, we would like to dedicate this concert to him today AND celebrate the lives of all those who battled and continue to battle against covid-19, but especially the life of our friend and brother: José Vázquez.

For you José and for all the brothers who are with you in divinity with much love!



Orlando Rivera
Executive Director
The Chicago Cuatro Orchestra Project

A special thanks to the sponsors of Concierto Jíbaro Navideño 2020

Institutional Support



THE CHICAGO COMMUNITY TRUST

EQUITY • OPPORTUNITY • PROSPERITY

The Chicago Cuatro Orchestra Project is in residency at Humboldt Park, through the **Chicago Park District's Arts Partners in Residence Program**, which unites artists and communities in Chicago's parks.

Silver Sponsors



JAIME R. SANTANA, P.C.

Attorney At Law



Bronze Sponsors

Ackerman Accounting Services
Roberto Flores



"Thank You!" to our Friends and Partners!

Ruben Agosto - Video Production
Animus
Osvaldo Aviles - Instructor
BatuPlena
Ruben Calderon - Video/Promotion
Casa Central
Cobian Media
Maribel Delgado, Cuatristas.com
Jeff Kust - Instructor and Assistant Music Director
Raquel Maldonado - Area Manager, Chicago Park District

Jesus Perez - Supervisor, Humboldt Park
Gladys B. Rivera - Principal, Lowell
David Rivera - Instructor
Rivera's Music Services
Ray Rubio - Promotion and MC
Anthony Ruiz - IT and Promotion
Kellie Ruiz - Media and Graphic Design
Melanie Ruiz - Media and Graphic Design
San Lucas United Church of Christ
Marissa Vazquez - Instructor's Assistant
And our many Volunteers!



Presents

Concierto Jíbaro Navideño 2020

Saturday, December 12th, 2020

Master of Ceremony Ray Rubio

Director's Message

Orlando Rivera

La Orquesta Jíbara de Puerto Rico

Directed by Myrna López

Ricky Villanueva, José Santana y Déborah Rodriguez

Directed by Ricky Villanueva

La Tuna Estudiantina de Cayey

Directed by Aurea Alicea Negrón

Maribel Delgado

with Camilo Gaud and Wilfredo Gonzalez

Anthony “Tony Toyán”

with Roberto Gonzalez and Keren Zair Diaz

The Chicago Cuatro Orchestra

Directed by Orlando Rivera, John Rivera and Jeff Kust

Gran Finale!

The Chicago Cuatro Orchestra, The Preparatory Orchestra,
Batuplena, and Tony Toyán

Tonight's Honoree

José Vázquez



Tonight's presentation is dedicated to the life and memory of José Miguel "Flaco" Vázquez who died earlier this year, at the age of 51, as one of Chicago's initial COVID-19 casualties. He was a beloved and important member of the Chicago Cuatro Orchestra (CCO) family for over 15 years.

José, and the entire Vázquez family, gave freely and unselfishly of their time and talent. José served as advisor to the CCOP Board of Directors, and as photographer, graphic designer, and stage director. Whenever there was important work to be done, José was the first to say "¡Presente!".

He is survived by his wife Maria Vázquez (CCOP Board of Directors and Treasurer), his oldest daughter, Marissa Vázquez (CCO performer on Guitar and Cuatro, and Assistant Instructor), and his daughter Sarina Vázquez (singer in the CCO Coro).

José always displayed the best in all of us with his kindness and love for family, music, and the community.

We know that José is with us tonight in spirit and that he is singing, smiling, and laughing with us as we enjoy these past performances that he helped make possible.



Master of Ceremony

Ray Rubio

Ray Rubio is a renowned local radio personality and the host of "El Show de Ray Rubio" on 1240am. For over 40 years, Ray has represented his Puerto Rican culture as a recording artist, singer, musician, composer, and actor. "Nací en Cañaboncito, barrio de Caguas, soy Jibaro de pura cepa, hasta el hueso, hasta el pelo."



Featured Artists

La Orquesta Jíbara de la Fundación del Dr. Francisco López Cruz

In 1964, Dr. Francisco López Cruz, aka “Don Paquito”, was called upon by the Executive Director of the Institute of Puerto Rican Culture to write a method and initiate a project of classes for the Puerto Rican Cuatro. The program was so successful that starting with 13 students in 1965, it reached an enrollment of up to 500 students in the mid-1990s. In later years, the bordonua and tiple were also added.



Many acclaimed cuatristas have participated in the Foundation’s classes and programs. Among them, long-time Chicago favorites: Quique Domenech, Luis Sanz, Modesto Nieves, Maribel Delgado, and Edwin Colón Zayas.

The Chicago Cuatro Orchestra is truly blessed to have had the Orquesta Jíbara perform with us here in Chicago in 2014, and also during the Chicago Cuatro Orchestra’s tour to Puerto Rico in 2016, before the Foundation officially closed its doors in 2018.

Ricky Villanueva with Déborah Rodriguez and José Santana



Ricardo Villanueva began his music trajectory at the age of 6, when his father, José Miguel Villanueva, one of the best troubadours of his generation, taught him the art.

Ricky has participated as a troubadour, composer and sonero at many productions and competitions where he achieved great success.

As an accomplishment musician, artist, and producer, he has participated in more than 20 record productions. He has shared the stage with famous artists like: Ricky Martin, Olga Tañón, José Nogueras, Gilberto Santa Rosa, Lalo Rodríguez, and El Gran Combo. He has represented Puerto Rico more than 35 times, in countries such as Mexico, Central America, North America, the Caribbean, and in Europe.

Featured Artists

La Tuna Estudiantina de Cayey

Throughout its more than 55 year history, La Tuna de Cayey has reaffirmed its commitment to preserving the tradition of typical Christmas music. The group is committed to promote awareness and pride through cultural events based in folklore and cultural traditions. “La tuna” is distinguished by its exclusive array of typical stringed instruments of Puerto Rico and Spain.



La Tuna de Cayey is best known for their “Parrandas”, an old tradition, now an almost lost art, similar to Christmas caroling but with a festive Latin Caribbean flair, traditionally occurring at night, and lasting into the next morning. “La Tuna” has maintained these traditions alive, contributing to the celebration of Christmas with their joyful and distinct sound.

Maribel Delgado



Maribel Delgado was born on November 21, 1979 in Camuy, P.R. Inspired by her grandfather Toño Ramos and her father Jose Delgado, she began her journey into music at 9 years old. By the age of 11, she became part of the Rondalla Municipal de Hatillo, P.R.

Since then, she has gone on to an illustrious music career. She has participated in seven cuadro competitions sponsored by the Institute of Puerto Rican Culture, in which she was awarded first place. She has performed with the cuadro in diverse cultural, social, and religious activities. She has recorded several albums as a soloist.

Maribel is a graduate of the Interamerican University of Puerto Rico, holding a bachelor's degree in music education. In her spare time, she teaches children, youth, and adults to play Puerto Rico's national instrument, the Cuatro. Maribel has demonstrated great dedication and excellence in the performance of the cuadro and we are honored to have her as a friend and supporter of the Chicago Cuatro Orchestra.

Featured Artists

Tony Toyán - El "showman" del cuatro



Anthony Rodríguez González better known as: Tony Toyán "El Que Te Pone a Bailar", is a Puerto Rican musician, singer, producer and educator who, with his particular musical style and great charisma, wins the hearts of the audience in every performance. Born in the town of Mayagüez and a graduate of the Escuela Libre de Música and the Inter-American University of San Germán, he began his career at an early age being a member and creator of various musical concepts and proposals.

Tony Toyán has performed in countries such as: Puerto Rico, United States, Ecuador, Venezuela, and Italy. He is currently working on his next project, among which are studio recordings in the genre of Salsa and Folkloric music, which highlights the participation of the National Instrument, the Cuatro Puertorriqueño. From the hand of God, his wife, family, friends and great musicians, Tony Toyán is determined to fulfill the purpose for which he was called: "Bring joy and love through strings and songs."

highlights the participation of the National Instrument, the Cuatro Puertorriqueño. From the hand of God, his wife, family, friends and great musicians, Tony Toyán is determined to fulfill the purpose for which he was called: "Bring joy and love through strings and songs."

The Chicago Cuatro Orchestra - featuring guest artists from AfriCaribe and BatuPlena

Since 1996, The Chicago Cuatro Orchestra has performed its signature blend of Latin American rhythms featuring the unique sound of Puerto Rico's national stringed instrument, the Cuatro!

The Chicago Cuatro Orchestra has performed at Chicago's most important cultural venues such as The Chicago Symphony Orchestra Center, The Auditorium Theater, The Chicago Theater, Grant Park, Copernicus Center, Field Museum, Museum of Science and Industry, Chicago Cultural Center, Chicago Public Libraries, and the Harris Theater at Millennium Park.

The orchestra has traveled to Puerto Rico and performed at the most established Cuatro festivals in San Juan, Hato Rey, and Cayey. The orchestra has also toured to several of our nation's universities to deliver cultural musical performances.



Bickerdike Redevelopment Corporation &
Cermak Produce are proud to sponsor

The Chicago Cuateto

ORCHESTRA'S

CONCIERTO JIBARO NAVIDAD



Bickerdike

For additional information regarding Bickerdike or to become a member please visit www.bickerdike.org or call 773-278-5669

JAIME R. SANTANA, P.C.

Attorney At Law

- Real Estate
- Criminal/DUI
- Wills
- Personal Injury
- Workman's Compensation



El licenciado Jaime Rafael Santana
les desea:

**¡Feliz Navidad
y
Próspero Año Nuevo!**

7819 W. Lawrence Ave.
Norridge, IL 60706
708-697-7723
sanslaw@ameritech.net



Alberto Ramos

4325 W. Armitage Ave.
Chicago, IL 60647
773-772-2150



**Congratulations to The Chicago
Cuatro Orchestra on another year of
enriching lives and serving the
community through the music of the
Cuatro.**

WINTRUST

BANK®

Logan Square



WINTRUST
COMMUNITY BANK

PROUD TO BE A WINTRUST COMMUNITY BANK. We are nearly 3,500 community and commercial locations, from loan officers, financial advisors and specialty lenders focused solely on our customers and the communities where they live. We all have the same mission: To provide best-in-class financial service to all of our customers, be the local alternative to the big banks, and to support the communities which we call home.

COMMUNITY BANKING AT ITS BEST!

For most banks, success is about how many accounts they can open, how quickly they can move customers through the teller line, or how many loans they can close. We're different than most. And, we have different measures of success. Did we do all we could to make every customer interaction a pleasant one? Are we

making this community better? Are we making a difference to this area? These are lofty goals, but they are ones we're always striving for because, as a true community bank, we know these are our responsibilities. You'll get great financial tools when you bank with us, but we don't stop there. We're more than just a bank.

WINTRUST
BANK

Logan Square

LOGAN SQUARE'S NEIGHBORHOOD BANK

284 N. Pulaski Ave. | Chicago, IL 60647

773-227-7091 | www.wintrustbank.com



What is the first letter in Accounting?

"A" for A+ service, come to Ackermans.

(773) 267-4610 Cell (773) 383-2798

SE HABLA ESPANOL

Ackermans Accounting Service

COMPLETE INCOME TAX SERVICE

BOOKKEEPING & ACCOUNTING (Individual-Corporation)

ROBERTO FLORES

4343 N. PULASKI RD.

IRS Enrolled Agent

CHICAGO, IL. 60641

Que Dios Bendiga a Puerto Rico !!!

Puerto Rico Se Levanta !!!

Siempre Viva Puerto Rico, Nuestra Isla Bonita !!!

1030 W. Higgins Rd. | Suite #365 | Park Ridge, IL 60068



Real Estate Transactions: Residential & Commercial
Excellent attorney agent program
Remote closings
24/7 online order entry and access

Ph: 847-696-1000 • Fax: 847-696-1001
E-Fax: 773-305-2570 • info@saturntitle.com

www.saturntitle.com



AIREL HERMOSILLO
Managing Broker/Owner

Smart Home Realty
(CELL) 630-806-1330
(FAX) 630-405-6064

The Chicago Cuatro Orchestra
Providing free music education in our community
for over 20 years.



Free Music Classes!

Cuatro, Spanish Guitar, Tiple, and Latin Percussion

**for more information
visit www.ccoproject.org**



Thank you to our partners and sponsors

DCASE - City of Chicago
Chicago Community Trust
Wintrust Bank of Logan Square
Lowell Elementary
Casa Central
and Humboldt Park!

The Chicago Cuatro Orchestra Project is in residency at Humboldt Park, through the Chicago Park District's Arts Partners in Residence Program, which unites artists and communities in Chicago's parks.

Feliz Navidad y Próspero Año Nuevo!



Save the Dates!
Student Achievement Night
June 11, 2021
Concierto Jíbaro Navideño 2021
December 11, 2021



Visit us at www.ccoproject.org

The Chicago Cuatro Orchestra Project is a
501(c)3 non-profit organization



Donate at www.ccoproject.org