

WAUKEGAN PARK DISTRICT

PRESS RELEASE

A Puerto Rican Christmas in July at Waukegan's Bowen Park

Waukegan, IL (July 15, 2014) — The Waukegan Park District, the Puerto Rican Arts Alliance of Chicago, and the Puerto Rican Society of Waukegan will be celebrating Christmas in July with art, music, and food. The new "Christmas in July-Summerfest" is a free, family-friendly event taking place on Saturday, July 19th from 1pm to 8pm at Bowen Park at 39 Jack Benny Drive in Waukegan's north side.

Families can enjoy live music and art. Los Hermanos Sanz direct from Puerto Rico as well as local musical talent, Los Hermanos Olavarria and Taller PRAA. Additionally, a variety of artwork will be on display and for sale.

The Puerto Rican Society of Waukegan will provide traditional Puerto Rican holiday food for sale, including lechon (roasted pork), arroz con gandules (rice with beans), and potato salad. There will be picnic benches for families to enjoy dinner at the park. The community is also welcome to bring their own blanket, lawn chairs, picnic, snacks, and non-alcoholic beverages.

Experience Puerto Rico during the holidays at the first "Christmas in July-Summerfest." Admission to the event is free. Partial sponsorship of this event and the Cultural Arts programs at the Waukegan Park District and the Puerto Rican Arts Alliance is through a grant from the Illinois Arts Council, an agency of the State of Illinois. For more information, call (847) 360-4740.



Event Flyer

About the Waukegan Park District

Established on December 26, 1916, the district has 47 properties and 720 acres of land, including the 18-hole Bonnie Brook and 9-hole Greenshire Golf Courses. Properties are managed to the highest environmental and conservation standards. Facilities operated by the district include the Field House Sports and Fitness Center, the Jack Benny Center for the Arts, the Waukegan SportsPark, the Waukegan Skate Park, the Waukegan BMX Track, recreational centers, an outdoor swimming pool, disc golf course, dog exercise area, outdoor sports fields, picnic areas, playgrounds, and sports courts including basketball and tennis. A full range of programs and services are offered year round for all ages, from infants to seniors as well as special needs populations. Healthy lifestyles, wellness initiatives, and a connection with the outdoors and nature are integrated throughout programs, services, and special events. Cultural events are provided by the

Waukegan Symphony Orchestra and Concert Chorus, the Bowen Park Theatre Company, and the Waukegan History Museum. There is something for everyone! The award-winning District employs 57 full-time and over 250 part-time, year round, seasonal, and temporary employees. The District is a member of the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA), Illinois Association of Park Districts (IAPD), and Illinois Park and Recreation Association (IPRA). The district maintains national accreditation from the NRPA Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA), the Illinois Association of Park Districts' (IAPD) Distinguished Agency accreditation and the Park District Risk Management Agency (PDRMA) accreditation and sustains a Level A Loss Control Program. The district was a NRPA Gold Medal Finalist in 2012 and 2013, and awarded the NRPA National Gold Medal Award for Excellence in Park and Recreation Management in 2013.

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