

JUL 24-25-26

2026



Panamerican[®]
FOOD & MUSIC FESTIVAL

Presented
by



FREE ADMISSION
NATHAN PHILLIPS SQUARE





DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
GUEST COUNTRY




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FOOD & MUSIC FESTIVAL

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 Panamerican Food & Music Festival

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International Singer Carlos Cruz
from the Dominican Republic



Panamerican Parade



Capoeira Bamba from Brazil



Friday Salsa Fiesta



Panamerican Colors Exhibition



Colombia Independence Celebration



Empanada Eating Contest



International Chefs Competition
- World Cup Street Eats

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PRIME MINISTER • PREMIER MINISTRE

I would like to convey my warmest greetings to everyone attending the 14th annual Panamerican Food and Music Festival.

This event offers Canadians of all backgrounds a wonderful opportunity to celebrate and learn more about North America, Central America, South America and the Caribbean's cultural diversity. I am certain that everyone in attendance will enjoy the culinary tastings, performances, activities and exhibits planned for this vibrant festival.

I would like to thank the organizers and volunteers for ensuring the success of this event. You can take pride in your commitment to celebrating the diversity that strengthens our nation.

I wish you all a wonderful festival.

The Right Honourable Mark Carney, P.C., O.C., M.P.
Prime Minister of Canada

Ottawa
2026



MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

Welcome to everyone attending the 2026 Pan American Food & Music Festival, hosted by ArtsXplosion.

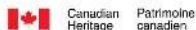
This festival provides an opportunity to experience music, cuisine and art connected to the Caribbean and North, Central and South America.

Toronto's Pan American communities contribute to the social, cultural and life of our city, and forms an important part of the City of Toronto's motto: Diversity Our Strength.

On behalf of Toronto City Council, please accept my best wishes for an enjoyable and memorable festival.

Yours truly,

Olivia Chow
Mayor of Toronto



Welcome to the Panamerican Food and Music Festival!

Across the rhythms, aromas, and stories of the Americas, the Festival reminds us that diversity is not only our strength—it's a cultural richness. This celebration brings communities together through music, cuisine, and culture, creating a sense of joy, understanding, and belonging. As we gather to honour the traditions that shape our hemisphere, may we continue building bridges across cultures and generations.

Thank you to all those whose dedication and passion have made this event possible. I wish everyone an experience rich in flavour and entertainment.

Happy Festival everyone!

The Honourable Marc Miller
Minister of Canadian Identity and Culture and
Minister responsible for Official Languages



Canada



Welcome

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

It is my great honour to welcome you to the 14th Panamerican Food & Music Festival, taking place from July 24 to 26, 2026, at Toronto's iconic Nathan Phillips Square.

This year is especially meaningful as we celebrate the rich cultures, music, and cuisine of the Americas during a summer when the world's attention is focused on our city through the excitement of the FIFA World Cup. We are proud to showcase the incredible diversity that makes Canada one of the most vibrant multicultural nations in the world.

What began as a dream has grown into one of Canada's premier multicultural festivals, bringing together thousands of visitors and participants from across the Americas. This festival is much more than a celebration of food and music. It is a tribute to the stories, traditions, resilience, and contributions of Panamerican communities that enrich the cultural fabric of Canada every day.

I extend my deepest gratitude to our presenting and supporting sponsors—TD Bank, Grace Foods, OLG, LiUNA Local 183, Rubicon, Len Canada, and Inves-
ta RD—as well as our government partners, community organizations, performers, vendors, chefs, artists, volunteers, and my wonderful TEAM whose dedication and generosity have transformed this festival into an unforgettable experience for everyone who attends. Your partnership and commitment make it possible for Panamfest to continue celebrating the cultures of the Americas and bringing our communities together year after year.

As Executive Director of the Panamerican Food & Music Festival, I remain inspired by what we can accomplish when communities come together to celebrate not only our differences, but also the values that unite us: friendship, inclusion, creativity, and hope.

Welcome to Panamfest 2026.

Let's celebrate the Americas—together.

Daniel García-Herreros

Executive Director, Panamerican Food and Music Festival



TUESDAY, JULY 21 / 6:00 P.M.

VIP

Opening Reception

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VIP

Opening Reception

Artists



**Santiago Moa and Band -
Homenaje a Juan Luis Guerra**



Yannier Dance show



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Roots Dominican Folklore



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Coffee

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Café Santo Domingo



saturday 3:30 p.m.

Santo Domingo is a type of coffee known for its rich flavor and aroma. It's made from high-quality coffee beans that are ground into a fine powder, allowing for easy brewing. This coffee is popular in the Dominican Republic and beyond for its smooth taste and robust character.





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Cheese**



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Pork Belly**



**Smoked
Chorizo**



**Smoked
BBQ Platter**



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Empanada

EATING COMPETITION

Ready, set, eat! Think you've got what it takes to be crowned the Panamerican Food and Music Festival's Empanada Eating Champion? Sponsored by Len Panada, this crowd-favourite competition challenges contestants to devour delicious Colombian empanadas in a race against the clock. Whether you're competing for bragging rights or cheering from the sidelines, this is one contest you won't want to miss!

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 **25**
July
saturday 5:30 p.m.





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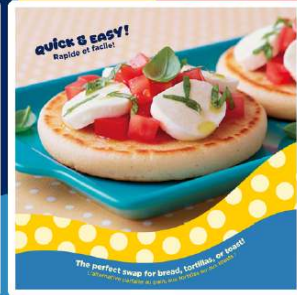
 **25**
July

saturday 4:00 p.m.

World Cup of Street Eats Competition

The beautiful game has nothing on this delicious showdown. Six talented chefs from across the Panamerican region will go head-to-head in the World Cup of Street Eats Competition, serving up their country's most iconic street food in a battle for culinary glory. From Colombia's crispy mini arepas de huevo con carne to authentic Mexican tacos, refreshing Ecuadorian ceviche, and more irresistible flavours from across the Americas, every bite is a passport to a new destination. Come hungry, buy a ticket, vote for your favourite country, and discover who will take home the ultimate street food championship prize!





GOOD MOVE



As the President of Grace Foods Canada, it's my pleasure to contribute to the Pan-American Festival Magazine. Our company is delighted to participate once again in this amazing festival which highlights the taste, music and culture of the Pan-American region to Canadian Communities. We are excited to highlight our international food distribution in Canada and the fantastic plans we have to expand our Latin line across Canada. Grace Foods Canada is committed to bringing the rich flavors of Latin cuisine to Canadian tables, and our new Latin line is set to be a true game changer.

Nimal Amitirigala

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RELIVE PARADISE IN EVERY CUP

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Food *demos*

 **26**
July

Making Ceviche



Chef Carolina Martinez trained in Peruvian gastronomy in her home country, her cooking is deeply rooted in the flavors and traditions of Peru.

She is currently based in Canada, where her goal is to share her culture through food and introduce people to the richness of Peruvian cuisine.

"Cooking is my passion — it connects me to my roots and to everything I love about where I come from. I may be far from home, but through my food, I bring a piece of Peru to every table"

Sunday 1:30 p.m.

World of Chocolate

Colombian-born, Canadian-raised Mary Luz Mejia is Canada's first International Institute of Chocolate and Cacao Tasting Level III Certified Chocolate Taster. She is also a twice-North American Travel Journalists Association-nominated freelance food and travel journalist and a Gemini Award-nominated former food television producer.

Take your tastebuds on a journey of discovery through the cacao producing regions. You'll be guided in a tasting of three different chocolates made in Canada using Pan American, single estate varietals.



Sunday 2:30 p.m.

P R O G R A M



Friday

JULY 24TH 2026

5:00 PM	DJ Alejo
5:30 PM	Free Dance Lessons with Salsa & Sabor
6:00 PM	Salsa & Sabor Show
6:30 PM	Dance Contest
7:00 PM	Panamfest Opening Ceremony
7:30 PM	Salsa Show : Colours & Soulful Steps
7:45 PM	Hora Loca - Bravo Entertainment
8:30 PM	Salsotika Band
9:30 PM	DJ Alejo



P R O G R A M

Saturday

JULY 25TH 2026

12:00 PM	DJ ALEJO
1:00 PM	Inter Toronto Interactive Soccer Demo
1:30 PM	Folklore Presentation: Bailando con Peru
2:00 PM	Folklore Presentation: Raices de Chile
2:30 PM	Folklore Presentation: Nueva Siembra from Ecuador
3:00 PM	Folklore Presentation: Sentir Venezuela
3:30 PM	Coffee Party with Cafe Santo Domingo
4:00 PM	Folklore Presentation: Llasas & Kantuta de Bolivia
4:30 PM	Folklore Presentation: Puro Mexico Ballet
5:00 PM	Folklore Presentation: Bani - Dominican Republic
5:30 PM	Empanada Eating Competition
6:15 PM	Xtravaganza Show featuring Larry & La Clave
7:00 PM	Tropicana Queens
7:30 PM	Panamerican Parade
9:30 PM	From Dominican Republic - Carlitos Cruz and his band
10:00 PM	DJ Alejo

P R O G R A M

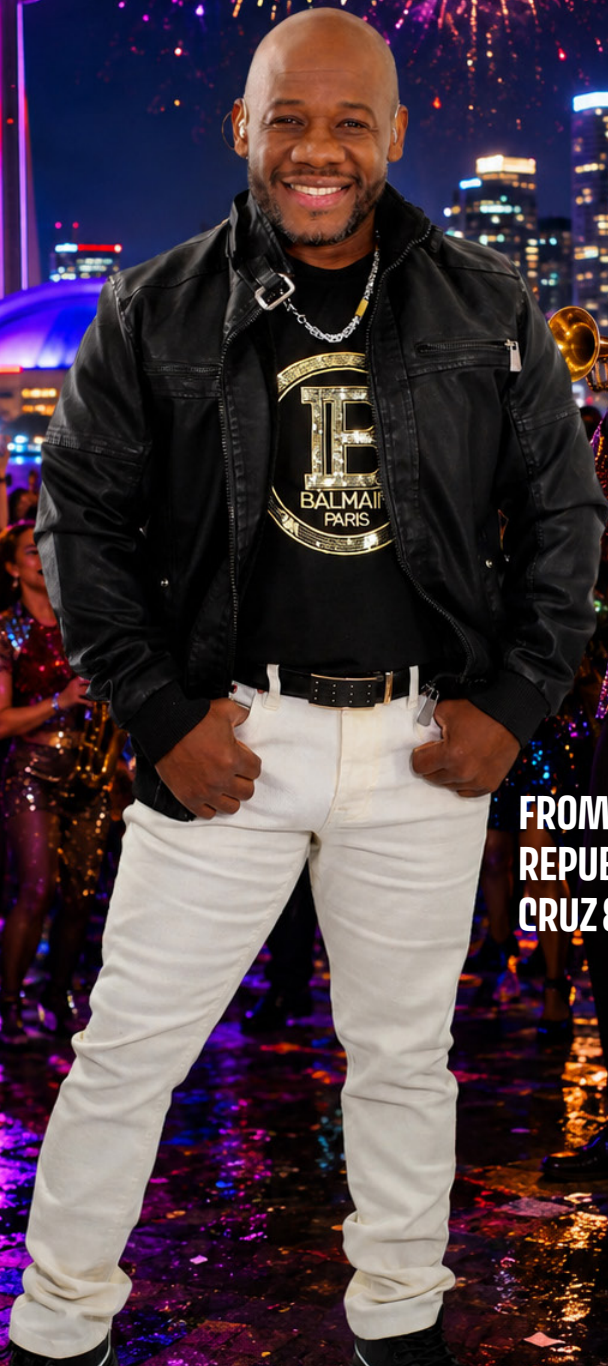


Sunday

JULY 26TH 2026

12:00 PM	Capoeira Bamba - Children
1:00 PM	Colombia Independance Celebration - Colombia Entre Las Venas
1:30 PM	Food Demo: Making Ceviche - Chef Carolina Martinez
2:00 PM	Panamerican Star
2:30 PM	Food Demo : World of Chocolate - by Mary Luz Mejia
3:00 PM	Folklore Presentation: Huairapungo from Ecuador
	Folklore Presentation: Bani - Dominican Republic
	Folklore Presentation: Tonatiuh - Mexico
3:45 PM	Blue Wave Interactive Drum Circle
4:00 PM	World Cup of Street Eats Competition
5:00 PM	Rice & Mango Band
5:45 PM	DJ Alejo
6:00 PM	Panamerican Chef award
6:30 PM	Capoeira Bamba
7:30 PM	DJ Alejo

**INTERNATIONAL
ARTIST**



**FROM THE DOMINICAN
REPUBLIC CARLITOS
CRUZ & BAND**

25
July
saturday 9:30 p.m.



BALLET FOLKLÓRICO DE BANÍ



SALSA & SABOR



SALSOTIKA



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BRAVO ENTERTAINMENT



SOULFUL STEPS



COLOURS

ARTISTS



TDOT BATU - BRAZIL



CAPOEIRA BAMBA - BRAZIL



NUEVA SIEMBRA - ECUADOR



SENTIR VENEZUELA



COLOMBIA ENTRE LAS VENAS



RICE AND MANGO BAND



BAILANDO CON PERÚ



KANTUTA - BOLIVIA



STUDIO K

mi viejo san simón

MI VIEJO CAPORALES - BOLIVIA



XTRAVAGANZA SHOW-CUBA



HUAIRAPUNGO - ECUADOR



TONATIUH - MEXICO

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OLG proudly supports festivals and events in communities across Ontario, like **Panamerican Food & Music Festival**.

OLG est fière de soutenir des festivals et des événements dans des collectivités partout en Ontario, comme le **Panamerican Food & Music Festival**.



OLG

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Panamerican PARADE

A celebration of color,
music and the beautiful
costumes from the
Panamerican countries.



25
July

sunday 7:30 p.m.

OUR *team*



Daniel García Herreros
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Marcela Aranda
PRODUCER



Francisco Álvarez
SPONSORSHIP MANAGER



Mary Luz Mejía
CULINARY CURATOR



Miriam Contreras
LOGISTICS COORDINATOR



Jaime Vásquez
WEBSITE CREATOR



Sarah Uruña
STAGE MANAGER



Tami Zguri
ACCOUNTANT



Joaquín Camargo
CREATIVE DIRECTOR



Shi Jie Zhao
LOGISTICS COORDINATOR



Marcelo Kuznietz
PROJECT MANAGER



Laura Gómez
SOCIAL MEDIA



Carlos Bolívar
PHOTOGRAPHER



Angie Pérez
VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR



Liliana Gómez
VENDORS COORDINATOR

Special Thanks

Government of Canada through the Department of Canadian Heritage

Government of Canada through Canadian Council for the Arts

The Mayor of Toronto, Olivia Chow

Cultural Festivals Funding Program

And our fabulous volunteers

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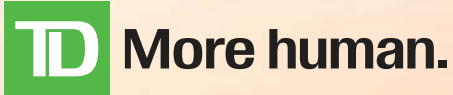
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Putting people at the centre of everything we do.

Cultural festivals create space to celebrate the things that shape us – our stories, food, music, and art. That's why we're proud to support cultural experiences that help people feel welcome, seen, and connected.

Learn more at
td.com/connectedcommunities



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