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**JUST MAKE IT HAPPEN SERIES TO BRING  
HISPANIC CULTURE TO DOWNTOWN DEKALB**

*“Sones de México” to Perform at the Egyptian Theatre*

DeKalb, IL — On Sunday, October 16th, “Sones de México Chicago Ensemble,” will perform at the Egyptian Theatre in Downtown DeKalb as a part of the Just Make It Happen 2005-2006 performing arts series.

“Sones de México” is an unique ensemble of seasoned Mexican folk musicians and educators from Chicago. This talented group of specializes in “son,” a rich and lively Mexican music tradition and its many regional styles, including “huapango,” “son jarocho,” “gusto,” “pirecuas,” “chilenas,” and the roots of “mariachi” music. Each “son” has its own unique repertoire, instruments, dancing style and singing style.

The group formed in 1994 to keep the tradition of Mexican “son” alive in its many regional forms, true to its roots and old masters, and current and fresh at the same time. The ensemble pushes the limits of “son” even further by effortlessly blending in influences from the streets of Chicago into their performances and music.

Over twenty-five folk string, percussion and wind instruments are featured along with four-part vocals and acrobatic dance demonstrations. The group recreates the atmosphere of a traditional “fandango” (a dance fiesta), where “son” is played and danced until sunrise.

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Six talented performers make up “Sones de México.” The director of the group is Víctor Pichardo, who plays violin, clarinet, jarana, guitar, huapanguera. Pichardo is an award winning musician, arranger, composer and educator co-founder of the ensemble after a 15-year career with the folk group “Zazhil” and the late singer Amparo Ochoa in Mexico.

Producer and self-proclaimed “ethnomusicologist” Juan Díes plays guitarrón and guitar, while the multi-instrumentalist Renato Cerón plays harp, accordion, violin, saxophone, flute, and tres.

Master drummer and percussionist Joel Martínez keeps the beat, as the award winning dancer and musician Lorena Iñiguez provides visual interpretation of the music through dance and costumes. Not only does Iñiguez perform as a dancer, but she also plays the traditional instruments the vihuela and jarana, and small percussion. Juan Rivera, who is a master of the violin, requinto and jarana, rounds out the ensemble.

“[They] move seamlessly between styles and instruments playing with rock’n’roll energy without sacrificing cultural authenticity,” said the Chicago Tribune about “Sones de México.”

In addition to their performance at the Egyptian Theatre, which begins at 3 pm, there will be an educational display of the folk instruments in the lobby beginning at 2:15 pm. Also, Just Make It Happen is planning a special performance of “Sones de México” for local elementary, middle and high school students to enjoy and learn about Latin Culture as a part of Hispanic Heritage Month.

Just Make It Happen, a non-profit organization, will donate all proceeds from the show to the DeKalb County Hispanic Children’s Music Access Fund. Tickets are on sale now at local outlets and online. Cost for tickets is \$15 advance sale and \$20 at the door. Children ages 12 and under will be admitted free of charge, with the purchase of an adult ticket. For more information about Just Make It Happen, please visit [www.JustMakeItHappen-DeKalb.com](http://www.JustMakeItHappen-DeKalb.com) or call 815-758-1093.

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