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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEXICANIDAD: MEXICAN ARTS AND CULTURE CLASSES

New York, August 14, 2011 -- Mano a Mano announces that student registration is now open for **Mexicanidad 2011-12**, our Mexican arts and culture program for children, teens and adults, located at 126 Saint Felix Street in the Fort Greene section of Brooklyn.

We are extremely pleased to welcome our new teachers Alberto Villalobos, of the Villalobos Brothers band; Diana Rosano, a soprano; and Irwin Sanchez, a native Nahuatl speaker from central Puebla, who are joining our talented Mexicanidad teaching artists.

This year we are adding Nahuatl language and Huapango. Additionally we are continuing our courses in instrumental music, dance, song, and visual arts, to be taught by the following distinguished artists and performers:

- José Refugio González and Monica Guevara of the Ballet Folklórico Mexicano de Nueva York will teach **Folkloric Dance** for adults on Mondays and for kids on Saturdays.
- Irwin Sanchez will teach contemporary **Nahuatl** including grammatical instruction, as well as conversation groups, on Monday evenings.
- Álvaro Paulino Jr of the Mariachi Tapatio de Álvaro Paulino will teach **Mariachi Instrumentation**, including beginner and intermediate guitar, guitarron, and vihuela on Tuesdays and beginner violin on Wednesdays.
- Diana Rosano will teach voice with the help of classic and folkloric songs of the **Mexican Songbook** on Saturdays.
- Alberto Villalobos will teach **Violin for Huapango** and **Harmony for Huapango** (guitar, jarana huasteca, and quinta huapanguera) for beginners on Saturdays.

Mano a Mano welcomes students of all ages, skill levels, and backgrounds to take part in a variety of courses offered through the Mexicanidad program. Taught by a talented group of instructors, these classes seek to promote Mexican heritage and identity in the New York City community and are offered on four weekday afternoons and evenings, as well as Saturdays.

Our Son Jarocho Instrumentation and Zapateado courses will resume in January 2012.

Mano a Mano strives to provide courses accessible to all students. Classes are affordable to students who register for the entire duration of the course. All classes receive discount. Additionally, financial assistance is available based on need.

Additionally, Mano a Mano continues its free **Creative Writing Workshop**, held in collaboration with the **New York Writers Coalition**, on Mondays from 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Registration is now open and will be on-going throughout the year, although students are encouraged to register prior to the start of the semester. Classes begin on Monday, September 19, 2011, and run through Saturday, June 16, 2012.

Complete information about courses, faculty and registration is available at www.manoamano.us/mexicanidad.html. Schedule is subject to change.

About Mano a Mano <http://www.manoamano.us>

Mano a Mano celebrates Mexican culture and promotes the understanding of Mexican traditions. Through courses in arts and culture, annual celebrations of holidays, festivals, concerts, performances, processions, installations and seminars, New York area residents celebrate the richness and diversity of Mexican arts in five key areas: music, dance, visual arts, verbal arts and ritual, and culinary traditions.

Mano a Mano wishes to thank our funders for their generous support of our programming: New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA), A State Agency, and Jarritos.

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