

DOWNTOWN BURBANK *newsletter*

PARTNERSHIP



CONTINUES ON THURSDAY NIGHTS THROUGH AUGUST 28



Now in its fifth year in Downtown Burbank, Come Out & Dance has become a community tradition, and Thursday nights are filled with dancers and spectators on the AMC Walkway. Festivities start at 6:00 P.M. with free dance lessons by Francisco and Stacey of The Dance Family Studio. At 7:00 P.M., the two-hour concert begins and the party comes alive with dancing under the stars. July's concerts were devoted to swing, but August revs it up a notch with LA's hottest salsa bands.

Come Out & Dance! is free, open to the public and presented by Downtown Burbank Partnership. The series is sponsored in part by the Burbank Collection.

August 7 CHINO ESPINOZA Y LOS DUEÑOS DEL SON

Vocalist Chino Espinoza has performed with many top Latin bands such as the Opa Opa International Orchestra, shared the stage with Mark Anthony and Nellie Furtado and has been featured on the recordings of numerous performers from Celia Cruz to Bette Midler. www.chinoespinoza.com



August 14 JOHNNY POLANCO Y SU CONJUNTO AMISTAD

Johnny Polanco is famous for making the type of contagious Latin music that's truly appreciated by dance connoisseurs. Empowered by more than 35 years of professional musicianship, he plays 13 instruments, including tres and cuatro guitar. His 10-piece band tours internationally to wide acclaim. www.johnnypolanco.net

August 21 SON MAYOR

Son Mayor has been dubbed by LA Weekly as the best salsa band in LA. Led by the Ortiz brothers, the 12-piece band is a horn, percussion and bass powerhouse that wows audiences with their exciting mixture of vintage Latin and contemporary Cuban music. www.sonmayor.com



August 28 ORQUESTA CHARANGO

The "charanga" sound blends infectious rhythms with flute, vocals and strings to create an upbeat and inspirational sound beloved of salsa dancers. This eight-piece band is recognized as Los Angeles' most exciting Cuban dance orchestra. www.charangoa.com

DOWNTOWN BURBANK PARTNERSHIP RENEWED FOR NEXT FIVE YEARS

Burbank City Council approved the renewal of Downtown Burbank Partnership on July 29, extending its operations for another five years through 2013.

This is great news for the district, as it allows for the continuation of award-winning special events and marketing, the implementation of capital improvement plans and long-term supervision and management of the Downtown. The first five years of Downtown Burbank Partnership much was accomplished such as the wayfinding signage, an inviting new streetscape program, exciting holiday décor, and the Ambassador program keeping Downtown 'clean and safe'.

City Council's decision follows a July 29 vote by Downtown Burbank property owners, who were 93 percent in favor of the renewal.

As stated in a story about the renewal in the Burbank Leader, "The association is really the backbone of the whole San Fernando area," said SkyBluPink co-owner Paul Ehre, who represents business owners on the Burbank Downtown Partnership, the district's board of directors. "Without it not much of what has happened would have been done. It has had a huge impact on our businesses, and our properties have become more valuable."

Downtown Burbank Partnership will move forward with more downtown improvements such as new holiday decor, expansion of existing wireless Internet service and new entertainment programs, among numerous other programs. Stayed tuned for details of these and other new initiatives currently in the works to boost Downtown Burbank's stature as a one of the best entertainment destinations in the region!