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50 YEARS LATER, FORT LAUDERDALE AND MEDELLIN STRENGTHEN THEIR PARTNERSHIP

With cultural, tourism and business activities planned for July, Fort Lauderdale and Medellin will sign an agreement to continue and strengthen their Sister Cities Partnership

On the 50th year anniversary as Sister Cities, dignitaries from Fort Lauderdale and Medellin will celebrate the ongoing efforts of Citizens Diplomacy with the signing of an agreement that shows the commitment to continue and foster their relationship and to strengthen cultural, educational and economic ties between the State of Florida and the Antioquia Department in Colombia. This relationship began on August 31, 1961 pursuant to Resolution 8244 of the City of Fort Lauderdale.

Sister Cities International is a Citizens Diplomacy network with strong presence all over the United States, and impressive results of collaboration between U.S. cities and other cities around the world. The Greater Fort Lauderdale Sister Cities International has made great efforts to foster partnerships with at least 17 cities through the world, including Medellin, exemplifying a solid spirit of cooperation.

The signing of the agreement marks the beginning of the 50th year anniversary celebration with cultural and business activities and with the presence of dignitaries, as well as entrepreneurs and community leaders who support these great economic development and business opportunities for both cities.

The highlights of this celebration are:

Saturday July 16

6:30 pm. Cocktail Reception --Signing of Agreements to foster and to continue the friendship between the two cities. Dignitaries and delegations from the areas of Tourism, Business, Education, Transportation, Parks and Recreation will be present.

8pm. Tropical Symphony Concert Tropical Symphony Concert is a creative exploration that breaks the boundaries between classical and tropical music, giving new meaning to Tropical and Symphonic Orchestras as well as to popular dances. Claudia Diez and her Orchestra Tono 40 will bring the National Ballet of Colombia and the Amadeus Symphonic Orchestra with many young musicians ages 10 to 17. As a tribute to these performers, many celebrities will be parading the red carpet.

This concert will take place at the Broward Center for the Performing Arts. Tickets are for sale in the Theater's Box Office.

Sunday July 17 from 11 a.m. to 9. P.m. at the Hollywood Beach

"Colombian Showcase" Festival -- Vendors will exhibit their emeralds, coffee, arts and crafts, leather and other products. There will also be special Tourism and Recreation displays.

This festival began in 2005 at the Colombian Consulate in Miami. The Tribute to Colombia was created by Claudia Diez as a fresh approach to celebrate the Colombian Independence Day and to gather Colombians living or visiting Broward County. With this in mind, in 2006 Claudia and her group moved the event to the outdoor Beach Theater in Hollywood, Florida and made it their home ever since. Each year this event brings many artists that represent the Colombian culture.

Monday and Tuesday July 18 and 19.

Delegations of the two cities will meet as scheduled to strengthen their commitment to bilateral efforts and support.

Wednesday July 20 Closing ceremony cocktail with special guests to celebrate Colombian Independence Day

For more information and a detailed agenda, please contact
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We will be ready to respond to any of your inquiries