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*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 13, 2016*

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## **CITY OF HARLINGEN TO HOST WINTER TEXAN APPRECIATION FIESTA JAN. 18**

The City of Harlingen is hosting its 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Winter Texan Appreciation Fiesta Jan. 18.

The free Fiesta includes a business expo from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. inside the Casa de Amistad located at 1204 Fair Park Blvd. Outdoor entertainment will take place from 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

The Fiesta will feature live music; a car show by F&T Valley Motorsports; a quilt show by Frontier Quilt Guild; children's dance and music programs; an art expo; free train rides; and food/business vendors. The first 2,000 Winter Texans attending the event will receive a free t-shirt.

According to a recent study, Winter Texans stay in the Rio Grande Valley an average of 133 days and generally own their own residence.

"Winter Texans provide a boost to the Harlingen economy," said City Manager Dan Serna. "We want to demonstrate our gratitude to our guests with this free event."

Indoor entertainment will include live music from 11 a.m.-Noon by Mariachi Sol Azteca followed by a performance from Noon-1 p.m. by the Harlingen Community Band.

Outdoor entertainment will include live performances by Lauren Corzine & Knox Jones and the CoZmic CowboYz Southern Rock Band. The Winter Texan Flea Market will also be stationed outside from 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Local children's dance and music groups scheduled to perform include the Folkloric Group of Dance Community Center by Nora Estrada; Ronnie's School of Music; Long Elementary Folklorico Dance Groups; and the San Benito High School Flamenco Ensemble.

Sponsorship and vendor opportunities are still available through Friday. For more information, call the Harlingen Convention & Visitors Bureau at (956) 423-5440, or e-mail CVB Events Manager Esmeralda Martinez at [emartinez@myharlingen.us](mailto:emartinez@myharlingen.us).

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*Courtesy Photo: City of Harlingen*

**Winter Texans enjoy the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Winter Texan Appreciation Fiesta in 2015.**