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# cinco de mayo



Traditional dance demonstrations are part of the Latino cultural celebration during the Cincy-Cinco festival.

## Celebrate the holiday at Riverbend with Cincy-Cinco's 'fiesta de pueblo'

**JENNIFER REED**  
CIN WEEKLY CONTRIBUTOR

Can't afford that vacation to Mexico? Want to enjoy a traditional tamale? Or try salsa dancing under the stars? Then plan to attend the fourth annual Cincy-Cinco Latino culture festival this weekend at Riverbend Music Center.

### PARTY TIME

The family-friendly weekend event is designed to share authentic Latino culture and fun with everyone. A unique feature in this year's celebration is the chance to experience a small-town party atmosphere.

"At Cincy-Cinco this year we want people to get a deep appreciation for the richness of the Latin culture. To do that, for the first time ever in this area, we are going to re-create a typical 'fiesta de pueblo' or town fiesta in the Plaza at Riverbend," says Neil Comber, festival co-chair. "From the moment participants enter the main gate into the Zocalo (main square), they will feel like (they're) in a small Latin town celebrating their annual fiesta."

Make sure you stick around until after 6 p.m. on Saturday, when the party is adults-only and features music and dancing.

### GOOD DEALS FOR KIDS

The Cincy-Cinco celebration won't leave out the little ones, though. During the day, a special area will be filled with games, arts and crafts. Children will even be able to create their own Cincy-Cinco souvenir to take home. The first 500 children on Saturday and Sunday will get free tickets to a Cincinnati Reds game or the Cincinnati Zoo.

"My family and I look forward to attending Cincy-Cinco each year," says Tandi DePaz, the communications and marketing manager at LaVerdad, a marketing firm that has many clients exhibiting at the festival. "It's a great event that allows us to celebrate Latino culture and provides all kinds of exciting exhibits and activities."

If all the activities make you hungry, scope out authentic Latino cuisine from at least five countries, served up by area restaurants.

The jam-packed festival schedule also includes dancing demonstrations, traditional music, health and education information, as well as a variety of vendors.

"There is so much to see and do — it is such a fun way to spend a weekend," DePaz says. "Not only does my daughter have a great time, my husband and I find plenty to do as well!"

### JUST THE FACTS

**WHAT:** Cincy-Cinco

**WHEN:** Noon to 11 p.m. Saturday (children's area closes at 7 p.m.) and noon to 8 p.m. Sunday, May 5-6. A Mass will be held at 11:30 a.m. Sunday.

**WHERE:** Riverbend Music Center, 6295 Kellogg Ave., Anderson Twp.

**PRICE:** \$10 adults, free children 16 and under. Tickets available at Kroger and day of event; \$2 Kroger Plus Card discount available. \$5 after 6 p.m. Saturday (only if purchased at Riverbend box office day of event).

**PARKING:** \$5 per car in Riverbend lot

**CONTACT:** [www.cincy-cinco.com](http://www.cincy-cinco.com)



### CIN CINCO!

Join *CIN Weekly* at the Cinco de Mayo celebration at Margaritas Mexican Restaurant, 28 W. Fourth St., downtown.

*CIN Weekly* will be there from 6 to 9 p.m. giving away free *CIN* gear. DJ Tino Barbosa will provide music from 7 to 10 p.m. If you're feeling hungry after a long day of fun, try the Nachos Locos for two for \$10.99 and drink specials from Jose Cuervo and Bud Light.