



Las Vegas • McCarran International Airport
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Rancho High School Mariachi & Ballet Folklórico Performers to Greet Passengers Arriving at McCarran for Mexican Independence Day Weekend

WHAT: McCarran International Airport will kick off the busy Mexican Independence Day holiday weekend by welcoming passengers to Las Vegas with special performances by *Mariachi Oro Del Rancho* and *Ballet Folklórico Sol de Rancho*.

WHERE: McCarran International Airport's Terminal 3, International Arrivals Lobby

WHEN: **Friday, September 15, 2017**
11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Presented as part of the airport's *Voices of Vegas* music program, the 15-member student mariachi band from Rancho High School will return to McCarran for a third year of greeting passengers who have arrived directly from Mexico for El Grito weekend. New this year will be an accompanying ballet folklórico dance performance by their classmates, outfitted in costumes that reflect the traditional culture of Mexico.

While McCarran traditionally sees a spike in activity associated with Mexican Independence Day, also known as El Grito weekend, there is strong year-round interest in Las Vegas from south of the border. Mexico annually ranks as the second-largest source of international visitors to Las Vegas.

From Thursday through Monday, a total of 52 commercial flights will fly directly between Mexico and McCarran International Airport, including 16 charter flights added specifically for this holiday weekend. Mexican air carriers AeroMexico, Interjet, VivaAerobus, and Volaris are expected to transport more than 7,000 passengers to and from Las Vegas over the course of the weekend. Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority research indicates international travelers stay longer and spend an average of 80 percent more per trip, meaning these added flights will greatly benefit the local economy.

Interested media may obtain video of the performance, as well as interviews with travelers at McCarran's Terminal 3 international arrivals lobby after those visitors have exited U.S. Customs. Both English and Spanish-speaking airport representative will be available for interview as well.

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Editor's Notes:

For this event, media members are asked to use Short Term Parking in the garage at Terminal 3 and bring their parking stubs inside for validation. Any media driving an oversized vehicle should contact Christine Crews by cell at (702) 767-8170 to coordinate parking. For shortest distance/walk to the event area, park near the eastern-most pedestrian bridge within the Terminal 3 garage.