



Contact: Rodrigo Goller
Tel: (647) 203-0664
email: info@foyy.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sept. 2/09. Toronto - On Saturday, September 12th music-lovers and activists will gather in Kensington Market in support of indigenous knowledge and culture. Hosted by Toronto-based NGO Friends of Yryapu (FoYy), the event will feature instructor-led salsa dancing followed by an ample list of up-and-coming musical talent, including The Stormalongs, Maylee Todd, Hugh Oliver, Micheal Rosenthal, Jeannette Depuis, Tom MacCammon and some very special surprise guests.

Audiences will also hear from director Rodrigo Goller, who worked with the Mbyá Guaraní community and lived in the jungles of Argentina before founding FoYy in order to gather support among Canadians. "I witnessed the struggle of people against cultural and ecological destruction and the amazing part was that it wasn't a sad song of sorrow or grief," recounts Rodrigo. "Although the Mbyá have suffered greatly, their story is one of hope and transformation. Here in Toronto we are trying to share that story and stand in solidarity with our friends in Yryapu and other indigenous cultures. By working to safeguard these ancient and wise cultures we may once again learn how to take care of our neighbours and environment."

All of the funds raised at the event will help pay for school materials, instructor fees, and the creation of new curriculum, which will also build additional support networks and further the school's journey to financial autonomy and sustainability.

The Friends of Yryapu Fundraiser will take place on Saturday, September 12th at the Teranga African Bar & Restaurant located at 159 Augusta Avenue in Kensington Market. Tickets are \$10 and will be available at the door. Doors open at 7pm.



Friends of Yryapu is a Canadian non-profit organization that engages in advocacy and fundraising initiatives to support the first bilingual Spanish-Guarani school in the Iguazu region of Argentina. For the past three years at the Clemencia González School, indigenous youth and women have learned about Mbyá Guaraní tradition and culture from indigenous instructors in the Guarani language. This has strengthened communal life, rescued ancestral cultural values, and begun the process to conserve their threatened ecosystem.

For more information visit www.foyy.org.