

THE WORLD'S BEST MARIACHI

Mariachi Vargas

HEADLINES MCALLEN CONCERT

Fans of Mariachi Vargas de Tecalitlán will get a special treat when the renowned musicians perform at Ford Motor Company's 5th Annual **MARIACHI VARGAS EN CONCIERTO**. They will also be getting a sneak preview of the group's latest album.

On the group's new CD, *Mariachi Vargas Sinfónico*, they are accompanied by the Orquesta Filarmónica del estado de Querétaro.

When the group performs in McAllen on **Saturday, October 6, 2001**, at the McAllen International Civic Center, the world-renowned mariachi group will be joined by the Valley Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Dr. Peter Dabrowski, on several pieces. This unique production will meld the genres of mariachi and classical music, as does the latest offering from Vargas. This performance also marks the Valley Symphony Orchestra's first performance with a mariachi group.

"Ford is extremely proud to bring this spectacular concert experience with the internationally acclaimed Mariachi Vargas to the Rio Grande Valley for a beautiful celebration of family, culture and tradition," said Homer Rodriguez, dealer principal of Rodriguez Ford-Mercury in Raymondville, and chairman of the local Ford Salute to

Education scholarship program. "Ford is especially pleased to showcase student talent, as well," he added.

The show at the McAllen International Civic Center begins at 8 p.m. with a performance by "La Princesa de Mariachi" **Victoria Acosta** and **Mariachi Nuevo Santander de Roma High School**. Nine-year-old Acosta, known as the "little princess of mariachi," was discovered at last year's Mariachi Vargas Extravaganza Vocalists' competition in San Antonio. Victoria, then 8 years old, took home Best of Show honors. She will open for Mariachi Vargas in Houston, as well as in McAllen.

The Rio Grande Valley will also showcase its award-winning student musicians. Mariachi Nuevo Santander de Roma High School won first place at the 2000 Mariachi Vargas Extravaganza and are also opening performers for the concert. Since 1997, this group, under the direction of Yamil Yunes, has competed

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Nine-year-old, Victoria Acosta will be one of the opening acts at the Mariachi Vargas Sneak Preview concert.



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in the High School Group category of the Mariachi Vargas Extravaganza, placing among the top three groups each year.

Mariachi Vargas de Tecalitlán will bring the heart of Mexico into the heart of Texas with their unique melodies and musical interpretations. This 12-piece, Mexico City-based ensemble has recorded over 800 albums, including those in which the band accompanies solo artists. After over 100 years of performing, the group is now in its fifth generation of musicians. The combination of the best voices in all of Mexico and the level of musicianship of Mariachi Vargas members is what makes them the greatest mariachi in the world.

The 5th Annual *Mariachi Vargas en Concierto* is presented by Ford Division. Concert tickets are available at all Ticketmaster outlets or by visiting Ticketmaster online at www.ticketmaster.com. Tickets may also be purchased at the Civic Center Box Office, 956-686-4661.

