

The Courier-News

Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month with Los Lobos on September 26

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Every year, we honor the culture of Hispanic and Latino Americans through National Hispanic Heritage Month, observed from September 15 through October 15. This year, Raue Center For The Arts is celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month by bringing Los Lobos, one of the country's most unique bands, to Crystal Lake.

Over the last 30 years, Los Lobos has broken through one musical barrier after another, drawing on influences as diverse as country music, blues, rock and roll, and traditional Spanish and Mexican music. The band's original lineup— David Hidalgo, Cesar Rosas, Louie Perez, and Conrad Lozano—has remained the same since they formed in the early 1970s, with Steve Berlin jumping on board in 1984.

When you hear a Los Lobos song, it's unmistakable. Their unique sound encompasses a wide range of different instruments, including saxophone, accordion, and the traditional Mexican instrument Bajo sexto. Whatever they play, they've stamped their signature on it—they've covered everything from Fats Domino to Disney soundtracks.

Hailing from East Los Angeles, Los Lobos released their first album, "Si Se Puede!," in 1976. Since then, they have performed at the White House, opened for U2, and even guest-starred on "Sesame Street." They have also released nearly 20 albums and won three Grammy Awards. In 1987, their cover of Ritchie Valens' classic "La Bamba" became a No. 1 hit.

You can see Los Lobos for yourself at the Raue Center For The Arts on September 26, as part of Raue Center's third annual Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration. The show starts at 8 p.m. Ticket prices start at \$45. For more information about the show, call (815) 356-9212 or visit Raue Center's official website, www.rauecenter.org.