



MARKET SQUARE TO TRANSFORM INTO WORLD SQUARE
TO CELEBRATE INTERNATIONAL AND IMMIGRANT COMMUNITIES IN PITTSBURGH

- **Free Events to span Three Friday Evenings in September**
- **Live Entertainment includes music and dance performances**
 - **Vendors will offer Diverse Art, Crafts and Cuisine**

DOWNTOWN PITTSBURGH, PA (August 29, 2019) Across three Friday Evenings in September, Market Square will be alive with sights, sounds and tastes of the international and immigrant communities of the greater Pittsburgh Area! “World Square – Welcoming All of Pittsburgh’s Neighbors,” is a free celebration with a global outlook and a showcase for international and newcomer communities within the region. Visitors will find vendors of hand-crafted items, prepared foods, live entertainment, and more. World Square aims to help build connections between communities through an entertaining and immersive experience that highlights the diversity of the various communities that call Pittsburgh home.

Welcoming Pittsburgh, the initiative from the Office of Mayor William Peduto focused on support and integration of Pittsburgh’s immigrant and refugee communities, and the Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership, 4759 came together to pilot the World Square Event. Through a wide collaboration of community partners and vendors, World Square is designed to be a highly visible platform to celebrate, promote, and welcome Pittsburgh’s international communities. Similar in style and scope to PDP’s Night Market program, these festivals are intended to cultivate a spirit of inclusivity and provide exposure in the heart of downtown Pittsburgh. World Square aims to create an environment that welcomes international communities Downtown, provide a platform for vendors from international communities, and provide an opportunity for the large number of people who visit downtown to learn about, experience, and build connections with the diverse cultures and communities that help bring vibrancy to Pittsburgh and the surrounding region.

“The city of Pittsburgh is pleased to be a partner in presenting this opportunity to celebrate the rich immigrant culture that continues to shape our city,” said Mayor William Peduto. “We look forward to these three Friday evenings of celebration and recognition of some of our newest neighbors.”

A sampling of vendors includes:

- Alquisiras Paletria – small batch popsicles and ice cream
- Authentically African by Moa – featuring West African fashion and accessories
- Bae Bae’s Kitchen – serving Korean Food
- Cilantro & Ajo – serving Venezuelan cuisine
- Costa Ricart – selling handmade crafts from reused materials
- Flatboat Fair Traders – Fair Trade items from Nicaragua and Costa Rica
- Salsa Aguilar – small batch gourmet salsas
- Pop Up in Pittsburgh – Vietnamese 3d paper greeting cards

Entertainment will vary each of the three evenings and additional entertainers are expected to be added to each evening; full details for each night will be available on the event website. Features include:

September 6 – DJ Simi, Kenia Ashby – a Brazilian Jazz Singer, Naina Kathak – performing traditional Indian dance, Balkan Babes – a Balkan Roma Band, Jmiirye – a Nigerian singer, and Appalasia – performing Appalachian – Chinese Folk

September 13 – DJ Simi, Geña y Peña – performing Latin American and Caribbean music, Jemiriye – a Nigerian Singer, Noel Quintana & The Latin Crew – performing music from Latin America, Naina Kathak – performing Bhutanese music, and Los Sabrosos - a Latin dance company.

September 27 – Global Beats DJ, Hugo Cruz & the Caminos – performing Afro-Cuban jazz, Pittsburgh Samba + Timbeleza – Samba Dancers with a live band, Purple Lotus Guzheng – Traditional Chinese harpists, and Los Sabrosos - a Latin dance company.

According to Jeremy Waldrup, president and CEO of the Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership, “World Square is an exciting opportunity to create a global marketplace and celebration, in the heart of Downtown. Providing Pittsburgh’s newest residents with an opportunity to share their culture, art, and more with the entire city will make for three vibrant, fun-filled evenings.”

Details

Fridays, September, 6, 13 and 27, 2019

Time: 5:00 – 10:00 p.m.

Location: Market Square, Downtown Pittsburgh

Website – WorldSquarePGH.com

Additional community organizations served on the World Square Steering Committee and their contributions helped to create this event. These organizations include:

- Change Agency
- Duquesne University Small Business Development Center
- Global Wordsmiths
- The Global Switchboard
- Hello Neighbor
- Jewish Family and Community Services
- Pittsburgh Hispanic Development Corporation
- PittGlobal, University of Pittsburgh
- Program for Immigrant-International Entrepreneurs (PIE), Duquesne University
- Vibrant Pittsburgh
- VisitPittsburgh

Generous support for World Square has been provided by the Benedum Foundation.

For questions regarding the City of Pittsburgh’s Welcoming Pittsburgh initiative, please reach out to Special Initiatives Manager, Feyisola Akintola, at feyi.alabi@pittsburghpa.gov or at (412)-255-4759.

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