



**CITY OF KENNER**  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**July 26, 2011**

**ASOCIACIÓN NICARAGÜENSE DE LOUISIANA (ANDELA) AND THE CITY OF KENNER**  
**PREPARE TO CELEBRATE THE 11<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL EL TOPE DE SANTO DOMINGO**



For the 11th consecutive year, Kenner's Heritage Park will be the site of the Asociación Nicaragüense de Louisiana's (ANDELA) El Tope de Santo Domingo De Guzmán, a traditional celebration that originated in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century in Managua, Nicaragua. This festival commemorates the discovery of a small Catholic statuette of Saint Dominic (Santo Domingo de Guzman) which was believed to have mystical powers. This discovery prompted the massive patron saint festivities of the Nicaragua's capital city. Every August, mostly on the first days and on the tenth of the month, several major streets in Managua are filled with people who come to celebrate Minguito, the festival of the fondly remembered statuette.

This year, the event will be held on Saturday, August 6, 2011, from 3:00pm to 10:00pm at Kenner's Heritage Park, located at 303 Williams Boulevard, Kenner, Louisiana 70062. Highlights will include a representation of Santo Domingo's arrival preceded by a parade that enters the park to the rhythms of folkloric music. This presentation will be followed by the crowning of the "India Bonita," (Queen of the Festival). The festival will conclude with a dance party featuring a popular local musician, show will be playing folkloric music, salsa and Latin dance music.

This event is open to the public and proceeds from donations and sponsors will be used for the annual purchase of Christmas toys for disadvantaged children in Nicaragua. Traditional Hispanic cuisine and refreshments will be served.

Sponsors for this event include ANDELA, La Raza 830am, La Mega 107.5 FM, the City of Kenner, Entergy, AARP, Classic Insurance Agency, Celebración Hispana. De Todo un Poco, Todo Sport, El Tiempo New Orleans, Jambalaya News, and the Audubon Nature Institute.

For more information, please contact event coordinator, Rafael Saddy at 504-464-4619.

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