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Brazilian music stars to perform at Trinity College's Samba Fest

By **Susan Dunne**

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Hartford — Trinity College will host the 14th Samba Fest on April 23, with a lineup of guest artists from Brazil and other musicians entertaining the public from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on the campus' Jacobs Life Sciences Center Quad at 240 New Britain Ave. in Hartford.

"Samba Fest is a way to pay tribute to the many communities represented throughout Greater Hartford, celebrating Hartford as a dynamic Caribbean-influenced city," said Eric Galm, professor of music and ethnomusicology and co-director of the Center for Caribbean Studies at Trinity College, who founded and runs Samba Fest.



Brazilian percussionist Serginho Silva and his ensemble will perform at Samba Fest at Trinity College. (Paulo Setúbal)

Among the star performers are Latin Grammy Award-winning guitarist and composer Yamandu Costa, bandoneón player Richard Scofano and percussionist Serginho Silva and his ensemble.

Other performers on April 23 are the Trinity Samba Ensemble with José Paulo, Trinity Steel, African- inspired drumming and dancing with Friendz World Music, Hartford's Proud Drill Drum & Dance Corp, and Wilby High School from Waterbury.

"This year's Samba Fest will present musicians who make you think in totally different ways about how people approach a musical instrument," Galm said.

The public will be invited to participate as well. Silva will hold free drumming workshops on April 20 at 4:30 p.m. at Hartford's Park Street Library @ the Lyric, 603 Park St.

Other workshops will be held on the day of the fest, including dance workshops with Capoeira Esperança and a "Big Bang" community drumming encounter, beginning with an open rehearsal at 11:30 a.m. and a drumming celebration from noon to 12:30 p.m. Buckets and sticks will be available but those who have their own are encouraged to bring them.

Community drumming presentations featuring Hartford's Proud Drill Drum & Dance Corp, Wilby High School in Waterbury, will be from 11 to 11:30 a.m.

The fest also will include family-friendly activities, crafts, games and food trucks.

Trinity College's Radio Station, WRTC 89.3 FM will broadcast live from Samba Fest radio and on wrtcfm.com.

Admission is free. For directions, parking info and details go to sambafest.com.



Brazilian guitarist and composer Yamandu Costa will perform at Trinity College's Samba Fest. (Rodrigo Lopes)