

Formentera's social welfare department announces efforts are already under way to prepare for the 18th birthday bash of the Festa Intercultural — an event that will descend upon Es Pujols' Plaça Europa on Sunday 29 March.

Department chief Rafael Ramírez described the ode to cultural exchange as "a deeply-rooted feature of the local landscape", and one that has reflected, from the very start, "the multicultural reality of Formentera today". Councillor Ramírez encouraged islanders to "come have a ball and relish the richness of this cultural marketplace", pointing out that in years past as many as twenty countries and regions have been represented at the shindig.

12 February organising session with volunteers

The Department of Social Welfare reports that a planning meeting will take place in the Casal d'Entitats at 8.00pm on 12 February. The powwow is open to the general public and the Consell encourages anyone who might be interested to attend. For more details, interested parties can phone 971 321 271 or send an email to intercultural@conselldeformentera.cat .

The encounter brings together hundreds of Formentera residents representing a range of nationalities and regional identities. The all-ages day-long event comes with activities tuned specially for children, samples of signature food and drink from the distinct regions, musical performances and demos of homegrown dance. Delegates from roughly fifteen countries and regions have already confirmed they will participate, and sign ups are still open. Participants have previously included Cuba, Chile, Bolivia, Dominican Republic, Argentina, Colombia, Indonesia, Brazil, Italy, Ecuador, Morocco, Germany, Paraguay, Andalucia, Galicia, Extremadura, València and Catalunya.

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