



Cambridge Community Samba Band
Arco Iris
www.arcoiris.org.uk

Press Release - For Immediate Release

Samba for Haiti - Sunday, 24 January, Cambridge Market Square, 12:30 PM

Cambridge, UK, 21 January 2010 - Cambridge Community Samba Band Arco Iris, well known for playing some of the hottest and loudest samba rhythms around, will be busking for the Haiti Earthquake relief funds of Oxfam and Médecins Sans Frontières this Sunday, January 24th, in Cambridge's market square.

Look out for a huge band of brightly coloured drummers in front of the Guild Hall at 12:30. The band will play several 15-minute sets in the area around the market square and finish at 2 PM. All monies raised will go directly to the 2 charities.

"This will be one of the biggest turn-outs of band members ever," says Arco Iris Events Coordinator Larissa Moore. "All of us are keen to do something concrete to help the victims in Haiti. We hope lots of people will come along, have a dance, and generously support this charity appeal. A special thanks goes to Cambridge City Council for being quick to give its support."

About Arco Iris

Arco Iris is Cambridge's only community samba band, playing the very hottest (and loudest!) of Brazilian carnival rhythms. Our performances range from glittering carnival parades and storming club appearances to local charity events. We have a totally open membership drawn from all sections of the community.

Arco Iris means "rainbow" in Portuguese. We began life in 1993 with a one-off performance of Capoeira and Samba at the Mumford theatre in Cambridge. The following autumn the band got back together to learn more Brazilian and Cuban carnival music. We had a small start up grant from Cambridge City Council, but have been completely self supporting since 1994.

At any one time there are about 60 paid up members and nearly 200 on our mailing list. The membership ranges in age from 9 to 70 and reflects the population of Cambridge: very multicultural, many students, a few unemployed and a smattering of college lecturers. There are semi-professional musicians and people who have never touched an instrument before in their lives, and it isn't always easy to tell who's who!

We play Brazilian carnival pieces such as Batucada and Samba Reggae, and a wide variety of other styles, many written by band members. We play about 30 gigs a year and we have been regulars at samba festivals and events in Ireland, Wales and Paris. We are known for creating a wild party atmosphere and getting everyone dancing.

Arco Iris is run by an annually elected committee of members who are responsible for finance, costumes, gig bookings, transport, accommodation, looking after the instruments and training new leaders.

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Contact Details

For more information, please contact Steve Dosman at publicity@arcoiris.org.uk, or see our website at www.arcoiris.org.uk