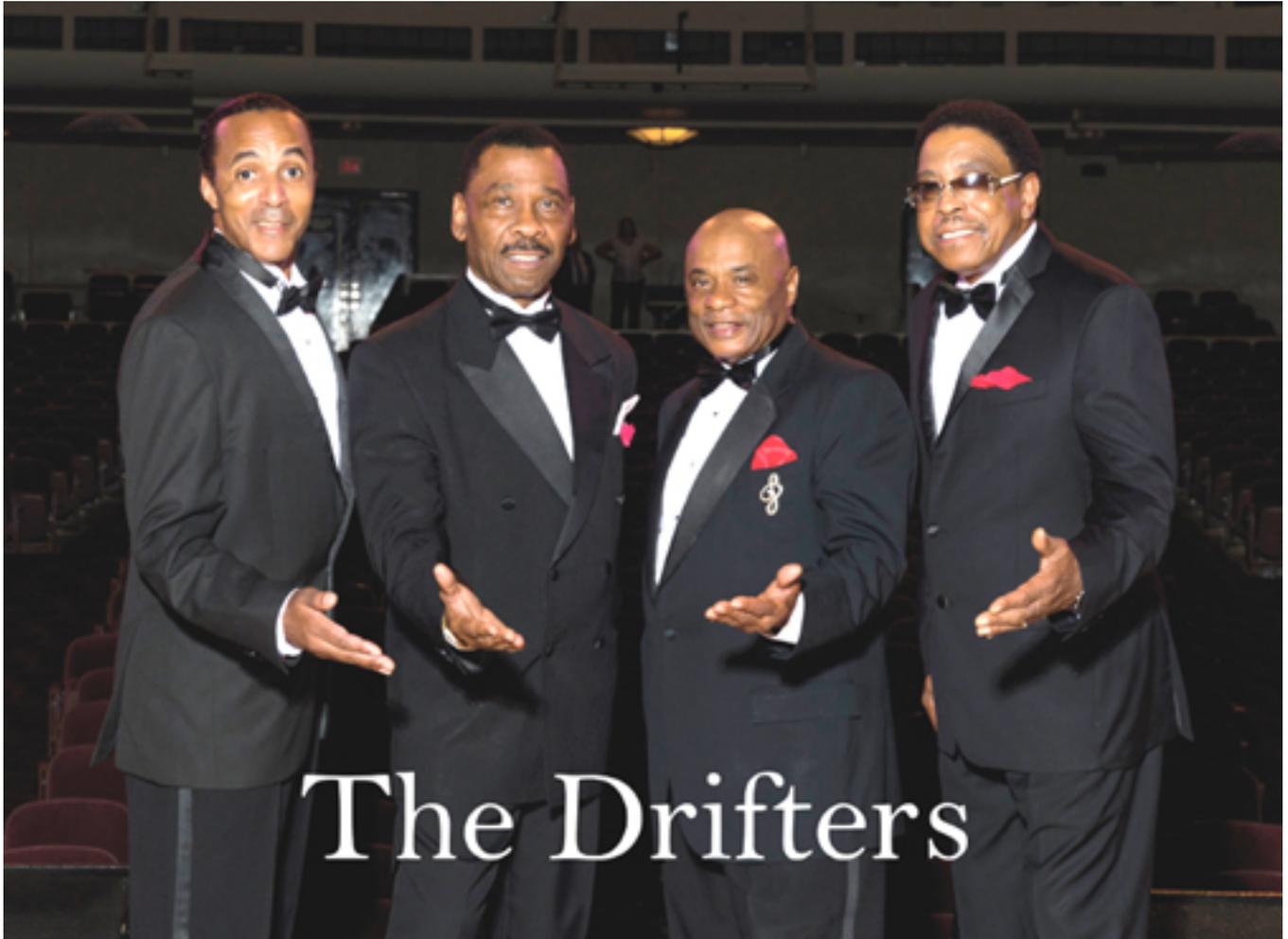


## Rock and Hall of Famers to lead fiesta of nostalgia

Written by Special to the Filipino Reporter  
Wednesday, 28 June 2017 12:08

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Only 19 musical acts have been inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame more than once as a group, and individual members who went solo.

The short list includes the Beatles and each of the “Fab Four,” the Jackson Five and Michael Jackson, Cream and Eric Clapton.

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But the most uncommon of honors belongs to a band that has been enshrined in the Hall twice as a group although the band evolved with different lead singers and back-ups.

That rarity is the legendary Drifters, who will bring their 13 Billboard Hot 100 Hits at Fiesta In America Expo and Cultural Show on Aug. 12 [starting at 12 noon] and Aug. 13 [starting at 10 a.m. with Mass and Santacruzán] at the Meadowlands Expo Center in Secaucus, N.J.

In their “500 Greatest Rock and Roll Performers” issue, Rolling Stone gushed about the Drifters, “No group has done it this well for this long; no one, not even the Rolling Stones.”

Their musical journey began in the mid-‘50s and, through the decades, the Drifters have been fronted by no less than five celebrated lead singers: Clyde McPhatter, Ben E. King, Charley Thomas, Bill Pinkney and Johnny Moore.

Their current line-up features the group’s star for the last 25 years, Jerome Jackson, who also gained fame as the lead singer of the seventies’ Main Ingredients.

On both days of Fiesta In America, the Drifters will usher their Filipino fans into a wondrous night of memory-lane hits that have become the theme songs of countless romances in the Philippines, the U.S. and the world over.

These oldies-but-goldies include “Save the Last Dance for Me” (which was recently covered by Michael Bublé to great acclaim), “There Goes My Baby” (the first rock-and-roll record to feature a string orchestra), “This Magic Moment,” “Up on the Roof,” “On Broadway,” “Sweets for My Sweet,” and “Under the Boardwalk,” the most-played R&B tune of all time.

Some of the current Drifters’ concert playlist includes blockbusters recorded by former front-man Ben E. King, most notably “Stand By Me” and “Spanish Harlem.”

Across the decades, the Drifters have sold more than 200 million records throughout the globe.



According to Ogie Afable, the cultural show's Producer, "the Drifters are Fiesta In America's concert headliners this year, but the opening acts are either *Pinoy* legends in their own right, or up-and-coming stars.

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Imagine this starting line-up from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.: super-composer and singer Rey Valera, American Idol standout Jessica Sanchez, Tawag ng Tanghalan Grand Champion Noven Belleza, Fe de los Reyes, Eva Caparas and Jet Montelibano of Music & Magic, Spanky Rigor and Roger Rigor of VST and Company, and more.

Of course, there can be no Fiesta In America without the Trade Pavilion that overflows with exotic products and immigrant-tailored services, free workshops, delectable native food, and exciting activities for all ages.”

To attend the Drifters’ concert and their sensational opening acts, as well as to sponsor or exhibit, call 212-682-6610 or e-mail [info@fiestainamerica.com](mailto:info@fiestainamerica.com).

General Admission tickets are only \$22 before the event, and \$25 at the door.

Limited VIP tickets \$65.

Purchase at [www.fiestainamerica.com](http://www.fiestainamerica.com), or call 212-682-6610 or from select Filipino stores.

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