

PROGRAM THEMES

iMucha Música! - A musical journey to Latin America

THE MOST REQUESTED

(For all ages)

Audiences are transported to Latin America to experience the many rhythms and unique instruments from different regions, while learning about the three cultures that shaped Latin music: Indigenous, European and African. Audiences sing, play instruments and dance salsa.

Related events: *Hispanic Heritage Month, Cinco de Mayo, International Day*

iVamos al Carnaval!

(For all ages)

Experience the excitement of Carnaval (the Latin American version of Mardi Gras) with joyful rhythms from different Carnaval traditions such as carnavalito from Bolivia, festejo from Peru, plena from Puerto Rico, conga from Cuba and samba from Brazil. Audiences sing, play instruments and dance the conga.

Related events: *Mardi Gras, Hispanic Heritage, African American History, American Indian Heritage Month, International Day*

Rainforest Air

(For all ages)

Music and magical tales from the heart of the rainforest. A powerful ecological message from the animals, plants and people that live in the rainforests of South America, Central America and Puerto Rico. Audiences sing, play instruments and dance merengue.

Related events: *Hispanic Heritage Month, American Indian Heritage Month, Earth Day*

The Legend of Viracocha - Pre-Columbian Music

(For all ages)

Take a journey back in time to experience the rich music and culture of the Indigenous people of Latin America. Haunting tales, melodies and rhythms from the Andes, the Rainforest, Central America and the Caribbean. Audiences sing, play instruments and participate in the folktales.

Related events: *Hispanic Heritage American Indian Heritage Month, Cinco de Mayo, International Day*

iFeliz Navidad! - Latin American Holiday Celebration

(For all ages)

Enjoy songs and stories from holiday traditions rooted in our Indigenous, African and European heritage. Hear villancicos from the Andes, festejos from Peru, parrandas from Puerto Rico, African chants from Brazil, Hanukah songs from Spain and more. Audiences sing, play instruments and dance. Piñata song and activity can be included by special arrangement.

Related events: *Christmas, Three Kings Day, Day of the Dead*

How Night Came from the Sea - Latin American Folktales

(Pre K to 5th grade)

Children are transported to Latin America to participate in interactive folktales that provide magical explanations for the origins of the first night, the first eclipse, how the turtle got its shell, and how the armadillo learned to sing, among others. Audiences take part in the stories by using call and response, creating sound effects, singing and playing some instruments. A visual arts component can be added for smaller groups (turtle paper puppets, story illustrations, small shaker).

Related events: *Hispanic Heritage Month, Cinco de Mayo, International Day*

iBaila! - A beginner's Latin dance workshop

(For all ages)

A fun activity for a school or workplace International Day. Participants learn basic steps for some of the traditional Latin dances such as salsa, merengue, bolero, cha cha cha and cumbia, among others. Single or partner steps are taught, depending on audience size, age level and setting.

Related events: *Hispanic Heritage Month, Cinco de Mayo, International Day*

More than Maracas – Visual Arts from Latin America

(For all ages)

A good complement for any musical or cultural activity. Participants make one of the following projects: Brazilian shakers, Mexican Amate bark paintings, Mexican Huichol yarn paintings, Central American Ojo de Dios (eye of God), Mexican papel picado, Central American woven placemats. (This is only a sample of the most popular visual arts projects.)

Related events: *Hispanic Heritage Month, Cinco de Mayo, International Day*

PROGRAM TYPES

Performances

In a fun and interactive presentation suitable for all ages, Cantaré features Latin American song selections in Spanish and Portuguese, and introduces instruments from the Indigenous, African and European traditions of Latin America. Audiences are invited to sing, play some percussion instruments and dance basic Latin rhythms such as salsa. Performances usually last 45-60 minutes and can be offered by a solo artist, duo, trio or quartet of musicians.

Workshops

Particularly popular for high schools, colleges and universities. Workshops combine a performance and a lecture with intensive audience participation. Cantaré introduces participants to the three main cultural influences in Latin music: Indigenous, African and European. Participants are invited to play all of the percussion instruments presented during the performance, and to dance basic Latin rhythms such as salsa. Workshops usually last 45-60 minutes and can be offered by a solo artist, duo, trio or quartet of musicians.

Residencies

Cantaré introduces participants to songs, dances and instruments from the Indigenous, African and European traditions of Latin America. Residencies consist of 4-6 workshops in a small classroom setting (up to 30) and are participatory in nature. Each session focuses on a different region and features new instruments. Participants learn to play instruments, sing and dance, sometimes leading to a culminating performance. Residencies also contain folktales, social studies connections and language arts activities. A visual arts component can be added by request. Residency sessions usually last 45-50 minutes and are lead by one or two members of the group.