

## Esperanza de la Herencia 2011

**Inside this issue:**



On May 22, 2011, PRFDance brought the rich heritage of Puerto Rico to life with "Esperanza de la Herencia," a performance event dedicated to inspiring youth. As part of our mission we want to give back to our community and help the children to connect with their roots; therefore, this event was free admission for all children (under 18). It was a lovely afternoon filled with Puerto Rico's traditions, live music and dance. The audience enjoyed performances from *Bomba y Plena* to *Reggaeton*.

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## Saludos from the Founding Director

*Semign cacona guari (God bless)!*

We are half-way through our Fall Season, enjoying a variety of classes, memorable events, and rehearsals for our upcoming 8th original musical!

August's season opening included a special workshop that educated our community on Puerto Rico's Taino heritage. Los Hijos de Boriken motoreclub, Taino decendants, rode down from North Texas to enjoy our "Taino 101: History, Myth and Reality" presentation that shared the history of the Taino, as documented by the *Chronicles of Pane, Las Casas, and others*, supplemented with oral history. All participated in the closing *Areyto* (dance) with our cultural center's Taino members.

In September, PRFDance's 14th Birthday celebration became a Disaster Relief effort in partnership with the Capital Area Food Bank to help those displaced by the Texas Wildfires. The event featured performances of Bomba, Plena, Jibaro music, and Reggeaton by PRFDance's performing company and students, and special guests, the Csardas Hungarian Dancers. Thanks to our community, we delivered 12 oversized lawn bags of food, and 4 cases of water/gatorade to the Capital Food bank. Contributors included the Capital Chapter Borinqueneers motoreclub who donated supplies in honor of Puerto Rico's forever-heroes, the 65th Infantry Regiment.

In October, our cultural center enjoyed a 4th Annual Taino Camping Trip that flew Cacike Caciba Opil, Bohike Guarinariemu and Bujiti Toabo of El Concilio Taino Guatu-Ma-Cu A Boriken to Austin for a special 4-day weekend that gave families an "outside the classroom" experience in Taino traditions. Featured activities included a talk on Ancestral and Medicinal Plants by Bohike Guarinariemu, a workshop on Taino Language by Bujiti Toabo, a Men-against-the-Ladies Taino cooking competition, and a hands-on workshop that taught our children how to make their own toys using natural and available resources. As if the weekend wasn't already special, Los Hijos de Boriken road down from North Texas once again, this time to receive their Taino name from the Cacike in ceremony.

As I write this, our Performing Company and Junior Dancers are crazy-excited getting ready for PRFDance's first road-trip performance. The 5th Annual Puerto Rican and Cuban Festival in Houston TX, on Oct 22, will feature Salsa Legend Papo Lucca and La Sonora PonceNa! Our company will bring Puerto Rican folklore and traditions to the Festival with live music and dance performances of Bomba and Plena, musica Jibara, and the Taino warrior rhythms of the Pueblo of Guatu Ma-cu (Concilio Taino).

Later in October, Dr. Tekina-eiru' Maynard is looking forward to celebrating Hispanic Heritage with the NY Life Insurance Co by delivering an invited talk on the History of Puerto Rican Culture through Music & Dance, including live flute music and performance video. In November, Native Heritage will take the spotlight as Dr. Maynard will present Taino 101: History, Myth & Reality, to the IBM Corporation. Dr. Maynard and PRFDance percussionists will donate the speaker fees from both engagements to the Puerto Rican Folkloric Dance & Cultural Center.

After we return from the Houston Festival we will be turning up the heat on our rehearsals for our 8th bilingual musical "Boricua Beisbol" that will take place at the Long Center Rollins Theatre. This original story by PRFDance Director Tekina-eiru' Maynard is written in her unmistakable style filled with joy, adventure, and magic that will return our audience to great moments of Puerto Rico's historic and baseball past! This year's live music and dance production is in collaboration with Rupert Reyes, Director of Teatro Vivo, and baseball expert Edwin Baez! We are also grateful to have received early direction from sports author Jeff Katz during our half-year research effort on the mainland and in Boriken! As each year Sembrando Herencia's musical adventure will plant a heritage for the new generation, and give our performing students a real-theatre, Broadway-like musical experience with our PRFDance company.

As 2011 comes to a close, I thank Semign (God) for our cultural center Family who have discovered this rare place in our City where parents can participate with their children in a clean family atmosphere of wholesome music and dance programs, a place where you can be adopted by our cultural center family if you are alone in town without any! Music and dance is a very important part of Puerto Rican culture. PRFDance is dedicated to those who come seeking a world-class education in culture and folklore, who wish to discover and celebrate their identity, who yearn to become connected to a community, who will inspire and be inspired by role models, mentors and friends, and who, inside our walls, find a sense of pride and a dream for the future. We have been named the Ambassadors of Puerto Rican culture in Central Texas. We are all very proud to share the joy of our rich traditions with our community, and hand down our cultural heritage to the next generation, and to our own children! Thank you for being a part of it!

— Dr. Ana María Tekina-eirú Maynard, Founding Director

## Celebrando 2011 Special Edition - 10 Years Celebrating with Viento de Agua & Tata Cepeda



On June 25, 2011, PUERTO RICAN FOLKLORIC DANCE celebrated 10 years of joint performances with Puerto Rican Masters. Celebrando 2011 - Special Edition was an exciting evening of music, dancing and performances featuring the hot Plena of Viento de Agua Unplugged, Bomba with Tata Cepeda, Salsa Gorda with DJ Bufiao, romantic Boleros by Austin's own Leticia Rodriguez and live performances by PRFDance. Our audience from near and distant cities -- Houston to Dallas, Florida and Oklahoma -- brought their salsa shoes and danced up a storm at our season closing event!

## El Concilio Taíno Guatu-Ma-Cu A Borikén



In July, Tekina-eiru returned home to Borikén and danced the first Areyto on El Concilio Taíno's new batey, on their land in the mountains that our families took refuge in 500 years ago. It was a historic ceremonial dance that celebrated The Order of Guaybonito, which restored many Taino traditions back to our pueblo.



## *Esperanza de la herencia*

### *The Show*

The PRF Dance proudly shares some of our last show pictures. Here you will see the joy and the energy of every dancer and musician that participated on our show.



## Upcoming Performances

PUERTO RICAN FOLKLORIC DANCE presents:

### Sembrando Herencia 2011 - "Boricua Beisbol", December 4, 2011, 3pm

Enjoy the comedy and adventure as Puerto Rican Folkloric Dance presents Boricua Beisbol, the story of Emilio, the choices he faces and the inspiring and unexpected advisors he meets. This exciting performance combines live music, dance, and theater to guide the audience on a journey through defining moments in the history of baseball and the people of Puerto Rico.

"Boricua Beisbol" will debut on Sunday, December 4 at 3pm at the Long Center for the Performing Arts, 701 West Riverside Drive, at the corner of S. 1st Street. General Admission: \$12 adults(advance)/\$14(door), \$7 children (12 & under), 2 & under free. Purchase Tickets at Box Office, call 512.474.LONG (5664) , or see our website to buy online. (prfdance.org).

### Esperanza de la Herencia 2011, May 20, 2012, 2-4pm

PUERTO RICAN FOLKLORIC DANCE brings the rich heritage of Puerto Rico to life with "Esperanza de la Herencia," a performance event dedicated to inspiring Youth. This live music and dance recital, showcasing our cultural arts students, is backed by our PRFDance & Jr Performing Companies and displays the rich variety of Puerto Rico's traditions. Children are the hope of the future. We hope our programs create a love for culture that lasts a lifetime and inspires them to celebrate and transmit our joyful heritage to future generations.

In partnership with the Mexican American Cultural Center (MACC) this live traditional music and dance performance will take place at the MACC Auditorium, 600 River Street, Austin 78701. The Mexican American Cultural Center (MACC), along with the City of Austin, is committed to compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Reasonable modifications and equal access will be provided upon request. For special accommodations please call the MACC at 512-478-6222, or 711-Relay-Texas, or 1-800-735-2989 TTY.

### Octavitas Special Edition & Surprise Event! - January 22, 2012, 2-5pm

FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. Do you know why Puerto Ricans are such joyful people? It's because we celebrate the Christmas season (Las Navidades) longer than any culture on the planet! In 2012, Puerto Rican Folkloric Dance will be throwing a Special Edition and surprise event dedicated to "Octavitas". Event will include a Parranda sing-along and traditional dance and music performances by the PRFDance performing company & Performing Arts Students. Watch for more details!!

### Earth Day Celebration - Taino Spring Areyto & Picnic, Berry Springs Park, April 21, 2012

Save the date! On Saturday, April 21, we will be holding a Taino Gathering in celebration of Earth Day. This all-day event will be held outdoors in beautiful nature and feature an authentic Taino Spring Areyto (ceremonial dance) and a picnic highlighted by native Taino activities. Join us at Berry Springs Park & Preserve, 1801 C.R. 152, Georgetown, TX 78626.



# PUERTO RICAN FOLKLORIC DANCE & CULTURAL CENTER

## Performing Arts & Culture Programs

### Traditional Dance Classes with Cultural Lessons

- Youth Beginner/Intermediate - Saturdays, 10-11am
- Youth Advanced/Junior Company - Saturdays, 11-12pm
- New Boricua Jazz-Beginner/Intermediate Saturdays 12-1pm
- Adults-Monday, 6-7pm
- PRFDance Company - Mondays, 7-8pm
- Rodalla- Intermediate-Saturdays, 11am & Thursday, 6pm

### The Coquis "Brinca y Canta" Class - Saturdays, 12-1pm

#### Music Program

- Youth Choir, All ages -Saturdays, 9-10am
- Student Music Ensemble - Saturdays, 9-10am
- Cuatro /Beginner/Intermediate -Saturdays, 10-11am
- Youth/Beginner Percussion- Saturdays, 10-11am
- Cuatro/ Intermediate/Advanced- Saturdays, 11am
- Company Percussion- Thursdays, 6-7pm
- Professional Music Ensemble  
Thursdays, 7-9:30pm



### Class Descriptions: TRADITIONAL DANCE & CULTURE - (ages 5

and up, schedule above). These naturally bilingual classes teach traditional dances such as *Bomba*, *Plena*, *Seis* and *Danza*, as well as *Salsa* and other modern dances relevant to our culture and celebrations. Class material is taught at an age/skill-appropriate pace and complexity. Lessons begin with the basics, building on knowledge from previous classes towards a full-length choreography. Lessons on Puerto Rican culture, history, games and songs are added to enhance appreciation of Puerto Rican traditions. Semesters culminate in a Performance Recital.

Salsa Socials & Workshops - See website for schedule.

**THE COQUIS "BRINCA Y CANTA" CLASS** - (ages 0-4)  
Saturdays, 12-1pm. Adults are having as much fun as the children in this program targeted for young children and their favorite adult (parent, grandparent, etc.). This program teaches early childhood music including songs in Spanish, basic rhythm, creative movement and traditional childhood games in a family-style, mixed-age class based in our cultural heritage. This non-performance program gives children a musically rich learning experience from which (starting at age 5) they can graduate into our Youth Dance, Choir Program, or both! To encourage family togetherness, note that an accompanying adult is welcomed and required for this class.

**CHOIR & Music (Recorders)** - Saturdays, 9:00-10am. This naturally bilingual class teaches traditional and popular Puerto Rican music and songs to youth through adults. Semesters culminate in a recital with our very own PRFDance Musicos.

**PERCUSSION CLASS** - Youth/Beginner (Saturdays, 10-11am) and Company (Thursdays, 6-7pm) classes cover traditional percussion rhythms from Puerto Rico, such as *Bomba* and *Plena*, as well as other afro-caribbean percussive rhythms relevant to our culture. Instruments taught include *barriles*, *panderos*, *congas*, *tambores* and small percussion. Lessons on Puerto Rican food, language, history, and more are added to enhance the base appreciation of Puerto Rican culture. Semesters culminate in a Recital.

**MUSIC ENSEMBLE PROGRAMS** - Students (Saturdays, 9-10am) and Advanced/Professional (Thursdays, 7-9:30pm). These programs teach Puerto Rican compositions to those demonstrating a proficiency in instrument, percussion, or voice. They are targeted for students through professionals interested in learning authentic orchestration of Puerto Rican music and traditions. The Professional Music Ensemble (professional-level musicians already fully skilled and knowledgeable in Puerto Rican music, folklore, and traditions) offers opportunity to work on performance quality material, keep polished, or improve technique and orchestration skills. Semesters culminate in a Recital.

For more information and registration, call 512-251-8122 or see our Website: <http://www.prfdance.org>



## 2011/2012 PRFDance Sponsors & Familia Members

### SPONSORS

- City of Austin through the Cultural Arts Division
- The Texas Commission on the Arts
- National Endowment for the Arts
- The Institute of Puerto Rican Culture
- Humanities Texas
- Ruta Maya Coffee
- IBM
- Ahora si!
- Redd Carpet Fund
- Superb Speakers
- Target Stores
- Fiesta Mart
- Austin Friends of Folk Arts
- Imajinu Artography
- Out Service.net/IT Solutions
- The Annual Puerto Rican & Cuban Festival
- Crown Trophy

### FAMILIA MEMBERS

#### Padrinos (\$1000+)

- Ellen Fernández-Sacco
- David & Tekina-eiru Maynard
- Zera Thompson/Imajinu Photography

#### Padres (\$500+)

- José & Rose M. Irizarry
- Gladys & Ty Oksuzler
- Mickey & Judy Golden-Bentley/Grainger

#### Tios (\$100+)

- Yolanda Maisonett
- Gisselle & Bassel Bekdache
- Gertrude Maynard
- Jenny Deleza

#### Amigos (\$25+)

- Iris Albizu
- Teresa Gautier
- Reyna Martinez
- Delois Thompson
- Laura Holtz & Family
- Edwin Baez
- Javier & Ellen Vazquez
- Gladys Gautier
- Jennifer Perez-Rivera
- Pedro & Melinda Rivera

#### In-kind Service:

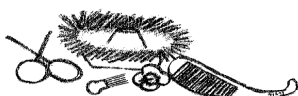
- Iris Albizu (Grants Development Consultant)
- Joe Alvarado (Accounting Advisor)
- Maria Capestany (Web Promotions)
- Yadira Izquierdo Torres (Newsletter Editor)
- Sarykarmen Rivera-Maldonado (Fundraisers)
- Yahaira Rodriguez (Editor, Printed Programs)
- Yolanda Maisonette (Wardrobe)
- Madrile Wilson (Facilities)
- Teachers - Jessica Montoya, Karolina Arocho, Zera Thompson, Gerard Guayacani Villanueva, Adam Rosario, William & David Maynard, Israel Matthews, Maria Tureyguanani Maynard, Kailani Thompson.

• See our staff page for additional volunteers  
(<http://prfdance.org/staff.htm>)



We're on the web!

[www.prfdance.org](http://www.prfdance.org)



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## *Keeping in touch with your culture*

*by: Yadiria Izquierdo*

Roberto Clemente Walker was born on August 18, 1934 in Carolina, Puerto Rico. Clemente came from a humble upbringing, his father was a sugarcane worker and his mother ran a grocery store. He worked multiple jobs in order to help his family, but his talent for baseball took him to the Major Leagues. After a few team changes he ended up with the Pittsburg Pirates. There he shone and proved that he was not only a good player, he was a great one. Arguably, his is best known for being one of the few players that reached 3,000 hits. Nevertheless, he was much more than a talented baseball player; he was a humanitarian. He died in a plane crash on December 31, 1972, on his way to bring supplies to survivors of an earthquake in Nicaragua.

We will always remember you 21!

Know your history, love your heritage.

