

## **Ana Maria Tekina-eirú Maynard, Ph.D.**

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### **Executive Leadership and Visionary in Nonprofit Cultural Arts Cultural Arts & Heritage Accomplishments**

#### **CULTURAL ARTS LEADERSHIP & AWARDED GRANTS**

Executive and Artistic Director. Since 2001 vision has resulted in annual grant-sponsored cultural arts projects that bring focus to the Southwest for Puerto Rican heritage, ongoing validation of excellence.

#### **Founding Executive & Artistic Director**

**Puerto Rican Folkloric Dance & Cultural Center (<http://prfdance.org>)**

**Sept 1997 - Present**

- Founding Executive and Artistic Director since 1997 inception of nonprofit (501C3), \$150K/year operating expenses (with in-kind), \$125K in assets, physical facility. Board President 1997-2012.
- Visionary behind the only cultural center in Texas and the four surrounding states affiliated with the Institute of Puerto Rican Culture. Since 2001, repeat grants awarded by National Endowment for the Arts, Texas Commission on the Arts, City of Austin Cultural Arts Division, Humanities Texas (2011+).
- As Executive Director provides mission and strategy formation, development including grant writing, annual budget, execution, accounting, and reporting, including 501C3; recruiting training of board and staff; administration and programming with 20+ volunteer staff.
- Artistic Director, choreographer, songwriter, and playwright for performing company of dancers and musicians; performs and teaches traditional music, dance, theatre and culture to preschool through adults.

#### **Cultural Arts Awarded Projects & Educational Outreach**

2000-Present - City of Austin Cultural Contracts

- Season support in cultural arts education & outreach. Monthly cultural events, 12 classes per week in folkloric dance, music, and community theatre. Special emphasis on at-risk communities.

2000-Present - Texas Commission on the Arts

- Annual core funding (supports above); and small grants for additional projects.

2001-Present - Institute of Puerto Rican Culture, ongoing support. Affiliation since 2005.

#### **Master Folklore Projects in Dance, Music, and Instrument Making**

Photos: <http://www.prfdance.org/photo.album.htm#celebrando>

Since 1998, trained by the Masters of Puerto Rico's cultural traditions, Dr. Maynard has built the only cultural center on the Mainland with expertise to accurately teach and present all of Puerto Rico's ancestral traditions -- Bomba, Plena, Seis, Danza, Indigenous Taino music and dance. Projects sponsored with major funding include:

#### **National Endowment Folk & Traditional Arts**

Masters projects in folkloric dance, music and history, including workshop and joint performance:

- Celebrando 2021 - Cultural Exchange of Puerto Rico's Afro-Boricua and Garifuna's Afro-Arawak traditions with Loiza's Raul Ayala / Hermanos Ayala and Garifuna Grupo Walagante!
- Celebrando 2020 - Cultural exchange of Puerto Rico and Mexico's African Heritage with Bomba master Pablo Luis Rivera PhD, Boricua choreographer Raul de la Paz, & Roy Lozano's Ballet Folklorico de Texas!
- Celebrando 2019 - High-energy Carnival including workshop on maskmaking and Puerto Rico's Juegos Infantiles with Guateque Director Joaquin Nieves, and Cuatristera and trovador Irvin Santiago.
- Celebrando 2018 - Our 20th anniversary season was celebrated with the firey Bomba of Loiza featuring patriarch Raul Ayala and & Marcos Penalzoza Pica of the 60 year old company of Los Hermanos Ayala.

- Celebrando 2016 - Plena its original form, as a living tradition for all, with Tito Matos. Included drum workshops on Plenazo traditions, and a free picnic to put pandero drums into the hands of the community.
- Celebrando 2015 - Rural-mountain traditions with prize-winning trovador Ricky Villanueva included workshops in history-and-storytelling through improvised song (Decima) and 1st Texas trovador competition. Performance fusing mountain music with Bomba with master Bombero Tico Fuentes of Loiza.
- Celebrando 2014 - Bomba Master & Elder Jorge Emmanuelli Nater shares 100 years of ancestral Afro-Puerto Rican (Bomba) traditions through a community bombazo (bomba dance), workshops, performance.
- Celebrando 2012 - Bomba de Lozia with Los Hermanos Ayala. Dance and music representing the purist concentration of West African-based traditions in Puerto Rico.
- Celebrando 2009 - Bomba & Plena de Mayaguez with Los Tambores de Felix Alduen. Afro-Caribbean dance and music traditions originating from colonial plantations in western Puerto Rico.
- Celebrando 2008 - Rediscovering Boriken with El Concilio Taino Guatu Ma-cu A Boriken. Native Taino ceremonial music and dance traditions from the Pueblo of Guatu Ma-cu in Puerto Rico.
- Celebrando 2006 - Son Boricua with Eric Gonzalez & Gibaro de Puerto Rico. Popular music and dance from the 1940s era in Puerto Rico.
- Celebrando 2005 - Loiza Viva with William Cepeda with AfroBoricua. Dance and music traditions of the Festival of Santiago Apostol (annual carnival) and the Baquine (musical wake of a child).
- Celebrando 2003 - Seis de las Montañas with Joaquin Nieves Caldero & Guateque Ballet Folklorico de Puerto Rico. Jibaro traditions born in the rural mountains of Puerto Rico.
- Celebrando 2002 - Plena de Puerto Rico with Los Pleneros de la 21. Dance and music traditions of the sung-newspaper of Puerto Rico.
- Celebrando 2001 - Bomba de Puerto with Modesto Cepeda and Cimientito de Puerto Rico. Evolution of African-based dance and music traditions in Puerto Rico.

#### **National Endowment for the Arts, Chairman Award**

Master project in folkloric dance, music and history, including workshop and joint performance:

- Celebrando 2007 - 10th Anniversary Maestros Reunion with Joaquin Nieves Caldero (Guateque de Puerto Rico), Tata Cepeda (Gracima), J. Emanuel Dufrasne-Gonzalez and Nelia Lebron-Robles (Paracumbe). Celebrated 10 years of Master projects in folklore.

#### **Master Folklore with City of Austin, Cultural Arts Division**

Celebrando 2001 – Present: Master folklore projects include all NEA sponsored works (above) plus...

- Celebrando 2017 – Fiesta de Cuerdas, the Guitar & her Grandsons with Orlando Laureano and Flamencura, shines a spotlight on the influence of Spain in Puerto Rico's rural mountain traditions.
- Celebrando 2013 - Jibaro Heritage project featuring La Promesa de Los Reyes with Orlando Laureano and Jovino Gonzalez engages community in rural mountain traditions unknown in Austin.
- Celebrando 2011 – 10-year anniversary of master folklore projects with Tata Cepeda, Tito Matos & Viento de Agua shared Bomba & Plena traditions. Instrument-making workshop of Tumbandero washtub bass.
- Celebrando 2010 - Con Cuerdas, Bailes y Costumbres with J. Nieves and Guateque included Velorio de Angelitos. Project rescued near extinct mountain traditions surrounding death of a child.
- Celebrando 2004 - Bomba of Southern Puerto Rico with Paracumbe. Afro-Caribbean dance and music traditions originating from colonial plantations in southern Puerto Rico.

#### **Master Workshops in Folkloric Instrument Making & Traditions**

- 2011 - City of Austin Cultural Contracts - Tumbandero washtub bass-making workshop. Evolution of African-based instruments in Puerto Rico. Culminated in performance for community.
- 2007 - Institute of Puerto Rican Culture - Plena drum-making workshop with Juan Fuentes. Evolution of Africa's music traditions in Puerto Rico.
- 2004 - FOMENTO de Puerto Rico - Bomba drum-making workshop with Juan Fuentes & Papo DelValle. Evolution of Africa's music traditions in Puerto Rico.

#### **Humanities & Folk Tradition Projects**

- 2019 – Humanities Texas – research paid tribute to the Lavanderas (laundresses) of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, courageous women ahead of their time who stood up to the patriarchal colonial government for better living and working conditions in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century. Creation of original play, Las Lavanderas.
- 2018 – PYM Indian Committee & Humanities Texas – supported investigation of Elders’ wisdom that helped communities survive after Hurricane Maria. Creation of original play, Borinquen Sana.
- 2017 – PYM Indian Committee & Humanities Texas – supported research on slave rebellion in Puerto Rico starting in the 1500s. Creation of original play, La Promesa Rebelde.
- 2016 – Austin Friends of Folk Arts – research in oral history on the Puerto Rican migration to Hawaii in 1900 after the Hurricane Ciriaco devastation. Creation of original play, Borinki Soy.
- 2016 - Humanities Texas – Explored Plena in its original form, a living tradition for all (Celebrando 2016).
- 2015 – Austin Friends of Folk Arts – research in oral history and creation of play on the struggles of mountain tobacco communities in the 1940s (Mi Tierra Boricua).
- 2015 - Humanities Texas - Rural Mountain Troubadour Traditions: Sharing History & Storytelling through Improvised Song (Celebrando 2015)
- 2014 - Humanities Texas - Ancestral Afro-Criollo Traditions (Celebrando 2014).
- 2013 - Humanities Texas - La Promesa de Reyes, pre-18<sup>th</sup> century mountain traditions (Celebrando 2013)
- 2013 - Humanities Texas & La Peña - Uniting a Community in Critical Times through Folklore. Inspired by Casa Pueblo in Adjuntas. Dr. Maynard, Humanities Texas Scholar/Speaker.
- 2012 - Humanities Texas & La Peña - Contribution of Puerto Rican Women to the Garment Industry Labor Movement of the 1950s. Dr. Maynard, Humanities Texas Scholar/Speaker.
- 2011-2016 - Austin Friends of Folk Arts – Support for annual Festival & Community Theatre projects.

### Native Heritage Projects

- 2012-Present: “**When Nature Sings: A Taino Journey.**” Bilingual book & ongoing workshops. Funded by City of Austin Cultural Arts & La Peña; 2013: Humanities Texas & Mid-America Arts Alliance. Original photography and inspirational anecdotes based in Taino spirituality present the timeless wisdom nature transmits through the world around us. English/Spanish book published April 2013.
- 2018, 2011-2013- Humanities Texas - Native Taino Heritage and Traditions project with El Concilio Taino. Four-day campout featuring workshops that share Taino history, heritage and traditions.
- 2008-2016 - Texas Commission on the Arts - Taino Heritage project with El Concilio Taino brings workshops on native traditions and respectful use of natural resources, sustainable agricultural methods.

### Community Theatre with Traditional Dance & Music

Annual support by City of Austin Cultural Arts Division, Texas Commission on the Arts, others.

Photos: <http://www.prfdance.org/photo.album.htm#sembrando>

Historical researcher & playwright of original trilingual plays (English/Spanish/Taino) that seed awareness of often-forgotten elements from Puerto Rico’s heritage. Community theatre with folkloric music, dance, all ages.

**2020 – The Pirates of Puerto Rico Return** – Honored Pirata Cofresi -- the last pirate of the Caribbean and Robin Hood of Puerto Rico -- who stole Island riches back from the Spanish galleons and shared them with the poor.

**2019 – Las Lavanderas** –Tribute to the Lavanderas (laundresses), courageous women ahead of their time who stood up to the patriarchal colonial government for better living and working conditions in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century.

**2018 – Borinquen Sana** – A tribute to Elders whose wisdom helped communities survive the months without electricity, water, food, or communications after Hurricane Maria devastated our Island on September 20, 2017.

**2017 – La Promesa Rebelde** – Based in oral history and featuring live music and dance, original play paid tribute to Taino and African ancestors who rebelled against slavery in Puerto Rico.

**2016 – Borinki Soy** – Oral history weaved into an emotional play, featuring live music and dance that honored the Puerto Rican migration to Hawaii in 1900 after Hurricane San Ciriaco devastated our Island.

**2015 – Mi Tierra Boricua** – trilingual play (English, Spanish, Taino) featuring live music, dance and oral history brought to life. Drama tells story of a mountain tobacco community in the 1940s and their search for a better life.

**2014 – Expreso Pony** – trilingual play (English, Spanish, Taino) featuring live music, dance, comedy and action, revealed the forgotten history of Puerto Rico’s vaqueros (cowboys) and contribution of the horse in the Americas.

**2013 - " Boricua Spirit" –** 11<sup>th</sup> original bilingual play, featuring live music, dance, theatre was inspired by the true story of the Puerto Rican mountain people's successful struggle against open pit mining that would have destroyed their central mountains, forests, rivers and wildlife in the 1980s. In collaboration with Rupert Reyes (Teatro Vivo).

**2012 - "Mami Boricua" -** Contribution of Puerto Rican women in the 1950s garment industry labor movement in New York City was researched for 10<sup>th</sup> original bilingual play. Live music, dance, and theater give powerful tribute to the women who contributed to union efforts to improve wages and working conditions while keeping traditions and community values. Collaborated Zulmarie Alverio (Researcher, Puerto Rico) and Rupert Reyes (Teatro Vivo).

**2011 - "Boricua Beisbol" –** Research of 100+ year history of baseball in Puerto Rico contributed to original play, written with joy, adventure, and magic. Live music, dance, and theater, shared defining moments in baseball history that influenced Puerto Rican traditions and community values. In collaboration with baseball aficionado Edwin Baez, sports author Jeff Katz (baseball research), and Rupert Reyes, Director of Teatro Vivo.

**2010 - "500 Years" -** Documented Taino history is corrected with oral traditions in 1<sup>st</sup> trilingual (English, Spanish Taino) magical and inspiring play about native awakening. Scenes transport audience from a Taino village (1504) to a mountain cafetal (1810) to present day New York City and back to Boriken! History, music, dance traditions contributed by (Chief) Cacike Cacibaopil, El Concilio Taino. Collaboration with Rupert Reyes (Teatro Vivo).

**2009 - "Pa Mi Gente" -** Historical research uncovered unsung hero Celestina Cordero (1787-1862), a black woman who fought the Puerto Rican government for rights of poor boys and girls, mulatos and free blacks, to be educated. Original story with scenes from the Turbulent 60s in New York City's Spanish Harlem. In collaboration with Zulmarie Alverio (UPR Researcher, Puerto Rico), Rupert Reyes (Director, Teatro Vivo).

**2008 - "The Journey Back" -** Taino oral history is shared in an original mystical adventure. A young woman travels back to Puerto Rico to recover her lost Taino heritage. History, music, dance traditions contributed by (Chief) Cacike Cacibaopil, El Concilio Taino. Theatrical collaboration with Rupert Reyes (Teatro Vivo).

**2007 - "Angelito Borincano" -** Hurricane history and the 1950s Great Migration were researched for original adventure-comedy. When the 1899 Hurricane San Ciriaco hit, Jibaros of Puerto Rico were assigned an Angel in search of a heroic opportunity to earn deluxe wings! Adventures take story through the Great Migration from the mountains of Puerto Rico to New York City and back! In collaboration with Rupert Reyes, Teatro Vivo.

**2006 - "Piragua Man" -** Research on turning points in 16<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> century Puerto Rican history brought to life through original play, adventure-comedy. Reluctant piragua (shaved ice) cart owner turned superhero saves the island from destruction in important moments in time. In collaboration with Rupert Reyes, Director of Teatro Vivo.

**2005 - "Puerto Rico Mi Patria" -** 8-month research of largely unknown history was basis for original play about the British Invasion of 1797. Runaway slaves, farmers, fishermen saved Island from British fleet (7,000 men) whose beach-landing far from the Spanish fort (200 trained soldiers) should have been an easy victory. Collaboration: Juan Giusti Cordero, Univ. of Puerto Rico, Rupert Reyes, Teatro Vivo.

**2004 - "Puerto Rico Ever After" -** Research on 16<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> century Puerto Rico inspired original fairy-tale about a Hatian "prince" who escapes his island's political unrest and falls in love with a girl in a mountain cafetal.

**2004 - "Pirates of Puerto Rico" -** 2 years of research contributed to original play about Pirate Cofresi, Robin Hood of Puerto Rico (~1825) who stole Island harvested riches from Spanish galleons; shared them with the poor.

**See resume for details on education, experience, 11 patents and awards:**

- NonProfit Executive CV - <http://prfdance.org/brochure/Resume.NonProfitExecutive.pdf>
- Technical CV - <http://prfdance.org/brochure/Resume.pdf>
- Artistic Bio - <http://prfdance.org/amg.htm>