



Ritmo Y Cultura

A newsletter by
Puerto Rican Folkloric Dance & Cultural Center

Volume 4, Issue 9

Fall 2006

PRFDance & Cultural Center 1st Permanent Facility Grand Opening Open House "Bombazo" Celebration

Inside this issue:



On Sunday, August 6th, the Puerto Rican Folkloric Dance & Cultural Center celebrated the grand opening of our cultural center's first permanent location! Our celebration featured a "Bombazo," a Puerto Rican tradition that invites the community to come and dance with us before the drum! Families brought their picnics and enjoyed our big, tree covered lawn. Others played dominoes, and some of us just danced and danced!

It was heartwarming to have so many old and new friends come out to celebrate with us, including new faces from the community, long-time friends, sponsors, new and old students and their families. We were also treated to visitors from as far

away as Houston, Dallas, Killeen and San Antonio who were thrilled to have this Cultural Center in Central Texas and drove up to 3-4 hours to show their joy and support! Special guests Theresa Jenkins from the Grammy/Latin Grammy organization stopped by to congratulate us for our hard work, accomplishments and dedication, as well as, Jesus Pantel from the City of Austin Cultural Arts Division who came to recognize just one of many arts groups in Austin who makes Central Texas a diverse and exciting City.

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Saludos from the Founding Director

We made it!!! We can hardly believe PRFDance is here, celebrating our 10th year in our brand new home! Words cannot express what a stressful one-and-a-half years it has been. I wear my first white hairs like a badge of honor! There were times when I didn't know if we would make it -- could we find an affordable place to move into? If we did, how would we ever afford the cost of construction? But here we are, on the other side, and ready to take on the future! We would like to thank Ruta Maya Importers and the City of Austin Cultural Arts Division (COA). Without their support, we would not be here to tell this happy ending to our very serious need to relocate.

We would also like to thank the people in our community who gave of themselves in big ways and small. While this summer's exhausting marathon of building our classrooms in time for the start of school was enough to bring on more white hair, we will always cherish the memories of those who stepped forward with offers of help, donations, and prayers. You know who you are and may God bless you. Although there is much construction work still to be done to finish our Cultural Center, mentally we are ready to take on the future! Our new facility is the physical presence of what we have grown up to be -- one of the few in the country, and the only in all of Texas and our four surrounding states, offering ongoing performance and educational programs in Puerto Rican folklore and culture.

We offer over 10 distinct performing arts and cultural education programs in traditional dance, music ensemble, percussion, youth choir, and cultural education that are enjoyed by 60-70 students of all ages and professionals each week. Centrally located, we are proud to serve Hispanics and non-Hispanic alike, as well as our Central Texas cities containing 81% of the Puerto Rican population living in Texas (US Census data). This includes participants from nearby cities like San Antonio and Killeen, who come to Austin each week to enjoy our ongoing programs, as well as a growing audience from distant cities like Dallas, Houston and beyond who come to see one of the few professional-level companies on the mainland who can perform the full spectrum of Puerto Rican folklore, live music and dance, at a professional level. Our website serves 2000 visitors each week searching for resources in Puerto Rican culture and history. Our quality has been validated by the Institute of Puerto Rican Culture who has named us one of their four active cultural centers on the mainland US affiliated for authentic, high-quality cultural programming. We have grown at an amazing rate the last 10 years and there will be much more to come!

The Puerto Rican Folkloric Dance & Cultural Center 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. Thank you for being a part of it.

Con cariño, su servidora,

Dr. Ana Maria Maynard Founding Director

EN LA BRECHA

José de Diego

¡Ah desgraciado si el dolor te abate,
si el cansancio tus miembros entumece!
Haz como el árbol seco: reverdece
y como el germen enterrado: late.

Resurge, alienta, grita, anda, combate,
vibra, ondula, retruena, resplandece...
Haz como el río con la lluvia: ¡crece!
Y como el mar contra la roca: ¡bate!

De la tormenta al iracundo empuje,
no has de balar, como el cordero triste,
sino rugir, como la fiera ruge.

¡Levántate!, ¡revuélvete!, ¡resiste!
Haz como el toro acorralado: ¡muge!
O como el toro que no muge: ¡embiste!

FLANCOCHO

By Carmelo Cruz

Ingredientes

1 lata leche evaporada
1 lata leche condensada
4 huevos
1 queso crema 8oz.
1 bizcocho Saralee de chocolate o vainilla.
azucar para caramelizar

Procedimiento

Mezcla todos los ingredientes excepto el bizcocho y la azucar para el caramelizar. Luego de caramelizar el molde agrega la mezcla de ingredientes al molde, coloca el bizcocho trozado a la mezcla y espera que absorba de la mezcla del flan por varios minutos. Coloca en el horno a 350° por 1 hora.

Best Wishes From

Grammy and COA Cultural Arts Division
(City of Austin CAD)



*Grand Opening of our new Cultural Center
at 701 Tillery Street*



*Seis*

*Los 40's
Bomba*

Celebrando 2006 - Son Boricua
PRFDance with Gibaro de Puerto Rico

Pregones



Upcoming 2006/07 Performances & Events



Sembrando Herencia 2006 - PiraguaMan!!

December 10, 2006, 3pm

PUERTO RICAN FOLKLORIC DANCE brings the rich heritage of Puerto Rico to Austin with a full-length live music and dance production that passes on a heritage to a new generation and showcases more than 50 of our own dancers, musicians, and performing arts students, Sunday, December 10, 2006 at 3pm at the Journey Theatre at Akins High School.

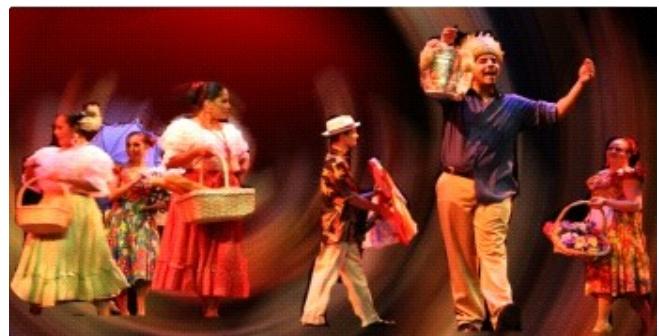
This year's *Sembrando* will debut our newest mini-musical "PiraguaMan!!" Come cheer – and sing along – as Puerto Rico's newest SuperHero fights to save Puerto Rico from destruction! This PRFDance original, bilingual musical is the newest brainchild of PRFDance Director Ana Maria Maynard, and is in collaboration with Rupert Reyes, Director of Teatro Vivo.

Admission general seating - \$10 adults, \$5 for children 12 and under, lap children free (2 & under). Tickets at the door will be \$12 adults, \$5 children, lap children free (2 & under). For more information and to purchase tickets, see our website:
<http://www.prfdance.org/perform.htm>

Puerto Rican Folkloric Dance's performance season is annually funded in part by the National Endowment for the Arts, the City of Austin through the Cultural Arts Division (COA,CAD), the Texas Commission on the Arts, and the Institute of Puerto Rican Culture.

Celebrando 2007 - 10th Year Reunion - June 23 (8pm) & 24 (2pm), 2007

Puerto Rican Folkloric Dance celebrates the rich culture of Puerto Rico with a unique performance – "*Celebrando 2006 - 10th Year Reunion*" – with the return of our favorite Puerto Rican Masters direct from Puerto Rico to help us celebrate our 10th Year Anniversary! Join our performing company of dancers and musicians as we bring to life Puerto Rico's dance and music traditions! Theatre to be determined. Standby for details later this year.



PUERTO RICAN FOLKLORIC DANCE & CULTURAL CENTER

Performing Arts & Culture Programs

Traditional Dance Classes with Cultural Lessons

- Adults - Mondays, 6-7pm
- Children - Saturdays, 10-11am
- Preteens - Saturdays, 10:30-11:30am
- Teens - Saturdays, 11:30-12:30pm

Music Program

- Percussion Class - Thursdays, 6-7pm
- Youth Choir - All ages Youth. Saturday, 9-10am
- Student Music Ensemble - Saturdays, 9-10am
- Professional Music Ensemble - Thurs, 7-9pm

Class Descriptions & Schedule:

TRADITIONAL DANCE & CULTURE

(all ages, 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 the previous class towards a full-length choreography. Lessons on Puerto Rican culture and history, games and song are added to enhance appreciation of Puerto Rican traditions. Semesters culminate in a Performance Recital.

YOUTH CHOIR - Saturdays, 9:00-10am —This naturally bilingual class teaches traditional and popular Puerto Rican songs to children—teens. Semesters culminate in a recital with our very own PRFDance Musicos.

PERCUSSION CLASS - Thursdays, 6-7pm —This music class for all ages and expertise teaches 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 barilles, 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), Advanced/Professional (Thursdays 7-8pm)—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 Puerto Rican traditions. The Professional Music Ensemble, for 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>



Thank You for your sponsorship!

2006/2007 PRFDance Familia Members

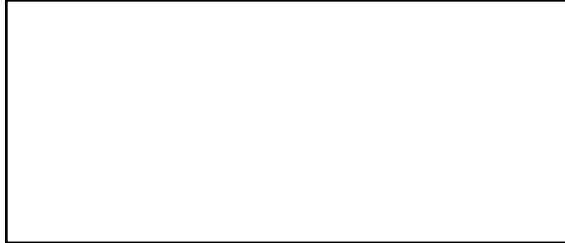
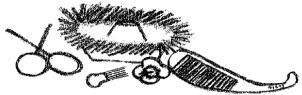
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- **Padrinos (\$1000+)**
 - George & Terri Georgulas
 - José & Rose M. Irizarry
 - David & Ana Maria Maynard
 - Rupert & JoAnn Reyes
 - Alberto Martinez
 - **Padres (\$500+)**
 - Ed Flecha
 - Luis & Elida Bonet
 - Sociedad Cultural HispanoAmericana (Killeen)
 - **Hermanos (\$250+)**
 - Isabel & Robinson Bassat-Ortiz
 - Josefina Flores
 - **Tios (\$100+)**
 - Roger & Maricarmen Nasr
 - Jackson Cruz
 - Reyna Martinez
 - Adam Rosario
 - Wayne & Desiree Hollingsworth
 - MusicaBoricua.com
 - Gertrude Maynard
 - Lizbeth Landrau
 - Ramon & Sandra Acosta
 - Adalberto Ramos
 - **Amigos (\$25+)**
 - Zera Thompson
 - Karl Miller Lugo
 - **Amigos (\$25+) - continued**
 - Penny Wilson
 - Carmelo & Elsa Melendez
 - Eva Franklin
 - Bassel and Gisselle Bekdache
 - Jenny Deleza
 - Al Hollenbeck (Irongate)
 - Ray & Susie Rodriguez
 - Steven Voorhees
 - Habana Restaurant
 - Marjorie Hanshaw
 - Chris Wilson
 - Beatrice Reyes
 - Diana Salazar
 - Kevin & Dayna Manning
 - Jorge Tamayo
 - Tesoros Trading Co.
 - Ernesto Munoz
 - Pat Brian
 - Armando Alvarado
 - Jaime Leon
 - Fairlady Salon- Vilma Lopez
- 

Be a Part of the Future!

Become a sponsor today & be a part of the PRFDance & Cultural Center, a growing institution offering one of the few nationally awarded educational performance programs in Puerto Rican traditional arts & culture in the country. We are building a legacy that will be a focal point to Puerto Rican culture and education in Central Texas.

15228 Quiet Pond Court
Austin, Texas 78728

We're on the web!
www.prfdance.org



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In the Spot light: José Rodríguez, 10 yrs. old (Percussion Class)

PRFDance: What do you enjoy most about your class?

JR: *It's something that I like learning because it's fun. In the beginning I didn't want to do it, but my mom said it's part of my heritage, I should give it a try. I'm glad I did.*



PRFDance: Do you feel like you are improving with each class?

JR: *OF COURSE! I really like my teachers and her son, because he teaches me some things too. It's pretty awesome, because they are so nice with me, they always answer my questions when I'm confused, and they show me what I don't understand. Everyday I think of my congas.*

PRFDance: What will you do when your course is over?

JR: *I want to take more classes, so that I can get better.*