

GENERAL MEDIA REFERENCE

Contact for inquiries about Calpulli Mexican Dance Company:

Noemy Hernandez, Managing Director <u>nhernandez@calpullidance.org</u> Phone: 718-507-2617

Key Staff

Alberto Lopez Herrera, Artistic Director & Co-Founder George Saenz, Music Director Juan Castaño, Executive Director & Co-Founder Grisel Pren Monje, Rehearsals Director Noemy Hernandez, Managing Director

Company Description

Calpulli Mexican Dance Company's performances are like the traditions of Mexico: colorful, passionate, and inviting. The Company has a vibrant repertoire of dance with live music featurig cherished dance traditions, lesser known stories from across Mexico, and original works capturing the Mexican-American spirit. Glorious costumes, contagious rhythms, and captivating performers are the company's trademarks. Calpulli is a touring company that made its international debut in the Kingdom of Bahrain in 2013 and made its European debut in 2019 in Istanbul, Turkey. It has also been featured at Lincoln Center Out of Doors, Penn State, Dollywood Festival of Nations, CalTech University, Wortham Center in Houston, Texas, Jacob's Pillow, and Carnegie Hall in New York City.

A tribute to the heart and soul of Mexico and the Mexican-American community in the United States, under the Artistic Direction of Alberto Lopez Herrera and Music Direction of George Saenz, the Company of 20 dancers and core of musicians will take audiences on a voyage through eras and ethnic communities that comprise Mexican traditions. For more than a decade, Calpulli has recreated folk dances celebrating Mexican traditions and new contemporary works.

Calpulli Mexican Dance Company celebrates the rich, regional dance traditions of Mexico's diverse cultural history, interpreted through its charismatic and unique artistic vision. Founded in 2003, Calpulli is dedicated to the traditions of Mexico and Mexican-American cultural expression through dance and music. Its mission is to celebrate the rich diversity of Mexican and Mexican-American cultural heritage through dance-based programming including live music.

Also known as Calpulli Mexican Dance Company also does business as "Calpulli Danza Mexicana." Please discuss with Managing Director if there is a preference for using the company's name in Spanish for promotional or other reasons. The name of the company may be translated to Calpulli Danza Mexicana for Spanish-language communications.

"Calpulli" is a Nahuatl word referring to the groups or clans categorized by trade around which the Aztec civilization was organized. Our young, energetic family is Calpulli of talented dancers, musicians, and teachers.



Company Promotional Reel

<u>General Promotional Video Clip:</u> Please use the following video link as the general promotional video clip: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d-grdVLA3Ds

Story-based Performance Links:

Please use the following video link for "Boda Mexicana" (Mexican Wedding) sizzle reel, 2 minute duration: <u>https://youtu.be/OUPtXG6Yfzw</u>

The 30-second version of this video can be found at the following link: https://youtu.be/gEUmzR7h7pQ

Additional public videos are available on the company's channel on Youtube: https://www.youtube.com/user/calpullidance

Additional video samples are available upon request.

Company Reviews

"The dance numbers keep coming — feet stamping, skirts swirling — as narrative turns are woven in with easy-to-follow clarity." – The New York Times

"Terrific company of warm, generous dancers and a mostly female band gave a quick, vibrant tour of Mexican traditions- from Yucatán, Oaxaca, Jalisco- with eye-popping costumes for every stop. The finale with the flying machetes was something to see." – The New York Times

"...Beautiful dance company... giving the audience a rich lesson or a sentimental journey, full of live music and lively dancers." (4 out of 5 stars) – NY Examiner

"Calpulli Mexican Dance Company gives folklórico innovative spin." – Houston Chronicle

"...Performed with vigor and soul to spare." - Sydney Skybetter, Dance Lecturer Harvard University

"...Colorful performance leaves the audiences applauding and eager for more." - Queens Courier



"The audience has no difficulty following the characters as their unmistakable affection grows, is brazenly challenged, and then finally triumphs." – Queens Courier

Social media links

Company Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/Calpulli-Mexican-Dance-Company-106581229402778/?ref=hl

Company Twitter: https://twitter.com/calpullidance

Company Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/calpullimexicandance/

Company Youtube: https://www.youtube.com/user/calpullidance

Hashtags: #calpullimexicandancecompany #calpullidance #calpullimexicandance #calpullidanzamexicana

Arts-in-Education and Community Outreach

Calpulli Mexican Dance Company leads arts-in-education partnerships with schools throughout the tristate area of New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut. Additional resources including a study guide, videos, quotes, and social media are available upon request.

The organization also leads community dance and music classes across multiple boroughs in New York City and New Rochelle. The program is based on voluntary donations for youth and serves over 120 students every week with performing arts training. Additional resources including video, quotes, and social media are available upon request.