## Paulette Chavira

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Paulette's dancing experience began in Nuevo Laredo, Tamaulipas at Estudio de Danza Ambar (Ambar's Dance Studio) at the age of two. Over sixteen years she had the honor to be a part of this dance studio that instilled her love for dance. The disciplines she practiced at the studio include Tahitian, Hawaiian, Spanish Folklore, Folklorico, Arabic dance, Gymnastics, Ballet, Jazz, Lyrical, Tap, and Modern. Starting at the age of eight, she became part of the competitive team, traveling in Mexico and the U.S. for dance competitions until her last years at the studio.

When she was thirteen, Ambar's dance studio became part of the UK's Royal Academy of Dance (RAD) with yearly ballet examinations by an instructor from London. Paulette is a firm believer that ballet is the base for all dance disciplines and gives great credit to the strict ballet classes in making her the Folkorico dancer she is today. Knowing she had a passion to teach, Miss Ambar opened the opportunity for Paulette to become her instructor's aid at the age of fifteen. This new position allowed her to attend Folkorico, Hip Hop, Jazz, and Ballet workshops around the northern states of Mexico. In 2011, with the opening of a second Ambar's studio location in Texas followed the opportunity for her first job at seventeen, a dance instructor for girls ages three to fifteen. Having successfully choreographed her student's ballet and Jazz pieces for the first recital reassured her passion. It was in 2012 that was her farewell from this studio with her last performance being at Disney World dressed in traditional Chiapanecas outfit proudly representing Mexico's Folklorico.

From 2012-2016, while dropping in to teach and perform occasionally at Ambar's across the border in Mexico, Paulette became a part of a Crossfit competition team in Laredo, Texas to keep up with her athleticism. Training and competing allowed her to develop coaching skills that allowed her to focus on the proper mobility of the body to reduce injuries. In 2016, she was offered a coaching position for her gym but her next opportunity awaited in Washington D.C. and a brief break from dancing began.

In 2016, Paulette moved to D.C. and began her search for comfort in a new big city. In 2017, she became part of Corazon Folklorico Dance Company from their first practice day. Corazon introduced her to a beautiful community and allowed her to follow her dancing passion once again. She knew that she had found her place of comfort.

After the 2017 season with Corazon, the Director, Alejandro Gongora, allowed Paulette to start teaching and lead the Jalisco region dances.

In 2019 being part of the Folklorico community has allowed Paulette to attend workshops with Professor Rafael Lizardi, previous member of Ballet Folklorico de Colima to further her knowledge.

At present time, the Director has presented her the opportunity to be part of the artistic vision for season 3. She looks forward to sharing the knowledge she has saved over the years with her fellow dancers and for a successful future of Corazon Folklorico.