

## Ballet Hispanico School of Dance Announces 2019 Summer Programs

**Ballet Hispanico**, America's leading Latino dance organization, announces this year's School of Dance 2019 Summer Programs. The Ballet Hispanico School of Dance is a leading center of excellence in dance education accessible to the community at large. Located at 167 W. 89th Street, NYC, the School offers something for students of all ages.

**ChoreoLaB**, June 17 – 28, 2019 – ages 18+

A unique, holistic program, which shapes hireable, competitive dancers who are ready to advance their careers.

Program highlights:

- Take daily technique classes in ballet, improvisation, creative process, partnering, and more!
- Work with renowned guest choreographers and former artists of Batsheva, Ballet Frankfurt, Nederlands Dans Theater, and Hubbard Street Dance Chicago
- Learn excerpts of Ballet Hispanico's repertory from artistic staff
- Benefit from professional development opportunities including forums, networking events, and Q & A sessions with artists in the field
- Audition in an open call for Ballet Hispanico's second company, BHdos
- Receive individualized constructive feedback and guidance from artistic leaders in the field, and more!

For audition details, visit [www.ballethispanico.org/classes/choreolab](http://www.ballethispanico.org/classes/choreolab).

**Summer Intensive**, July 15 – August 2, 2019 – ages 10-23

Ballet Hispanico's unique pre-professional Summer Intensive challenges students to strengthen their classical technique, experience contemporary forms, and develop professional skills through specialized forums — all through a multicultural lens at America's leading Latino dance organization.

Classes include: Ballet, Pointe, Classical Variations, Men's Class, Partnering, Modern, Contemporary, Flamenco, Repertory, Conditioning & Stretch

*Plus:*

- Spanish Dance Series featuring guest faculty
- Master Classes in hip-hop, salsa, and more
- Professional development seminars on audition prep, college programs, and injury prevention

For audition details, visit [www.ballethispanico.org/classes/summer-intensive](http://www.ballethispanico.org/classes/summer-intensive).



Full tuition scholarships are available for ChoreoLaB and the Summer Intensive; details are available at [www.ballethispanico.org/classes/nfsp](http://www.ballethispanico.org/classes/nfsp).

**ELEVATE! Summer Dance Boot Camp**, July 8-12, 2019 – ages 9-18

*ELEVATE!* Summer Dance Boot Camp is a week-long intensive for beginner to intermediate level students who want to boost their dance technique. Classes include Ballet & Pre-Pointe/Pointe, Sevillanas, Footwork & Castanets, Modern, and Stretch & Conditioning. Students may choose to focus on single styles or sign up for the full program.

For details, visit [www.ballethispanico.org/classes/elevate](http://www.ballethispanico.org/classes/elevate).

**Summer Dance Camps: Los Adventurers**, July 8-12, 2019 – ages 6-8

For the older traveler, Ballet Hispánico's Los Adventurers Summer Dance Camps offer the ultimate mix of movement and cultural exploration for your budding dancer. Campers will spend the week journeying through the rich music and art of the vibrant cultures of Spain and the Caribbean through dance technique classes, arts & crafts, stories, games, music, and songs. A five-day experience, camps takes place Monday through Friday from 9:00am-12:00pm, and culminate in an open-studio invitation for loved ones to witness and celebrate their Adventurer's journey. *¡Ven con nosotros!*

For details, visit <https://www.ballethispanico.org/classes/losadventurers>.

**Summer Dance Camps: Los Explorers**, June 17-21, June 24-28, July 8-12, 2019 – ages 3-5

Los Explorers Camps are the passport to discovering Latino cultures. Campers will have fun moving their way through varied and diverse dances, songs, artwork, and landscapes, while traveling through Argentina, Brazil, and Mexico. This is perfect adventure camp for both boys and girls — join us for this multi-sensory journey of the rhythms, stories, and wonders of these featured countries! Explorer Camps take place Monday-Friday and encompass creative dance, arts & crafts, cultural dance, and music & songs. These globetrotters graduate inspired by this artistic immersion with enhanced skills in socialization, independence, and self-confidence, returning to the world as stronger citizens. A little bit of everything and a whole lot of fun, campers culminate in an open-studio showing for loved ones to witness and celebrate their Explorer's journey.

For details, visit <https://www.ballethispanico.org/classes/losexplorers>.

The Ballet Hispánico **School of Dance** trains eclectic, versatile dancers who stand out in a competitive professional environment for their mastery of the classical ballet tradition, contemporary techniques, and Spanish dance. Accredited by the National Association of Schools of Dance, the School empowers students by offering a holistic approach to movement discovery, including pre-professional training and classes for the novice dancer. The School also offers adult classes and workshops that provide cultural enrichment and the joy of dance to everyone.

**ABOUT BALLETHISPÁNICO**

Ballet Hispánico, America's leading Latino dance organization, has been bringing individuals and communities together to celebrate and explore Latino cultures through dance for nearly 50 years. Whether dancing on stage, in school, or in the street, Ballet Hispánico creates a space where few institutions are breaking ground.



The organization's founder, National Medal of Arts recipient Tina Ramirez, sought to give voice to the Hispanic experience and break through stereotypes. Today, Ballet Hispánico is led by Eduardo Vilario, an acclaimed choreographer and former member of the Company, whose vision of social equity, cultural identity and quality arts education for all drives its programs.

Ballet Hispánico, a role model in and for the Latino community, is inspiring creativity and social awareness in our neighborhoods and across the country by providing access to arts education.

**EDUARDO VILARIO** joined Ballet Hispánico as Artistic Director in August 2009, becoming only the second person to head the company since it was founded in 1970. In 2015, Mr. Vilario took on the additional role of Chief Executive Officer of Ballet Hispánico. He has been part of the Ballet Hispánico family since 1985 as a dancer and educator, after which he began a ten-year record of achievement as founder and Artistic Director of Luna Negra Dance Theater in Chicago. Mr. Vilario has infused Ballet Hispánico's legacy with a bold and eclectic brand of contemporary dance that reflects America's changing cultural landscape. Born in Cuba and raised in New York from the age of six, he is a frequent speaker on the merits of cultural diversity and dance education.

Mr. Vilario's own choreography is devoted to capturing the spiritual, sensual and historical essence of Latino cultures. He created over 20 ballets for Luna Negra and has received commissions from the Ravinia Festival, the Chicago Sinfonietta, the Grant Park Festival, the Lexington Ballet and the Chicago Symphony. In 2001, he was a recipient of a Ruth Page Award for choreography, and in 2003, he was honored for his choreographic work at Panama's II International Festival of Ballet. Mr. Vilario was also inducted into the Bronx Walk of Fame in 2016 and was awarded *HOMBRE Magazine's* 2017 Arts & Culture Trailblazer of the Year.

**MICHELLE MANZANALES** was in the midst of her seventh season as the Rehearsal Director & Artistic Associate of Ballet Hispánico, when she was named Director of the School of Dance in December of 2016. Michelle began working with Ballet Hispánico Artistic Director & CEO Eduardo Vilario in 2003 as a dancer for his company Luna Negra Dance Theater of Chicago, where Manzanales later became Rehearsal Director in 2006 and eventually served as Artistic Director 2009-2010. A choreographer and dance educator originally from Houston, TX, Ms. Manzanales was commissioned to set an original work entitled *Con Brazos Abiertos* on the main Company of Ballet Hispánico for its 2017 spring season at The Joyce Theater. This "savvy but deeply sincere meditation on her Mexican-American background" (Marina Harss, *The New York Times*) has since toured extensively to critical acclaim including its recent inclusion in New York City Center's 2018 *Fall for Dance* Festival. Other works by Manzanales have also been recognized including her 2010 homage to Frida Kahlo, *Paloma Querida*, which was hailed a "visual masterpiece" by Lucia Mauro of the *Chicago Tribune* and was described by the *Chicago Sun-Times* as a "gorgeously designed, richly hallucinatory, multi-faceted vision of the artist." Ms. Manzanales has over 25 years of teaching experience serving on the faculties of Lou Conte Dance Studio (home of Hubbard Street Dance Chicago), University of Houston, Rice University, Houston Metropolitan Dance Center, Regional Dance America, Festival de Danza Cordoba-Youth American Grand Prix, as well as master teacher for numerous other dance studios, schools, and college dance programs nationwide and internationally.

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