



A STEP BEYOND's
**EL ALEBRIJE
BALLET**

November 10 @ 7 PM
November 11 @ 2 PM y 7 PM

Directed and Produced by/ Dirigida y Producida por:
Karla Navarro & Jennifer Oliver

2023 EL ALEBRIJE

The Story of El Alebrije:

The story begins with our lead character, Maria, preparing with her mother, aunt and two siblings for her Quinceñera. During the party we are made aware that while her family and friends are present for the event, her father is not. Maria's father was deported to Mexico years before and cannot cross the border. While Maria understands, she has held onto this dream that by the date of her Quinceñera, he will arrive. In his place, he has sent an Alebrije, a wooden figure that he has made special for her in the Mexican tradition. Accompanying the gift is a letter stating his love and his wish to take her on a tour of his homeland. That night, Maria falls asleep and dreams of magic and demons. To save Maria from the demons, magic spirits bring to life Maria's room, filled with images of Mexico and the Alebrije. Once the demons are defeated, the Alebrije takes Maria on a magical tour of Mexico. At the end, Maria's father enters the stage and Maria understands that her father, her mother, and her siblings are with her in this important moment in her life and she is grateful for their love, sacrifice, and culture.

La Historia de El Alebrije:

La historia comienza con nuestra protagonista, María, preparándose con su madre, su tía y sus dos hermanos para su quinceañera. Durante la fiesta nos damos cuenta de que, mientras su familia y amigos están presentes para el evento, su padre no lo está. El padre de María fue deportado a México años antes y no puede cruzar la frontera. Mientras María lo entiende, se ha aferrado a este sueño de que para la fecha de su quinceañera, él llegará. En su lugar, ha enviado un Alebrije, una figura de madera que ha hecho especial para ella en la tradición mexicana. Acompañando al regalo hay una carta en la que declara su amor y su deseo de llevarla a un recorrido por su tierra natal. Esa noche, María se queda dormida y sueña con magia y demonios. Para salvar a María de los demonios, las hadas dan vida a la habitación de María, llena de imágenes de México y el Alebrije. Una vez derrotados los demonios, el Alebrije lleva a María a un recorrido mágico por México. Al final, el padre de María entra en escena y María entiende que su padre, su madre y sus hermanos están con ella en este momento tan importante de su vida y agradece su amor, sacrificio y cultura.

ACT I

El Alebrije Cast

Narration/Narración: Ruby Peña

Narration Guidance/Guía de Narración: Crystal Mercado of Bocón

Father's Voice/La Voz del Padre: Ignacio Cervantes

Father/Padre: Jesus Mosqueda

Mother/Madre: Roxanne Rojas de Blanco

Maria: Stephanie Pattynama

Maria Understudy: Lindsay Ramirez

Siblings/Hermanos: Brayan Orozco, Bryson Oliver

Alebrije: Lirio Chamu

Demon: Diego Chamu

Party Scene/ Escena de Fiesta

Choreography/Coreografía: Karla Navarro, Jennifer Oliver, Jesus Mosqueda, and Roxanne Rojas de Blanca

Parents/Padres:

Norma Gonzalez & Pedro Orozco, Norma Aniceto & Pedro Diaz, Lorena Orozco Tello & Adrian Ochoa Villaman, Lucia Castro & Saul Lopez, Ma Eloisa Hernandez & Oscar Estrada

Surprise Dance/Baile Sorpresa:

Based on ballet folklorico dances learned from Jose Jaimes, Tierra Caliente Adelina Martinez, Ariana Mendoza, Audrina Cardenas, Aylin Vizuet, Dulce Azucar, Eileen Hinojoso, Isabella Diaz, Jan Dizon, Jazmine Aguilar, Jennica Arreola, Jonathan Garcia, Leilani Velazquez, Luna Rojas, Monica Valencia, Victoria Gomez, Yaretzi Portela, Jacob Heredia, Kaleb Aguirre, Yocelyn Garcia

Chambelanes:

Angel Ordonez, Anthony Valencia, Bruno Obregon, Christian Jose, Eduardo Villa

Coronation Solos/Solos de Coronación

Crown/Corona: Jazmine Huerta

Pointe Shoes/Zapatos de Punta: Kimberly Medina

Sceptor/Cetro: Lovenia Bungcayao

ACT I

Dream Sequence/Secuencia de Sueños

Night Scene/Escena Nocturna

Choreography/Coreografía: Jennifer Oliver

Night Spirits/Espíritus Nocturnos: Ariana Hernandez, Sofia Rojas, Luna Herrera, Peyton Garcia

Magic Spirits/Espíritus Mágicos: Lovenia Bungcayao, Adriana Ochoa

Solo Alebrije: Lirio Chamu, Solo Demon: Diego Chamu

Soloists: Emily Mendoza (Frida), Jazmine Huerta (Marzipan), Mariana Punzalan (Sugar Skull), Sarahi Jose (Snowflake), Sophia Urrutia (Flower), Yerilen Gomez (Azteca)

Battle Scene/Escena de Batalla

Choreography/Coreografía: Jennifer Oliver

Alebrije Puppet: Angelica Ramirez & San Diego Guild of Puppetry

Solo Demon: Diego Chamu

Demons/Demonios: Christopher Diaz, Gabriel Flores, Oscar Emmanuel, Pablo Romero, Samuel Lopez Castro

Alebrije Puppeteers: Arlette Cerezo, Janney Mendez, Melissa Silva, Ximena Barrios, Lyla Toledo

ACT II

Tour of Mexico/Recorrido de México

Snowflakes/Copos de Nieve

Choreography/Coreografía: Karla Navarro

Soloists: Sarahi Jose, Angel Ordonez

Alexa Rodarte, Alin Sotelo, Betzayda Sanchez, Deborah Aguirre, Evelyn Morales, Francisca Olivares, Gia Garcia, Jazmine Huerta, Karla Heredia, Kaylen Medina, Kimberly Medina, Lindsay Ramirez, Lirio Chamu, Sofia Urrutia, Sophia Rojas, Stephanie Pattynama, Vanessa Yanez, Yerilen Gomez

ACT II

Mama Piñata

Choreography/Coreografía: Roxanne Rojas de Blanco

Abril Segura Sanchez, Alexa Sanchez, Ariana Resendiz, Arianna Perez, Genesis Martinez, Jaqueline Lopez, Jatziri Estevez, Kassandra Jimenez, Lillyann Barrera, Melanie Dominguez, Nicole Ralda, Ojasvi Bansal, Reginna Delgado, Sarai Ojeda, Silvana Andrade, Sophia Herrera Arevalo, Sophia Velaquez, Ximena Vazquez

Zapateado

Choreography/Coreografía: Karla Navarro with Angel Silva

Ariana Mendoza, Arianna Yanez, Aylin Vizuet, Brayán Orozco, Bryson Oliver, Emiliano Arias, Jovanny Orozco, Naomi Arias

Aztecas de Tenochtitlan, A celebration of México Cultural Heritage

Choreography/Coreografía: Roxanne Rojas de Blanco

Special thanks to Maria Figueroa and Maestro Alejandro Meraz Diaz for sharing Danza Azteca embodied wisdom

Quetzalcoatl (feathered serpent) Yerilen Gomez; Tonanzin (mother earth): Dulce Azucar, Jan Dizon, Leilani Vazquez, Eileen Romero; Huitzilopochtli (warriors): Jonathan Garcia, Oscar Estrada, Sammuel Lopez, Gabriel Garcia; Xotchilpilli (flowers): Camila San Miguel, Audrina Cardenas, Sofia Rojas, Nallely Ochoa; Ensemble: Adelina Martinez, Ariana Hernandez, Arlette Cerezo, Janney Mendez, Lyla Toledo, Yaretzi Portela

Frida Kahlo

Choreography/Coreografía: Casey Flores

Alexa Rodarte, Angel Ordonez, Betzayda Sanchez, Emily Mendoza, Evelyn Morales, Gia Garcia, Adilene Chamu, Angelina Marin, Briseida Chamu, Guadalupe Herrera, Isabella Diaz, Jazmin Diego, Jazmine Aguilar, Jennica Arreola, Jessica Feria, Justice Bell, Kayla Morales, Kelly Ochoa, Naomi Arias, Natalia Lopez Castro, Sophia Rojas

Machetes

Choreography/Coreografía: Nhu Nguyen

Leads: Xochitl Herrera Arevalo, Yerilen Gomez

Adriana Ochoa, Bruno Obregon, Camila San Miguel, Diego Chamu, Emiliano Arias, Nallely Ochoa, Natalia Rodriguez, Sam Lopez, Trinity Turner

ACT II

Marzipan/Mazapan de la Rosa

Choreography/Coreografía: Karla Navarro

Alin Sotelo, Deborah Aguirre, Jazmine Huerta, Kaylen Medina, Lirio Chamu, Sarahi Jose, Stephanie Pattynama, Vanessa Yanez

Torito de Cuetes

Choreography/Coreografía: Roxanne Rojas de Blanco

Aimee Estrada Hernandez, Amiah Sandoval, Bianca Bravo Mendoza, Brandon Estrada, Brianna Varela Guzman, Citlaly Sandoval, Daniela Yanez, Evalyn Gomez, Irving Cedillo, Kayla Mendiola, Leah Heredia Guido, Leilani Rodriguez, Maytte Gomez Flores, Sebastian Ojeda, Sophia Galvan

Marigold Flowers/Flores de Cempazuchitl

Choreography/Coreografía: Nhu Nguyen

Soloists: Maggie Sharif, Natalia Lopez Castro, Sofia Urrutia

Adilene Chamu, Alexandra Diaz, Andrea Morales, Angelina Marin, Angely Mendez, Arianna Yanez, Ashley Valencia, Briseida Chamu, Bruno Obregon, Cassandra Sandoval, Christian Jose, Eduardo Villa, Emily Mendoza, Fatima Castaneda, Fernanda Plancarte, Harmony Ibanez, Janelle Acosta, Jessica Feria, Jovanny Orozco, Kelly Ochoa, Luna Herrera, Maya Martinez, Melissa Silva, Sara Rodriguez, Victoria Gomez, Ximena Torres

Sugar Skulls/Calaveras de Azúcar

Choreography/Coreografía: Nhu Nguyen

Lindsay Ramirez, Mariana Punzalan, Stephanie Pattynama

Pas de deux:

Mariana Punzalan, Christian Solorzano

Father Daughter Dance/Danza de Padre e Hija:

Jesus Mosqueda, Stephanie Pattynama



PRODUCTION/PRODUCCIÓN

Thank you to our production partners:
Gracias a nuestros socios de producción:

Script/ Guion: Crystal Mercado of Bocón Arts

Puppetry Design/Diseño de Títeres: Angelica Ramirez, San Diego Guild of Puppetry

Music/ Música: Symphonic Mariachi Champaña Nevin

Sound Editor/Editor de Sonido: Kristopher Apple

Scenic Design & Building Crew/Diseño Escénico & Equipo de Construcción:

Jennifer Oliver, Karla Navarro, Elizabeth Ellison, Ignacio Cervantes, Nabor Ochoa, Noemi Gutierrez, Yahaira Murillo, Zack King and Student Tech Crew, Pedro Diaz

Costumes/Vestuario:

Casey Flores, Jennifer Oliver, Karla Navarro, Marilyn Gonzalez, Nhu Nguyen, Roxanne Rojas de Blanco, Virginia Arzola

Stage Manager/Director de Escena: Nhu Nguyen

Tech Crew Lead/Jefe de Equipo Técnico: Zack King, Sudent Tech Crew/ Equipo

Técnico: Angel Silva, Christian Castro-Reyes, Emir Obregon, Danny Rodriguez, Jose Flores, Leslie Alvarez, Meleny Alvarez, Monserrat Torres, Ninorta Yako, Sarah Lopez

Thank you to all of our parents and families who came on Saturdays for the Design Build Volunteer Days or showed up in our offices to help with costumes and props.

Gracias a todos nuestros padres y familias que asistieron los sábados a los Días de Voluntariado de Diseño y Construcción o se presentaron en nuestras oficinas para ayudar con los vestuarios y accesorios.

Lobby Display/ Exposición en el Vestíbulo

Displayed in the lobby, A Step Beyond youth, parents, and staff have come together to create a memorable experience for the community that reflects the themes found in the Alebrije performance. The lobby artwork will be on display 30 minutes before and after the production.

Exhibido en el vestíbulo, los jóvenes, los padres y el personal de A Step Beyond se han unido para crear una experiencia memorable para la comunidad que refleja los temas que se encuentran en la actuación de Alebrije. La obra de arte del vestíbulo estará en exhibición 30 minutos antes y después de la producción.

Dad's letter in English

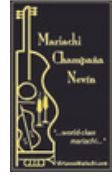
Mi'ja, Happy Birthday from your father who loves you very much and misses you more than you can imagine. How I would like to be there to see my daughter as a beautiful teenager. I know you wanted a party, but you know, if I were there, I wouldn't have celebrated you with a party, I would have taken you all over Mexico so you could get to know the land and the customs of your parents and grandparents. I would take you to Frida Kahlo's house in Mexico City so you could see how brave and talented she was. I would take you to Chihuahua to the high mountains where it is very cold, to Oaxaca on the Day of the Dead to celebrate with your great-grandparents, to the temple of the sun and moon in Teotihuacan and I would give you Mexican sweets like the ones I ate as a child. Oh well. I know you wanted the doll, my love. I sent the little money I had to your mom for the party, and she didn't have enough for me. When you were little, you were afraid of the dark. You imagined monsters with horns hiding in the closet and I gave you a small alebrije to protect you. Do you remember? Now that you are a teenager, I made you this alebrije to protect you wherever you are even if I am not there with you.

With all my love, Your Dad

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS AND PARTNERS/ GRACIAS A NUESTROS PATROCINADORES Y SOCIOS



San Diego
Creative Youth
Development Network



A STEP BEYOND

A Step Beyond is a creative youth development organization serving youth and their families living at or below the poverty line with free after-school dance classes, academic support, and social services. In order to create deep, meaningful, and lasting relationships that will ensure the artistic, academic, and social-emotional development of our youth, we make a ten-year commitment to support students and their families from 3rd grade to high school graduation and beyond.

A Step Beyond es una organización creativa de desarrollo juvenil que sirve a los jóvenes y sus familias que viven en la línea de pobreza o por debajo de ella con clases de baile gratuitas después de la escuela, apoyo académico y servicios sociales. Con el fin de crear relaciones profundas, significativas y duraderas que aseguren el desarrollo artístico, académico y socioemocional de nuestros jóvenes, nos comprometemos por diez años a apoyar a los estudiantes y sus familias desde el tercer grado hasta la graduación de la escuela secundaria y más allá.

ASB SUPPORT TEAM/EQUIPO DE APOYO DE ASB:

Blanca Zuñiga, Blanca Antonio Cruz, Christine Taylor, James Wright, Jazmin Solorio, Karen Cazares, Lesly Rodriguez, Marjory Razo, Suraya Knott, Shara Chavez, Yahaira Murillo, Wendy Endsley, Amanda Schaap

A STEP BEYOND BOARD

Leslie Culbertson (Chair), Steve Gosselin, Jonathan Fikse (Treasurer), Bonnie Platt (Secretary), James Wright, Dan Platt (Vice Chair), Jay Culbertson, Frank Foster, Janet Foster, Candise Holmlund, Jackie Loaiza, Jennifer Oliver, Jeff Segall, Dave Smith, Janean Stripe, Dr. Jose Villarreal, Vicki Zeiger, Vishal Mehta, Claudia Briseno, Anna Punzalan, Dr. Jennifer Ostergren, Dr. Star Rivera-Lacey