

PALENKE
a r t s



Annual
Report
2022-23

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 @palenkearts

 /palenkearts



Dear Palenke Arts familia, friends and supporters,

If there is anything that the COVID era has taught us, it is that you cannot take any moment or any person for granted: our lives are precious and incredibly fragile. That is why, looking back at our 2022-23 year, I am filled once again with an overwhelming sense of joy, pride and gratitude. Our families, students, teaching artists, board members, volunteers, partners, supporters and staff came together with remarkable resilience to reach important milestones in our quest to educate, inspire and transform our community of Seaside through the arts.

On the educational front, we managed to expand our youth and community multicultural arts offerings to over 250 individual participants in 17 weekly multicultural arts classes and 5 family art workshops, which our families have described as “healing” and “transformative”. Our students were once again our best ambassadors, performing at more than a dozen community events such as **Oaxaca by the Sea**, Sustainable Seaside’s **Earth Day**, a **Latin Harlem Renaissance** program at the Pacific Grove Library and our own **Día de los Muertos** celebration.

Our 2022-23 presenting season was one for the books! We featured Grammy-winners **Patricio Hidalgo** (Afrojarochero) and **Tammy Hall**, diasporic African and Brazilian music by **Cheza Nami** and **Sambadá**, Filipina classical pianist **Chloe Canton Rice**, manouche jazz superband **Barrio Manouche** (who performed at our benefit at **Hidden Valley Music Seminars**), and dancers **Calpulli Tonahlequeh** and **Nā Haumāna** at the **7th Annual Palenke Arts Festival**. Poets **Bianca Zamora** and **Yosimar Reyes** closed out the season with **Here & Queer & Thriving**, in partnership with the **Epicenter**.

This year also marked the launch of our efforts towards the design and construction of **our forever home**: the **Palenke Arts Multicultural Arts Center**. This center will be the first and only facility of its kind in the area: a vibrant, inclusive, state-of-the-art multidisciplinary arts center in the city of Seaside. Dozens of community members, affinity groups, civic leaders and stakeholders came together throughout the year to give shape to a vision that we hope will soon become a reality aided by a grant from **Packard**.

As a direct result of our efforts, I am pleased to share that we have received a **\$1 million grant** from the State of California, through the advocacy of **Senator John Laird** for the design and construction of our forever home.

Of course, we could not do any of this without the unwavering support of all of you: our funders, friends, supporters and partners! As we continue growing our organization and expanding our impact, I hope that you will feel inspired to join us in our work of uplifting our community through the transformative power of the arts.

With deep gratitude,

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Juan L. Sánchez".

Juan L. Sánchez
Founder/Executive Director



OUR TEAM

TEACHING ARTISTS

MALINDA DEROUEN

Teaching Artist, Bilingual Chorus

JUNEAU ROWE

Teaching Artist, Piano

PAUL CONTOS

Teaching Artist, Latin Jazz & Clarinet

CARLA JONES

Teaching Artist, Hip Hop Dance

JESS ANSBERRY

Teaching Artist, Visual Arts

PAUL RICHMOND

Teaching Artist, Visual Arts

JOHN WEED

Teaching Artist, Violin

JAVIER MUÑIZ

Teaching Artist, Afro-Caribbean Drums

FELIX DÍAZ CONTRERAS

Teaching Artist, Trumpet

ALEJANDRO JIMENEZ

Teaching Artist, Guitar

MIKE SHANNON

Teaching Artist, Drums

JENNY ROBLES

Teaching Artist, Danza Folklórica

BELEM MATA

Teaching Artist Assistant, Danza Folklórica

LALI HERNÁNDEZ

Teaching Artist, Bilingual Chorus

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

JT MASON

Board President

DR. MANUEL NUÑEZ

Board Secretary

DR. ALFRED E. FORREST

Board Treasurer

MARIA GUADALUPE JARA

Board member

DR. CELIA BARBERENA

Board member

DANIEL B. SUMMERHILL

Board member

JENNY MCADAMS

Board member

MICHELLE OVERMEYER

Board member

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

JUAN L. SÁNCHEZ

Founder/Executive Director/Teaching Artist

JOCELYNE RESÉNDIZ NIETO

Program Assistant

OUR TEACHING ARTISTS



MALINDA DEROUEN
Teaching Artist, Bilingual Chorus



JUNEAU ROWE
Teaching Artist, Piano



PAUL CONTOS
Teaching Artist, Latin Jazz & Clarinet



JENNY ROBLES
Teaching Artist, Ballet Folklórico



JESS ANSBERRY
Teaching Artist, Visual Arts



CARLA JONES
Teaching Artist, Hip-Hop Dance



PAUL RICHMOND
Teaching Artist, Visual Arts



JOHN WEED
Teaching Artist, Violin



JAVIER MUÑOZ
Teaching Artist, Afro-Caribbean Drums



FELIX DÍAZ CONTRERAS
Teaching Artist, Trumpet



ALEJANDRO JIMENEZ
Teaching Artist, Guitar



LALI HERNANDEZ
Teaching Artist, Bilingual Chorus



MIKE SHANNON
Teaching Artist, Danza Folklórica



BELEM MATA
Teaching Artist, Ballet Folklórico



OUR MISSION

Palenke Arts' mission is to educate, inspire and transform the community through the arts.

OUR VISION

Palenke Arts exists to create a safe, vibrant and inclusive multicultural arts center in the city of Seaside that will benefit all of the Monterey Peninsula. We aim to uplift youth voices, inspire creativity and transform our community into a place where everyone feels seen, valued and welcomed through the healing power of the arts.

OUR STORY

Palenke Arts was started in 2015 by a committed group of artists, educators and community members, led by founder Juan L. Sánchez. We recognized the urgent need for quality, culturally-rooted and affordable arts and music programs and events in the city of Seaside, especially for the youth, and envisioned the creation of a multicultural arts center.

In 2016 Palenke Arts obtained fiscal sponsorship under the Action Council of Monterey County. In October 2016, Palenke Arts signed an agreement with Monterey Peninsula Unified School District for the use of a 2,000 sq. ft space at Martin Luther King School of the Arts in exchange for arts and music classes to Seaside youth, and quickly transitioned from a planning to an implementation stage.

On December 24, 2018, Palenke Arts filed articles of incorporation with the State of California, adopted bylaws, elected a founding Board of Directors and on July 1, 2019 filed for 501c3 tax exempt status as a nonprofit corporation to the IRS and received our determination letter on January 30, 2020.

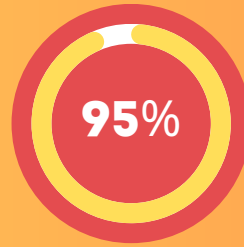
In recognition of our work, in 2019, we received the award as the **Nonprofit of Year in Arts and Culture** from the **Nonprofit Alliance of Monterey County**. In 2022 our Executive Director Juan L. Sánchez obtained the **Champion of the Arts Award** from the **Arts Council of Monterey County**.



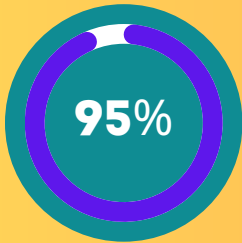
2022-23 PARENTS' SURVEY RESULTS



STUDENTS AND FAMILIES FEEL WELCOME



RATE OUR TEACHERS AS EXCELLENT



RATE ADMIN STAFF AS EXCELLENT



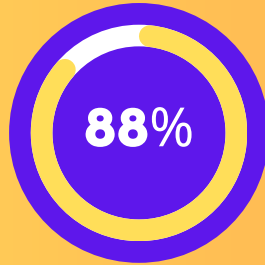
RATE CLASSES AND EVENTS AS EXCELLENT



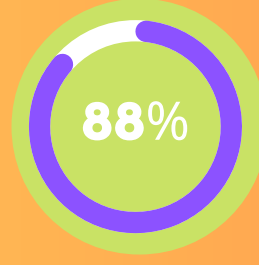
"Palenke arts represents community! It showcases the abundance of diversity and art forms that are out there for everyone to learn and grow from. It brings together different people through common curiosity and interests in subjects that otherwise they may not get the chance to explore and learn about."



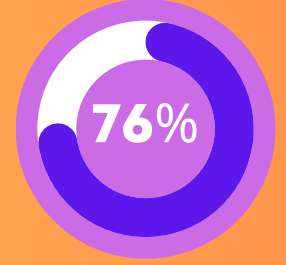
WOULD RECOMMEND PALENKE ARTS TO OTHERS



STUDENTS IMPROVED SELF-ESTEEM



STUDENTS IMPROVED SENSE OF COMMUNITY



STUDENTS' MENTAL HEALTH IMPROVED

"It offered me a safe place and a ritual that I enjoy, but more, in which I share a stimulating reading with neighbors and friends, with whom I would have no other place so comfortable to develop friendship. Palenke's programs make me feel safer, more comfortable, and more welcome within the Seaside community."



WHAT PALENKE ARTS MEANS TO ME

"LOVE, CULTURE, AND UNITY."



WHY PALENKE ARTS?

Palenke Arts provides a space that does not exist elsewhere in Seaside: a dedicated multicultural arts center offering free and low cost arts-based classes and events to many families who would not traditionally be able to afford them. We aim to address the issue of inequity in the arts by imbuing our programs with high-interest, culturally-relevant offerings that are accessible for everyone.

Over the past 7 years, we have offered low and no-cost weekly classes to hundred students yearly in beginning orchestra, beginning band, choral singing, Latin jazz, hip hop dance, visual arts, Afro Cuban drumming, West African drumming, piano, guitar, violin, clarinet, trumpet, cinematic arts, audio production, and Latin dance.



"PALENKE ARTS REPRESENTS COMMUNITY! IT SHOWCASES THE ABUNDANCE OF DIVERSITY AND ART FORMS THAT ARE OUT THERE FOR EVERYONE TO LEARN AND GROW FROM. IT BRINGS TOGETHER DIFFERENT PEOPLE THROUGH COMMON CURIOSITY AND INTERESTS IN SUBJECTS THAT OTHERWISE THEY MAY NOT GET THE CHANCE TO EXPLORE AND LEARN ABOUT."

In addition to our educational programs, **Palenke Arts** offers an awe-inspiring concert series that features local and international artists from the Americas, Africa, Asia and Europe, including Grammy and Emmy winners. We have likewise organized and participated in countless community events such as our own annual **Palenke Arts Festival**, Family Arts Workshops, **Art Against Bullying** and **Día de los Muertos Celebrations**.

"PALENKE IS FAMILY, CULTURE, TEACHINGS, AND TRUST. IT IS A COMFORTABLE SPACE FOR EVERYONE."



BILINGUAL CHORUS



BALLET FOLKLORICO



BEGINNING DRUMS



LATIN JAZZ COMBO



VISUAL ARTS



BEGINNING TRUMPET



AFROCARIBBEAN DRUMS



HIP HOP DANCE



PIANO



GUITAR



SPANISH BOOK CLUB



VIOLIN

AUGUST 2022

**ORQUESTA RUMBA CAFE
FAMILY LATIN DANCE CONCERT**

NOVEMBER 2022

**DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS
CELEBRATION**

JANUARY 2023

**TAMMY HALL TRIO
GRAMMY-WINNING
JAZZ PIANIST**

FEBRUARY 2023

**AL FIRDAUS ENSEMBLE
SUFİ MUSIC FROM SPAIN AND
MOROCCO**

APRIL 2023

**CHLOE CANTON RICE
PIANO SOUNDSCAPES FROM THE
PHILIPPINES**

JUNE 2023

**7TH ANNUAL
PALENKE ARTS FESTIVAL**

OCTOBER 2022

**PATRICIO HIDALGO
AFROJAROCHO
GRAMMY-WINNING
SON JAROCHO MASTER**

NOVEMBER 2022

**JOE CRAVEN + DAYAN KAI
DAZZLING ROOTS MULTI-
INSTRUMENTALISTS**

FEBRUARY 2023

**CHEZA NAMI:
A TASTE OF AFRICA
DIASPORIC AFRICAN MUSIC**

MARCH 2023

**WATSONVILLE FILM
FESTIVAL
LATINE DOCUMENTARIES**

MAY 2023

**BARRIO MANOUCHE
VINO, TAPAS & JAZZ BENEFIT**

JUNE 2023

**HERE & QUEER & THRIVING
POETRY BY BIANCA ZAMORA
AND YOSIMAR REYES**

PALENKE PRESENTA

PATRICIO HIDALGO

Y EL AFROJAROCHO EN CONCIERTO

SAT OCT 1 2022 7:30 PM

LIVE AT

PALENKE ARTS tickets \$25.-
<https://tinyurl.com/patrichidhalgo>



Don Patricio is an internationally recognized singer, poet and jararero (jararero player) who has revived the "congo" genre which is part of the musical heritage of southern Veracruz for over 20 years and is rooted in African origins. This concert titled "Cantares Afrojarochos" will feature traditional congas and songs jarochos from Minatitlán, Veracruz, México

Palenke Arts, 1713 Broadway Ave., Seaside, CA 93955
www.palenkearts.org
831-899-9909




PALENKE arts presents

DIA DE LOS MUERTOS

MARIACHI • CORO Y DANZA FOLKORICA • OFRENDA COMUNITARIA Y COMIDA
MARIACHI MUSIC • CHORUS & FOLKLORE DANCE • COMMUNITY ALTAR & FOOD

November 1st
6PM - 8PM

OLDEMAYER CENTER
986 HILBY AVE, SEASIDE



PARTICIPAN



Palenke Arts presents

CHEZA NAMI Cultural Diversity and Community

MOVING TOGETHER

MOVIÉNDOSE JUNTOS

Music and Dance from the African Diaspora



FEB 11TH

FREE GRATIS

Martin Luther King School of the Arts
1713 Broadway Ave, Seaside
Palenke Arts Outdoor Stage

PALENKE

TAMMY HALL TRIO

GRAMMY-WINNER, JAZZ PIANIST, VOCALIST, COMPOSER
TAMMY HALL

SAT JAN 14 2023 7:30 PM

PALENKE ARTS
1713 BROADWAY AVE, SEASIDE
WWW.PALENKEARTS.ORG

PERCUSSIONIST
SYLVIA CUENCA

BASSIST
RUTH DAVIES

TICKETS \$25-
WWW.EVENTBRITE.COM





PALENKE ARTS PRESENTS



AL FIRDAUS ENSEMBLE

SUFI INSPIRED MUSIC DIRECTLY FROM GRANADA, SPAIN

FEBRUARY 18TH, 2023 7:30PM.

TICKETS \$25

THE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF MONTEREY AUDITORIUM
1720 YOSEMITE ST, SEASIDE

FROM MAUI, HAWAII AND DILLON, CA




DAYAN KAI **JOE CRAVEN**

IN CONCERT

SAT NOV 12 2022 7:30 PM

Dazzling multi-instrumentalists Dayan Kai (Maui, Hawaii) and Joe Craven (Dillon, CA) join for an evening of musical fireworks! Guitars, mandolins, flutes, harmonicas, keyboards, harmonicas and percussion instruments that will resonate with old-timey tunes, familiar covers, and wildly imaginative improvisations!

Don't miss it!

Palenke Arts

BENEFIT CONCERT

21 MAY 3 P.M.

BARRIO MACHOUCHE

FEAT FLAMENCO DANCER MELISSA CRUZ

HIDDEN VALLEY MUSIC SEMINARS



7TH ANNUAL

PALENKE ARTS FESTIVAL



FEATURING

SAMBADA (AFRO-SAMBA-FUNK)
CALPULLI TONALEQUEH (DANZA MEXICA)
SON DE FANDANGO (SON JAROCHO)
NA HAUMANA (HALAU HULA)

PERFORMANCES & ACTIVITIES

Afro Caribbean Percussion,
Palenke Arts Ballet Folklorico and Dance Crew, Palenke Arts Latin Jazz Combo & Bilingual Choir,
Live Art Demos, Face Painting, Samba Class, Food Vendors, Community Booths and Family Friendly Activities!

FREE to the PUBLIC!

LAGUNA GRANDE PARK, SEASIDE
SUNDAY, JUNE 4TH, 2023

HERE & QUEER & THRIVING

a pride open mic night

SUNDAY, JUNE 18TH, 2023
beginning at 6 PM (PST)

featured performers: performance by:





YOSIMAR REYES BIANCA T. ZAMORA MAHI SHAH
MONTEREY COUNTY POET LAUREATE

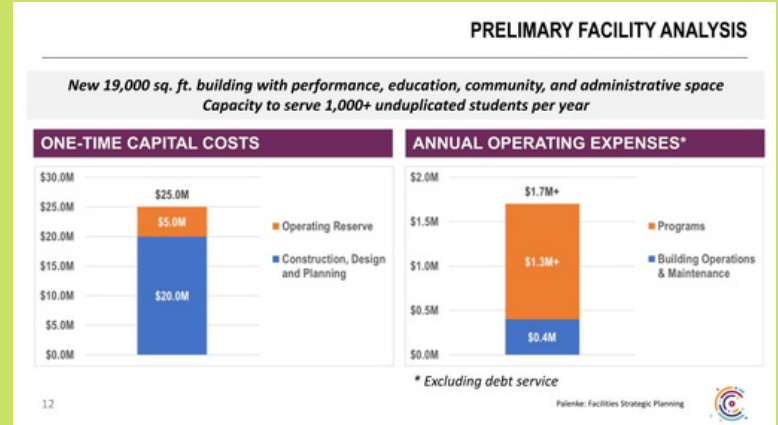
\$5 TO \$10 SUGGESTED DONATION
sliding scale / no one turned away for lack of funds



PALENKE arts
1713 BROADWAY AVENUE SEASIDE, CA 93955

VISION & PLANNING

A FOREVER HOME FOR PALENKE ARTS



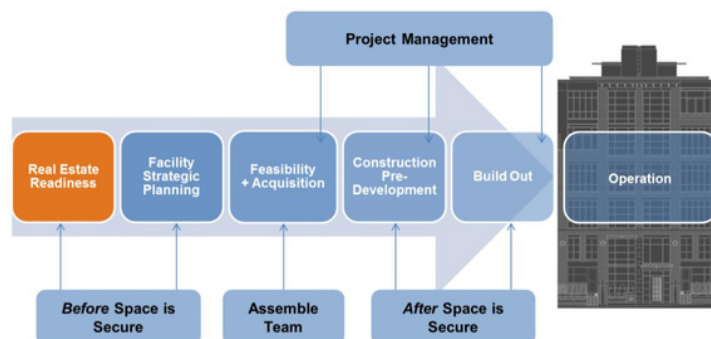
VISIONING WORKSHOPS

Affinity Focus Groups Recommendations

- A state-of-the-art LEED-certified, carbon-neutral building that would feature:
- An outdoor auditorium with trees/benches/garden
- An atrium/gathering space for the community
- An art gallery for exhibits
- A visual arts studio (painting/drawing/sculpture)
- A dance studio with proper lighting, sound, flooring and mirrors
- A music rehearsal hall for our ensembles
- A digital arts studio
- Multiple practice rooms/small music classrooms
- A blackbox theater for small productions and film screenings
- A 300-500 seat state of the art theater to host student and professional musical performances and events.
- A professional recording/TV production studio
- Office and meeting spaces for Palenke Arts
- Flexible spaces for diverse multicultural, intergenerational, and multidisciplinary programs

Palenke Arts Simplified Facility Analysis			
Scenario Assumptions			
Building Square Feet	19,000		
Development Cost PSF (new construction)	\$1,020		
Total Development Cost	\$20,000,000		
Operating Reserve	\$5,000,000		
Total Capital Budget	\$25,000,000		
Operating Reserve Drawdown (years)	10		
Unduplicated Students Served Per Year	1,265		
			currently supported debt
Assumed Loan			\$1,500,000
Upfront Fundraising Requirement			\$23,500,000
Annual Fundraising Requirement			
Before Operating Reserve Support			\$1,800,000
After Operating Reserve Support			\$1,300,000
Annual Fundraising Requirement- Detail			
Palenke Baseline Operating Expenses	\$276,402	LS	\$276,402
Building Operating Expenses	\$18	/SF	\$348,758
New Instruction Expenses (illustrative)	\$1,000	/new student	\$1,065,000
New Performance Expenses (excluded)			\$0
Contribution to Reserves	\$1	/SF	\$19,000
Debt Service			\$131,567
Total Expenses			\$1,800,000
(less) Operating Reserve Offset	\$500,000	LS	-\$500,000
Total Expenses, After Operating Reserve Support			\$1,300,000

Real estate process overview

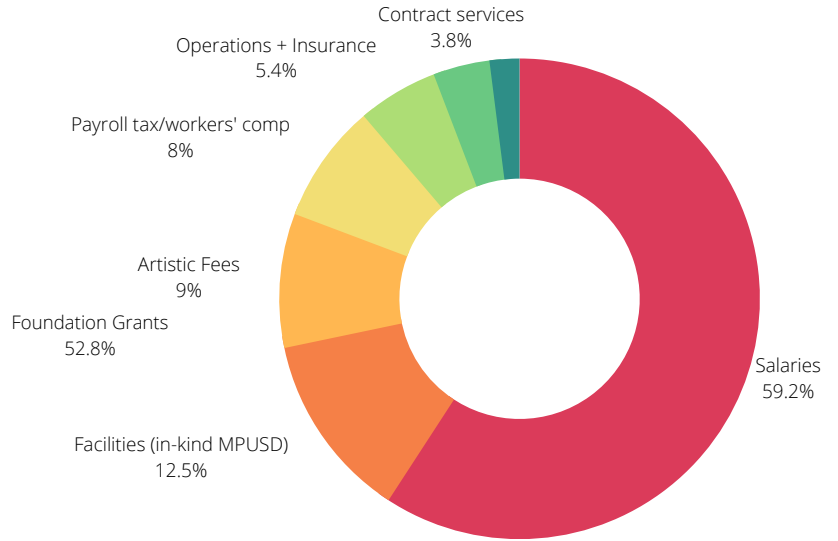
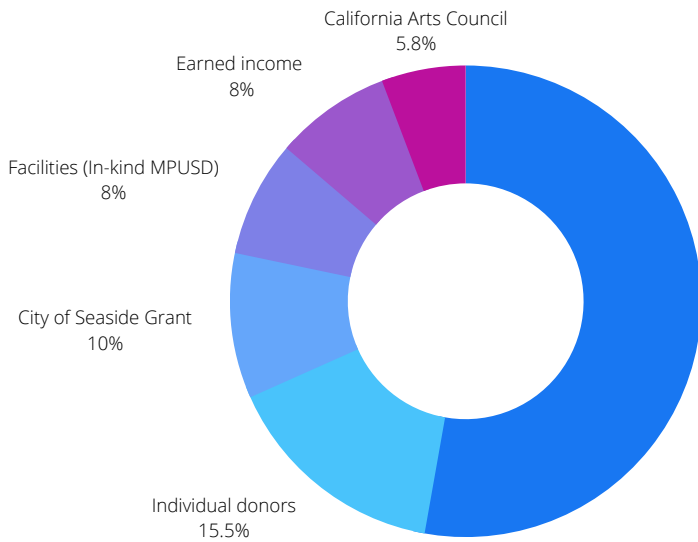




2022-23 FINANCIALS

ANNUAL TOTAL REVENUE: \$492,500.31

ANNUAL TOTAL EXPENSES: \$325,206.96



NET ORDINARY INCOME: \$167,293.35

2022-23 PROGRAM FUNDERS, SPONSORS & PARTNERS

2022-23 FUNDING PARTNERS

- City of Seaside**
- Wayfarer Foundation**
- David & Lucille Packard Foundation**
- California Arts Council**
- Community Foundation for Monterey County**
- Gumerlock Family Foundation**
- Posey Family Foundation**
- Nancy Buck Ransom Foundation**
- CLEO Foundation**
- Williamson Music Foundation**
- Arts Council for Monterey County**
- Monterey County Symphony**
- Monterey County Gives**
- Yellow Brick Road**

and over 200 individual donors!

Special thanks to our 2022-23 donors, funders, sponsors and partners for their commitment to helping us make multicultural arts accessible to all. Palenke Arts would not be where it is today without your help and support!

2022-23 EVENT SPONSORS

- Arts Council for Monterey County
- City of Seaside
- Monterey Peninsula Unified School District
- Union Bank
- Monterey Bay Aquarium
- Whites for Racial Equity
- Sustainable Seaside
- Artvash Construction
- Monterey Salinas Transit
- Mackey Mackey Insurance
- 1st Capital Bank
- Fremont Bank

IN-KIND PARTNERS

- City of Seaside
- Monterey Peninsula Unified School District
- Georis Winery
- Hidden Valley Music Seminars
- Watsonville Film Festival
- Chopstix Alley Art
- Voices of Monterey Bay
- The Epicenter

Ancestral echoes

Annual Palenke Arts Festival honors traditions past and present
By **Claudia Meléndez Salinas**

Many cultures across the world have revered ancestors as a spiritual practice, as a way to seek inspiration and develop strength in times of strife. After all, our ancestors somehow managed to survive long enough to bring us into this earth and teach us what we know about feeding ourselves, about loving our brethren and making life joyful, in spite of its daily disappointments. We are here because they taught us how to deal with all of that.



No doubt, our post-pandemic world is very much in need of ancestral wisdom, and in unique ways, the ancestors seem to be responding. They were very much present this past Sunday, during the 7th annual Palenke Arts Festival at Laguna Grande Park in Seaside. They arrived as soon as the event began at 11 am, with a ceremony by Calpulli Tonaleque, a Mexica dance troupe hailing from San José that always dedicates the first dance to the ancient ones.

Maestro Acahui, the group's drummer, invoked the original peoples of this land, the Ohlone Costanoan Esselen nation, for permission to perform a ceremony. No representatives were around to say yay or nay, but the land acknowledgment that has become customary at many gatherings throughout the United States is a good reminder that this country's colonizer past remains pretty much present.

Maestro Acahui described for the audience how Calpulli Tonaleque's first dance is not altered and has been passed on for hundreds of years to the next generation of dancers. Ancestral wisdom was also present in the form of copal burning, headdresses and the traditional drum called huehuetl, used by the ancient Mexica during ceremonies and gatherings not unlike the one that took place at Laguna Grande.

But the whole point of finding wisdom in the past is to make the present more bearable, and that's exactly what happens during Palenke festivals. Executive director Juan Sánchez is adept at combining student performances — those cute folklórico dancers melt your heart — with vibrant professional sounds that push you into the dance floor. At first, there may be only one or two brave children floating wildly across the wooden floor, but eventually there's dozens of people joining in.

Hula dancing was a religious practice in the old days, and that's how it began for Nā Haumāna, a Polynesian dance group based in Marina performing at Palenke for the first time. Founded in 2018 and directed now by Louella Sumler, the group adheres to "Ohana," the ancient Hawaiian concept of family that includes everyone in your community, not just blood relatives. It's an inclusive way of looking at the world that, not surprisingly, has been passed on for generations in the Pacific Islands. Before heading to the stage, behind the table where the Palenke moms were serving coffee, donuts, pasta and aguas frescas, members of the Nā Haumāna family gathered in a circle, heads bowed and holding hands, no doubt seeking inspiration and strength from each other and the power of performing together.

That's likely the story behind every group in front of the 300 souls gathered at Laguna Grande Park: whether professional or amateur, young or on the mature side, each performer got on stage with a smile on their face and a joie de vivre that spilled into the audience. With a little help from Herbie Hancock, Lorenzo Barcelata, Jorge Ben, and Lin-Manuel Miranda among others, musicians and singers managed to create a bit of community and leave daily troubles behind, since art is good at both tasks.

If there was any doubt that some powerful medicine was being spread throughout the festival, when SambaDá came onto the stage, lead singer Dandha Da Hora put the doubt to rest. Towards the end of the group's set, Da Hora asked accomplished pianist Tammy Hall to join the band. Hall just seemed to be enjoying an afternoon out with family, and did not seem she had any intention to perform, but Da Hora was full of praise for the pianist.

"You guys are so lucky, we are all so lucky" to have the acclaimed Hall among the audience, Da Hora kept telling the audience. Also in the crowd was Hall's performance partner, mezzo-soprano Leberta Lorál, who, after some cajoling, grabbed the microphone to sing "Come Sunday" by Duke Ellington. The ancestors' path coming full circle.

Speaking of circles, Sunday was the third time I was asked to emcee for Palenke's annual festival. The energy and love being spread by board members, volunteers, cooks, hairdressers, make-up artists and Sánchez himself is something to behold. If you're going to be included in a circle, this should be strongly considered.

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