



classics 4 kids  
EST. 1994



# *Danza Cubana*

*featuring:*

**The Classics Philharmonic Orchestra**  
**Dana Zimbric, Artistic Director & Conductor**

**Sabrosas Latin Orchestra**

**Juan Carlos Blanco**  
**Omo Aché Cuban Cultural Arts**  
**Center for World Music**



**March 2024**





# Concert Information:

## WHO:

**Classics Philharmonic Orchestra**

**Dana Zimbric, Conductor**

**[www.classics4kids.org](http://www.classics4kids.org)**

**Sabrosas Latin Orchestra**

**Omo Aché Cuban Cultural Arts - Juan Carlos Blanco, Director**

## WHAT:

**A concert of Afro-Cuban inspired traditional,  
classical and pop music, with live music and dance.**

*The concert duration is approximately 50 minutes.*

## WHEN:

**Tuesday, March 5, 2024**

**at 9:45am and 11:45am**

Kroc Theatre

6611 University Avenue

San Diego, CA 92115

**Friday, March 8, 2024**

**at 9:45am and 11:45am**

Balboa Theatre

868 4th Avenue

San Diego, CA 92101

Questions? Contact: Kiran Shelat, Executive Director  
619-231-2311 or [kshelat@classics4kids.org](mailto:kshelat@classics4kids.org)

# M.U.S.I.C.

## Concert Behavior

*Thank  
you*

**"M"**

Mind your Manners -  
be polite & respectful.



**"U"**

Use your best  
citizenship skills.



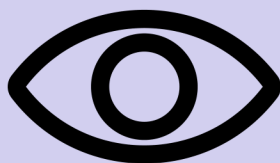
**"S"**

Stay in your Seat.



**"I"**

"Eyes" and ears focus  
on the show.



**"C"**

Clap to show  
appreciation.



Thank you for taking time in class to review student behavior expectations prior to the concert field trip. Classics 4 Kids strives to design concert experiences that are engaging and fun.

While at Classics 4 Kids concerts, students are expected to be:

- Respectful to all others in the theater.
  - This includes other students, teachers, volunteers, musicians, staff, etc.
- Quiet, active listeners during music performance and talking from the stage.
- Actively engaged when prompted from the stage.
- Appreciative audience members who clap to show their appreciation.

# Danza Cubana

## Educational Packet Overview

---

Lesson 1: The Instruments



Lesson 2: Afro-Cuban Percussion



Lesson 3: Cervantes, *Danza*, & Habanera



Lesson 4: Marquez *Danzon* & Clave



Lesson 5: Dance the Salsa!



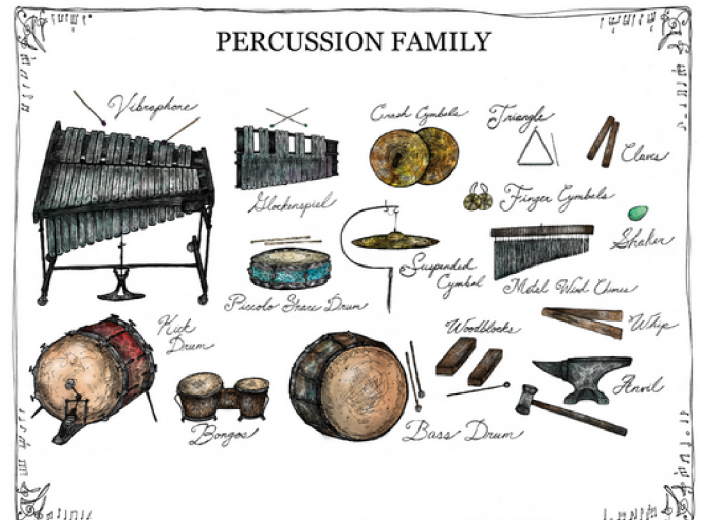
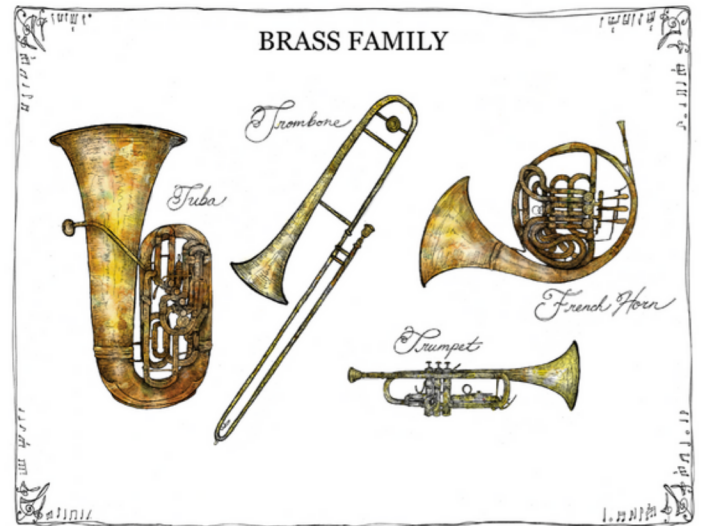
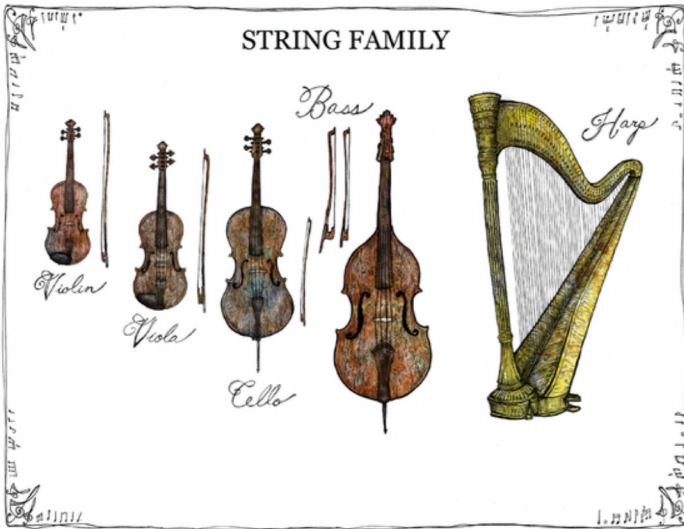
Lesson 6: Cuban Music Stars





# 1

## The Instruments of the Orchestra

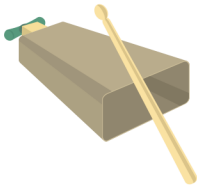


# 2

## Afro-Cuban Percussion



Shekere



Cowbell



Bongo Drums



Conga Drums

**Practice Afro-Cuban Rhythms**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=flZyy9bavgM>



## *Cuban Dances*

by Ignazio Cervantes



"The Ha-ba-ne-ra"

Ignacio Cervantes (1847 - 1905) was a renowned Cuban pianist and composer, celebrated in Cuba and Latin America but relatively unknown in the United States. He is best known for blending Creole and Cuban musical influences, creating a unique style. Cervantes composed a variety of works, including piano pieces, a symphony, operettas, an opera, and chamber music.

One of his notable contributions is the Cuban danza, a dance form expressed through music. Typically in a symmetrical binary form, these dances are characterized by two strains of 16 measures, often with repeated sections and syncopation. Cervantes' famous danza, *Invitacion*, is recognized for its shift from a brooding e-minor to an optimistic E-major. Another piece, *No llores mas*, depicts a domestic scene with a crying child comforted by a mother, showcasing Cervantes' expressive style.

*Invitacion* has a repeated rhythm based on the habanera. The syncopated rhythm is **short, long, short, long, long**. You can say the syllables of "the ha-ba-ner-a" in rhythm, or tap. See the chart on the next page to understand how the rhythm repeats throughout the parts of the music.

This music was originally written for solo piano. Classics 4 Kids will play an arrangement for orchestra.

# Listen and Tap “the habanera” rhythm to *Invitation* by Cervantes

*Part 1: follow the boxes from left to right, then down by rows*

The Ha-ba-ne-ra	The Ha-ba-ne-ra	The Ha-ba-ne-ra	The Ha-ba-ne-ra
The Ha-ba-ne-ra	The Ha-ba-ne-ra	The Ha-ba-ne-ra	The Ha-ba-ne-ra
The Ha-ba-ne-ra	The Ha-ba-ne-ra	The Ha-ba-ne-ra	The Ha-ba-ne-ra
The Ha-ba-ne-ra	The Ha-ba-ne-ra	one two	one two

*Part 2: follow the boxes from left to right, then down by rows*

one two	The Ha-ba-ne-ra	one two	The Ha-ba-ne-ra
one two	The Ha-ba-ne-ra	one two	one two
The Ha-ba-ne-ra	The Ha-ba-ne-ra	The Ha-ba-ne-ra	The Ha-ba-ne-ra
The Ha-ba-ne-ra	one two	one two	ONE

Listen here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8VAZBVMtZgw>



Clave Rhythm pattern:

1-2 1-2-3

1-2 1-2-3

## Danzon No. 2

by Arturo Marquez

*Danzón No. 2*, composed by Arturo Márquez, is a popular contemporary Mexican classical piece for orchestra.

The piece gained global acclaim when performed by the Simón Bolívar Youth Orchestra of Venezuela during their 2007 European and American tour under Gustavo Dudamel.

Commissioned by the National Autonomous University of Mexico, *Danzón No. 2* premiered in 1994 in Mexico City. Written for a full orchestra, it features solos for various instruments

The composition reflects the danzón dance style rooted in Cuban origins and vital to the folklore of the Mexican state of Veracruz. The music draws rhythmic interest from varied accents and tempos. Marquez' music was inspired by ballroom dancers from Veracruz.

The piece starts with a special repeated rhythm by the clave percussion instrument. The rhythm is counted in two slower beats, and then three faster beats.

**Listen here:**

**[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v= 1ynC1RB3kY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1ynC1RB3kY)**



# Dance the Salsa

A special type of Latin American dance and music is called the *salsa*. Salsa music borrows much from the Cuban music genre of *son*. Through the musicians' use of percussion instruments such as the clave, maracas, conga, bongo, cowbell, and others—the instruments and the singers often mimic the call-and-response patterns of traditional African songs and then break into the chorus.

Salsa dance is a type of dance that is used to accompany salsa music.

You can watch the video link below and follow along to learn the basic *salsa* dance steps.

**<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NZAE6EN8oGk>**

## **Basic *salsa* dance steps:**

1. Start with your feet together. Step forward with your right foot, rock back on your left foot, and then bring your right foot back together with your left foot (on counts 1 & 2).
2. Step back with your left foot, rock forward on your right foot, and then bring your left foot back with your right foot (on counts 3 & 4).
3. Step to the side with your right foot, step in place with your left foot, then bring your right foot back to the center (on counts 5 & 6).
4. Step to the side with your left foot. Step in place with your right foot, then bring your left foot back to the center (on counts 7 and 8).







# Cuban Music Stars

**Celia Cruz** (1925-2003), a Cuban American singer, captivated audiences with her soulful voice and rhythmic style. Recognized as the "Queen of Salsa," she became a symbol of the genre, blending Afro-Cuban and Caribbean influences in her music.



C4K Concert with Sabrosas Latin Orchestra will perform music by two Cuban-American music stars: Celia Cruz and Gloria Estefan.

- *Quimbara* (Cruz)
- *La vida es un Carnaval* (Cruz)
- *Conga* (Estefan)



**Gloria Estefan**, born on September 1, 1957, is a Cuban-American singer, actress, and businesswoman. With eight Grammy Awards and a Presidential Medal of Freedom, she is acclaimed as one of the Top 100 greatest artists by VH1 and Billboard. Estefan's record sales exceed 100 million worldwide, making her one of the best-selling female singers. Her hits, like "Conga," "1-2-3," "Don't Wanna Lose You," and "Rhythm Is Gonna Get You," topped international charts. Credited with breaking barriers for Latin musicians, Estefan opened doors for artists such as Selena, Jon Secada, Shakira, and Ricky Martin.



# *Guest Artists*

Established in 2019, Sabrosas Latin Orchestra, a 501(c)(3) organization, is proud to be the first all-female salsa band in San Diego. The talented musicians of Sabrosas infuse high energy into a variety of Latin styles including salsa, cumbia, and cha cha. Sabrosas Latin Orchestra has performed at the Belly Up, Rock N Roll Marathon, NAMM, the Carlsbad TGIF Concerts In the Park Series, live on KUSI and CBS 8, and on the stages of numerous festivals.

Sabrosas Latin Orchestra seeks to bring the joy of music and dance to people of all ages and backgrounds and to encourage women to grow their talents in music for generations to come.







## Guest Artists

Juan Carlos Blanco was born and raised in Havana, Cuba, where he performed with several professional companies for over 15 years before coming to the U.S. In his youth, he began his performance career with the folkloric arts groups Cumballe and Oba Ilú in his hometown of Guanabacoa, a community of Havana known for its rich Afro-Cuban cultural traditions. He later joined one of Cuba's most renowned folkloric companies, Raices Profundas (Deep Roots), soon becoming lead male dancer and soloist and touring Latin America and Asia.

Juan Carlos Blanco is the Artistic Director for Omo Aché Cuban Cultural Arts. Classics 4 Kids welcomes Juan Carlos and Omo Aché dancers to our concerts.





classics 4 kids  
EST. 1994

**Classics 4 Kids** is a San Diego-based 501(c) 3 non-profit providing critical music education through professional orchestra concerts, in-school workshops, virtual learning and community events designed for elementary students.

Classics 4 Kids is dedicated to inspiring children through the experience of music, generating creativity, academic success and cultural understanding.

Classics 4 Kids programs are open to all students, teachers and families regardless of socio-economic status although we prioritize outreach to low-income and disadvantaged youth.

The Classics Philharmonic Orchestra is comprised of professional musicians who are members of Local 325, Musician's Association of San Diego County. Conductor Dana Zimbric is the Artistic Director and Conductor.

**[www.classics4kids.org](http://www.classics4kids.org)**

