

RAICES DE MEXICO



Raices de Mexico, Inc.
Mexican Regional Dance Troupe
P.O. Box 5010
Palo Alto CA 94303
(415) 322-1501

Raices de Mexico is not City nor County funded, it relies mostly on performance income, member tuitions, and community contributions. All and any donations made to Raices de Mexico are greatly appreciated and are tax deductible. We are always scouting for new members and for interested parties to join our Board of Directors to help build a strong grassroots cultural organization.

"FIESTA MEXICANA"
Corte Madera School, Portola Valley
20 May 1993

JALISCO

Jalisco borders the Pacific Ocean and is a state in south-western Mexico. It is the third most populous Mexican state. Jalisco is the place of origin of mariachi music, the beverage "tequila" (named for a local town) and the "charro" costume (tight fitting pants, a short jacket and a wide hat). Much of its manufacturing is concentrated in the capital and largest city, Guadalajara. Many of the dances of Jalisco are courtship, in which the man chases the woman until he catches her and all ends with a kiss behind his sombrero.

JARABE TAPATIO
CARRETERO
LA NEGRA

YUCATAN

At the northern end of the Yucatan Peninsula of the Mexican Republic is the State of Yucatan, whose coastline is on the Gulf of Mexico. Except for a range of hills along the southwestern border, Yucatan consists of a sparsely inhabited plain formed of a chalky crustacean deposit. Rainfall is limited and occurs from May to Sept. Most of the population is Maya, and 40% of the population lives in Merida, the capital city. The chief source of wealth is henequen from which sisal hemp is obtained.

FIESTA DEL PUEBLO
FIESTA PRIMAVERAL

NUEVO LEON

In the northwest of the Mexican Republic is the State of Nuevo Leon. The state capital, Monterrey, is the third largest city in Mexico. Neighboring with the United States' southern borders, a lot of "cowboy" influences are seen in the dances and costumes of this northern area. Over 75% of Mexico's iron and steel are turned out here along with many other products which contribute to the industrial smog. The style of dance termed "Norteno" was thought to have originated from the German and Czech settlers who lived along the Mexican-American border in the late 19th century. They brought with them polka music, played on the accordion, bass, bajo sexto (12-string guitar) and a wooden block called a redova.

EVANGELINA

NAYARIT

A State of the Mexican Republic which lies along the Pacific Coast in west-central Mexico. The Sierra of Nayarit, part of the Sierra Madre Occidental, crosses the state from north-west to southeast, making the eastern portion a mountainous region of forested lopes and valleys. The western sections along the coast are tropical agricultural regions, producing cotton, sugar, coffee, palm oil and decorative woods. The Capital is Tepic. This is the home of the Huichol and Cora Indians. Its neighbor to the South is Jalisco, therefore many similarities in the costumes and dance steps.

JARABE NAYARITA

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RAICES DE MEXICO is a non-profit educational corporation dedicated to the instruction and performance of Mexican regional dance. Based in East Palo Alto since 1980, Raices de Mexico is the only organization of its kind in San Mateo County. The childrens' and adults' ensemble, as well, perform for inaugurations, fund raisers, school programs, civic affairs, independence celebrations etc.

RAICES DE MEXICO sincerely thanks the following donors for their support, in part, which has made it possible for this organization to continue to serve the community as it has:

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A special thanks is extended to you the audience for having invited us to participate in your Cinco de Mayo celebration.

GRACIAS!