

## Course Content - Latin American and Caribbean Music

### History

- Latin music was born from a mix of three groups of people who came together in one place - Europeans, enslaved Africans and the Indigenous people. Indigenous people are the first people to live in a particular place.
- Music was a good way for these three very different musical cultures to try to understand each other. They shared different instruments, musical styles and dances to tell their stories.
- The Spanish had their string instruments like the Spanish Guitar.
- Indigenous people, like the Maya and Incas, were using percussion and wind instruments.
- The enslaved Africans brought drums, rhythms, and beats.
- Latin American music is made for dancing!

### Music of Mexico and Fun Fact

- Mariachi music comes from Mexico and celebrates the joys, struggles and achievements of the Mexican people
- Mariachi Instruments: violin, guitar, harp, trumpet, vihuela and guitarrón
- Ranchera is a type of music from Mexico that celebrates the ranching lifestyle
- Ranchera instruments: violin, guitar, harp, trumpet, vihuela, guitarrón, saxophone, snare drum, harmonica, electric guitar and synthesizer
- Vicente Fernandez is considered a National Hero of Mexico, he is a Ranchera singer
- The Day of the Dead, or Dia de Muertos, is a Mexican holiday that celebrates the lives of loved ones who have passed away.

### Music in Life Lesson

The Music in Life lesson is a moment to engage in active listening. The Music in Life lesson song for this course is " Oye Cómo Va" played by Santana, it is a classic song written by Tito Puente in the Cha Cha Cha style. Students are invited to think about how the music makes them feel, think and move. Music is an individual experience; active listening encourages students to choose their own musical path.

### Music of Cuba, Jamaica, and the Dominican Republic

- The music genres highlighted from Cuba are Mambo and Cha Cha Cha
- Instruments of Mambo: trumpet, saxophone, double bass, maracas, cowbell, congas and bongos
- Reggae is a feel-good genre from Jamaica
- Bob Marley, whose music speaks of peace and social justice, brought Reggae to the world
- Instruments of Reggae: lead guitar, rhythm guitar, drums, bass, keyboards and vocals
- Merengue and Bachata are the highlighted genres from the Dominican Republic. They are similar but Merengue is faster and Bachata is slower

### Music of Puerto Rico, Trinidad & Tobago, Panama and Belize

- Puerto Rico brings us the sounds of Bomba, Plena and Reggaeton
- Instruments of Bomba and Plena: Tambores, Barril de Bomba, Subidor and Buleador
- The highlighted genres from Trinidad & Tobago are Calypso and Soca
- Instruments of Calypso and Soca: Steelpan drum, marimba, horns, shaker, guitar and vocals
- Tamborito is the genre highlighted from Panama
- Tamborito is a style of music and a dance. It is sung and danced to celebrate love, life and work
- The musical style of Brukdown comes from Belize
- A Donkey's Jawbone is an unusual instrument that is played in Brukdown music. It is played by running a stick up and down the teeth