



FLAMENCO VIVO CARLOTA SANTANA

Residency Activities

Company members are available to engage with Spanish Language and Study Abroad students. Please note that residency fees may vary.

Lecture/Demonstration

- Audience: Suitable for Grades K-12 (A study guide is available)
- Number of Participants: 500
- Length: 45 minutes plus a 10-15 minute post-performance Q&A.
- Technical Requirements:
 - Wooden floor
 - 4-5 armless straight-back chairs
 - 3 microphones (Prefer 2 on boom stands upstage, 1 on straight-stand downstage right)
- No. of Performers: 4-5 members of the Company

Note: This program blends live performance with commentary, demonstrations, and audience participation and can be tailored to the specific needs of your school. (Children's and School Performances involving pure performance are recommended only for grades 4-and up and are described below).

Flamenco Vivo's lecture demonstration is a wonderful blend of entertainment and education. The artists in full, colorful, traditional flamenco costumes perform and explain the intricacies of flamenco dance, song, and its cultural history. Audience participation is an enjoyable part of the program.

The program typically begins* with the **Sevillanas**, a folk dance from performed with castanets. After the dance, the history and technique employed in using the castanets (**castañuelas**) is explained. The audience has an opportunity to see what it is like to play castanets from their seats as they follow the artists in a fun exercise.

The next dance is the **Alegrias**, a dance of happiness. The dancer explains the structure of the dance, the meaning of the name and the song that accompanies it.

Listening to the Flamenco singer can be a strange experience - like hearing opera music for the first time. The audience is asked to pay attention to this new sound and listen for the Arabic and Judaic influences on the Flamenco song. The artists can also explain and demonstrate the use of the **palmas** or hand claps. Another activity might include the audience learning some rhythmic patterns commonly used in flamenco and a short rhythmic song.

A third dance, the **Soleares**, is the most profound and serious of the Flamenco dances. It is the dance of loneliness. Before it is performed, the **taconeo** or footwork is demonstrated and explained. The audience should try to observe the mood and emotional expression of the dancer and how it differs from the other dances.

The Flamenco guitar, an acoustic instrument, is demonstrated to the audience. During this presentation, the differences between this instrument and the electric guitar are highlighted.

The program concludes with the **Rumba Flamenca**, a dance that has been influenced by the cultures of Cuba, Santo Domingo, Puerto Rico, and Colombia. The Spanish sailors from the time of Columbus traveled to these places and brought back the influences that were mixed with Spanish melodies to create the **Rumba Flamenca**.

The objectives of this program are: to show the origins of the flamenco dance, song and music; to demonstrate and relate the relationships between Spain and the Latin American cultures; and present a high quality, entertaining multilingual program.

*This is a sample program order. Question and Answer periods are offered at the end of the program.

Masterclass

- Audience: Available for Senior Citizens, Dance Students or the General Public
- Number of Participants: 35 maximum
- Length: 75 minutes
- Technical Requirements:
 - CD player & extension cord, or iPod hookup
 - Room large enough for everyone to move around:
(Should be at least 20 x 20 with a non-slippery wood floor)
 - [For Seniors, a chair for every participant, against the wall]
- No. of Performers: 1 dancer leads the master class

Flamenco Vivo/Carlota Santana offers classes that range from beginner to advanced levels. All classes increase the participant's awareness and understanding of flamenco dance and its cultural heritage. The classes include a brief history of the origins of flamenco dance, music and song and how the various cultures that inhabited Spain have influenced flamenco.

This is a hands-on workshop with instruction in rhythmic handclaps (*palmas*), arm movements (*braceo*), body posturing (*marcaje*), and footwork (*taconeo*). The class is supportive and fun, and flamenco technique is woven into a short choreography. By the end of the class the participants will be able to "perform" a simple choreographed dance.

Education Performance

- Audience: Suitable for Grades 4-12 (A study guide is available)
- Length: 45-50 minutes (10 minute post-performance Q&A can be scheduled)
- Technical Requirements: Must have full performance tech at theater. Cannot be taken off location.
- No. of Performers: 5-8 members of the Company

Note: This is a pure performance without explanation or audience participation. (Lecture Demonstrations involving audience interaction are described above and are available for schools with grades K-12).

This dynamic program highlights the rhythms and emotions of flamenco. Flamenco began in Southern Spain, in the towns of Seville, Cordoba, and Granada. We bring the essence of the different cultures that influenced flamenco: Andalusian, Gypsy, North African, Arabic and Judaic, to our educational programs.

During the program, students listen to the guitarra (guitar) and cante (song) as they watch several types of flamenco dances being performed. Flamenco dancers also add to the music and rhythms with *castañuelas* (castanets) as well as with *taconeo* (footwork), and *palmas* (rhythmic hand claps).

The performance setting is frequently a traditional **Tablao Flamenco**. The dancers and the musicians sit in a semi-circle cheering each other on with *jaleo* (shouts of encouragement) and *palmas* (rhythmic hand claps). Each artist performs in friendly competition to show the audience their uniqueness. The dancers demonstrate their own unique style either in the way they move their arms, how they create rhythm with their feet or how they display their feelings. The program consists of a series of solos, duets and company numbers. Unlike other art forms, the dances do not tell stories but instead portray feelings. The program includes **Alegrías**, a dance of happiness and **Soleares**, derived from the word **soledad** which means loneliness.

