### Show:
- Ballet Hispánico

### Art Form:
- A journey through Latin American dance and music

### Context:
- Ballet Hispánico was founded by Tina Ramirez in 1970. Today it is led by Artistic Director Eduardo Vilaro, who was a dancer with the company back in 1985.
- Their performances focus on celebrating Latin music and culture, mixing traditional cultural styles with contemporary and classical dance.

### Main Concepts:
- Some Latin styles you may see demonstrated or alluded to in this presentation:
  - Flamenco (from Spain). This dance style is over 200 years old and frequently uses the body as percussion — for example, with foot-stamping, hand-clapping, and finger-snapping.
  - Salsa (from Cuba and Puerto Rico). When salsa dancing took off in the 1970s in New York, it was a combination of influence of Cuban and Puerto Rican dances. Many Latin countries now have their own version!
  - Reggaetón (from Puerto Rico). This musical style from the 1990s is all about the bass and the heavy beat. It’s still popular today — “Despacito” was heavily influenced by reggaetón!

### Special Things to Look For:
- Ballet Hispánico features music and dance styles from many different countries. Keep track of how many different countries get mentioned and find them on a map later!
- See if you can identify the elements of dance and how they are used differently for each piece.
  - **Body** — Who moves. Dancers may isolate their body parts and move only shoulders or only feet and legs. They may twist their bodies into unusual shapes.
  - **Action** — What their movements are. Actions are verbs like “stretch,” “bend,” “fall,” “slide,” and “jump.”
    - Can you name six verbs you saw the dancers do? (Be specific, don’t just say “dance”!)
  - **Space** — Where they move. They may take up the whole stage or just a tiny piece of it. They may come forward toward the audience or move to the sides. They may stand very close to each other or very far away.
  - **Time** — When they move. Dancers may move quickly or slowly, all at once or one at a time. The music plays a big part in this too!
  - **Energy** — How they move. A dancer’s energy often conveys emotion. Their energy may be heavy or light, smooth or choppy, chaotic or controlled.

### Theater Etiquette:
- Respect the theater, limit bathroom breaks, one person to a seat, do not kick the seats, no food or drink in the theater (bottled water okay), no audio, video recording or photography and remember to turn off cell phones/no texting (students and adults).
- How is watching live theater different than watching a movie or TV?
  - Can’t pause, rewind, or fast forward with live theater. Every sound students make and moving around can affect the performers and other members of the audience.

Show info: Ballet Hispánico ● Monday, March 2, 2020 ● 9:30am ● Grades 5-12