

Paquimé dancers celebrate culture

Written by Holyoke Enterprise



Since 1997, Holyoke's Paquimé Folkloric Dance Group has been amazing audiences with brightly colored costumes and elaborate dances, and their performance Thursday, July 30 was no exception.

Under the instruction of Alma Nuñez, the group celebrates diversity, individual ideals, culture and values while having fun learning traditional Mexican dances.

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Before the performance, audience members enjoyed an authentic Mexican meal. The first half of the program included a wide range of traditional dances from several Mexican states. In the second half, dancers performed modern routines.

Miranda Morales, Tamara Penzing, Jimena Nuñez, Andrea Marquez, Eva Penzing and Alma Nuñez kicked off the evening with a performance to “El Huateque” and “La Bamba” representing Veracruz.

From the state of Tamaulipas, a traditional dance to “El Tamaulipeco” was performed by Brenda Hernandez and Janel Rodriguez.

Eva Penzing and Alma Nuñez entertained audience members with a Chihuahua polka.

Karen Nuñez, Lauren Bergner and Citlali Marquez then showed off their Guerrero dance set to “El Palomo.”

Juana Penzing, Dominique Penzing, Kaitlyn Shafer and Anna Jelden took the stage next representing Baja California Norte.

Traditional dances were concluded with the Sinaloa dance to “Lola” performed by Brenda Hernandez, Janel Rodriguez and Eva Penzing.

In the modern portion of the program, Miranda Morales, Tamara Penzing, Jimena Nuñez, Andrea Marquez and Alma Nuñez took the audience back in time to oldies and poodle skirts with their dance to “El Patio De Mi Casa.”

Karen Nuñez, Lauren Bergner and Citlali Marquez danced to “Anticipating” while Juana Penzing, Dominique Penzing, Kaitlyn Shafer and Anna Jelden performed “Run the Show.”

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A dance to “Con Los Ojos Cerrados” was performed by Brenda Hernandez, Janel Rodriguez and Eva Penzing.

Complete with elaborate dresses swirling to the music, Karen Nuñez, Sonia Nuñez, Veronica Nuñez and Alma Nuñez ended the show with “La Culebra” and “El Mariachi.”