



COLOMBIAN FOLKLORIC BALLET  
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## NEWS RELEASE

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### ***THE COLOMBIAN FOLKLORIC BALLET TAKES THE STAGE AT THE 2017 MEMPHIS IN MAY FESTIVAL***

The Colombian Folkloric Ballet has been invited to participate in the 2017 Memphis in May Festival, where the beautiful country of Colombia is being honored. Saturday, May 13th, the Colombian Folkloric Ballet will perform at Overton Park - Latino Memphis stage. In addition, the company will greet guests and perform for Viva Colombia, the festival's international gala to take place on May 12th at the Peabody Hotel honoring his Excellency Juan Carlos Pinzon, Ambassador of Colombia to the United States. Finally, during the week of 15<sup>th</sup> The Colombian Folkloric Ballet will conduct music and dance workshops at the Shelby County Consolidate Schools as part of an educational outreach program.

Every year the Festival ([www.memphisinmay.org](http://www.memphisinmay.org)) recognizes a different country and is saluting Colombia in 2017. The International Week is dedicated to a country and showcases the foods and culture of that nation. While International Week provides a learning experience for the community at large, the core is a comprehensive educational program for area youth in public and private schools throughout Memphis and Shelby County. The goal of International Week is for area students; by the time they graduate from high school, to have had the opportunity to experience the customs and cultures of 12 different countries. Perhaps most important are the trade delegates that visit Memphis and have introductions to suitable, high-level trade partners.

At the Festival, the Colombian Folkloric Ballet will perform excerpts of MI COLOMBIA. This show, an artistic rendition of Gabriel Garcia Marquez's novels, transports the spectator through a journey where Colombia's five folkloric regions of rich traditions, exciting dance, evocative music, and colorful costumes are reflected. Inspired by history, traditions, legends, and facts, come and take the ride through this unforgettable landscape!

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The Colombian Folkloric Ballet® (CFB) ( [www.cfb-usa.org](http://www.cfb-usa.org) ) is non-profit tax-exempt organization that has established a free professional level instruction and training center in Houston. Special emphasis is placed on training youth with positive and culturally affirming activities. The CFB promotes Colombian-American cultural exchange by spreading the Colombian culture through its educational, performing and producing activities including, among others, the presentation of the sold-out musical “*Mi Colombia*” in renowned auditoriums of major American cities. The CFB is distinguished by its exceptionally talented dancers and the emphasis on acquiring and commissioning new pieces by the world’s most sought-after Colombian choreographers.

The CFB was formed in 1983 by the Honorable Eberto “Tiko” Amador, then Consul of Colombia in Houston. Through education and performance of Colombian dance and music, CFB's mission is to create an open forum of cultural exchange and dispel the myths and misconceptions that surround the image of Colombia. The CFB has been operating in Houston for the past thirty three years. It provides training in folkloric, classical ballet, and modern dance. In addition to its regular cultural and educational programs, the CFB has granted college tuition scholarships for the professional advancement of Hispanic students of the Houston area.

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