



Grupo Folklórico Miztontli

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Grupo Folklórico Miztontli is a student-run group that celebrates diversity at the University of Arizona and enriches multicultural understanding by teaching and promoting Mexican traditions and culture through folklórico dance awareness. Miztontli represents and shows what Mexican culture has to offer as a fine art as well as for the overall wellbeing and growth of a person through a network of mutual support, dance instruction, and performances throughout the greater Tucson community.

Started by Denise T. Garcia in the fall of 2006, Grupo Folklórico Miztontli is also the first and only folklórico student dance group at the University of Arizona. “Miztontli” is a word of Nahuatl origin that translates to “puma” or “cat”, which is the closest thing in that language to “Wildcat”. Performance-wise, the group’s opening show took place in May 2007 at the UA Chicano/Hispano Graduation Convocation, an event in which we have participated ever since. Some of the group’s biggest performances include:

- The University of Arizona Hispanic Heritage Day Collegiate Athletics Football Game Halftime Show (since 2009)
- The University of Arizona Bookstores Día de los Muertos event (2009-2012)
- International Day at the International School of Tucson (since 2010)
- Tucson Meet Yourself Festival (since 2011)
- Annual WMAT Tribal Fair, Parade, and Night Performance (2011, 2014, 2017, 2018)
- 1st Annual National Folklórico Festival of Huayacocotla in Veracruz, Mexico (2018)
- The Tucson Botanical Garden’s Feast with the Dearly Departed (since 2018)
- The Miztontli Annual Showcase (since 2017)

Grupo Folklórico Miztontli has also performed at private events such as events for the Sahuaro Girl Scouts of Southern Arizona, Tucson Medical Center, El Pueblo Senior Center, K-12 schools and community events, UA International Student Services office and for multiple university organizations and departments.



“We are not just Wildcats, we are Miztontli!”