



Facts

2021-2022 Season

Living Legends

Performing Arts Management
801-422-3576 | pam.byu.edu

- Celebrating the native cultural heritage of North and South America and the South Pacific, Living Legends presents a vibrant spectacle of energy, music, costume and dance. Its full program lasts 90 minutes.
- Organized in 1971, the troupe specializes in performing for its own native people, in an effort to encourage excellence in achievement, inspire a love of the members' native lands and develop a pride in their heritage.
- The group consists of 38 members, including performers and a skilled technical crew. Cast members come from the United States, Canada, South and Central America and the Pacific Islands. All cast members are of Latin American, Native American or Polynesian heritage and are selected after a rigorous audition process. In addition, members are pursuing college degrees in a variety of subjects.
- Many of the group's authentic native costumes are made in the portrayed region. Group members and guest choreographers from around the world create the traditional songs and dances.
- In the summer of 2019, Living Legends toured Brasil and China.
- Living Legends took their show to Germany in the spring of 2018, with 8 performances across 13 cities.
- In 2016, Living Legends toured the South Pacific. They New Zealand, Tonga and Samoa, the ancestral homelands to many of the students. Some student's even visited their family members that still live in the South Pacific.
- In 2015, Living Legends toured New Mexico, Texas, Montana, Canada, and Alaska. Their Canadian and Alaskan tour made a successful outreach program to grade and high school kids, in which they exchanged knowledge about the Native American culture.
- In 2014, Living Legends traveled to Northern California and Nevada, and also spent two weeks during the summer in Nauvoo, Illinois. The performers shared their dances with old and young alike at care centers, parks and outdoor gazebos, in addition to 11 staged performances.
- During the spring of 2013, Living Legends toured Central America, visiting Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. The group performed for over 13,000 people and participated in four community outreaches.
- From January to February of 2012, Living Legends traveled to Southern California. They delighted audiences in Irvine, Riverside, Claremont, Oxnard and Escondido. The team performed five times in seven days, as well as an outreach program at Sherman Indian High School.

- In May of 2011, Living Legends performed in Russia. The group represented BYU with performances at the Stroitel Palace of Culture and Chelyabinsk Ballet House in Russia. Through a broadcast of their performance in Yekaterinburg, the group reached an audience of approximately 2 million viewers. They also performed in seven cities throughout the country.
- Living Legends participated in the Opening Ceremonies of the Olympics in Salt Lake City in February 2002. They also performed for Olympic visitors in Light of the World, a production that showcased several BYU groups.
- Jaime Kalama Wood is the new artistic director for Living Legends, starting August 2019. She has extensive directing, performing and teaching experience and is excited to continue the legacy of Living Legends.

Artist Manager
Justin T. Smith
801-422-3573
justin_smith@byu.edu

Performing Arts Management
306 Hinckley Center
Provo, UT
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perform@byu.edu
pam.byu.edu

Living Legends
originates in the Department of Dance
of the College of Fine Arts and
Communications, at Brigham Young
University in Provo, Utah.