BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY PRESENTS

Living Legends

STORYTELLERS
Prologue

**CHOREOGRAPHER:** Jamie Kalama Wood  
**MUSIC:** Storytellers Prologue by Sam Cardon

### Eagle

The eagle, which flies highest and nearest to our Creator, is sacred to natives of North America. Embodying strength, courage, and wisdom, the eagle shows us that we have the ability to develop the same qualities. This Eagle dance honors the story of creation and beginning.

**ORIGIN:** North America  
**CHOREOGRAPHER:** Dusty Jansen & Bryan Jansen  
**MUSIC:** Eagle (traditional) and Honor Song by Sam Cardon

### Lullaby

The young parents prepare their child to hear the stories of the ancestors. A wise chief teaches that family, honor, work, and education are the keys to success and happiness.

**CHOREOGRAPHER:** Jamie Kalama Wood  
**MUSIC:** Go My Son Lullaby by Carnes Burson, Arlene Nofchissey Williams; Additional lyrics by Jamie Kalama Wood; Arranged by Sam Cardon
Samoa

**Samoan Suite: Sāsā and Fa’ataupati**

The spirit of the Samoan people is encapsulated in the anthem of Falealili, in an inspiring expression of pride, courage, unity, and love for the homeland—retold in the grace and beauty of the Siva. Delight in the intensity and passion of life is celebrated through the fast-paced movements of the Sāsā and the agile display of strength in the men's Fa’ataupati (Samoan Slap Dance).

**ORIGIN**: Samoa  
**CHOREOGRAPHERS**: Teancum Kaitoku, Noelani Apelu, Lea Taylor (Sāsā); Kade Apuna, Philip Conte (Fa’ataupati)  
**MUSIC**: Traditional Sāsā Drums (live); Fa’ataupati by Alpha Maiava & mixed by DJ Dorps

**San Juanito**

In the city of Otavalo, the community comes together each summer for the festival of San Juanito. As food and music fill the air, all celebrate and rejoice together.

**ORIGIN**: Ecuador  
**CHOREOGRAPHER**: Efrain Villalobos  
**MUSIC**: Tzini Tushuy and San Juanito by Ali Lema and Walter Arturo Juárez
Women's Fancy
The women’s Fancy dance tells the story of the powerful crow and the emergence of the butterfly as they learn to stretch their wings and fly. As they take flight, they begin a new direction in life.

**ORIGIN**: North America

**CHOREOGRAPHER**: Cheyanne Elton

**MUSIC**: *Hop to the Drop (Crow Hop)*; *The Ripper* by Northern Cree

Kahiko
This ancient Kahiko tells the story of Hi’iaka, the sister to the powerful fire goddess Pele. Hi’iaka is sent to discover Lohi’au, a man Pele has seen in her dreams. In her travels, Hi’iaka opens her eyes to the beauty of the world.

**ORIGIN**: Hawai’i

**CHOREOGRAPHER**: Cy Bridges

**MUSIC**: *Ka Huaka’i ’o Hi’iaka* (Traditional)
Grass and Sweethearts
As the men perform the Omaha Grass dance, the dancers imitate the movement of the tall, flowing, sweet grass—symbolizing the connection between humanity and nature. Their story is one of laying a pathway to keep others safe as they follow. Following the Grass Dance, Sweethearts Dance is a special event often found at Pow Wows. It reminds us that as we follow the path, we can find joy by traveling with others.

**ORIGIN:** North America (Plains)
**CHOREOGRAPHERS:** Naakaii Tsosie, Naataanii Tsosie, Cody Singer, and Cheyanne Elton
**MUSIC:** Grass Song by Grey Hawk Singers

El Pájaro Campana
El Pájaro Campana is the national bird of Paraguay, and its dance tells the story of liberty. In the mythology, Tupá (God) turned the bell tower of a Jesuit church into the white bird, whose sound resembles a bell. By following this bird, you will always know which way to go.

**ORIGIN:** Paraguay
**CHOREOGRAPHER:** Aileen Tamez
**MUSIC:** El Pájaro Campana by Damian Girett, Los Misioneros Paraguayos
Aparima, ‘Ote’a

Through ‘Ori Tahiti we share how we travel through life learning step-by-step. It is portrayed through our movements that as we work together in unity we are strengthened.

**ORIGIN:** Tahiti

**CHOREOGRAPHER:** Sage Purcell and Tallin Kaitoku

**MUSIC:** Tamari‘i No Tahiti by Clint Mariteragi; Tamure Moorea Lagon by O Tahiti E; Tauira’a by SefaDrums; and ‘Ote’a Heivari’i by Mahealani Uchiyama

Festejo

The Afro-Peruvian music and drums drive this energetic number. Originally danced by African slaves searching for relief from discrimination and exclusion, this choreography tells the story of a young girl who finds freedom as she learns to dance the Festejo.

**ORIGIN:** Peru

**CHOREOGRAPHER:** Eliana Araujo

**MUSIC:** Saca las manos, Saca los Pies by Eva Ayllón
**Jingle and Men’s Fancy**
To the Ojibwe tribe, the Jingle dance is a dance of healing. As the women dancers move, you can hear the prayers sent to the heavens. Men’s Fancy focuses on agility and honor. By combining Jingle and Men’s Fancy, the story becomes about facing the world together with an offering of strength, honor, and healing.

**ORIGIN** North America  
**CHOREOGRAPHER** Cheyanne Elton & Naakii Tsosie  
**MUSIC** After You; Fearless by Northern Cree

**Caporales**
The story of Caporales is one of celebrating the sacrifice of those who have gone before. In their honor, the caporales use their elaborate costume to represent the strength and pride that has grown from within.

**ORIGIN** Bolivia  
**CHOREOGRAPHER** Efrain Villalobos  
**MUSIC** Más Cerca del Cielo by Andesur

**Whakaeke: He Tātai Whetū ki te Rangi; Waiata ā Ringa and Poi: He Kāinga Hou; and Haka: He Aka Tangata**
The ancestors call the young travelers to traverse the waters to a new land. As they face trials and challenges, they are reminded to hold continually and to not fear death. Chaos and confusion cannot reign as the travelers are lovingly reminded, “You are descended from celestial beings.”

**ORIGIN** Aotearoa (New Zealand)  
**CHOREOGRAPHER** Seamus Fitzgerald, Karly Nikora, Ta‘afili Sagapolutele  
**MUSIC** Whakaeke written by Seamus Fitzgerald; Waiata written by Iraia Bailey and Seamus Fitzgerald, guitar arrangement by Jackson Kaka, accompanied by Dezhane Te Hira-Ika; Haka by Seamus Fitzgerald
Smoke
As the dancers hear the call to battle, they rouse the village through the beat of the Stomp dance. The warriors prepare using the competitive War dance, and the energy builds as men and women join in the quick and athletic Smoke dance. As the warriors begin their journey, those left behind look forward with hope.

**ORIGIN:** Iroquois  
**CHOREOGRAPHY:** Bill Crouse, Jamie Kalama Wood  
**MUSIC:** Iroquois Stomp, War, Smoke, Pigeon recorded in the traditional style by Bill Crouse

Malambo
The Malambo dancer is a master of footwork. Combining rhythm, agility, speed, and strength, dancers build upon the energy of the drum. Though traditionally performed as a men’s number, this powerful choreography tells the story that the nobility and power of the battle is found in us all.

**ORIGIN:** Argentina  
**CHOREOGRAPHY:** Diego Franco & Pablo Daniel  
**MUSIC:** Traditional by Diego Franco
Auana

Ku‘u Hoa Hi‘ikua expresses the mixed emotions of losing a loved one. Although there is longing for the one lost, there is joy in knowing they watch as an angel from above. Throughout the dance, motions are used to symbolize the pain of loss, the light of love, and the hope of connection to the ancestors. Our story is that your ancestors carry, live, and help you through the hardest and most difficult trials of life.

**ORIGIN:** Hawai‘i  
**CHOREOGRAPHER:** Kamailelani Grace and Sariah Mossman  
**MUSIC:** Ku‘u Hoa Hi‘ikua by Hi‘ikua

Aztec

The Kuitlaxocotl Tlauili dance is a representation of the people of Aztlan, known by many today as the Aztecs. Their ritual sounds were considered the voice of the gods. Through their beautiful music and corporeal movements, we experience the story of “the fruit of light,” reminding us to seek the light in times of darkness through Mother Earth and spiritual connection.

**ORIGIN:** México  
**CHOREOGRAPHER:** Moises Aguirre  
**MUSIC:** Kuitlaxokotl Tlauili (Fruit of Light) by Los Hermanos de los Andes
**Bow & Arrow and Basket**

By honoring the stories of past warriors, this dance reverences the bow and arrow for providing sustenance and protection. As the dancers face different corners, they keep the balance of the four sacred directions. They are admonished to “walk in beauty.”

**ORIGIN:** Navajo  
**CHOREOGRAPHER:** Jerad Todacheenie, Dion Tapahe  
**MUSIC:** Santa Ana Bow & Arrow Dance by Ed Lee Natay; The Basket Song by Delphine Tsinajinnie & Ed Lee Natay

**Tau’olunga and Mako**

With words and actions, the graceful dancers tell their story of light. This story celebrates the joy of the Tongan people and the blessings that have been received from heaven.

**ORIGIN:** Tonga  
**CHOREOGRAPHER:** Kuata Vainikolo  
**MUSIC:** Ke Tulou Moe; ‘Io ‘Io ‘Io by Hiva Tonga; Teine Latu
La Negra
This energetic dance from the state of Jalisco captures the soul of México. The powerful and patriotic movements tell the story of grace and elegance combined with power and love for one's home.

**ORIGIN:** México  
**CHOREOGRAPHER:** Miguel Angel Peña  
**MUSIC:** El Son de la Negra, traditional music recorded by Los Hermanos de los Andes

Hoop
The hoop symbolizes eternity to many nations. As a child learns to dance the Hoop dance, they begin with only one hoop until, over time, they master many hoops. As they do, dancers learn to share the creations of Mother Earth and the power of the Great Spirit through their dance.

**ORIGIN:** North America  
**CHOREOGRAPHER:** Michael Goedel, Kelina Anderson  
**MUSIC:** Fancy Fan Action by Young Spirit

Finale: Go My Son
As the child becomes the parent, he continues to be taught by the ancestors. He hears the words once spoken by a wise chief—teaching that family, honor, work, and education are the keys to success and happiness.

**ORIGIN:** North America  
**CHOREOGRAPHER:** Jamie Kalama Wood  
**MUSIC:** Go My Son by Carnes Burson, Arlene Nofchissey Williams; arranged by Sam Cardon
Performers CONTINUED

Benjamin Lopez
Latin Section
Provo, UT
Pre-Business

Dani Meza
Native American Section
Kamas, UT
Sociology

Sariah Mossman
Polynesian Section
Pukalani, HI
Sociology

Karly Nikora
Polynesian Section
Laie, HI
Psychology

Kali‘āu Piena
Native American Section
Kapālama, HI
Undeclared

Sage Purcell
Polynesian Section
Redlands, CA
Undeclared

Fernando Ramos
Latin Section
La Paz, Bolivia
Pre-Business

Hunter Sagapolutele
Polynesian Section
Provo, UT
Undeclared

Sefa Schell
Native American Section
Winston-Salem, NC
Psychology

Savannah Silversmith
Native American Section
Blanding, UT
Psychology

Helaman Sosi
Polynesian Section
West Jordan, UT
Undeclared

Ryan Tsosie
Native American Section
Glendora, CA
Mechanical Engineering

Efrain Villalobos
Latin Section
Mapleton, UT
Communications

Ulysses Villalobos
Latin Section
Highland, UT
Cell Biology
Technical Crew

Jennifer Saldana
Stage Manager
Ejido Zarahemla, México
English

Elizabeth Padgett
Audio Technician
Redlands, CA
Spanish Teaching

Brian Saydyk
Lighting Technician
Kingwood, TX
Theatre Arts Studies

Taj Joaquin
Costumes and Deck Crew
Waiehu, HI
Public Health

Sarah Dalley
Costumes and Deck Crew
Millcreek, UT
Dance

Trent Robinson
Videographer
North Plains, OR
Biophysics

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
Jamie Kalama Wood

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR
Kevin Anthony

ARTIST MANAGER
Karson Denney

BYU INTERNATIONAL VICE PRESIDENT
Renata Forste

TOUR LEADER
Tania Torea

TOUR LEADER
Ameet Kumar

TOUR LEADER
Mike Forste

UNIVERSITY PHOTOGRAPHER
Jaren Wilkey

TOUR LEADER
Stacey Darais
Living Legends

Celebrating more than 50 years of inspiring performances, Living Legends presents Storytellers, a depiction of a young man as he is guided through life by the stories of his ancestors, told through their music and dance. As the talented performers take the stage, they capture the powerful rhythms of Polynesia, portray the fascinating legends of Native America, and dazzle the senses with the energy of Latin America. The group's lavish attire and intricate choreography are authentic representations of the showcased cultures.

Living Legends had the pleasure of performing in México in 2022. In 2023, the team will be returning to New Zealand and Tahiti, places where many group members have familial attachments. In addition to these locations, Living Legends has performed in many places throughout the world, including recent tours in China, Brazil, Germany, Switzerland, and throughout the United States.

Brigham Young University

Nestled between Utah Lake and the Rocky Mountains, Brigham Young University seeks to develop students of faith, intellect, and character who are committed to learning and serving throughout their lives. Both highly ranked and highly affordable, BYU is a major research institution that offers global opportunities for experiential learning. The university is home to about 35,000 students who come from more than 100 countries. Founded by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, BYU strives to be among the exceptional universities in the world and an essential university for the world.

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