STORYTELLERS

Prologue
Choreographers: Kaika Cole, Moni Tiatia, Aileen Villalba
Music: Storytellers Prologue by Sam Cardon

Lullaby
Music: My Son by Carnes Burson, Arlene Nofchissey Williams Additional lyrics by Jamie Kalama Wood. Arranged by Sam Cardon

NORTH AMERICA: PLAINS

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.

Choreographer: Dusty Jansen & Bryan Jansen
Music: Eagle (traditional)

SAMOA
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 and strength in the men’s Siva.

Falealili
Choreographer: Auro Sosi
Music: Falealili recorded by Kaioz Music
Sāsā
Choreographer: Teancum Kaitoku, Noelani Apelu, Lea Taylor
Music: Sāsā (Traditional, live)

Men’s Siva
Choreographer: Tallin Kaitoku, Le La O Samoa Dance group.
Music: Saleutogi E, Mr Tee

ECUADOR
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 come to celebrate and rejoice together.
Choreographer: Efrain Villalobos, Restaging: Ben Lopez
Music: Tzini Tushuy and Sanjuanitos by Ali Lema and Walter Arturo Juárez

NORTH AMERICA: PLAINS
Grass
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. It reminds us that as we follow the path, we can find joy by traveling with others.
Choreographer: Kawai Lucio
Music: Grass Song by Grey Hawk Singers

PARAGUAY
El Pajáro Campana
El Pajáro Campana is the national bird of Paraguay. In the mythology, Tupá (God) turned the bell tower of a Jesuit church into a white bird, whose sound resembles a bell. In the context of the choreography its dance tells the story of liberty and hope. When listening to El Pajaro Campana’s singing you will find inspiration to guide your life.
Country: Paraguay
Choreographer: Aileen Villalba
Music: El Pájaro Campana by Damian Girett, Los Misioneros Paraguayos

HAWAI'I

Kahiko
This hula Kahiko revolves around the central theme that in the face of darkness and challenges, there is a prevailing sense of hope and resilience. The land was forged by lava, a destructive force that demolished everything in its path, but as it cools, a beautiful lehua blossom is the first thing to spring forth life. Even though we cannot see the flower at first, we can still smell its fragrance. We acknowledge those who came before us and paved the way, and know that even though we no longer see them, we can feel their spirit through the land.

Choreographer: Kamailelani Grace, Tallin Kaitoku
Music: Noho ana ke ‘ala anuhea (Traditional, live)

NORTH AMERICA

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.

Choreographer: Melia Losik
Music: Women’s Fancy Pt. 2 by Midnight Express at Gathering of Nations

TAHITI

'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.

Choreographer: Sage Purcell and Tallin Kaitoku
Music: Tamure Moorea Lagon, Tauira'a by, O Tahiti E, SefaDrums,

PERU
Festejo
The Afro-Peruvian music and drums drive this energetic number. Originally danced by African slaves searching for relief from discrimination and exclusion, this particular choreography tells the story of a young girl who finds freedom as she learns to dance the Festejo.
Choreographer: Efrain Villalobos, Restaging: Ben Lopez, Ivette Galvez, Piero Gongora
Music: Sacal Maano by Eva Ayllon

NORTH AMERICA: OJIBWE, PONCA
Jingle/ 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. The Men’s Fancy dance exemplifies the strength and honor of Native American people. The spins and quick movements of this dance show the unity we must have to move forward together.
Choreographer: Kelina Anderson; Kiona Lucio
Music: Jingle Dress Straight by Grey Buffâlo; What U Got - Remix by Young Bird

BOLIVIA
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.
Choreographer: Gabriela Grajeda, Diandra Saravia, Ricardo Tolentino
Music: La Fiesta de San Benito, La Saya, Soy Caporal; Inti Illimani, Tupay

AOTEAROA (NEW ZEALAND)
Whakaeke: He Tātai Whetū ki te Rangi
Waiata ā Ringa and Poi: He Kāinga Hou
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.”
Choreographer: Seamus Fitzgerald, Karly Nikora, Ta'afili Sagapolutele

HAUDENOSAUNEE (IROQUOIS)

War and Smoke

As the dancers hear the call to battle, the warriors prepare using the competitive War dance. The energy builds as men and women join in the quick and athletic Smoke dance to celebrate, give thanks, and connect to Mother Earth, the Great Spirit, and each other.

Choreographer: Melia Losik, Kelina Anderson
Music: Iroquois War and Smoke, Traditional recorded by Bill Crouse

ARGENTINA

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 strength and agility are found in us all.

Choreographer: Diego Franco & Pablo Daniel
Music: Bombo Traditional by Diego Franco

HAWAI’I

Auana

This beautiful auana is a mele full of deep kaona or hidden meaning that is reminiscent of Hawaiian poetry. This song speaks of the unwavering love of those yearning to be with those who are dear to their hearts. As they go before in battle they reminisce on the times that are truly cherished with those loved ones. Through a graceful portrayal of motions and expression, the polynesian women represent a love given and sent away.

Choreographer: Kamailelani Grace
Music: Waika by Malihini

NORTH AMERICA (MEXICO)
Aztec

The Kuitlaxocotl Tlauili dance is a representation of the people of Aztlan, named the Aztecs. Their ritual sounds were considered the voice of the gods. Through their beautiful music and corporal 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.

Choreographer: Mario Gamez Carillo
Music: Kuitlaxokotl Tlauili (Fruit of Light) by Los Hermanos de los Andes

DINÉ (NAVAJO)

Bow & Arrow

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 "dance in beauty."

Choreographer: Jerad Todacheenie
Music: Santa Anna Bow & Arrow Dance by Ed Lee Netay

TONGA

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.

Choreographer: Kuata Vainikolo
Music: Ke Tulou Moe; 'Io 'Io 'Io by Hiva Tonga; Teine Latu

JALISCO, MEXICO

Mariachi and La Negra

The energetic music and dance from the state of Jalisco capture 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.

Choreographer: Miguel Angel Peña
Music: La Charreada by Linda Ronstadt; El Son de la Negra Traditional music recorded by Los Hermanos de los Andes
Vocalist: Paloma Castillo
NORTH AMERICA

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.

Choreographer: Kelina Anderson
Music: Kanawapamih 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.

Choreographer: Kaika Cole, Moni Tiatia, Aileen Villalba
Music: Go My Son by Carnes Burson, Arlene Nofchissey Williams. Arranged by Sam Cardon
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