

BRIGHAM YOUNG  
UNIVERSITY  
PRESENTS



# SEASONS



BYU

## PROLOGUE

**CHOREOGRAPHY:** *Nathan Balsler*

**MUSIC:** *"Seasons Prologue," by Sam Cardon*

## OPENER

"Long ago in a land across the great waters, our ancient father had a dream. In his dream the Great Spirit came to our father and carried him away on wings of fire. The Spirit told our father he would lead him to a new land—a place of bounty, a promised land—for he had walked in truth and in light in all seasons."

"So begins the legend. It is the story of the seasons of a people: seasons of faith and prosperity, pride and war, forgiveness and rebirth; seasons known to all people, in all nations, from the beginning of time. We invite you to journey with us through this timeless legend. It is our story. It is your story." —Janielle Christensen

**MUSIC:** *Janielle Christensen, 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.

**CHOREOGRAPHY:** *Dusty Jansen, Bryan Jansen*

**MUSIC:** *"Eagle" (traditional)*



# SEASON OF PROMISE

## Paraguay

### Isla Saka

Isla Saka is a rural locality within the department (state) of Caazapá in Paraguay. The author created this musical composition to always remember the sounds of his beloved land, his promised land. "Isla Saka" reminds all of us of our beloved land, where we come from, our heritage, and we celebrate it with this dance.

**CHOREOGRAPHY:** *Aileen Villalba*

**MUSIC:** *"Isla Saka," by Santiago Cortesi, arranged by Sergio Sanabria*

## 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."

**CHOREOGRAPHY:** *Seamus Fitzgerald, Karly Nikora, Ta'afili Sagapolutele*

**MUSIC:** *"Whakaeke," by Seamus Fitzgerald; "Waiata," by Iraia Bailey, Seamus Fitzgerald, arranged by Jackson Kaka, accompanied by Dezhane Te Hira-Ika; "Haka," by Seamus Fitzgerald, performed live*



# 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.

**CHOREOGRAPHY:** *Treygan Bragg*

**MUSIC:** *"Guns and Thunder," by Walking Buffalo*

# SEASON OF PLENTY

## 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.

**CHOREOGRAPHY:** *Ben Lopez*

**MUSIC:** *"El Ponchito," by Giovanni Tabango*



# Tonga

## Tau'olunga / 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.

**CHOREOGRAPHY:** *Kuata Vainikolo*

**MUSIC:** *"Ke Tulou Moe,"* by Teine Latu; *"'lo 'lo 'lo,"* by Hiva Tonga

# 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 choreography tells the story of a young girl who finds freedom as she learns to dance the Festejo.

**CHOREOGRAPHY:** *Efrain Villalobos; restaging by Ben Lopez, Ivette Galvez Laparra, Piero Gongora*

**MUSIC:** *"Saca la Mano,"* by Eva Ayllón

# North America

## Bow and Arrow

## DINÉ (NAVAJO)

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."

**CHOREOGRAPHY:** *Jerad Todacheenie*

**MUSIC:** *"Santa Ana Bow and Arrow Dance,"* by Ed Lee Natay



# SEASON OF PROSPERITY

## 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 cooled, a beautiful lehua blossomed, springing forth new 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 we know that even though we no longer see them, we can feel their spirit through the land.

**CHOREOGRAPHY:** *Kamailelani Grace, Tallin Kaitoku*

**MUSIC:** *"Noho Ana Ke 'Ala Anuhe'a" (traditional), performed live, written by Kau'i Leiatua*

## Bolivia

### Caporales

The story of the dance 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.

**CHOREOGRAPHY:** *Gabriela Grajeda, Diandra Saravia, Ricardo Tolentino*

**MUSIC:** *"La Fiesta de San Benito," by Inti-Illimani; "La Saya," "Soy Caporal," by Tupay*



# North America

## Men and 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. 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.

**CHOREOGRAPHY:** *Kelina Anderson, Treygan Bragg*

**MUSIC:** *"Men's Fancy," by Eyabay; "Mr. Fast," by Bear Creek; "Men's Northern Fancy Pt. 2," by North Bear*

# 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.

**CHOREOGRAPHY:** *Diego Franco, Pablo Daniel*

**MUSIC:** *Traditional, arranged by Diego Franco, performed by Marcos Falcon*



# SEASON OF WAR

## North America

### 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.

**CHOREOGRAPHY:** *Kelina Anderson, Treygan Bragg*

**MUSIC:** *"Iroquois War and Smoke" (traditional), recorded by Bill Crouse*

## Tahiti

#### 'Ote'a

Poiri a'era te fenua i te tamai: The earth became darkened by war. As they dance to the beats of traditional Tahitian drums, the dancers unfold the story of two villages in battle through the fast, sharp, and graceful movements of 'ori Tahiti.

**CHOREOGRAPHY:** *Malia Tafua*

**MUSIC:** *Traditional, recorded by Alan Tekurio*





# México

## AZTEC

### Kuitlaxokotl Tlauili

The Kuitlaxokotl 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 through Mother Earth and spiritual connection in times of darkness.

**CHOREOGRAPHY:** *Mario Gamez Carillo*

**MUSIC:** *“Kuitlaxokotl Tlauili (Fruit of Light),” by Los Hermanos de los Andes*

# SEASON OF REBIRTH

## Hawai‘i

### Auana

This beautiful Auana 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 loved ones. Through a graceful portrayal of motions and expression, the Polynesian women represent a love given and sent away.

**CHOREOGRAPHY:** *Kamailelani Grace*

**MUSIC:** *“Waika,” by Malihini*



# North America

## OJIBWE, PONCA

### Jingle

To the Ojibwe tribe, the Jingle dance is a dance of healing. As the women dancers move, they send prayers to the heavens.

**CHOREOGRAPHY:** *Kelina Anderson*

**MUSIC:** *"Jingle Dress Straight," by Grey Buffalo*

# Samoa

### Puleono i Salafai

This song represents celebration and independence. The singers rejoice with happiness and passion.

**CHOREOGRAPHY:** *Helaman Sosi, Aryanna Bush, Moni Tiatia*

**MUSIC:** *Traditional, performed live*

### Sāsā

Through this dance, the customs and livelihood of the Samoan people are represented.

**CHOREOGRAPHY:** *Aljay Fuimaono*

**MUSIC:** *"Sāsā" (traditional), performed live*

### Men's Siva

**CHOREOGRAPHY:** *Catherine Fonoimoana-Lessary Tu'ua*

**MUSIC:** *"Fa'ataupati," by Alpha Maiava, mixed by DJ Dorps*



# México

## JALISCO

### Sones de Jalisco

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.

**CHOREOGRAPHY:** *Ben Lopez*

**MUSIC:** *"El Son de Mi Tierra,"* by Mariachi Jalisco; *"El Son de La Negra,"* by Mariachi Nuevo Tecalitlán

# 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.

**CHOREOGRAPHY:** *Kelina Anderson*

**MUSIC:** *"Blast from the Past,"* by Northern Cree

### FINALE: Go, My Son

A wise chief teaches that family and education are the keys to success and happiness.

**CHOREOGRAPHY:** *Moni Tiatia*

**MUSIC:** *"Go, My Son,"* by Carnes Burson, Arlene Nofchissey Williams, arranged by Sam Cardon



# Performers



**Kealohi Adolpho**  
Native American Section  
Exercise Science  
St. George, UT



**Ammon Anderson**  
Native American Section  
Exercise Science  
Spanish Fork, UT



**Kelina Anderson**  
Native American Section  
Art History and  
Curatorial Studies  
Spanish Fork, UT



**Colleen Barnes**  
Latin Section  
International Relations  
Lethbridge, Alberta,  
Canada



**Alejandro Benjamin**  
Latin Section  
Civil Engineering  
Provo, UT



**Isabel Benjamin**  
Latin Section  
Public Health  
Provo, UT



**Treygan Bragg**  
Native American Section  
Biology  
Salmon, ID



**Tacoma Campbell**  
Native American Section  
Pre-Business  
Laie, HI



**Erick Cardenas**  
Latin Section  
Physics  
Lima, Peru



**Alema Ebana**  
Polynesian Section  
Pre-Finance  
Wailuku, HI



**Celeste Escárzaga**  
Latin Section  
Pre-Experience Design  
and Management  
Chihuahua, México



**Ivette Galvez**  
Latin Section  
Journalism  
Guatemala City, Guatemala



**Hinckley Kennach**  
Polynesian Section  
Accounting  
Tacoma, WA



**Benjamin Lopez**  
Latin Section  
Information Systems  
Orlando, FL



**Brandon Malu**  
Polynesian Section  
Pre-Business  
West Jordan, UT



**Lesieli Malu**  
Polynesian Section  
Psychology  
West Jordan, UT

# Performers

CONTINUED



**Angelee Marshall**  
Native American Section  
Pre-Business  
Laie, HI



**Ethan Mathusek**  
Native American Section  
Neuroscience  
Round Rock, TX



**Ashlynn Mojica**  
Native American Section  
Pre-Marketing  
Parker, CO



**Makeila Morgan**  
Polynesian Section  
Dance  
Sacramento, CA



**Eve Nawahine**  
Polynesian Section  
Pre-Medicine  
Laie, HI



**Melissa Ogden**  
Latin Section  
Elementary Education  
Orem, UT



**Antonio Ordaz**  
Latin Section  
Psychology  
Detroit, MI



**Derick Ortiz**  
Native American Section  
Applied and  
Computational  
Mathematics  
Eagle Mountain, UT



**Sage Purcell**  
Polynesian Section  
Pre-Business  
San Bernardino, CA



**Isaac Rascon**  
Latin Section  
Journalism  
Houston, TX



**Brandon Sosa**  
Latin Section  
Exercise Science  
Provo, UT



**Helaman Sosi**  
Polynesian Section  
Public Relations  
West Jordan, UT



**Iafeta Toso**  
Polynesian Section  
Facility and Property  
Management  
Federal Way, WA



**Sarai Tuitele**  
Polynesian Section  
Early Childhood  
Education  
Kāneʻohe, HI



**Tahina Wasson**  
Polynesian Section  
Public Health  
Kahuku, HI



**Reihana Wilson**  
Polynesian Section  
Journalism  
Brighton, CO

# Performers

CONTINUED



**Aaron Xanthos**

Native American Section  
Exercise Science  
Beaverton, OR



**Melanie Zivic**

Latin Section  
Political Science  
Buenos Aires, Argentina

# Technical Crew



**Kathryn Bowe**  
Stage Manager  
Biology  
Ephrata, PA



**Lyamca Mañon**  
Deck Crew  
Communications Studies  
Katy, TX



**Alex Southworth**  
Audio Technician  
Commercial Music  
South Jordan, UT



**Hannah Tran**  
Lighting Technician  
Computer Science:  
Bioinformatics  
Bonsall, CA

*Not Pictured:*

**Junior Tupou**

Deck Crew  
Construction Management  
Billings, MT

# Production Team

**ARTISTIC DIRECTOR** **Moni Tiatia**  
**TECHNICAL DIRECTOR** **Kevin Anthony**  
**PRODUCTION MANAGER** **Benjamin Sanders**  
**TECHNICAL SUPPORT** **John Shurtleff**  
**PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER** **Crysta May Lamb**  
**LIGHTING DESIGNER** **McKenzie Wise**  
**PROJECTION DESIGNER** **Erin Bjorn**  
**COSTUME DESIGNER** **Aryanna Brown**  
**COSTUME SHOP MANAGER** **Dawn Maughan**

**REHEARSAL DIRECTORS**  
**Kaika Cole, Aileen Villalba**  
**COSTUME SHOP STAFF**  
**Allison Farnsworth,**  
**Amanda Alley,**  
**Marianne Thompson,**  
**Nina Perkins**  
**ARTIST MANAGER** **Taylor Morris**  
**SOUND DESIGNER** **Troy Sales**

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TAP TO VISIT



# *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 and in New Zealand and Tahiti in 2023, places where many group members have ancestors. In addition to these locations, Living Legends has performed in almost all 50 US states and many places throughout the world, including recent tours in China, Brazil, Germany, and Switzerland.

# *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 an exceptional university for the benefit of the world.

**BYU**



*Living Legends*

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