

PROFESSIONAL PRODUCTION FEATURED IN CVUHSD 2018-2019 School Year

This program is made possible through a grant from
Arts Ed Collective, a division of Los Angeles County Arts Commission
Grant's focus: Cultural Relevance

SAKAI FLAMENCO



ABOUT THE ARTISTS AND THE PERFORMANCE

Sakai Flamenco is a dynamic and fiery performing ensemble dedicated to keeping the traditional Spanish music and dance form alive. The company is composed of three dancers, a singer, and a guitarist. These talented artists, steeped in Spanish culture, are from Spain or have lived and performed there. "Sakai" is a Spanish gypsy word that refers to the eyes, which reflect the emotions of flamenco dancers. The eyes are said

to transform when a dancer reaches his or her highest state of artistry, known as "duende."

Sakai Flamenco's thrilling performance begins with a demonstration of thunderous heel work, the haunting melody of flamenco guitar, and the poetry of flamenco's passionate deep songs. The audience is immediately drawn into this powerful experience, as they are taken on a rich and exotic cultural journey that traces the roots and history of flamenco. As they observe the dance gestures and listen to the music, they see, hear, feel, and briefly discuss flamenco's Asiatic, Middle Eastern, and North African roots, drawing comparisons and making authentic connections to their own family histories and traditions.

A specialized flamenco dance vocabulary is introduced, along with rhythmic clapping, which serves as the percussive base in flamenco. In addition, rattling castanets and colorful props are presented. The performance culminates in an unforgettable, fun-filled, and impromptu fiesta where members of the audience are selected and invited to the stage to demonstrate what they have learned.

ABOUT THE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SESSION FOR TEACHERS

As part of CVUHSD's Arts Integration's goal, a Professional Development (PD) session will be offered to teachers of all subjects prior to the presentation of the show. It will be led by Linda Andrade, Artistic Director of Sakai Flamenco, who will provide background information on the art form and suggests activities that will be useful to all teachers. The teaching artist will work in collaboration with our Arts Coordinator, H el ene Trudeau, for the preparation of the PD.

All PDs will be held after school from 3:30 PM to 5:00 PM.