

MONDAVI  
CENTER  
Arts Education

CUE  
Sheet  
for Teachers



**Ballet Folklórico de México  
de Amalia Hernández**

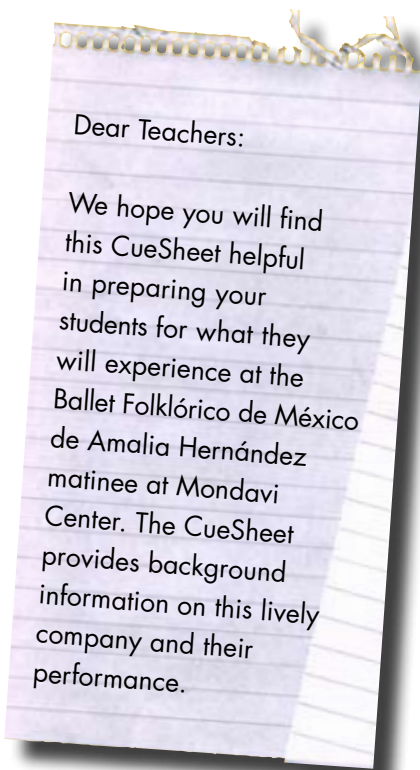
TUE, MAR 30, 2009 | 11:00 AM Jackson Hall

*Recommended for grades K-12*

**ABOUT**

Founded more than 50 years ago by dancer and choreographer Amalia Hernández—Latin America’s most important choreographer—to preserve the historical dance traditions of Mexico, Ballet Folklórico de México de Amalia Hernández is Mexico’s oldest and most celebrated folklórico dance company. The ensemble today features a cast of 75 dancers, singers, and musicians that expertly presents songs and dances from many historical eras and from several different regions in Mexico.

Since 1952, the company has gone on more than 100 international tours, visiting 60 countries and more than 300 cities. They have visited the United States over 52 times. Director Amalia Hernández has created more than 100 works of choreography, more than 3,500 dancers have passed through the company over the years, and some 25,000 students and dancers have passed through the Ballet’s school. More than 30,000 pair of shoes have been used, 300 backdrops have been created, and more than 45,00 pieces of wardrobe have been designed and sewn.



**LEARN MORE**

<http://balletamalia.com/eng.html>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=clik9pPMz4I>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2xz-GosWejE>

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Ballet-Folklorico-de-Mexico-de-Amalia-Hernandez/39352363027?v=photos>



ROBERT AND MARGRIT  
**MONDAVI CENTER**  
FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS  
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# THINK ABOUT IT!

## DEAR STUDENTS

Talking with your teacher, friends, and family about a performance after attending the theater is part of the experience. When you share what you saw and felt you learn more about the performance. You can now compare ideas, ask questions and find out how to learn even more. Here are some questions to think about:

- 1 How would you describe the Ballet Folklórico de México de Amalia Hernández performance to a friend?
- 2 What feelings did you have while you watched the dancing and listened to the music?
- 3 What did you like best and why? Was the program different from what you expected? How?
- 4 Write a poem expressing your impressions of the performance: what you saw (the dancers, singers and musicians, the costumes and instruments); what you heard (the songs and instruments); and the kinds of feelings and thoughts you had during the show.



## ATTENDING THE THEATER

### WHAT IS EXPECTED OF STUDENT AUDIENCES AT THE MATINEE:

- Enter the auditorium quietly and take your assigned seat immediately (note that all matinees have reserved seating);
- Show courtesy to the artist and other guests at all times;
- Demonstrate appreciation for the artist's work by applauding at the appropriate times;
- Refrain from making unnecessary noise or movements;
- Please eat lunch before or after the performance; food is not allowed in the performance hall;
- Relate any information acquired from the pre-matinee discussion to the new information gained from the matinee;
- Please do not use flash photography.

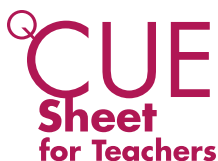
### WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT OF YOUR EXPERIENCE IN A PERFORMING ARTS THEATER:

A theater is a charged space, full of energy and anticipation. When the house lights (the lights that illuminate the audience seating) go down, the excitement level goes up! Theaters are designed so that the voices of the singers and actors and the music of the musicians can be heard. But this also means that any sound in the audience—whispering, rustling of papers, speaking and moving about—can be heard by other audience members and by the performers. Distractions like these upset everyone's concentration and can spoil a performance.

The performers on stage show respect for their art form and for the audience by doing their very best work. The audience shows respect for the performers by watch-

ing attentively. Applause is the best way for audience members to share their enthusiasm and to show their appreciation for the performers. Applaud at the end of a performance! Sometimes the audience will clap during a performance, as after a featured solo. Audience members may feel like laughing if the action on stage is funny, crying if the action is sad, or sighing if something is seen or heard that is beautiful.

Appreciation can be shown in many different ways, depending upon the art form and the culture(s) of the people in the audience. While the audience at a dance performance will sit quietly, other types of performance invite audience participation.



### ROBERT AND MARGRIT MONDAVI CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

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### MONDAVI CENTER ARTS EDUCATION

Arts Education provides CueSheets for all performances in the Mondavi Center 2009-10 School Matinee Series. They are intended to help teachers prepare their students for the school matinee that they will attend at Mondavi Center, UC Davis.



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