

BOMBAZO DFW

DANCE PERFORMANCES

Bomba performances are one-hour workshop-like performances enable participants to dive into the complete cultural experience. First, they offer a brief history and fundamentals of the rhythm and theory of Bomba. Second, in a brief workshop they introduce the basic rhythms, the way to perform in the Batey, and a few basic steps and formal dance patterns. Third, before each song they teach music chants to engage participants. Fourth, they perform songs with experienced dancers, and gradually start asking participants from the public to dance in a safe space as they feel comfortable.

DANCE WORKSHOPS

This series offers classes which focus on history, fundamentals, basic steps, techniques (piquetes), and step combinations. Workshops include Geography, Guided Dance, and Free Bomba Dance in which participants will use their learned dance steps in a safe circle space.

Each session includes the history of the dance, and a rhythmic warm-up and stretch followed by movement activities utilizing music such as Sicá, Cuembé, Holandé Seis Corrido, and Yubá.

MUSIC PERFORMANCES

“Bomba o Plena en Vivo: The Rhythm That Unites Us” performances are filled with live drumming, singing,

dancing, and historical storytelling—anchored in the cultural legacy of Puerto Rico’s African, Indigenous, and Spanish roots. It is both a celebration and a classroom—where audiences don’t just watch, they engage, learn, and connect.

Bomba o Plena performances are tailored to the context of each event, this performance highlights either the vibrant improvisational tradition of Bomba or the melodic, community-driven narrative of Plena. Each performance is filled with live drumming, singing, dancing, and historical storytelling.

MUSIC WORKSHOPS

BombazoDFW’s music workshops provide participants with the opportunity to learn to play the Bomba drum at an introductory level. Participants will explore the history, rhythms, chants, and techniques tied to Bomba and Plena, two foundational musical traditions of Afro-Puerto Rican culture. Workshops include hands-on learning and cultural education through rhythm, voice, and storytelling. Programming is flexible and can be adjusted for different age groups, skill levels, and community needs.

SENIOR PROGRAMMING

Senior programming participants can access dance and movement programs for older adults through music and movement which are essential for healthy aging, conserving mobility, having quality of life, and boosting the mood.

Activities can be done from standing or sitting positions.

Workshops include a mix of guided dance and improvised movement activities and the use of instruments as well.

Each session includes a rhythmic but gentle warm-up and stretch followed by movement activities that can all be done seated or standing. Dance workshops feature modified low impact movements that are accommodating to varying levels of mobility, including movements that may be performed from a chair.

Drum workshops feature hands on experiences with authentic West African Drums, enabling a therapeutic release as participants unify under traditional rhythmic patterns that allow for self-expression and musical exploration.

Participants and audiences age 2 and older