



Mariachi Vargas de Tecalitlán

Daniel Martínez / *Violin, Vocals*

Enrique de Santiago / *Guitarrón*

Gustavo Alvarado / *Trumpet*

Arturo Vargas / *Guitar, Vocals*

Andrés González / *Violin, Vocals*

Luis Fernando Velázquez / *Trumpet*

Gilberto Aguirre / *Vihuela*

Carlos Martínez / *Musical Director, Violin, Vocals*

Jonathan Palomar / *Guitar, Vocals*

Óscar Ortega / *Violin, Vocals*

Roberto López / *Violin, Vocals*

Ángel López / *Violin, Vocals*

Víctor Álvarez / *Harp*

Agustín Sandoval / *Trumpet*

with special guests

Mariachi Nuevo Santander

and

Ballet Folklórico de Detroit

Friday Evening, February 14, 2020 at 8:00

Hill Auditorium

Ann Arbor

72nd Performance of the 141st Annual Season

Traditions & Crosscurrents

This evening's performance is supported by Michigan Medicine and the U-M Office of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion.

Tonight's performance is funded in part by the National Endowment for the Arts.

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Special thanks to Elena Snyder, Jill Ross, Andre Scobie, Madeline Micou, Gerald Vazquez, Cara Graninger, Jim Leija, Grace Vandervliet, Alana Rodriguez, Christopher Heidenreich, Susana Quintanilla, Victoria Langland, Mark Clague, Evelyn Daugherty, Erika Villarreal Bunce, Karilú Forshee, Elton Monroy Duran, Christina Guzman, Janette Rodriguez, Seema Jolly, Shelby Newport, Hurley Children's Clinic, Hurley Foundation, Educare Flint, Scarlett Middle School, Living Arts, Soluciones Onda Latina, Ballet Fólkorico de Detroit, Ann Arbor Public School Community Education and Recreation, U-M Flint, U-M Flint Music Department, El Ballet Fólklórico Estudiantil, U-M LSA Latin American and Caribbean Studies, La Casa University of Michigan, U-M Museum of Art, Michigan Opera Theatre, U-M College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, and U-M School of Music, Theatre & Dance for their participation in events surrounding this evening's performance.

Special thanks to Tiffany Ng, U-M assistant professor of carillon and university carillonist, for coordinating this evening's pre-concert music on the Charles Baird Carillon.

Mariachi Vargas de Tecalitlán appears by arrangement with Cynthia Muñoz, Muñoz Public Relations.

In consideration of the artists and the audience, please refrain from the use of electronic devices during the performance.

The photography, sound recording, or videotaping of this performance is prohibited.

PROGRAM

This evening's program will be announced by the artists from the stage and is performed without intermission. Mariachi Nuevo Santander will perform an opening set featuring dancers from Ballet Folklórico de Detroit.

ARTISTS

Mariachi Vargas de Tecalitlán has been considered the greatest mariachi in the world for more than half a century. Hailing from humble origins in the southern Jalisco village of Tecalitlán, the group has had an extraordinary journey since it began in 1898 as a quartet led by Gaspar Vargas. During the 1930s, under the leadership of Gaspar's son Silvestre, the ensemble expanded and moved its home base to Mexico City. By the 1950s, Mariachi Vargas had become synonymous with *el mejor mariachi del mundo* (the greatest mariachi in the world) — a title they continue to uphold to this day.

Through their iconic sound and style, unique arrangements, recordings, and live performances, Mariachi Vargas has influenced the mariachi genre in an unprecedented way. The group has had an immeasurable impact on mariachi musicians and artists around the globe. Its current sixth generation represents the state of the art in mariachi music with world-class vocalists and instrumentalists, flawless ensemble work, impeccable taste in arrangements and repertoire, and spellbinding showmanship.

In 2014, Carlos Martínez was named as musical director of Mariachi Vargas, successor to his uncle José “Pepe” Martínez who held the same position for nearly four decades. Through his immense talent and strong leadership skills, Carlos has successfully maintained the artistic level for which Vargas is known. He works closely with the legendary 94-year-old Maestro Rubén Fuentes, who joined the group in 1944 and remains the principal architect of the Vargas sound and style. Together, they have ensured that the group's performance, arrangements, and repertoire continue to exceed the expectations of even the most demanding

mariachi connoisseurs.

Mariachi Vargas recently added a gem to its extensive discography of over 200 albums with the CD *Concierto Sinfónico de Aniversario*. This was the first CD they recorded with an orchestra in a studio. The album includes perennial favorites like “Bésame Mucho” and “Sabes una Cosa,” along with a brand-new arrangement of *West Side Story*'s “María.” The group has also spent the past two years touring and recording with the international Mexican superstar Luis Miguel and Banda El Recodo.

In the last three decades, Mariachi Vargas has taken mariachi music to all corners of the world. Their musical talents have taken them to Japan, the Czech Republic, France, the United Nations in Switzerland, Italy, and Spain, and they have performed extensively throughout Latin America and the US. In 2020, Mariachi Vargas will once again tour throughout Spain in May and June.

Mariachi Vargas' current members include 14 world-class artists of which six are vocalists and violinists, three are trumpet players, and five make up the rhythm section. The senior members of the group are vocalista/violinista Daniel Martínez (35 years), guitarronista Enrique de Santiago (31 years), and trompetista Gustavo Alvarado (29 years). Half of the members of the group are millennials. Today's inter-generational Vargas has a magical effect that astounds diverse audiences around the world.

Mariachi Vargas Staff

Miguel Ángel Núñez / *Secretario*, 1993

Juan Pablo Ibarra / *Ingeniero de Sonido*,
2015

ARTISTAS

Mariachi Vargas de Tecalitlán ha sido considerado el mejor mariachi del mundo por más de tres cuartos de siglo. Proveniente del pueblo de Tecalitlán en el sur de Jalisco, el grupo ha tenido una extraordinaria trayectoria desde su comienzo como un cuarteto en 1898 dirigido por Gaspar Vargas. En los años de 1930 bajo la dirección de Silvestre, hijo de Gaspar, el grupo se expandió y cambió su sede a la Ciudad de México. Para la década de 1950, Mariachi Vargas ya se había convertido en sinónimo con el nombre “el mejor mariachi del mundo” – título que continúan conservando hasta el día de hoy.

A través de su emblemático estilo y sonido musical, arreglos únicos, grabaciones y actuaciones en vivo, el Mariachi Vargas ha influido el género del mariachi en una forma sin precedentes. El grupo ha tenido un impacto inconmensurable en músicos de mariachi y en artistas alrededor del mundo. Su actual sexta generación representa la vanguardia en música de mariachi con vocalistas y ejecutantes de instrumentos musicales de talla mundial, perfecto trabajo orquestal, gusto impecable en los arreglos musicales y en el repertorio y fascinante maestría escénica.

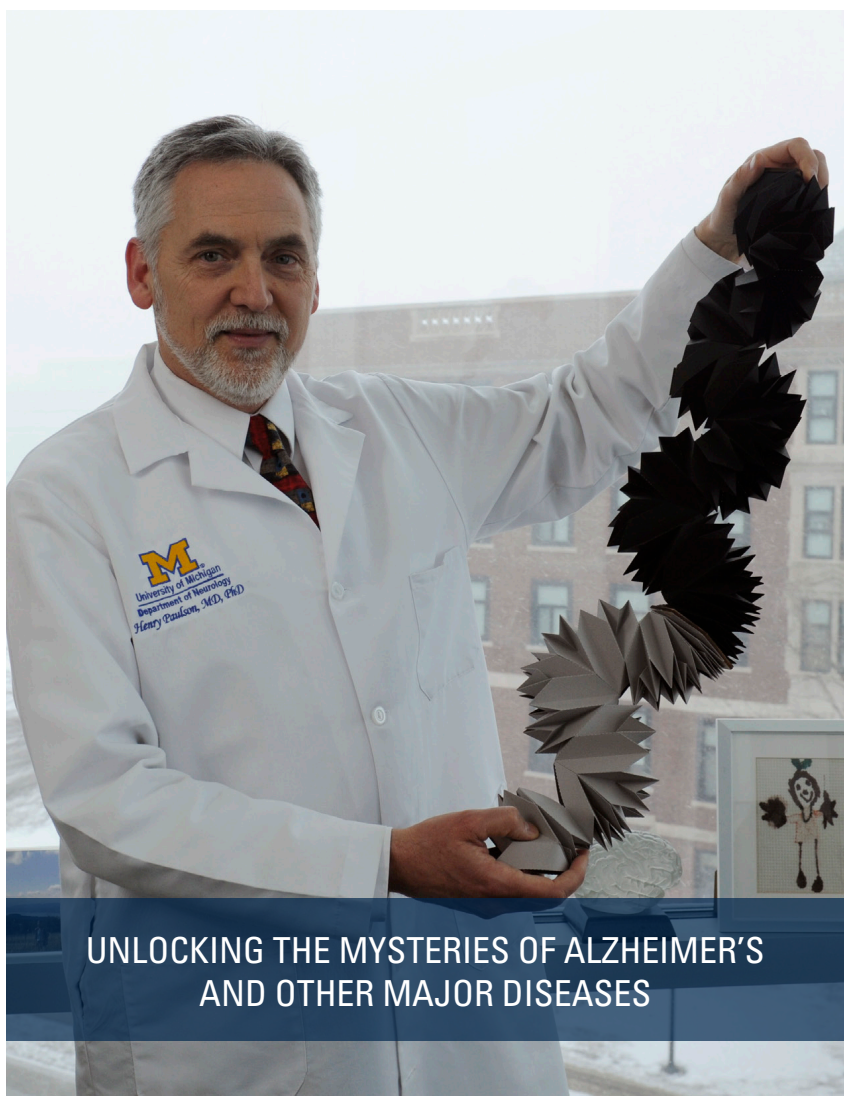
En 2014, Carlos Martínez se convirtió en el nuevo director musical de Mariachi Vargas, misma posición dirigida por su tío José “Pepe” Martínez por casi cuatro décadas. Por medio de su enorme talento y fuerte capacidad de liderazgo, Carlos ha mantenido exitosamente el nivel artístico por el cual el Vargas es conocido. Él trabaja en forma muy cercana con el legendario Maestro Rubén Fuentes, de 94 años, quien se unió al grupo en 1944 y continúa siendo el principal arquitecto del sonido y del

estilo Vargas. Juntos, han asegurado que la ejecución, arreglos y repertorio del grupo continúe superando las expectativas de aún los más exigentes conocedores de mariachi.

Mariachi Vargas recientemente agregó una joya a su extensiva trayectoria de más de 200 álbumes con su nuevo proyecto “Concierto Sinfónico de Aniversario”. Esta grabación marca la primera vez que Vargas ha grabado un álbum completo junto a una filarmónica en un estudio. El álbum incluye favoritas como “Bésame Mucho” y “Sabes una Cosa”, al lado del nuevo arreglo de “María” de *West Side Story*. El grupo también ha dedicado los últimos dos años a giras y grabaciones con el superestrella internacional Luis Miguel y la Banda el Recodo.

Mariachi Vargas se han llevado la música de mariachi por todo el mundo durante las últimas tres décadas. Se han presentado en Japón, la República Checa, Francia, Suiza, Italia, España, en toda América Latina y los Estados Unidos. En mayo y junio del 2020, nuevamente estarán de gira en España.

Los actuales miembros del Mariachi Vargas incluyen a catorce artistas de talla mundial de los cuales seis son vocalistas y violinistas, tres son trompetistas y cinco conforman la sección de ritmos. Los más antiguos miembros del grupo son: vocalista/violinista Daniel Martínez (35 años), guitarrónista Enrique de Santiago (31 años) y trompetista Gustavo Alvarado (29 años). La mitad de los miembros del grupo son millennials. Hoy, la nueva generación de Mariachi Vargas tiene un efecto mágico que enamora a diversos auditorios alrededor del mundo.



UNLOCKING THE MYSTERIES OF ALZHEIMER'S AND OTHER MAJOR DISEASES



Drs. Henry Paulson and Andrew Lieberman have formed a unique coalition of more than 50 clinicians and scientists studying protein-folding disorders as a group, which holds the promise to establish new ways to prevent and treat these devastating conditions.

Mariachi Nuevo Santander is an award-winning performance group from Roma High School in Roma, Texas. They are recognized as the top performing mariachi group among high schools in the US and have recorded several albums, appeared on national television, and have performed throughout the US.

Mariachi Nuevo Santander are seven-time grand champion winners of the Mariachi Vargas Extravaganza — the largest, longest-running, and most competitive mariachi group competition in the world. They were selected by none other than members of the world's preeminent Mariachi Vargas de Tecalitlán. The group has appeared on Season 12 of NBC's *America's Got Talent* where they recorded in Pasadena, California, and at the Universal Studios in Los Angeles. They have performed throughout the US in cities that include Washington, DC; Ashland, Oregon; and Atlanta, Georgia.

Mariachi Nuevo Santander has recorded two albums with the *20th Anniversary, Heart, Pride & Passion* album released in 2014 and the *25th Aniversario, Corazón Orgullo y Tradición* album recorded in 2018. The group recently completed its third album with plans to release it in March. The album is titled *Sangre Mariachera* with 11 tracks including the group's award-winning performance from the Mariachi Vargas Extravaganza in San Antonio in December. The album will have traditional mariachi rhythms and songs featuring original arrangements by the group's director Eloy Garza. Mr. Garza's background as a mariachi musician with Mariachi Nuevo Santander and Mariachi Sol de Mexico has served as the foundation for the group's success.

Ballet Folklórico de Detroit is an award-winning Mexican folkloric dance group led by artistic director Lance Rodriguez. Founded in 2013, dancers consist of community teens and adults who perform together to share their passion and love of culture through dance. For more information, please visit bfdetroit.org.

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**MANY
VOICES
OUR
MICHIGAN**



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**MARIACHI NUEVO
SANTANDER**

Violins

Alexia Aguillon
Jelayna Barrera
Francisco Garcia, Jr.
Julie Hernandez
Adrianna Martinez
Arely Molina
Hector Ramirez III
Anyssa Renteria
Ernesto Saldaña

Trumpets

Andres Barrientos
Juan Garcia, Jr.

Harmony/Armonia

Marielena Chapa / *Guitar*
Jacob Cruz / *Harp*
Sebastian Perez / *Guitarron*
Cesar Rios / *Vihuela*
Eric Santana-Garcia / *Guitar*

Eloy Garza / *Director*
Abiel Hinojosa / *Assistant Director*
José Delgadillo / *Assistant Director*

**BALLET FOLKLÓRICO
DE DETROIT**

Lance Rodriguez / *Artistic Director*

Carlos Angeles
Mari Angeles
Niko Araujo-Pedroza
Regina Araujo-Pedroza
Jessica Becerra
Veronica Beltran
Alondra Castellanos
Camila Casas-Reyes
Kyle Filipowski
Danissa Galaviz
Vanessa Galaviz
Nadia Guerrero
Catalina Guevara
Janet Haro
Thalia Hernández
Nathan Rodriguez

UMS ARCHIVES

This evening's performance marks **Mariachi Vargas de Tecalitlán's** fourth performance under UMS auspices, following the group's UMS debut in November 2010 in Hill Auditorium. The ensemble most recently appeared under UMS auspices in April 2016 in Hill Auditorium.

Mariachi Nuevo Santander spent the past week engaging with communities in Detroit, Flint, and Ann Arbor, where they performed and celebrated Mariachi music within the Southeast Michigan community.

Below are some highlights:

Class visit with students in the **Engaging Performance** class at U-M Ann Arbor

Musical gathering with **Southwest Detroit Community Members**, students from **Living Arts, El Ballet Folklórico Estudiantil**, and **U-M Flint Department of Music**

Daylong workshops and performances with **Scarlett Middle School Students**

Performance and family engagement with participants from **Educare Flint** and the **University of Michigan Museum of Art**

**THANK YOU TO SUPPORTERS OF
THIS EVENING'S PERFORMANCE**

Presenting Sponsor

Michigan Medicine

Supporting Sponsor

**University of Michigan Office of Diversity,
Equity & Inclusion**

MAY WE ALSO RECOMMEND...

- 2/26 West-Eastern Divan Ensemble
- 4/9 Zakir Hussain
- 4/23 Chineke! Orchestra

Tickets available at www.ums.org.

ON THE EDUCATION HORIZON...

- 2/21 Post-Performance Artist Q&A: Dorrance Dance
Power Center
Must have a ticket to that evening's performance of Dorrance Dance to attend.
- 2/22 You Can Dance: Dorrance Dance
(Ann Arbor YMCA, 400 W. Washington Street, 1:30 pm)
Registration opens 45 minutes prior to the start of the event.
- 3/13 UMS 101: Tarek Yamani Trio
(Michigan League, Michigan Room, 6:00–7:30 pm)
Paid registration required at <http://bit.ly/UMSClasses> (case sensitive).

Educational events are free and open to the public unless otherwise noted.