



Band Bio:

For more than a decade, Jarabe Mexicano has brought their ever-evolving cultural alchemy to stages across the country. This bilingual Latin-fusion band blends traditional Mexican roots with global dance styles creating a resonant vibe that feels both nostalgic and completely fresh. With compelling anecdotes throughout, Jarabe jumps seamlessly between festive Cumbia, Salsa, and Tex-Mex, then shifts to gritty Rock & Roll and on to emotionally charged Pop and Mexican Folk ballads. The band features soulful powerhouse vocals paired with infectious dance moves driven by the syncopated rhythms of Norteño drums. Smooth harmonies by the acoustic guitar and the deep pulse of Mariachi guitarrón bass complement the soaring melodies of Caribbean-style saxophone. More than just performances, their concerts are a celebration of bicultural musical heritage that leave audiences singing, dancing, and cheering for more!

Jarabe Mexicano has been hailed as “engaging, heartfelt, and thought-provoking!” And with their new program titled *“Rockin’ America: A Latin Legends Tribute”* as well as their seasonal shows *“Día de los Muertos: A Celebration of Life”* and *“Feliz Navidad: A Borneño Soul Christmas”* they strive create a deeper and more inclusive sense of family and community.

Member Bios:

Gustavo "Tavo" Alcoser, Jr.

Lead Vocals, Creative Director, Social Media & Educational Outreach Coordinator



A dual citizen and lifelong cross-border resident of the San Diego/Tijuana region, Tavo received his Associates degree from Southwestern College in Chula Vista, CA and went on to earn his Bachelor of Arts in Music from San Diego State University, with a minor in Latin American Studies. Trained as a classical vocalist, Tavo was a founding member of the SDSU Chamber Choir and the San Diego Pro Arte Voices professional choral ensemble. He became SDSU's first music student to be accepted into its Latin American Studies graduate program where he earned his Master's degree with a focus on Mexican and Chicano history. He now lectures for the non-profit travel organization Road Scholar and is the lead vocalist, creative director, and educational outreach coordinator for Jarabe Mexicano.

Daniel "Danny" Brito

Percussion, Artistic Director, Studio Producer, Business & Tour Manager



Danny is a drummer, percussionist, composer, and visual artist based in Tucson, Arizona. Born and raised in Nogales, AZ, Danny's early interests in both the visual and performing arts led him to cross the borders of both major mediums. As a musician, he has participated in masterclasses with many of the top drummers and percussionists in the industry such as Dave Weckl, Horacio Hernandez, Ed Thigpen, Steve Houghton, John Santos, Antonio Sanchez, and Avashai Cohen. Danny's knowledge and respect for the art of music has crafted him into a versatile and creative percussionist whose skills expand across a colorful array of genres such as Latin Jazz, Pop, and Country music. Danny is currently the percussionist, musical director, studio producer, business and tour manager for Jarabe Mexicano.

Eduardo "Eddy" Valencia

Guitarrón, Vocals, & Educational Presenter



Eddy was born in Van Nuys, CA and was raised in Nogales, AZ. Coming from a musical family, he started playing the guitar but eventually moved on to other band instruments such as clarinet, saxophone, and piano. He began touring professionally throughout the 80's and early 90's with rock bands, while also sharing the stage with the world famous Mariachi Vargas de Tecalitlán, one of Mexico's leading exponents of the genre. Afterwards, he brought Mariachi music to schools and communities in Nogales, AZ, directing and performing with one of his local ensembles at the 2000 Olympics in Sydney, Australia. When he's not on tour singing and playing guitarrón for Jarabe Mexicano, Eddy continues to lead Mariachi groups in Phoenix, AZ.

Member Bios:

Esteban "Steve" Smith

Guitar & Educational Presenter



With strong roots in the Ambos Nogales region of Arizona and Sonora, Steve studied music at the University of Arizona and can be heard in many musical ensembles around Tucson and the greater Phoenix area. As an accomplished musician, he has played Blues and Contemporary Jazz music with the band Raw Material and has performed Country music at Tucson's famous Maverick Club with well-known ensembles such as Flipside and The Jack Bishop Band. Steve is also well-versed in Tex-Mex and Latin styles such as flamenco and Afro-Cuban, which he showcased with the band Latino Sólido. Interestingly, he played a major hand in helping Danny Brito start his professional career in music. Steve also tours as the guitarist for Jarabe Mexicano.

Hiram Pérez

Saxophone, Vocals, & Educational Presenter



Born in Nogales, Arizona and raised partly in Nogales, Sonora, Hiram is a prominent saxophonist, vocalist, composer, and band leader based in Tucson, Arizona. Best known as the founder and leader of one of Tucson's premier variety and salsa music groups called Zona Libre, Hiram also spent four years touring as a musician with The Ringling Brothers Barnum & Bailey Circus. In 2008, he went on to become an independent instructor providing saxophone and performance mentorship to students and musicians across the Tucson community. He frequently collaborates and performs with other notable southwestern musicians while producing regional studio work. Hiram now also tours as the saxophonist for Jarabe Mexicano.