

Thursday, March 9, 2023

Friday, March 10, 2023

10AM & 12:30PM

A NJPAC SchoolTime Performance

# ***Cuentos: Tales from the Latinx World***

*starring*

**David Gonzalez**

with the **Sofrito Band**

*book, music and lyrics by*

**David Gonzalez**

As a courtesy to the performers and fellow audience members, please be sure to silence all mobile devices.  
The use of recording equipment and the taking of photographs are strictly prohibited.



Made possible by funds from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts,  
a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts

## program

<i>Juan Bobo and the Pig</i> .....	A Puerto Rican folktale
<i>Chango and the Drum</i> .....	Another Afro-Cuban myth
<i>The Beat of My Heart</i> .....	
<i>The Man Who Could Make Trees Sing</i> .....	A true story from David's childhood
<i>¡Sofrito! Song</i> .....	
<i>Pepe and Pedro</i> .....	A Mexican folktale

## artist dedication & sofrito recipe

*Cuentos: Tales from the Latinx World* is dedicated to the memory of David's grandmother, Lupe Echevarria-Rosario, who's savory sofrito filled his belly and who's appetite for life filled his soul.

### Recipe

Here is a basic recipe for sofrito — the “base” sauce for essential Caribbean and Latino cooking. A good sofrito is a personal blending of wonderfully different ingredients into a rich and delicious sauce. Just like life itself.

There are many variations throughout the Caribbean, so “mix it up, stir it up and spice it up” to your own taste.

### Ingredients

Olive oil  
1 onion, diced  
1 green pepper, diced  
2 cloves of garlic, mashed  
½ can of tomato sauce  
1 tsp. oregano  
Salt and pepper to taste

### Directions

Sauté onion, pepper and garlic in olive oil until transparent. Add tomato sauce and oregano, simmer for five minutes. Use as a delicious base for chicken, fish, meat, beans and vegetables. Enjoy!

## meet the artists

**David Gonzalez** is the recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award for Sustained Excellence from the organization International Performing Arts for Youth. He was named a Joseph Campbell Foundation fellow and was nominated for a Drama Desk Award for his production *The Frog Bride* at Broadway's New Victory Theater.

He has created numerous productions including the critically acclaimed *¡Sofrito!* with the Latin Legends Band, *MytholoJazz*, *Wounded Splendor*, *Sleeping Beauty*, *The Man of the House*, *Double Crossed: The Saga of the St. Louis*, *As if the Past Were Listening*, *City of Dreams*, *Finding North*, *Marief* and many more.

David's poetry was featured at Lincoln Center's Out of Doors Festival, Bill Moyers's documentary *Fooling with Words* on PBS, NPR's *All Things Considered* and at the World Science Festival among many other venues. He recently published his first collection of poetry, entitled *Soundings*.

He earned his doctoral degree from New York University in music therapy and has conducted numerous seminars, workshops and lectures. He has also worked as a music therapist in both

## meet the artists

clinical and educational institutions. He is the artistic director of Crisalida Communications, an organization that supports communities through arts outreach.

**Wilson “Chembo” Corniel**, *congas and percussion*, studied music at the Harbor Conservatory for the Performing Arts in New York City, Pastore Music in New Jersey and La Escuela Nacional de Arte in Havana, Cuba. Chembo is a former faculty member at SUNY Purchase College and also teaches percussion privately. He had the pleasure of working with such artists as Chucho Valdes, Larry Harlow, Tito Puente, Machito, Celia Cruz, Grady Tate, Toshiko Akivoshi, Hilton Ruiz, Dave Valentin, Willie Colon, Angela Bofill, Steve Wilson, Ray Vega, Buddy Montgomery, Bob Baldwin, Chico Freeman and many more.

He leads his own Latin jazz quintet and is the CEO of Chemboro Records. His album *Things I Wanted to Do* received a GRAMMY® nomination for Best Latin Jazz Album. Chembo has endorsed Latin Percussion products since 1982, and also endorses REMO Heads, Vic Firth sticks and Sabian Cymbals.

**Daniel Kelly** is an award-winning composer and pianist who creates music that has been declared “powerfully moving” by *Time Out New York*. He has performed with GRAMMY®-winning jazz legends Michael Brecker and Joe Lovano, hip hop star Lauryn Hill and modern classical giants Bang on a Can All-Stars among many others. He has toured throughout southeast Asia and India as part of the Kennedy

Center/U.S. State Department-sponsored Jazz Ambassador program. He has composed for chamber orchestras, string quartets, films and multimedia theater works. He has released five CDs of original compositions.

Daniel has traveled through the United States collecting stories from people of all ages and backgrounds, transforming their experiences into original music for his ongoing project *Listening to America*. These interview-based, concert length compositions celebrate the resilience of the human spirit in communities across the United States.

**Willie Martinez**, *drums and vocals*, has been a familiar face in New York City’s eclectic music scene for over 25 years. He is a gifted arranger, composer, vocalist and one of the most sought-after drummers on the Latin jazz scene today.

His considerable rhythmic and vocal talent have been featured with groups performing everything from gothic funk at NYC’s CBGB to Afro-Cuban jazz at the Isaac Stern Auditorium in Carnegie Hall. He has worked with artists such as Chico O’Farrill, Benny Powell, Jewel and Faith Hill.

Willie’s latest recording with his ensemble La Familia Sextet titled *After Winter, Spring* shows that the marriage of Afro-Caribbean rhythms and improvisational jazz remains fresh, exhilarating and timeless.

## njpac on the mic

For post-show resources, please visit:  
[njpac.org/education-program/david-gonzalez-s-cuentos-tales-from-the-latinx-world-resources](http://njpac.org/education-program/david-gonzalez-s-cuentos-tales-from-the-latinx-world-resources)

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+deceased