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SENATE MEMORIAL 70

56TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2023

INTRODUCED BY

Linda M. Lopez

A MEMORIAL

RECOGNIZING THE CULTURAL INFLUENCE OF EVA ENCINIAS, MARISOL ENCINIAS, JOAQUIN ENCINIAS AND THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FLAMENCO.

WHEREAS, the mission of the national institute of flamenco is "to preserve and promote flamenco's artistry, history and culture by presenting the finest flamenco in the world and by educating the American family in this art form while emphasizing the positive influence of art on family and community"; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico native Clarita Garcia de Aranda passed down the art of flamenco to her daughter, Eva Encinias, and Eva has continued the tradition through her daughter, Marisol Encinias; and

WHEREAS, Eva Encinias established her own dance company,

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1 ritmo flamenco, in 1973 and toured with them for fifteen years
2 until, in 1976, she began teaching flamenco at the university
3 of New Mexico; and

4 WHEREAS, Eva Encinias developed flamenco as an art form
5 that led to the inception of the flamenco concentration program
6 at the university of New Mexico's department of theater and
7 dance, the only dance program in the world with a flamenco
8 concentration; and

9 WHEREAS, Eva Encinias founded the national institute of
10 flamenco in 1982, and it has grown into an internationally
11 recognized arts organization; and

12 WHEREAS, many of Eva Encinias's students attend classes
13 solely through scholarships, as Eva always believed that
14 economic circumstance should never keep anyone from learning to
15 dance; and

16 WHEREAS, while creating international connections and
17 investing in local and national artists for four decades, the
18 national institute of flamenco has enriched the city of
19 Albuquerque, the southwestern United States, the Americas and
20 beyond through the art of flamenco; and

21 WHEREAS, in June 2017, Eva Encinias's work was recognized
22 with an award of membership into el orden de Isabel la
23 Catolica, a special honor by the king of Spain, Felipe VI; and

24 WHEREAS, in December 2020, Eva Encinias retired from the
25 university of New Mexico department of theater and dance after

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1 forty-three years of teaching and service; and

2 WHEREAS, in 2022, Eva Encinias received a national
3 endowment for the arts national heritage fellowship, the New
4 Mexico governor's award for excellence in the arts and the city
5 of Albuquerque's creative bravos legacy award; and

6 WHEREAS, Eva Encinias remains active as the founding
7 director of the national institute of flamenco, teaching
8 classes in the children's curriculum, directing the student
9 performance company, ninos flamencos, and providing invaluable
10 leadership to the artistic and administrative staff alike; and

11 WHEREAS, Eva's daughter, Marisol Encinias, a native New
12 Mexican, began the formal study of dance at age five with her
13 grandmother, Clarita Garcia de Aranda; and

14 WHEREAS, Marisol Encinias is the executive director of the
15 national institute of flamenco and is the artistic director and
16 curator of *Festival Flamenco Albuquerque*; and

17 WHEREAS, as a person of color, Marisol Encinias identifies
18 with the flamenco art form as it is largely about, and
19 practiced by, people of color; and

20 WHEREAS, Marisol Encinias continues to work as an
21 instructor, performer and choreographer and is currently an
22 assistant professor of dance at the university of New Mexico;
23 and

24 WHEREAS, Joaquin Encinias learned flamenco as a way of
25 life from his grandmother, Clarita Garcia de Aranda, and his

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1 mother, Eva Encinias, first performing at age five and by age
2 twelve as a soloist in his mother's company, ritmo flamenco;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, in 1999, Joaquin Encinias worked with director
5 Debbie Allen in the production of *Soul Possessed*, which
6 premiered at the Kennedy center in Washington, D.C.; and

7 WHEREAS, as artistic director of yjastros: the American
8 flamenco repertory company, Joaquin Encinias has amassed a
9 dance repertory collection of over sixty pieces of original
10 flamenco choreography, which includes his own works and works
11 by some of the most influential flamenco and Spanish dance
12 artists in the world; and

13 WHEREAS, today, Joaquin Encinias is one of the most highly
14 sought-after flamenco artists and instructors in the nation
15 because of his unique exposition of technique and craft;

16 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE
17 OF NEW MEXICO that the cultural influence of Eva Encinias,
18 Marisol Encinias, Joaquin Encinias and the national institute
19 of flamenco be recognized and honored; and

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
21 transmitted to Eva Encinias, Marisol Encinias and Joaquin
22 Encinias.