GUERRERO, ROSA (1934–)

Among the notable dance troupes in the U.S., the Rosa Guerrero International Ballet Folklórico was founded in 1974. Its founder, Rosa Guerrero, has received acclaim and recognition from numerous organizations, a testimony to the contributions of this educator in celebrating America’s history of diversity. Guerrero hails from El Paso, Texas, born of a Spanish father and an Indigenous mother into a family of six children. Growing up poor in finances but rich in culture, Guerrero committed to becoming an educator and promoting bilingualism and multiculturalism at an early age. She developed the first courses in multicultural studies in El Paso public schools and her dance film, Tapestries, is a moving testimony to richness of border cultures. Guerrero is currently artist-in-residence in the Chicano Studies Research Program at the University of Texas, El Paso.