Ensemble Español
Spanish Dance Theater

IN RESIDENCE AT NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

Dame Libby Komaiko, Founder
Irma Suárez Ruíz, Artistic Director / Jorge Perez, Executive Director

Flamenco Passion
American Spanish Dance and Music Festival 2019 Performances
Tribute Performances honoring Beloved Dame Libby Komaiko

North Shore Center for the Performing Arts in Skokie
Friday & Saturday, June 14 & 15 at 7:30pm & Sunday, June 16 at 3:00pm

Guest Artists
Carmela Greco, Renowned Flamenco dancer & choreographer, Madrid
Carlos Rodriguez, Renowned Flamenco dancer & choreographer, Madrid
Jose Barrios, Renowned Flamenco dancer & choreographer, Madrid

Guest Musicians
Paco Fonta, Flamenco Singer & guitarist, Antonio Gabarri Jimenez, Flamenco Guitarist
David Chiriboga, Flamenco Guitarist, Javier Saume Mazzei, Percussionist
Jane Kenas Heller, Pianist, Brian Torosian, Classical Guitarist

Company Dancers
Claudia Pizarro, First Dancer (on leave) Jose Torres, First Dancer
Crystal Ruiz, Julia Hinojosa, Monica Saucedo, Juan Castellón, Principal Dancers
Olivia Serrano Soloist
Abigail Ventura, Amanda Saucedo, Frida Medina, Luis Beltran, Jonathan Pacheco
Company Dancers
Nalanie Molina, Matt Jalac, Tasiana Villalobos (on leave), Samantha Micklewright, Laila Galecki Apprentices

Youth Company Dancers
Katrina Bartels, Catherine Beza, Alizey Diaz, Kamila Galecki, Abigail Mosquera,
Yasmeen Quiñones, Esmeralda Robledo, Heroly Rodriguez, Sofia Vidaurre, Adrian Villanueva,
Senior Division
Ashton Arreola, Anna Barrios, Citlali Cruz Bruno, Dyani Diaz, Samantha Diaz, Zoë Kagan,
Sofia Melendez, Josue Morales, Devinn Sanchez, Isabella Trujillo
Junior Division

Dustin Derry
Technical Director
Sarah Lackner
Stage Manager
Mike Mikrut
Videographer
Photographers
Dean Paul, Joe Davis,
Joel Maisonet, Dave Suarez
HMS Media

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American Spanish Dance and Music Festival 2019 | Flamenco Passion 1
Celebrity Golfer and Speaker:
Chicago Cubs Legend Randy Hundley

- Contests
- Lunch on the Course
- Silent Auction

Chevy Chase Country Club, Wheeling

9:30 A.M.
Registration

11 A.M.
Shotgun Start

4 P.M.
Cocktail Reception

5 P.M.
Dinner program includes silent auction, awards and Randy Hundley

Proceeds Benefit Student Scholarships

neiu.edu/Kane
ARTISTIC AND EXECUTIVE LEADERS NOTES

Thank you for joining us at the 43rd Annual American Spanish Dance and Music Festival.

Tonight we are celebrating Dame Libby Komaiko’s life and the remarkable gift of her art in the creation, life, and continuing mission of the Ensemble Español Spanish Dance Theater and Center. We are all confident that in the years ahead we will continue to hear from the many voices who knew Dame Libby. They were her students, they were her dancers, they were her colleagues, guest artists, they were her staff, they were in the audiences that sustained the Ensemble over 40 years, they were donors, they were board members, board of trustees, advisory council members, parent committees, volunteers, of the Ensemble Español. They were community members, students, faculty, staff, and they all were so proud of what Ensemble Español gives to the world community.

Tonight we will hear from our wonderful dancers and watch their beautiful dancing in some of Dame Libby’s favorite works and world premieres performed by both the adult and youth company’s and guest artists. Be assured that in all the years ahead Dame Libby will be remembered in dance companies and audiences around the world, in our nation and our City.

Dame Libby’s passion for Spanish dance was only exceeded by her passion for excellence, education and community. She was an inspiration to all who met her. We dedicate ourselves to those same passions as we carry on her legacy. Our deepest and sincerest admiration, love and gratitude for the gift she has left us.

Special welcome and thank you to Northeastern Illinois University new president, Dr. Gloria Gibson, guest artists: Carmela Greco, Carlos Rodriguez, Jose Barrios, and guest musicians: Paco Fonta, Antonio Gabarri Jimenez, David Chiriboga, Javier Saume-Mazzie, Jane Kenas Heller and Brian Torosian.

Special photo gallery in theater lobby with ensemble dancers in iconic images with Dame Libby, inspired by company soloist, Olivia Serrano, was designed by Joel Maisonet of Maisonet Photography with printing support by Daniel Alverio of Stage 2 Graphics. Joel and Daniel were both former dancers in the Ensemble Español youth and adult company’s from 1989 to 1996. This gallery will serve as the artistic theme of our Dame Libby Komaiko Legacy Fund. For more information visit our lobby hospitality table or online at EnsembleEspanol.org

Dame Libby is survived by her sister Leah Komaiko, brothers Bill Komaiko and Dan Komaiko, birth daughter Jen Miller and birth granddaughter Amanda Miller.

In lieu of gifts Dame Libby and the family’s wishes are for donations to be made to the Ensemble Español Spanish Dance Theater at EnsembleEspanol.org or at our hospitality table in the theater lobby.

Muchisimas Gracias nuestra adorada Dama Libby de todo corazón.

Thank you for joining us this evening.

Artistic Director  Executive Director
**North Shore Center for the Performing Arts**  
**June 14, 15 & 16, 2019**

**ACT 1**  
**Danza Oriental**

Also a Catalonian, beloved composer and pianist, Enrique Granados’ music reflects his cultural and aristocratic Spanish soul. He was a sentimentalist. What the Alhambra was to Albéniz, Madrid was to Granados. Dame Libby first created and performed this exotic 19th Century classical and oriental stylized dance with her mother, Dorothy Komaiko as the pianist.

In 1933, as a child of eleven years, Dorothy was the first prize gold medalist of the piano competition of the Chicago Federation of Musicians at the landmark Auditorium Theatre. She played the music of Chopin and Granados. Since her passing in 1987 Dame Libby has performed this work with symphony orchestras and recently with guitars. The guitars reflect the nobility and delicacy that Dorothy’s artistry reflected on the piano.

Dame Libby since then dedicated this dance to her mother, Dorothy.

*Choreography & Dancer (1977): Dame Libby Komaiko*  
*Costume & Lighting Design: Dame Libby Komaiko & Ann Rosi*

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**Zapateado**

A portrayal of the herders, herding the bulls to the fields on horseback - Dance of the Shoes. Dame Libby Komaiko, inspired by her late teacher and mentor, Mr. Jose Greco, set this dance originally on her first company of five dancers:

Karen Stelling, Vida Bitinas, Myrna Salazar, Sergio Bahamondes, Rafael Figueroa performed here on this stage at NEIU Auditorium in 1976 as the newly formed Ensemble Español.

*Choreography & Lighting Design (1976): Dame Libby Komaiko*  
*Costume Design & Construction: Paco Alonso & Dolores Decano*  
*Dancers: Company*

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**Sevilla**

“Sevilla” from Suite Española, Op. 47 by Isaac Albeniz was originally written for piano in 1886 by Isaac Albeniz (1860-1909).

*Performer and castanet composition: Dame Libby Komaiko*  
*Music: Brian Torosian, Classical Guitarist*  
*Castanet accompaniment: Irma Suarez Ruiz*  
*Photos by: Dean Paul*

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**Horizonte** (Horizon) (Neo-Classical)

Ms. Monica Saucedo dedicates this work to Ensemble's founder, Dame Libby Komaiko, for her life's work, love, dedication, and passion of Spanish dance, music, art, and education.

*Choreographer and Dancer (2018): Monica Saucedo, Principal Dancer*  
*Costume Production: Luz Creations Lighting Designer: Sarah Lackner*
Clavos y Canela
This Flamenco dance, siguriyas, derives from the *cante jondo*, the ancient Deblas, saddest of the Flamenco songs. Performance video from the Northeastern Illinois University stage in 1980.

Dame Libby performed this work throughout her dance career through 2007 with many esteemed musicians including Maria Elena “La Cordobesa”, Luis Primitivo, Paco Fonta, Mateo, Mick LaBriola, Javier Saume Mazzei, and David Chiriboga to name a few.

*Choreography (1979): Maria Alba*
*Costume Design & Production: Paco Alonso*
*Music: Traditional Siguiriyas  Flamenco singer: Dominico Caro  Guitarist: Greg Wolfe*
*Poem: “El Llanto de la Guitarra,” Federico Garcia Lorca  Dancer: Dame Libby Komaiko*
*Flamenco tribute music by Paco Fonta, Antonio Gabarri Jimenez, David Chiriboga, and Javier Saume Mazzei*

Ecos De España
(Saturday performance only)

The inexhaustible vitality and distinctly individual qualities of Spanish folk music, its rhythms and colors have fascinated composers in Europe and worldwide throughout the twentieth century. Dame Libby was inspired by paintings from Francisco de Goya’s “Black Period” and Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov’s musical creations. The celebrated Russian composer and music teacher Rimsky-Korsakov is famous for his popular symphonic suites and imaginative blend of orchestral sounds. *Ecos de España* has also been a company favorite performed with symphony orchestras, including the Evanston symphony, the Skokie Valley Symphony, the Northwest Symphony and the Chicago Symphony Orchestra.

*Choreography & Lighting Design (1983): Dame Libby Komaiko*
*Choreographic Collaboration: Edo (Fandango Asturiano)*
*Scene y Cante Gitano (4th Mvt.) and Fandango Asturiano (Jota) (5th Mvt.)*
*Costume Design: Dame Libby Komaiko (Scene y Cante Gitano)*
*Christine Fransen (original Fandango Asturiano costumes)*

Note: For this tribute costume designs and construction by Paco Alonso

*Dancers: Company*

Danza del Fuego (Dance of Fire)
(Sunday performance only)

This romantic twentieth-century neoclassical dance portrays the mysterious moods and great eastern influence of the Moors in Spain during their 900-year rule.

*Choreography & Lighting Design (1977): Dame Libby Komaiko*
*Music: Pablo Luna (1879-1942) from the zarzuela “Ben Amor” (1923)  Costume design: Ann Rossi*
*Dancers: Crystal Ruiz, Julia Hinojosa, Olivia Serrano, José Torres, Luis Beltran*

Seda (Silk) World Premiere
This contemporary work combines different rhythms in the Flamenco styles as composed by Pepo Sherman. This work will be a part of the ballet, “Picasso,” Rodriguez is currently working on in Madrid.

*Choreography, Costume Design and Dancer: Carlos Rodriguez, Guest Artist*
*Music: Pepo Sherman & Pedro Medina*
*Lighting Design: Carlos Rodriguez & Dustin Derry*
Pasion Oculta (Hidden Passion) World Premiere

“This tormented by his hidden passion, her being is brought to life in every corner of his heart, mind and soul” – Irma Suarez Ruiz

This Flamenco contemporary work, set on five couples of Ensemble Español Company dancers by artistic director, Irma Suarez Ruiz, portrays the hidden passions of love and desire.

Ruiz has set this sensual new work to two songs by the all-female electronic string quartet, Escala.

Choreography and Costume Design: Irma Suarez Ruiz, Artistic Director
Music: Escala “Requiem for a Tower” and “Palladio.”
Costume Production: Luz Creations & Tanya Tailor  Lighting Design: Dustin Derry
Dancers: Jose Torres, First Dancer, Crystal Ruiz, Olivia Serrano, Monica Saucedo, Juan Carlos Castellon, Principal Dancers; Amanda Saucedo, Frida Medina, Luis Beltran, Jonathan Pacheco, Company Dancers; Matt Jalac, Company Apprentice

15 INTERMISSION

La Piel Desnuda (Naked Skin) World Premiere

Carlos Rodriguez sets this traditional / contemporary work in the Classical Spanish Style with the art, attire and furnishings of the Baroque period to establish a backdrop symbolizing the “uniform” of class and status. Out of this backdrop steps a Time Traveler, who elicits a ghostly court where the spirits of the past challenge us to face the truth of human beauty. Per Rodriguez, “We must rescue the best of history’s aesthetics to help new generations in their search for the human soul.” Rodriguez sets this work to the music of award-winning Spanish composer, José Nieto.

Choreography, Costume Design: Carlos Rodriguez  Music: José Nieto “Aires de Villa y Corte”
Costume Production: Tanya Tailor, Miriam Alvarez & William-David
Lighting Design: Dustin Derry  Dancers: Company
Pas de Deux: Sammi Micklewright & Jonathan Pacheco, Company Dancers

This work is made possible thanks to a generous grant from the Joyce Foundation and the Illinois Arts Council.

Diálogo (Dialog) U.S. Premiere

This work is part of the Flamenco ballet, “Reditum,” premiering in Cordoba in 2017 by Jose Barrios. The Martinete-Siguiriya songs are considered to be one of the saddest in the rhythms of Flamenco. This style belonging to the group of the tonás or cantes a palo seco (acapela style) are traditionally sung with no accompaniment. In some dance shows for the stage, they are accompanied by percussion. For this U.S. premiere, percussionist Javier Saume-Mazzei will join Barrios accompanied by Flamenco singer, Paco Fonta and guitarists Antonio Gabarri Jimenez and David Chiriboga.

Choreographer, Lighting, Costume Design and Dancer: Jose Barrios, Guest Artist
Costume Production: Arco Visuales

Aires de Cádiz / World Premiere

This Flamenco work, featuring the Ensemble Español Youth Company and set to music composed and performed by Flamenco guitarist and guest artist, Antonio Gabarri Jimenez, reflects the rich culture and joyous nature of the people of the province of Cádiz in Andalucia, the southern part of Spain. Greco’s choreography uses the palo (style) Tanguillos in the compás (rhythm) of four.

Choreographer: Carmela Greco, Guest Artist
Costume Design and Production: Flamenco MV  Lighting Design: Dustin Derry
Dancers: Youth Company
Triana / World Premiere

Inspired by the province of Triana, located on the east bank of the Guadalquivir River in the city of Seville, Barrios sets this festive Flamenco Tangos finale in honor of beloved Dama Libby Komaiko.

“I dedicate this work to Dama Libby for her life’s love, mission, dedication, and devotion to all that is Spanish dance, music, art, and culture. Gracias Dama Libby with love and admiration” - Jose Barrios

Choreography: Jose Barrios, Guest Artist
Costume Design: Irma Suarez Ruiz, Jose Barrios, and Dancers  Lighting Design: Dustin Derry

Rondeña / World Premiere

Rondeña is a palo or musical form of Flamenco originating in the town of Ronda in the province of Málaga in Spain. In common with other palos originating in Málaga, the rondeña antedated flamenco proper and became incorporated into it during the 19th century. The rondeña has its origin in the fandango malagueño and it is said that it is «the oldest fandango actually known».

Musical composition by Antonio Gabarri Jimenez, Flamenco guitarist.

Ms. Greco dedicates this work to her teacher and mentor, Dama Libby Komaiko.

“Gracias my dear Dama for being the grand teacher and artist in our lives. Your legacy will continue always in each of us” – Love, Carmela Greco

Choreography and Costume Design: Carmela Greco, Guest Artist
Music composition: Antonio Gabarri Jimenez  Lighting Design: Dustin Derry

Boléro

(Friday performance only)

Since its creation, Ensemble Español’s Boléro has graced some of the greatest landmark theaters in the world to well over one million audience members and been featured in two documentaries; Dance for Life: 20th Anniversary Documentary in 2010 (winner of two Emmy awards for best documentary and best director – Scott Silberstein of HMS media) and Sobre Las Olas del Mar: A story of Flamenco in the U.S. 2013 by director, Carolina Loyola Garcia. Dame Libby’s Boléro has also been featured on ABC television, Public Television and on Dean Richards, WGN Radio and Television and international media in China, Puerto Rico and Poland. Theater performances include Chicago’s Northeastern Illinois University Auditorium 1993 – 95, & 1997 - 1998, Skyline Stage at Navy Pier in 1996, North Shore Center for the Performing Arts in Skokie in 1999, 2008, 2011, 2013, 2016, 2018, the Auditorium Theatre of Roosevelt University in 2002 – 2005, the Harris Theater for the Ensemble’s 30th anniversary in 2006, Dance for Life in 2010 and Global Rhythms in 2011. Internationally Dame Libby’s Boléro has been performed in Puerto Rico, Poland, China and in the U.S. for the St. Louis Dance Festival in 2010, 2011, 2013, 2015 to a roaring record breaking 12 standing ovation curtain calls. The Ensemble also presented Boléro on August 22 & 24, 2013 in a Chicago historic double header at the Auditorium Theater of Roosevelt University and on the Pritzker Pavillion stage in Millennium Park as part of the Chicago Dancing Festival. Boléro made its Spain debut on August 20, 2016 at the Teatro Tomas y Valiente in the city of Fuenlabrada and on the 24 of August at the Teatro Marquina in Madrid in honor of the company’s 40th anniversary. The New York Times called Dame Libby’s Boléro “Amazing… Wowed the Audience” in 2017 at the sold out Joyce Theater in Manhattan, New York with audience members standing shouting “encore, encore”.

Inspirational Back Story: Drawings & Paintings of Pablo Picasso (Barcelona, 1881 - 1973)
Costume Designers: Dame Libby Komaiko, Paco Alonso  Original costume production: Paco Alonso
Costume re-design addition for the special 20th Anniversary in 2013: Freddie Rocha
Lighting Design: Michael Mix  Dancers: Company

This work when created was dedicated to the memory of Irving B. Dobkin, long-time officer of the Board of Directors and friend of the Ensemble Español.

The creation of Boléro was made possible in part by the Cherry Family Foundation.
FOUNDER, ARTISTIC & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR of The Ensemble Español Center for Spanish Dance and Music, the Ensemble Español Spanish Dance Theater, co-founder of the Ensemble Español Spanish Dance Youth Company and the American Spanish Dance and Music Festival, Professor Emerita of Dance in the Department of Music and Dance at Northeastern Illinois University, Chicago

For over half a century Dame Libby Komaiko’s innovative, unique and visionary career encompassed art, education and culture. Her passionate pioneering creations are respected and hailed throughout the Americas and internationally. In 1983 she became the first American artist in history to be decorated with Spain’s highest honor, the “Lazo de Dama de Isabel la Católica” by Juan Carlos I, King of Spain, for her superlative work in spreading the cultural and artistic values of Spain throughout the U.S. Dame Libby began her dance training and performance in classical ballet and character dance as a young child with Elisa Stigler at the Chicago Musical College of Roosevelt University. As a teen, she studied Jazz, Modern, and Musical Theater with Gus Giordano. At the age of 18, she auditioned for the legendary José Greco and was given the opportunity to learn and perform with his world famous Spanish Dance Company.

Her beloved journey into the Spanish dance world also led her to the company of Lola Montes. Dame Libby’s career also included musical theater, opera, television, film and orchestra, including guest performances with Arthur Fiedler and the Boston Pops. With the Ensemble Español she performed with the Detroit Symphony, the Evanston and Skokie Valley Symphonies, and repeated performances with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. She was the choreographer and coach for several Chamber Opera Chicago performances. She studied in Spain and the United States with Elisa Stigler, Gus Giordano, María Alba, Nana Lorca, Lola Montes, José Greco, Edo, Manolo Vargas, Paul Haakon, María Magdalena, Pedro Azorin, Ciro, Pacita Tomas, and Roberto Lorca, with whom she partnered for several years.

In 1976 she created and founded the Ensemble Español, the premier Spanish Dance Company and Center in the United States to have “In Residence” status at a university, Northeastern Illinois University in Chicago. After performing for the university community in 1974, in accompaniment with concert pianist and mother, Dorothy Komaiko, she became the university’s artist in residence. Two years later she created the Ensemble with five Northeastern students. Today the company trains and houses 43 dancers (20 in the adult company and 23 in the youth divisions). She has choreographed 60 of the company’s extensive 135 plus choreographic roster and produced their major international Flamenco ballets and dramas, folkloric suites and classic modern interpretations with guest artists from Spain and the Americas.

The recipient of numerous awards including civic honors, national awards, and choreography fellowships, she received the coveted Ruth Page Award in 2003 at the Ravinia Festival and the prestigious International Latino Cultural Center Lifetime Achievement Award in 2004. She served on the roster of the Illinois Arts Council as a Master Teacher through their Arts-in-Education and Artists-in-residence programs. Dame Libby completed the filming of a video documentary, Ensemble Español: The First 20 years,
DAME LIBBY KOMAIKO (JUNE 30, 1949 – FEBRUARY 2, 2019) CONT.

1976-1996, in 1998. In 2008 Dame Libby was honored with the Distinguished Alumni Award from her Alma Mater, Evanston Township High School. In 2008 she also received the Outstanding Partnership Award from Mayor Richard M. Daley for her collaboration of Spanish dance, music and education with the Joyce Kilmer Elementary School in Rogers Park with the Ensemble Español.

She produced a CD of Spanish music and castanets, *Dama Libby and Friends*, which benefits the Ensemble’s Youth Scholarship and Endowment Funds. She was a Professor Emerita at Northeastern Illinois University, and was given the Distinguished Alumni Award by the school in 2015. On September 26, 2017, Audience Architects/See Chicago Dance, presented Dame Komaiko with the first annual Legacy Award. Dame Komaiko’s dedication to artistic excellence, cultural integrity, and of course, educational opportunities for young artists and students has enriched our community for decades. Dame Komaiko and the Ensemble Español are featured in the documentary film, *Sobre Las Olas (Over the Waves)* by director, Carolina Loyola Garcia. The documentary highlights the life of Dame Komaiko’s first Spanish dance teacher and mentor, Mr. José Greco.
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José Barrios,
Guest artist / Faculty / Dancer / Choreographer / Co-Assistant Director to Maria Pagés Company

GUEST MUSICIANS

Paco Fonta,
Flamenco Singer and Guitarist

Antonio Gabarrí Jiménez,
Flamenco Guitarist

David Chiriboga,
Flamenco guitarist

Javier Saume Mazzei,
Percussionist

Jane Kenas Heller,
Pianist

Brian Tosrios,
Classical Guitarist
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Faculty, NEIU

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Concert Coordinator
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Maisonet Photography
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Anna Czajun
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Julia Hinojosa
Artistic Director
Ensemble Español
Spanish Dance Youth Company

Jose Torres
Crystal Ruiz
Monica Saucedo
Assistant to Artistic Director
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We are very grateful to all of our supporters who have helped the Ensemble realize its goals, and extend its programs. Your generosity produces the next generation of dancers! Thank you!

Contributions reflect donations made May 3, 2018 through May 8, 2019. Any omissions to this list are unintentional.
We would like to give a special thank you to everyone who contributed to our 1.5 million Raised in Chicago, Ready for the World three year match campaign ending successfully two months before deadline date of June 30, 2019.

ENSEMBLE ESPAÑOL DONATION PROGRAMS

The Ensemble Español's continued growth and success is a tribute to our audience members and contributors. ¡Gracias!

DAME LIBBY KOMAIKO LEGACY FUND
Dame Libby Komaiko created and founded the Ensemble Español in 1976. After performing for the university community in 1974, in accompaniment with concert pianist and mother, Dorothy Komaiko, she became the university's artist in residence. Two years later she created the Ensemble with five Northeastern students. Today the company trains and houses 43 dancers. Dame Libby passed away on February 2, 2019. She inspired and changed the lives of countless dancer, students and Spanish dance aficionados. The Dame Libby Komaiko Legacy Fund will ensure that her wish for the Ensemble to continue to bring the passion of Spanish dance to all will be honored.

PASO A PASO ARTS EDUCATION INITIATIVE
Last year, the Ensemble's arts education and community outreach programs served over 30,000 young students in Chicago and the Midwest. Your support means more arts programs for children and youth in all of our communities! A generous gift as an Amigo/a, Heritage Circle, Contributor and/or Individual Sponsor, will allow us to continue to provide classes, lectures/demonstrations, specially-designed performances, and intensive dance residencies to many more interested students.

ZELDA KOLBER SENIOR PROGRAM - “Zelda’s Fund”
This program brings Spain into retirement and nursing centers throughout the Chicago area. Seniors have the opportunity to watch performances, learn dance steps, celebrate with family and friends during the “Night of Spain,” and then travel to Northeastern Illinois University for a special concert. Honoring the memory of our beloved supporter, Zelda Kobler, this program exposes underserved seniors to the arts.

We gratefully accept your generous checks payable to Ensemble Español

Ensemble Español
Northeastern Illinois University
5500 N. St. Louis Avenue
Chicago, IL 60625

Visa, Mastercard, American Express and Discover are accepted.

All contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by the law.

RAISED IN CHICAGO, READY FOR THE WORLD
The Ensemble Español is delighted to announce that we have completed a match campaign made possible by a major Growth Grant from Caerus Foundation, Inc. This grant raised $1.5 million over three years 2016-19.

We are still going strong and want to exceed our goal!

3 Ways to Make Your Match Donation:
1.) Complete donation reply card in lobby hospitality table.
2.) Log on to www.EnsembleEspanol.org and click on DONATE.
3.) Visit our Development Manager, Kim Grigsby or executive board members or staff in lobby.

For more information call Ms. Grigsby at (773) 620-6046 or email at kim@ensembleespanol.org.

ENDOWMENT
Honor the Past, Secure the Future
For over four decades, Dame Libby Komaiko, the Ensemble Español Spanish Dance Theater and Center, the Ensemble Español Spanish Dance Youth Company, guest artists and partners, Northeastern Illinois University, have inspired, entertained and educated millions of people from around the world, who come together to celebrate the culture and art of Spain. Tonight, as you share in the passion that is Spain in America, you can help to secure the future of our cultural treasure.

Your gift to the Ensemble Español Endowment Fund will support and preserve the concerts, classes, residencies, workshops, scholarships and Festivals that have made us the premier Center for Spanish Dance and Music in the United States for over thirty seven years.

Please send your check, payable to the NEIU Foundation

(Nota Ensemble Español Endowment on the memo line) to:
The Development Office | Northeastern Illinois University, 5500 N. St Louis Avenue, Chicago, IL 60625
ENSEMBLE ESPAÑOL SPANISH DANCE THEATER & CENTER

The Ensemble Español Spanish Dance Theater is the premier Spanish dance company and center in the United States to have in-residence status at a university, Northeastern Illinois University, Chicago. The Ensemble Español preserves, presents, and promotes the three styles of Spanish dance: Flamenco, folkloric, and classical. Founded in 1975 by Dame Libby Komaiko, and incorporated in 1976, the organization is now under the dynamic leadership of Irma Suarez Ruiz, artistic director and Jorge Pérez, executive director. The company is comprised of 40 dancers, singers, and musicians representing a mosaic of cultures from around the world. The organization is praised by educators, arts professionals, business and government leaders, as well as arts and cultural media for its artistic excellence, cultural integrity, and of course, its commitment to arts and higher education opportunities for all.

The Ensemble appears in a broad range of television, opera, film, and symphonic formats, including with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. The Ensemble has appeared in many major theater and universities in Chicago and Illinois, including the landmark legendary Auditorium Theatre of Roosevelt University, North Shore Center, Harris Theater, Symphony Space, to mention a few. The Ensemble has appeared throughout the United States, the Midwest, Puerto Rico, Hawaii & Canada and on four continents in the countries of Mexico, Costa Rica, Poland, Australia, China and Spain.

ENSEMBLE ESPAÑOL SPANISH DANCE THEATER’S UPCOMING EVENTS

Weekly Children’s Flamenco Dance Classes for the community
Northeastern Illinois University Dance Studio, J Building
Next class session Tuesdays, July 9 – August 18 (six classes = one session) , $75

Ages 4-6  6:00 pm – 6:50 pm
Ages 7-12 Beg.  6:00 pm – 7:00pm
Ages 7-12 Int.  7:00 pm – 8:00 pm

To register, please contact Josephine DiCesare at 773-442-5916

After School Matters – Spanish Dance Theater Experience
Do you know a teen that would like to learn Spanish dance and earn money for the summer? The Ensemble Español is partnering with After School Matters and is offering Apprenticeship opportunities for teens. The program meets for four days a week for six weeks (July 1- August 8); teens earn a stipend for their participation.

Requirements:
Must be between the ages of 14-19
Attend a Chicago Public School and Resident of the City of Chicago

For More information please contact Julia Hinojosa 773-442-5926 or katia@ensembleespanol.org

Weekly Adult’s Flamenco Dance Classes for the community
Northeastern Illinois University Dance Studio, J Building
Tuesdays starting in Fall 2019
(six classes = one session)

Levels I and II  7:15 pm – 8:15 pm

Please visit www.EnsembleEspanol.org or call 773-442-5916 for a Fall 2019 class schedule.

Summer Family Events at Northeastern Illinois University
Thursdays 6-8:30pm
July 11  Outdoor Movie Night
July 18  Dance in the Courtyard
July 25  Outdoor Movie Night
August 1  Flamenco Flea Market

Children’s Summer Dance Camp
June 22 &23/ 9:30 am- 2pm
In-studio showcase on Sunday, June 23 at 2pm.