

DANCING IN FREEDOM'S SHOES™

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*Dancing In Freedom's Shoes:
The Alberto Alonso Story*

A project of the SFCC Fines Arts and Media Program

Project Synopsis: The *Dancing In Freedom's Shoes* Project involves two major components:

1.) The production of a feature-length documentary film on the art and life of Cuban born choreographer Alberto Alonso and his wife, the popular Cuban dancer Sonia Calero. Distribution will be to international film festivals, theatres, cable, television and educational markets.

** A benefit film screening Saturday, September 16th, 2006 at the Phillips Center for the Performing Arts in Gainesville, Florida.

2.) Celebratory concert by acclaimed Cuban saxophonist Paquito D'Rivera and his jazz quintet, Sunday, September 17th, 2006 at the Phillips Center for the Performing Arts in Gainesville, Florida.

** Artist Lecture by Paquito D'Rivera Sunday afternoon, September 17th, 2006. Open to all high school and college students.

Project Advantages to Students:

- ** Students have already participated in various film production activities.
- ** Students will benefit from sales and distribution revenues in terms of curriculum development, scholarships and program enhancements.
- ** Students will benefit from enhanced international studies opportunities.
- ** Students will benefit from enhanced Artist-In-Residence Programs.

Project Advantages to College:

- ** National and international recognition of Fine Arts and Media Program resulting in increased student enrollment and recruitment of stellar faculty.
- ** Enhancement of International Studies initiatives and opportunities.
- ** Enhancement of college fund-raising activities at both the local and state level.
- ** Enhancement of Artist-In-Residence opportunities.
- ** Distribution and sales revenue of film to benefit student programs and scholarships. Revenue matched by the state on the basis of \$4 of matching funds for every \$6 in sales.
- ** Celebrates Santa Fe Community College's 40th Anniversary.

Project Advantages to Community:

- ** Attract local students to enhanced Fine Arts and Media program classes.
- ** Develop new fine arts, graphics and media classes that will lead to new employment opportunities in our region.
- ** Attract International Artists to the community.
- ** Earn the community international reputation to help stimulate area job and tourism development.

Santa Fe Community College Endowment Corporation

3000 N.W. 83rd Street

Gainesville, FL 32606-6200

352. 395. 5200

www.dancinginfreedomsshoes.com

DANCING IN FREEDOM'S SHOES™

Film Synopsis: *Dancing In Freedom's Shoes* is the dramatic story of two beloved Cuban artists who sought to create a unique style of dance that celebrated their Cuban heritage, but whose lives changed dramatically following the production of Alonso's revolutionary ballet, *Carmen*, at the famous Bolshoi Theater. Unable to work freely as artists under the Castro regime, and afraid for their son's future, they found asylum in America following their son's defection by raft in 1993. The couple found a new home and careers at Santa Fe Community College where Alberto serves as Master-Artist-In-Residence and Sonia teaches salsa and other popular dance classes. The film concludes with Alonso's triumphant return to the Bolshoi for the November 2005 re-premiere of his *Carmen*. The only non-Russian ever commissioned to choreograph for the Bolshoi, Alonso receives a standing ovation, marking his family's personal triumph of artistic and personal freedom.

SFCC as Non-profit Sponsor: All donations for both the film and screening weekend are contributions to the Santa Fe Community College Endowment Corporation. For donors, this means:

**All donations are tax deductible.

**All donations are matched by the State on the basis of \$4 in matching funds for every \$6 in private contributions.

**Funds go directly to the SFCC Fines Arts and Media program to be used for curriculum development and Fine Arts Program activities.

**Donors will be recognized for their gift according to their sponsorship level. (See donor benefits sheet)

**Donors invited to a day of filming on May 13, 2006, beginning at 10:00AM. Stay for lunch and meet Alberto Alonso and the filmmakers.

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