Entertainment

‘Drum and Dance’ set to wow Palomar
The rhythmic beat of drums echoes through the air. Dancers in their flowing skirts move to the music in synchronized moves. The dance and celebration sends bursts of excitement and rhythm into the air. This is the scene at Palomar’s World Drum and Dance Ensemble’s new show, “Drum and Dance Espectaculo”.

The show celebrates Cuban and Brazilian traditions in dancing, along with the rhythmic beat of drums matching the dance moves. There are a variety of different dances performed, including traditional dances with flowing skirts, a type of rain dance with sticks, and a belly dance.

The costumes and props add authenticity to the dances. One of the dances includes the swirling of skirts along with specific footsteps to make them twirl.

Rain sticks are also used where dancers maneuver around each other in circles with the sticks, hitting the floor and hitting other dancers sticks together.

Another major part of the performance is the beat of drums. There are six players, including the instructor. The beat and rhythm of the drums is synchronized with the dance moves. The bodies of the dancers and the beat of the drums are combined to move and flow together.

The way a drum is hit also plays a major part in the synchronicity of the dance. Along with different dancing sessions, there are different types of drums played. The musicians change drums throughout the performance, creating a different sound effect and changing the mood of each dance.

A variety of drum techniques are used. The musicians play different drums and use both their hands and drumsticks. They also play on the base of the drums, to create a loud, booming effect.

The director and choreographer for the show is Patriceann Mead. The music director is Mark Lamson. The dancers in the show are Patriceann Mead, Lydia Tonantzian Contreras, Shantelle Hartnett, Liesa Johnson, Mark Martinez, Erin Meyes, Phec Scarborough, Tabitha Scarborough, Ketura Scarborough, Sara Larson, Yuka Yoshihara, Jasm Penano, Regan Osoteo, Evangel Gonzalez, Molly Grupe and Rosalva Nunes. The musicians are Mark Lamson, Kenneth Bordwin, John Long, Linda Donahue, Phyl Rock, Arnold Cantong, Jes Molina and Phillip Baum.

“Drum and Dance Espectaculo” will take place Nov. 3 and Nov. 4, 8 p.m. in studio six on the S Marcos campus.