



TENNESSEE PERFORMING  
ARTS CENTER

DAVID GONZALEZ'S

# CUENTOS

Tales from the  
Latino World

Season for Young People extends a special thanks for support from



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ARTS  
COMMISSION

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# About the Show

**Cuentos paints a vivid picture of the people and rich cultures of the Spanish-speaking world with colorful tales from the Caribbean, South America, and the Bronx! From the silly antics of the Puerto Rican anti-hero "Juan Bobo" to the mysterious dealings and powers of the Orishas in a suite of Afro-Cuban stories, these tales are filled with memorable characters, fantastic plots and positive messages for children. Spanish language words are sprinkled throughout the stories and songs in such a way that young audiences can repeat and retain their sound and meaning. Solid entertainment and a great introduction to the marvelous world of Latino literature and culture**

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# About the Artist



**Dr. David Gonzalez**  
is a poet, playwright, storyteller,  
musician, activist, and keynote speaker.

**He is a Fellow of the Joseph Campbell Foundation, received a Drama Desk Nomination for Unique Theatrical Experience, and was a Cultural Ambassador for the U.S State Department. David is the recipient of the “Lifetime Achievement Award for Sustained Excellence” from IRAX. Mr. Gonzalez was named a Fellow of the Joseph Campbell Foundation and was nominated for a Drama Desk Award for “Unique Theatrical Experience” for The Frog Bridff`e. David has created numerous productions, including the critically acclaimed ¡Sofrito! with The Latin Legends Band, and MytholoJazz, both of which enjoyed sold-out runs at New Victory Theater. Sleeping Beauty was co-commissioned by the New Jersey Performing Arts Center, Brooklyn College, and The McCallum Theater.**

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# About the Company

David is the proud recipient of the 2011 International Performing Arts for Youth "Lifetime Achievement Award for Sustained Excellence". In 2010 Mr. Gonzalez was named a Joseph Campbell Foundation Fellow. He was nominated for a 2006 Drama Desk Award for "Unique Theatrical Experience" for his production of The Frog Bride at Broadway's New Victory Theater. He has created numerous productions, including the critically acclaimed ¡Sofrito! with The Latin Legends Band, and MytholoJazz, both of which enjoyed sold-out runs at New Victory Theater. David's work, Wounded Splendor, was the result of a two-year residency and commission from the University of Maryland. Sleeping Beauty, co-commissioned by the New Jersey Performing Arts Center, Brooklyn College, and The McCallum Theater, premiered in March 2010 and has gone on tour nationally including a run at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. David was a featured performer at the 2007 National Storytelling Festival, and has performed at festivals in Spain, Switzerland, France, Costa Rica, Norway, Puerto Rico, and throughout the United States. He also appeared for three seasons at the Royal National Theatre in London. Mr. Gonzalez is the Artistic Director for The Alliance for a New Humanity, an international service organization dedicated to peace and sustainability. He received his doctorate from New York University's School of Education.

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# Vocabulary

## El Rey Del Agua

A Dominican story about a father, son and daughter and the jealousy and violence that she escapes when she befriends a golden fish.



**serpiente (SER-PEE-EN-TAY): Snake!**  
**martillo (MAR-TEE-YO): Hammer!**  
**garita (GAR-EE-TAH): Watchtower!**

## Delgadina

A fantastic Chilean story about a young girl, her magical red snake and the trouble that arises when he gives her a gift of gold.



**bruja (BREW-HA): Witch!**  
**arboles (ARE-BOWL-ES): Trees!**  
**madera (MAH-DER-AH): Wood!**

## The Man Who Could Make Trees Sing

A true story from when I was seven years old, about the time my Uncle Jose set up a workshop in my basement and built something very special for me...a guitar! (But please, don't tell the kids what it is...)



**oro (O-ROW): Gold!**  
**soldado (SOUL-DAH-DOUGH): Soldier!**  
**mar (MAR): Ocean!**

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# Vocabulary

## Chango and the Power of the Drum

A Cuban/Yoruba tale about the "Orisha" Chango's wish to trade the power to tell the future for the power of music.



**tambor (TAM-BOR):** Drum!  
**caracoles (CAR-A-CO-LES):** Seashells!  
**plaza (PLA-ZA):** Town Square!

## La Garita Del Diablo

The legend of the "Haunted Watchtower" has been told in Puerto Rico for many, many years. In this version of the story we learn what really happened to the Sanchez, the watchtower's lonely guard, on a terrible, windblown night long ago.



## Milomaki

A Puerto Rican creation story about how the Royal Palm Tree (La Palma Real), with all its healing powers, came to the island.

## Vovo

A Colombian story of a boy whose kindness brings him magical treasures, but when his brothers ignore the rules that govern these gifts they are in for a rough time.



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**arco y flechas (AR-CO EE FLECH-AS):** Bow and Arrow!

**El Yunque (EL YOON-KAY):** The Rainforest of Puerto Rico  
**pajaro (PA-JA-RO):** Bird!

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