

Mexican Culture Growth through Music
Get Amped Interdisciplinary Culture Essay
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Mexico's Culture Growth through Music

Food, decorations, music. Overwhelming, bright, and different. Walking into to a world, never explored by him or her. Sounds, smells, and sights, never opened up to their ears, nose, and eyes. A memory never forgotten and one always remembered. No matter where anyone in this world goes every county has a unique personality that defines their culture. Some cultures have different looks and different foods but the big defining difference of cultures both big and small are the people, and the differences are affected by the people of them and their actions to build their community. The people, community and culture are different based on the music that they might have. That is why Mexican culture is different because there music develops the people that live within the community. The history of the instruments, lyrics, and music within Mexican culture influence generations and create strong bonds within communities.

“The culture of Mexico has undergone a tremendous transformation over the past few decades and it varies widely throughout the country” (Zimmerman, 2017, p.1). Every country, every state, town, and city undergoes big and little changes, and most of them are in the culture they live or work in. One of the biggest contributors to theses changes is music, music that we listen to and create. Mexico is one of the culture that I have seen is very strongly influenced by the music that they play, listen to, and write, because of the communities that they live in and how important music is to families and the hearts of Mexico. Instruments have a big part in music in Mexico, music is greatly influenced by guitares, drums, and trumpets, also by gritos. "The Mexicans are very emotional people,"(Salinas, 2016, p.1). Castro says, "when they hear mariachi music, whether it's because of sorrow or because of joy, they do these gritos, these yells" (Salinas, 2016, p.1). Gritos have influenced the growth of music in Mexico along with the

people because it connects them and brings people together. With music and celebration with music it doesn't matter who they are everyone is part of a family.

Music growth over time is impressive not only because of what new songs, and genres, are brought together but because of the culture and community it helps to grow. Music has been developing in Mexico for years. "The oldest music on record, however, is called 'son'"(T. 2017, p.1). It is also known as Son Huasteco, it uses 3 instruments, a violin, a quinta huapanguera, which is a large guitar with 8 strings, and a jarana a smaller guitar. This form of music while being produced many years ago is still used and played today with a little bit of a modern twist on it. Mexico sharing the border to the United States also influences the growth of music in the past few years. Just like Mexico has also influenced American music in certain places. But all the influence in the world that change our music also changes our biopsychology aspects when it comes to how we hear, see, and touch things. Music while always played by the same notes is different for every person to hear. With the growth of music, dance, and instruments within the culture we all view and see it differently, and the way it touch each and everyone of us can change who we are forever, or help us to grow as a person.

It is amazing that almost everyone can hear music and understand its meaning, imagine a world without instruments, without music or sounds waves at all. With sound waves we are able to generate music through many different instruments. But it's not just the sound that we are hearing, "what we experience as sound is actually a mechanical wave, produced by the back-and-forth vibration of particles in the air" (Buddies, 2016, p.1). A mechanical wave is something that is known to be a disturbance in an elastic medium, where energy transfers. When the music creates sound waves and passes it back in forth we can hear it, and when we give it

more of a condensed area to bounce around in like an amplification device, it amplifies the sounds to make it loud to hear. In Mexico they may not use radios or other devices to amplify their music all of the time but, the instruments they use help to amplify there music over the area that they could be performing in. For example one of the instruments that they use in their culture, very often in mariachi is the trumpet and this is a very loud instrument but when it is played in a very open space like it usually is performed it is easier to hear, and enjoyed by many people.

Mexican Music has always seemed to be very rapid and very loud. There are many songs that are soft and quiet, slow, but a lot of the music that is played is very energetic. In the past few year music in Mexico has advanced and it has changed and adapted to the different cultures as they change and grow, and as more are created. For example, “through the past 50 years, ranchera music has remained a steadfast genre of music that gives Mexicans a sense of national unity” (Andrews, 2017, p.1). The way that they have played ranchera music over the years may have changed in its tempo, and emphasis on instruments, but it has always remained as a steadfast music in the culture. A lot of this music is developed by frequency and amplitude, frequency determines the pitch of a song, because of the speed of vibrations. Amplitude is important when you are balancing the loudness of a song. It was important to use frequency and amplitude in my song and when I was looking at songs from Mexico because it helps to change and find the better pitch of songs. It also helped when I was building a song to understand how to change and balance out the loudness and quiet of my song and the different instruments in the song.

The Music in Mexico is unique and special to each person with in its culture. Through the years it has gotten the people of Mexico through a lot, it strengthened its communities. There is an unofficial national anthem in Mexico that is a big part of their culture, it is called Cielito Lindo, roughly translating to lovely sweet one. This song is sung as a sign of unity, it doesn't matter if it is the past, present, or the future, and it doesn't matter who anyone is with, it matters that people come together no matter their color, shapes, and sizes. Music has unified the people of Mexico, the instruments and lyrics that they play and sing have a strong everlasting impact on people, and it has built and connected the communities and culture together. No matter where in the world, music has created strong bonds in communities, and it changes the world forever because much like music has in Mexico's culture, music changes people.

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