Interested in Helping?

We need help to raise money for our DANZA AZTECA uniforms at OLLU.

The uniforms typically consist of a brilliantly colored split skirt adorned with Christian images, bells and noise-making beads worn over white clothing, sometimes with the image of the Virgin; and a resplendent feathered head dress. Dancers carry gourd rattles while dancing to traditional tunes played on a drum, which combines with the rattles to beat a hypnotic rhythm accompanying the dance.

Please make your check payable to:
OLLU Campus Ministry
Walter Center #203
411 S.W. 24th Street
San Antonio, TX 78207

To See Us Dance Is to Hear Our Hearts Speak!
— Indian Proverb
**What is Danza Azteca?**

*La Danza Azteca* or The Aztec Dance are names that have been used throughout the past four hundred and eighty years to describe a complex and ancient form of communication among the Native American nations of central Mexico. Simply put, *Danza Azteca*, is a modern mystic folk dance tradition of central Mexico based on the cultural legacy of the Aztecs.

*Danza Azteca* is a living, evolving, cultural tradition filled with the artistic, spiritual, and military traditions of the Pre-Colombian Aztecs. It is a form of prayer, individual, and yet communal. It is NOT just a modern folk dance tradition. In reality *Danza Azteca* is closer to a church service, than to a ballet performance.

*Danza Azteca* is a form of communication. It is a rich blend of prayer, music, choreography, poetry, theater, and most importantly of all, of deeply held spiritual faith.

Using brilliant colors in their uniforms, head-dresses, and musical instruments, the Azteca dancers communicate across generations, sacrificing their bodies, their economic abilities, and even their limited socio-political power, to carry on a tradition with which they have been entrusted.

Mixing pre-Columbian spirituality with folk Spanish Catholicism, and to a lesser extent, African influences, the *danzantes* of the Azteca tradition redefine modern Native American tradition. Using intricate dance steps, turns and jumps, the dancers evoke a kinetic prayer. Maracas, seed pod shells, and drums unite to create a mind expanding experience that reflects the cultural heritage of Modern Mexico and Aztlan.

Today, *Danza Azteca* speaks to the rich cultural and spiritual traditions of our University. Its emerging mission is to invoke and express the vision of hope in a community of believers steeped in spirituality.