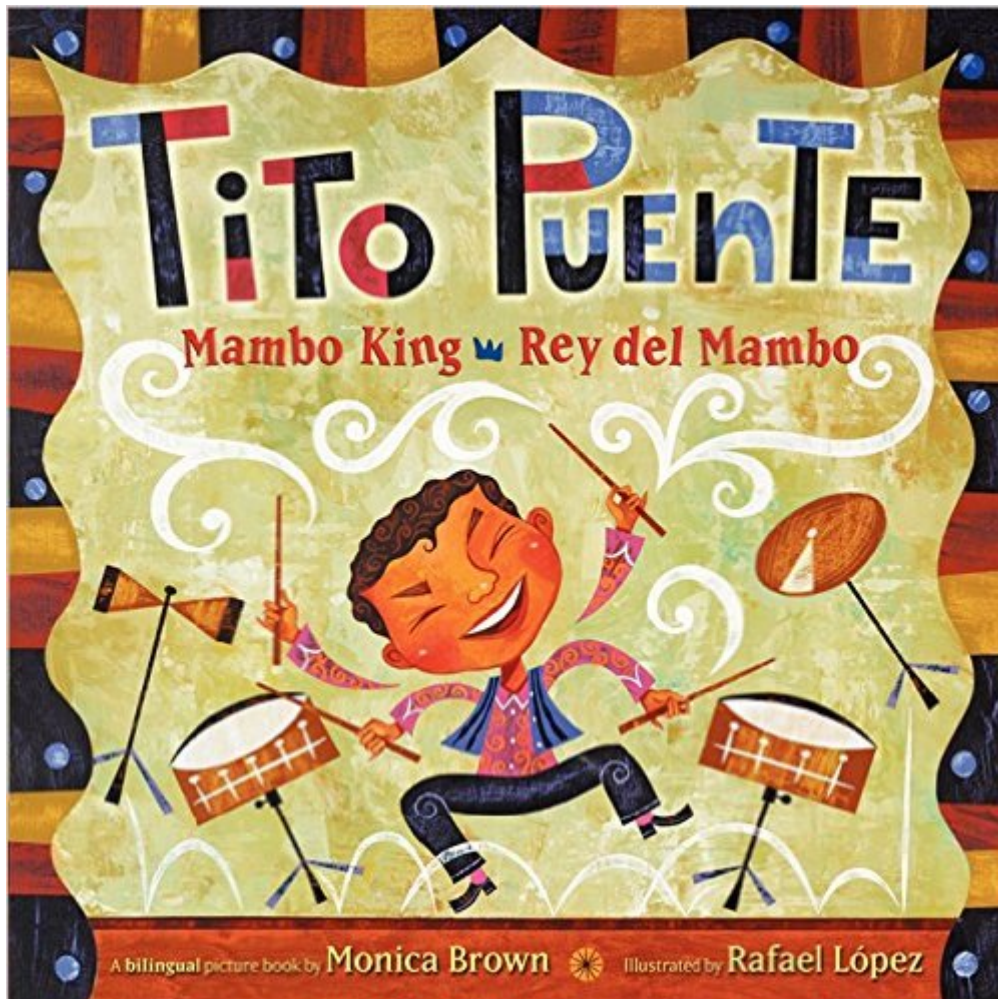


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# Tito Puente, Mambo King/Tito Puente, Rey Del Mambo (Pura Belpre Honor Books - Illustration Honor)



## Synopsis

In this vibrant bilingual picture book biography of musician Tito Puente, readers will dance along to the beat of this mambo king's life. Tito Puente loved banging pots and pans as a child, but what he really dreamed of was having his own band one day. From Spanish Harlem to the Grammy Awards "and all the beats in between" this is the true life story of a boy whose passion for music turned him into the "King of Mambo." Award-winning author-illustrator duo Monica Brown and Rafael Lpez bring the remarkable story of this talented legend to life in this Pura Belpr Honor Book. Supports the Common Core State Standards.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 740L (What's this?)

Series: Pura Belpre Honor Books - Illustration Honor

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: Rayo; Bilingual edition (March 5, 2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0061227838

ISBN-13: 978-0061227837

Product Dimensions: 0.5 x 10.8 x 10.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 15.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars  See all reviews  (8 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #43,802 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #12 in  Books > Children's Books >

Biographies > Musical #28 in  Books > Children's Books > Biographies > United States #45

in  Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Multicultural Stories > Hispanic & Latino

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## Customer Reviews

This book tells the story of Tito Puente in a simple, and fun way! My 4 yr. old loves this book, and especially loves the "tum, tica, tac, tic, tum tic, tom, tom!" It makes my son want to play his drums right after we read it together! It's catchy, and the wording is simple enough to learn new Spanish words! :) I was looking for cultural books of Latin role models to add to our home library (for my son), and this is an excellent acquisition! Highly recommend this book, a big plus is that it's in both Spanish and English. :)

This is a true story about Tito Puente, whom was at the center of the Latin jazz explosion. He was so good that he was considered, "King of the Mambo." I am very big on reading books to children that teach a lesson, and this one does. It teaches children to do what they love and to follow thier dreams. But it's not just about that, it's also about how his parents supported what he loved to do, which was play music. Tito Puente loved music more than anything and even before he could walk was banging spoons and forks wherever he could. His parents, nurturing what he loved to do, got him music lessons as a child and he grew from there. And the story is told in a fun and upbeat way. The story is told in both English and Spanish.

This is a fabulous book that is rich in both illustration and text. The lively illustrations echo the energy that Tito Puente brought to his performances. My second grade students have loved listening to his music while we read the text together. He was such a charismatic performer and this book really highlights that. The text is fun and also reflects the sounds of his music. We have had a wonderful time getting to know the Mambo King during our library lessons.

Brown was presented with the challenge of summarizing Tito Puente's life and music career in a picture book, and with the collaboration of Rafael L3pez and his lovely illustrations, she succeeded wonderfully. What makes this picture book stand out is how beautifully words (English and Spanish) and images resonate with Tito's sounds. The illustrations here are so vivid that you can almost see movements and listen to the sounds that are evoked. Brown and L3pez effectively capture the beat and feeling of Tito Puente's music throughout every page. The book starts with an image of a boy and girl peeking through a curtain, as if we are about to start a show. This is where we are welcomed to Tito's story from his childhood in El Barrio to his Grammy award-winning years. L3pez's colorful and vibrant images, along with Brown's words and onomatopoeia, show us how music was constantly present in Tito's life. These same images and words also construct a fond view of Latino life and music in NYC during Tito's life. Brown and L3pez give us a very entertaining book that also manages to educate us about Tito's life and the importance of music education. It is important to remember that Tito Puente was a product of music education and a supporter of music programs in schools. He even successfully worked toward the creation of the Tito Puente Educational Foundation that offers scholarships to children interested in learning music. This is an issue that is relevant when arts and music programs are constantly facing budget cuts. Being in tune with Puente's life (and other great musicians and singers) helps to inspire us to support

arts and music education, thus this picture book also serves as a great tool to familiarize with the power of music and arts as an important aspect of the learning process. Tito Puente: Mambo King/Rey del Mambo is the second collaboration between Monica Brown and Rafael Lpez. Published in March 2013, the book was selected by various Best of 2013 lists such as: Latinas for Latino Litts Remarkable Latino Childrents Literature of 2013, School Library Journalts Top 10 Latino-themed Books of 2013, and Center for the Study Multicultural Childrents Literature Best Multicultural Books of 2013.

A very nice bi-lingual book for young musicians or anyone interested in learning about the life of Tito Puente. The graphics are very colorful and the lesson about pursuing one's dream is a good motivator.

This is a picture book biography of Tito Puente. It covers his life as a child, his dreams to become the leader of a band and how he was about to fulfill those dreams. The story is told in English as well as in Spanish making it a perfect selection for the bilingual section of the library. Before reading this book my family and I were not familiar with Tito Puente. This gave us a chance to learn about someone new that made a huge impact in the musical world.

This is a great book, a must have for cultural and music lovers. I chose this book for my upcoming childcare center. The book can be used for history, culture and used to make a great lesson plan

Great book!

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