



“Journey from Baghdad to Cordoba”



# Al-Andalus Ensemble

An interactive  
program  
designed for  
Young Audiences



Tarik & Julia Banzi's Al-Andalus Ensemble's  
Educational Young Audiences Program

## “Journey from Baghdad to Cordoba”

A highly educational and interactive program of music and dance offered for students that is uniquely relevant in today's world. This performance masterpiece by world renowned professional artists offers a different view of Middle Eastern cultures, employing approaches that counter negative and distorted stereotypes of Arabs. Student audiences learn about Arab contributions to Western civilization and historic achievements of Arab culture. The outstanding model of tolerance between Christians, Muslims and Jews of Al-Andalus in Medieval Spain is celebrated. History and cultures come alive as students learn the language of the fan and see the magic of a shawl in action! Students are invited to create rhythms with the darbuka drum, do palmas (flamenco clapping), interact with the performers with jaleo (shouts of encouragement), and join in a lively group rumba dance.

### Awards

- \* California ArtsBridge award: “Best in Creative and Complete Planning for Teaching Arts in the Public Schools”
- \* Peoples Grammy Award for “Best World Music Song of 2009” (Al-Andalus's song “Alchemy” chosen #1 from 560,000 entries).

“The students were absolutely INTRIGUED throughout—This was far and away the best production for Young Audiences that I have ever seen!” (Teacher, French American School)

“A perfect balance between performing, talking and student active participation.” (Teacher, Eleanor Roosevelt Elementary)

“The musicianship was superb, the historical context, lineage of the music, our children need to understand the important contributions Arabs have made!” (Teacher, James John Elementary).

“The best example of cultural integration!” (El YA, Madrid, Spain)

### BOOKING

Al-Andalus Ensemble  
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