

Oswaldo Ramírez Vidales was born and raised in Guadalajara, Jalisco. He lived in the historical downtown area next to La Plaza Tapatía and El Teatro Degollado always exposed to Mexican Folklorico as a child. At the age of 13, along with his family, he migrated to Sacramento, California and his interest in learning Mexican traditional dance began at the age of 17 during his first year at Sacramento City College.

In 2000, Oswaldo joined a local dance company named Raíces de mi Tierra, the first folklorico dance organization at CSU Sacramento. He completed a full 10-year trajectory from 2001 to 2010, from a beginner dancer to co-artistic director, while taking on multiple roles throughout those years learning from his dance directors and guest choreographers. Furthermore, he co-joined Instituto Mazatlán Bellas Artes (IMBA) dance company as guest dancer from 2005 to 2007. Between these two companies, Oswaldo had the opportunity to travel, perform, and compete throughout various stages across California and Texas at festivals and events. One of the most memorable stages was the Palace of Fine Arts where he auditioned and performed ten times at the San Francisco Ethnic Dance Festival between 2004 to 2016. Furthermore, Oswaldo had the opportunity to perform abroad with IMBA at the 2005 International Beijing International Dance Festival in China and with Raices de mi Tierra for the Carnival Cruise Line in Mexico in 2007.

To further diversify his skills as a dancer, director, and choreographer, Oswaldo has received extensive training through certificates of completion across national and international conferences. He is a member of California's largest Mexican Folklorico conference called Danzantes Unidos Festival (DUF) since 2002 where he now teaches annually since 2017. Nation-wide, he's also a member and participant of the Asociación Nacional de Grupos Folklóricos (ANGF) conference since 2003 and has taught at the American Dance Association in 2015 and 2017. Internationally, he's also a Californian representative and participant for the Asociación Nacional de Maestros de la Danza Popular Mexicana in México (ANMDPM) since 2013. Through these conferences and master classes, Oswaldo has had the opportunity to train under world-known Mexican Folklorico pioneers, choreographers, and second-generation dancers in the lineages from Rafael Zamarripa, Amalia Viviana Basanta Hernandez, Miguel Velez Arceo, and Silvia Lozano to name a few. Furthermore, his dance training also includes other genres such as Bharatanatyam Classical Indian Dance, Ballroom, Capoeira, Afro-Cuban, Salsa, Flamenco, Ballet, and Social Mexican Dances.

From 2011 to 2018, Oswaldo along with Manuel Pérez, faculty at University of San Francisco, led their own non-profit Mexican dance group called Grupo Folklórico Los Alteños in Sacramento. While serving as co-artistic directors, they collaborated with local Folklorico dance companies for various venues and showcases with Rincones de mi Tierra, IMBA, Grupo Folklorico de Victoria Mendoza, Ballet Folklorico Nube de Oro, and Ensembles Ballet Folklorico de San Francisco highlighting audiences about Mexican culture through dance. As of 2019, Oswaldo now serves as youth dance instructor with Ballet Folklorico Nube de Oro teaching teens to become performers that will carry these traditions to the next generation.

Oswaldo became a faculty lecturer with CSU Sacramento's department of Theater and Dance in 2011 continuing the lineage of Mexican Folklorico dance on campus. He teaches the DNCE 5A, 5B, and 5C courses as part of the Dance major/minor in Yosemite Hall 187, the same room where he first learned folklorico at the age of 17 in the year 2000. Oswaldo has choreographed and/or performed annually for multiple CSUS events like Sacramento Black Art of Dance, University Dance Concert, Festival of the Arts

(FOTA), U-Nite at the Crocker Art Museum, Chicano/Latino Youth Leadership Project (CLYLP) conference, College Assistance Migrant Program Summer Institute, Gala de Oro by the Latinx Alumni Chapter, La Bienvenida Fall Welcome for new students, the Chicana/Latina Graduation Ceremony at CSUS and Los Rios Community Colleges, and many other Multicultural festivals and events on campus. Furthermore, since Fall 2017, Osvaldo also serves as choreographer and dance director of Ballet Folklorico de Sacramento State which is a student campus organization. As for his educational background, he holds a B.A. in Psychology from UC Davis and a M.S. in Career Counseling from CSU Sacramento. Lastly, Osvaldo works as a full-time state manager with the Employment Development Department assisting staff with administrative and training needs for professional development in the Workforce Services Branch.