



**FIERCE:** Junior Adlen Montoya strikes a pose as she practices her dance choreography. The LN Dream Team, of which Montoya is a member, has been practicing for their Oct. 25 Fiesta.

allie van meter/photos



**PARTNERED UP:** Junior Kathrine Moran leads junior Benjamin Keaton in learning basic dance steps. Keaton was filling in for absent club members.

## Dream Team prepares for Fiesta

**Ariana Portalatin**  
REPORTER

Freshman Ashley Tlatoa will be celebrating The Day of the Dead, a popular Mexican holiday which honors relatives who have passed away.

It falls near Hispanic Heritage Month, which lasts from Sept. 15 to Oct. 15. This year, Tlatoa will be honoring her two uncles, grandfather, and two of her cousins. Tlatoa will be honoring those family members with traditions that she and her family participate in.

"Mainly, you just get photos of the people who have passed away and you put them up by the Virgin Mary and you get bread, water, and fruit," Tlatoa said. "It starts a certain day and ends on a certain day."

Tlatoa is also a part of the LN Dream Team, a club that helps promote Hispanic Heritage. The Dream Team will also be doing things to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month, and one of those ways is by hosting a school wide fiesta on Oct. 25. The fiesta

will include Hispanic music, a choreographed dance and Hispanic food.

"There's going to be a lot of kids going and the theme is El Día De Los Muertos, pretty much like Halloween," Tlatoa said.

According to English teacher and sponsor of the Dream Team Camilla Moody, the Dream Team will continue to promote Hispanic heritage throughout the month with other things as well, like selling Hispanic treats in Moody's classroom.

"As another fundraiser, we're selling Hispanic treats like Takis and Hispanic candies. We're also, instead of [playing] the fight song during passing period, having Hispanic music," Moody said.

The Dream Team also does community service and fundraising to help promote Hispanic heritage by providing opportunities and giving back to the Hispanic community. Fundraising from the Dream Team helps Hispanic students because the money is used to help with scholarships for seniors.

"We try to focus on giving these scholarships to undocumented students because they have really not a lot of options for financing college," Moody said.

The Dream Team also volunteered at Fiesta Indianapolis, which is an annual celebration of Hispanic culture. According to Moody, the students helped out in any way they could for the celebration.

"They had a ceremony at the beginning and our students held flags from different Hispanic countries and just did any volunteer service that was needed," Moody said.

Tlatoa says that the Dream Team has helped her personally as well as others in the community. It has helped her make a lot of friends, see new opportunities and help others.

"It's helped me a lot knowing that I'm not the only one that's gone through a whole bunch of problems, like when I see someone that needs help I'll actually go over and help them now," Tlatoa said.