

Hot Peas 'n Butter

Frank Cotto, Danny Lapidus

BEHIND THE MUSIC Lapidus, a guitarist and saxophonist, and Cotto, on bass and percussion, form the core of this multicultural, multilingual outfit. The two met at La Guardia High School of Music & Art and the Performing Arts, where Jennifer Aniston was a classmate. Both went on to become successful session musicians, and began Hot Peas 'n Butter in 1999 as a way to play,

according to Lapidus, “the music that feels truest to ourselves.” That includes songs in Korean, Spanish, Yiddish, Hebrew, French, native Honduran—and of course English, too.

SIX DEGREES OF AUDRA Hot Peas 'n Butter performed with AudraRox during the taping of *Jack's Big Music Show's* new season.

DOWNLOAD THIS “Baila,” a bouncy Latin number with propulsive drums, gives kids a chance to practice all those Spanish words they're learning from *Dora the Explorer*.



For an exclusive playlist of tracks from the bands profiled above, go to tonykids.com.

(FROM TOP TO BOTTOM) NATASCHA ROCKWIN, GREGORY BARBERO, PAM NEWTON, BARBARA ENGEL