

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## *Biographies: Don Omar*



Reggaeton is a musical genre that has spread all over the world. It is very popular in Latin America and other parts of the world. It began in Puerto Rico in the early 90s. There are many singers who have developed this genre; but Don Omar stands out as an important contributor.

William Omar Landrón Rivera is better known as Don Omar. This singer, composer, and actor was born in Villa Palmeras, Puerto Rico on February 10, 1978. Don Omar is considered by many to be "The King of Reggaetón".

The musical beginnings of Omar are linked to a Protestant church, the Evangelical Church of the Restoration in Christ in Bayamon, where he was a preacher for four years in his youth. Don Omar left his church for reasons which he reveals in his song, "Aunque te fuiste," "Although you left." He sang for the first time in a duo called Osito & Omar in the production 'Genesis' in 1996.

His first public performance at a nightclub was accompanying disc jockey Eliel Lind Osorio. Then, he performed regularly on albums of DJs and popular producers such as Luny Tunes, Noriega, and DJ Eric. He was a backup singer for duo Héctor & Tito. In 2002, Omar's big break came when Héctor 'El Bambino' Delgado, from the duo Héctor & Tito, heard him sing and helped produce his first solo album.

His first solo album is "The Last Don." Both the studio version and its live version were a resounding success. This album was certified as platinum in 2004 by the Recording Industry Association of America. "The Last Don" sold 411,000 copies to date based on information verified by Billboard.

In 2004, as he was becoming successful, Don Omar opened his Treasure Kids Foundation for children with autism. With this foundation, he hopes to provide psychological and financial support to children in their country who suffer from this autism. A percentage of the





profits from his clothing line are donated to this foundation, located in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

In 2008, Don Omar created the record label 'Orfanato Music Group', which is composed of young talented artists. On October 16, 2010, Don Omar released the first album featuring "The Orphans". The album is titled "Meet the Orphans." Don Omar said that: "The Orphanage, the record label, is where everyone cares and supports."

Don Omar has also appeared in several movies, entering through the front door in the fourth and fifth installment of the "Fast and Furious" series, along with Vin Diesel and Paul Walker. In 2010, he signed with the company FOX, to appear in the company's films.

In 2004, Don Omar was accused of carrying a weapon. Don Omar has written songs about this, such as "Bandolero" and "Libertad". The final trial was held in July 2008, and after many accusations against the singer and his companions, Don was acquitted for lack of evidence.

In 2008, Don Omar was accused by rapper Nando Boom of having plagiarized the song "Sick of Love", along with Wisin & Yandel in the song "My Space," using the chorus of the original song. After paying a sum of money to Nando Boom, he asked to withdraw the charges.

On September 1, 2017, Don Omar announced his retirement from his musical career. After giving three presentations in Puerto Rico, Don Omar will begin a tour titled Forever King, The Last Tour, from 2018 to 2020, before retiring.

Don Omar reportedly has said that after his retirement in 2020, he will dedicate himself to study Engineering in industrial agriculture. It is known that he has several plots of land on the island of Puerto Rico that are producing vegetables, and a large list of clients for his organic products, so he plans to dedicate himself to that business.

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## ANWER THE QUESTIONS

1. Where did reggaeton come from?

- a. The U.S.
- b. The Dominican Republic
- c. Puerto Rico
- d. Cuba

2. Who produced Don Omar's first solo album?

- a. Eliel Lind Osorio.
- b. Héctor 'El Bambino'.
- c. Luny Tunes.
- d. La Iglesia de la Restauración.

3. How many copies has the album The Last Don?

- a. 100,000
- b. 200,000
- c. 411,000
- d. 600,000

4. A percentage of the profits earned by Don Omar's clothing line are donated to his foundation for autism.

- a. True
- b. False

5. What will Omar do after retiring from music?

- a. Study Engineering in industrial agriculture
- b. Devote himself to his career as a film actor
- c. Go back to being Pastor in the church
- d. Dedicate to compose songs



6. Don Omar has been a very successful singer and has also participated as...
- a. a teacher in a school for children with autism.
  - b. an actor in several movies.
  - c. the King of Pop.
  - d. an engineer in industrial agriculture.
7. Don Omar won a platinum record when the singer he was ...
- a. 26 years old.
  - b. 32 years old.
  - c. 54 years old.
  - d. 61 years old.
8. Don Omar is a \_\_\_\_\_ person since he funded a foundation that helps children with autism.
- a. Kind
  - b. Selfish
  - c. Shy
  - d. Chatty
9. The record label 'Orfanato Music Group' is composed of...
- a. Famous young artists.
  - b. Young popular artists.
  - c. Famous popular artists.
  - d. Young famous artists.
10. When will Don Omar retire from music?
- a. 2017
  - b. 2018
  - c. 2019
  - d. 2020

