

The Folk Dancer

Edited by Ed Austin
Spring 2013

Alumni Corner

Let us give a “shout-out” to the best alumni around. We love keeping you informed of activities the Folk Dancers are doing. We hope you feel included as we send newsletters and announcements each semester. We are confident you love hearing about mid-semester and summer tour updates and tour schedules. Please let us know how we can continue to better serve and assist you. The current student performers love seeing you at their concerts.



We do have a small request—we need help in giving our Folk Dance Alumni web site a facelift. It is now seven years old and time for an update. Send us ideas of what you'd like to see on the new site—designs that we could use or programming skills you could lend our way. We look forward to hearing from you and about your ideas to take our site to a new level.

Thanks for your support ... we couldn't have fun doing what we do without you!
Brent & Maria Lewis, Alumni Co-Chairs

Kaleidoscope (*Christmas Around the World 2012*)

Wow – this years “Kaleidoscope” was an adventure ... “in the round” for the first time. We took a huge leap of faith, but it was an exciting leap.

The faculty enjoyed the challenges of staging all of our choreographies in a new and refreshing way. Audience members expressed a new perspective as their experience was altered “in the round” and seemed more communal than in the past. Many in the audience liked being closer to the stage—to the dancers and the musicians.

The students performing enjoyed the chance to be “front stage” more because of fact that there were four front stages. It gave more students the opportunity to solo, because we needed to face so many more directions.



According to audience members, the main drawbacks included: blockage of sight by the musicians, and in some cases, the dancers (for large group numbers), and the inability to watch both the screens and the performers at the same time.

All in all, we felt it was a successful endeavor from which we learned a great deal about performances of this kind.

We especially appreciate the efforts and participations of our talented guest from the community:

1. *Children's Dance Works* with the Chinese Dragon; and Kathleen Sheffield.
2. *The Children's Hispanic Dancers* and Dulce Benjamin.
3. *The Shelley School Irish Dancers* and Tina Shelley.
4. *The Aerial Arts of Utah*.

We enjoyed the idea of bringing two generations together on one stage to signify the passing on of traditions.

Last, but not least, we thank all of you who came to see the show! Thank you for your continued support and enthusiasm for the World Dance program and for supporting our wonderful student performers. They are such an inspiration. And thanks to each of you for helping to set a high standard of excellence that is being passed on from one generation to the next.



TRADITIONZ 2013

The Spring Performing Arts Company will present their outreach program entitled TRADITIONZ at BYU April 10, 8pm, 270-278 RB. There will be no charge for this showcase. They will perform in more than 50 schools in April and May. This year the 16 couple group, led by Ed Austin, will perform an educational program focusing on rhythmic instruments and feet, dances that are games, dances that tell stories, and dances performed just for fun and socializing.



Elementary children will get to participate in a number of engaging activities during the performance including foot tapping during the French-Canadian Suite. Other involvement will include experimenting with rhythms using unique instruments from other countries such as: the Indian Spaa, Philipino bamboo poles and French-Canadian spoons. And a new *Bhangra* (India) and *Tinikling Evolution* (Philippines), which fuses the older village tradition with the music of *Imagine Dragons*, is sure to delight the children.

Come see us at your child's school. These dates and times below are subject to change. Please contact your school before attending one of these outreach programs.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	4/30 Canyons Alta View 8:45 Canyon View 10:30 Sprucewood 2:00	5/1 Nebo Sage Creek 9:15 (Springville) Brockbank 1:30 (SF)	5/2 Granite Pioneer 9:15 Frost 10:30ish Moss 2:00	5/3 Canyons Midvale 9:00 E. Midvale 10:30 E. Sandy 1:00
6 Jordan Rosecreek 9:00 Rosamond 10:30 Terra Linda 1:30	7 Jordan Foothills 9:00 Welby 10:45 Butterfield 2:30 Canyon	8 Granite Pleasant Green 9:15 Taylorsville 10:45 Roosevelt 2:00	9 Ogden Hillcrest 8:45 Horace Mann 10:00 Endeavour 2:30 (Kaysville)	10 Davis Taylor 9:00 (Centerville) Boulton 10:30 (Bountiful)
13 Canyons Bellview 9:30 Granite William Penn 1:15 2:15	14 Salt Lake Washington 9:00 Beacon Hghts 1:30	15 Granite Diamond Ridge 9:00 10:00 Calvin Smith 2:00	16 Nebo Wilson 8:45 (Payson) Canyon 10:30 (SF) Hobblecreek 2:15 (Mapleton)	17 Nebo Larsen 9:30 Park 12:45, 1:45
20 Provo Canyon Crest 9:00 Rock Canyon 10:30 Granite West Valley 1:30	21 Alpine Ridgeline 9:30 (Highland) Rocky Mt. 1:00 (Lindon, +dance fest.)	22 Granite Valley Crest 9:00 10:00 Copper Hills 1:15	23 SLC Backman 8:45 Northstar 10:30 Meadowlark 2:00	24 Granite Jim Bridger 8:30 Gourley 10:00

Daniela Ivanova-Nyberg

Daniela Ivanova-Nyberg was born, raised, and educated in Bulgaria. She only recently came to the United States to live.

Daniela brought our ensemble two, three minute choreographies—a character dance, and an ensemble dance from the northwestern region of Bulgaria, an area that we currently don't have material from. The music was composed, notated and recorded in Sophia specifically for our ensemble. Costumes are presently being designed and constructed for us in Bulgaria. We are planning to premiere the new Bulgarian Suite in Nauvoo June 3-16, 2013.



It was enriching to be taught by an expert of Bulgarian dance. We asked many questions and were able to clarify and add to our knowledge of Bulgarian dance and music rhythms.

Daniela shared her expertise in a very loving and positive manner. Her interaction with our students was very positive. She made the students feel at ease as she set her new choreography. Her teaching methodology and creative talents were admired by all, and the students felt invigorated and inspired. Our students were quick learners and eager to perform this new style of dance with exactness. Many of us were able to have productive conversations with Daniela over several dinners. We were able to learn more about the area of dance ethnology and the existing academic programs in this field. Daniela, her connections to dance ethnology, and her friendship to BYU will be valuable as we continue to converse in the future.

Note: Ed first met Daniela during an Ethnochoreology Study Group held under the umbrella organization of the International Congress of Traditional Music (ICTM) in Limerick, Ireland in July, 2012. Ethnochoreology refers to cross cultural studies that contextually approach the topic of dance. It corresponds with ethnomusicology and dance ethnology. **Ethno** refers to people and **Koreo** refers to dance. Gertrude Kurath coined the phrase and defines it as “the scientific study of ethnic dances in all their cultural significance, religion function or symbolism, or social place.”

For folk dancers who are interested in continuing their education, this is an exciting anthropological approach to cultural dance studies which is growing and being embraced by more and more institutions of higher education. There are exciting opportunities opening up in this field. For more information contact Ed at <edaustinbyu@gmail.com> or Colleen at <colleen_west@byu.edu>.

Upcoming Events

IFDE “In Concert” This THURSDAY!!!

Come join us April 4th at the Covey Center for the Arts in Provo, Utah. This year's show is high energy!

Tickets: \$10 General Admission, \$9 Students, and \$8 Seniors. Call 801-852-7007 or visit www.coveycenter.org



This “Gathering” show will include some of our newest choreography:

- A Ukrainian choreography from Volyn, by Yuri and Luba Grekov (former dancers with Pavlo Virskyi, Kiev, Ukraine)
- Steppin’, a percussive step choreography displaying tap, clogging, and Irish step dancing choreographed by Tina Shelley, Greg Tucker, and Colleen West
- Cip ar Gymru, a new Welsh folk and step dance suite choreographed by Ed Austin
- An Irish dance suite displaying a woman’s slip jig, hard shoe, a precision figure dance, and a new Ceili recently choreographed by Tina Shelley
- A fun contemporary clog choreographed by Greg and Maria Tucker
- Bollywood at its best choreographed by Greg and Sally Rawlings
- A new choreography from Veracruz and Jalisco taught by Pepe Juribe

A Note from Emily Kleinkopf, IFDE Club President and a Dance Major

The Int’l Folk Dance Ensemble recently returned from their mid-semester tour of Southern California and Nevada (this is the same concert which will be performed in the Covey Center of the Performing Arts). Emily Kleinkopf, president of the Folk Dance Club this year, was one of the student performers on that tour.

My name is Emily Kleinkopf and I was able to have the opportunity to go on the mid-semester tour to California this past month. It was such a great experience to be welcomed with open arms to each city. At every stop we created fun new memories and we met amazing people that truly inspired us to be better people. I will always remember the generosity and the love from each host family we stayed with. They were such great examples to us.

It was also so much fun to be able to perform and share dances from around the world with each audience. We definitely spend a lot of our time rehearsing our show, but it is worth every second of it when we are on the stage sharing our talents with others.

Each alumni chapter did a fantastic job hosting us. We always had large audiences to perform to and we felt so welcome.

One very memorable experience we had was an outside performance at Grossmont College in San Diego. The show was going well until we hit our first barefoot dance, Nagada (from India). Because the stage was so hot, we had to run off the stage before the piece was over. But the audience was so understanding and we were able to continue to perform on the concrete moments after.

This tour was a great learning experience for everyone on the team and we are so grateful for the amazing experiences that are given us. This is a tour we will always remember.

Spring Festival of Nations

Saturday, April 13, the World Dance area of the Dance Department will present our teams in a Spring Festival of Nations in the main ballroom of the Wilkinson Center. Mountain Strings will perform at 10:00. The rest of the program including the dance performance will begin at 10:30am. There will be a small admission at the door.

Our program will include: Steppin', Cip ar Gymru, Bhangra, Tropatukha, Na'ara, Dama Sirba, Benjevacko Momacko Kolo, Cumbia, and Hopak. The audience will then join us in some recreational folk dance.



Nauvoo, Illinois



We are heading back to Nauvoo in June! For updates and more information, please go to: pam.byu.edu
(picture is IFDE 2011 tour group)

Ephraim, Show College, Scandinavian Days Festival
May 25, 7:30 p.m.

Near St. Louis, Belleville East High School Performing Arts Center
June 1, 7:30 p.m.

Nauvoo Performances
June 3-16

Guests will be able to see full performances of the International Folk Dance Ensemble each night of the week. Students are excited to be returning again this year. Dances will include Ukrainian, Ireland, Wales, Hungary, USA, People's Republic of China, India, and other favorites. We would love see you there!

Natalie Macmaster and Mountain Strings

Famous Cape Breton, Nova Scotia fiddler, Natalie MacMaster visited BYU campus on March 19, 2013. She gave a workshop during the afternoon and a concert in the evening. She was very congenial. Her workshop lasted 1 hour and was attended by about 50 people, including several fiddlers who are enrolled in Folk Music classes at BYU. She suggested 3 major points to the students: 1) practice every day, even if for 15 minutes only, and 2) put a little "dirt" in your music (meaning, don't play fiddle music like a classical violinist--instead put some life into it with raw power and deep, rhythmic emotion. She said that fiddle music is dance music. When you play the fiddle, people should generally want to get up and dance. Her 3rd point was to use less slurring with the bow—for a good Cape Breton style, that is. She said that in Cape Breton slurs with the bow are not as common as in some other styles. In Cape Breton almost every note on the fiddle is played with a new bow stroke.



In her concert at BYU she invited Alina Geslison and Grace Dayton on stage to play a set with her. Alina and Grace are the current national twin fiddle champs (think tennis doubles, only the fiddling version). It was their national championship that got Natalie's attention. The concert was a huge success. She was given a standing ovation and an encore was demanded of the audience.

Narityagram Indian Dance Company Workshop



The BYU Dance Department and particularly we lovers of Folk Dance had an incredible opportunity to work very closely with members of the Narityagram Indian Dance Company in a 90-minute workshop on March 13th. The principle dancer and one of the founders of the group introduced the style known as the Odisi dance style performed, at one time, only in temples to approximately 50 workshop participants and led us through footwork patterns, hand gestures, facial expressions and isolation techniques used in this form of Indian dance.

The following evening, three Odisi dancers performed along with two Sri Lankan dancers and five musicians to a packed house at the DeJong Concert Hall. The entire evening was spell-binding. A standing ovation let the company know how much we valued not only the talent and flawless technique, but the culture that was shared with us.

Members of Narityagram with BYU dancers after their workshop, March 2013

Note: It may sound incredible, but the World Dance Area now offers classes in the cultural dance forms of China, Hungary, India, Ireland, Polynesia, Spain, Ukraine and the USA. In the future you may see Mexico.

Summer Fun for Kids (and Adults)

Int'l Folk Dance Camp, June 17-19

http://ce.byu.edu/cw/dancecamps/folk_dance.php

Boys and Girls, Ages 9–18
All Skill Levels

This summer, “travel the world” with the magic and music of international folk dancing! Enjoy three days of vigorous dancing, beautiful music, and imaginative instruction! Learn dances from a variety of world cultures. Whether you’re a seasoned dancer or just eager to perform some of the world’s most exciting dances, you’ll learn skills at this camp that will enhance every aspect of your life! The fun, lively movements of folk dancing will increase your balance, agility, strength, and coordination while improving your awareness of the cultures in current world events.



Broaden your dance experience socially, culturally, and technically by performing dances that reach through the ages. Whether you have been to a BYU dance camp in the past or this is your first year, you will enjoy this truly unique and memorable experience.

Cougar Clogging Classic, June 20-22

<http://ce.byu.edu/cw/dancecamps/clogging.php>

Boys and Girls, Ages 9–18
Instructors, Ages 16 and Older
Intermediate and Advanced

Whether you’re a director, instructor, or student, you have some great clogging action in store! You’ll experience the newest dances and the most dynamic clogging instruction in the West from special guest instructors!

