



The Folk Dancer

Fall 2014

Calendared Events and *Christmas Around the World* Tickets



✓ [Cambodian National Ballet](#), deJong Concert Hall, HFAC

Nov 1 @ 7:30 pm

✓ **Alumni Recreational Dance Night** - 278 RB, 7:00 – 8:30+

Nov 12 @ 7:00 pm

This is a special evening where we are inviting back as many International Folk Dance alumni as possible. Please bring your families, friends (potential recruits) and join us for an evening of dancing and connecting with your folk dance friends.

✓ ***"TIMELESS STORIES," Christmas Around the World***

Dec 5, 6

FOR TICKETS:

Group Seating (10+)	\$14 (blue seats & floor) - \$9 (Gold Seats)
Alumni	\$18 (blue seats & floor) - \$13 (Gold Seats)
General Public	\$20 (blue seats & floor) - \$15 (Gold Seats)

On Sale Now!

Oct 27 w/promo code: CAW2014

Nov 3

* Watch for featured ads on KSL television and radio; they will be giving away free tickets to this event.

Alumni Reception, approx. 4pm, Marriot Center Cougar Room

Dec 6

Come home! This year is our 50th Anniversary of our first International Tour.

Mary Bee Jensen and Ed Austin will both be on hand to greet you.

✓ **National Folk Organization Conference**, NFO-USA.Org, Orlando, FL

Feb 13-14

✓ [WINTERFEST](#), Conference Center, Salt Lake City

Jan 24

✓ **Upcoming IFDE Concerts:**

College of Southern Idaho - Twin Falls, ID

Jan 30 @ 7:30 pm

Four Rivers Cultural Center - Ontario, OR

Jan 31 @ 7:30 pm

Uintah Arts Council – Vernal, UT

Mar 21 @ 7:30 pm

Timpview High School – Provo, UT (buy tickets at the door: Cash only)

Mar 28 @ 7:30 pm

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR YOUR STUDENT – Deadline is November 7th

If you have a son, daughter, cousins or friends who are coming to BYU who may be interested in performing in the Folk Dance program, and who comes with some dance skills, please be aware of the Freshman (and Incoming Transfer Student) Scholarship opportunity. The time frame for this opportunity has changed to November and is approaching fast.

Log onto: dance.byu.edu (Under High School Students and Incoming Transfer Students)

Click on: Auditions

Scroll Down to: Application Information

Click on: Auditions by video-link

Click on: Auditions by video-link, find the following information,
*World applicants – **Deadline: November 7, 2014***

*Present one to three short dances of no more than 1:30 of each. If multiple dances are shown, they should exhibit different styles (i.e. world dance styles, percussive dance, contemporary, ballet, etc.) Costumes are not allowed. Upload and unlist your videos on YouTube or Vimeo and then apply using our **video-link submission form**.*

*The video submission form is also located in this area.

We Need Your Help Recruiting! – Encourage your children to join in the fun...

We all know that our best IFDE recruits come from our Alumni and friends. So, If you have family, cousins and friends who like to travel, can dance and are coming to BYU in the next few years, please contact Amy Jex at amyjex@yahoo.com and she'll email them a recruiting packet!

- ✓ **Folk Dance team tryouts for the next year are Jan 7 (winter semester) and September 2 (fall semester) for 2015.**

Social Media: [Join in the conversation on Facebook](#), give us your opinions and help guide the Folk Dance future.



Elementary School Outreach

Traditionz (lovingly referred to as SPAC), was on the road once again this past spring, delighting thousands of Utah elementary school children. Our show entitled "*Stories We Tell*" was performed 48 times in during the four weeks. We presented dances and songs from nine different countries as we explored the ways people tell stories through folk dance. Favorite dances included Gumboots, Korean Fan, "Love is an Open Door" (clogging), and a visit from the old Ukrainian woman, "Babushka."

Our 2015 scheduling is already under way. If you would like to have **Traditionz** perform at your Utah school, visit us on the web at traditionz.byu.edu or email Vickie Austin at traditionz@byu.edu. Performance dates are April 28-May 22, 2015.



Summer Festival Tour 2014



The International Folk Dance Ensemble (IFDE) consisting of 14 couples and 7 band members performed in Switzerland, France, and Belgium this past summer accompanied by Colleen West (Interim Artistic Director), Michael Romney (Assistant), Jonathon Wood (Tour manager), Mark Ohran (Technical director), and Ashley Taylor (Dance Athletic Trainer).

The ensemble was invited to perform at the Geneva United Nations 4th which included a beautiful stage, lots of food, and dignitaries from all over the world. Three girls from our Mountain Strings Band came prepared to sing in acapella, the “Star Spangled Banner”. Many audience members were moved to tears as they loudly applauded the harmonized, tender performance of Lucy, Alina, and Grace.



Our students also participated at three different folk festivals; “Chateau Gombert Festival” in Marseille, France, “Hello! Schoten Festival” in Schoten, Belgium, and at “Festival de Martigues” in Martigue, France. The European audiences, as you might remember from past tours, love, love, love, the Western cowboy image.... so our men were constantly photographed and cheered when dressed in their Cowboy hats, boot, and chaps. The students were able to interact with other groups from Mongolia, Georgia, Tartarstan, Mexico, Spain, Peru, Serbia, Ivory Coast, Italy, Guam, France, and Hungary. As always, attending folk festivals is an amazing event. The educational experiences, memories, and friendships the students encountered, will never be forgotten. The task of representing the USA, BYU, and the Church continues to be a great honor.

Inauguration of President Kevin Worthen



The Performing Arts Company received a special invitation to perform at the Inauguration luncheon for President Worthen, Oct. 9, 2014. Many members of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, general authorities, college deans, and department chairs were in attendance at this event. The dancers performed a new choreography from the southwestern Carpathian area of Ukraine (Hutsul territory), called, “Hutsulka.” The dancers performed the dance with dedicated technique and style while sharing their love and passion for this culture on stage.

Marriott Farm in Virginia

Four International Folk Dance Ensemble couples and four members of the Living Legends traveled together to Washington, D.C. the second weekend of September to perform once again at the “Western Family Picnic” hosted by the LDS Church’s Public Affairs office. Ambassadors, Senators, University, and Church dignitaries attended this event. The dancers performed a clog dance, a western swing dance, and the infamous “Polka Quadrille.” A letter received a letter from Elder Daniel L. Johnson said, *“Your dancing was superb, but what really touched our hearts, and I am sure the hearts of every spectator present, was the radiance of your faces. You are truly ambassadors of*



the Savior and of His Church. Thank you for living in such a way that you can radiate such light, love and enthusiasm. You will never know the full extent of the good that you are doing by being who you are."



Performing in China

Five dancers from the BYU Dance Department were invited to perform at the 60th anniversary of The Beijing Dance Academy on Oct. 14, 2014. The dancers representing our department: one hoop dancer from Living Legends, two dancers from the contemporary area, and two International Folk Dance students (Jason Checketts and Emily Kleinkopf) who performed a clogging duet. As a result of previous encounters with the International Folk Dance Ensemble, the academy specifically requested clogging to part of this special performance!

Guest Choreographers

We are very excited to have three guest choreographers coming to work with our teams this fall. Ahmet Luleci came August 28-29 to rework his piece, "*Tides of Anatolia*" with the International Folk Dance Ensemble. He focused on simplifying and correcting the choreography to emphasize the Black Sea styling and technique.

The women of the IFDE will also have the opportunity to work with Marisol Encinias on October 23-26, on a new Flamenco choreography, which will be premiered in the upcoming *Christmas Around the World*. Marisol is a faculty member at the University of New Mexico specializing in Spanish and Flamenco dance. We are thrilled to have the opportunity to learn from her.

This year, the back-up team will also be able to learn from guest choreographer. BYU International Folk Dance alumnus, Gary Larsen, a full-time faculty member in dance at BYU Idaho, will teach a Haitian Creole dance, which will also be premiered in this year's *Christmas Around the World*. We are looking forward to learning from his expertise.

Special Update - Jeanette Geslison

Jeanette is currently an MFA (Masters of Fine Arts) candidate in dance at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. She has been absent from BYU for 6 months. During this time Colleen has been acting as the interim artistic director. She began her work in the low-residency program, designed for working professionals, this summer with a 7-week intensive semester. She is now back at BYU directing the International Folk Dance Ensemble and continues to work on her second semester which is done online at home. It is a very rigorous program with excellent faculty mentoring. Jeanette considers it an adventure being back in school again after a "few" years away, and says, "*It has opened new doors with exciting new perspectives.*" (**Note:** The hiring trend for dance faculty in colleges and universities now requires a person to have a MFA or Doctorate degree. BYU is following this trend as they search for new faculty to fill openings in the Department of Dance.)

Exciting News!

EXTRA, EXTRA! Have you seen our latest video collaboration with BYU's Vocal Point, Contemporary Dance Theatre and the Ballroom Dance Company?

Our folk dancers were combined with these groups as some of the background dancers in the video. **Special Note:** Cody Phillips former member of the IFDE is presently a member of Vocal Point and in the video.



✓ [Newsies Medley](#) – One-Shot Acapella Tribute in 4K!

Alumni Corner



Dancers Needed: Sonia Miller is trying to find four girls and four guys to perform in a Choir Concert at Libby Gardner Hall on Monday evening, April 20, 2015. The choir is Olympus High Concert Choir, directed by Vicki Belnap. She has asked for a square of dancers to perform while her choir sings "Cindy" arranged by Mack Wilberg, Please let Sonia know ASAP she will need to discuss possible rehearsal times for creating the choreography and practicing in the next few months. Any interested persons can contact Sonia at danseurs61@gmail.com.

Reunion in 2016: Start thinking about our 60th Folk Dance reunion coming in 2016. We'll be looking for help with committees and great ideas of things that would be awesome to plan. Please let Brent Lewis know if you'd like to help and send your great reunion ideas to alumni@byufolkdancealumni.com. **Can't wait to hear your ideas!!!**



Help Locate Lost Alumni: We are trying to locate several of our alumni; we have broken emails for the following and would love to reconnect with them if possible. If you have a working email for any listed below please let us know and we'll update our database so they will be included in our future newsletters and other important mailings. Send to alumni@byufolkdancealumni.com and well update our records.

Alba, Alicia
Allred, Kathleen
Anderson Riggs, Jennifer
Anderson, Brent
Beckham, Raymond
Benson, Sheila
Bickmore, Larry
Bishop Harmon, Lara
Bishop, Tiffani N.
Black, Catherine H.
Blower Feher, Maurine
Bounous, Barry
Brown, Mike
Bullock, Barry
Burrup Lawyer, Diane
Cafferty, Sharon
Carlson, Audrey H.
Casperson Morales, Penny
Celesta, Rimington
Christensen, Bruce
Christenson, Cassie
Clark Hogue, Patricia
Cox, Charles
Crockett, Greg
Curran, Jahn
D. Borg, Kirstin
De Zarate, Roselie
Deim, Holly P.
Diderickson, Kimber
Done, David

Dunster, Anthony
Eichelberger, Charle
Ekins Johnson, Courtney
Elton, DaNae
Erickson, Melissa
Fillmore, Jack
Fox Neyman, Alisha
Gohier, Jacques
Golightly Jenson,
Goodman, Eric W.
Graf, Kathryn
Griffin, Heather H.
Gunn, Richard
Hamblin, Kevin
Hansen Fillmore, Cheryl
Hansen, Marvin
Hansen, Scotti M.
Hatch, Virginia H.
Hayes, Patrick
Heckman Davies, Camille
Howe Sherry, Eliza
Ivie, Brian
Jacob VanDam, Ellen
Jay, Jacobson
Jensen Egbert, Allyson
Jensen Kiser, Susan
Jensen, James
Jensen, Michael
Jex Jarvis, Kourtney
Jones Graff, J'aime

Kerby, Keddi L.
King Kern, Anne
Kinnear, John
Latham, Layne
Lehman, August
Leigh Smith, Becky
Littlefield, Joseph
Lunt Rynearson, Katie
Mangrum, Brett
Marshall F., Melanie
Martinez, Andrew
Meher, Maureen
Merrill, Rodney
Meservy Sumpter, Carol
Minson, John
Morgan, Justin
Mortenson, Byron
Moulton, Jaret
Mulkay, Annette D.
Nelson, Karl
Nichols, Tiffany C.
Nielson, Madelyn
Olson, Morgen B.
Orme, Kirby
Parker, Lyle
Payne Escobar, Nancy
Peay, Garth
Peterson, Jeanne R.
Peterson, Karen B.
Price, James

Reid McGregor, Pamela Jo
Robison, Warren
Rollie, Bestor
Romney, Jeffrey
Rotar, Elisha
Ruesch, Heather
S. Burton, Karen
Scripter, Peggy
Simpson, Linda
Smith, Nathan
Smith, Robert
Smith, Terry
Southwick, Jana
Stewart, Katherine
Stott, Courtney
Swensen Graf, Kathy
Swenson, Cindy
Talbot, Russ
Trost, Aaron
Turner, Jessie
Turner, Robert
Walker Wright, Kim
Wells Holladay, Wendy
Wilcox, Cheryl
Winden, Duane
Wright, Lindsey
Yule, Marianne