

BYU FOLK DANCE ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

Fall 2018



Folk Dancers in the BYU Homecoming Parade

ALUMNI NEWS

Tamara M. Chamberlain, Chair BYU Folk Dance Alumni

Lots of exciting things have been happening with the BYU International Folk Dance Ensemble this year and we have so much to share. But first, some Alumni News... We are trying to achieve "True Blue" status as an alumni chapter this year. There are certain requirements to achieve that level and we are close, but not quite there. Why become True Blue? Well for starters, BYU will give our chapter a \$500 gift annually for being True Blue. In 2018 we achieved "White" status which gave us a \$250 gift, but we can do better. If we become True Blue, BYU will MATCH our replenishment grant donations dollar for dollar! I am visiting all of the Folk Dance Team classes this month and initiating a "student giving" incentive: Whichever team has the most donors (no matter the amount) they will earn an Einstein Bagel Breakfast Party as their reward! Our goal is to be able to award one Half-Tuition Replenishment Grant to a student in the near future. Replenishment Grants were inspired by the Perpetual Emigration Fund that was established when European Saints were trying to move west. Here is how the current Replenishment Grant system works:

- 1) BYU Alumni directs Replenishment Grants to needful students, with preference to juniors and seniors, whose total costs of education may not be met through other financial aid programs.

IN THIS NEWSLETTER

- *Alumni News (pg. 1)*
- *What's Happening in the World of Dance Area? (pg. 2)*

Christmas Around the World

Christmas Around the World is right around the corner! Please join us after the Matinee Performance on Saturday, December 1st for an Alumni Reception. It will be held from 4-5 p.m. in the Hinckley Alumni Building, 3rd floor. We would love to see many students and alumni attend!



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- 2) To be considered, candidates must meet the following qualifications:
 - Earn a minimum 3.0 GPA from all institutions attended by the end of Winter Semester
 - Demonstrate financial need
- 3) Grants will be awarded annually and vary in amounts up to full tuition. Grant recipients are expected to replenish the grant fund once they are financially able.
- 4) Once selected, recipients will be asked to write a thank you letter to the sponsor of the grant and attend alumni activities when possible.
- 5) Recipients will be eligible to apply each year for another grant under the same criteria.

As Folk Dance Alumni, many costs to participate in the program were paid for by other means so as to not impose large fees on students. We were very privileged to be able to dance and perform in the Marriott Center for Christmas Around the World or dance in the BYU Homecoming Parade. Those are memories many of us will cherish forever.

Please help us reach our goal!! If you feel so inclined to contribute, please do so at:
<http://give.byu.edu/fd>

Regarding True Blue Status, here is a link to what is required:
<http://alumni.byu.edu/chapter-pedia/true-blue-chapters>

The other criteria we need filled to become **True Blue**, is a full and active alumni board. I am looking for a:

- *Vice Chair of Celebration/Engagement*
- *Vice Chair of Social Media/Marketing*

If you are interested in serving on the alumni board please contact me at tntmusic92@gmail.com (By the way, it's NOT time consuming--just a few emails here and there. It's a fun way to stay connected!)

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE WORLD DANCE AREA?

We have had several guest choreographers come to BYU this Fall Semester. Many have offered master classes while others set some choreographed pieces for IFDE. Here are some fun photos:



MIGUEL PENA Mexican dance specialist, Faculty at University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, Director of the university Folklorico ensemble



STEVEN LEE WEINTRAUB is a choreographer, performer and teacher. He is one of only three dancers specializing in traditional Eastern European Jewish dance. Steve received his dance training in Manhattan with Alvin Ailey and Erick Hawkins, among others. He has been on the faculty of KlezKamp for the past 5 years and has taught at the Smithsonian Folklife Festival. Henry Sapoznik (Yiddish Radio Project, Klezkamp) calls him “The best Yiddish dance teacher around.”



GERSON LANZA offered a tap master class



MARY BETH JOHNSON offered a Ukrainian master class



We were also fortunate to have a dance group from Denmark come perform at our Recreational Dance Night. They stayed for 5 days and toured the valley, giving performances in the Salt Lake Area as well.



Members of IFDE post for a picture in front of the Eiffel Tower in Paris, France.



Eryn Hunt along with other members of IFDE participate in a Parade through Schoten Belgium, while participating in the HelloSchoten Festival.

Here are a few of our dancers at the Marriott Ranch in Washington D.C.



IFDE visited Omaha Beach, Normandy France.



IFDE and friends pose for a picture in front of the beautiful iconic Castle in Schoten Belgium. The International Folk Dance Ensemble participated in the HelloSchoten Festival in Schoten Belgium, and the Eurofolk Festival in Zamość, Poland.





IFDE was invited to visit the EU in Brussels Belgium, and were able to meet with Mairead McGuinness, first vice president of the European Parliament.



Kyle Waymouth gave an Ontario style Canadian step dance master class and set some new choreography for IFDE. Shane Cook is a Canadian and US Fiddle Champion who also worked with Mountain Strings.

Make sure to check out the new Ukrainian Hopak video created by the International Folk Dancers on YouTube. It will be released Saturday, November 17th!