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CHRISTMAS AROUND THE WORLD

INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE ENSEMBLE

WITH LIVING LEGENDS

SAMOAN FIREKNIFE DANCERS
POLYNESIAN CHILDREN'S ENSEMBLE
AND SPANISH FLAMENCO MUSICIANS



Franklin S. Harris Fine Arts Center 50th Anniversary Season

BYU *arts*
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BYU COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS AND COMMUNICATIONS
DEPARTMENT OF DANCE

DEC. 5-6, 2014 MARRIOTT CENTER



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STOREWIDE

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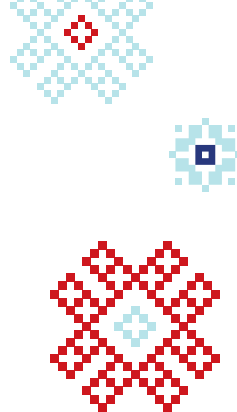
DECEMBER 13TH - 24TH, 2014

RESTRICTIONS APPLY TO 20% DISCOUNT. SEE STORE FOR DETAILS.
THE BYU STORE WILL CLOSE AT 4PM ON CHRISTMAS EVE.

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IN-STORE ONLY

CHRISTMAS AROUND THE WORLD



Welcome to our 2014 presentation of *Christmas Around the World—Timeless Stories*, a celebration of, and through, cultural dance and music. Countless “stories” have been told during the 55-year running of this concert. Thousands of dancing feet and smiling faces have participated in—and witnessed—the spectacular scope of unity embodied in this production. BYU’s remarkable folk dance and music students have always been—and continue to be—the heart and soul of Christmas Around the World.

In tonight’s show you will see over 200 student performers as they come together to share their talents. I hope you see and sense the joy they experience through dance and music. I am pleased to welcome our guest performers: BYU’s Living Legends, the Polynesian Children’s Ensemble, Fire-knife dancers James and Michael Ahuna, and Spanish Flamenco musicians Javier Misiego (a former member of Mountain Strings) and Jared Antonio Garcia Lyons.

I believe that storytelling is essential to our experience as human beings. Stories can bind us together as families, friends, and neighbors. Tonight we present *Timeless Stories* woven together on the wings of the Eagle. In Native American culture, the eagle is sacred. He flies high in the sky. His flight nearly intersects with the realm of our Creator. I find it fitting in tonight’s show, that the Eagle serves as the thread that weaves cultures together across borders and through time. I encourage each of you to gather your own story. How will you tell your story? How will you pass your legacy on to future generations?

Jeanette Geslison

Artistic Director



CHRISTMAS AROUND THE WORLD: TIMELESS STORIES

OPENER: GATHERING OF THE NATIONS TO THE FIRST STORY

Entire Cast

The eagle, which flies the highest and nearest to our Creator, is sacred to natives of North America. Embodying strength, courage, and wisdom, the eagle shows us that we have the ability to develop the same qualities.

Choreography: Jeanette Geslison with Michael Romney

Music: Traditional, Performed by Mountain Strings

Musical Arrangement: Mark Geslison

MEXICO: AZTEC

Living Legends

Representing an Aztec ritual from Southern Mexico, this dance honors the great white god, Ce Acatl Topiltzin Quetzalcoatl.

Choreography: Adriana Lopez

Music: Recorded by *Los Hermanos de Los Andes*, Traditional Drum Beat

TURKEY: TIDES OF ANATOLIA

International Folk Dance Ensemble

Creates a modern blend of traditional women's and men's dancing originating in the surroundings of Trabzon, a fishing center on the Black Sea. The movements celebrate life familiar to this fishing community; such as the motion of the sea, handling the nets, and the twisting of caught fish.

Choreography: Ahmet Luleci

Music: "Heyamo", Recorded by Birol Topaloglu, "Black Sea Medley", Traditional

POLAND: KRAKOWIAK

10:00 Folk Dancers

Recognized as one of Poland's beloved national dances, the *Krakowiak* originates from a region surrounding Krakow. It was transformed by gentry from a village dance into a more finished, elegant style.

Choreography: Amy Jex

Music: "Od Krakowa do Makowa", Recorded by F. Dzierzanowski, Traditional

SPAIN: VIVA FLAMENCO

Javier Misiego & Jared Antonio Garcia Lyons

A medley of three songs *Esperanza García la de Maera*, *Manolo Torres* and *Camarón de la Isla*.

Music: "El Pobre Miguel", Written by Rafael Calix Escalona-Martinez "Borriquito", Written by Pedro Pubill Calaf, "Volando Voy", Written by Jose Maria Lopez Sanfeliu, Performed by Mountain Strings

Musical Arrangement: Javier Misiego



SPAIN: LATIDO DEL CORAZÓN

International Folk Dance Ensemble

Latido del Corazón, meaning “heartbeat,” belongs to the spirited Rumba Flamenca dance styles. Flamenco dances originate from Southern Spain with this particular style incorporating Cuban influences.

Choreography: Marisol Encinias

Guest Musicians: Javier Misiego & Jared Antonio Garcia Lyons

Music: “Quiereme”, Written by Jose Luis Figuereo, Performed by Mountain Strings



ENGLAND: RAPPER SWORD

International Folk Dance Ensemble

The *Rapper Sword* dance of Northern England descends from ancient sword dances where human sacrifices were once offered. Look for spinning planets, eternal revolutions and the annual return of the sun.

Choreography: The London Folk Society, England

Music: “Tenpenny Bit”, Irish Traditional, “Top of Cork Road”, Written by Alfred Graves, Public Domain, Performed by Mountain Strings

IRELAND: SLIP JIG

International Folk Dance Ensemble

A traditional dance in a 9/8 time signature, originally performed by men, but is now exclusively performed by women.

Choreography: Tina Shelley

Music: “Soggy’s”, Written by Sean Graham, Performed by Mountain Strings

IRELAND: CEILIDH

International Folk Dance Ensemble

A traditional Gaelic social gathering interspersed with a precision figure dance.

Choreography: Victoria Leavitt & Michael Romney

Music: “Cup of Tea”, “White Petticoat”, Performed by Mountain Strings, Traditional



Photo: Mark A. Philbrick/BYU

IRELAND: CURSE REVERSED

Mountain Strings

Staging: Jeanette Geslison

Dance Soloists: Alina Geslison & Victoria Leavitt

Music: Hanneke Cassel

Musical Arrangement: Mark Geslison

SCOTLAND: SWORD DANCE

Rylan & Kalicia Bateman

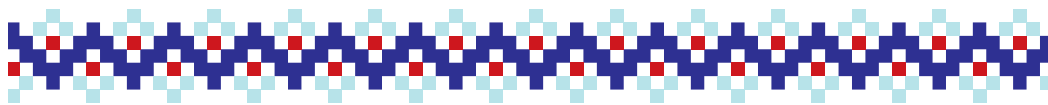
This tradition was danced before a warrior went into battle. Successfully dancing over the crossed swords brought victory to the warrior, while the touching of any sword predicted certain defeat.

Choreography: Rylan & Kalicia Bateman

Music: “Chilli Pipers, Rockin’ All Around the World” (Medley), Traditional,

Performed by Mountain Strings

Musical Arrangement: Mark Geslison



CHRISTMAS AROUND THE WORLD: TIMELESS STORIES

SCOTLAND: A CASTLE CEILIDH

9:00 Folk Dancers

Scottish country dancing, first popular in the 18th century, originated in the royal court dances of the Renaissance. Though not immediately popular, it is now the traditional ending of a dance gathering known as a ceilidh. Second, a “quick time” dance, this lively reel displays both traditional figures as well as some Highland dance elements.

Choreography: McKenzie Keene

Music: “The Skye Boat Song” Written by Sir Harold Boulton, Anne MacLeod, Public Domain, “Jack Wilson’s Ball”, “The High Road to Linton”, Scottish Traditional, Performed by Mountain Strings

Musical Arrangement: Mark Geslison

USA: BOOT KICKIN’

International Folk Dance Ensemble

Country-western line and swing dancing includes many dance styles and traditional steps such as the cowboy cha-cha, two-step, vine, heel digs, lifts and spins. Influenced by the American cowboy culture, this type of dancing is also known as “kicker dancing” in Texas.

Choreography: Colleen West, Lyndsey Wulfenstein, and Garrett Madril

Music: “Boot Kickin’”, Music and Lyrics by Mark Geslison, Performed by Mountain Strings

USA: JUMBLEBERRY HOEDOWN

8:00 Folk Dancers

As settlers in the American frontier, our ancestors believed in working hard and playing hard. This rendition of a turn-of-the-century celebration displays the enthusiasm and freedom that was a big part of building the character of America.

Choreography: Delynne Peay

Re-staged: Edwin G. Austin Jr.

Music: “Front Porch Jam”, Written by Dean Marshall, Performed by Mountain Strings

Musical Arrangement: Mark Geslison

USA: KANSAS CITY CHRISTMAS

Mountain Strings

A medley of the two carols *Gesù Bambino* and *Angels We Have Heard on High*.

Music: “Gesù Bambino”, Written by Pietro Yon, Public Domain, “Angels We Have Heard on High”, French Traditional

Musical Arrangement: Mark Geslison



USA: WESTERN WILDFIRE/SHOWDOWN

International Folk Dance Ensemble

A precision style dance featuring both traditional clogging and the latest power tap steps, followed by a Showdown, a competition between the men and the women.

Choreography: Greg & Maria Tucker

Music: “Cuckoo’s Nest”, American Traditional “Showdown”, Improvisation,

Performed by Mountain Strings

Musical Arrangement: Mark Geslison

MEXICO: LA BRUJA

9:00 Folk Dancers

A traditional dance from the state of Veracruz, *La Bruja* represents an ancient Mexican legend where a mother searches for the soul of her deceased son with a candle atop her head to illuminate her way.

Choreography: Gonzalos Luis

Restaged by: Emilee Wright

Music: “La Bruja”, Traditional

MEXICO: LA CULEBRA

International Folk Dance Ensemble

La Culebra represents the serpentine movements of snakes, a reptile abundant in the state of Jalisco.

Choreography: Pepe Juribe

Restaged by: Jeanette Geslison

Music: “La Culebra” by Tata Nacho, Recorded by Mariachi Vargas de Tecatitlan

MEXICO: LA NEGRA

Living Legends

This dance captures the soul of Mexico with their intricate footwork, beautiful costumes, and energetic music.

Choreography: Telli Aparicio

Music: “El Son de la Negra”, Traditional



HAITIAN/CREOLE: PAPA LOKO

II Tier Ensemble

Papa Loko is an African-based dance celebrating *Yemeja*, the goddess of water. Important to West African slaves who were brought “over the water” into the new world, water continued to sustain life and offer hope to the people. Performed to music derived from *Vodou* (Voodoo) religious culture, this dance includes motifs of water and waves.

Choreography: Gary Larsen

Music: “Papa Loko – Rara Papiyon”, Recorded by Sangensemblen Amanda, Traditional

SAMOA: SASA

Polynesian Children's Ensemble

Young Samoans demonstrate their energy and love for life in the rousing Sasa and Lapa Lapa.

Choreography: Kau'i Tuia

Music: Traditional, Performed by Mary & Lala Ah Mu, William Penney, Live Drums

SAMOA: LAPALAPA

Living Legends

Choreography: Sam Moe and David Tiave

Music: Traditional, Live Drums

SAMOA: FIREKNIFE DANCE

James & Michael Ahuna

Ailao Afi, meaning “Twirling Fire”, is a favorite among the Samoan dances.

Choreography: James & Michael Ahuna

Music: Traditional, Performed by Aldo Paro, Vao Tauanu'u, and Tau Leataua, Live Drums

RUSSIA: TROIKA NA RASSVETE

II Tier Ensemble

Troika, meaning three or trio, refers to a sleigh pulled by three horses. Through formations and movements, the image of the Troika can be seen throughout this dance. Combining elements of classical and traditional dance, the spirit of the Russian people is revealed.

Choreography: Michael Romney

Music: “At Sunrise”, Recorded by Osipov State Russian Folk Orchestra and Vitaly Gnutov, Traditional

UKRAINE: HOPAK

International Folk Dance Ensemble

Recognized as the national dance of Ukraine, Hopak was performed exclusively by men in the 15th and 16th centuries during the famous Cossack period. By the 19th century, women had become a regular part of the dance, adding to the spirit of this Ukrainian hallmark.

Choreography: Colleen West with Edwin G. Austin, Jr

Music: “Hopak”, Recorded by Intermountain Symphony Orchestra, Traditional
Musical Arrangement: Tyler Castleton, Daniel Lee

FINALE

Entire Cast

Choreography: Amy Jex

Music: “The Spirit of Christmas” Written and recorded by Michael W. Smith

2014-15 INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE ENSEMBLE

Directed by Jeanette Geslison



JASON ALLEN
Sandy, UT
MS—Mechanical
Engineering & MBA



ABRAM ALLRED
Orem, UT
Open



JASON CHECKETTS
Nampa, ID
Communications



WHITNEY DEMILLE
La Habra, CA
Food Science



ZACHARY DIAMOND
Salt Lake City, UT
Open



MICHAEL KIM
Orem, UT
Linguistics



CAMERON KING
Heber, UT
Recreation Management



REBECCA KISER
Rexburg, ID
Exercise Science



VICTORIA LEAVITT
Las Vegas, NV
Public Health



GARETT MADRIL
Kanab, UT
Recreation Management



NATHAN PEHRSON
Sandy, UT
Mechanical Engineering



ARIEL PETERSON
Riverton, UT
English



LAUREN PIPERATO
South Riding, VA
Psychology



JULIANNA SHEFFIELD
Springville, UT
Medical Laboratory
Science



AMBER SHEPHERD
O'Fallon, IL
Applied Statistics

MOUNTAIN STRINGS

Directed by Mark Geslison



JACOB BAGLEY
Draper, UT
Chemistry



MAURESA BASTIAN
Axtell, UT
MS—Food Science



LAUREN BEZZANT
Littleton, CO
French Studies



GRACE DAYTON
Pleasant Grove, UT
English



TALMAGE HAINES
Sandy, UT
Business Management



KYLIE FALKE
Tarlock, CA
 Early Childhood Education



WILLIAM FARNBACH
West Linn, OR
 Athletic Training



KATIE FARRENKOPF
Menomonee Falls, WI
 Dance



KATIE HADDOCK
Rochester, MN
 Early Childhood Education



TAYLOR HAYCOCK
Lima, OH
 Physiology, Developmental
 Biology, Spanish



JACOB MADSEN
Tucson, AZ
 Anthropology



SIRIE MCCOY
Layton, UT
 Dance



JESSA MILES
Phoenix, AZ
 Medical Laboratory Science



SEAN NICHOLAS
Kent, WA
 Exercise Science



ALLISON OBERLE
Sandy, UT
 Business Management



WESLEY VALDEZ
Provo, UT
 Open



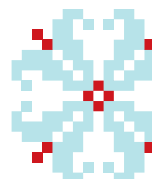
AMANDA WELCH
Gilbert, AZ
 Theatre Arts—Playwriting



EMILEE HARDY
Meridian, ID
 Chemical Engineering



SYDNEY KEDDINGTON
Allentown, PA
 Business Management



CAST

Joel Fonoimoana

Eagle Dancer

Aubrey Jackson

Mary

Scott Jackson

Joseph

Joseph Ziegler

Shepherd

Garrett Tucker

Young Shepherd

FINALE CHILDREN

Ellie Geslison

Kaylee Handy

Timothy Love

Daisy Livingston

Garrett Tucker

Olivia Tucker

Grayson Tucker

Bailey Tucker

Addie Wright

Dax Wright

STORY TELLERS

David Morgan

Barta Heiner

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stephanie Breinholt

VOICE OVERS

PJ Betteridge

Taleah Fisiipeau

Sharon Gochicoa

Aysel Guler

Nathan Kuhlman

Brooklyn Reed

Michael Mangan

Isaac Moss

8:00 FOLK DANCERS

Edwin G. Austin Jr.

Assistants:

Jaymie Lambson

Michael Kim

Colin Anderson

Paul Black

James Call

Bradley Cole

Gail Custodio

Elizabeth Elliott

Camille Ensign

Polina Etkareva

Spencer Fleek

Brittany Folsom

Christian Fullmer

Jake Fullmer

Laura Garff

Faith Houghton

Jason Hunt

Jon Enoch Jones

Greg LaRussa

Jordan Liao

Zachery Lichtenberg

Christine Luker

Katie Madsen

Jimmy McDonald

Chloe McWilliams

Natasha Mickelson

Megan Murphy

Aimee Myers

Megan Myers

Eric Pearce

Alana Peters

Lauren Remington

Daniel Tanner

Zack Walton

9:00 FOLK DANCERS

Emilee Wright

Assistants:

Katie Farrenkopf

Taylor Haycock

Camille Duncan

Reid Empey

Jodi Evans

Ellen Ford

Elizabeth Gallacher

Isaac Grindstaff

Derek Hancock

Levi Harris

Gavin Howard

Melissa Maughan

Rachael McCash

Taze Miller

Alexandra Miyazaki

Clara Nebeker

Trevor Richards

Michael Clark

Paul Russavage

Rachael Schiel

Natalie Schwendiman

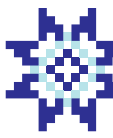
Bethany Simmons

Preston Snyder

Thomas Tautkus

Beau Waters

Rebekah Weaver



10:00 FOLK DANCERS

Amy Jex

Assistants:

Amanda Welch
Zach Diamond

Mikayla Allen
Joseph Barwick
Kalicia Bateman
Jace Bayles
Amy Bennett
Julianne Binns
Emily Firth
Daniel Free
Rex Henretta
Missy Hilton
Aubrey Jackson
Scott Jackson
Emily LeBaron
Danielle LeFevre
Marissa Martin
Grant Mecham
Jenna Nelson
Jessie Ogden
Eric Riddoch
Peter Sawyer
Jacob Selman
Carson Smith
Tyler Smith
Joseph Zeigler

11:00 FOLK DANCERS

Lyndsey Wulfenstein

Assistants:

Emily Kleinkopf
Jason Allen

Catherine Beck
Karrie Beckstead
Zachary Ellis
Mackenzie Felt
Benjamin Fife
Diane Fine
Elisabeth Frischknecht
Paul Gallo
David Grant
Cody Halversen
Sarah Harris
Clint Hubbard
Katelynn Jacobson
Hyrum Jones
Jessica Jones
Sunny Leavitt
Mary Love
Rachel Mumford
Jazlyn Nielsen
Mykaela Rogers
Jonathan Sadler
Lisa Schneider
Jason Sevey
Jordan Stanford
Emmanuel Valdez
Nathan Warner
Kai Weser

II TIER ENSEMBLE

Amy Jex

Assistant:

Christopher Gallacher

Emily Allen
Bryson Alley
Redge Ballard
Rylan Bateman
Stephanie Clancy
LaNaya Comsa
Gianluca Cuestas
Breanna Zundel Daniels
Trenton Daniels
Ian Jiles Griffey
Christian Halversen
Branson Handy
Christian Hansen
Orion Howard
Jeff Huckstep
Sage Iverson
Kirsi Jarvis
Mary Beth Johnson
Nellie Kacher
McKenna King
Tanner Long
Bryce Mangelsen
Mackenzie Moon
Carissa Moser
M. Ken Nukaya
KayAnn Quist
Allyssa Pehrson
Megan Schille
Marina Fernanda Silva
Eryn Shumway
Tia Pedersen
Brett Schachterle
Adam Schraedel
Dan Steren

BYU LIVING LEGENDS

Directed by Janielle Christensen



Photo: Mark A. Philbrick/BYU

Living Legends is unique in all the world. Originally created in 1971 as the Lamanite Generation with Native American students touring reservations in the southwestern United States, today this group captures the essence of ancient and modern culture in a celebration of Native American, Latin American and Polynesian dance and music. Traditions come to light as talented descendants of these cultures blend authentic choreography, intricate costumes and heart-pounding music into one captivating show, telling the story of their heritage.

Beginning with its tour to Germany in 1974, Living Legends has participated in 30 international tours and has been applauded in Europe, the Pacific Islands, Australia, Canada, South America,

Central America, South Africa, China and Russia. Living Legends was featured in performances at the 2002 Winter Olympics and World Expos in Seville, Spain in 1992 and Shanghai, China in 2010. Living Legends has been seen by millions of people in both live and televised performances and continues to communicate its message of family and hope.

The national historian of Nicaragua recently said of the group, “You rescue culture. A culture does not die when it dies, it dies when it is forgotten.” Living Legends performers use the medium of dance to pass on the message of their ancestors throughout the world, ensuring that their cultures will indeed live on beyond this generation to future generations.

WOMEN

Keilani Akoi
Gabriela Ampuero
Telli Aparicio
Kaylee Au
Chrystal Begay
Tiana Bettinson
Rosselim Chama
Celeste Contreras
Jazmine Emerson
Sia Fifita
Kira Ho Ching
Janalee Kaluhiokalani
Hannah Meha
Carolina Mertlich
Cheyenne Rivera
Ashley Southern
Erin Tapahe
Shanoah Ulibarri
Kiana Wilson

MEN

James Ahuna
Sam Arce
Chandler Chavis
Brendan Clark
Mikey Ikaiahifo
Kamalu Kaluhiokalani
Joel Fonoimoana
Jordan Bush
Kameron Ho Ching
Jon Ige
Eric John
Carlos Orozco
Seth Pacheco
Joe Robledo
Henrique Saucedo
Tulifaga Tialavea
Moni Tiatia
Shelby Tulley

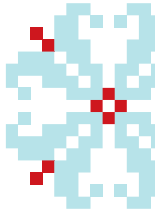
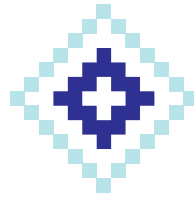


Photo: Ellie Stott



GUEST MUSICIANS

Erik Abbott, *Scottish bag pipes*
Sydni Dunn, *percussion*
Annie Sinead Farasopoulos, *percussion*
Alina Geslison, *fiddle*
Jessica Patchett, *flute*

Javier Misiego, *Spanish cajon, vocal*
Jared Antonio Garcia Lyons,
Spanish flamenco guitar

POLYNESIAN CHILDRENS ENSEMBLE

Directed by: Kau'i Tuia

Drummers: Lala Ah Mu, Maka Aulava, William Tenney Jr.

Special thanks to: Wes & Kau'i Tuia, William & Michelle Tenney, Lala & Mary Ah Mu

Sina Albert
Lianne Albert
Taiana Albert
Jackson Anzar
Malachi Aulava
Mahlia Aznar
Kennen Bunker
Emma Bunker
Keanu Calles
Kalia Faló
Kawehi Fisiipeau
Siua Fisiipeau
Taleah Fisiipeau
Tevai Fisiipeau
Sina Fisiipeau

Jeremiaiah Fisiipeau
Abel Higgins
Bella Higgins
Sam Higgins
Vincent Higgins
Eden Kaopua
Hickley Kaopua
Kale'a Lee
Taliah Lee
Masina Perez
Neraia Perez
Mathaias Perez
Ammon Perez
Shalia Rokobuludrau
Malina Srianan

Charity Tenney
James Tenney
Eternity Tenney
Penina Tenney
William Jr. Tenney
Ta'isi Tolua Mata'afa
Tanumafili Tolua Mata'afa
Keyshaun Tolua-Campbell
Na'ama Tolua-Campbell
Kahiau Torau
Kawelina Torau
Maika Torau
Kalei Tuia
Mana Tuia
Audri Ware

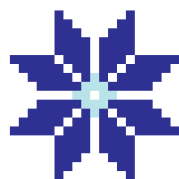


GUEST SAMOAN FIREKNIFE DANCERS

James & Michael Ahuna

Michael and James Ahuna, both students at BYU, have been performing a Polynesian show around the world with their family since they were young children. Since 1998, Ahuna Ohana has traveled together to share the message of the importance of families through song and dance. Ahuna Ohana's repertoire include the cultures of New Zealand, Tahiti, Hawaii, Samoa, and the Navajo tribe. Michael and James' father, Joe Ahuna, taught each of his four sons the Samoan Fireknife dance at a young age.

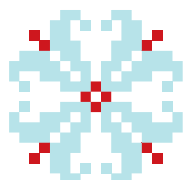
DIRECTORS



JEANETTE GESLISON
Artistic Director
International Folk
Dance Ensemble



AMY JEX
II Tier Ensemble
10:00 Folk Dancers



LYNDSLEY WULFENSTEIN
11:00 Folk Dancers



EDWIN G. AUSTIN JR.
8:00 Folk Dancers



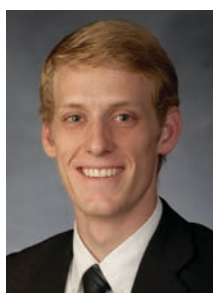
EMILEE WRIGHT
9:00 Folk Dancers



MARK GESLISON
Artistic Director
Mountain Strings



MICHAEL ROMNEY
Rehearsal Assistant
International Folk Dance
Ensemble



CHRISTOPHER GALLACHER
Rehearsal Assistant
II Tier Ensemble

INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE ENSEMBLE

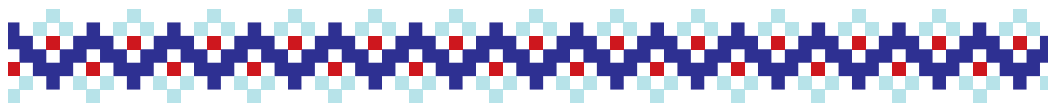
50TH ANNIVERSARY OF TOURING



This year the International Folk Dancers celebrate our 50th Anniversary of touring at home and abroad. The group started touring on a recommendation from Vytautas Beliajus, well known Lithuanian and folk dance instructor in the United States, (Mr. Folk Dance). In 1964 Vyts was asked by the People to People Organization which group he thought could best represent the United States at an International Folk Festival being held in Denmark. Vyts said, “I decided the only group

worthy to represent the United States would be the Brigham Young group.” He knew them to be clean cut youth and excellent dancers, “who perform with an effective type of fun which seems to reach the people.”

Presented with this auspicious invitation, Mary Bee Jensen, founder and director 1956-85, took up the challenge of preparing the group to travel to Europe for the very first time (also the first of all the individual performing groups on campus). Mary Bee had approval from the university



Your ensemble is outstanding. Your program is high class and there is soul in your movements. There is honest devotion and faith shining from the stage. I see that you are a rare community and know the what and why of what are you doing.

—MIHAYLI GABOR

Artistic Director, Hungarian State Folk Dance Ensemble

The BYU International Folk Dance Ensemble has literally danced their way across the world and into the hearts of countless thousands of people.

—JOHN G. KINNEAR

former Director of Program Bureau, BYU

with no funding but she didn't let this stand in her way. She and her husband, Don, personally borrowed \$26,000 for the tour—and off they went. The group performed in Denmark, Germany, The Netherlands, Austria, Italy, France and Belgium.

As they went along, Mary was often calling ahead to book the next show because not all of the performances had been previously booked. Since that time the IFDE has performed in more than 50 countries and most of the United States bringing their joy of culture and dance to millions of people around the world.

There is something in these young people which makes them show great enthusiasm for life. They set a great example for all the world. We haven't seen anything like this for many years. They have left a message of hope for all of us...a message that should be taken to the entire world.

—MADAME JEANINE GUERPILLON

Director, French National Television



"Teton Mountain Stomp," 1981

TOUR STORIES



Photo: Mark A. Philbrick/BYU

BEIJING, CHINA 2009

Sara Lee Gibb, Dean, College of Health and Human Performance

“[After the performance], the Executive Director of the Beijing 2008 Olympics opening and closing ceremonies...politely thanked me, said how much he liked the performance, and spent quite some time talking to the dancers. He indicated to our cultural advisor that he would like to come back tomorrow night. We were surprised and offered to get him a ticket. He asked if he could have three. The following evening he arrived and waited to see if he needed to buy tickets. I was there with the tickets and he graciously

accepted them for his wife and nine-year-old daughter.

“Again, after the performance he wanted to share how much he was moved by our dancers. He said, “In China there are so many wonderful dancers, but I rarely go to see them perform anymore, and never take my family. The dance is so dark, without hope...These dancers bring such light and joy and hope and I wanted my family to experience this. It was wonderful.”

BINGHAMTON, NEW YORK

*Millie Truesdell, chairwoman,
Two Rivers Ethnic Festival*

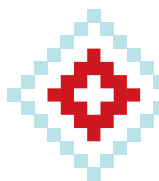
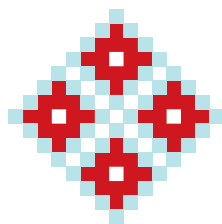
“Local dance groups feel so good about being on stage with the Brigham Young dancers. Those dancers are so good to them, and bring such inspiration. They always have time to talk and make friends—it’s heartwarming.”

AUSTRALIA, 2000

*Suzanne Biniecki, teacher,
Woodbury Public School*

“Today I took the chance of taking along my small class of 12 intellectually disabled children, whom I teach Polish dancing to as part of building up their own personal self-esteem.

“The little children in my class were left with an indelible lifelong image of wonderful role-models that they can aspire to be like. They all went home talking about which one of you they wanted to be like the most when they grow up...Carry on because I think that God wants the young people of the world to be like you...You are making our world so much better by showing other young people another alternative of how they can be..”



France, 2004

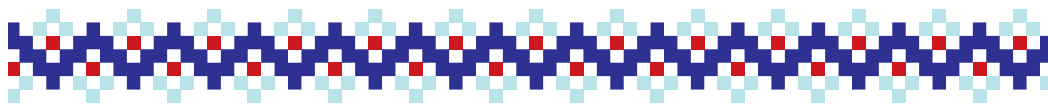




Photo: Mark A. Philbrick/BNU

MARTIGUES, FRANCE 2014
Amber Shepherd

“We were at our last festival in Martigues and during free time one day I started teaching a girl from Tartarstan a few basic clogging steps. We didn’t speak each other’s language, but dance has a gift of moving past language barriers. After about 30 minutes the session was over, but she made it clear that she wanted to meet daily. So we did! Every day we would get her a pair of clogging shoes to wear and I would teach her a few more steps. At the end of our meeting on the third day, she was particularly grateful. She could not stop thanking me for taking the time to teach her. She then looked at her hand and proceeded to take off a ring that

she was wearing. She handed it to me and said, “a present, a present!” She repeated this numerous times. I don’t know how expensive the ring was or where she bought it, but the fact that she would give it to me so willingly really hit me. She taught me that people are more important than things, and that the experiences we have daily with each other, face to face, are what really matter. She willingly gave her ring to me because she was grateful that I had taken time to teach her some simple clogging moves. I was so touched, I wanted to do the same for her. So, I decided that on the last day of the festival, I was going to give her my clogging shoes.”

REMEMBERING DELYNNE BUTCHER PEAY



Dur friend, teacher and colleague, Delynne Peay passed away January 13, 2014 due to complications of H1N1 influenza. It was a shock to everyone to have her pass so suddenly. In her 38 years at Brigham Young University, Delynne was a dancer, student assistant, teacher to hundreds of students, choreographer extraordinaire and Traditionz (SPAC) director to many. Her enthusiasm and love for world dance and cultures was contagious. She had a special love for the dances of Spain and Poland and spent extra time in study of both these forms. Delynne was also an avid tap dancer.

Delynne was spirited and a lot of fun. Her laugh or “giggle” was contagious. At the same time she was passionate about the value of folk dance in a person’s life. She often spoke her mind—you knew where she stood and thus, offered balance in our program. Delynne taught her students to be responsible citizens. She gave 100% to all her assignments and responsibilities. She had an open door policy and often had students to her home as she mothered them through their college experience. Her spunky spirit and passion will never be forgotten.

CREDITS

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MASTER ELECTRICIAN

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AUDIO HOUSE ENGINEER

Doug Olsen

AUDIO MIXING ENGINEER

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Jordan Liau
Heather Richardson

ASSISTANT ACTING COACH

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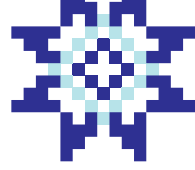
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Greg Tucker

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Kau'i Tuia

Tara Westbrook

Emilee Wright

Lyndsey Wulfenstein

STUDENT TEACHERS

Alexandra Crandall

Victoria Leavitt

Jacob Madsen

Amber Shepherd

SPECIAL THANKS

Brent and Maria Lewis, Alumni Reception

ALUMNI RECEPTION, 50TH TOURING CELEBRATION

Susanne Davis, Committee Chair

MUSIC CREDITS

Jalisco

“La Culebra” By Tata Nacho

© Peer Music International Corp.

Finale

“The Spirit of Christmas”

Written & Performed by Michael W. Smith

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INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE ENSEMBLE 2015 PERFORMANCES

Jan. 24	CONFERENCE CENTER <i>Salt Lake City, Utah</i>	2:00 P.M. 7:30 PM
Jan. 30	COLLEGE OF SOUTHERN IDAHO FINE ARTS CENTER <i>Twin Falls, Idaho</i>	7:30 P.M.
Jan. 31	FOUR RIVERS CULTURAL CENTER <i>Ontario, Oregon</i>	7:30 P.M.
March 21	VERNAL MIDDLE SCHOOL (UINTAH ARTS COUNCIL) <i>Vernal, Utah</i>	7:30 P.M.
March 27	TIMPIVIEW HIGH SCHOOL <i>Provo, Utah</i>	7:30 P.M.
April 3	FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS GALA <i>50th Anniversary Celebration</i>	6:30 P.M.
July	SUMMER TOUR <i>Croatia, France, Spain</i>	

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2014-2015 FOLK DANCE SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

We thank all who have generously contributed in supporting our program by providing students with scholarship opportunities. Your contributions are greatly appreciated.

MARY BEE JENSEN ENDOWMENT

Jason Allen
Amber Shepherd

EXCELLENCE IN FOLK ARTS SCHOLARSHIP

Victoria Leavitt
Lauren Piperato

VILTIS SCHOLARSHIP

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DELYNNE PEAY SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Jacob Madsen

If you are interested in providing scholarships for the folk dance program and its students, please contact Jennifer Amott at 801-422-9219 or visit give.byu.edu/folkdance.



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