

SEPTEMBER 2024

SOPILKA

UKRAINIAN DANCE SCHOOL

VOLUME 2
ISSUE 1

NEWSLETTER



IMPORTANT DATES:

SEPTEMBER 6 - KICK OFF - CRESCENT DRIVE PARK

SEPTEMBER 8 - CLASSES BEGIN!

SEPTEMBER 30 - National Truth & Reconciliation Day
No Classes

OCTOBER 13-14 - Thanksgiving Weekend (Closed)

OCTOBER 31 - Halloween **No Classes**

DECEMBER 22-JANUARY 4 - Christmas Holidays (Closed)

JANUARY 5 - First Day of Class After Christmas Break

FEBRUARY 8 - Annual Sopilka Zabava!

FEBRUARY 14-17 - Louis Riel Long Weekend (Closed)

MARCH 14-16 - MB Ukrainian Dance Festival (Winnipeg)

MARCH 30-APRIL 5 - Spring Break (Closed)

APRIL 18-20 - Easter Weekend (Closed)

APRIL 21 - Easter Monday **Classes as Scheduled**

MAY 11 - Annual Recital - MBCI

Absences from Class

This is a reminder that if your dancer will be missing class due to illness or other reasons, you must email or text Kristina to advise of this:

sopilkadirector@gmail.com
204-996-4420

KRISTINA'S KORNER

Welcome back Sopilka Families as we begin our 54th Season of Ukrainian Dance! Since the Annual Recital at St. Mary's Academy this spring, we have kept busy through the summer months.

- Krasa performed at Jillian Teterenko's wedding as a gift to her and her new husband, Brent.
- Sokoly boys were honoured to dance at Holy Family Church's 90th Anniversary.
- 20 dancers from Radist', Dusha, Krasa & Adult Ensembles, along with their families traveled to Croatia to represent Ukrainian culture through dance. There they had a beautiful experience filled with dance, touring the country and its sites & building strong & lasting friendships!
- 3 dancers participated in the Talent Competition in Dauphin.
- Sokoly, Druzi & Radist represented the school beautifully at the Kyiv Pavilion during Folklorama.
- 12 dancers in Druzi, Radist' & Dusha attended the Kazka/Sopilka dance intensive where they took daily ballet & jazz class & learned from Shannon Gabrush, awarding winning teacher, choreographer & Artistic Director of Tavria & Rushnychok in Saskatoon.

Dancers and parents should recognize that dancing at Sopilka means belonging to a community and team. While academics will always take priority, please consider how many outside activities your dancer is taking on and how it may affect their participation in their class. That being said, for those who desire to excel at Ukrainian dance, please consider adding a ballet or jazz class to their schedule.

This year's Artistic Team consists of myself along with Jillian Teterenko, Ben Chapman, Megan Hnatiuk, Markian Duplak, MacKenzie Drul and a group of eager Classroom Helpers. We are so excited to prepare a production of "The Turnip" for our dancers in Kalyna and down and "Polissian Suite" for Kalyna and up, which is choreographed by National Artist of Ukraine, Raphael Malinowsky.

I encourage all parents and dancers to reach out if they have any questions or concerns. I am here to provide your dancer(s) with the best possible experience as they deepen their love and connection to Ukrainian culture through dance.

Kristina Frykas
Artistic Director

NEWSLETTER

SOPILKA
Kick Off Party!
2024/2025

To kick off the new year, we will be holding our annual "Come and Go" Kick Off Event to welcome new families and reconnect with returning families.

This is an opportunity to meet the Sopilka Artistic Team, Sopilka Board of Directors & Parent Advisory Committee, as well as other dancers and families.

Please note this event is weather dependent and if we are unable to hold the event due to poor weather, we will send an email approximately 24 hours ahead of time. Please watch your email for updates.

We are looking for a few volunteers to help at this event. If you wish to sign up to complete some of your volunteer requirements, please sign up here:

<https://signup.com/go/GRCMSbq>

Date: Friday September 6th, 2024

Time: 5:30-7:30 pm (Come & Go)

Location: Crescent Drive Park

Pizza and Beverages will be served

Please bring a lawn chair

RSVP sopilkawinnipeg@gmail.com ASAP

VOLUNTEERING REQUIREMENTS

With a growing school and various events throughout the year, we require the help of volunteers from our community. We ask that families volunteer their time to work 6 hours per registered dancer (*to a maximum of 15 hours per family*) to help out at Sopilka events and activities.

As dancers get older, they can volunteer and help as well. We also welcome aunts, uncles and grandparents to assist.

Here are some events that will require support this year:

- Annual Kick Off Event (still time to sign up to volunteer!)
- Annual Zabava/Malanka
- Annual Recital
- School Fundraisers (*i.e. Cheese & Kulbasa, Raffles, Clothing, etc.*)
- School Events (*i.e. Photo Day, etc.*)
- Competitions/Trips
- Class Rep (*each class requires 1 Rep to assist with various tasks throughout the year. This role would equate to 6 hours & cover off all your volunteer hours for your dancer*)

To assist, we will track volunteer hours and we hope to not have to assign volunteer roles to ensure fair and equitable distribution amongst all families. We request that each family please manage their volunteer time throughout the year.

If you are interested in signing up as a Class Rep or for any other event, please email:

sopilkafundraising@gmail.com

NEWSLETTER

SOPILKA GEAR

The Sopilka Gear store (facilitated by Baltic Athletics) will be **LIVE for Online shopping September 16-27th**, with an expected turnaround of 6-8 weeks.

*Two new items have been added to the store:
Ball caps, in 2 styles (traditional and ponytail) **and** Toques!*

Hopefully you have a chance to pre-shop and create a wish-list at the kickoff, as well, samples will be available for sizing and making selections at the studio from September 8-26th.

We would like to encourage new students to purchase a Sopilka T-Shirt - as we anticipate using them throughout the year!

<https://tom.balticathletics.com/pages/sopilka-ukrainian-dance-school>



Your SOPILKA Clothing Store is OPENING SOON!!

OPEN FROM
SEPTEMBER 16 - 27, 2024

SIZING SAMPLES ARE AVAILABLE AT THE DANCE SCHOOL
& A PORTION OF ALL SALES GO BACK TO SOPILKA!

FUNDRAISING

Fundraising is a vital tool for Sopilka as a not-for-profit organization. While we have several fundraisers for families to participate in, they are optional. Fundraisers are not just about collecting money, it's about supporting an organization that fosters community, that focuses on Ukrainian culture through dance!

Wine Raffle

Exciting news! Our first fundraiser of the year is just around the corner, and we're thrilled to announce the return of our popular annual "Wine Raffle." We're kindly asking families to contribute either a bottle of store-bought wine (value of \$15-\$20) or \$20 cash, which will be used to create the raffle prizes.

In October, we will distribute raffle booklets to our dancers/families, who will then sell raffle tickets. *As this is an optional fundraiser and you do not want to sell tickets, please return tickets to the school.*

Keep an eye out for more details soon, and thank you in advance for your generous support. Let's make this year's Wine Raffle a huge success!

If you have any bottle boxes, we would gladly take those off your hands, as they are hard to get from the MLCC.

NEWSLETTER

PARENT LIAISON

Sopilka has created a new role this year and welcomes Lawrence Grzenda to this role! Lawrence can be contacted at: sopilkapl@gmail.com

The primary role of the Sopilka Parent Liaison is to act as a mediator between dancers and the Artistic staff/Board and between parents and the Artistic staff/Board when issues arise that are unable to be resolved between dancer/family and Artistic staff/Board. The Parent Liaison is to act in the best interest of the dancers and the school as a whole. Part of their role is to communicate with the teaching staff/board any concerns or questions brought forth by dancers and/or parents.

The Parent Liaison is a communication contact to bring collective concerns to the teaching staff and the Board and in reverse to collect the opinions of the parents.

The Parent Liaison is a listener! They are available to Parents to hear their concerns and bring these forward to the Artistic Staff/Board accurately and in a calm, clear manner.

All information gathered and discuss with the Parent Liaison will be kept confidential.

Artistic Director:

Kristina Frykas
204-996-4420

sopilkadirector@gmail.com

Board of Directors:

President

Venessa Schreyer
sopilkawinnipeg@gmail.com

Vice-President & Treasurer

Jayne Drul
sopilkatreasurer@gmail.com

Administrative Officer

Chantal Criggar
sopilkafundraising@gmail.com

651 Stafford Street, Unit 4
Winnipeg, MB R3M 3Y7

SOPILKA 55th Anniversary

2026 Marks Our 55th Year
Celebration Gala Planning is Underway!

CALLING ALL SOPILKA ALUMNAE!

Keep up to date with all the details!
Email your name and year(s) you danced and
any photos & memories to share to:

sopilkadance55@gmail.com

Please share with any Sopilka Alumnae!

Do You Love Sopilka?!

If you have a moment, we'd really appreciate it
if you could leave us a Google review to let
others know how much you love us.

Your feedback helps us keep doing what we do
best and helps other folks find us too.

It's super easy!

