

LYRIDS FOLK DANCE FESTIVAL

Sponsored by Burnaby International Folk Dancers

Chrisanne Pennimpede, New Westminster, British Columbia

Photos by Sam Chiang, 2023 Lyrids Festival

Dear Folk Dance Enthusiasts, we are thrilled to extend a warm invitation to our 10th Lyrids Folk Dance Festival, which will take place from April 19 to 21, 2024. This year promises to be a remarkable celebration of global dance traditions and community spirit.

Featured Instructors

Our festival proudly presents renowned instructors who will lead captivating workshops. Join Cristian Florescu and Sonia Dion as they guide you through the beauty of Romanian dances, and let Tom Bozigian and Sheree King enchant you with the art of Armenian dances.

Exciting Highlights

- Immerse yourself in the joy of dance during our Friday evening party, featuring a lively dance session to recorded music.
- On Saturday evening, don't miss the extraordinary performance and dance session with Jana Rickel's band, Zakuska, hailing from the vibrant Seattle area.
- Enjoy engaging sing-along sessions and enlightening cultural talks by our esteemed instructors.
- Explore our renowned shop, offering a delightful selection of ethnic clothing and other treasures. You're welcome to bring your own costumes or ethnic items to sell or consign.

Location

For this year, we have chosen a new, fragrance-free location in Pitt Meadows, British Columbia, 30 km (just a 50-minute drive, traffic dependent) east of Vancouver Airport. The Pitt Meadows Heritage Hall boasts a wonderful hardwood dance floor, free parking, and a convenient Best Western Plus Inn & Suites nearby. We have reserved a block of rooms.

Culinary Delights

Indulge in catered meals. We do our best to accommodate various dietary requirements. We'll also provide plenty of snacks during breaks to keep you energized and satisfied.

A Glimpse of Our History

Over the past nine festivals (2014–2023), we've had the privilege of learning dances from around the world with esteemed instructors such as Ahmet Lüleci, Bata Marčetić, Alexandru David, Steve Kotansky, Roberto Bagnoli, George and Irina Arabagi, Yves Moreau, France Bourque-Moreau, Cristian Florescu and Sonia Dion, Jaap Leegwater, Lee Otterholt, Mea Nordenfelt, and Genci Kastrati. We successfully hosted online festivals in 2021 (co-organized

with Kyklos International Folk Dancers) and 2022, featuring exceptional instructors such as Tineke and Maurits van Geel, Gergana Panova, Naomi Taussig, and Steve Weintraub, to name a few. There were also singing and drumming workshops and live party bands on Saturday evening.

Registration Details

Registration opens in January, and we eagerly look forward to welcoming you to the festival. If you're interested in volunteering, you can indicate your willingness on the registration form. For additional details visit our website at LyridsFolkDanceFestival.org.

The Lyrids Folk Dance Festival is a labor of love brought to you by Burnaby International Folk Dancers. If you have any questions or require further information, please don't hesitate to reach out lyridsfolkdancefestival@gmail.com. We can't wait to celebrate the rich tapestry of world dance with you at the 10th Lyrids Folk Dance Festival. Let's make this an unforgettable experience!

