

Bulgarian Folk Festival VEREA 2016

Special Thanks:

- * To all of you who trusted us for a 6th time to put the festival together.
- * To all participants who travel thousands of miles even from another country to be part of it.
- * To all parents who teach their kids to love and appreciate our rich folklore.
- * To all group organizers, leaders, choreographers, directors, conductors, volunteers and many more for the devoted sleepless nights and shared effort so we can do it together.
- * To all our sponsors helping quietly but tremendously.

This festival would not be as successful as it is without your financial help. If you would like to continue helping, there is no better moment than right now. Please look for the donation boxes at the concert hall entrance.

THANK YOU!

For more information, please contact us at:

(773) 742-5158 - Koce

(781) 985-0828 - Maggie



Bulgarian Folk Festival VEREA 2016

April 22-24, 2016

South Middle School
400 S. Highland Ave.
Arlington Heights, IL 60005



BULGARIAN FOLKLORE IS MAGIC

Event Program

Friday, April 22, 2016

MCs - Konstantin Marinov and Magdalena Marinova

Concert starts at 6:00 PM

Opening performance - Ensemble "Little Verea"

1. Little Verea (Chicago) - 6:05 PM

2. St. Sophia (Chicago) - 6:18 PM

3. New BG School (Chicago) - 6:22 PM

4. Nashencheta at Sunflowers School (Chicago) - 6:26 PM

5. Daniela Kostova (Chicago) - 6:31 PM

6. Bulgarian Spirit (St. Louis) - 6:35 PM

7. Zharava (Las Vegas) - 6:45 PM

8. Rosa (Atlanta) - 7:00 PM

9. Horo (Chicago) - 7:22 PM

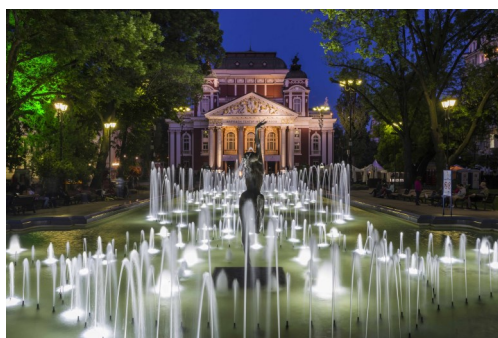
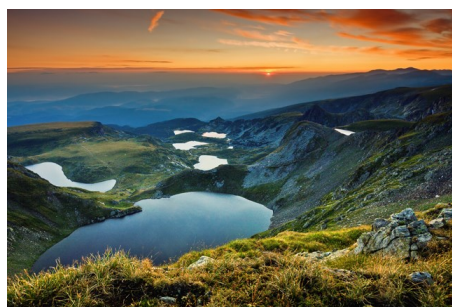
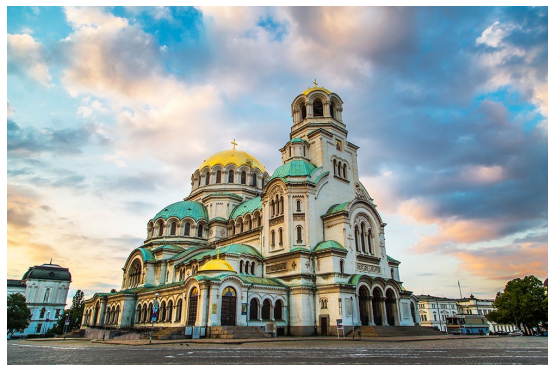
10. Voices of Little Bulgaria (Chicago) - 7:30 PM

11. Horo (Chicago) - 7:40 PM

12. Verea (Chicago) - 7:50 PM



This is Bulgaria



Saturday, April 23, 2016

Concert starts at 5:30 PM

Opening performance - Young Bulgarian Voices & 101 Kaba Gaidi

- 1. Young Bulgarian Voices & 101 Kaba Gaidi (NY) - 5:35 PM**
- 2. Vereza (Chicago) - 5:45 PM**
- 3. Ripni Kalinke (San Jose) - 5:58 PM**
- 4. Bulgari (Minnesota) - 6:06 PM**
- 5. Jarava (Los Angeles) - 6:14 PM**
- 6. Dimitrovche Kids (Toronto) - 6:25 PM**
- 7. Danka (Pittsburgh) - 6:36 PM**
- 8. Hop-Trop (Sarasota, FL) - 6:44 PM**
- 9. Rodni Ritmi (Orlando) - 6:53 PM**
- 10. Opa-Hey La (Los Angeles) - 7:02 PM**
- 11. Bulgarian School "Bulgarian Language" (St. Louis) - 7:13 PM**
- 12. Bosilek (New York) - 7:24 PM**
- 13. Balkanika Folk (Denver) - 7:35 PM**
- 14. Horotroptsi (Los Angeles) - 7:46 PM**
- 15. Seattle-Cheta (Seattle) - 7:56 PM**
- 16. Ludo Mlado (Boston) - 8:07 PM**
- 17. Elite (Tampa) - 8:16 PM**
- 18. Otets Paisii (Pittsburgh) - 8:25 PM**

Participants

BG FOLK CLUB VEREA, Chicago, IL

Created on April 10, 2010

Choreographers and Artistic Directors Konstantin Marinov and Irena Novakova

Mission: To preserve and spread the Bulgarian Folklore around the World. To present it to our children and thus be saved as a nation.

BULGARIAN FOLKLORE IS MAGIC!



FOLKLORE FORMATION ZHARAVA

Las Vegas, NV

with dance instructor Rayna Nedelcheva was created as such in 2014 as a continuation of the group which the late Marin Petrov pioneered in 2012. Members of the group share the same passion of dancing and developing the awareness of the authentic Bulgarian dances among both the Bulgarian and American communities in Las Vegas.



PERFORMING GROUP SEATTLE CHETA at the BCHCS Seattle, WA

was established in April, 2014 for participation in the Vereva Bulgarian Folk Festival in Chicago. The name is a combination of "seattlecheta" – people from Seattle and "Seattle Cheta" – a band with connotation to the heroic Bulgarian Enlightenment. We take joy in bringing back to life old traditional Bulgarian songs and dances, among which Koledarski pesni and Koledarski Yambolski Buenek, performed by our men. This year, 2016, will be our third participation in Vereva Festival.



BULGARIAN FOLK DANCE GROUP ROSA

Atlanta, GA

was formed from a small group of enthusiasts in 2010. The goal was to preserve and further the Bulgarian culture and traditions in the United States. During the first two years, only authentic Bulgarian folk dances were taught. Since January 2013, with the help of the new artistic director Vesselin Vassilev, the group expanded its work to choreographed dances from different Bulgarian folklore regions and started performing at different events and occasions.



Mission: To keep Bulgarian traditions strong and on fire for generations to come; to infuse our Bulgarian song and dance with the vigor we inherited from our mothers and grandmothers, and preserve our traditions by passing them down with enthusiasm to our children and grandchildren, with the hope that they will preserve and share our culture with the same timeless energy and vigor. Choreographers: Boris Borisov and Kameliya Borisova. The school was established in 2010 by Katia Valkova.

BACC: BULGARIAN SCHOOL "BULGARIAN LANGUAGE"

Saint Louis, MO



The BMNECC's OTETS PAISSII PERFORMING ENSEMBLE,

West Homestead, PA

has been delighting local and international audiences for many years. This talented group of singers, dancers and musicians has been one of the main attractions at the annual Pittsburgh International Folk Festival for many years. The group presents its annual concert each autumn at the West Mifflin Area Middle School and performs regularly at venues in Pittsburgh and southwestern Pennsylvania. In 1990 the ensemble appeared at numerous venues in Bulgaria.



BULGARIAN FOLKLORE DANCE GROUP "LUDO MLADO"

Boston, MA

(www.ludomlado.com)

Ludo Mlado is a semi-professional dance troupe based in Boston, MA. Choreographers of the troupe include Petar Petrov a former professional dancer from the Bulgarian State Ensemble "Rodopa" and Marieta Mircheva a graduate from the National Choreographic School in Sofia, Bulgaria. By training dancers and showcasing performances at cultural events, the troupe endeavors to preserve and spread awareness of the rich dance traditions of Bulgaria and the Balkan people. Ludo Mlado performs at weddings, festivals, concerts and wherever the Bulgarian music and dance can bring out unique sensations to the event.



Participants

is the first successful project for a Bulgarian Folklore dance group in Southern California. The group was formed in 2010-2011 as a result of a friendship among people who were getting together every Wednesday evening to teach each other how to dance horo. In 2011 the group has chosen the hills of La Crescenta as its home, where most of the founding members lived at that time. Opa-hey is a project of wildalone Bulgarian women, where leadership and teaching are shared responsibilities and everyone is willing to teach others: Inna Taskaeva, Vessi Kazachka, Isabela Arnaudov, Assia Markova, Biliana Popova.



OPA-HEY LA
Los Angeles, CA



ENSEMBLE HORO, Chicago, IL

Ensemble Horo was founded in 2003 by Irina and Todor Gochevi who to this day are its artistic directors. In September 2010 Ensemble Horo was registered as a not-for-profit corporation with a mission to contribute to the cultural diversity of the American society by promoting the rich Bulgarian folk dance traditions through performing and teaching them to the general public. The Ensemble has been growing every year and currently has over 50 members. In all of our dance compositions we strive to preserve the traditional Bulgarian folklore and present its vibrant beauty to the audience.

BALKANIKA FOLK DANCE GROUP

Denver, CO



Group lives with the magic of the Balkan folklore already 3 and a half years. The love of the dance gathers Bulgarians, Romanians, Moldavians and Americans every week in the rehearsal studio in Denver, Colorado. The heart of the group beats in irregular rhythm during festivals and charity events in the area. But the Balkanika spirit grows united after every rehearsal, concert, hiking in the mountains or a party to spread the warmth of the motherland to everyone.

ELITE FOLK DANCE GROUP

Tampa, FL

"The way people move show their own biography in motion"

Created: 2007



BULGARIAN FOLK DANCE ENSEMBLE XOROTROPZI

Los Angeles, CA



was established in 2012 and quickly became the largest and continuously growing group for traditional Bulgarian folk dances in the Los Angeles area. Together with their choreographer and creative director, Vesi Vassileva and Vasil Tsarev, the ensemble continues to build a diverse repertoire of choreographies and regularly performs at Bulgarian and International Folk Festivals. The ensemble is honored to participate for a second time in the Vereva Festival



FOLK DANCE GROUP BULGARI, MN

Is a group of dancers with different backgrounds, and a wide range of ages, sharing the strong love for Bulgarian music and folklore. Our goal is to preserve and introduce our Bulgarian culture and traditions to people all over the world, so they can feel the magic of the Bulgarian Folklore.



JARAVA,

Los Angeles, CA

In 2014 a group of friends discovered that they shared the same passion for Bulgarian music and dances and Jarava (translated as "embers") was born! Since then the group has grown but the joy of dancing and learning together with friends has remained. Following two local performances Jarava is very excited to make its national debut at Vereva '16!



RIPNI KALINKE, San Jose, CA

Ripni Kalinke was founded October, 2010 in San Jose, California. The group's first professional choreographer was Tania Kostova, and later, Yuliyvan Yordanov, also a professional Bulgarian folk instructor and choreographer. Ripni Kalinke became a non-profit organization several years ago and has since played a vital part in keeping Bulgarian culture and traditions alive for local residents. It provides the Silicon Valley Bulgarian community the opportunity to stay connected to their roots by learning and enjoying folk dances, traditions, and songs.



Participants

BOSILEK BULGARIAN FOLK DANCE ENSEMBLE, NY



has been featured in performances in Bulgaria and many festivals across the United States (including the White House, Lincoln Center, the Library of Congress and many more). Founded in 1979 by four American folk dancers and Liliana Zafirova Budy, today all the members of Bosilek are Bulgarian except their Artistic Director, Cathie Springer. Working with our choreographer, Iliana Bozhanova and musician friends in Plovdiv, we have created a rich repertoire based on traditional folk dances and music from villages in the various ethnographic regions of Bulgaria. For nearly four decades we have been the unique all-women's Bulgarian folk dance performing ensemble in North America. Bosilek is thrilled to join the other ensembles at the Vereia Festival for the 4th year in a row! Folklore is truly magic!



GROUP FOR BULGARIAN NATIONAL DANCE RODNI RITMI Orlando, FL

was created during the fall of 2011. Choreographer and art director is Mrs. Mariana Tzanova. "Rodni Ritmi" was formed to preserve and further the Bulgarian culture and traditions in the United States. Annually we participate in all events organized by the Bulgarian community in Orlando. In 2012 and 2015 we participated in the 38th and 41st International Folk Fair by SPIFFS in St. Petersburg Florida. From 2012 until now our dance group name is in the list of performers in the "Serb Fest"-Orlando.

BULGARIAN CHILDREN ENSEMBLE DIMITROVCHЕ

Toronto, Canada

was founded in 2010 with the founding of the ensemble "Dimitrovche" under the patronage of the Bulgarian Orthodox church "St. Dimitar" in Brampton, Toronto, Canada. Over 50 children age 4 to 17 practice in the ensemble. Thanks to the hard work of all children and that of their choreographers, the kids can proudly present a broad dance repertoire and numerous concert performances in front of the Bulgarian community in Toronto and beyond. Founders and choreographers of ensemble "Dimitrovche Kids" are Mariya Zasheva and Mihail Kochankov.



DANCE FORMATION NASHENCHETA

Chicago, IL

Dance Formation Nashencheta was created in 2002 by Yulian Yordanov. Since 2010 its choreographer is Hristina Barganska.

The formation's dancers are children from the Slancholedi Language School. The children learn a variety of dances from all major ethnographic regions of Bulgaria



HOP TROP, Sarasota, FL

was founded five years ago; because of this, the club celebrated its birthday during the month of March with the expo titled Meet Bulgaria. Our folk club consists of sixteen members with a vast age distribution. The family-like spirit of the club not only energizes us with every rehearsal but also provides us with the inspiration to keep alive the Bulgarian culture and share it with others. This year, the club will be represented by four members at the Vereia Folk Festival.



BULGARIAN SCHOOL

"Young Bulgarian Voices New York / YBVNY"

Established in 2004

Leaders: Yana Kalinkova, Zora Boyadzhieva

Conductor: Petya Maglova-Alvarado. YBVNY not-for-profit organization, founded by Bulgarian parents which provides a learning environment to engage with Bulgarian culture, traditions and language through music, singing and progressive education. Our unique curriculum is based on choral rehearsals, which prompt developing a Bulgarian language curriculum to broaden the understanding of Bulgarian cultural values.

BULGARIAN FOLK DANCE GROUP DANKA Pittsburgh, PA

was founded in 2012 by Aleksandar Zankin as a part of the cultural program of the Bulgarian Macedonian National Cultural and Educational Center in Pittsburgh, PA. The initial idea was to promote authentic Bulgarian folk dances (hora) among the American members of the Center. Since 2012 the participants of the group learned more than 60 authentic Bulgarian dances.



BULGARIAN SPIRIT FOLK DANCE STUDIO

Saint Luis, MO

Group was created in 2002 by Bulgarians living in St. Louis. Art Director and Choreographer: Spas Raychev. In addition to rehearsing and performing, the members of Bg Spirit spend all holidays together, celebrating and dancing, like a big extended family.

