

Announcement – EDC & VDR Invite You to

Celebrate the New Year by Meeting Up at our Winter Dance Festival! Mini-Dance Workshops and a Dance Party with Live and Recorded Music

Stan Ivanov (Horo Ensemble)



Danny Wallenberg (Skokie Dancers)



Ruben Pachas (Peruvian Center)



Clara Byom (Albuquerque, NM)



Milan Andrijanich (Oko Sokolovo)



Nina Lusterman (EMNFD)



Vladimir Rokvic (Izvor Orchestra)



Paul Collins (EDC/VDR)



Friday, January 5, 2024 – 7:00-11:00pm
The Color Club – 2nd Floor Ballroom (turn left)
(formerly the Chicago Latvian Center)
4146 N Elston Ave – Chicago, IL 60618

Please Bring Refreshments & Drinks to Share

Live & Recorded Music throughout the evening

Clara Byom (Accordion)
Danny Wallenberg (Accordion)
Vlade Rokvic (Accordion)

Program Details
on reverse side

Info: pcollins@ethnicedance.net

In Person: \$12.00 / \$6.00 kids under 10

VDR Online Participant Zoom Link:
virtualdancerroom.net/letsdance/

About The Winter Dance Festival Musicians & Leaders

- This event is brought to you by Ethnic Dance Chicago (EDC) and the Virtual Dance Room (VDR). We thank the dance leaders, musicians and participants who've come together to make this event happen
- **Clara Byom (Accordion, Vocals)** (just passing through Chicago, from Albuquerque, New Mexico) is a versatile multi-instrumentalist, vocalist, musicologist, arts administrator, and tunesmith; is skilled at clarinet, accordion, and piano, is knowledgeable about a myriad of musical genres, and serves on the Board of Directors for the Klezmer Institute
- **Danny Wallenberg (Accordion, Skokie Village Dancers)** is the conductor of the Music Institute Chorale and the junior and adult choirs at the Jewish Reconstructionist Congregation in Evanston, IL. Formerly he worked for the Chicago Children's Choir (currently Uniting Voices Chicago). He is an amateur cellist and folk dance enthusiast. He enjoys playing accordion on occasion for Dit's group
- **Milan Andrijanich (Folklor Group Oko Sokolovo - Serbian)** began as a dancer in youth and then adult folklore groups in Beograd, Serbia. He later became a dancer and choreographer in the FRULA Ensemble. Milan was one of the main organizers of the traditional International Folklore Festival in Belgrade and has set many choreographies for ensembles within Serbia and throughout the Serbian diaspora in Switzerland, Canada, Germany, France and the USA. In 2016 he founded the ensemble "OKO SOKOLOVO" in Chicago
- **Nina Lusteran (Evanston Monday Night Folk Dancers)** began folk dancing at Michael and Mary Ann Herman's teenage session in NYC in the late '60s. She continued to folk dance through college, and after college for a short time in California and then in Madison, WI. Now Nina dances at least 3-4 times a week, and helps run the Evanston group
- **Ruben Pachas (Peruvian Center)** began dancing as a youngster in art education classes at school, and continued into adolescence. He joined the Matices Peruanos Folkloric Cultural Institution, where he researched and performed dance performed dance. In 2020 he earned an MFA from Chicago's Art Institute, having conducted studies on the teaching of indigenous Peruvian dances to non-indigenous people.
- **Stanislav "Stan" Ivanov (Horo Ensemble - Bulgarian)** was born in Sevlievo, in the North Central Bulgarian district of Gabrovo. In Bulgaria, Stan danced informally at weddings and other celebrations, but was not really bitten by the dance bug until he had lived in the USA for three years. In 2008, he joined Chicago's Horo Ensemble led by Irina and Todor Gotchev. Under the mentorship of the Gotchevs and the ensemble's lead male dancers (Krassi Marinov, Dimitar Dimitrov and Kotse Marinov) Stan has come into his own right as a dancer
- **Vladimir "Vlade" Rokvic (Accordion - Serbian)** is a member of Izvor Orchestra and Prazna Flasha Orchestras of Milwaukee and has been playing accordion since he was a youth. Vlade is active in the Serbian Cultural Club St. Sava, where he donates time and talent as a musician for fundraisers to help people in need. Besides being fluent in Serbian and English, he also has a working proficiency in Czech, Polish and Russian.
- **Paul Collins (EDC, VDR)** began dancing with his parents (at 8 years) and has been a dance leader and caller since high school. Paul led dancing at the University of Chicago and Old Town School of Folk Music, has been a guest teacher/caller at dances from the North Country to the Deep South, is director of the Door County Folk Festival, and teaches youth in residency programs in schools. Paul started the Virtual Dance Room at the beginning of the pandemic and is writing a history of Chicago Folk Dancing from an African-American perspective.