



ST. NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

ΚΑΘΕΔΡΙΚΟΣ ΝΑΟΣ ΤΟΥ ΑΓΙΟΥ ΝΙΚΟΛΑΟΥ

1607 West Union Blvd, Bethlehem, PA 18018 • Tel. 610.867.1327 • Fax. 610.867.9487 • www.stnicholas.org
Fr. Alexandros Petrides, Proistamenos | fralexandros@stnicholas.org

To the Reverend Clergy,
Esteemed Members of the Parish Councils,
Dedicated Greek Dance Instructors and Advisors,
And Beloved Youth of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Pittsburgh,

Greetings in our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

Bethlehem, Pennsylvania and the St. Nicholas Community are excited to welcome you to our Cathedral and the campus of St. Chrysostom Academy for the 2024 Metropolis of Pittsburgh Greek Folk Dance Festival.

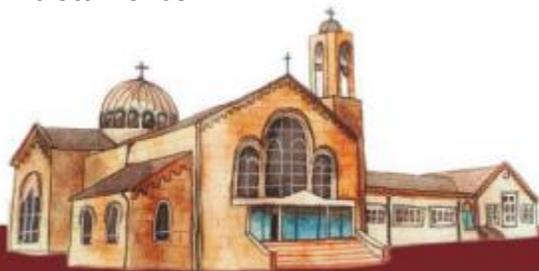
From November 8-10, we invite you to immerse yourself in the beauty and grace of Greek folk dancing, to embrace the rhythms of our heritage, and to celebrate the enduring traditions that unite us as a community. Whether you are a seasoned dancer or a newcomer to Greek culture, there will be something for everyone to enjoy at this festive gathering.

Friday night's welcome will coincide with Vespers for St. Nektarios of Aegina, followed by registration and a welcome event. On Saturday morning, we will have registration and breakfast at Chrysostom Academy, the Lehigh Valley's new pan-Orthodox Classical school. Its beautiful campus sits atop a rolling property surrounded by the renowned Monocacy Creek and was once the summer residence of Bethlehem Steel elites.

After the dance workshops on Saturday, we will travel a few miles to the Palace Event Center for performances and a dinner-dance. The next day, after Divine Liturgy, a luncheon will be served to parishioners and guests, as we complete the performances and wrap up the weekend.

Join us as we come together to celebrate our shared heritage, to honor our Orthodox faith, and to revel in the joy of Greek folk dancing. We look forward to welcoming you to Bethlehem with open arms and sharing in this unforgettable experience.

Fr. Alexandros Petrides
Proistamenos





30TH GREEK FOLK DANCE FESTIVAL METROPOLIS OF PITTSBURGH

Hosted by St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral
Bethlehem, PA | November 8th – 10th



REGISTRATION INFORMATION

We are excited to announce that this year, registration for our event has moved online! We understand the importance of convenience and efficiency in the registration process, so we have taken this step to make it easier for all participants.

To register complete the following steps:

1. **All Participants:** Register at [FDF 2024 \(https://FDF2024.eventbrite.com\)](https://FDF2024.eventbrite.com) You will receive an e-ticket for the weekend. Parishes and dance directors should also use this link to register for the group performances. As in previous years, one chaperone is required for every five participants under the age of 19. These chaperones are exempt from registration fees and should use the promo code FREECHAPERONE when purchasing their ticket.
2. **All Participants under the age of 19:** Complete the *Emergency Health & Consent Form* located at the end of this packet and submit it to your director. Directors are responsible for bringing emergency forms with them and presenting them at Registration.
3. **Directors:** Register your group to perform at [FDF 2024](https://FDF2024.eventbrite.com) and then complete the [Group Performance Form](#) for each group performing.
4. **Family & Friends:** Can't make the event but still want to support FDF 2024? Place a shout-out for your dancer, advertise your business, or become an event sponsor [here!](#) You can also complete the sponsorship form located on Page 7.

We believe that this new online registration system will streamline the process and provide a more user-friendly experience for all participants. If you encounter any difficulties, have any questions, or prefer to pay by check, please do not hesitate to contact us at athanasiapappas@gmail.com or 347-574-4425.

We look forward to welcoming you to Bethlehem!

<https://FDF2024.eventbrite.com>





30TH GREEK FOLK DANCE FESTIVAL METROPOLIS OF PITTSBURGH

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SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday, November 8th

**St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral
1607 West Union Blvd., Bethlehem, PA 18018**

6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Vespers for St. Nektarios of Aegina

7:00 - 10:00 p.m.

Dinner, Icebreakers & Service Project

Saturday, November 9th

**Chrysostom Academy
395 Bridle Path Road, Bethlehem, PA 18017**

8:30 - 9:30 a.m.

Registration and Continental Breakfast

9:30 - 9:45 a.m.

Welcome & Orientation

10:00 - 12 p.m.

Workshop Session I

12:15 - 1:15 p.m.

Lunch*

Instructor's Lunch Meeting

1:30 - 3:30 p.m.

Workshop Session II

**The Palace Center
623 Hanover Avenue, Allentown, PA 18109**

6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Dinner, Group Performances & Costume Presentation

8:00 - 12:00 Midnight

Glendi featuring Diesi

Sunday, November 17th

**St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral
1607 West Union Blvd., Bethlehem, PA 18018**

8:30 - 9:30 a.m.

Orthros

9:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Divine Liturgy

12:00 - 1:00 p.m.

Brunch*

1:00 - 3:30 p.m.

Dance Performances

4:00 p.m.

Departure

*If you have any dietary allergies, please let us know by 10/18



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HOTEL INFORMATION

Hyatt Place Bethlehem

(1.5 miles from Church, 2.5 miles from Workshops, and 3.8 miles from Glendi)

45 W. North Street

Bethlehem, PA 18018

Phone: 610-625-0500

(Option 3; Group Rate Code: G-FDSD)

Rate: \$179 + tax – Queens/Kings

Reservations must be secured by 09/30/2024 to obtain the discounted rate.

https://bethlehem.place.hyatt.com/en/hotel/home.html?corp_id=G-FDSD

Hampton Inn & Suites Bethlehem

(4.2 miles from Church, 1.6 miles from Workshops, and 6.6 miles from Glendi)

200 Gateway Drive

Bethlehem, PA 18017

Phone: 610-868-2442

(Group Name: Folk Dance Festival)

Rate: \$135 + tax – Queens/Kings

Reservations must be secured by 10/11/2024 to obtain the discounted rate.

<https://www.hilton.com/en/book/reservation/deeplink/?ctyhocn=BLMPAHX&groupCode=CHH904&arrivaldate=2024-11-08&departuredate=2024-11-10&cid=OM,WW,HILTONLINK,EN,DirectLink&fromId=HILTONLINKDIRECT>

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Athanasia Papachristos, FDF Chair

347-574-4425

athanasiapappas@gmail.com

Michelle Marie Kotsagrellos, Metropolis Chairperson

412-680-1416

mmk8317@hotmail.com

St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral

1607 West Union Blvd. Bethlehem, PA 18018

610-867-1327

secretary@stnicholas.org

LVHN ExpressCARE- Muhlenberg

2649 Schoenersville Rd., Ste. 100

Bethlehem, PA 18017

484-884-8146 (8 am – 8 pm)

Emergency Room @ LVHN – Muhl.

2545 Schoenersville Rd.

Bethlehem, PA 18017

484-884-2521 (24 hours)



30TH GREEK FOLK DANCE FESTIVAL METROPOLIS OF PITTSBURGH

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MEET THE BAND



Diesi, a traditional Greek band playing the vast repertoire from all regions of present-day Greece and beyond is based in Montreal and consists of Panagiotis Bakalis (Clarinet, Flute, Tsambouna, Gkainta), Harry Karavitis (Violin, Vocals), Panagiotis Bournakis (Laouto), and Chris Darsaklis (Percussion).

The members of Diesi developed an appreciation for traditional Greek music from a young age due to their involvement in traditional dance groups in the community. Through their participation in numerous performances and seminars both in North America and Greece, they developed a network with many renowned figures in the traditional dance and music scene. Under the guidance of such individuals, Diesi began developing a musical repertoire from throughout Greece, always seeking to respect the local traditions and the intricacies of the musical styles. Throughout the years, the members of Diesi have had the privilege of sharing the stage with a number of these artists at various events throughout North America.

Diesi performs year-round at numerous cultural events, seminars, dance shows, festivals and private social functions such as weddings throughout North America. Various dance conferences at which Diesi have played include Laografia – Hellenic Cultural Conference (Montreal, 2011-2023), Koinonia Seminar (Los Angeles, 2015-2023), and the Sinantisi Prevezas Paradosiakou Horou (Greece), among others. They have been featured on local Greek television programming and performed in various festivals including the Festival of Folklore (London, ON), Festival des traditions du monde de Sherbrooke (QC) and various local festivals primarily in Central and Northern Greece alongside various local artists.

Diesi has and continues to collaborate with several traditional dance groups in Canada including La Troupe Folklorique Grecque Syrtaki (Montreal), Laografiko Ergastiri Montreal (Montreal), Paradosi Hellenic Dance Company (Toronto), Romiosyni Dance Group (Halifax), Dionysos Dancers (Edmonton) and The Odyssey Dance Troupe (Ottawa) among others. For over 10 years, Diesi has been participating annually in the Greek Orthodox Folk Dance & Choral Festival (FDF), organized by the Metropolis of San Francisco, playing for various dance groups and communities from the Western United States primarily based in California.



30TH GREEK FOLK DANCE FESTIVAL METROPOLIS OF PITTSBURGH

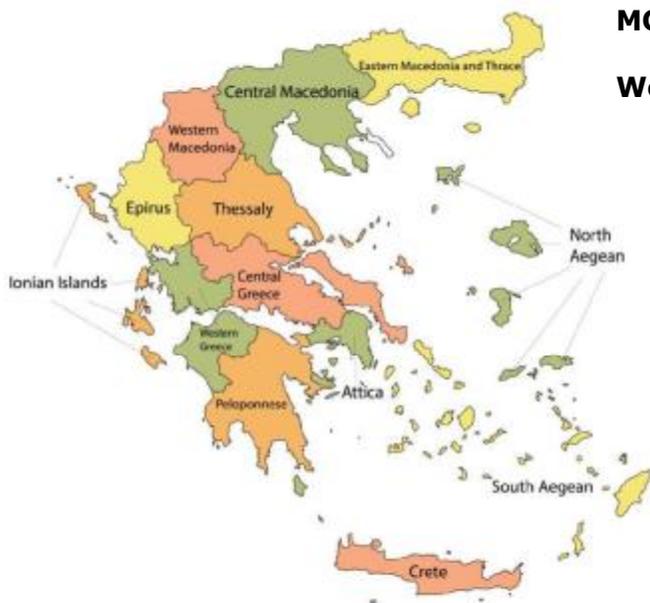
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MEET THE INSTRUCTORS

Aris Yortzidis has been a judge at the Metropolis Atlanta Hellenic Dance Festival for 12 years. He began dancing in his home parish of St. George in Downey, CA in 1982 and also performed with various groups in southern California. In 1995 and until his departure from Southern California in 2000, Aris directed groups at St. George, Downey, CA; Sts. Constantine and Helen, Cardiff-by-the-Sea, CA; and St. Katherine, Redondo Beach, CA. In 1996, Aris received an FDF Scholarship that provided him the opportunity to research the dances of Serres; the dances and traditions of his father's village of Chrysochorafa (Gagauzika), Serres; the dances of the Vlachs of Serres; and the dances of Pontos in Serres, Katerini, and Thessaloniki. He has continued his research and has obtained broad knowledge of the dances of Thrace, Macedonia, the islands, and other regions of Greece. He continues to present at seminars and serve as a consultant to performing groups. He has also served as a judge at several Greek folk dance events and competitions in the United States (Folk Dance Festival, Metropolis of San Francisco; Americas Greek Dance Competition) and in South America (Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of Buenos Aires and South America). Aris currently resides and works in the Washington, DC area and is married to **Anna Yortzidis**. Aris and Anna are also co-founders of the **Byzantio Greek Dance and Cultural Arts Program** in the Greater Metropolitan Washington, DC area.

Jordan Elrod has been dancing since a young age, instructing for the past 16 years, and was the director at St. Mark Greek Orthodox Church in Boca Raton, Florida for ten of those years. He has taught and participated in many workshops across the United States and Greece, and organized workshops in South Florida including The Winter Dance Conference in 2005. He served on the board for the Metropolis of Atlanta's HDF and has taught workshops across the U.S., as well as performed with, and played music for multiple award-winning groups at the Metropolis of Atlanta's HDF, the Metropolis of San Francisco's FDF, and "America's Greek Dance Competition" out of Chicago, where he also served on the board.



MORE INSTRUCTORS TO BE ANNOUNCED!

Workshops will include dances from:

- Serres
- Tilos
- & more!



30TH GREEK FOLK DANCE FESTIVAL METROPOLIS OF PITTSBURGH



Sponsorship Levels

Support the vibrant cultural heritage of our community by sponsoring St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral (Bethlehem, PA), as we host the Greek Folk Dance Festival for the first time! Now in its 30th year, this cherished event celebrates the rich traditions of Greek dance with attendees from across the Metropolis. Your support will help make our inaugural hosting unforgettable and ensure the festival's continued success. Donate or buy an ad and be a part of preserving and promoting our heritage!

Platinum Sponsor \$1,000

- Full page color advertisement on platinum page
- Sponsor logo & recognition: Event t-shirt
- Sponsor logo & recognition: Sponsor boards displayed during workshops
- Sponsor logo & recognition: Step & repeat displayed at banquet
- Sponsor logo & recognition: 1 item with your logo included in FDF swag bag
- Sponsor recognition: Listing in banquet and brunch programs

Gold Sponsor \$750

- Full page advertisement on gold page
- Sponsor logo & recognition: Event t-shirt
- Sponsor logo & recognition: Sponsor boards displayed during workshops
- Sponsor logo & recognition: Step & repeat displayed at banquet

Silver Sponsor \$500

- Full page advertisement on silver page
- Sponsor logo & recognition: Event t-shirt
- Sponsor logo & recognition: Sponsor boards displayed during workshops

Bronze Sponsor \$250

- Full page advertisement on bronze page
- Sponsor logo & recognition: Event t-shirt
- Sponsor logo & recognition: Sponsor boards displayed during workshops

Sponsorship Commitment: Organization Name: _____

Please select your desired sponsorship level:

- Platinum Sponsor \$1,000
- Gold Sponsor \$750
- Silver Sponsor \$500
- Bronze Sponsor \$250
- Full Page Ad (8 ½" x 11") \$100
- Half Page Ad (8 ½" x 5 ½") \$50
- Quarter Page (4 ¼" x 5 ½") \$25

Contact Person: _____

Phone Number: _____

Address: _____

Your ad (attach a copy or email pdf to athanasiapappas@gmail.com): _____

Thank you for your sponsorship of FDF 2024!

All ads due by Friday, October 18th

Please return the completed form with your tax deductible check payable to:

St. Nicholas Cathedral, Memo: Folk Dance Festival

1607 West Union Blvd., Bethlehem, PA 18018

(payment must be received in order to be placed in the Album)



Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Pittsburgh
2024 Greek Folk Dance Festival Emergency Health and Consent Form

This completed 2-page form stays with the Director for the entirety of the weekend to ensure proper care may be given if needed. It must be completed once per year and must be presented at Registration. Only those under the age of 19 need to fill this out!

PARTICIPANT (UNDER 19 YEARS OF AGE) EMERGENCY CONTACT INFO

Name _____ Gender _____
Last First

Address _____
Street City State Zip

Birth Date ____/____/____ Age _____ Grade in School (Fall 2024) _____

Custodial Parent(s)/Guardian(s) _____
(Please include first and last names of both parents /guardians if applicable.)

Home Ph (____) _____ Parent Cell (____) _____ Parent Email _____

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY (An additional contact.)

Name _____ Relationship _____ Ph (____) _____

Family Physician Name _____ Ph (____) _____

HEALTH INFORMATION

Are there any medical/dental conditions (including medically diagnosed food allergies) that we should be aware of? Yes / No
If Yes: _____

Are there any health issues that should be noted concerning participation in FDF that we should be aware of? Yes / No
If Yes: _____

Is your child taking either prescription or over-the-counter medication on a regular basis? Yes / No Medication(s); _____

Are there any over-the-counter medications which may not be given without your consent? Yes / No If Yes: _____

Does your child have other allergies? (drug, insect, etc.) _____

INSURANCE INFORMATION

Carrier _____ Policy or Group # _____ ID # _____

Name of Policy Holder _____ Relationship to Participant _____

Please attach photocopy card here.

Front of Medical Insurance Card

Please attach photocopy card here.

Back of Medical Insurance Card

GOYA COVENANT | CODE OF CONDUCT *(For GOYAns to read and sign.)*

- I am an **Orthodox Christian** who attends church services and Sunday School regularly.
- I will **not** attend any events if I am sick or if I have been exposed to Covid during the previous 5 days.
- I understand that it is a privilege to be a Participant and will represent myself in a Christ-like manner, both in person and online.
- I have read the Rules & Guidelines for FDF and will fully abide by them.
- I will refrain from using profane language and all illegal drugs, alcohol, vapes/juuls & tobacco.
- I have read, understand and will abide by the Metropolis Dress Code.
- I understand that failure to comply with the Metropolis FDF Rules & Guidelines and this Code of Conduct may result in expulsion from this and/or future festivals. I understand that **my actions** by failing to comply **may affect my group** or even **my entire parish** as well.
- I will participate in all weekend activities, stay with my group and be on time. (A 15 minute grace period is given for Sunday morning Divine Liturgy.)
- I will be personally responsible for my actions and if my behavior is not that of an Orthodox Christian, I will be asked to leave FDF at my own expense.
- I will respect all property including housing, dance, indoor/outdoor facilities.
- I will do everything possible to ensure that my actions and that of my fellow dancers is in a Christian manner.
- I will respect other dancers, instructors, host committee, metropolis representatives and myself.
- I understand that Metropolis Representatives, in the presence of a priest, FDF committee member, GOYA Advisor or chaperones, reserve the right to enter the room of any Participant where there may be concern for their safety or the safety of others. In addition, it may be necessary to search the bags, suitcases or rooms of anyone who is suspected of possessing drugs (including alcohol, tobacco products, etc.) or weapons.

Participant Agreement

_____ *Signature of Dancer/Participant*

_____ *Date*

PARENT/GUARDIAN | Authorization & Consent

- I/We understand that if I/we are to participate, we must complete Youth Safety requirements of our State, Metropolis & Archdiocese, including Background Checks.
- I/We will **not** attend any events if I am sick or if I have been exposed to COVID during the previous 5 days.
- I/We have read and agree to support the Metropolis FDF Rules & Guidelines along with any set COVID Protocols.
- I/We as the legal guardian(s), give our consent and approval for our child to participate and travel to/from the Metropolis of Pittsburgh Folk Dance Festival. We will not permit our child to drive to/from these events.
- I/We consent to the use of any photo, film or videotape taken during tournament weekend for publicity deemed appropriate by the Metropolis of Pittsburgh.
- I/We understand that Metropolis Representatives, in the presence of a priest, FDF committee member, Instructor or chaperones, reserve the right to enter the room of any Participant where there may be concern for their safety or the safety of others. In addition, it may be necessary to search the bags, suitcases or rooms of anyone who is suspected of possessing drugs (including alcohol, tobacco & vaping products, etc.) or weapons. In recognition thereof, we give permission for this to occur.
- In recognition of the possible dangers to my child, I/we hereby knowingly and voluntarily waive any right or cause of action of any kind against the members, directors, agents, employees of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Pittsburgh, its parishes and staff for any personal injury to my child occurring during the Greek Folk Dance Festival.
- I/We the parents(s) or legal guardian(s) hereby authorize and give consent to any x-ray examination, or surgical diagnosis rendered under the general or special supervision of a licensed personnel on the staff or any licensed hospital. This authorization is given to provide authority and power to render care, which is deemed advisable in the best judgment of the physician. It is understood that an effort will be made to contact the undersigned prior to rendering treatment, but that any of the above treatment will not be withheld if the undersigned cannot be reached. In recognition of the possible dangers to my child, any medical expense that my child may incur due to personal injury or illness is my financial responsibility and not that of the Metropolis of Pittsburgh or the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America.
- In consideration of our child's acceptance, I/we the undersigned do agree to indemnify and hold harmless the Metropolis of Pittsburgh, the Host Parishes, its directors, officers, and agents without regard to any negligence on their part against any claim for damages, compensation or otherwise including all losses and expenses caused to or by our child while participating in the Greek Folk Dance Festival.

Parent/Guardian Consent

_____ *Signature of Parent or Guardian*

_____ *Date*