

- *Basic and advanced classes
- *Cultural theme days
- *Dance parties w/live music every night
- *Late night dancing
- *All request dance sessions
- *Wooden dance floor
- *Music sessions
- *Homemade ethnic food
- *Swimming

Registration begins on Jan. 15, 2023

For details about registration, information about discounts for first-time campers and other discount opportunities, cancellation policies, and to register, visit www.mainewoodsdancecamp.org

E-mail: info@mainewoodsdancecamp.org

Mainewoods Dance Camp
 c/o Carol Wilson, Registrar
 PO Box 219
 Red Bank, NJ 07701



MAINEWOODS DANCE CAMP 2023

Fryeburg, Maine



Session One, Aug 20-26

Sonia Dion & Cristian Florescu – Romanian
Bruce Hamilton - English
Ercüment Kılıç – Turkish
Pixton-Poirier Band – Musicians
 Plus Scottish Country Dance
 with **Patricia Williams**

Session Two, Aug 27-Sep 2

Aaron Alpert – Israeli
Roberto Bagnoli – International
Gergana Panova – Bulgarian
West by Northeast – Musicians
 Plus Belly Dance with **Barbara Merson** and
 Novelty Dances with **Kathleen Mazurek**

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SESSION ONE FEATURED GUESTS:

Sonia Dion and Cristian Florescu (Romanian) are known for their wonderful energy, warmth and exciting choice of dances and music. Cristian has danced with and choreographed for many Romanian folk ensembles and has studied with various specialists including Theodor Vasilescu. In 1993 Cristian joined Les Sortilèges, a professional folk dance company based in Montréal, where he danced, taught and choreographed. In the course of her 20 years with the same company, Sonia was lead dancer, choreographer and artistic director, among other roles. They have performed with the *Collage International Dance Ensemble of Boston*, have taught at l'École Supérieure de Danse du Québec, and have been part of the Artists in the Schools program. In recent years, they have been teaching workshops for recreational folk dance groups around the world and sharing their love of Romanian folk traditions.

Bruce Hamilton (English) is a well-respected teacher of English and Scottish dancing with 50 years' experience across 5 countries. He has launched classes, trained teachers, programmed camps, coached performing groups and adjudicated festivals. A retired research scientist, Bruce is always looking for new ways to understand and present ideas. He tries to weave many threads besides technique and choreography into his lessons. Music, sociability and physiology are his current favorites. People often say they come away with things to think about and ways to grow. Bruce lives in Menlo Park, California with his wife Jo and as many dogs and cats as her rescue operation happens to have on hand. He runs a biweekly English dance class, and is a past president of the Country Dance and Song Society.

Ercüment Kılıç (Turkish) was born in Ankara, Turkey, and comes from a family of dancers and musicians. He is one of the founding members of the Turkish State National Dance Ensemble, and also specializes in Turkish, Azerbaijani, and Circassian dances. He has taught in the US and throughout the world. He is also a musician, researcher, and civic activist. Currently, he is a lecturer at a university in Turkey, teaching in the International Relations and Law Departments. He is also a published author in Turkey.

Patricia Williams (Scottish) has taught international folk dance at workshops, professional retreats, schools, festivals and other events for over 30 years. First introduced to Scottish Country Dancing at Maine Folk Dance Camp back in 1980, she now loves to introduce other folk dancers to the beauty and fun of Scottish Country Dancing! She is certified by the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society and currently teaches at the RSCDS Northampton (MA) class plus other venues throughout the year. Beginners find her instructions to be simple and clear, her enthusiasm infectious. Advanced dancers appreciate her attention to detail, styling, and cultural context.

Pixton-Poirier Band - Barbara Pixton, Julia Poirier, and Tom Pixton have been playing together for Balkan and International dance events since 1992, when they were founding members of Flying Tomatoes in the Boston area. Since then, they have played both in the Pinewoods Band and as a trio for many dance events. They are very glad to be asked back to Mainewoods!

SESSION TWO FEATURED GUESTS:

Aaron Alpert (Israeli) started dancing before he was born! His parents met at Israeli folk dancing in Los Angeles, and brought him up with a childhood filled with dance memories. In his first year at UC Berkeley, Aaron became one of the instructors and the curriculum developer for Jewish Studies 98: The Israeli Dance DeCal. In October 2012, Aaron opened a monthly dance session, Nirkoda!, in Palo Alto. Wanting to expand the Israeli Dance experience in the Bay Area, Aaron announced Camp Nirkoda Ba'Kerem. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Aaron adapted to virtual dance classes — Zoom-Cali and Chicago Israeli Dance — where he was often joined onscreen by his cat, Steve. Eventually he joined with Latishya Steele to pivot back to in-person sessions with Nirkoda Le'Chayim. Aaron's first major appearance in the international dance community was on the Stockton 2018 faculty and since then he has taught at several international camps. He is very excited about returning to Mainewoods 2023!

Roberto Bagnoli (International) grew up in Rome, where he was first introduced to folk music and dance, eventually taking part in several performances and teaching dance classes. He subsequently studied various forms of folk dance in workshops throughout Europe, Israel, and North America under the guidance of renowned choreographers and teachers. From 1995-2003, he performed as a dancer and choreographer with the Terra di Danza Dance Company. He currently organizes two dance camps in Europe, Balkanot (Balkan and Israeli dance) and Camp Yofi (Israeli dance), and is the founder of Folk Atelier Reggio Emilia (FARE), devoted to the development and conservation of folk dance heritage. He has also lectured and conducted workshops throughout Europe as well as in North America, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Singapore and Japan.

Gergana Panova (Bulgarian) was born in Sofia, Bulgaria, and studied dance in Bulgaria and Germany, receiving her D.Sc. in cultural philosophy and communicative sciences with special awards in Germany and a Habilitation in ethnomusicology from the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (BAS). From 1988 to 1994 she choreographed and was a solo dancer with the National Ensemble of Bulgaria "Philip Koutev", while also working with children doing stage performances and establishing dance therapy for children in Sofia. Gergana has published over 70 articles and two books on various aspects of Bulgarian traditional dance, ethnology and non-verbal communication and has lectured at numerous universities. She has initiated theatre and dance therapy projects in Europe, leads dance courses for refugees and locals in Germany and has taught over 300 Bulgarian and international folk dance workshops in countries around the world. Gergana is especially interested in the challenges and opportunities for growth that are faced by contemporary multicultural societies. We are thrilled to have Gergana Panova join us at Mainewoods for the first time!

West by Northeast - Ralph Iverson, Bill Cope, and Joe Blumenthal formed this band to play for Mainewoods' dancers in 2021. This year they've added David Skidmore and we're thrilled to have them return. This group of talented and versatile musicians offers something for everyone.