

2017

Multicultural Calendar

Arts and Culture

AUSTRALIAN ARTISTES FROM 12
CULTURES AROUND THE WORLD



The Diversicare Multicultural Advisory Service is supported by funding from the Australian Government under the Commonwealth Home Support Programme. Visit the Department of Health website (www.health.gov.au) for more information.



Chinese Dancers

EVERGREEN DANCE TROUPE



“Our dance group is made up of eight members and we have been dancing together for over 10 years.

“We are often asked to perform at festivals and we meet regularly to practice. We enjoy dancing because it helps to keep us fit and to stay connected with our culture.

“We perform many different dances and have numerous costumes. One of our favourites at the moment is called ‘Moonlight over Lotus Pond’. We perform this dance with fans and it looks really beautiful.

“The history of Chinese dance dates back nearly 5,000 years. As in many other cultures, the dances are often reflective of daily life experiences.

“They symbolise aspects of our culture including martial (demonstrating fighting techniques), ceremonial (praying to the gods), agricultural (celebrating nature and work), and dramatic (historical) events.

“Depending on the dance, we might also use props such as silk banners, silk and feather fans, handkerchiefs, ribbons and swords.”

Sources: Interview with Kesone Eng and www.lotusmusicanddance.org/chinese-dance

Top from left: Janice Chen, Sue Chai, Jianping Li, Shuping Guo and Becky Cheung.
Bottom from left: Sun Zhifeng, Kim Ruan and Kesone Eng. Photo by Taryn Quach.

JANUARY 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
New Year's Day 1 Feast of St Basil (<i>Orthodox Christian</i>) Federation Day (<i>Australia</i>) Independence Day (<i>Slovakia/Sudan/Haiti/Cameroon/Taiwan</i>) Restoration Day (<i>Czech</i>) 1-3, Shogatsu/New Year (<i>Japan</i>) World Peace Day (<i>Baha'i</i>)	New Year's Day 2 National Holiday Ancestors' Day (<i>Haiti</i>) Carnival Day (<i>Saint Kitts and Nevis</i>) Nyinlog/Winter Solstice (<i>Bhutan</i>) Saint Berchtold's Day (<i>Switzerland</i>) Takai Commission Holiday (<i>Niue</i>)	3 Revolution Day (<i>Burkina Faso</i>)	4 Independence Day (<i>Myanmar</i>) Martyrs Day (<i>DR of Congo</i>) World Braille Day	5 Armenian Christmas Eve (<i>Armenia</i>) Guru Gobind Singh Ji's Birthday (<i>Sikh</i>)	MOON FIRST QTR 6 Armed Forces Day (<i>Iraq</i>) Atira's Bday (<i>Dominican Republic</i>) 6-7, Epiphany/Theophany/Coptic/Genna Christmas (<i>Christian-various</i>) Pathet Lao Day (<i>Laos</i>)	7 Pioneers' Day (<i>Liberia</i>) Victory over Genocide Day (<i>Cambodia</i>)
8 Kim Jon-un's Bday (<i>North Korea</i>) Yinekokratia (<i>Greece</i>)	9 Eugenio Maria de Hostos Birthday (<i>Puerto Rico</i>) Feast of Epiphany (<i>Colombia</i>) Mourning Day (<i>Panama</i>) Republic Day (<i>Srpska</i>) Seijin no Hi/Coming of Age Day (<i>Japan</i>)	10 Majority Rule Day (<i>Bahamas</i>) Vodoun Festival (<i>Benin</i>)	11 Independence Manifesto Day (<i>Morocco/Western Sahara</i>) Republic Day (<i>Albania</i>)	FULL MOON 12 Bday of Swami Vivekananda (<i>India</i>) 12-15, Mahayana New Year (<i>Buddhism</i>) Memorial Day (<i>Turkmenistan</i>) Zanzibar Revolution Day (<i>Tanzania</i>)	13 Bhogi (<i>India</i>) Democracy Day (<i>Cape Verde</i>) Liberation Day (<i>Togo</i>) Maghi-Lohri (<i>Sikh</i>)	14 Day of Defenders of the Motherland (<i>Uzbekistan</i>) Maghi Parwa/Maghe Sankranti (<i>Nepal</i>) Makar Sankranti (<i>Hindu</i>) Orthodox New Year (<i>Christian</i>) Revolution & Youth Day (<i>Tunisia</i>) Tamil Thai Pongal Day (<i>India/Sri Lanka</i>)
15 Hangul Day (<i>North Korea</i>) John Chilembwe Day (<i>Malawi</i>) World Religion Day (<i>Baha'i</i>)	16 16-17, Heroes Day (<i>DR of Congo</i>) Martin Luther King Jr's Birthday/Civil Rights Day (<i>USA</i>) Uzhavar Thirunal (<i>Tamil Nadu, India</i>)	17 Blessing of the Animals (<i>Hispanic Catholic Christian</i>)	18 Orthodox Epiphany (<i>Georgia</i>) Timkat/Coptic Epiphany (<i>Eritrea/Ethiopia</i>)	19 Orthodox Epiphany (<i>Georgia</i>) Timkat/Coptic Epiphany (<i>Eritrea/Ethiopia</i>)	MOON LAST QTR 20 Armed Forces Day (<i>Mali</i>) Heroes Day (<i>Cape Verde/Guinea-Bissau</i>) Martyrs' Day (<i>Azerbaijan</i>)	21 Errol Barrow Day (<i>Barbados</i>) Our Lady of Altgracia (<i>Dominican Republic</i>)
22 Plurinational State Foundation Day (<i>Bolivia</i>)	23 Bounty Day (<i>Pitcairn Island</i>) Community Manager Appreciation Day (<i>Intl</i>) Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Jayanti (<i>India</i>)	24 Feast of Our Lady of Peace (<i>Roman Catholic</i>)	25 Betico Croes' Birthday (<i>Aruba</i>) Revolution/Police Day (<i>Egypt</i>)	Australia Day 26 National Holiday Duarte's Birthday (<i>Dominican Republic</i>) NRM Liberation Day (<i>Uganda</i>) Republic Day (<i>India</i>)	27 International Holocaust Remembrance Day (<i>UN</i>) Saint Devote's Day (<i>Monaco</i>) 27-30, Seollal New Year (<i>North Korea/South Korea</i>) Spring Festival Eve (<i>China</i>)	NEW MOON 28 Chinese/Vietnamese Lunar New Year (<i>Tết Nguyên Đán</i>) National Army Day (<i>Armenia</i>) Traditional Day of Offering (<i>Bhutan</i>)
29 Losar/Sonam/Tamang New Year (<i>Nepal/Tibet</i>) Martyrs' Memorial Day (<i>Nepal</i>)	30	31 Independence Day (<i>Nauru</i>)	DEC 2016 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31		FEB 2017 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28	



"One may judge a king by the state of dancing during his reign."

– Chinese Proverb

Aboriginal Artist

RUSSELL YILAMARA BROWN

Russell's cultural background is Aboriginal. His art is one of his strongest connections to his culture, as it has allowed him to discover so much about his family and history.



Through art he has journeyed to his grandmother's country, Groote Eylandt, where his elders have extended his cultural knowledge. In Aboriginal culture all knowledge and stories are passed down through art and Russell is proud to be able to continue this tradition.

'Yilamara' is the stem of the orchid that is native to Groote Eylandt, traditionally used as a brush for painting. The name 'Yilamara' has been in Russell's family for thousands of years.

Russell began creating artwork only eight years ago, inspired by many of his family members. Russell's mother and both of his sisters are painters, and his father carves sculptures such as birds and crocodiles.

His favourite artistic moment was being taught by his grandfather how to make Hook Spears on Groote Eylandt. The most important part of being an artist to Russell is being able to tell stories and express himself and his culture, through his beautiful and expressive artworks.

Source: Interview with Russell Yilamara Brown.
Photos courtesy Yilamara.



FEBRUARY 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																										
		<p>JAN 2017</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td> </tr> <tr> <td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td> </tr> <tr> <td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td> </tr> <tr> <td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td> </tr> </table>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31					1 Federal Territory Day (Malaysia) National Freedom Day (US) Vasant Panchami (Hindu)	2 Anniversary of the Tartu Peace Treaty (Estonia) Feast of Candelaria/Candlemas (Christian) Presentation of our Lord in the Temple (Orthodox/Anglican Christian)	3 Day of the Virgin of Suyapa (Honduras) Martyrs' Day (Sao Tome/Principe) Rissun/Setsubun-Sai (Shinto)	MOON FIRST QTR 4 Independence Day (Sri Lanka) Liberation Day (Angola)
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5 Kashmir Solidarity Day (Pakistan) Liberation Day/St Agatha's Day (San Marino) Unity Day (Burundi)	6 Constitution Day (Mexico) Waitangi Day (New Zealand)	7 Independence Day (Grenada)	8 Preseren Day (Slovenia)	9 St Maroun's Day (Lebanon)	10 Guru Ravidas's Birthday (India) Islamic Revolution Day (Iran)	FULL MOON 11 Lantern Festival (China) Lateran Treaty Day (Vatican City) Magha Puja or Sangha Day (Buddhist) Meak Bochea/Makha Bucha Day (Cambodia/Thailand) National Foundation Day (Japan) Tu B'Shvat (Jewish)																																										
12 Darwin Day (Atheist/Humanist) Lincoln's Birthday (USA) Union Day (Myanmar)	13	14 Generalissimo Day (North Korea) Race Relations Day (Nat'l Council of Churches) St Valentine's Day (Christian)	15 Liberation Day (Afghanistan) Nirvana Day (Buddhist) Statehood Day (Serbia)	16 Kim Jon-il's Birthday (North Korea) Restoration of the State Day (Lithuania)	17 Independence Day (Republic of Kosovo) Toshigoi (Shinto) 17-5 Mar, Sydney Gay & Lesbian Mardi Gras (Australia)	18 Independence Day (Gambia) National Democracy Day (Nepal)																																										
MOON LAST QTR 19	20 Presidents' Day (USA) World Day of Social Justice (UN)	21 Father Walter Lini Day (Vanuatu) International Mother Language Day (UNESCO) 21-23, King's Birthday Celebrations (Bhutan) Language Movement Day (Bangladesh)	22 Independence Day (Saint Lucia)	23 National Day (Brunei) Republic Day (Guyana)	24 Independence Day (Estonia)	25 Maha Shivaratri (Hindu) National Day (Kuwait) People Power Anniversary (Philippines)																																										
26 Liberation Day (Kuwait)	NEW MOON 27 Carnival (Bolivia/Andorra/Argentina) Independence Day (Dominican Republic) Losar (Tibetan New Year)	28 Carnival (Angola) Kalevala/Finnish Culture Day (Finland) Peace Memorial Day (Taiwan)	<p>MARCH 2017</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td> </tr> <tr> <td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td> </tr> <tr> <td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td> </tr> <tr> <td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td> </tr> </table>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31				
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Indonesian Culture

TOR-TOR TRADITIONAL DANCE



Tor-Tor Dancers Nana Setianingsih and Johanna Kodoatie Cahill (front).

'Tor-Tor' is a traditional dance from the Batak Tribe in Samosir, Toba Region of North Sumatra, Indonesia.

The dance is usually performed by a group of people dancing to traditional music played by a musical instrument called Gondang. The dancers wear the 'Ulos' traditional cloth hand-woven by the Batak women, which can also be worn as a headband or sarong.

The movements demonstrate an interaction between the dancers and the participants of the ceremony. It is performed to welcome a good harvest, by participants at a wedding, or at any festive event or tribal ceremony. The dancers invite members of the audience to dance together.

Due to its simplicity, the Tor-Tor is becoming popular as a social dance during cultural events in Australia. During the 2016 Harmony Day celebration in Townsville (below), members of the Indonesian community performed the Tor-Tor dance and members of the audience joined in, including women from Bhutan, Papua New Guinea, and the Philippines, all dressed in their own traditional outfits.



Women from diverse cultures join in the Tor-Tor dance at 2016 Harmony Day in Townsville. Source: Johanna Kodoatie Cahill. Photos by Chrissie Ma-ammo and Johanna Cahill.

MARCH 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		FEB 2017 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28	1 Ash Wednesday (Christian) Independence Movement Day (South Korea) Independence Day (Bosnia & Herzegovina) Republic Day (Switzerland) St David's Day (Wales) Zero Discrimination Day (UN)	2 2-20, Nineteen-day Fast (Baha'i) Victory at Adwa Day (Ethiopia)	3 Liberation Day (Bulgaria) Martyrs' Day (Malawi) World Day of Prayer (Christian)	4
5 MOON FIRST QTR Clean Up Australia Day	6 Labour Day WA Holiday Foundation Day (Norfolk Island) H. Lavity Stoutt's Birthday (British Virgin Islands) History & Chamorro Heritage Day (Guam) Independence Day (Ghana) Custom Chiefs' Day (Vanuatu)	7	8	9	10	11 King Moshoeshoe I's Anniversary (Lesotho) Restoration of Independence (Lithuania) World Day of Muslim Culture, Peace, Dialogue & Film (Islam) Holocaust Remembrance Day (Bulgaria)
12 Independence Day (Mauritius) Purim (Jewish)	13 FULL MOON Canberra Day ACT Labour Day VIC Eight Hour Day TAS Adelaide Cup Holiday SA Commonwealth Day (Commonwealth of Nations) Holi Festival (Hindu) Holla Mahalla (Sikh)	14	15 Constitution Day (Belarus) Joseph Jenkins Roberts' Bday (Liberia)	16	17 Sheikh Mujibur Rahman's Birthday (Bangladesh) St Patrick's Day (Irish/Christian)	18 Marien Nguabi Day (Republic of Congo)
19 St Joseph's Day (Christian)	20 Independence Day (Tunisia)	21 MOON LAST QTR Harmony Day Benito Juarez Day (Mexico) Harmony Day (Australia) Human Rights Day (South Africa) Independence Day (Namibia) International Day of Nowruz (UN) International Day for Elimination of Racial Discrimination (UN) Naw Ruz Day (Bahai/Iran)	22 Emancipation Day (Puerto Rico)	23 Hungarian-Polish Friendship (Poland/Hungary) Pakistan Day (Pakistan)	24 Commonwealth Covenant Day (Northern Mariana Islands) Truth & Justice Memorial Day (Argentina)	25 Anniversary of the Arengo (San Marino) Independence Day (Greece)
26 Independence Day (Bangladesh)	27	28 NEW MOON Hari Raya Nyepi (Indonesia)	29 Boganda Day (Central Africa) Martyrs' Day (Madagascar)	30 Land Day (Palestine)	31 Culture & Traditions Day (Micronesia) Freedom Day (Malta) Transfer Day (US Virgin Islands)	APRIL 2017 S M T W T F S 30 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29

Middle Eastern Belly Dancing

NERISSA PANAGOPOULOS

Belly dancing is a Middle Eastern dance which takes many forms, depending on the country and region. Also a new style has evolved in the West as its popularity has spread globally.

Nerissa Panagopoulos is of Greek and Egyptian background. An established belly dancer, she teaches at her own dance academy. She started dancing at 16 years of age, inspired by her two aunts who are belly dancers. She went to Egypt to study professionally, and continues to visit Egypt regularly to develop further.

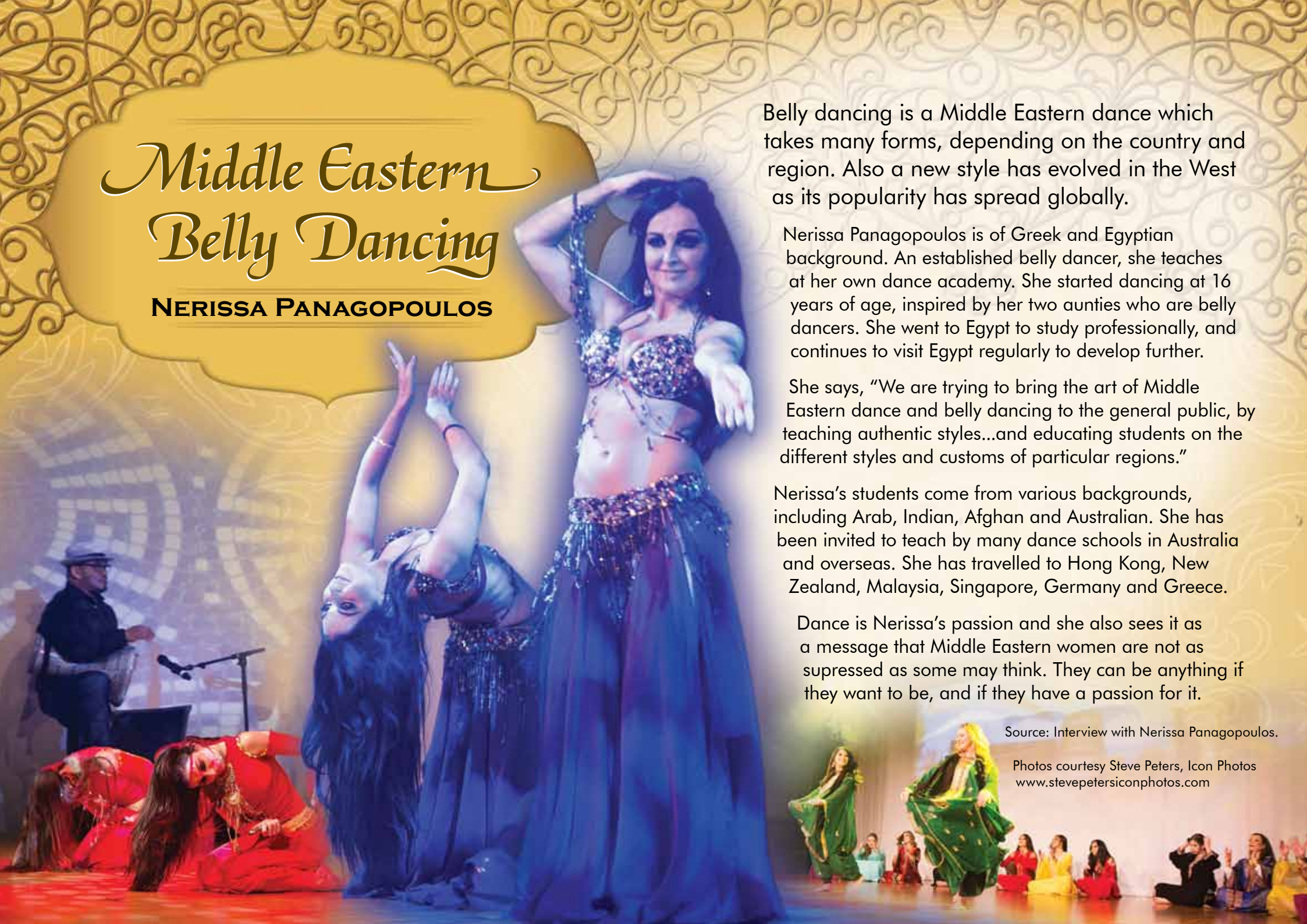
She says, "We are trying to bring the art of Middle Eastern dance and belly dancing to the general public, by teaching authentic styles...and educating students on the different styles and customs of particular regions."

Nerissa's students come from various backgrounds, including Arab, Indian, Afghan and Australian. She has been invited to teach by many dance schools in Australia and overseas. She has travelled to Hong Kong, New Zealand, Malaysia, Singapore, Germany and Greece.

Dance is Nerissa's passion and she also sees it as a message that Middle Eastern women are not as suppressed as some may think. They can be anything if they want to be, and if they have a passion for it.

Source: Interview with Nerissa Panagopoulos.

Photos courtesy Steve Peters, Icon Photos
www.stevetetersiconphotos.com



APRIL 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 Carnival Day (<i>Sint Maarten</i>) Liberation/Reunification Day (<i>Vietnam</i>)	MARCH 2017 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31				MAY 2017 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	1 Greek Cypriot National Day (<i>Cyprus</i>) Republic Day (<i>Iran</i>)
2 Malvinas/Veterans' Day (<i>Argentina</i>) Sizdah Be-dar/Nature Day (<i>Iran</i>) Union Day (<i>Belarus/Russian</i>)	3 Second Republic Day (<i>Guinea</i>)	MOON FIRST QTR 4 Ching/Qing Ming/ Tomb Sweeping Festival (<i>Taiwan/Hong Kong/China</i>) Independence Day (<i>Senegal</i>) Peace Day (<i>Angola</i>)	5 Rama Navami (<i>Hindu</i>)	6 Act of Self Determination Day (<i>Cocos Islands</i>) Chakri Day (<i>Thailand</i>) President Ntaryamira Day (<i>Burundi</i>)	7 Genocide Memorial Day (<i>Rwanda</i>) Sheikh Abeid Amani Karume Day (<i>Tanzania</i>)	8 Hana Matsuri/Flower Festival (<i>Japan</i>)
9 Day of Valor (<i>Philippines</i>) Martyrs' Day (<i>Tunisia</i>) National Unity Day (<i>Georgia</i>) Palm Sunday (<i>Eastern/Western Christian</i>)	10 10-18, Passover/Pesach (<i>Jewish</i>)	FULL MOON 11 Juan Santamaria Day (<i>Costa Rica</i>) 11-14, Theravada New Year (<i>Buddhist</i>) World Parkinson's Day	12	13 Maundy Thursday (<i>Christian</i>) 13-15, Songkran New Year Water Festival (<i>Thailand</i>)	Good Friday National Holiday 14 Bangla New Year Day (<i>Bangladesh</i>) Fast and Prayer Day (<i>Liberia</i>) Khmer New Year's Day (<i>Cambodia</i>) Vaisakhi/Baisakhi (<i>Sikh and Hindu</i>)	Easter Saturday National Holiday except WA, TAS 15 Songkran New Year Water Festival (<i>Thailand</i>)
Easter Sunday 16 Easter Sunday (<i>Christian</i>) Independence Day (<i>Syria</i>)	Easter Monday National Holiday 17 Easter Monday (<i>Christian</i>) FAO Day (<i>Iraq</i>) Sham el-Nessin/Spring Festival (<i>Egypt</i>)	Easter Tuesday TAS 18 Birthday of Guru Angad Dev (<i>Sikh</i>) Independence Day (<i>Zimbabwe</i>)	MOON LAST QTR 19 Independence Day (<i>Venezuela</i>)	20	21 Tiradentes Day (<i>Brazil</i>) 21-29, Festival of Ridvan (<i>Baha'i</i>)	22 Earth Day
23 English Language Day (<i>UN</i>) St George's Day (<i>Christian</i>)	24 Armenian Martyrs' Day (<i>Armenia</i>) Democracy Day (<i>Nepal</i>) Lailat al Miraj (<i>Islam</i>) Yom Hashoah (<i>Jewish</i>)	ANZAC Day National Holiday 25 Freedom Day (<i>Portugal</i>) Liberation Day (<i>Italy</i>) Radonitsa (<i>Belarus</i>) Sinai Liberation Day (<i>Egypt</i>)	NEW MOON 26 Union Day (<i>Tanzania</i>)	27 Freedom Day (<i>South Africa</i>) Independence Day (<i>Sierra Leone/Togo</i>) King's Day (<i>Aruba/Netherlands</i>) Resistance Day (<i>Slovenia</i>)	28 Akshaya Tritiya (<i>Hindu</i>) Mujahideen Victory Day (<i>Afghanistan</i>)	29 Showa Day (<i>Japan</i>)

African Bolga Basketry

WISDOM, AFROPACIFIC ENTERPRISE

Wisdom came to Australia from his birth country, Ghana, in 2009. He decided to start a business of importing beautifully crafted baskets and handicrafts from his homeland to support local artisan enterprises.

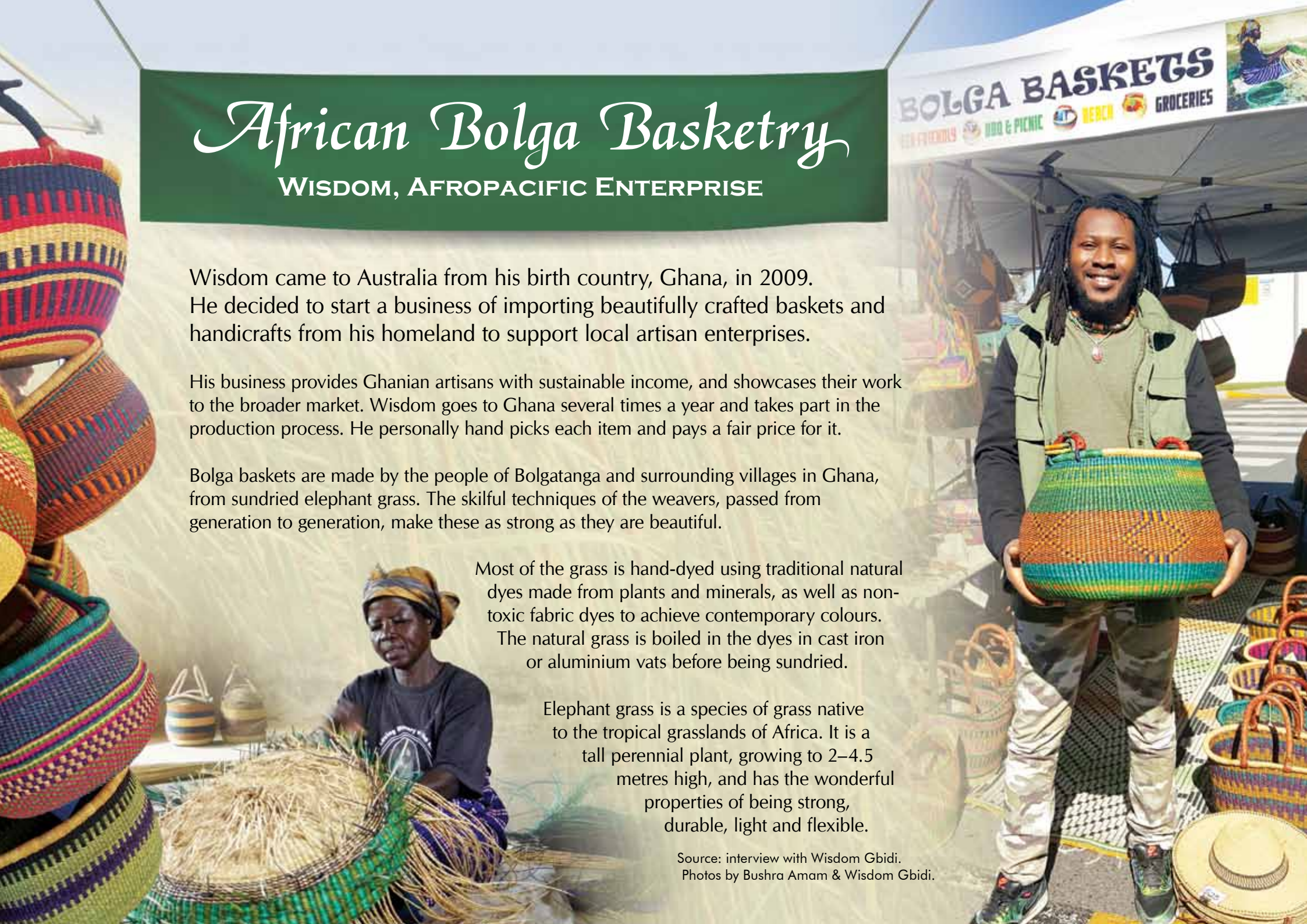
His business provides Ghanaian artisans with sustainable income, and showcases their work to the broader market. Wisdom goes to Ghana several times a year and takes part in the production process. He personally hand picks each item and pays a fair price for it.

Bolga baskets are made by the people of Bolgatanga and surrounding villages in Ghana, from sundried elephant grass. The skilful techniques of the weavers, passed from generation to generation, make these as strong as they are beautiful.

Most of the grass is hand-dyed using traditional natural dyes made from plants and minerals, as well as non-toxic fabric dyes to achieve contemporary colours. The natural grass is boiled in the dyes in cast iron or aluminium vats before being sundried.

Elephant grass is a species of grass native to the tropical grasslands of Africa. It is a tall perennial plant, growing to 2–4.5 metres high, and has the wonderful properties of being strong, durable, light and flexible.

Source: interview with Wisdom Gbidi.
Photos by Bushra Amam & Wisdom Gbidi.



MAY 2017

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<p>APRIL 2017</p> <p>S M T W T F S</p> <p>30 1</p> <p>2 3 4 5 6 7 8</p> <p>9 10 11 12 13 14 15</p> <p>16 17 18 19 20 21 22</p> <p>23 24 25 26 27 28 29</p>	<p>Labour Day QLD 1</p> <p>May Day NT</p> <p>Convocation of the Constitutional Assembly (<i>Latvia</i>)</p> <p>Constitution Day (<i>Marshall Islands</i>)</p> <p>International Workers Day/May Day (<i>Global</i>)</p> <p>People's Solidarity Day (<i>Kazakhstan</i>)</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Yom Ha'Atzmaut/Independence Day (<i>Israel</i>)</p>	<p>MOON FIRST QTR 3</p> <p>Buddha's Birthday (<i>Buddhist - East Asia</i>)</p> <p>Constitution Day (<i>Poland</i>)</p> <p>Constitution Memorial Day (<i>Japan</i>)</p> <p>Taue Matsuri (<i>Shinto</i>)</p> <p>World Press Freedom Day (<i>UN</i>)</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Remembrance Day (<i>Netherlands/Afghanistan</i>)</p> <p>Restoration of Independence Day (<i>Latvia</i>)</p> <p>Natl Day of Prayer (<i>USA-Interfaith</i>)</p>	<p>5</p> <p>African World Heritage Day (<i>UNESCO</i>)</p> <p>Cinco de Mayo (<i>Mexico</i>)</p> <p>Constitution Day (<i>Kyrgyzstan</i>)</p> <p>Coronation Day (<i>Thailand</i>)</p> <p>Liberation Day (<i>Netherlands</i>)</p> <p>Tango-no-Sekku (<i>Shinto</i>)</p>	<p>6</p> <p>St George's/Army Day (<i>Bulgaria</i>)</p>
<p>7</p>	<p>8</p> <p>World Red Cross & Crescent Day</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Europe/Schuman Day (<i>EU</i>)</p> <p>Liberation Day (<i>Jersey</i>)</p> <p>Victory Day (<i>former Soviet Republics</i>)</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Buddha Day/Vesak/Visakha Puja (<i>Buddhist</i>)</p> <p>Constitution Day (<i>Micronesia</i>)</p> <p>Independence Day (<i>Romania</i>)</p>	<p>FULL MOON 11</p> <p>Human Rights Day (<i>Vietnam</i>)</p> <p>Laylat al-Bara'ah (<i>Islam</i>)</p>	<p>12</p> <p>General Prayer Day (<i>Denmark</i>)</p> <p>Muhammad al-Mahdi's Birthday (<i>Islam</i>)</p> <p>Royal Ploughing Ceremony (<i>Thailand</i>)</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Rotuma Day (<i>Fiji</i>)</p> <p>13-15, Kin Norodom Shiamoni's Birthday (<i>Cambodia</i>)</p>
<p>Mothers' Day 14</p> <p>14-15, Independence Day (<i>Paraguay</i>)</p> <p>Kamuzu Day (<i>Malawi</i>)</p> <p>Lag B'omer (<i>Jewish</i>)</p> <p>National Unification Day (<i>Liberia</i>)</p> <p>Royal Ploughing Ceremony (<i>Cambodia</i>)</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Discovery Day (<i>Cayman Islands</i>)</p> <p>International Day of Families (<i>UN</i>)</p>	<p>16</p> <p>SPLA Day (<i>South Sudan</i>)</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Constitution Day (<i>Nauru/Norway</i>)</p> <p>International Day Against Homo/Trans/Biphobia</p> <p>Liberation Day (<i>Congo</i>)</p> <p>World Telecommunication & Information Society Day (<i>UN</i>)</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Revival, Unity and Magtymguly Poetry Day (<i>Turkmenistan</i>)</p>	<p>MOON LAST QTR 19</p> <p>Ho Chi Minh's Birthday (<i>Vietnam</i>)</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Culture Freedom Day (<i>International</i>)</p> <p>Independence Restoration Day (<i>East Timor</i>)</p> <p>National Day (<i>Cameroon</i>)</p>
<p>21</p> <p>Afro-Colombian Day (<i>Colombia</i>)</p> <p>Day of Culture and Art Workers (<i>Kazakhstan</i>)</p> <p>Independence Day (<i>Montenegro</i>)</p> <p>Intl AIDS Candlelight Memorial</p> <p>World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue & Development (<i>UN</i>)</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Republic Day (<i>Sri Lanka</i>)</p> <p>Unity/Independence Day (<i>Yemen</i>)</p> <p>Victory Day (<i>Canada</i>)</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Declaration of the Bab (<i>Baha'i</i>)</p> <p>Labour Day (<i>Jamaica</i>)</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Bermuda Day</p> <p>Commonwealth Day (<i>Belize</i>)</p> <p>Culture and Literacy Day (<i>Bulgaria</i>)</p> <p>Independence Day (<i>Eritrea</i>)</p> <p>Yom Yerushalaim/Jerusalem Day (<i>Israel</i>)</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Africa Day/Week (<i>Zimbabwe/Zambia/Ghana/UNESCO</i>)</p> <p>Ascension Day (<i>Western Christian</i>)</p> <p>Independence Day (<i>Jordan</i>)</p> <p>National Day (<i>Argentina</i>)</p> <p>Savitri Puja (<i>Hindu</i>)</p>	<p>NEW MOON 26</p> <p>Independence Day (<i>Guyana/Georgia</i>)</p> <p>National Sorry Day (<i>Australia</i>)</p>	<p>27</p> <p>27-25 Jun, Ramadan (<i>Islam</i>)</p> <p>27-3 Jun, Reconciliation Week (<i>Australia</i>)</p> <p>27-9 Jun, Sr TT Race (<i>Isle of Man</i>)</p>
<p>28</p> <p>Republic Day (<i>Armenia/Azerbaijan</i>)</p> <p>Republic Day (<i>Nepal</i>)</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Ascension of Baha'u'llah (<i>Baha'i</i>)</p> <p>Democracy Day (<i>Nigeria</i>)</p> <p>Memorial Day (<i>USA</i>)</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Dragon Boat Festival (<i>China/Hong Kong/Macau/Taiwan</i>)</p> <p>30-1 Jun, Shavuot (<i>Jewish</i>)</p>	<p>31</p>	<p>JUNE 2017</p> <p>S M T W T F S</p> <p>1 2 3</p> <p>4 5 6 7 8 9 10</p> <p>11 12 13 14 15 16 17</p> <p>18 19 20 21 22 23 24</p> <p>25 26 27 28 29 30</p>		

Filipino Folk Dancing

ELENA LONGLAND



"I've been doing Filipino folk dancing since I was 7 years old.

"Even now at 61 I'm still dancing. It helps in keeping me fit and I also like sharing my Filipino culture through participation at multicultural festivals here in Brisbane.

"There are many types of folk dances but the most popular dance is the Tinikling. This dance is usually performed at festivals and important events in the Philippines and here in Australia within the Filipino community. To the left is a picture of me, wearing the costume we would wear when performing this dance.

"The dance is named after what the locals call the Tikling bird. It involves some people beating, tapping, and sliding bamboo poles on the ground, whilst others dance between the poles. The movements of the dancers imitate the movement of the Tikling birds as they walk between grass stems, run over tree branches, or dodge bamboo traps set by rice farmers.

"This dance is also often referred to as the Philippines' national dance. Elderly people in particular love watching this dance being performed."

Photos above and below by Chrissie Ma-amo of Mackay Filipino Australian Inc. Dancers at 2016 Filipino Festival at Riverway Arts Centre, Townsville.

Source: interview with Elena Longland.
Photo of Elena (left) by Taryn Quach.

JUNE 2017

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				Independence Day (Samoa) Madaraka/National Day (Kenya) President's Day (Palau)	Randol Fawkes Labour Day (Bahamas) Republic Day (Italy)	Birthday of the King (Malaysia) Mabo Day (Australia) Martyrs' Day (Uganda) Reconciliation Week (Australia)																																											
4	Western Australia Day - WA Holiday	5	6	7	8	9	10																																										
Anniversary of Khomeini's Death (Iran) Pentecost or Whit Sunday (Christian)	Constitution Day (Denmark) Khoradad Movement Anniversary (Iran) Liberation Day (Seychelles) President's Day (Equatorial Guinea) Queen's Birthday (NZ/Niue/Cook Islands) World Environment Day (UN)	Memorial Day (South Korea) National Day (Sweden)	Sette Giugno (Malta)	Bounty Day (Norfolk Island)	FULL MOON Anniversary of the Ascension of King Abdullah II (Jordan) Autonomy Day (Aland Islands) Poson Full Moon Poya Day (Sri Lanka)	Portugal Day Queen's Official Birthday (Tuvalu/UK) Reconciliation Day (Congo)																																											
11	Volunteers Day SA Queen's Birthday Holiday (except QLD, WA)	12	13	14	15	16	17																																										
All Saints Day (Eastern/Orthodox Christian) Trinity Sunday (Western Christian)	Chaco Armistice Day (Paraguay) Independence Day (Philippines) Loving Day (USA) Nuzul Al-Quran (Brunei) Russia Day (Russia) Valentine's Day (Brazil)	International Albinism Awareness Day (UN)	Anthony of Padua Feast Day (Portugal/Spain/Brazil) Liberation Day (Falkland Islands)	Corpus Christi (Christian) Day of Valdemar & Reunion Day (Denmark) National Salvation Day (Azerbaijan) World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (UN)	Martyrdom of Guru Arjan Dev Sahib (Sikh) Martyrdom of Imam Ali (Iran)	MOON LAST QTR Commemoration of General Don Martin Miguel de Guemes (Argentina) Independence Day (Iceland)																																											
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Constitution Day (Seychelles) Queen Mother's Birthday (Cambodia)	Birthday of Jose Artigas & Never Again Day (Uruguay) King Jong-il's entry to the WPK (North Korea) Labour Day (Trinidad/Tobago)	Martyrs' Day (Eritrea) World Refugee Day (UN)	Aymara New Year Day (Bolivia) Layla al-Qadr (Islam) National Day (Greenland) Saka Dawa (Tibetan Buddha Day)		National Day (Luxembourg) Sacred Heart of Jesus (Catholic) Victory Day (Estonia)	NEW MOON Battle of Carabobo Day (Venezuela) St John's Day (Catholic Christian)																																											
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Eid al Fitr (Islam) Hari Raya Puasa (Singapore/Indonesia) Independence Day (Mozambique) Puri Rath Yatra (Hindu) Statehood Day (Croatia/Slovenia)	Independence Day (Madagascar) International Day in Support of Victims of Torture (UN) Korite (Benin)	National Day (Djibouti)	Constitution Day (Ukraine)	Independence Day (Seychelles) Saints Peter & Paul (Christian)	General Prayer Day (Central African Republic) Independence Day (Congo) Oharai/Grand Purification Festival (Shinto)																																												

Colombian Cumbia

RITMOS DE MI TIERRA (THE RHYTHMS OF MY LAND)



En Colombia se baila así!
In Colombia we dance like this!

Cumbia originated in Colombia's Caribbean coastal region and Panama, from the musical and cultural fusion of Native Colombians and slaves brought from Africa, and the Spanish influence during colonial times. During the 17th and 18th centuries, African slave populations of Colombia's Caribbean coastal towns lived, worked and died under exploitation by the Colonial power of Spain.

Cumbia emerged as a social and courtship rite practised among the African population on special occasions. The slaves danced this rhythm to release the stress from being slaves and from working too hard. They could only do one step at a time as they had heavy chains on their feet.

Cumbia as a slave courtship ritual, was traditionally performed with music played by pairs of men and women and with male and female dancers. Women playfully waved their long skirts while holding a candle, and men danced behind the women with one hand behind their back and the other hand holding a hat or red handkerchief.

Until the mid-20th century, Cumbia was considered to be an inappropriate dance performed primarily by the lower social classes. Today Cumbia has spread across the borders and become very popular in Latin America and beyond.

Source & photos: 'Ritmos de Mi Tierra' dance group.

JULY 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																			
<p>30</p> <p>Independence Day (<i>Vanuatu</i>) International Day of Friendship (<i>UN</i>)</p>	<p>MOON FIRST QTR 31</p> <p>31-1 Aug, Tisha B'av (<i>Jewish</i>)</p>	<p>JUNE 2017</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td></tr> <tr><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td></tr> <tr><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td></tr> </table>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30			<p>AUG 2017</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td></tr> <tr><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td></tr> <tr><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td></tr> <tr><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td></tr> <tr><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31			<p>MOON FIRST QTR 1</p> <p>Canada Day Emancipation Day (<i>Suriname</i>) Independence Day (<i>Somalia/Rwanda/Burundi</i>) Republic Day (<i>Ghana</i>) Sir Seretse Khama Day (<i>Botswana</i>) Special Administration Region (SAR) (<i>Hong Kong</i>)</p>
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<p>2</p> <p>2-9, NAIDOC Week (<i>Australia</i>)</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Birthday of Guru Rinpoche (<i>Bhutan</i>) CARICOM Day (<i>Guyana</i>) Constitution Day (<i>Cayman Islands</i>) Independence Day (<i>Belarus</i>)</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Birthday of King Tupou VI (<i>Tonga</i>) Independence Day (<i>USA</i>) Liberation Day (<i>Rwanda</i>) Unity Day (<i>Zambia</i>)</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Constitution Day (<i>Armenia</i>) Independence Day (<i>Cape Verde/Algeria/Venezuela</i>) St Cyril & Methodius Day (<i>Slovakia/Czech</i>) Tynwald Day (<i>Isle of Man</i>)</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Capital City Day (<i>Kazakhstan</i>) Independence Day (<i>Malawi/Comoros</i>) Jan Hus Day (<i>Czech</i>) Statehood Day (<i>Lithuania</i>)</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Independence Day (<i>Solomon Islands</i>) Rao te Uj Ariki (<i>Cook Islands</i>) Saba Saba Day (<i>Tanzania</i>) Tanabata Festival (<i>Japan</i>)</p>	<p>8</p>																																																																																			
<p>FULL MOON 9</p> <p>Asahna Bucha/Dharma/ Asalha Puja Day (<i>Buddhist</i>) Constitution Day (<i>Palau</i>) Guru Purnima (<i>Hindu</i>) Independence Day (<i>South Sudan/Argentina</i>) Martyrdom of the Bab (<i>Baha'i</i>)</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Independence Day (<i>Bahamas</i>) 10-16, Kaustinen Folk Festival (<i>Finland</i>)</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Fast of Tammuz (<i>Jewish</i>) 11-13, Naadam Festival (<i>Mongolia</i>) St Benedict Day (<i>Catholic Christian</i>)</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Independence Day (<i>Saoi Tome and Principe/Kiribati</i>)</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Statehood Day (<i>Montenegro</i>)</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Bastille Day (<i>France/French Guiana</i>) National Culture Day (<i>Kiribati</i>) Republic Day (<i>Iraq</i>)</p>	<p>15</p> <p>HM The Sultan's Birthday (<i>Brunei</i>) St Vladimir the Great Day (<i>Orthodox Christian</i>)</p>																																																																																			
<p>16</p> <p>Galla Bayramy (<i>Turkmenistan</i>) Our Lady of Mt Carmel (<i>Chile</i>)</p>	<p>MOON LAST QTR 17</p> <p>Constitution Day (<i>South Korea</i>) King's Birthday (<i>Lesotho</i>) President's Day (<i>Botswana</i>)</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Constitution Day (<i>Uruguay</i>) Nelson Mandela International Day (<i>UN</i>)</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Sandinista Revolution Day (<i>Nicaragua</i>)</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Independence Day (<i>Colombia</i>)</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Independence Day (<i>Belgium</i>) Liberation Day (<i>Guam</i>) Racial Harmony Day (<i>Singapore</i>)</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Birthday of King Sobhuza II (<i>Swaziland</i>)</p>																																																																																			
<p>NEW MOON 23</p> <p>National Remembrance Day (<i>Papua New Guinea</i>) Renaissance Day (<i>Oman</i>) Vardavar (<i>Armenia</i>)</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Simon Bolivar Day (<i>Venezuela/ Ecuador/Colombia/Bolivia</i>) The Restoration of Democracy (<i>Greece</i>)</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Baha'i Day on Jamaica (<i>Jamaica</i>) Constitution Day (<i>Puerto Rico</i>) Guanacaste Day (<i>Costa Rica</i>) Republic Day (<i>Tunisia</i>) St James the Great (<i>Christian</i>)</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Day of the Natl Rebellion (<i>Cuba</i>) Independence Day (<i>Liberia</i>) Qaamee Dhuvas/ Independence Day (<i>Maldives</i>)</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Nag Panchami Festival (<i>Hindu</i>) The First Sermon of Lord Buddha (<i>Buddhist/Bhutan</i>) Victory Day (<i>North Korea</i>)</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Anniversary of the Fall of Fascism (<i>San Marino</i>) Independence Day (<i>Peru</i>)</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Territory Day (<i>Wallis & Futuna</i>)</p>																																																																																			

Bhutanese Orchestra

The Bhutanese Orchestra is a unique cultural orchestra that plays traditional Himalayan instrumental music in Cairns, North Queensland.

They play traditional folk music that reflect the lifestyle of the people of Southern Bhutan, Assam, Darjeeling and Nepal. They play music for peace and harmony and share their culture through it.

The Bhutanese Orchestra recently performed Kirtan, a musical style involving call and response singing of simple melodies to ancient formulas (mantras) that harmonise, align and heal the illusion of separation between us. The tradition of Kirtan began 2,500 years ago in India as a way for the yogis to commune with the Divine.

Rather than simply a musical performance, chanting brings participants together as one united voice. Participating in a group kirtan is a powerful experience, building a field of joyous, uplifting, peaceful energy to be shared by all.

Source & photo: Bhutanese Orchestra.



AUGUST 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<p>JULY 2017</p> <p>S M T W T F S</p> <p>30 31 1</p> <p>2 3 4 5 6 7 8</p> <p>9 10 11 12 13 14 15</p> <p>16 17 18 19 20 21 22</p> <p>23 24 25 26 27 28 29</p>	<p>1</p> <p>Independence Day (Benin) National Day (Switzerland)</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Our Lady of the Angels Day (Costa Rica) Republic/Ilinden Day (Macedonia)</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Independence Day (Niger)</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Constitution Day (Cook Islands) Varalakshmi Vratam (Hindu)</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Independence Day (Burkina Faso)</p>
<p>6</p> <p>Independence Day (Jamaica/Bolivia)</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Bank Holiday NSW Picnic Day NT</p> <p>Civic Day (Canada) Commerce Day (Iceland) Independence Day (Ivory Coast) Raksha-Bandhan (Hindu)</p>	<p>8</p> <p>FULL MOON</p> <p>Augsburg Peace Festival (Germany)</p>	<p>9</p> <p>International Day of the World's Indigenous People (UN) National Day (Singapore)</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Independence Day (Ecuador)</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Constitution Day (Anguilla) Independence Day (Chad)</p>	<p>12</p> <p>HM Queen's Birthday (Thailand)</p>
<p>13</p> <p>Independence Day (Central African Republic) 13-15, Obon Festival (Buddhist/Japan)</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Anniversary Day (Tristan da Cunha) Independence Day (Pakistan) Oued Ed-Dahab Day (Morocco)</p>	<p>15</p> <p>MOON LAST QTR</p> <p>Assumption of Mary (Christian) Carnival Tuesday (Grenada) Constitution Day (Equatorial Guinea) Founding of Asuncion (Paraguay) Independence Day (India) Krishna Janmashtami or Jayanti (Hindu) Liberation Day (North/South Korea) Obon Festival (Buddhism/Japan)</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Royal Show Day QLD - Brisbane</p> <p>16-17, National Day (Gabon)</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Independence Day (Indonesia)</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Independence/National Day (Afghanistan) World Humanitarian Day (UN)</p>
<p>20</p> <p>Independence Restoration Day (Estonia) King & People's Revolution Day (Morocco) St Stephen's Day (Hungary)</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Ninoy Aquino Day (Philippines) San Martin Day (Argentina)</p>	<p>22</p> <p>NEW MOON</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Independence Day (Ukraine) Teej Festival (Hindu/Nepal)</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Ganesh Chaturthi (Hindu) Independence Day (Uruguay) Songun (North Korea)</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Repentance Day (Papua New Guinea)</p>
<p>27</p> <p>Independence Day (Moldova)</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p> <p>MOON FIRST QTR</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Constitution Day (Kazakhstan) St Rose of Lima Day (Peru)</p>	<p>31</p> <p>Arafat Day (Islam) Hari Merdeka National Day (Malaysia) Independence Day (Kyrgyzstan/Trinidad/Tobago) National Language Day (Moldova) Umhlanga/Reed Dance (Swaziland)</p>	<p>SEPT 2017</p> <p>S M T W T F S</p> <p>3 4 5 6 7 8 9</p> <p>10 11 12 13 14 15 16</p> <p>17 18 19 20 21 22 23</p> <p>24 25 26 27 28 29 30</p>	

"If the Government can not create happiness ('dekid') for its people, there is no purpose for the Government to exist."

– Bhutanese Legal Code, 1729

Japanese & Global Healing Music

CHIHO KAGAWA & PHIL FOORD

Chiho Kagawa, originally from Japan, started playing the piano when she was four years old.

As a young adult, her interest changed to healing and tribal music after diagnosis of an illness. She started exploring different types of music with a focus on healing through music and sound.

Chiho began her world travels at 21, visiting 35 countries. Chiho now sings and plays many instruments including the Chinese violin known as Erhu, the Sanshin (a 3-stringed instrument), Indian flute, piano, Lyre and the Crystal Armonica which was invented by Benjamin Franklin in the 18th century.

The Crystal Armonica has 30 pure quartz crystal bowls which create extremely soothing high frequency sounds (1000-4000Hz) that activate the pineal gland. Temple Gong, Didgeridoo, Samadhi and Crystal Bowls, flutes and other hypnotic instruments also help to take the listener into a deep healing journey.

In 2005, Chiho met her partner, musician Phil Foord. He now accompanies Chiho in their sound healing playing Didj, Temple gong, Samadhi bowls and mayan flute. Chiho and Phil moved from Western Australia to Sunshine Coast in 2015. They hold regular events in yoga studios and festivals on the Sunshine Coast and surrounds.

Photos by Thana Roysmith (front) and Barry Alsop, Eyes Wide Open Images (sides).



SEPTEMBER 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>AUG 2017</p> <p>S M T W T F S</p> <p>1 2 3 4 5</p> <p>6 7 8 9 10 11 12</p> <p>13 14 15 16 17 18 19</p> <p>20 21 22 23 24 25 26</p> <p>27 28 29 30 31</p>			<p>OCT 2017</p> <p>S M T W T F S</p> <p>1 2 3 4 5 6 7</p> <p>8 9 10 11 12 13 14</p> <p>15 16 17 18 19 20 21</p> <p>22 23 24 25 26 27 28</p> <p>29 30 31</p>	1	2	
3	4	5	FULL MOON 6	7	8	9
Republic Day (San Marino) Tokehaga Day (Tokilau)	Labour Day (USA/Canada)	Ullambana/Ghost Festival (Buddhist)	Independence Day (Swaziland) Unification Day (Bulgaria)	Constitution Day (Fiji) Independence Day (Brazil)	Independence Day (Macedonia) National Day (Andorra)	Independence Day (Tajikistan) National Day (North Korea)
10	11	12	MOON LAST QTR 13	14	15	16
National Day (Belize) National Day (Gibraltar)	Enkutatash (Ethiopian New Year)				Independence Day (Costa Rica/El Salvador/ Guatemala/Honduras/Nicaragua) Intl Day of Democracy (UN)	Independence Day (Mexico/PNG) Malaysia Day Start of Oktoberfest (Germany)
17	18	19	NEW MOON 20	21	22	23
Birthday of Crown Prince Tupouto a Ulukalala (Tonga) Constitution & Citizenship Day (USA) Vishwakarma Puja (Hindu)	Independence Day (Chile) Respect for the Aged Day (Japan)	Independence Day (St Kitts & Nevis) Mahalaya Amavasya (Hindu) Prince's Day (Netherlands)	Constitution Day (Nepal) 20-22, Rosh Hashanah (Jewish)	Independence Day (Armenia/Belize/Malta) Nativity of Theotokos (Orthodox Christian) Navaratri (Hindu)	Independence Day (Bulgaria/Mali) New Year (Islam)	National Day (Saudi Arabia) Shabbat Shuva (Jewish)
24	Queen's Birthday Holiday WA Family & Community Day ACT 25	26	27	MOON FIRST QTR 28	29	30
Constitution Day (Cambodia) Fast of Gedaliah (Jewish) National Day (Guinea-Bissau) New Caledonia Day Our Lady of Mercy Day (Dominican Republic) Republic Day (Trinidad & Tobago)		European Day of Languages	Start of Dashain Festival- Phoolpati/Phulpat (Nepal)	St Wenceslas/Statehood Day (Czech)	Confucius Birthday (China/Hong Kong) Manit/Culture Day (Marshall Islands) 29-30, Yom Kippur (Jewish)	Ashura/New Year (Islam) Botswana Day Dassera or Durga Puja (Hindu) Thimphu Tshechu (Bhutan) Yom Kippur (Jewish)

Classical Dances of India

DIVYA ANOOP



Left: Divya's Mohiniyattam poses.
Photos by Thana Roysmith.

Divya Anoop came to Australia two years ago with her husband and young son from Kerala in South India.

She started learning classical dancing at the age of four. In India, classical dance and music are part of the school curriculum. At first Divya learned to dance Bharatanatyam and then progressed to learn Mohiniyattam.

Bharatanatyam is the oldest classical dance form of India. It is believed to have originated in the Hindu temples of Tamil Nadu and neighbouring regions of South India in the 2nd Century CE. Traditionally, it was a solo dance performed exclusively by women but now it is performed by men as well as in groups.

Mohiniyattam which is a semi-classical dance form, originated in Kerala. It is closely related to Bharatanatyam and is performed by women. The word 'mohini' means a maiden who steals the heart of the onlooker. There are about 40 basic movements to this dance form and it is believed to have originated in the 16th Century CE.

Bharatanatyam and Mohiniyattam are among eight or more dance forms originating from different parts of India. Both the dance forms involve graceful body movements and facial expressions. Usually these movements convey Hindu religious and spiritual themes. To master these dances, dancers would have to train for many years.

Divya has been training and performing for a long time and is now ready to teach the classical dance forms to others.

Source: interview with Divya Anoop. Below: Bharatanatyam dancers S.Vanitha, Saranya Vijaya Kumar, Miroshini Kannathasan.

OCTOBER 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Ashura/New Year (Islam) Independence Day (Cyprus/Nigeria/Tuvalu/Palau) Int'l Day of Older Persons (UN) National Day (China/Hong Kong/Macau)	2 NEW MOON Queen's Birthday Holiday QLD Labour Day NSW, SA, ACT Botswana Holiday (Botswana) End of Dashain Festival- Dwadashi (Nepal) Independence Day (Guinea) Int'l Day of Non-Violence (UN) Mahatma Gandhi's Birthday (India) Territory Day (Christmas Island)	3 Day of German Unity (Germany) 3-5, Harvest Festival/Chuseok (South Korea) National Day (Iraq) Nat'l Foundation Day (South Korea)	4 Independence Day (Lesotho) Moon Festival (Taiwan/China/Vietnam) Peace & National Reconciliation Day (Mozambique) St Francis of Assisi Day (Christian) 4-11, Sukkot/Tabernacles (Jewish)	5 Constitution Day (Vanuatu) End of Buddhist Lent/Thadingyut Full Moon (Myanmar) Kojagrat Purnima (Nepal) Republic Day (Portugal) Sharad Purnima (Hindu)	6 FULL MOON Tishren Liberation Day (Syria)	7
8 Independence Day (Croatia) Karwa Chauth (Hindu)	9 Columbus Day (Puerto Rico/USA) Day of Respect for Cultural Diversity (Argentina) Independence Day (Taiwan/Uganda) Independence of Guayaquil (Ecuador) Native American Day (USA) Pan American Day (Chile)	10 Curacao Day (Curacao) Fiji Day (Fiji) Independence Day (Cuba) Maroon Day (Suriname)	11 National Coming Out Day (LGBTIQ) Revolution Day (Macedonia) 11-12, Shemini Atzeret (Jewish)	12 MOON LAST QTR Columbus Day (Latin America) Cultures National Day (Costa Rica) Fiesta Nacional de Espana (Spain) Independence Day (Equatorial Guinea) Indigenous Resistance (Venezuela/Bolivia) Our Lady of Aparecida/Children's Day (Brazil)	13 Prince Rwagasore Day (Burundi) Simchat Torah (Jewish)	14 Liberation Day (Yemen) Mwalimu Kamarage Julius Nyerere Day (Tanzania) Svetitskhoveli (Georgia)
15 Commemoration Day of King Father Norodom Sihanouk (Cambodia)	16 Colombus Day (Colombia) Day of Pope John Paul II (Poland)	17 Death of Dessalines (Haiti) Dhanteras Vrat (Hindu) 17-21, Tihar Festival (Nepal)	18 Alaska Day (Alaska) Independence Day (Azerbaijan) National Day of Prayer (Zambia)	19 Constitution Day (Niue) Deepavali/Diwali/Festival of Lights (Hindu/Sikh) Mother Teresa Beatification Day (Albania)	20 NEW MOON Birth of Guru Granth & Installation of Scriptures as Gur-Gaddi Guru Granth Sahib (Sikh) Birth of the Báb (Baha'i) Heroes/Mashujaa Day (Kenya) Jain New Year (Jain) Revolution Day (Guatemala)	21 Bhaj Dooj (Hindu) Ethnicity Day (Estonia) President Ndadaye's Day (Burundi) Remembrance Day (Serbia) St Ursula's Day (British Virgin Islands)
22	23 Chulalongkorn Memorial Day (Thailand) Commemoration of the Paris Peace Agreements of 1991 (Cambodia) Day of the Macedonian Revolutionary Struggle (Macedonia) Liberation Day (Libya) Republic Day (Hungary)	24 Independence Day (Zambia) United Nations Day (UN)	25 Chhat Parwa (Nepal) Constitution Day (Lithuania) Thanksgiving Day (Grenada)	26 Angam Day (Nauru) Chhath Puja (Hindu) National Day (Austria)	27 Independence Day (St Vincent/ The Grenadines/ Turkmenistan)	28 MOON FIRST QTR Chung Yeung Festival (China/HK/Taiwan/Macau) Independence Day (Czech Republic) National/Ochi Day (Cyprus/Greece)
29 King's Coronation Day (Cambodia) Republic Day (Turkey)	30	31 All Hallows Eve (Christian) Halloween (USA) Reformation Day (Protestant Christian) World Cities Day (UN)	SEPT 2017 S M T W T F S 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30		NOV 2017 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	

““ Where the hand goes, follows the eye; Where the eyes go, follows the heart.”

– Natya Sastra (Sanskrit Hindu text on the performing arts)



Dance is a significant part of Thai culture and is considered the main dramatic art form of Thailand.

Ketksuda (in the pink) and Benyapa (in the blue) have been dancing since they were small children, and were taught dance throughout their schooling.

They continue to enjoy dancing at their local Thai temple, during days of celebrations and at community gatherings. The costumes worn by the women represent the Middle Region of Thailand (Chud-Thai Phra-yuk, Park Khlang).

Thai dance is renowned for its elegance, graceful movements and soft music. Styles of dance and costume vary greatly from region to region, and there are three main types of dance.

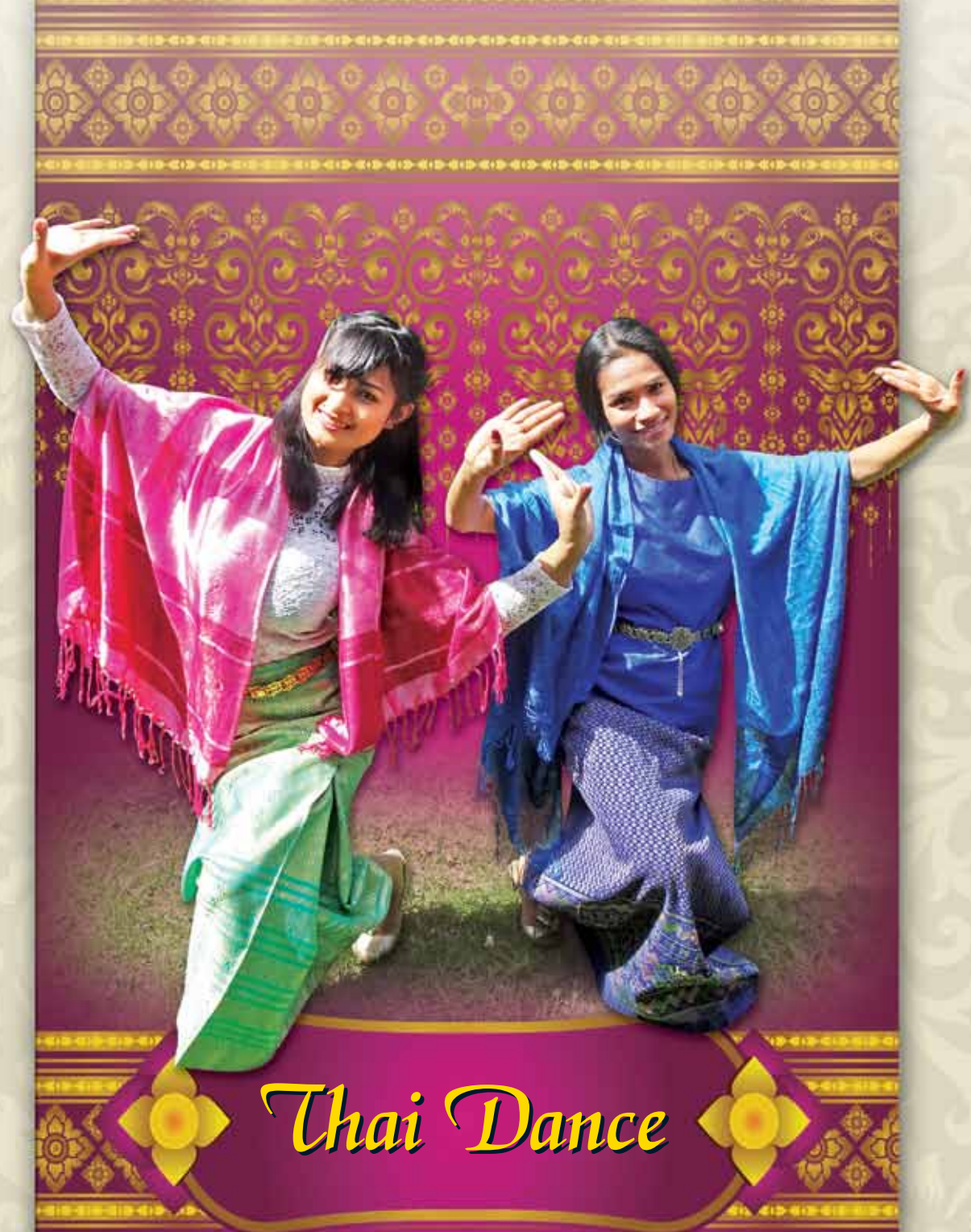
Khon is the most stylised form. Elaborate costumes and masks are worn by the dancers, who mime the parts of demons, celestial beings and humans whilst the story is sung in the background.

Lakhon is a sensual and fluid dance group in which the upper torso and hands are used frequently. Dancers are typically female.

Fawn Thai is a form of folk-dance, and there are five classical styles which vary across the provinces.

An important festival where dance is performed is the Loi Krathong (Thai Lantern Festival) which falls on the evening of the first full moon of the 12th month in the traditional Thai lunar calendar, usually in the month of November.

Source: Interview with Ketksuda and Benyapa (pictured right), and Gunchala from the Thai-Aussie Sister Support Association Inc. Photos by Ruby Winter.



NOVEMBER 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<p>OCT 2017</p> <p>S M T W T F S</p> <p>1 2 3 4 5 6 7</p> <p>8 9 10 11 12 13 14</p> <p>15 16 17 18 19 20 21</p> <p>22 23 24 25 26 27 28</p> <p>29 30 31</p>	<p>1</p> <p>All Saints' Day (Christian) Independence Day (Antigua/Barbuda) National Revival Day (Bulgaria)</p>	<p>2</p> <p>All Souls' Day (Christian) Dia de Los Muertos (Mexico) Indian Arrival Day (Mauritius) Thanksgiving Day (Liberia)</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Culture Day (Japan) FSM Independence Day (Micronesia) Independence Day (Dominica/Panama/Ecuador) Victory Day (Maldives)</p>	<p>4</p> <p>FULL MOON</p> <p>Constitution Day (Tonga) Guru Nanak Dev Ji's Birthday (Sikh) Kartik Poornima (Hindu) Loy Krathong (Thailand) Unity Day (Russia) 4-6, Water Festival Ceremony (Cambodia)</p>
<p>5</p> <p>Colon Day (Panama) Guy Fawkes Night (UK)</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Recreation Day TAS - Nth</p> <p>Constitution Day (Dominican Republic/Tajikistan)</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Melbourne Cup Day Melb Holiday</p> <p>Election Day (USA) Magal de Touba Festival (Senegal) October Revolution Day (Belarus/Kyrgyzstan)</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Intersex Day of Remembrance (Intl)</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Allama Iqbal Day (Pakistan) Independence Day (Cambodia) Kristallnacht (Jewish)</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Ataturk Memorial Day (Turkey)</p>	<p>11</p> <p>MOON LAST QTR</p> <p>Independence Day (Angola/Poland) Remembrance/Armistice Day (Commonwealth Nations) Republic Day (Maldives) Veterans' Day (USA/Puerto Rico)</p>
<p>12</p> <p>Birth of Baha'u'llah (Baha'i) Constitution Day (Azerbaijan) Journée Nationale Maore (Comoros) Remembrance Day (UK)</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Cartagena Independence Day (Colombia) National Day (Myanmar) Remembrance Day (Cayman Islands)</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p> <p>German Community Day (Belgium) Independence Day (Palestine) Intl Day for Tolerance (UN) King's Feast (Belgium) National Peace Day (Ivory Coast) Republic Day (Northern Cyprus/Brazil) Shichigosan Festival (Shinto)</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p> <p>National Revival Day (Azerbaijan) President's Day (Marshall Islands)</p>	<p>18</p> <p>NEW MOON</p> <p>Independence Day (Latvia/Morocco) National Day (Oman)</p>
<p>19</p> <p>Discovery Day (Puerto Rico) Garifuna Settlement Day (Belize) Maldives National Day/Qaumeedi Duvas (Maldives) National Day (Monaco)</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Transgender Day of Remembrance (LGBTIQ)</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Dignity & Freedom Day (Ukraine) General Framework Agreement Day (Republika Srpska)</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Independence Day (Lebanon)</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Niinamesei or Labour Thanksgiving Day (Shinto) St George's Day (Georgia) Thanksgiving Day (Interfaith-USA/Guam)</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Martyrdom of Guru Tegh Bahadur Sahib (Sikh) National Day of Thanksgiving (Turks and Caicos Islands)</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Independence Day (Suriname) Intl Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women (UN) Statehood Day (Federation of Bosnia & Herzegovina)</p>
<p>26</p> <p>Christ the King Day (Christian) Constitution Day (India) Day of the Covenant (Baha'i) Republic's Day (Mongolia)</p>	<p>27</p> <p>MOON FIRST QTR</p> <p>Natl Sovereignty Day (Argentina)</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Independence Day (Albania/Mauritania/Panama/East Timor) Republic Day (Congo/Burundi/Chad)</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Intl Day of Solidarity with Palestinian People (UN) Liberation Day (Albania) Unity Day (Vanuatu) William Tubman's Birthday (Liberia)</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Bonifacio Day (Philippines) Gita Jayanti (Hindu) Independence Day (Barbados/Yemen) St Andrew's Day (Christian)</p>	<p>DEC 2017</p> <p>S M T W T F S</p> <p>31 1 2</p> <p>3 4 5 6 7 8 9</p> <p>10 11 12 13 14 15 16</p> <p>17 18 19 20 21 22 23</p> <p>24 25 26 27 28 29 30</p>	

**"Those who can't dance blame it on the flute and the drum."
- Thai proverb**

Polish Folkloric Dancers

Established in 1981 by Christine Mikolajczak, the Wielkopolska Dance group consists of children, teenagers and young adults of Polish ancestry.

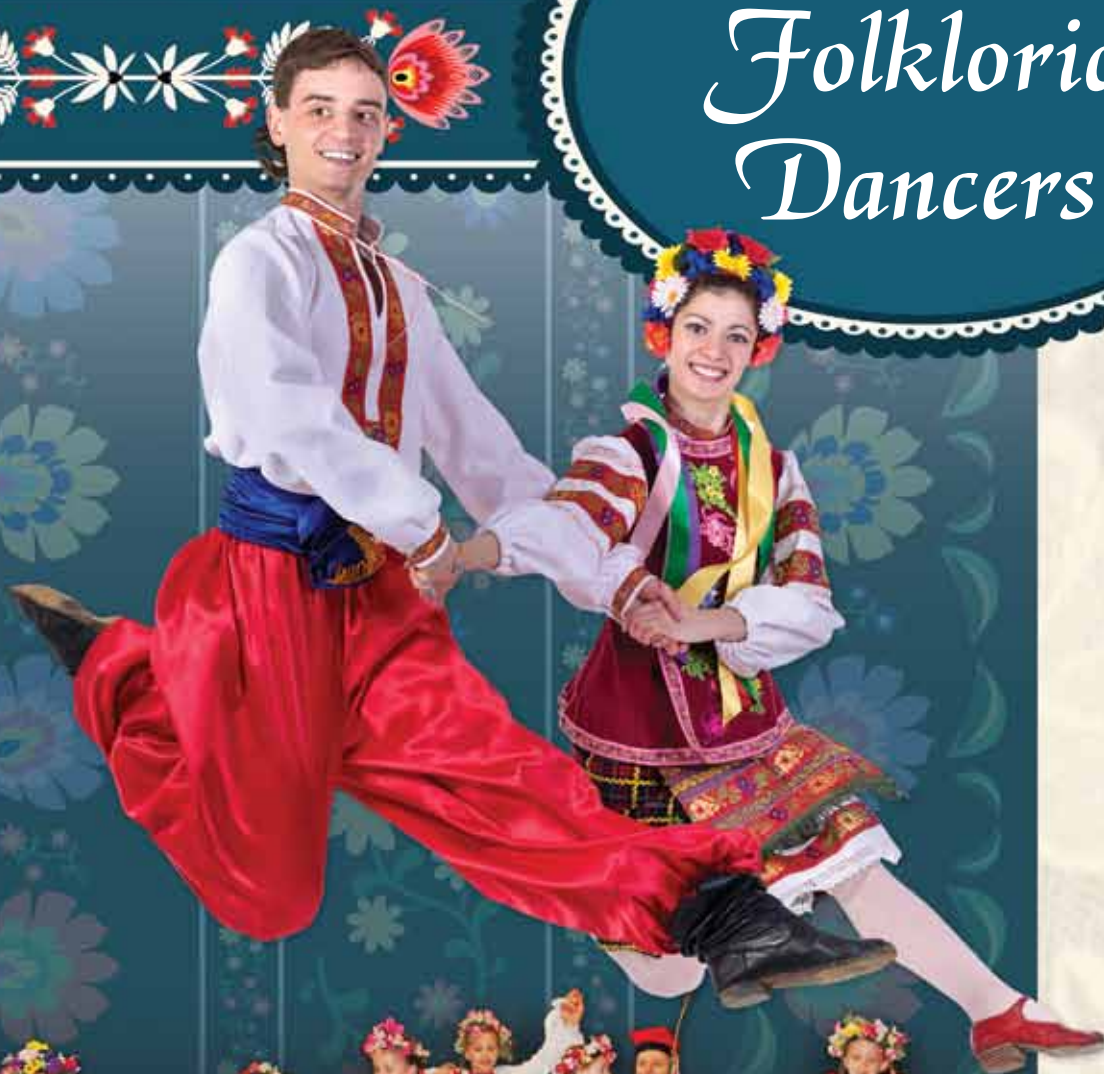
They have a large repertoire of dances from various regions of Poland which they are continually expanding.

Their regional costumes are authentic, being sourced from the original regions of Poland. Their purpose is to teach, maintain and continue the rich Polish folkloric dance heritage for their children and future generations.

By promoting Polish folklore, the Wielkopolska Dance Group hope they have contributed in some way towards the development of better mutual understanding and respect for Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) communities living in Australia, and more particularly, towards the formation of new cultural traditions in this country.

There are two performers who remain from the original group established in the early 80's, Mark and Krystyna Mikolajczak; they are now the joint directors of the present group who have been together since 2002.

Source: Interview with Mark Mikolajczak.
Photo bottom left & dancers below courtesy Mark Mikolajczak.



DECEMBER 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
New Year's Eve SA part holiday 31 St Sylvester's Day (Christian) Restoration Day (Switzerland)	NOV 2017 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30		JAN 2018 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	1 Freedom & Democracy Day (Chad) Great Union/National Day (Romania) Mawlid/Prophet Muhammed's Birthday or Milad Al-Nabi (Islamic-Sunni) Nat'l Day (Central African Republic) Independence Day (Portugal)	2 Intl Day for the Abolition of Slavery (UN) National Day (Laos/UAE)	
3 3-24, Advent (Christian) Good Neighbourliness Day (Turkmenistan) Int'l Day of Persons with Disability (UN)	FULL MOON 4 King Tupou I Day (Tonga)	5 King's Birthday (Thailand)	6 Constitution Day (Spain) Independence Day (Finland) Mawlid or Milad Al-Nabi (Islamic-Shi'a) Day of Remembrance & Action on Violence Against Women (Canada) St Nicholas Day (Christian-Netherlands)	7 Pearl Harbour Remembrance Day (USA)	8 Constitution Day (Uzbekistan/Northern Mariana Islands/Romania) Feast of the Immaculate Conception (Catholic) Rohatsu/Bodhi Day (Japan)	9
MOON LAST QTR 10 Constitution Day (Thailand) Intl Human Rights Day (UN)	11 Fourth Republic Day (Madagascar) Republic Day (Burkina Faso)	12 12-20, Chanukah (Jewish) Constitution Day (Russia) Jamhuri/National Day (Kenya) Our Lady of Guadalupe (Catholic Christian)	13 National Day of Saint Lucia - Syracuse (Finland/Iceland/Faroe Island & Scandinavia) Republic Day (Malta)	14 Martyred Intellectuals Day (Bangladesh)	15 Bill of Rights Day (USA)	16 Day of Reconciliation (South Africa) Dhanu Sankranti (Hindu) Independence Day (Kazakhstan/Bahrain) Victory Day (Bangladesh)
17 International Day to End Violence Against Sex Workers National Day (Bhutan)	NEW MOON 18 International Migrants Day (UN) National Day (Qatar) Republic Day (Niger)	19	20 Intl Human Solidarity Day (UN) SAR Establishment Day (Macau) The Day Maldives Embraced Islam (Maldives)	21 Dongzhi Festival (Macau) Kayin New Year Day (Myanmar) Sao Tome Day (Republic of Sao Tome & Principe)	22	Christmas Eve SA part holiday 23 Emperor's Birthday (Japan)
Christmas Eve 24 Independence Day (Libya)	Christmas Day National Holiday 25 Christmas Day (Western/Orthodox Christian) Quaid-i-Azam Day (Pakistan)	MOON FIRST QTR Boxing Day National Holiday Proclamation Day SA 26 Independence & Unity Day (Slovenia) 26-1 Jan, Kwanzaa (USA) St Stephen's/Boxing Day (Christian) Synaxis of the Mother of God (Greece)	27 Constitution Day (North Korea)	28 Holy Innocents Day (Christian)	29 Constitution Day (Ireland) National Independence Day (Mongolia)	30 Rizal Day (Philippines)

"A poor dancer will be disturbed even by the hem of her skirt."

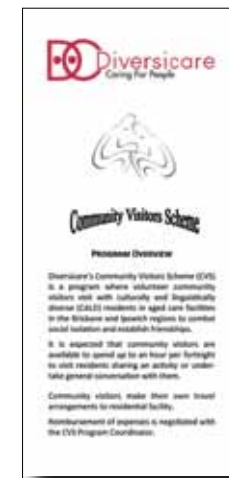
– Polish proverb

Last Year

JAN 2016	FEB 2016	MARCH 2016	APRIL 2016
S M T W T F S 31 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
MAY 2016	JUNE 2016	JULY 2016	AUG 2016
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SEPT 2016	OCT 2016	NOV 2016	DEC 2016
S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	S M T W T F S 30 31 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

Next Year

JAN 2018	FEB 2018	MARCH 2018	APRIL 2018
S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
MAY 2018	JUNE 2018	JULY 2018	AUG 2018
S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
SEPT 2018	OCT 2018	NOV 2018	DEC 2018
S M T W T F S 30 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	S M T W T F S 30 31 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 20



Diversicare offers a number of publications to inform members of the community requiring care, of the options available to them, and to assist all staff involved in the provision of the Commonwealth Home Support Program, Home Care Packages and Queensland Community Care Services, in providing culturally appropriate care.

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Deaf Services Qld

It is encouraged to use SWITC online

Web: www.switc.org.au

Email: switc@deafsq.org.au

TIS (Translating and Interpreting Services)

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