



Al Kanfe HaKesef

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Israel Folkdance Festival of Boston

Presents

The 49th Annual Israel Folkdance Festival of Boston

Sunday, March 22, 2026
Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School
Sudbury, Mass.

Produced by
Israel Folkdance Festival of Boston, Inc.

P.O. Box 470545
Brookline Village, MA 02447
bostonfestival.org

A non-profit, tax-exempt organization

On Wings of Silver

On wings of silver they ride
Knights of the wind and thickening clouds
The good and the mighty
They soar like birds on high

Within clear skies
The seven heavens glow
And we ascend
From the Golan to the Red Sea

The sea fled and turned away
And the river is dry
My brother flies with his face turned to the light
His flag covers me like love

על כנפי הכסף

על כנפי הכסף רכובים
אבירי הרוח בעבים
העזים והטובים
כבני רשף יגביהו עוף

ובתוך שמיים נקיים
זוהרים שבעת הרקיעים
ואנחנו ממריאים
מגולן ועד ים סוף

נס הים ויסוב אחור
והנהר - חרבה
טס אחי ופניו לאור
ודגלו עלי אהבה



The taking of photographs or audio or video recording, either with or without flash attachments, is strictly prohibited during the performance for the safety of our dancers.

Please silence all electronic devices, including cell phones and pagers, during the performance.

Boston's 49th Annual Israel Folkdance Festival

March 22, 2026

Program

Opening

Al Kanfe HaKesef: On Wings of Silver

Mavrik – Washington, DC

Hora Russit: This Russian Hora reflects centuries of shared history between Russian and Jewish music and dance. It traces the journey of Ashkenazi Jews in Eastern Europe, where traditions like klezmer blended with Slavic and Romani influences and folk music, further evolving in Israel. The dance links past and present, honoring the enduring spirit and cultural exchange of the Ashkenazi Jewish experience.

Mastik – Temple Aliyah, Needham, MA

Chasake: Join us for surfing fun in the sun!

ONOT Aviv – Temple Emanuel, Newton, MA

Tamid Ohev Oti: Things will get better and better! In times of hardship, we are always faithful and we are optimistic that things will get better. Our smiling dancers exude optimism and remind us of that.

Rikudei Yachad – Rockville, MD

Debka Achdut: Debka Unity is a dynamic suite that reflects unity amid movement and change. Rooted in traditional debka, the choreography journeys through moments of introspection, strength, and collective joy, showing how individuality and community evolve together without breaking apart. The dance builds from grounded, expressive movement into powerful, driving motifs—honoring shared roots while embracing transformation. Choreographed as Rikudei Yachad celebrates five years, this piece is both a reflection of where the group has been and a declaration of moving forward together, bound by rhythm, connection, and joy.

Keshet of JCDS - Jewish Community Day School – Watertown, MA

Mizrach HaTichon (The Middle East): Israel is a small place filled with contrasts, where a

challenging reality meets wisdom and creativity. Through abstract movement, struggle and friction exist alongside vitality and moments of joy. It is an expression of human resilience and the choice to keep moving, connecting, and living.

KesheRoked – Keshet Newton – Newton, MA

Keshet BaTayelet: Enjoy KesheRoked as we dance in Geshem, Shemesh, and all together, no matter what the weather may be!

Sucaria – Temple Aliyah – Needham, MA

Od Yavo Shalom Aleinu: Peace for all people, all around the world.

Katzefet – Temple Aliyah – Needham, MA

B'yachad, b'kehillah, b'koach, b'tikvah -- together, in community, in strength, in hope: We are united in celebration of the power, beauty, and camaraderie of our shared culture and heritage, while ever aware of those we have lost along the way. With an intentional reference to the movements of the Nova Festival, we remember, as we look ahead to brighter days, happier times, and a true embrace of the humanity in all.

Mavrik – Washington, DC

Pashut Mavrik: Mavrik's suite is an upbeat, modern spin on traditional Israeli dance which highlights the diversity of movement found within different styles of Israeli dance.

ONOT Kayitz – Temple Emanuel – Newton, MA

Et Rekod: This dance highlights the importance of coming together and dancing alongside one another during times of challenge and uncertainty.

Hadran – Needham, MA

Hora Hadran: A Hadran (encore) of classic horas from Festivals past, with choreography by Festival co-founder George Kirby and partner in crime Ed Kaplan.

Shemesh of JCDS - Jewish Community Day School – Watertown, MA

As if it's Summer: The dance evokes the spirit of an Israeli summer, full of play, beach energy, and whimsy. Dancers bring humor and imagination, blending joy with fleeting reality. The warmth gives way to snowy Boston—but as they say, if you don't like the weather, just wait a few minutes... who knows?

Kochavim – Congregation Agudath Israel – Caldwell, NJ

Yam Tichoni: For this year's piece, "Yam Tichoni," the Kochavim dancers invite you to enjoy the beauty of the Mediterranean Sea in a dance that blends traditional Israeli folk movements with modern style and energy. The dancers are inspired by the rhythm of the sea as they celebrate friendship and their love of Israel.

Shiluv Israeli Dance Troupe – Newton, MA

Niggun BaHora: This dance weaves together the buoyant circles of the classic hora with the soulful intensity of Hasidic movement. While these styles can feel like opposites, Shiluv explores how they work together. This piece is dedicated to Mitch Ginsburgh, who is consistently innovating in Israeli dance and continues to make space for others to do the same.

Finale

Al Kanfe HaKesef: On Wings of Silver

מזל טוב
Mazel Tov
To Kochavim



Todah Rabah to Congregation Agudath Israel for a wonderful season of Israeli dance!

With love,
Ellen and Jonathan Berkowitz

In Honor of
Alexis Maharam

Love,
Mom

KOL HAKAVOD
כל הכבוד
MATTHEW GUREVITCH

LIFELONG DANCER
CHOREOGRAPHER
FESTIVAL BOARD MEMBER




Mazel Tov to the amazing dancers, board and supporters!
Linda Moses and Arthur Gurevitch

MAZEL TOV, DANCERS!

JCDS Boston is proud to support the
Israel Folkdance Festival of Boston
and is especially proud of our very own **JCDS Dance Troupe**
led and choreographed by Dance Teacher, **Alla Shimron**

OPEN Hearts.
OPEN Minds.
OPEN Worlds.



JCDS
BOSTON'S JEWISH COMMUNITY DAY SCHOOL
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לב פתוח.
ראש פתוח.
פוחחים
שלמות

Rikuday Am Yisrael Chai!!

Love, Ed and Karen Kaplan

BOSTON'S ISRAELI DANCE CAMP

YAD BEYAD
APRIL 30 - MAY 3, 2026
SAVE THE DATE!



FOR MORE INFO VISIT YADBEYADBOSTON.COM

Rosters

Hadran – Needham, MA

Leader: Lauren Gallagher

Choreographers: Ed Kaplan, George Kirby

Malka Benjamin, Lauren Gallagher, Debbie Hager, Alex Krosner, Karina Lambert, Becca Rausch, Sara Timoner, Michele Yakovee

Katzefet – Temple Aliyah – Needham, MA

Director and Choreographer: Becca Rausch

Rehearsal Assistant: Avi Wald

Harkada Program Co-Directors: Barbara Rosen Campbell, Michele Yakovee

Costume Technician: Noa Schor

Noa Berman, Sadie Berman, Eliana Blankstein, Jordana Blankstein, Daniella Bunch, Nutmeg Kahn, Nora Klein, Rayne Marinoff, Sari Marinoff, Eva Niederman, Noy Niederman, Maya Poscover, Ayelet Rothman-Shore, Adi Schor, Nina Segal

KesheRoked – Kesher Newton – Newton, MA

Artistic Director: Avi Wald

Administrator: Beth Kozinn

Assistant Teachers: Sadie Berman, Adi Schor, Nina Segal

Advisor: Nomie Bental

Jack Andler, Alyssa Ash, Eliana Guss, Nellie Lavitas, Sophia Lavitas, Yuval Marmor-Kollet, Ziv Newmark, Leah Pashtan, Fiona Seinuk-Davidson, Lia Solovey, Mira Solovey, Ethan Zimmerman

Keshet of JCDS – Jewish Community Day School – Watertown, MA

Choreographer and Dance Teacher: Alla Shimron

Festival Liaison: Rabbi David Winship

Dafna Curiel, Sarah Dotan, Abigail Fenton, Lea Golub-Sass, Addie Greene, Noam Hai-Halperin, Gaby Klebenov, Meirav Korinow, Ariel Kreiman-Leader, Shir Lewin-Epstein, Rina Russcol, Eliana Strelnikov, Alma Weinberg, Eliana Weisberg, Gavriella Weisberg

Kochavim – Congregation Agudath Israel – Caldwell, NJ

Director and Choreographer: Ellen Berkowitz

Aderet Allen, Ella Berkowitz, Sydney Berkowitz, Batya Brown, Ilana Gantman, Raviv

Kelmanovich, Noga Klinger, Ilana Korn, Perri Mayer, Rosa Mueller, Ellie Perlstein, Daphne Spanier, Arielle Tobin, Shayna Tobin, Gabby Winter

Mastik – Temple Aliyah, Needham, MA

Director and Choreographer: Becca Rausch

Eitan Barnoon, Noa Berman, Isaac Karp, Ora Newmark, Shoshana Orenstein, Nora Osband, Chana Timoner, Ellie Wainger, Michaela Zadeh

Mavrik – Washington, DC

Artistic Directors and Choreographers: Julie Berg, Amalia Safer

Choreographer: Jennifer Berger

Julie Berg, Jennifer Berger, Rahel Fainchtein, Racheli Katz, Abby Kerbel, Amalia Safer, Adina Schwartz, Abbie Talmoud, Emily Taylor

ONOT Aviv – Temple Emanuel – Newton, MA

Group Leader: Ruthie Holzer

Shoshana Bornstein, Natalie Friedman, Martina Ganz, Olivia Ganz, Leah Levin, Maya Merkin, Emmy Sophia Miloslavsky, Arielle Regev, Maddie Sandals, Samara Taylor, Lyla Taylor

ONOT Kayitz – Temple Emanuel – Newton, MA

Co-Directors and Co-Choreographers: Eliana Blankstein, Daniella Bunch

Ilai Josephy, Lilah Merkin, Maya Merkin, Emma Rozensztejn, Adina Silbert, Miriam Silverman, Hannah Snyder

Rikudei Yachad – Rockville, MD

Director: Hannah Weisman

Manager: Jessica Morris

Nathan Abend, Rebecca Barabas, Danielle Baron, Kalman Bass, Lauren Contard, Joshua Fields, Elisheva Greene, Nadav Levy, Jordie Priesman, Naomi Seiler, Aliza Shalvi, Ofir Shliefer, Aliza Silverman, Jessica Weisman

Shemesh of JCDS – Jewish Community Day School – Watertown, MA

Choreographer and Dance Teacher: Alla Shimron

Festival Liaison: Rabbi David Winship

Morgan Joy Abramson, Hallelya Anaki, Rimon Anaki, Danielle Azani, Maya Bachar, Yael David, Madeline Fialkoff, Mikayla Fier, Lina Frenkel, Galit Goldshtein, Elliott Golub-Sass,

Yaniv Hai-Halpern, Netta Hassin, Eliana Kann, Samara Kaufman, Lia Korinow, Shai Levin, Tehila Mendel, Lily Micley, Noga Nevo, Carmel Offenbacher, Yuval Offenbacher, Paloma Klein Ronkin, Noam Rosen, Elijah Rubenstein, Ilana Russcol, Romy Segev, Zoe Sender-Israel, Doron Shafrir, Maya Sharoni, Ella Spiegler, Esther Spitzer, Aria Stern

Shiluv Israeli Dance Troupe – Newton, MA

Choreographer: Alexis Maharam

Anat Beck-Nachtigal, Marilyn Berman, David Bernat, Eliana Wachs Cashman, Ronnie Efrat, Alisa Feldman, Julia Feldman, Matthew Gurevitch, Alex Krosner, Aylat Lifshitz, Lauren Schneider Lipton, Chris Snyder, Ross Taylor, Rina Wagman

Sucaria – Temple Aliyah – Needham, MA

Director and Choreographer: Becca Rausch

Costume Technician: Alex Krosner

Micah Barnoon, Faye Karp, Reva Karp, Alex Krosner, Leo Krosner, Lauren Schneider Lipton, Samuel Lipton, Becca Rausch, Caryn Schiller, Eyla Schiller, Maya Timoner, Sara Timoner, Kiva Wisch, Rachel Wisch

**THANK YOU SHILUV
FOR ANOTHER
GREAT SEASON!
LOVE, YOUR
DIRECTATOR**



INTERESTED IN DANCING IN SHILUV NEXT YEAR? FIND ONE OF US OR SEND US A MESSAGE ON FACEBOOK



Thank you Eli & Aimee for years of organizing our ushers!

*Congratulations to the
Israel Folkdance Festival of Boston
Celebrating 49
Years!*

*With Deep Appreciation to All the
Dancers, Choreographers and Group
Leaders*

Michele & Israel Yakovec

Congratulations to our wonderful dancers

TEMPLE ALIYAH
CREATING COMMUNITY • CELEBRATING TRADITION



With Thanks to:
Every Dancer
Every Festival Committee Member
Every Volunteer
Every Audience Member
For keeping this wonderful Boston tradition of dance alive!
1977 – 2026 – and onward
Still Going Strong!
Susan Graber



SHILUV

There are no **SOLOS**, only
MistaqEs!

Festival Donors

Many thanks to all of our listed donors, as well as those donors who contributed after our program was finalized. As an entirely volunteer organization, the Festival depends on ticket sales and your donations to keep going. Be a partner with us in keeping this unique and wonderful Festival available for future generations of Israeli folk dancers and those who love to dance. Please visit our website at bostonfestival.org to make your tax-deductible contribution.

Rokdim (\$500 and up)

Alison, Katie & DJ Monroe

Hora (\$360 - \$499)

Susan Gruber & Ira Vishner

Alexis Maharam

Chesed (\$180 - \$359)

Ilene & David Beckman

Ellen & Jonathan Berkowitz

Bernie & Melissa Bernstein

Larry Denenberg & Rachael Rosner

JCDS, Boston's Jewish Community Day School

Ed & Karen Kaplan

George Kirby

Cherie Maharam

Linda Moses & Arthur Gurevitch

Debbie Samuels

Rina Wagman

Michele & Israel Yakovee

Simcha (\$118 - \$179)

Marilyn Berman & Family

Blankstein Family

Bert Fern & Harvey Mamon

J Marcus Newman

Chaverim (up to \$71)

Ruty Bakor

The Beaser Family

Anat Beck-Nachtigal

Aaron, Nomie & Zohar Bental

David Bernat

Janie Chefitz

Janet Drake

Ronnie Efrat

Alisa Feldman & Wyatt Mufson

Julia & Uri Feldman

Matthew Gurevitch

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Jackie & Arnold Kling

Renee Myers

Eric Pomerantz & Sally Michael-Pomerantz

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Becca Rausch, Lior Barnoon, Eitan & Micah

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The Timoner Family

Eliana Wachs Cashman

Sharon Walach-Gale

Daniel & Jessica Poscover
Sylvia & Mark Wagman

D. Zucker

Mazal (\$72 - \$117)

Teri Berenson
Ruth Leah Kahan
Michael Klain
Zev London
Naomi & Carl Lopkin
Laurie Markus
Beth McCarthy
Ross Taylor
Nathaniel Vishner

The Israel Folkdance Festival of Boston

Coordinating Committee

David Beckman, Aaron Bental, Janie Chefitz, Susan Gruber, Matthew Gurevitch, Ruth Kahan, George Kirby, Alexis Maharam, Renee Myers, Chris Snyder, Ira Vishner, Nathaniel Vishner, Rina Wagman, Michele Yakovee

Opening/Finale Choreographer: Katie Hamelburg

Program Announcements: Susan Gruber

Special thanks to: Zachary Allor, Aryeh Blanshay, Charles Despotopoulos, Katie Hamelburg, Sharita Langston, Aimee Schiffman Levy, Eli Levy, Giselle Princz, Sylvia Wagman, Avi Wald, and all our volunteers.

Ushers: Ruty Bakor, Eliot Cohen, Judith Jango-Cohen, Tim McNerny, Debbie Reches, Debbie Samuels, Yehuda Vishny



Please make sure that you and all of your friends [join our mailing list](#) and [LIKE us on Facebook](#) for up to the minute news and information. Be the first to know when ads and tickets go on sale next year.

**We're looking forward to seeing you in person next year at the
50th Annual Israel Folkdance Festival of Boston**

Save the date: March 14, 2027

Look ahead to: March 26, 2028

Israel Folkdance Festival of Boston, Inc.

P.O. Box 470545

Brookline Village, MA 02447

617-658-FOLK (617-658-3655)

Visit our website at bostonfestival.org

Or email us at info@bostonfestival.org