



## **PARTICIPANT PACKAGE**

**Thursday to Sunday**

**April 23 – 26, 2026**

**Edmonton, AB**

**Northern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium**

### **Festival Coordinators:**

Peter Eeles, Leda Tarnawsky, Joshua Pacholok, Mark Rachmistruk

[sdf@shumka.com](mailto:sdf@shumka.com)

# Participant Information

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## LOCATION

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- The Shumka Dance Festival will take place at the Northern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium (11455 87 Avenue NW, Edmonton, AB) from Thursday, April 23 to Sunday, April 26, 2026. The building is accessible from the main and east entrances only. The main lobby, Jubilee box office, and the backstage dressing and rehearsal rooms will open one hour before the first session.

## PARKING

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- Jubilee Auditorium Car Park is accessible only from 87 Avenue and there is no access from 114 Street. Surface parking is also available on the south and west side of the auditorium.
- Event parking at \$7.00 per day will be in effect from 7:00 am to midnight on all four festival days and is valid in all three designated areas: West Lot, South Lot, and the Car Park.



## ADMISSION

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- We have arranged with the venue to sell our own multi-day admission wristbands. Single-day and Competition Show tickets will still be subject to Ticketmaster fees; however, all other wristband purchases will be free of Ticketmaster fees.
- Single-day admission and Competition Show tickets must be purchased through Ticketmaster [here](#) or in person at the Jubilee box office. Multi-day wristbands sold by Shumka and not subject to Ticketmaster fees are available for purchase in person at the Shumka admissions table.
- **Day Pass:** \$10.00 plus GST and Ticketmaster fees: children 5 & under free with purchase of a day pass (Ticketmaster fees are lower when Day Pass tickets are purchased in person at the Jubilee Box Office).  
**2-Day Pass:** \$17.00 plus GST with NO Ticketmaster fees  
**3-Day Pass:** \$25.00 plus GST with NO Ticketmaster fees  
**Festival Pass:** \$35.00 plus GST with NO Ticketmaster fees  
Children 5 and under: Free  
Performers: Free (not including adult performers)  
All payment methods are accepted and there is an ATM on site.
- To enter the auditorium to watch performances, all attendees must be wearing a valid wristband. Families may go backstage first to drop off their child's belongings and then return to the lobby to obtain wristbands before entering the auditorium. Parents cannot remain backstage and must return to the lobby.
- Performers and instructors do not need to pay for wristbands. Instructors will receive a complimentary wristband backstage in the Green Room, and performers will receive a stamp at the Shumka Admissions Table for entry into the festival. If a wristband or stamp becomes damaged, visit the Shumka Admissions Table at any time for a replacement.

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## COMPETITION SHOW

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- Tickets for the 3 pm Sunday **Bottom Line Productions** Competition Show are available through Ticketmaster [here](#) or at the Jubilee Box Office. This is a ticketed event, wristbands are not required. Festival performers are free and can pick up a complimentary ticket at the Shumka Admissions Table before the show.
- Adults: \$10.00, plus GST and Ticketmaster fees  
Children 5 and under: \$3.00, plus GST and Ticketmaster fees  
Festival Performers (at any point during the festival, not including adult performers): Free admission  
“Infants-in-arms” receive a complimentary ticket
- Solos, duets, small and large groups featuring performers aged 9 to 18 are eligible to compete in the show. Each competition routine will be evaluated by a panel of three judges. The group with the highest overall score will receive the \$1,000 cash prize and the 2026 Ukrainian Dance Cup. The second- and third-place groups will also receive cash prizes, \$500 and \$250, respectively.
- Routines that receive the First Place Golden Ribbon in their category automatically qualify for the Competition Show. As each category concludes, the winning routine will be contacted to confirm participation. If the First Place routine is unable to participate, the Second Place routine from that category will be contacted, and so on. Confirmed Competition Show routines will be posted in the lobby and backstage throughout the festival as they are finalized.
- The Hopak selected by the adjudicator from the Saturday evening Hopak Competition category will be invited to close the Competition Show. Please note that the Hopak category does not qualify for the Competition Show; this invitation is separate from the regular qualification process.



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## MEDALS & AWARDS

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- Medals will be awarded to routines as follows:  
Platinum: 95% – 100%                      Gold: 90 – 94%                      Silver: 85 – 89%                      Bronze: 80 – 84%
- At the start of each adjudication category, the top three ribbons will be presented. Following this, the marks and medal placements for all groups in the category will be announced. In the event of a grade tie, the main adjudicator will determine the winner.
  1. 1<sup>st</sup> place gold ribbon: highest mark
  2. 2<sup>nd</sup> place silver ribbon: second highest mark
  3. 3<sup>rd</sup> place bronze ribbon: third highest mark
  4. Choreography award: recognizes a routine in each session that demonstrates exceptional creativity, originality, and cohesion in choreography.
  5. Most Promising Performance award: recognizes a routine that demonstrates exceptional potential.
- For non-competitive categories (those with dancers 8 and under), the following awards will be given out:
  1. Outstanding Performance award: recognizes a routine that demonstrates an exceptional level of performance and passion.
  2. Most Promising Performance award: recognizes a routine that demonstrates exceptional potential.

3. Choreography award: recognizes a routine that demonstrates exceptional creativity, originality, and cohesion in choreography.

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## DRESSING ROOMS

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- As indicated on the backstage map, the only access from the lobby to backstage is through the stage left front-of-house passage link.
- Dressing rooms are assigned by age and located backstage. Refer to the backstage map. Changing and applying makeup in the main lobby washrooms is not permitted. Please use the designated washrooms in the dressing rooms and backstage areas for these purposes. Costumes and props may be left overnight if needed.
- Please respect the venue and help keep dressing rooms tidy, not clogging washroom or shower drains, and refraining from any form of vandalism or marking walls and equipment, including lipstick kiss marks.

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## BACKSTAGE

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- Two backstage rehearsal halls are available:
  1. The Main Rehearsal Hall (upper level)
  2. The Barre Room (basement level)Both spaces have stereos provided. Please do not touch the pianos in these rooms.
- The Instructors Lounge is in the Green Room backstage and is reserved for instructors and volunteers (no performer/parent access). Meals, snacks, and refreshments will be catered for instructors and volunteers. Adjudication sheets and instructor 'goodie' packages can be picked up in the Instructors Lounge. Each goodie bag also includes a festival program and wristband.
- The Dancer Lounge is in the Star Suites backstage. This is a space where dancers can relax and socialize. Parents are not permitted to stay in the dancer lounge. Water and light snacks will be provided.
- There are designated times (during union breaks) when the stage is closed and off limits. When the doors are closed, no one may enter the stage.

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## MUSIC, PROPS, STAGE

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- Large props and costumes can be unloaded backstage via the loading docks. If your group requires use of the loading dock, please inform us before the festival.
- Music hookup is available on stage right. Instructors must run their own music during the festival. CDs and cassettes are not supported.
- The usable stage area for the festival measures 48 feet wide by 36 feet deep.

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## AUDITORIUM

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- Entering and exiting the auditorium is only permitted between dances. In case of an emergency, notify an usher, and they will assist you in exiting.

- Seating around the adjudicators will be sectioned off, but all other seating on the main floor and first balcony will be open. The second balcony will be closed. Standing at the back or sides of the auditorium is not permitted. All patrons must remain seated at all times.
- Cameras, phones, and other recording devices are strictly prohibited during performances. However, devices may be used during adjudications. This rule will be strictly enforced by Jubilee ushers. Anyone found recording during a performance will be asked to leave.
- Food is not permitted in the auditorium. Only beverages purchased from the Jubilee concession are allowed inside the auditorium. Strollers and walkers are not permitted in the auditorium. Strollers can be checked in free of charge at the coat check, while walkers must be left in the vestibule areas. Wheelchair seating is provided.

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## PERFORMANCE PHOTOS

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- SDF picture galleries will be shared here. Sign up now for first access and promo offers:




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## INTERACTIVE ZONE

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- Located in the main lobby, the Interactive Zone, sponsored by **Freson Bros.** invites attendees of all ages to take part in hands-on cultural activities celebrating Ukrainian heritage. Guests can decorate a Tree of Life by tying ribbons in traditional national and embroidery colours, each carrying a written message of hope, remembrance, or celebration. The tree will be adorned with symbolic decorations such as pysanky, kalyna, flowers, bells, and wheat, creating a vibrant cultural display in the lobby. Visitors can also participate in creative activities including beading traditional koral-style necklaces and enjoying Ukrainian-themed colouring sheets and a photo booth.




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## VENDOR VILLAGE

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- The main lobby area will host an assortment of Ukrainian artisan vendors. The vendor village is sponsored by **Can-West Transmissions.**
- Vendors include: Cobblestone Freeway Tours, Funky Fun Sock.com, Innareva.studio, Lemonave, Maple Greenview Honey, MarVal Creations, Silver Bends - Unique Gifts of Ukrainian Heritage, Ukie Shirts, Vyshyvanka.
- Shumka Dance Festival branded hoodies will be available for purchase at the Shumka merch table.



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## FOOD OPTIONS

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- The main lobby area will host a concession and bar provided by the Jubilee Auditorium. Additional food options are available within walking distance of the facility, including Lister Centre.
- Lister Centre has a cafeteria open to the public. Breakfast is served from 7:00 – 10:30 am and is \$14.99 per person. Lunch is served from 11:00 – 2:00 pm, and is \$18.99 per person, and supper is served from 4:00 – 11:00 pm and is \$20.49 per person. Limited seating space is available and food cannot be taken off the premises.



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## ADJUDICATORS

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- Main Adjudicator: Olena Brahina  
Instructor Feedback: Paul Olijnyk  
Competition Show Judges: Margaret Dalwood, Alyssa Eugenio, Vitali Brahin
- Each routine will receive two separate written adjudication sheets: one from the main adjudicator and one from the instructor feedback adjudicator. A video adjudication will also be provided by the main adjudicator. Clubs will receive a dropbox link with the videos. Instructor feedback is only offered for small and large groups.

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## FESTIVAL PROTOCOL

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- By attending the Shumka Dance Festival, all dancers, instructors, and guests consent to the use of their images in festival-related photography and videography for advertising purposes.
- Shumka Dance Festival is not responsible for lost or stolen items. Lost and Found is located at the Shumka admissions table in the main lobby.
- Coaching during performances is strictly prohibited. Violations of this rule will lead to disqualification.
- Dance groups will be held accountable for any damages caused by their dancers and will be liable for any associated repair costs.
- There are designated times (during union breaks) when the stage is closed and off limits. When the doors are closed, no one may enter the stage.
- Communication between a club and its parents is not the responsibility of the Shumka Dance Festival. The Festival will communicate directly with clubs as clearly as possible, and it is the club's responsibility to relay that information to its families.
- All complaints must be submitted in writing to the Festival Coordinators at [sdf@shumka.com](mailto:sdf@shumka.com). Any complaints made improperly, or attempts to directly approach an adjudicator, may result in the individual or club being asked to leave the festival.

- Access to the lower level Kassa Lobby, the second balcony, and any other sectioned-off areas of the Jubilee is not permitted during the festival. Please respect all designated no-go areas and refrain from entering any restricted sections.
- At the end of the festival, attendees will receive a link to a festival survey. Your feedback is invaluable and helps us improve the festival each year.

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## SHUMKA PERFORMANCES

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- *Shumka: Back to Our Roots* is a vibrant, high-energy performance that celebrates Ukrainian dance by returning to what matters most: movement, music, and regional tradition. Drawing from Shumka's rich performance history, the program features dances from across Ukraine that reveal how geography, history, and community shape rhythm, style, and physical expression, from grounded village steps to virtuosic ensemble work.
- EDMONTON (during the festival!)  
April 23, 2026 @ 10:00am – Northern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium  
April 24, 2026 @ 7:30pm – Northern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium



Tickets [here](#)