

Himalayan Fair 2024 Entertainment Schedule (subject to change)

Saturday, May 18, 2024 (all times are approximate)

10:00 am Welcome by Sridevi, Emcee & Blessing by Monks from Sera Jey Monastery

Sridevi Ramanathan is thrilled to be returning as Emcee and Director of Entertainment for her absolute most favorite fair, the Himalayan Fair!

Sera Jey Monastery follows its centuries old tradition and culture dating back to its great period in Tibet, up to the present time without much significant change. As such, the monastery continues to exist in typical Tibetan Gelugpa monastic tradition to this day. Sera Jey Monastery is recognized as one of the biggest and premier monastic institutes of learning traditional Tibetan Buddhism with over 4800 monks. The monastic curriculum and activities for this vast number of pupils requires funding on a regular basis. Your support provides these needed funds! Thank you!

<https://serajeyfoundation.org/>



SERA JEY MONASTERY

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Himalayan Fair 2024
Emcee, Sridevi

11:00 am Odissi Dance by Anika Singh

Anika Singh, is a 5th grader who started her Odissi dance journey at the age of 7 and a half years old. She has received training from Guru Vishnu Tattva Das of the Bay Area and Guru Rinku Sahoo of Odisha in various dance items such as Mangalacharan, Pallavi's, and Abhinayas.

Dance Item: Anika will perform "Hari Om," which beautifully interprets the Sanskrit shloka in praise of the Guru and the Trimurti (Lord Brahma, Vishnu, and Shiva). This dance is set to Ekatali, a 4-count rhythm, and is considered a beginning Abhinaya. Before beginning her performance, she will seek the blessings of the audience.



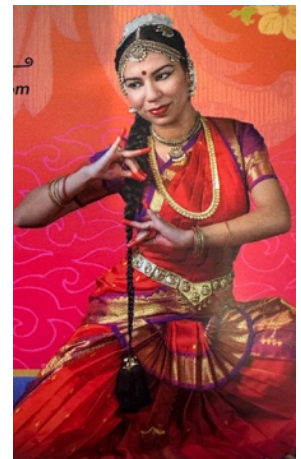
11:15 am Bharatanatyam Dance by Saraswati Kala Nilaya School of Indian Dance and Kalanjali: Dances of India

Dancers today represent two related dance schools: Saraswati Kala Nilaya School of Indian Dance, directed by Barbara Framm and Kalanjali: Dances of India, directed by Katherine Kunhiraman.

Teacher Bios:

Barbara Framm has been a long-time performer and assistant to Katherine Kunhiraman in the very first years of the Himalayan Fair. Barbara also served on the Himalayan Fair Committee for several years. She also performed Odissi Dance with Vishnu Tattva Das at the Himalayan Fair.

Katherine Kunhiraman was a longtime member of the Himalayan Fair Committee and a beloved Director of Entertainment of it for many years. She and her husband, K.P. Kunhiraman, along with many of students, performed at the fair over many years.



continued

Himalayan Fair 2024 Entertainment Schedule (subject to change)

Dancer Bios:

Sonali Langlois has been studying Bharatanatyam at the Saraswati Kala Nilaya School of Indian Dance in Marin County, since age 7. She completed her arangetram in May 2018 under Smt. Barbara Framm. Outside of dance, Sonali works as a lab manager at UC Berkeley where she studies the effects of stress on the brain.

Sanjana Elangovan has been learning dance in Kalanjali School of Dance since age of 6 under Smt. Katherine Kunhiraman and late Sri. K.P. Kunhiraman. Sanjana has performed in numerous events and completed her arangetram in July 2018 in Chennai, India. She is currently an assisting teacher for Smt. Barbara Framm with her students at Saraswati Kala Nilaya School of Indian Dance in Marin County.

Currently Sanjana is working in BioMarin Pharmaceuticals as a manufacturing associate to produce medicine for rare genetic diseases. She continues to expand her love for dancing in other various forms such as hip hop, and Bollywood. She also expresses her creativity through singing - Carnatic and Western.



11:45 am Nepali Music by Nepali Ho Boy Band

Today this boy band will play the song, "Yo Man Ta Mero Nepali Ho."

Our band, Nepali Ho, has a mission to spread the essence of Nepali music in the US. Nepali Ho performs in Bay Area cultural events, so we are delighted to bring our music to the Himalayan Fair. We consist of American-born, but at heart, Nepali boys. On vocals/piano, we have Shrey Karmacharya (age 13, Hopkins Middle School), on guitar, Ryaan Pant (age 14, Diablo Vista Middle School), on drums, Saayan Shrestha, (age 9, California Crosspoint Academy), and our percussionist is Ronav Karmacharya, (age 10, Mission San Jose Elementary). We are great fans of 1974 AD and Nepathya—our favorites. Drawing inspiration from these artists, our performances are sprinkled with their spirit and energy. Join us as the talented members of our band bring you through a musical journey through the rhythms and sounds of our country, Nepal!



12:00 Nepali Dance by Nepali Beats and Dharana Oli Dance

Nepali Beats was born to promote the love for Nepali Culture through dance. The instructor, Sapana Sharma, believes that dance is very close to magic as it lets you visualize music. Through Nepali Beats she teaches how to dance to the magic of Nepali music. Today the girls will be performing a dance from Pokhara Region about how guests are cherished in Nepali Culture and how we deeply value the presence of each guest, recognizing them as esteemed members of our extended family. Their arrival brings joy and enriches our shared experiences, making every gathering a celebration. They will be expressing how grateful they are to have you here at the Fair as guests and making this gathering a celebration of connection and togetherness. The instructor, Sapana Sharma, can be reached at, on Instagram @dancewithsapana

Dharana Oli Dance - We are so proud to be Nepali. We love representing our country and culture at the Himalayan Fair. We will be performing Nepali songs. Thank you for the opportunity.



Himalayan Fair 2024 Entertainment Schedule (subject to change)

1:00 pm Odissi Dance by Jyoti Kala Mandir

Jyoti Kala Mandir (JKM), established in 1993, is a non-profit organization serving the international community. Guru Jyoti Rout is the founder-director of Jyoti Kala Mandir. She studied Odissi throughout her youth and received a master's degree in Odissi from Utkal Sangeet Mahavidyalaya, University for Music and Dance in Bhubaneswar, India. She then went on to study vocal music and Chau Dance. JKM represents the future for Indian Music, Dance and Mardala in USA and India. The organization is dedicated to preserving and promoting India's vibrant classical music and dance. The institution not only trains the students in music and dance, it also conducts mega events like dance and music festivals, workshops, seminars, dance recitals by eminent artists, exponents in various fields in India and USA. A decade ago, Guru Rout established a branch of Jyoti Kala Mandir in Bhubaneswar offering the gift of her Odissi pedagogy back to her motherland. Today, Jyoti Kala Mandir is a thriving community of families, dancers, and second-generation teachers. JKM offers ongoing classes for students at all levels.

<http://www.jyotikalamandir.org/>



2:00 pm Classical Music of India and Pakistan by Ferhan Qureshi (tabla) and Srinivas Reddy (sitar)

Ferhan Najeed Qureshi is a senior disciple of the legendary tabla master Ustad Tari Khan. He took his initial lessons in Hindustani music theory and practice with Sri Surinder Singh Mann and studies the Punjab gharana of classical tabla which both of his teachers represent. Srinivas and Ferhan have been joyfully performing music together for over 2 decades, including several memorable performances in prior years at the Himalayan Fair.

Srinivas Reddy is a scholar, translator and musician. He trained in classical Indian languages at UC Berkeley and studied sitar under Pandit Partha Chatterjee, senior disciple of the late maestro Pandit Nikhil Banerjee. He teaches, performs and conducts research on South Asian culture throughout the world. www.sankalpana.org.



3:00 pm Bhangra Dance by Dholrhythms Dance Company

Based in San Francisco Bay Area, Dholrhythms Dance Company is an organization dedicated to promoting the artistic and cultural heritage of India by sharing rhythms of Punjab through classes, workshops, performances and events. Since its inception in 2003, Dholrhythms has grown into a boundless and unique platform for people of diverse backgrounds to come together, express themselves, and dance in a non-competitive and positive environment.

The diverse group of women who are part of Dholrhythms Dance Company have become one of the most talked about groups in the San Francisco Bay Area bringing their unique style and rhythm to the floor. Led by co-founder Vicki Virk's Punjabi heritage, Dholrhythms highlights the ancestral and ethnic roots of the Punjabi folk dances while pushing boundaries with contemporary influences. The result is a fresh and exciting experience full of joy, energy, and passion.

Dholrhythms hosts and headlines the award-winning Non-Stop Bhangra event voted "Best Dance Party" in San Francisco and celebrating 20 years as a production in 2024.

<https://dholrhythms.com/>



Himalayan Fair 2024 Entertainment Schedule (subject to change)

4:00 pm World Fusion Music by Ancient Future

Ancient Future as a world fusion collective with many musicians from different cultures performing in different ensemble configurations remains the same as ever.

Bios for Individual Members:

Matthew Montfort - <https://www.ancient-future.com/matt.html>

Mariah Parker - <https://www.ancient-future.com/mariah.html>

Ferhan Najee Qureshi - <https://www.ancient-future.com/ferhan.html>



5:00 pm Pakistani and Indian Music by Sukhawat Ali Khan

Sukhawat Ali Khan, son of Indian-Pakistani vocalist Ustad Salamat Ali Khan and nephew of Nazakat Ali Khan, is a classical singer of Sham Chaurasia gharana tradition. He also performs North Indian and Pakistani classical music and related folk music. He began singing and playing the harmonium at age seven and has performed around the world. He currently lives in Northern California. About his heritage and music he says: "Each song I do has classical thought behind it and I know how to sing it properly, but my style comes from my life, too. I spent time in New York. I go to clubs. I like the hip hop beat, Latin music, rave. ... There's a performing energy there that I also feel. It's the same kind of energy a good Qawwali singer has, and we can really express it freely in America."

<https://www.facebook.com/sukhawatalikhan/>



6:15 pm Tibetan Bell Experience by Karma Moffett

Karma has sifted through thousands of Tibetan bowls over a period of fifty years to accumulate his scale. These were selected for their purity and clarity of sound, sustained resonance, and harmonic blending or pairing with the other bowls within the set. The bowls are handmade antique using the finest metals creating the purest sounds. The Tinsla Cymbals are made of Black Metal, (twelve alloys including meteorite). The varying thickness of the metals produces a variety of tones and harmonics, within each bowl. When the bowls are played in runs or struck as pairs, their harmonics penetrate the physical and subtle bodies of the listeners. Karma's mastery of circular breathing, which he applies to the Longhorn, Native American Flute, and Conch Shells, allows him to bring the pure tones of each instrument to the listener in an unbroken stream of sound. The audience easily relaxes into a natural state of meditation.



Himalayan Fair 2024 Entertainment Schedule (subject to change)

Sunday, May 19, 2024 (all times are approximate)

10:00 am Welcome by Sridevi, Emcee & Blessing by Monks from Sera Jey Monastery

Sridevi Ramanathan is thrilled to be returning as Emcee and Director of Entertainment for her absolute most favorite fair, the Himalayan Fair!

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SERA JEY MONASTERY

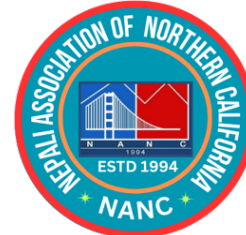
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Himalayan Fair 2024
Emcee, Sridevi

10:30 am Nepali Dance by Laliguras Dance Team and Nemi Dance Group from the Nepali Association of Northern California

LaLiguras Dance Team is the Bay Area's new Nepali dance team! We're excited to bring the vibrant energy of Nepali dance to the local community. Let's dance, celebrate, and connect with others who share a love for Nepali culture.



11:00 am Hindustani Classical Music by Teed Rockwell accompanied by Tim Witter

Teed Rockwell plays Hindustani classical music on a newly customized instrument he calls the touchstyle veena, which has a guitar-like fretboard played by tapping the strings simultaneously with both hands. He has had over a hundred classes in Hindustani Classical Music with Ustad Ali Akbar Khan, and also studied extensively with Ustad Shahid Parvez, Pandit Habib Khan, Debashish Bhattacharya and Ustad Salamat Ali Khan. In the late 1950s, Ravi Shankar and Ali Akbar Khan created a musical form called jugalbandi in which two melody instruments perform together in interactive conversation. On a touchstyle veena, it is possible for one musician to play jugalbandi with himself. Both hands talk to each other, improvising melodies and then repeating them with variations in the other hand. Teed is the only person to e



Tim Witter

Tim Witter began his tabla training with Ustad Alla Rakha in 1980. He has studied since 1984 with Pandit Swapan Chaudhuri and "tied Ghunda" with him in 1994 becoming a devout disciple. He has also studied Mridungam and kanjira with Subash Chandran in Madras in 1996/97. He has made numerous trip to India for study and performance, and in 1994/1995 completed a research/performance grant awarded to him by the American Institute of Indian Studies. Tim taught at the Ali Akbar College of Music in San Rafael, CA for over twenty years and continues his studies with Swapanda. Currently, he hosts the musical gatherings in his home in Sebastopol with the intention of presenting the traditional music in an intimate house-concert setting.

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11:45 am Children Dances and Songs from TANC

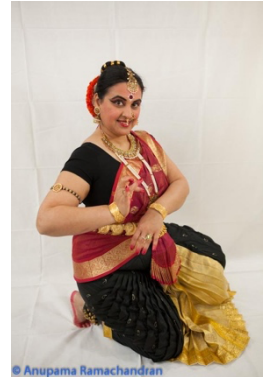
Tibetan children from the Tibetan Association of Northern California (TANC) Sunday school program will be performing traditional dances and songs. TANC is a 501 (c) (3) not for profit organization that works to preserve the unique cultural heritage of Tibet and to disseminate information on Tibet.
www.tanc.org



12:00 pm Bharatanatyam by Ushanjali School of Dance

Ushanjali School of Dance is a premier South Indian Classical Dance Academy in the Tri Valley area, with locations in San Ramon, Pleasanton and right here in Berkeley where she offers classes on Sunday mornings. Students are trained in the Mysore Style of Bharatanatyam by the Artistic Director, Vidushi Naina Shastri. They are also trained in other styles of dance like Indian Folk, Semi-classical and Contemporary. Students of Ushanjali School of Dance have been featured in NBC Bay Area's program, "Asian Pacific America" and regularly perform at various Community and City organized events. Naina Shastri, has been an Artist-in-Residence at the Oakland Asian Cultural Center, RAW resident artist as SAFEhouse for the Arts, San Francisco and is the Chair of San Ramon City's Arts Advisory Committee.

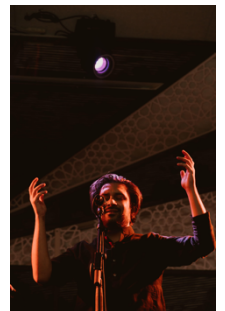
<http://www.ushanjali.com>



1:00 pm Sufi Vocals by Umer Piracha of the ensemble, Falsa

Raised in the Sufi city of Multan, Pakistan, Umer Piracha was classically trained in voice from the age of four. Today, his contemporary arrangements of 14th-century Sufi music captivate audiences from Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center to NPR broadcasts. Collaborating with a diverse range of improvisational musicians, Umer transcends cultural boundaries and genre norms to craft performances that invite meditation, conversation, and transcendence.

Stay connected with Umer's journey by following [@falsamusic](#) on Instagram, and [Falsa on Facebook](#)



1:30 pm Sound Healing by Marla Hartfield

Marla Hartfield is an authentic and versatile vocalist whose music transcends boundaries. With a passion for exploration, she has honed her craft across folk, R&B, jazz, and musical theater genres. But Marla's artistry goes beyond performance; she's a firm believer in the healing power of frequency and sound. Drawing on her deep connection to music and spirituality, she serves as a sound healer, guiding others on a journey of self-discovery and wellness through transformative workshops and sessions.

Visit www.himalayan-soul.com or contact Prayerna Rai at (510) 603-5842 to schedule a sound healing session, we can accommodate corporate events, wellness retreats or private parties.



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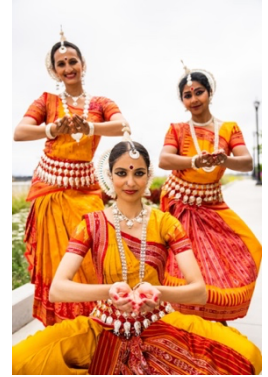
2:00 pm Odissi Dance by Odissi Vilas Dance Troupe

Odissi Vilas, is a San Francisco Bay Area collective founded in 2005 by Guru Sri Vishnu Tattva Das, that seeks to promote, educate, and delight audiences with the beauty, grace, and spirituality of Odissi dance. Originating in the temples of Odisha in southeastern India, this highly sculptural and devotional dance style, is one of the oldest surviving dance forms of India.

Website: www.odissivilas.org/

FB page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/112386012147133> www.odissivilas.org

Contact: office@odissivilas.org



2:30 pm Tibetan Mask Dance by Tsering Bawa

Tsering Dorjee (aka Tsering Bawa) has been a Tibetan music and arts performer for more than three decades. Tsering gained a Master's degree in Tibetan Performing Arts in 2000 at the Tibetan Institute of Performing Arts (TIPA), Dharamsala, India, where he was privileged to study under some of the most legendary Tibetan artists of our time. At TIPA, Tsering studied Tibetan secular dance and music, first as a student and then as an instructor. Now he has become a master of Tibetan Opera involving all kinds of Tibetan folk Dance and Cham, (secret dance) a series of colorful, masked, ritual dances performed at major Tibetan festivals.

Tsering is also an award-winning actor having both film and theater credits. In 2022-23, Tsering appeared in the first ever Tibetan international theater play, Pah-Lak, by Abhishek Majumdar. Tsering toured Europe as the lead actor in Pah-Lak at the International Theatre Festival in Ruhrfestspiele, Recklinghausen.

Since 2007, Tsering has established a community school program of Tibetan language, music and dance for the new generations of Tibetan children in the Bay Area to help preserve Tibet's traditions of music and art in exile.

<https://tibetartstudio.com/tsering-bawa/>



3:00 pm Chants & Devotional Songs by Evelie & Kismet Mahal

Evelie & Kismet-Mahal Ensemble {KSME}, offer chants and devotional songs for everyone to sing together. These are from global chant and sound healing traditions, opening the heart, uplifting spirits to ecstatic heights, for compassion, gratitude, healing, and deep groundedness of being. Intertwining our souls, we will blend our voices in many mother tongues including Arabic, English, French, German, Gurmukhi, Hebrew, Japanese, Latin, Mayan, Portuguese, Sanskrit, Spanish, Tibetan, Yoruban, Zulu. Instrumentation includes tabla, oud, sruti box, guitar, bells, accordion, Medicine hoop drum and more.

KSME has appeared at Carnaval's Zona Verde/Green Zone: The Big ONE and Michael Franti's Power to the Peaceful at Golden Gate Park; and many years at the Himalayan Fair in Berkeley.

KSME is Led by Evelie Delfino Sâles Posch and is joined by many of these musicians and singers: Amar Khalsa, Aryahi, Billy Trice, Chie Kwon, Claude A'Lud, Claudine Tong, Doug Chambers, Francisco Herrera, Jedi Sâles, Lourdes Wong, Kathy Riehle, Ken Olcott, Kevin Alan Mann, Melanie Mentzel, Michelle Reddington, Nancy Donald, Rahman Abdul, Sahib-Amar Khalsa, Sophie Soltani, Sybil Hatch, Tisay Opaon-Ali.



Himalayan Fair 2024 Entertainment Schedule (subject to change)

3:45 pm Grand Prize Raffle Drawing & Acknowledgements by Arlene Blum, Himalayan Fair Founder

4:00 – 5:00 pm Pakistani and Indian Music by Sukhawat Ali Khan

Sukhawat Ali Khan, son of Indian-Pakistani vocalist Ustad Salamat Ali Khan and nephew of Nazakat Ali Khan, is a classical singer of Sham Chaurasia gharana tradition. He also performs North Indian and Pakistani classical music and related folk music. He began singing and playing the harmonium at age seven and has performed around the world. He currently lives in Northern California. About his heritage and music he says: "Each song I do has classical thought behind it and I know how to sing it properly, but my style comes from my life, too. I spent time in New York. I go to clubs. I like the hip hop beat, Latin music, rave. ... There's a performing energy there that I also feel. It's the same kind of energy that a good Qawwali singer has, and we can really express it freely in America."

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