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Cambodian American Resource Agency (CARA)
A Khmer Buddhist Foundation



Cambodian New Year 2025

សិល្បៈស្លាក់ស្នើសុំ ២០២៥

(Year of the Snake)



March 29th, 2025, 4:00pm - 9:00pm
4770 Lincoln Ave Oakland, CA 94602

Preserving Khmer Culture
and Heritage through Dance

Save the Date!
30th Year Anniversary Celebration
March 28, 2026



Oakland Khmer Angkor Dance Troupe
<https://oakkhmerangkor.org>
@oakkhmerangkor



PROGRAM

Hosted by Chantha Hollingsworth and Jason Ear

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|--------|--------------------------|
| 3:30pm | Doors Open |
| 4:00pm | Opening Remarks & Prayer |
| 4:15pm | Cultural Performances |

Blessing Dance

Tep Monorom Dance (MKPA)

Butterfly Dance

Apsara Dance

Tropaeng Peay Song (SJCCD)

Youth Khmer Fashion Show

Neary Chea Chour Dance

Kolap Phnom Penh Dance

Seven Colors of the Week Fashion Show

Pestle (Stick) Dance

Kane Dance with Chhayam Drums (KYOM)

Moon Love Dance

- | | |
|--------|---------------------------|
| 6:00pm | Dinner in Cultural Hall |
| 6:30pm | Traditional Games |
| 7:00pm | Dancing Social, Live Band |
| 9:30pm | End Program |



OUR MISSION

We preserve our culture and traditions by promoting Cambodian dance, music, and arts while empowering the Khmer community.

Through cultural programs and community engagement, we bridge generational gaps, strengthen families, and create a space for learning, sharing, and celebration.

OUR VISION

We strive to preserve and celebrate Cambodian culture by passing down traditions across generations.

Through cultural exchange and community empowerment, we foster pride, unity, and a lasting connection to our heritage.

OUR HISTORY

The Oakland Khmer Angkor Dance Troupe, founded in 1996, is dedicated to preserving Cambodian culture, strengthening families, and empowering the Khmer community in the Greater Bay Area.

Through the art of dance, we bridge generational gaps, connecting elders and youth while fostering pride in our heritage.

Organized by volunteers with support from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints' Oakland 10th Cambodian Branch, we serve over 60 dancers annually, ages 6 to 72, providing instruction in traditional dance, authentic costumes, and opportunities to perform.

Our annual Cambodian New Year celebration draws over 1,000 attendees, uniting the community through cultural performances, music, and traditions. By serving the community, we ensure our culture thrives, families grow stronger, and future generations embrace their Khmer identity.



BLESSING DANCE

by Ms. Neary Neou

The Blessing dance is a sacred Cambodian performance that invokes prosperity, health, and divine guidance through graceful, deliberate movements. Rooted in spiritual traditions, it fosters gratitude, community, and a connection to ancestors and deities.

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Dancers: Ava Luangraj, Chanly Sor-Sieng, Danisha Shaw, Jordan Robinson, Juliana Phaisan-Yem, Kamiyah Shaw, Leyah Luangraj, Rateda Noeun, Valerie Saeteun



TEP MONOROM DANCE

by Morodok Khmer Performing Arts

Tep Monorom Dance is a Cambodian classical dance symbolizing divine blessings, peace, and harmony. Performed by dancers in ornate costumes and golden headdresses, it features graceful, flowing movements accompanied by traditional Khmer music, creating an ethereal and mesmerizing performance.

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Morrison Chea, Lon La Dee Chan, Sophany Bodine, Timothy Oum

BUTTERFLY DANCE

by Ms. Neary Neou

The Butterfly Dance is a traditional Cambodian performance symbolizing transformation, freedom, and the beauty of nature. Dancers gracefully mimic the fluttering movements of butterflies, using flowing costumes and delicate hand gestures to evoke themes of renewal and harmony.

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Dancers: Alexa Thlang, Arianna Oeng, Chauncey Tran, Cheatmonita Rithsem, Elena Kim, Freya Platt, Irene Chhun, Jaylin Duong, Joshua Hollingsworth, Julie Van, Kaylee Chan, Kiyah McCanthean, Kyree Nou, Levi Platt, Liam Saechao, Mars (Tesla) Thlang, Mason Thlang, Ofori-Ata Arevalo-Agyapong, Osei Arevalo-Agyapong, Rachel Hollingsworth, Scarlette In, William Van

APSARA DANCE

by Miss December Saeteun

The Apsara dance is a classical Cambodian performance that embodies the elegance and grace of celestial dancers from Hindu and Buddhist mythology. With intricate hand gestures, flowing movements, and ornate costumes, it tells stories of divine beauty, cultural heritage, and spiritual devotion.

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Dancers: Ellen Rith, Julina Sok, Kaylene Vongphachanh, Khloe West, Pheona Bun-Vongphachanh, Sierra Kang, Tia La

TROPAENG PEAY SONG

Accompanied by Roneat Musical Instrument

A traditional Cambodian folk song that reflects themes of rural life, love, and nature. Known for its cheerful melody and rhythmic flow, the song is often performed with lively dancing, making it popular at festivals and celebrations. Its lyrics and tune capture the spirit of Cambodia's countryside, evoking nostalgia and joy.

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Singers: Ryan Boun, Sam Dara, Votey Salee

PRIMARY FASHION SHOW

by Mrs. Sinath Carson and Mrs. Nary Rith

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Models: Zoey Sok, Irene Chhun, Maliya Chan, Kaylee Chan, Brycen Ban, Emmarie In, Kai Platt, Jonny Chhun, Freya Platt, William Rith, Monitha Rith, Scarlette In, Arianna Oeng, Alaya Byrd

NEARY CHEA CHOURL

by Ms. Theary Len and Mrs. Sharlie Sun

The Neary Chea Chour Dance is a traditional Cambodian folk dance that showcases the elegance, charm, and modesty of Cambodian women. With graceful movements and refined gestures, it reflects themes of femininity, respect, and cultural beauty.

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Dancers: Alana Luangraj, Aniya Kong, Elise Mey, Leeana Vongphrachanh, Leelah Vongphrachanh, Mikayla Thlang, Minka Tip, Moniereaksmei Ouk, Morgan Voong, Nolan Oeur, Zulmie Bun-Vongphachanh

KOLAP PHNOM PENH

by Miss Brigette Hang

The Kolap Phnom Penh (Rose of Phnom Penh) dance is a graceful Cambodian folk performance that celebrates youthful beauty, charm, and elegance. Dancers move in delicate, flowing motions, often holding roses, symbolizing the vibrancy and romance of Phnom Penh's cultural spirit.

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Dancers: Brigette Hang, Isabel Ear, Mina Wong, Sadie Turk, Sara Wilson



SEVEN COLORS OF THE WEEK FASHION SHOW

by Mrs. Neary Hang

A cherished cultural practice in Cambodia is the wearing of seven distinct colors during prominent ceremonies. Khmer people hold the belief that adhering to this color scheme for seven consecutive days will bring about success, happiness, prosperity, and overall well-being.

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Models: Lori Taing, Vanessa Choeuk, Ariya Mith, Sany Barbier, Navi Saray, Pich Punareaj, Chanthou Min

PESTLE (STICK) DANCE

by Mr. Ethan Hang

The Stick Dance is a lively Cambodian folk dance that features rhythmic clapping of bamboo sticks as dancers step in and out with precision and agility. It symbolizes teamwork, coordination, and celebration, often performed at festivals and social gatherings.

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Dancers: Adrian Aguilar, Andrew Yu, Angelkay Duong, Anthony Lohn, Carrie Moeuth, Chanavy Mey, Jake Voong, Jason Ear, Juliana Phaisan-Yem, Lekhana Donnies, Lelyon Mey, Logan Voong, Michaela Washington, Miracle Pak, Navi Je Love, Sean Watson, Tyler Voong, Sethy David Vorn



KANE DANCE WITH CHHAYAM DRUMS

by Khmer Youth of Modesto

The Kane Dance with Chhayam Drums is a lively Cambodian folk performance that blends graceful movements with the rhythmic beats of Chhayam drums. The dance is energetic and expressive, often performed during festivals and ceremonies to bring joy and excitement. Dancers interact with drummers, whose playful rhythms drive the performance, creating a dynamic and engaging spectacle.

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Dancers: Jonah Peko, Meas Vann, Channavaro Phillip Menh, Kaylee Youn, Alyssa Hory, Aliany Vann



MOON LOVE DANCE

by Miss Lyna Sok

The Moon Love Dance is a romantic Cambodian folk dance that portrays the beauty of love under the moonlight. Through graceful movements and expressive gestures, dancers convey longing, devotion, and the deep emotions of a love story inspired by nature.

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Dancers: Aiyana Sapak, Emily Kim, Jayda Moeuth, Kaylee Yem, Kylie Saechao, Niveah Rogers, Soleeta Len, Sora Bopha Kim, Sothea Saunders