



**September 15-17, 2017**

**YMCA Blue Ridge Assembly,  
Black Mountain, NC**

## **Teaching by Steve Kotansky Dances from the Balkans**

Stephen Kotansky began folk dancing in the San Francisco Bay Area back in the late 1960's. He quickly took an interest in Balkan and East-European dances and even began teaching as a teenager. He performed with the Westwind Folk Ensemble and Vladimir Perfiloff's Russian Dance Company before moving to Los Angeles as a dance major at UCLA. While in Los Angeles, Stephen danced with the renowned AMAN Folk Ensemble as well as Vince Evanchuck's Ukrainian Dance Group and Robin Evanchuck's Liberty Assembly. Stephen was also a regular teacher at the Intersection Folk Dance Café and Zorba's in the San Fernando Valley.

In 1970, Stephen made his first research trip to Hungary and Yugoslavia where he worked with the Hungarian State Ensemble and collected village dances in Croatia. He returned to Yugoslavia in 1972 where he stayed for 6 months researching, collecting, and recording village dance with Dr. Robert Leibman. He spent 8 years in Germany where he taught, choreographed, and performed ethnic dance from Central and South-Eastern Europe and Turkey.

Upon returning to the states in 1980, Stephen settled in New York City where he taught regularly for the Ethnic Arts Center (now the Center for Traditional Arts), and the American-Hungarian Folklore Centrum. He co-founded, with his wife Susan, the Guzsal Hungarian Dance Ensemble and was an adjunct teacher at the Hunter College Dance Department. Stephen and Susan continued to make research trips to Europe and became popular teachers at all the major folk dance camps and seminars in North America. During the late 1980's Stephen worked with top professional dancers, choreographers, and researchers in Hungary. In 1994, Stephen became a teacher at the Renaissance School in Jackson Heights, Queens, where he piloted a World Dance Program for grades 1-10.

Stephen continues to be a much sought-after teacher and choreographer known for his joyous and unique teaching style, and extensive knowledge of the cultures and styles of dance he teaches.



**MOUNTAIN PLAYSHOP** is a regional dance weekend that attracts dancers from North Carolina, nearby states and beyond to socialize and relax, and maybe even learn a dance or two. For over 30 years, Playshop has provided a forum for dancers to learn new material from regional and professional teachers while also offering a beautiful destination to simply get together with friends to dance and play for the weekend in the shadow of the Blue Ridge Mountains. This year is no different. Come prepared to sample new dances and enjoy old ones, and come expecting the unexpected. That's why we call it Playshop!

**WORK EXCHANGE DISCOUNT:** This year Playshop will offer a limited number of Work Exchange Discounts, where energetic attendees commit to assisting with the workshop in exchange for a reduced rate. See information on website, [www.mountainplayshop.org](http://www.mountainplayshop.org). The Work Exchange Discount is not based on financial need, and any interested participant may apply.

**REGISTRATION:** Fill out the attached registration form and mail it to the Registrar.

### KEY DATES

- **JULY 1** - Registration opens.
- **SEPT 1** - A \$10 late registration fee will be applied to registrations postmarked after this date.
- **SEPT 13** - This is the final date to register and pay for *meals and lodging*.
- **AT CAMP – Registrations accepted for parties and workshop sessions only--**  
Fees for lodging or meals are no longer accepted.

**CAMP START & STOP:** Registration opens at 3 p.m. on Friday. Camp ends at 12 p.m. on Sunday. Full registration includes 5 meals, starting with dinner on Friday night and ending with breakfast on Sunday plus a review session. Meal times will be posted on the Playshop schedule on our web site.

**LOCATION:** YMCA Blue Ridge Assembly, 84 Blue Ridge Circle, Black Mountain, NC 28711-9722, Phone: 1-828-669-8422.

From I-40, East or West (Directions and map also available at [www.mountainplayshop.org](http://www.mountainplayshop.org))

1. From I-40, take EXIT #64 (Black Mountain/Montreat south towards Chimney Rock/Lake Lure)
2. Turn west on Broadway St. (NC-9).
3. Continue traveling on Blue Ridge Rd.
4. Turn left on Blue Ridge Assembly Dr.
5. Enter the YMCA Blue Ridge Assembly conference center.
6. For registration, go to Weatherford Hall.

**PARKING:** The YMCA conference center has plenty of parking lots and spaces. You may park in any marked spaces or lots, including those near the cabins.

**ACCOMMODATIONS:** Weatherford Hall and any overflow housing will be clearly marked with Playshop signs.



## **WEATHERFORD HALL**

- We will have this hall entirely for our group! ***Renovations on the lower floor, including all new carpeting, have eliminated the “mustiness” issues*** that previously made the lower floor rooms unpleasant. We anticipate that all workshop attendees can be accommodated in Weatherford Hall. However, if necessary, overflow housing will be arranged in nearby buildings.
- Weatherford Hall includes three floors with 40 bedrooms total, and can sleep 80+ dancers comfortably (2-3 per room). Each room has two regular beds (1 *very small* double, 1 single); separate sink, shower, and toilet; and a dresser, desk, and chairs. The rooms do not have AC, but the windows can be opened. The rooms do have heat.
- There's a full dining hall and commercial kitchen. The dining hall can seat 80+ folks, and we can add additional tables to the common area as needed.
- There's a wonderful common area with a fireplace for gathering, visiting, music, crafts, fun & games, or anything else we want.
- The outside deck has picnic tables and is a perfect informal gathering area for singing and music, and just hanging out.
- There are two activity rooms that are ideal for smaller groups, particularly for rehearsals and jams for our musicians and singers.

**OVERFLOW HOUSING:** The YMCA has various housing options. If additional housing is needed, rooms as comparable as possible to the Weatherford Hall rooms, and convenient to the dance gym and Weatherford Hall for meals and other activities, will be reserved.

**ABOUT MEALS:** All meals, Friday dinner to Sunday breakfast, are provided by our own chef at the Weatherford Hall dining room. Our chef will do his/her best to accommodate folks with allergies and provide vegetarian entrees, so please indicate this on the registration and medical forms. Meal times will be posted on the Playshop schedule on our web site.

**LOCAL DANCERS/COMMUTERS:** (Asheville and nearby cities): You are very welcome to come the day camp starts to register for workshops and parties, but please be aware that if you want to join us for meals, you must pre-register and pay by Sept. 21, 2016 for all meal options.

**ABOUT THE DANCE GYM:** Our dance space is a large, airy gymnasium with a lovely wooden floor, on the second level of an old historic building (Main stair: 8-9 steps; Back-door stairs: 20 steps). The building does not include plumbing. Restrooms are located in the nearby “new” gymnasium, and the YMCA provides coolers of drinking water for our event.

**OTHER ACTIVITIES:** In addition to the Playshop programming, the YMCA offers these other activities, which are available to us: hiking trails, tennis courts, volleyball and horseshoes. There's also a general-purpose gymnasium to use, if you want to throw some hoops or create your own activities. (The pool will not be available because it's closed after Labor Day.)

**WHAT TO BRING:** If you plan to stay onsite, including Weatherford Hall and any overflow housing, you do not need to bring bedding or towels; these are provided by the Blue Ridge Assembly. You may wish to bring an extra towel, and DO bring toiletries, flashlight, bug



spray, sunscreen, umbrella, water bottle, and anything else that would make your stay comfortable. Also, bring clothes for all possible weather conditions - from warm to cold!

**MEDICAL INFORMATION FORM:** Please remember to answer the medical questions on the registration form. This information is required by the YMCA but will only be provided to the YMCA if necessary. The YMCA wants to make sure it has the appropriate resources on hand for handling of severe food and other allergies (like peanuts and insects), and potential serious health issues. The information will be kept confidential and the forms will be destroyed at the close of camp.

**FRAGRANCE FREE PLEASE!** Thank you for not using fragrances or perfumed personal products during the workshop, including cologne, after shave, perfume, perfumed hand lotion, fragranced hair products, etc. Please help provide a welcoming environment for the chemically sensitive among us.

**INFORMATION/MORE APPLICATIONS/MAPS:**

[info@mountainplayshop.org](mailto:info@mountainplayshop.org)

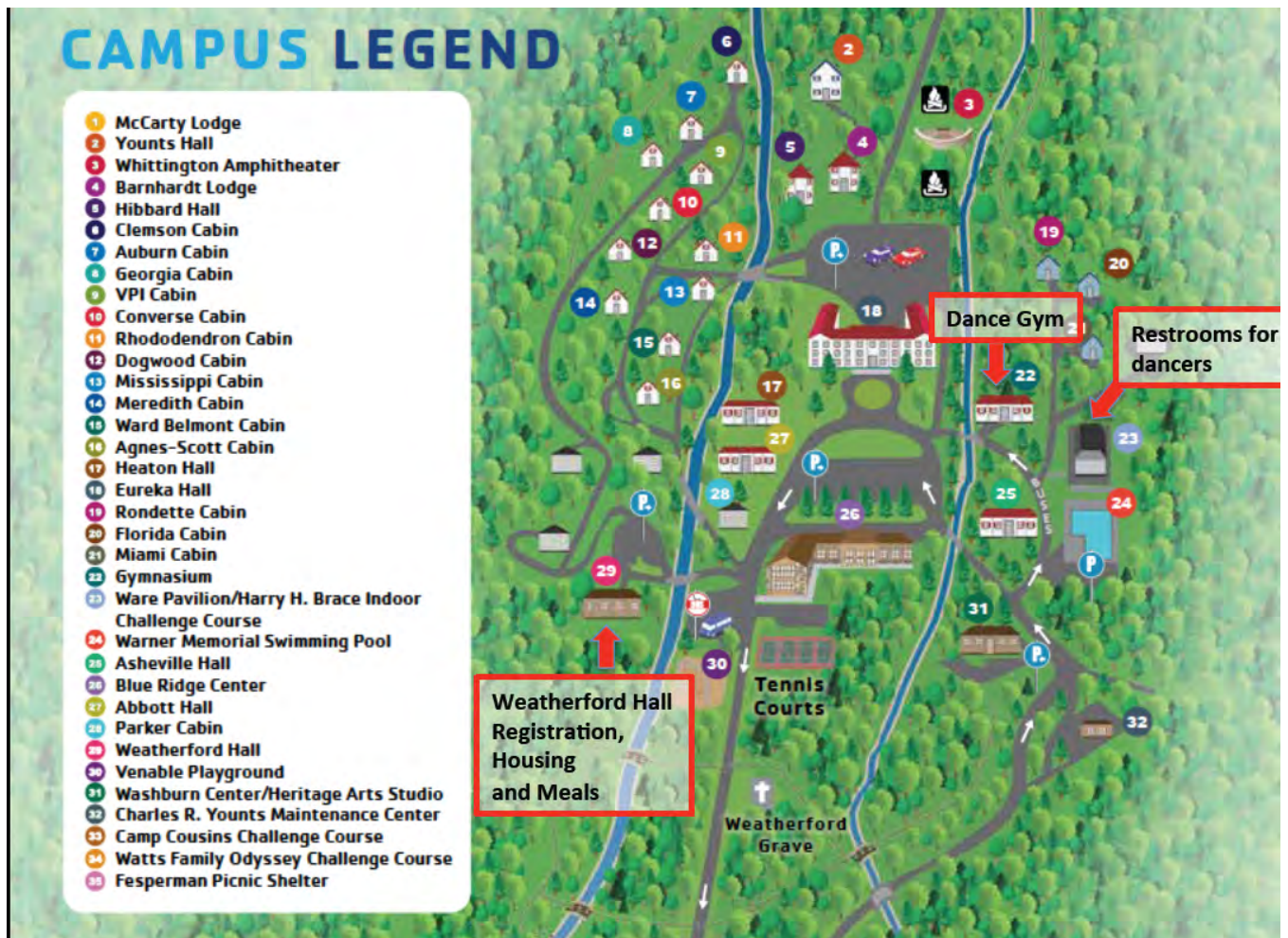
[www.mountainplayshop.org](http://www.mountainplayshop.org) (Download applications and maps)

**CAMP POLICY:** Mountain Playshop is committed to maintaining a workshop environment that is free from discrimination and harassment. For the safety and enjoyment of all, attendees are expected to be respectful of other participants and camp staff, and to follow camp rules. The policy, as adopted by the Playshop Board, reserves the right to require any person to leave Camp if their behavior is extraordinarily disruptive or inappropriate, and/or poses a threat to the campers, him/herself, or others as determined by a consensus of Board members. Any concerns can be communicated to Camp Chairs or Board members. The complete Policy on Harassment and Discrimination, including how to report an incident, is available on the Mountain Playshop website, or from any member of the Playshop Board.

*NOTE that we will not have exclusive use of the entire conference center. (We will have exclusive use of Weatherford Hall). Instead, we will be sharing the YMCA with people attending other events. Please take a few moments to download our camp maps (our buildings are marked) from our web site to help you navigate around the camp.*



## Map of YMCA Blue Ridge Assembly and Playshop Activity Locations



Registration begins July 1; Forms must be **postmarked by Sept. 1** to avoid \$10 late fee.

**NOTE:** ALL applications and fees for lodging & meals **must be received** by the registrar by **SEPT. 13**

NAME 1: \_\_\_\_\_  
 NAME 2 \*: \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_  
 PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_  
 FOOD:  Omnivore  Vegetarian (Please use medical form to indicate food allergies)

\* Have more than two registrants? Please use additional forms.

**ACCOMMODATIONS:**  No Accommodations Needed (Motel, local, other)  
**WEATHERFORD HALL/Overflow:**  (Single Occupancy)  (Double or Triple\* Occupancy)  
 Roommate Wanted  Specify Roommate(s): \_\_\_\_\_ (Write on back too.)

Rooms will be assigned FIRST COME/FIRST SERVE in registration date order, so register early! Overflow rooms TBD when WH full. (Private baths; two beds per room (*small* double + single-Weatherford)(overflow TBD); room keys provided to all)

\*Triple occupancy is only available in WH rooms, and only to self-identifying groups; Individual registrants desiring a roommate should pay one half of room rate; a same gender roommate will be assigned. Assigned roommates are double occupancy only.

**FULL TIME ATTENDEES (Fri. 3 p.m. to Sun. 12 p.m.)**

<b>Regular Camp Fee</b>	<b>\$115.00</b>	X _____	\$ _____
<b>Youth/Student (ages 13-22)</b>	<b>\$50.00</b>	X _____	\$ _____
<b>Child (ages 2-12)</b>	<b>\$40.00</b>	X _____	\$ _____

(INCLUDES: All teaching, parties, 5 meals + facility use charge. No lunch provided on Sunday.)

**Late Fee: Add \$10 per registrant for forms postmarked after Sept. 1** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Accommodations (Cost is per room (2 beds) for two nights)**  None  
 WEATHERFORD HALL/or overflow \$160.00/Per Room (total for 2 nights) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Discounts (Full Time Only; may not be combined or applied to youth/student or child registration)**  
 First Timer, Vendor or Non-dancer \$20.00 \$(\_\_\_\_\_)

**Make a Donation!! Donations support our Youth/Student discounts (Outreach!!)** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**FULL TIME TOTAL** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**PART-TIME | LOCAL ATTENDEES**

**Facility Charge** \$6.00 (per person) X \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

You **MUST** pre-register for all meals by Sept. 21!

**Meals** (Enter number that apply)  
 Fri. Dinner (\$17) \_\_\_\_\_ Sat. Breakfast (\$14) \_\_\_\_\_ Sat. Lunch (\$14) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sat. Dinner (\$17) \_\_\_\_\_ Sun. Breakfast (\$14) \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

You may register for workshops and parties ahead of time, or when you arrive at camp.

**Teaching Workshops** \$20.00 each (Enter number that apply)  
 Sat. morning \_\_\_\_\_ Sat. afternoon \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sun morning \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Dance Parties** \$10.00 (Per party per person) (Enter number that apply)  
 Fri. Party \_\_\_\_\_ Sat. Party \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**PART TIME TOTAL** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**See next page for mailing address and email of registrar  
 and important information about Music and Singing**

## **Musicians!!!**

If you are interested in playing or singing in an informal group, please indicate instrument(s) and/or voice and provide contact email here \_\_\_\_\_; alternatively, email Mike Schafale at [schafale@earthlink.net](mailto:schafale@earthlink.net)

Small groups of musicians and/or vocalists may have the opportunity to play/sing for dancers at the parties. Groups should be self-organized and are responsible for arranging their own rehearsals, either before or during Playshop. Please email Mike Schafale at [schafale@earthlink.net](mailto:schafale@earthlink.net) ASAP with basic information on your group and what you would like to do.

**Send workshop registration form and make check payable to:  
Mary Goodman, 9 Rabbit Ridge Dr., Weaverville, NC 28787. 828-645-1543**

**In lieu of snail mail, a digital copy of the registration form, including medical questions, may be emailed to: [marygoodman@frontier.com](mailto:marygoodman@frontier.com); checks must be received by the deadlines indicated above.**

**Don't forget to complete the Medical Information form on the next page.**



**MEDICAL QUESTIONS (REQUIRED) FOR ALL APPLICANTS**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

For your safety, the YMCA has requested that we ask certain questions related to our activity. We are ONLY interested in your answers relative to your ability to participate in our dance or other camp activities, and potential emergency situations.

We will provide the YMCA with this information only if necessary. The YMCA wants to make sure it has the appropriate resources on hand for handling food, allergies (like peanuts and insects), or other medical conditions. For your privacy, we will ensure both the YMCA and our staff discard this information after camp.

1. Do you have pre-existing medical conditions?  NO  YES

Details: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Are you taking medications?  NO  YES

Details: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Do you have heart conditions?  NO  YES

Details: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Do you have high blood pressure?  NO  YES

Details: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**5. Do you have allergies** (food\*, bees, insects, medicines)?  NO  YES

Details: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

6. Do you have any other medical conditions that we should know about?  NO  YES

Details: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\*Food allergies that could result in a medical emergency will be communicated to the kitchen staff. Please indicate dietary preference (omnivore or vegetarian) on the registration form.