



Annual Recital

May 3, 2026

History of Rossdale

The Rossdale Ukrainian Dance School was established in 1977 in Rossdale, Manitoba. With an interest to preserve the Ukrainian culture and share the rich diversity of the heritage, the beauty and spirit of Ukrainian dance began to flourish. Although the initial goals were humble, the school quickly grew and, through careful planning and attention to accuracy, has prospered. In addition to local conventions, festivals, competitions, and special events, including Folklorama, Rossdale dancers have ventured to Expo 86 in Vancouver and in 1991 were featured guest artists in Thunder Bay, Ontario. Internationally, dancers have performed at California's Ukrainian Arts Festival in San Diego, and in 2015, Vitretz performed at Walt Disney World in Orlando, Florida.

Rossdale Ukrainian Dance School truly captures the spirit of Ukrainian culture through dance. Its talented and dedicated performers present the beauty and pride of their Ukrainian roots wherever they perform. Rossdale has earned a

reputation of professionalism with its contagious enthusiasm, high energy, and quality performances. Still to this present day, the school has kept its traditions of performing at Folklorama as well as competing festivals in Winnipeg and Brandon. In 2014, the school began a new tradition of competing at CNUF in Dauphin and is always looking for new excursions. All dancers from our Beginner to Senior classes look forward to the annual recital.

The spirit that was born 49 years ago in that small town still thrives in each dancer – past, present, and future. The spirit is also alive in many of the school's parents who danced with Rossdale over the years and now have returned to Rossdale with their children to carry on the tradition.



Board of Directors

Makenna Coldwell (Dance Coordinator)
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Amy Maclaren (Events Coordinator)
Janelle Kent (treasurer)
Melinda Boyko (Vice President)

Not Pictured:
Kate Kowalchuk (Secretary)

1 Senior
Pryvit
Instruction & Choreography:
Zach Preachuk, Amy Kavanagh

2 Intermediate & Pre-Senior
Volnyski Tanets
Instruction & Choreography:
Lisa Marmillod
Assistant: Anna Milne

3 Creative Movement
Central
Instruction & Choreography:
Kelsey Mulvaney
Assistant: Emma Johnston,
Jordan Kavanagh

4 Senior
Hutzul
Instruction & Choreography:
Zach Preachuk, Amy Kavanagh

5 Junior
Dubotanets (Zakarpatia)
Instruction & Choreography:
Zach Preachuk
Assistant: Anna Milne

6 Senior Boys
Arkan
Instruction & Choreography:
Zach Preachuk

7 Senior & Pre-Senior Girls
Kupala Night
Instruction & Choreography:
Lisa Marmillod, Amy Kavanagh

Intermission

8 Senior
Polissia
Instruction & Choreography:
Zach Preachuk, Amy Kavanagh

9 Intermediate & Pre-Senior
Bukovynian Rhythm
Instruction & Choreography: Lisa
Marmillod
Assistant: Anna Milne

10 Creative Movement
Central Encore
Instruction & Choreography:
Kelsey Mulvaney
Assistant: Emma Johnston, Jordan
Kavanagh

11 Junior
Tropak (Central)
Instruction & Choreography: Zach
Preachuk
Assistant: Anna Milne

Awards, Recognitions

12 Intermediate, Pre-Senior & Senior
Junior Hopak
Instruction & Choreography: Amy
Kavanagh, Lisa Marmillod, Zach
Preachuk
Assistant: Anna Milne

13 School Finale



Creative Movement

Nina Koroluk, Natalie Kowalchuk, Anna Wasylowski,
Genesee Romaniw-Roussin, Millie Praznik



Junior

Oliver Kosack, Calder Savery, Ace Kowalchuk, Flora Meakin



Intermediate & Pre-Senior

Carmelle Savery, Sophia Johnston, Anna De Witt, Eva Paulic, Ava Boyko-Fines, Millicent Kosack, Olivia Cychowski, Camille Savinkoff, Isabella Cychowski, Gracie White, Charlotte Milne

Not Pictured: Ariane Marmillod, Maryna Bruce



Senior

Emma Johnston, Lilly Slobodzian, Jasper Marmillod, Nikki Stoppa, Evan Flett, Bella Carey, Caitlyn Flett, Addilyn Kent, Peregrin Jacques, Aubree Reisterer, Max Slobodzian, Jordan Kavanagh, Kolsen Jira, Carmen Savinkoff

Awards

Rossdale Ukrainian Dance School gives out four awards during its annual recital to individuals in recognition of their efforts. These certificates will be awarded to individuals in memory of three significant people who made significant contributions to our school.

In Memory of Garry Kohuch (1955-1988)

Garry was the Artistic Director for the senior group of the Rossdale Ukrainian Dance School from 1984 to 1986. He was a kind and compassionate person who had tireless enthusiasm for dancing and life. Garry brought new insights to the group and was not afraid to offer unique and challenging dances. This award will go to an instructor who shows a zest for life and brings new ideas to the dancers of Rossdale Ukrainian Dance School. Nominations are made by dancer families.

In Memory of Corey Andryo (1969-1990)

Corey danced with Rossdale from 1977 to 1990. He was a passionate, energetic and comedic member of the dance group and these traits were evident in his life and performances. This award will go to a dancer who shows passion and energy in their dancing while still having fun. Nominations are made by instructors.

In Memory of Getta Surzyshyn (1945-1997)

Getta was the Costume Coordinator and seamstress for Rossdale Ukrainian Dance School and Vitretz Dance Company from 1978 to 1995. She was a dedicated volunteer and had relentless drive and creativity in making the costumes authentic and preserving the Ukrainian tradition. This award will go to a volunteer in the organization who has shown dedication and a drive to preserving Ukrainian culture. Nominations are made by dancer families.

In Memory of Merlyn Onyschuk (1943-2016)

Merlyn was involved with Rossdale Ukrainian Dance School for almost 20 years, serving as an enthusiastic and dedicated volunteer as well as president from 1992 to 1995. He worked diligently in making the school a place where dancers gained valuable experiences while developing their skills, created new and lasting friendships, and embraced Ukrainian culture. In honour of Merlyn's drive and dedication, the scholarship will be presented to one dancer age 8 and up who has been dancing with Rossdale for at least 2 years and is aspiring to further develop skills and technique in Ukrainian dance.

Acknowledgments

Thank you to everyone who made this year and recital possible.

- The instructors and assistants for their endless hours of preparation and their dedication to our dancers.
- Sonia Wasylshyn for making the Kolach.
- The Board of Directors for their continued support and dedication to making this year a success for the dancers, instructors and families.
- Brian Armstrong for photography today.
- All parents, family members, and friends who have volunteered this year. Your support keeps the school running smoothly.
- Martin Modrzejewski, our videographer.
- All friends and families who helped organize and support our Malanka fundraiser.
- Tiny Fox Photography for taking class and individual pictures of the dancers.
- Oksana Preachuk & Teeson Thompson for doing technique workshops with our Pre-Senior & Senior groups.
- Selkirk Community Church for allowing us to rent your space every Monday.
- Amy Maclaren for designing our program.
- RM of West St. Paul, Assiniboine Credit Union, and Selkirk & District Community foundation for providing financial assistance in the form of grants to Rossdale Ukrainian Dance School.
- Our dancers for all of their hard work.