

2 exhibition groups to put unique dance styles on display at the 74th NSDC

We know you will have a lot of opportunities for various types of dancing, workshops, and education classes while attending the 74th National Square Dance Convention® in Shreveport, LA, on June 25-28, 2025, but when you need a break or just to rest your feet come on over to the Shreveport Convention Center's Auditorium (Exhibit Hall 2) and watch the exhibition groups perform their routines. You will be treated to the unique dances of two groups, each putting their distinctive style of dancing on display - the California Heritage Dancers and River City Riders. The 74th NSDC's exhibition groups will be performing Thursday, June 26, and Friday, June 27. See the convention's daily schedules upon arrival for each performance group's days and times.

CALIFORNIA HERITAGE DANCERS

The California Heritage Dancers exhibition group anticipates doing three performances/programs at the 74th NSDC. One will be an hour-long program on the History of Square Dancing, another will be a historically accurate dance from the 1800s, and the third will be a dance specially adapted to fit the "Dance on the Wild Side" theme of the convention.

The California Heritage Dancers exhibition group has been performing since 1987; they will celebrate their 38th anniversary in October 2025. Their performance venues have included more than 25 National Square Dance Conventions®, three Canadian Square Dance Festivals, many California State Square Dance Conventions, regional festivals, community events, and even a two-week performance tour in Austria. The dance troupe's purpose is to educate as well as entertain. By demonstrating the history of square dancing from its beginning here in the United States in the 1700s to modern times (1950s), they



The California Heritage Dancers exhibition group demonstrates ones of their many routines not just for entertainment, but to also educate the public and to provide cultural awareness.

hope to ignite in their audiences an appreciation of our national folk dance, according to group dance leaders.

Ruth Walker-Hagan, founder and original director, created the California Heritage Dancers to bring the square dance cultural heritage to the attention of the American public. Extensive research (pre-internet) has resulted in a series of dances performed with authentic period costuming, music, figures, and customs of the era. The ever-expanding repertoire