



2nd USDLDF National Dragon & Lion Dance CHAMPIONSHIPS

June 28th-30th, 2019 | 8:30am - 5pm

Monona Terrace Convention Center | Madison, WI
FREE and Open to the Public | www.usdldf.org





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*Proud founding sponsor of the USDLDF
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and best wishes to all teams and competitors!*

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Malden 摩頓	Commercial St. Clinic 商業街診所 277 Commercial St. 781-912-2500	成人科、婦科、小兒科、眼科及社會服務部 Adult Medicine, OB/GYN, Pediatrics, Optometry and Social Services	MON-FRI 星期一至五 8:30AM - 5:30PM SAT 星期六 9:00AM - 1:00PM

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Saturday, June 29th, 2019

Dear Friends and Honored Guests;

IT IS WITH PLEASURE AND PRIDE that I would like to welcome all of you to my home town of Madison, Wisconsin to celebrate the art and sport of Dragon and Lion Dancing at the 2nd USDLDF National Dragon & Lion Dance Championships. This momentous occasion could not have happened without the hard work and dedication of the tournament committee, judges, volunteers and the federation's officers.

This weekend marks the second National Championship for our organization. We are looking forward to a great weekend of friendly competition and growth. This tournament gathers teams from across the USA to compete in a fair and safe environment. More importantly, it gives teams a chance to get to know each other and grow through shared experiences, camaraderie and good sportsmanship.

We are all thankful for the hard work and long hours each team and their coaches have spent leading up to their performances in the next two days. Your dedication and support of the arts of Dragon and Lion Dance is truly an inspiration to us all.

Spectators will be in for a special treat – they will be amazed by the artistry, creativity and athleticism of each team as they perform; the interesting and entertaining storylines in the Traditional Lion Dance competition; the amazing acrobatic feats in the Freestyle (Jongs) Lion Dance event; the performers will demonstrate teamwork and synchronicity in the Dragon Dance event; as well as the variety and artistry of the musicians in the Drum Showcase presentations.

Finally, my heartfelt thank you goes out to all of our members, donors, sponsors and volunteers for your outstanding support and contributions. Your donations and hard work will ensure that we have a successful and productive event promoting the Dragon and Lion arts right here in the Midwest. I wish you all much success and prosperity in the future.

Sincerely,

Nelson Ferreira

President

United States Dragon & Lion Dance Federation

Saturday, June 29th, 2019

Dear Dragon and Lion Dance Competitors, Coaches, Supporters and Admirers;

It is our great honor and privilege to receive you here in the capitol city of Madison, Wisconsin for the **2nd Dragon & Lion Dance Championship** – held at the Monona Terrace Community and Convention Center **June 29-30th, 2019**. Madison is home to such events as the Ironman Triathlon and the Crossfit Games. We are excited to join with the **Madison Area Sports Commission** in adding the USDLDF tournament to a growing list of destination sporting contests. Unique among Midwest cities, Madison is an excellent match to the rare and extraordinary performances found in dragon and lion dancing.

During the two days of this tournament, dragon and lion dance groups from around the country will assemble to showcase their skills and display their teamwork. We are grateful for all their efforts, sacrifices and dedication in preparing for this event, and look forward to seeing them in person. Audience members will be impressed by the choreography, storytelling and energy each team brings to their performance; whether in traditional lion dance, freestyle lion dance, or dragon dance. Similarly, the Drum Showcase will allow the musicians to take center stage and highlight the importance of powerful rhythm and percussion in bringing these mythical animals to life.

Beyond enjoying the spectacular demonstration of talent, culture and tradition that will be shown in the competition space, we hope all who attend this event also make time for building new relationships, reconnecting with distant friends, learning from one another, and growing in the arts. We invite visitors to remain downtown Saturday night for continued fellowship and to witness one of the largest fireworks displays in Wisconsin: **Shake the Lake**. The event will feature live music, food and family activities on John Nolen Drive between Broom Street and Blair Street. **The event starts at 5:00 PM** and will have a finale of **fireworks, choreographed to music, at 10:00 PM** over Lake Monona.

We truly appreciate the United States Dragon & Lion Dance Federation with its knowledgeable board of directors, as well as our enthusiastic members, generous sponsors, and devoted volunteers for helping us bring this Championship to you. Our success is a direct result of your commitment and belief in our vision to share and promote Dragon and Lion arts in the Midwest.

On behalf of the Tournament Planning Committee, we welcome you all to Madison and wish all competitors the best of luck!

Sincerely,

Kimba Tieu

Tournament Director

2nd Annual Dragon & Lion Dance Championships



Office of the Mayor

Satya Rhodes-Conway, Mayor
City-County Building, Room 403
210 Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard
Madison, Wisconsin 53703
Phone: (608) 266-4611
Fax: (608) 267-8671
mayor@cityofmadison.com
www.cityofmadison.com

June 15, 2019

Dear Dragon & Lion Dance National Championships Attendees,

Welcome to Madison! As Mayor, I am thrilled that the United States Dragon & Lion Dance Federation has chosen our city for your 2nd National Championships. We celebrate the spirit of your competition and your mission to share the arts of dragon and lion dance across the United States and abroad.

While in Madison, I hope you will take time to enjoy our city. Madison's vibrant downtown, cultural attractions and endless recreational opportunities offer the perfect complement to your conference. From unique shops, amazing restaurants, the State Capital and the University of Wisconsin-Madison, all within a short walking distance, there is something wonderful for everyone to enjoy while in our beautiful city.

On behalf of all Madison residents, businesses and organizations, please accept my warmest welcome to your national and international delegates, and accept our invitation to experience all that is Madison. I am confident your group will experience a memorable stay while in our Capital City. Best wishes for a successful National Championships!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Shyen", which is the signature of Satya Rhodes-Conway.

Satya Rhodes-Conway, Mayor



DANE COUNTY

Joe Parisi
County Executive

June 28, 2019

It's with great excitement that I welcome the 2nd Dragon & Lion Dance National Championships to Dane County! We are excited to host your event and hope you enjoy all that our area has to offer.

Dane County is home to more than 60 cities, villages, and towns that are sure to provide a great setting for your 2019 Championships. Our area's scenic outdoor locations and community offerings create an excellent atmosphere for everyone to enjoy. From our many lakes and trails to our community events and award-winning restaurants, there is a lot to see and do. I would encourage you to explore our area and experience what makes Dane County such a great place to visit.

I wish you an enjoyable and successful event. Enjoy your stay in Dane County!

Sincerely,

Joe Parisi
Dane County Executive



City-County Building, Room 421, 210 Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard, Madison, Wisconsin 53703
PH 608/266-4114 FAX 608/266-2643 TDD Call WI Relay 711



June 15, 2019

Welcome to Madison, Wisconsin!

On behalf of the Madison area's hospitality businesses and the greater Madison community, I am delighted to welcome the 2019 Dragon & Lion Dance Championships to Madison, Wisconsin. We are so pleased you have chosen to gather in Wisconsin's State Capital! The Madison area has a well-established reputation as a premier destination for conferences and as a desirable destination for visitors.

Madison's thriving central business district is located on a scenic isthmus between two natural glacial lakes. While visiting our great destination, we invite you to enjoy our energetic downtown filled with a variety of eclectic shops, diverse ethnic and local dining, and numerous entertainment options, including Overture Center for the Arts and our arts district of museums, galleries and theaters. Just outside the city are culturally rich communities that offer truly authentic experiences and old world charm, ranging from unique and historic attractions to vast recreational opportunities.

I also invite you to discover the Madison area's most distinct asset – its people. The hospitality and service your group will experience is what makes Madison and our surrounding communities a destination that will enrich you both intellectually and emotionally. As always, Destination Madison is here to help guide you and educate you on our wonderful city and ensure you have an amazing visit.

Enjoy!

Sincerely,

Deb Archer, CDME, President & CEO
22 E. Milllin St., Suite 200 | Madison, WI USA 53703
D 608-256-4944 M 608-822-0588





About the USDLDF

The United States Dragon & Lion Dance Federation (USDLDF) is recognized by the IRS as a 501(C)(3) non-profit corporation and was created to preserve and promote the arts of Dragon and Lion Dance, among other traditional Chinese folk performing arts, within the United States. Our aim is to foster friendship, courtesy, harmony, ethics and goodwill among practitioners in the US as well as abroad. Any Dragon or Lion Dance practitioner or team in the United States may join the USDLDF as a member.

Mission

“To preserve and promote the arts of dragon and lion dance as a cultural tradition and sport throughout the United States and abroad.”

Vision

“To create opportunities for all styles of dragon and lion dance teams to express and develop themselves, through friendly regional, national, and international training & exchanges, enrichment programs, and quality tournaments with the highest standards.”

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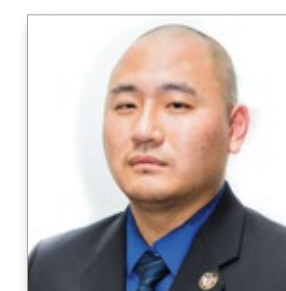
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2019 USDLDF National Championships

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2nd USDLDF National Championships Judges Team



Ray Petersen started lion dancing at age 14 with the Asian Community & Cultural Center Lion Dance Troupe in Lincoln, Nebraska. The culmination of this lifelong journey is Jing Mo Tong Athletic Association. In 2017, the founding of the United States Dragon & Lion Dance Federation opened new doors for Ray where he completed the first USDLDF National Lion & Dragon Dance Judges Certification Course as a National Level Lion & Dragon Dance Judge. Ray is the Vice President of Education and Outreach for the USDLDF. He is honored to be the **Chief Judge** at the 2nd Annual Championships.

Dustin Buxrude has trained with SiFu Steve Kleppe of ShaoLin Center, Waukesha, WI, since 2000. Dustin is a senior instructor/SiHing and captain of ShaoLin Center's lion dance team. He has branched out to expand his own knowledge and understanding, which includes becoming a member and certified judge for the USDLDF Dragon and Lion Dance.

Nate Garrison studies Sar Ping lion dance under Shifu Nelson Ferreira at the Zhong Yi Kung Fu Association in Madison, Wisconsin. He has competed in lion dance competitions, and is a certified US National Level Judge in NanShi and WuLong since 2017.

Jean Paulo Lafaiete studied Northern Praying Mantis style - Associação Shaolin de Kung Fu in São Paulo, Brazil, and Northern Shaolin style at Zhong Yi Kung Fu in Madison, WI. He is a member first Northern Lion Dance Team at ASKF. Jean is a certified Lion Dance Judge by USDLDF.

Paul Liss started his lion dance journey when he joined the Zhong Yi Kung Fu Association in 2006. In 2017, Paul was certified as a USDLDF National judge, and was a scoring judge at the first USDLDF National Dragon and Lion Dance tournament in 2018.

Eva Luong is the senior instructor of Far East Dragon Lion Dance Association and the disciple of Master Chan Siew Kee. She has 10 years of lion dance experience and has attended numerous lion dance seminars and training programs.

Tuan Mai is the director of the Versailles Lion Dance Team in New Orleans, LA. Since the team's establishment in 2007, he has coordinated, lead, and developed its members to celebrate the unique culture and traditions of the art. Passion for the art has lead him to the USDLDF, where the opportunity to further develop continues. This is his second year judging the USDLDF Nationals Competition.



Taylor McElligott is a student at the Zhong Yi Kung Fu Association and has been performing with the school's lion dance team, including the Macau International Invitational Tournament, November 2018. Taylor became a USDLDF-certified judge in 2017. This will be his first foray into judging a lion and dragon dance tournament.



Johnny Ton started lion dancing in 2008 at his local Asian cultural and community center. He founded Jing Mo Tong Athletic Association in 2015 and is an assistant instructor for both the lion dance program and martial arts. In 2017, he became a certified USDLDF judge and served as a judge at the first USDLDF Nationals in Boston, MA in 2018.

Nikki Strong is the Assistant Instructor at the School of Shaolin Kung Fu in Coon Rapids (Sifu Michael Voss). She is the school lion dance coach and Instructor and coordinator of the Internal Arts program.



Mark Vuong began martial arts and lion dance in 1994 at Texas Teo Chew Association. In 2009, he became the lion dance coach for the Teo Chew Association. Mark is the Vice President of Media & Marketing for USDLDF and received his national dragon and lion dance judge certification in 2017.

Regulations & Standards

In the USDLDF's concerted effort to bring our national competition standards and experiences to a higher and safer level, our Rules and Regulations Committee was created to establish the USDLDF Rules and Regulations for Traditional and Free Style Lion Dance & Dragon Dance. These rules and regulations are primarily based off of the International Dragon and Lion Dance Federation Rules and Regulations. By doing so, as a country, we are moving closer and closer to better preparing our teams for international competitions in the U.S. and abroad.

Members of the USDLDF Rules and Regulations Committee are comprised of USDLDF Certified Judges. These individuals have spent hours studying the international rules and regulations to produce the rules and regulations upon which our USDLDF Dragon and Lion Dance Championships will utilize. Competing teams have been using these rules to train their team prior to this Championships Weekend. We look forward to a meaningful and fair experience for all teams and competitors and a positive judging experience for our Championships Judges.



Salute to the USDLDF and all the teams participating in the 2nd Annual Competition.



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The Art of Dragon & Lion Dance

By Nelson Ferreira

Photos - Truong Nguyen

Understanding the arts of Dragon Dance (舞龍- Cantonese - mou lung / Mandarin - wǔ lóng) and Lion Dance (舞獅-- Cantonese - mou si / Mandarin - wǔ shī) is to understand traditional Chinese culture. Possibly no other Chinese tradition includes so many aspects of this culture, in some form or another. These dances include concepts from literature, folk art, science and language as well as religion and philosophy. Traditional Chinese culture is full of symbolism and these dances are a great representation of these various concepts.



The dances are usually performed accompanied by live music from drums, gongs and cymbals. Musicians most often play in sync with the animal's dance movements, expressing varied emotion and actions. The costumes used in these performances are custom made by artisans trained in the traditional manufacture of such specialized items. Although the basic structures may remain traditional in appearance, production techniques have evolved over time as artisans utilized innovative designs, modern materials, and technologies.

The colors and patterns that are used to decorate the dragons and lions are often borrowed from traditional Chinese opera face painting. These have profound meanings as well, as do the color of the bristles and/or fur used on the costumes. Patterns and motifs are displayed throughout the heads and bodies and many have auspicious meanings and positive messages.

The Dragon Dance is performed by a group of dancers numbering from a handful to over 100. Competitive Dragon Dance has nine dancers and one pearl handler. They manipulate the long, flexible body using poles along the length of the dragon. The dancers simulate the imagined movements of this mythical animal in a sinuous, undulating and powerful manner.

The dragon was an emblem of imperial authority in ancient China. It is believed to possess great wisdom, power and dignity, as well as bringing fertility, prosperity and auspiciousness to the area where it



appears. The appearance of a traditional Chinese dragon is fearsome and bold, but with a benevolent disposition. The movements in a performance traditionally represent actions from dragons that are portrayed in classical literature and folk tales.

The Lion Dance is performed by a pair of dancers as opposed to the many found under the dragon. It is considered a harbinger of happiness, prosperity, good luck and wealth. The dances are filled with auspicious symbolism and meaning, they can be very simple and direct, or complicated and mysterious.

During traditional performances it is common to see the lion do the act of “Choy Cheng” (採青 literally “Plucking the Greens”), a quest by the lion to fetch the auspicious greens which in Chinese is called “Choy” (菜), which sounds like “Choy” (財) or “Fortune”.

These are either hung high or just put on the floor, or a table. The lion will then approach the “greens” like a curious cat. As an agent of transformation the lion will eat the greens (consuming what is simply “greens”) and then spit it out (now transformed into “fortune”) to share with all present. The lion dance is believed to bring good luck and fortune to any area it is performed.

The Dragon and Lion Dance can be performed at important occasions, including traditional, cultural and religious festivals, business openings, ground breakings, birthday celebrations, welcoming honored guests as well as engagement and wedding ceremonies.

Currently, the art of Dragon and Lion dancing has spread internationally. It has been taught by the Chinese immigrants to the various regions where they have settled around the globe. This culturally significant art, and sport, is now enjoyed, appreciated and practiced by a variety of people of different ages, genders and ethnicities throughout the world.



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Rules Overview for **Traditional Lion Dance**

The traditional lion dance tells the story of a lion’s quest to achieve the goal of attaining greens, lingzhi (represented by a flower or mushroom), or wine. The storyline must have a clear theme and rich content in telling how the lion overcomes obstacles to obtain the goal.

Teams will be scored based on 10 types of criteria, 1 point per category:

The **storyline** must have a clear theme. It should be rich in content, containing several aspects to narrate the story.

The **shape** of the lion must have postures which are clear, distinct and expressive. The techniques should be sensible and appropriate, with flexible, firm, and varied footwork. The movements should flow and not seem disjointed.

The **spirit** of the lion must show through with varied expressions and express many different “emotions.” The lion should have a “lifelike” quality in its movements.

Folk customs are **featured**, with artistic style and unique designs. Elements of traditional Chinese culture should be displayed, such as proper etiquette, traditional objects (benches, water basins), decorations and adornments.

The **composition** of the props show creativity and originality in set-up and performance. Different forms and expressions of the lion are revealed with the help of equipment.

With strong artistic appeal, the performance should gain a good **effect** and atmosphere. The performance should bring about a positive feeling to the audience.

The **skill** of the dancers as they demonstrate thorough knowledge and understanding of each movement. The theme is revealed through well-executed acrobatic movements, which make sense in the context of the performance.

The **musical accompaniment** should be unique and coordinated with the movements of the lion. The rhythm is distinct and the musical patterns should be well defined and “clean.”

The **etiquette** should be vigorous and polite, positive and upstanding. Salutes and bows should be done showing propriety and respect, while displaying a balance of pride and humility.

The style and color of the **attire** matches and compliments the equipment. Attire and equipment color schemes, designs and style are original and well presented.



Colorado Asian Cultural Heritage Center Denver, CO



Teams Competing:

Dragon Dance **Team A**

Freestyle (Jongs) Lion Dance

Team A & Team B

Traditional Lion Dance **Team A & Team B**

Hawaii Lion Dance Association Honolulu, HI



Teams Competing:

Traditional Lion Dance

Team A

Far East Dragon Lion Dance Association San Jose, CA



Teams Competing:

Freestyle (Jongs) Lion Dance

Team A

Traditional Lion Dance

Team Double Dragon

Team Dragon Phoenix

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Kelly Hora, LAc
608-335-7311 ~ Bluestem Acupuncture, Madison

Charles Meyers, LAc
603-667-5116 ~ Madison



Imperial Lion Dance Team

Worcester, MA



Teams Competing:
Traditional Lion Dance
Team A & Team B

Jing Mo Tong Athletic Association

Lincoln, NE



Teams Competing:
Traditional Lion Dance
Team A

International Shaolin Wushu Center

St. Ann, MO



Teams Competing:
Traditional Lion Dance
Team A



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Garland, TX



Teams Competing:
Traditional Lion Dance
Team A

Wah Lum Kung Fu Tai Chi Academy
Laden & Quincy, MA



Teams Competing:
Traditional Lion Dance
Team A & Team B

LQLionDance
Seattle, WA



Teams Competing:
Traditional Lion Dance
Team Solstice & Team Eclipse

Versailles Lion Dance Team
New Orleans, LA



Teams Competing:
Traditional Lion Dance
Team Geaux

Zhong Yi Kung Fu Association Madison, WI



Teams Competing:
Traditional Lion Dance
Team Gold & Team Red

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Good luck to all teams and have fun!
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Notes



Zhong Yi Kung Fu Association

Is proud to be a sponsor and to host the
2nd USDLDF Championships in Madison, WI

Congratulations to all the teams!

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